



## Message from the President

This is an exciting time to be President of SMPTE. Anniversaries are special events in our lives, and this year we celebrate *two* anniversaries and a birthday.

It was 75 years ago that ten engineers assembled in Washington to discuss the common problem of confusing formats of motion-picture film. The exciting potential of "movies" was impeded due to a lack of standardization. That was the beginning of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers. Their efforts, and the efforts of the many engineers who followed them, have resulted in worldwide standards, making film origination and projection common in every country on earth.

It was 25 years ago that another small group of engineers met in Detroit to organize a special conference devoted to television technology. We will celebrate that anniversary next month in Detroit. During the past quarter-century, the SMPTE has been responsible for the development of many TV standards. That work continues today as our members are working around the world, in both film and television, to provide standards which mean so much to our industries.

Now for the birthday! Beginning at the Television Conference next month in Detroit, the Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers will meet with the Audio Engineering Society in a combined effort to bring talent and technology to a common venue. We hope this will be the first of many ventures shared by AES and SMPTE.

On a personal note, let me express my appreciation for the opportunity to serve as your President. It is an honor beyond any plans or expectations.

— *Blaine Baker*