



The opening session of the 132nd Conference.

The 132nd SMPTE Technical Conference and Equipment Exhibit

October 13-17, 1990, New York City

The Society's 132nd Technical Conference and Equipment Exhibit, held from October 13 to October 17, 1990, at the Jacob K. Javits Convention Center in New York City, was attended by approximately 12,000 people. The technical program was focused on the theme, "Film and Television — One World?" and drew a serious and attentive audience.

The conference was under the overall supervision of Conference Vice-President L. John Spring, Jr., Eastman Kodak Co., while the technical program was directed by Editorial Vice-President Frank J. Haney, Capital Cities/ABC, Inc. General Arrangements Chairman Charles H. Jablonski, NBC, was responsible for taking care of the myriad details involved in the planning and day-to-day operation of an important event of this size.

The 130 papers presentations were divided among several topic sessions, including Film Production Technology, Digital TV Processing, Film Presentation Technology, The Digital TV Studio, TV Production — Recorders and Cameras, Digital TV Dis-

tribution Laboratory Technology, TV Post-Production I and II, Sound Technology, Film/Electronic Interface I and II, TV Sound and Ancillary Services, Advanced Television, I, II, and III, and High-Definition Electronic Production Standards. Two concurrent sessions were presented each morning and afternoon from Saturday afternoon through Wednesday morning, concluding with one session on Wednesday afternoon. Editorial Vice-President Frank J. Haney commented that he was pleased with the attendance at the presentations, and noted that there was a full house for the Film Presentation Technology session, which was held at the Loews Astor Plaza Theater.

The equipment exhibit was made up of state-of-the-art equipment from 178 manufacturers, occupying 130,000 sq. ft. at the Javits Center. Conference Vice-President L. John Spring, Jr., commented that the exhibitors were very pleased with the conference, saying, "Several companies noted that the people who were there were serious decision-makers, not just browsers. The consensus on



Program Chairman Kerns Powers at opening session.

the floor was that in this case, smaller was better — that attendees had the time to really look at the products and ask questions." Spring said that the exhibitors were especially happy with the smooth setup and dismantling of the booths, and in general had very favorable comments about the way things were handled in New York.



Keynote speaker George Vradenberg III.

Several new programs were established during this conference to assist SMPTE exhibitors. The New Product Introduction Room was available for companies to use in introducing their newest equipment to the press and other interested parties. Fifteen companies took advantage of this opportunity to display their products. Another service for exhibitors was a complimentary seminar custom tailored to giving the exhibitors specific tips on how to get the most from a conference such as this.

In addition to the above services to exhibitors, general conference attendees were aided in their viewing of the exhibit by the inclusion in this year's program booklet of a cross-referenced list of product categories and the companies that were displaying each type of equipment. This was in addition to the normal alphabetical listing of exhibitors. A great deal of effort went into seeing that events at the conference went as smoothly as possible.

The conference was deemed very successful, due in large part to the efforts of the various committees and their chairmen. Program Chairman Kerns H. Powers, consultant, had arranged an informative and interesting schedule of papers presentations, with the assistance of Program Vice-Chairman for Motion Pictures, John Baptista, and Program Vice-Chairman for Television, Alan Godber, NBC. The various sessions relating to motion pictures were run by Topic Chairman (Film) John Erwin, Eastman Kodak Co.; and the presentations dealing with television were handled by Topic Chairman (Television) Furn D. Anderson, HBO; David A. Elliot, Capital Cities/ABC; Jukka Hamalainen, Matsushita Applied Labs; Mark Schubin, consultant; and



SMPTE President Maurice L. French passing the president's gavel to President-Elect Blaine Baker.



Editorial Vice-President Frank J. Haney and SMPTE Financial Vice-President Richard K. Schafer.

Conference Committees — Program

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Program Chairman
Kerns H. Powers, *Consultant*

Program Vice-Chairman, Motion Pictures
John L. Baptista, *Consolidated Film Industries*

Program Vice-Chairman, Television
Alan S. Godber, *NBC*

Topic Chairman, Film
John Erwin, *Eastman Kodak Co.*

Topic Chairmen, Television
Furn D. Anderson, *HBO*
David A. Elliot, *Capital Cities/ABC*
Jukka Hamalainen, *Matsushita Applied Labs*
Mark Schubin, *Consultant*
Timothy J. Spitzer, *Du Art Video*

Timothy J. Spitzer, Du Art Video. Highlights of the papers presented at the conference appeared in the December issue of the *Journal*.

In addition to the above listing, the following chairmen played a very important role in the conference activities. Assisting General Arrangements Chairman Charles H. Jablonski were Assistant Auditor Michael E. Johnson, Eastman Kodak Co.; Banquet Chairman Neil R. Pilzer, MPE; Display Chairman Alan Rosenfeld, Limelight Video; Facilities Chairman Timothy J. Spitzer, Du Art Video; Facilities Co-Chairman John C. Gates, Gates Service Group; Hospitality and Information Chairman Herb Ohlandt, National Video Center; Hotel and Associate General Arrangements Chairman Charles Spicer, NBC; Luncheons Chairman Roger Salles, Geocam Corp; Membership Chairman Edgar Schuller, Entertainment Video Systems; Opening Films/Tapes Chairwoman Linda Young, Du Art Film Laboratories; PA and Recording Chairman Paul Heimbach, Viacom Networks Group; Registration Chairman Raymond Blumenthal, Panasonic Broadcast; Spouses Program Chairwoman Patricia Spicer; and Transportation Chairman David A. Elliot, Capital Cities/ABC, Inc.

Overview of Conference Events

Following a brief introduction by Program Chairman Kerns Powers, the conference was officially opened with a welcoming address by President Maurice L. French, Canadian Broadcasting Corp. His remarks were immediately followed by an engineering report from Engineering Vice-President Stanley N. Baron, NBC, and a keynote address delivered by George Vradenburg III, CBS. The text of these speeches appears in this issue.

In addition to the technical program and exhibit, a full program of social activities was arranged for those attending the conference. Two press briefings were held; one before the conference on Friday, October 12, and the other following the conference on Wednesday, October 17. The pre-conference briefing outlined plans to celebrate the Society's 75th anniversary in 1991; and the post-conference briefing concerned the upcoming 133rd SMPTE Technical Conference and Equipment Exhibit, to be held in Los Angeles, Calif.



Members of the local arrangements committee: (L-R) Edgar Schuller, Tim Spitzer, Jay Ballard, Charles Spicer, Patricia Spicer, Charles Jablonski, Ray Blumenthal, and Neil Pilzer.

On Saturday, the SMPTE recognized 22 people for outstanding technical achievements or service to the Society at the annual Honors and Awards Luncheon. Dr. Marvin Camras, a research professor of electrical and computer engineering at Illinois Institute of Technology and a pioneer in early magnetic tape recording in the U.S., was the luncheon guest speaker. At the conclusion of his remarks, Dr. Camras demonstrated one of his inventions, an early wire tape recorder, with a recording of the magnificent voice of Marian Anderson that astonished the audience with its clarity. Following this special demonstration, the annual awards were presented.

Following the Honors and Awards Luncheon, the equipment exhibit was opened with an official ribbon-cutting

ceremony by Executive Vice-President Blaine Baker, Conference Vice-President L. John Spring, Jr., and General Arrangements Chairman Charles H. Jablonski.

The Fellows Luncheon on Sunday, October 14, had as its guest speaker former SMPTE President Harold J. Eady, HJE Communications Inc. At the luncheon, 17 members were elevated to the rank of Fellow.

Spouses attending the conference were invited to participate in a special program designed to take in the sights and sounds of New York City. Chairwoman Patricia Spicer and her committee did an outstanding job in arranging a varied and exciting schedule.

A more detailed account of the conference events follows.

—Joyce R. Hurwitz

Conference Committees — General Arrangements

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L. John Spring, *Eastman Kodak Co.*

General Arrangements Chairman

Charles H. Jablonski, *NBC*

Assistant Auditor

Michael E. Johnson, *Eastman Kodak*

Banquet Chairman

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Display Chairman

Alan Rosenfeld, *Limelight Video*

Facilities Chairman

Timothy J. Spitzer, *Du Art Video*

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