

# Highlights

**485 Reflections of SMPTE Past Presidents • C. King •** A ship is only as good as its captain — and the same goes for our Society. The SMPTE has flourished in its 75 years as a result of strong leaders who were committed to the betterment of the Society and the expansion of its membership, and who have devoted themselves to establishing industry standards. As a tribute to these leaders, and to the SMPTE's 75th anniversary, the *Journal* invited former presidents to reflect on the Society, then and now.

"It was also during my term the Fellows Luncheon was initiated properly recognize Fellow membership and to induct new Fellows continued. The first Fellows luncheon was held in Los Angeles in 1975. The second luncheon was in New York in 1976."

**495 The SMPTE Journal and Other Publications: SMPTE's Continuing Commitment to Information Dissemination • J. Friedman •** Since the Society was founded, it has always had a means of publishing technical information. The Society's publishing program began as soon as the organization was founded with the publication of *Transactions* No. 1. This volume contained the certificate of incorporation, the constitution and bylaws, and an address on standardization by Henry D. Hubbard, Secretary of the U.S. National Bureau of Standards. From then on, the SMPE, as it was known prior to 1950, regularly published technical material.



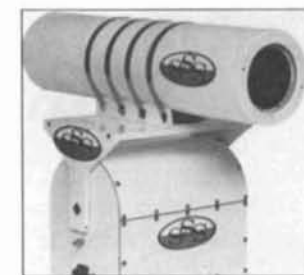
**504 The SMPTE Technical Conference — A History • C. King •** Since its inception, the SMPTE has been committed to the education of its membership via meetings and conferences that allow the exchange of information as well as the debut of new technologies. In celebration of the Society's 75th anniversary, this article traces the history and growth of the Society's 132 technical conferences and mentions some of the highlights of those years.



**514 SMPTE Membership — Then and Now • J. R. Hurwitz •** What makes up the membership of the SMPTE? Let us go back for a brief look at the beginnings of the Society, its plans and growth over the decades. The idea for the Society is credited to C. Francis Jenkins, an inventor living in Washington, D.C. Recognizing the need for standardization in an increasingly chaotic motion-picture industry where each manufacturer was introducing his own design, Jenkins attempted to set up an organization to deal with this problem. Jenkins met with two of his colleagues, E. K. Gillett and N. J. Brown, in Atlantic City to discuss the situation. In July 1916, a meeting was held in Washington, D.C., with seven additional engineers, and the decision was reached to form a society of engineering specialists.

What makes up the SMPTE? Let us look at the beginnings plans and growth the idea for the Society Francis Jenkins, Washington, D.C.

**528 The Kennedy Space Center Television System • C. T. Brown •** The television requirements for NASA at the Kennedy Space Center (KSC) provide a unique opportunity for systems design and development. Not only must the systems operate under extremely hostile environmental conditions, but they must also provide transmission and signal distribution over a wide geographical area, with minimal impact on the environment. The goal of the television plant at KSC is to provide to the various users — including the launch team, other NASA centers, and the media — an NTSC RS-170 television signal of the highest quality possible, to act as source material for image analysis, media programming, and launch commitment criteria decision-making.



**541 Median Filtering of Video Signals — A Powerful Alternative • G. Wischermann •** This article describes a novel filtering technique to free video signals from interfering signals. In contrast to the procedures based on recursive or transversal digital filter structures, a nonlinear technique is introduced with the median filtering. Nonlinearities in the course of a signal-processing chain produce distortions, harmonic waves, aliasing, and other defects that seem to render the application of the median filtering of video signals unsuitable. A three-dimensional median filter utilizing the static linkages of picture elements with regard to space and time is suitable for filtering a video signal without visible artifacts appearing in the picture.

