



The marquee of the Los Angeles Convention Center featured the SMPTE Conference.

The 133rd SMPTE Technical Conference and Equipment Exhibit

Los Angeles Convention Center
October 26-29, 1991

The 133rd SMPTE Technical Conference and Equipment was held Saturday, October 26, to Tuesday, October 29, at the Los Angeles Convention Center in California. More than 15,500 people attended the conference, which has become one of the major events in the industry. The measure of interest in the conference was demonstrated by the large advance registration of almost 5000, an almost three-fold increase over the advance of 1700 for the previous conference at the end of September 1990. The technical sessions attracted a wide audience, and the tutorial program and workshops were sold out well in advance.

Conference Vice-President L. John Spring, Jr., Eastman Kodak Co., was responsible for the overall supervision of the arrangements and exhibit at the conference, and Editorial Vice-President Frank J. Hancy, Fox Television Stations, was in charge of the excellent technical program. Complimentary shuttle-bus service was provided between the convention center and



SMPTE President Blaine Baker greeting well-known actor Gregory Peck, guest speaker at the Honors and Awards Luncheon.

the Bonaventure and Hilton Hotels for the various conference events.

Program Chairman Richard L. Thomas, Eastman Kodak Co., arranged an interesting and informative program of papers presentations on the theme "Advanced Motion Imaging — Enhancing the Universal Language," with the able assistance of Program Vice-Chairmen John L. Baptista, Consolidated Film Industries, and Alan S. Godber, Consultant. The papers presentations dealing with film were directed by Topic Chairman Frank Ricotta, Technicolor, Inc., while Topic Chairman Richard Stumpf, Universal City Studios, was responsible for the papers relating to television. Baptista also chaired the workshop and seminar programs, and Louis F. Wolf, Jr., Universal City Studios, handled myriad responsibilities as General Arrangements Chairman.

All-Day Tutorial Program

Preceding the official opening of the conference, a special All-Day Tutorial Program was held on Friday, October 25, at the Convention Center to complement the conference technical program. The tutorial, entitled "Issues in Advanced Motion Imaging," focused on the integration of the computer, film, video, and publishing industries into a cohesive whole.

The tutorial program got under way with a welcoming speech by SMPTE President Blaine Baker, MPL Film & Video, which was immediately followed by a few introductory remarks from Chairman Bob Ringer, Ringer Video Services. Next, a keynote address was delivered by James Cameron, director, producer, and co-writer of *Terminator 2*. A demonstration featuring special effects from *Terminator 2* was given by Dennis Muren,



Program Chairman Richard L. Thomas (L) with General Arrangements Chairman Louis F. Wolf, Jr., at the Honors and Awards Luncheon.

Industrial Light and Magic. Additional presentations followed, covering topics on new technology, high-resolution electronic systems, 3-D digital animation, new paint and compositing systems, digital technology, computer animation, digital compositing, compositing images, digital processing of theatrical film, compositing images of film, video, and computers, and related subjects.

The program was followed by a wine and cheese party in the Exhibit Hall, where participants had a chance to relax and digest the refreshments as well as the program that had just concluded. All agreed that the popular tutorial, which drew an attendance of 375, was a welcome and important adjunct to the conference. It was developed by Bob and Gail Ringer.

Conference Technical Program

At the close of the Honors and Awards Luncheon on Saturday, the

technical sessions convened, during which approximately 130 papers covering the latest developments in motion pictures, television, and related fields were delivered. The program was divided into 15 sessions, covering such topics as restoration and preservation, digital recording, production to exhibition, special applications and sound, digital TV systems, new and improved film systems, advanced television, laboratory equipment and applications, HDTV production and graphics, television audio, film-electronic interface, TV plants and transmission, and video graphics and effects. Attendees were given a chance to discuss the latest technology for an industry that is rapidly changing with the world around it.

Workshop Program

An innovative program of three hands-on workshops was introduced at the conference, and it proved to be an instant success. The sessions, on film bar code in the workplace, television test signals and equipment, and computer graphics, were held on Saturday, October 26, and Sunday, October 27, at the convention center. The programs, featuring an opportunity to interface with the latest state-of-the-art equipment, were also sold out in advance, and averaged 40 attendees per session.

Student Fair

A special Student Fair, organized by Bob and Gail Ringer, Ringer Video Services, Inc., was held on Saturday, October 26, from 10 a.m. to

Conference Committees — Program

Editorial Vice-President

Frank J. Hancy, *Fox Television Stations*

Program Chairman

Richard L. Thomas, *Eastman Kodak Co.*

Program Vice-Chairman, Motion Pictures

John L. Baptista, *Consolidated Film Industries*

Program Vice-Chairman, Television

Alan S. Godber, *Consultant*

Topic Chairman, Film

Frank Ricotta, *Technicolor, Inc.*

Topic Chairman, Television

Richard J. Stumpf, *Universal City Studios*

1 p.m. The fair was designed to acquaint high-school and junior-college students with representatives from colleges, universities, and trade schools all over the country that offer training in the technical areas of motion pictures and television. Admission was free to students with valid identification, and it is hoped that this program will encourage more young people to enter the field and become future leaders of our industry. Response to the fair was very enthusiastic.

Special Events

Social events at the conference got off to a festive start with a welcoming reception on Friday evening from 6 to 8 p.m. in the exhibition hall. Guests enjoyed refreshments and live music as well as the opportunity to preview the equipment shown in the exhibit. The conference was officially opened on Saturday at 8:30 a.m. with a welcoming speech by SMPTE President Blaine Baker, MPL Film & Video, Inc. Immediately following Baker's remarks, Engineering Vice-President Stanley N. Baron, NBC, Inc., presented his engineering report. Former En-



(L-R) General Arrangements Chairman Louis F. Wolf, Jr., Conference Vice-President L. John Spring, Jr., Partners Program Coordinator Judy Chewey, General Arrangements Assistant Chairman Milton Sheffer, and Banquet Chairman Joel Gread.

gineering Vice-President Roland Zavada, retired from Eastman Kodak Co., then delivered the conference keynote address, in which he looked at the Society's 75-year history from an engineer's perspective. The text of his speech will appear in the February

issue of the *Journal*.

The Annual Honors and Awards Luncheon, one of the highlights of the conference, was held on Saturday at 12:15 p.m. in Petree Hall of the convention center. At the luncheon, 33 outstanding people in the motion-picture and television fields were honored by the Society. A record-breaking audience of 850 people gathered to hear Academy Award-winning actor Gregory Peck, guest speaker at the luncheon. The text of his speech appears on page 996. Peck had also been a featured speaker at the Society's 109th Conference in 1971, where he made an appeal for attendance at the 50th Anniversary gala of the Motion Picture and Television Relief Fund.

On Sunday, October 27, the Fellows Luncheon took place, at which 15 new Fellows were inducted into the Society and introduced to their peers. SMPTE Fellow Burton "Bud" Stone, Deluxe Laboratories, Inc., was the featured speaker at the luncheon, which was limited to Fellows and Life Fellows of the Society. The text of his speech appears on page 1002.

The high point of the social program, the annual cocktail party, banquet, and dance, was held on Tuesday evening, October 29, at the Westin Bonaventure Hotel. Guests enjoyed a delightful evening featuring cocktails, dinner, dancing, and entertainment.

Equipment Exhibit

The equipment exhibit at the conference attracted a large attendance. A total of 225 companies displayed

Conference Committees — General Arrangements

Conference Vice-President

L. John Spring, Jr., *Eastman Kodak Co.*

General Arrangements Chairman

Louis F. Wolf, Jr., *Universal Studios*

All-Day Tutorial Seminar/Student Education Fair Chairman

Bob Ringer, *Ringer Video Services*

AV and Projection Co-Chairmen

Bob Burton, *Consultant*; and
Jess Daily, *UCLA*

Auditor

Gordon Cory, *NV Systems, Inc.*

Banquet Chairman

Joel Gread, *Joel J. Gread Associates*

Display Chairman

David Lansdown, *National
TeleConsultants*

Hospitality and Information Chairman

Gerald Finn, *Pasadena City College*

Hotel Chairman

Roy T. Brubaker, *Foto-Tronics*

Luncheons Co-Chairmen

A. Craig Curtis, *Consultant*; and
John L. Mason, *Eastman Kodak Co.*

Membership Chairman

Chuck Phelan, *National
TeleConsultants*

Opening Films/Tapes Chairman

Ron Little, *Consolidated Film
Industries*

PA and Recording Chairman

Tom Kuhn, *Eastman Kodak Co.*

Partners Program Coordinator

Judy Chewey

Registration Chairman

Ed Gordon, *Satellite and Television
Systems*

Transportation Co-Chairmen

Don McCroskey, *Consultant*; and
Scotty Robertson, *Consultant*

Video Papers/Facilities Chairman

John Brooks, *Brooks/Flemming
Associates*

the latest innovations in motion-picture and television equipment. The exhibit, which ran concurrently with the technical program, was open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday, Sunday, and Monday, and from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Tuesday.

The New Product Room, introduced at the 132nd Technical Conference, was even more successful this year. In 1990 it occupied only one room at the convention center. This year, 20 time slots were originally available, but the demand was so great that an additional room was needed. More than 30 companies took advantage of the opportunity to announce and display their latest contributions to the industry.

New SMPTE Book Published

Advance copies of the latest SMPTE publication, *Milestones in*

Motion-Picture Technology – The SMPTE 75th Anniversary Collection, a commemorative volume honoring the Society's 75th year, were on sale at the conference. The book contains 20 landmark papers, originally published in the *SMPE Transactions* or the *Journal*, that describe major developments in motion pictures and television from the time of the Society's founding in 1916 to the present. The book was put on sale at a price of \$20 a copy to members and \$25 to nonmembers. It may be ordered from Headquarters by writing to the Marketing Dept., SMPTE Books, 595 West Hartsdale Ave., White Plains, NY 10607, or calling them at (914) 761-1100. There is an additional charge for shipping and handling.

Committee Meetings

In addition to the regular confer-

ence events, a number of editorial, administrative, and engineering committee meetings were held during the conference.

Sponsored Events

The Society wishes to thank the following sponsors for their generous support: Dolby Laboratories, Inc. (Board of Governors Reception); Eastman Kodak Co. (Coffee Club); Sony Corp. (Partners Breakfasts); The Grass Valley Group, Inc. (Fellows Reception); and Panasonic Co. (Banquet Reception). Thanks are also due to the many companies and people whose efforts resulted in a very successful 133rd Conference. We're looking forward to working with you on the next one. A full list of sponsors are acknowledged on page 1008.

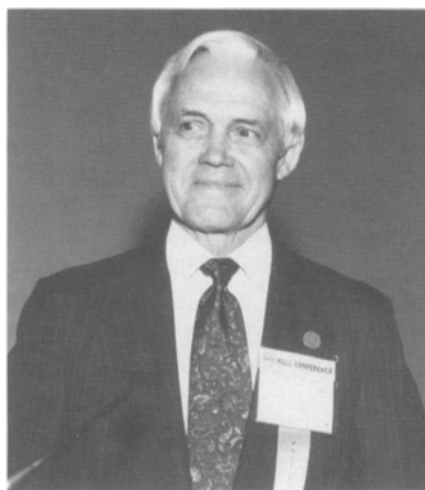
— Joyce R. Hurwitz

Opening Address

By Blaine Baker SMPTE President

Good morning, and welcome to our 133rd SMPTE Technical Conference and Equipment Exhibit. Seventy-five years have passed since a similar conference greeting was first heard in 1916, and it has been a proud and exciting 75 years of service to our industries. It takes many months of preparation to organize a conference of this scale; we have once again benefited from the efforts of our local arrangements volunteers who have donated countless hours over the past year to coordinate the details. The task of organizing the volunteers was ably supervised by General Arrangements Chairman Lou Wolf of Universal City Studios.

The job of preparing the technical program was equally well managed by Program Chairman Rick Thomas of Eastman Kodak Co. With today's demand for expanding knowledge, the selection process for valid and appropriate papers is critical. From the Board of Governors and Officers, as well as all of you who will be attending



SMPTE President Blaine Baker delivering the opening address.

the papers sessions, a special note of appreciation to these Hollywood Section members.

After serving more than a decade on the Board, I thought I understood the purpose and goals of the SMPTE. But it was not until the spring of this year, when I made four overseas trips, that I truly realized the respect that those in the technologies we serve have for our Society. The SMPTE la-

pel pin is quickly recognized in every country that I've traveled. The recent, unprecedented growth of our international sections clearly indicates the desire of engineers around the world to share the technology of today, and more importantly, of tomorrow.

From our beginning 75 years ago, when ten engineers formed the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, we have grown to a roster of 10,000 members in 70 countries. It's obvious that our growth has been based upon services rendered. But I can assure you that we are not standing still. Even at the ripe old age of 75, there is new spirit and direction. Earlier this year, we combined our Television Conference with the Audio Engineering Society to give our members further access to the latest technological information. And yesterday, here in Los Angeles, we presented a new educational format: an all-day tutorial seminar on "Issues in Advanced Motion Imaging," developed by Gail and Bob Ringer of Ringer Video Services. Today and tomorrow we present another new educational format — three hands-on workshops. Still another first this year is the Student Education