

News

The 1993 SMPTE Advanced Television and Electronic Imaging Conference will be held at the New York Sheraton Hotel and Towers in New York City, it was announced by Conference Vice-President L. John Spring, Jr., Allied Film and Video Services. The event, formerly known as the SMPTE Annual Television Conference, will take place February 5 - 6.

The 18th Montreaux International Television Symposium and Technical Exhibition will take place from June 10 - 15, 1993, in Montreaux, Switzerland. The event will open with the presentation of the Montreaux International Symposium Gold Medal Award and a keynote address by Robert Lucky, executive director of research, AT&T Bell Laboratories. The technical program will cover the latest innovations in broadcast and cable technology, including HDTV, progress in enhanced television systems, and the merging of the computer and television industries; a highlight session, "Television — A Force for Unification," will also be offered. Two innovative programs have been added to this year's schedule: Advanced Technology Day will introduce work beyond products being carried out by laboratories around the world, such as flat-screen displays and opto and static storage of TV signals, and the Weekend Forum will deal with special topics of wide interest, including marketing, program, and management issues. Workshops covering

specialized topics will be held twice each day. The event will run concurrently with International Electronic Cinema Festival. For more information, contact Montreaux International Television Symposium and Technical Exhibition, P.O. Box 97, Rue du Théâtre 5, Montreaux 1820, Switzerland.

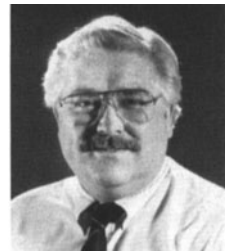
UCLA Extension has announced two short courses aimed at those involved in information distribution. "Data, Speech, Image and Video Compression: Principles, Applications and Standards," will be offered August 17-21. The course will help registrants develop the fundamental principles, techniques, and algorithms used in current and proposed applications. The session will include a detailed discussion of existing and developing standards for speech, audio, facsimile, images, video, and HDTV. The instructor is Jerry Gibson of the Department of Electrical Engineering, Texas A&M University.

"User-Interface Design for Interactive Multimedia Systems," to be held September 28 - 30, is designed for managers, producers, developers, and designers who conceptualize, configure, or implement multimedia user interfaces. The course will present the overall interactive design common to the creation of first-quality user interfaces for multimedia systems. The instructor is Tyler Blake, American Interactive Media. For more information, contact UCLA Extension,

Short Course Program Office, 10995 LeConte Ave., Ste., 542, Los Angeles, CA 90024-2883.

Consolidated Film Industries announced that its 65mm negative developer has successfully passed all its tests and is now processing 65mm camera-original negatives. The processor, which runs at 90 ft/min, is one of the most advanced machines of its kind. The first production being run on the machine is *Voyages*, a film being shot at locations around the world for C-360, Inc., a nonprofit educational film consortium. The production, which celebrates the spirit of exploration, is an official project of the U.S. Columbus Quincentenary Jubilee.

Roy Moore has been appointed manager of engineering services at Bexel Corp., where he is responsible for the day-to-day management of the Engineering Services Division. Moore, who most recently held the position of engineering manager at KPIX-TV in San Francisco, has over 25 years of television and radio engineering experience. He is a two-time winner of the Emmy Award for Technical Achievement.



Obituaries

Charles P. Ginsburg

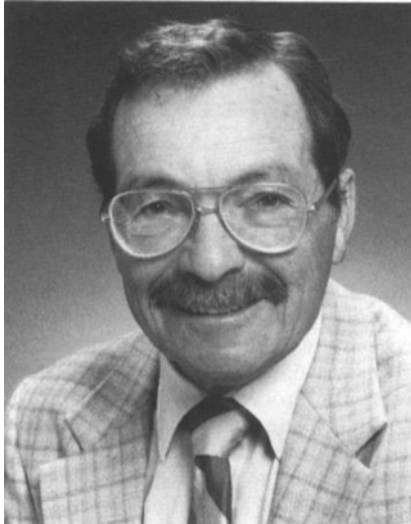
Charles P. Ginsburg, pioneer of videotape recording, died of pneumonia on April 9, 1992, in Eugene, Oreg. He was 71. Ginsburg was the leader of the engineering team that produced the world's first practical videotape recorder. This machine was responsible for the complete revolution in television broadcasting that occurred since it was first unveiled in April 1956.

Ginsburg was born in San Francisco, Calif., on July 27, 1920. He graduated from San Jose State College in 1948 with a B.A. in engineering and mathematics. Ginsburg was employed as an engineer at radio station KQW in San Jose when he met Walter Selsted, chief engineer of the

small Ampex Electric Co. of San Carlos, Calif. At the time, the Ampex Co., founded by Alexander M. Poniatoff, was building a line of excellent audiotape recorders. It was decided late in 1951 to start a videotape recorder project using a rotating head based on the ideas of Marvin Camras of the Armour Institute of Technology. Ginsburg was hired in December 1951. He was soon joined by a young part-time engineering student, Ray Dolby. The project was interrupted several times, for a variety of reasons including the loss of Dolby for army service for a year. By 1954 Ginsburg had gathered a superb team that included Dolby, Charles Anderson, Alex Maxey, Fred Pfost, and Shelby Henderson.

The close-knit crew invented and developed the first videotape recorder in the

world. It ran at the relatively slow speed of 15 in./sec and had four features that are now part of every videotape machine: a rotating drum that allows the heads to scan the tape at a high rate of speed, a frequency-modulated signal system that permitted recording of video signals from DC to 4.2 MHz, a signal system of modulation and demodulation of the video signal, and a control track to keep the rotating heads locked to the tape transport system. There was also room on the tape for an audio and cue track. At the time there were two other major companies trying to develop a videotape machine. One was led by Harry F. Olson of RCA and another by the BBC Research Laboratories. They both were using high-speed linear approach that consumed enormous amounts of tape to get sufficient head



Charles P. Ginsburg

speed to record the high-frequency video signals.

The Ampex VRX 1000 machine was first demonstrated to a group of CBS affiliates at the NARTB Convention in Chicago, causing an immediate sensation. This Ampex research team also developed one of the first helical video recorders at about the same time, but because of economic and stability problems, it was not shown until 1959.

Under the guidance of Ginsburg, Ampex continued to make many important advances in videotape recording technology, including Intersync, which allowed two machines to be locked with each other; Amtec, the first time base corrector using delay lines; Colortec, a wideband device that allowed for direct playback of color signals; and the building of the advanced VR 2000, which introduced highband recording, and the ultimate transverse recorder, the AVR-1.

Ginsburg was named vice-president of Ampex in 1960. He was honored with the David Sarnoff Gold Medal by the SMPTE in 1957, the Institute of Radio Engineers' Vladimir K. Zworykin TV Prize in 1958, the Danish Academy of Technical Sciences' Valdemar Poulsen Gold Medal in 1960, and the Franklin Institute's Howard N. Potts Medal in 1969. He was admitted to the National Inventors Hall of Fame in 1990, where he was credited with "one of the most significant technological advances to affect broadcasting and program production since the beginning of television itself." In 1986 Ginsburg retired as vice-president of advanced development at Ampex.

Ginsburg was chosen by the Royal Television Society to present the Shoenberg Memorial Lecture in 1981 at the Royal Institute in London. This paper was called "The Cowboy or the Horse." The title came from an early demonstration to Mr. Poniatoff in which Ginsburg

had recorded a western off the air. Upon playing it back, Poniatoff turned to Ginsburg and said, "Charles, tell me which is the cowboy and which is the horse?"

Ginsburg was always a gentleman and had a dry sense of humor. He had suffered from diabetes from the age of four and felt its effects every day of his life. However, this did not stop him from playing a daily round of golf, come rain or shine. He had remarried and lived in Menlo Park from 1962 until 1990 when he moved to Eugene, Oreg. He had five devoted daughters who know what a loving father he was.

Ginsburg's inventions have forever changed the face of broadcasting and continue to be a living document to the man.

—Albert Abramson

Lewis Mansfield

Lewis Mansfield, a Life Fellow, died on April 23, 1991, at the age of 70. He joined the Society as an Active Member in 1947 while he was employed by Pathe Industries Inc. In 1970 he was elected to Fellowship in the Society, at which time he was engaged in plant management at Consolidated Film Industries' (CFI's) motion-picture laboratory.

His division at CFI received the Industrial Film Award, Certificate of Merit, for the following: *Friendship Seven*, General Dynamics, 1962; *The Better Way*, Santa Fe Railway, 1962; *The Voyagers*, General Dynamics, 1963; *Goblin on the Doorstep*, Grumman Aircraft, 1963; and *Living in Space*, General Dynamics, 1966.

He was twice presented with the Cine Golden Eagle; in 1964 for work on the application of cephalometrics to cinefluorography; and in 1965 for his analysis of hyoid behavior in Class I and Class II orthodontic patients. Additional techno-



Lewis Mansfield

logical contributions include a paper, entitled "Cinefluorographic Film Analysis and Production Technics," which he presented to the 5th Rochester Symposium on Cineradiology. This work was supported by a grant from the National Institute of Dental Research.

During his lifetime he was an associate member of the American Society of Cinematographers, an affiliate member of the American Cinema Editors, and an active member of the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences. He became an SMPTE Life Fellow in 1985.

Price Fish, a Life Member of the Society, is dead. He joined the SMPTE in 1950 as an Active Member while working as a radio engineer for CBS. He became a Life Member in 1972.

John (Jack) B. Steiger, a Life Member, died on December 23, 1991. He joined the Society in 1947 as an Associate Member and transferred to Active Member status in 1954. A longtime employee of Eastman Kodak Co., he joined the company in 1933 and retired as head of the processing lab in 1971. In 1974 he became a Life Member. Steiger had been a photographer and photo instructor for the U.S. Army Air Force and served during World War II.

Charles Pati, an Active Member, is dead. He joined the Society in 1949 as an Associate Member while he was employed by Loew's International Corp. During his lifetime he was affiliated with Technicolor, Inc., Coliseum Productions, MGM International, and Banner Productions. At the time of his death he was president of Ironweed Productions.

Ralph Friedman, an Active Member of the Society since 1967, is dead. Since 1950 he had served as owner/recording engineer of Magno Sound, Inc.

Kate Hutchings, a Student Member, is dead. She joined the Society in 1991 while attending Ravensbourne College. She had previously attended Alton College, where she studied electrical engineering.

Errata

April 1992 Journal, p. 241
Facilities

In the above-referenced paragraph of the Progress Report, a company was incorrectly identified as Communications Engineering Corp. (CEC). Please note that the correct name of the company is Communications Engineering, Inc. (CEI).