

# Section Meetings

**Detroit, March 8, 1994** — The March meeting was held at the Comcast Cablevision systems offices in Warren, Mich., and was attended by 20 members and guests.

Jim Kuhns, Comcast, provided an overview of the Warren CATV system. He explained the present methods of delivering signals to the subscriber, the use of demodulation of off-air signals to baseband and then modulating on the same or a new channel, and the distribution of the RF signals via miles of cable and cascading amplifiers. Kuhns then described the new distribution of a ring-type fiber-optic network capable of "self-healing" and therefore providing for more dependable service.

Following this presentation, attendees were treated to a tour of the Sterling Heights Head End, now being prepared with fiber-optic links to replace many of their head ends. The meeting ended with a lengthy question-and-answer period. — Gene Wilczak, (Secretary/Treasurer), WJBK-TV.

**Hollywood, March 29, 1994** — Over 175 people attended the March meeting, held on Stage 56 at CBS Studio City. Glenn Berggren, Sigma Design Group, tracked historical improvements in projection lenses, screen geometries, shutter techniques, and lamphouse components utilized in the better theaters. Of keen interest to those on hand was the presentation of defects in the film projection process that have yet to be addressed by the current designs. The implication left with the audience was that, in general, efforts are being directed toward electronic delivery. Further improvements in the film projection process will most likely be driven by the themed attraction markets. — Paul Carey, (Past Chair), Component Video, Inc.

**Nashville, March 17, 1994** — Approximately 30 members and guests attended the March meeting, held in Knoxville.

The meeting was conducted by Duke Fletcher, ATS Telephone and Data Systems, and David Bower, Center for Telecommunications and Video at the Univ. of Tenn., who discussed compressed video distribution technology as it is used in Tenn. for distance education. Using T-1 copper telephone circuits, fully interactive audio/video educational classes are transmitted at a rate of 384 kB statewide to various state educational entities in over 34 locations. The presentation included an actual connection between a distance learning studio and a new location in Lawrenceburg, Tenn.

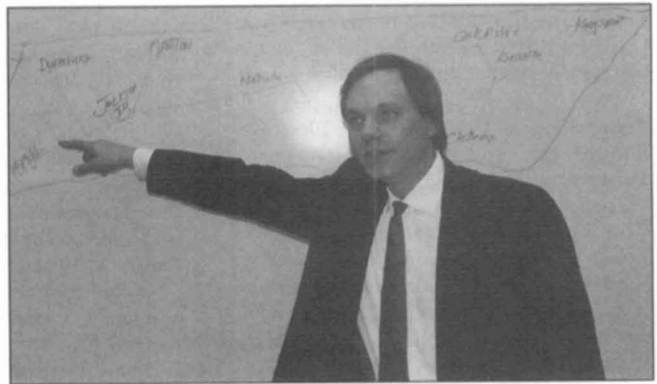
After the meeting, a tour was conducted of other distance learning facilities at the Univ. of Tenn., the broadcast production studios and editing facilities, the fiber-optic distribution system, and the Ku-band satellite uplink. — David L. Bower, (Manager), Univ. of Tenn.

**Pasadena City College, March 8, 1994** — Thirty-nine people welcomed guest speaker Valerie McMichael, ABC. A Pasadena City College graduate, McMichael has worked at the ABC network in Los Angeles for 16 years. Much of her experience there has been as an off-line editor of on-air promotions; she has participated in such projects as the Academy Awards and the 1984 Winter Olympics in Sarajevo. Her presentation included a videotape of several promotional spots that she helped to develop, a copy of a typical edit list, and an overview of the process of off-line editing and how it relates to production and on-line editing. — Lynn Harrill, (Acting Chair), Pasadena City College.

**Pasadena City College, March 21, 1994** — Tina Vennari, producer of special programs for the city of Burbank, was the guest speaker for the March 21 meeting. Thirty-three attendees were on hand for her presentation, "Working With a Limited Budget." Using her video *Concrete Realities* as an example, Vennari discussed such production issues as scheduling, the use of proper equipment, and location choices. Vennari is also an alumna of Pasadena City College and is currently a teacher of telecommunications. — Pat Parkinson, (Co-Chairperson), Pasadena City College.

**Rochester, March 8, 1994** — Nineteen members traveled to Buffalo for a tour of the new PBS Broadcasting Center for WNED-TV/WNEQ-TV, conducted by that station's John Sobota, Ray Felckowski, and Fred Grudzynski. Attendees were impressed by the extensive facilities at the recently opened site. — Alan J. Masson, (Secretary/Treasurer), Eastman Kodak Co.

**Sacramento, April 12, 1994** — The April meeting, attended by 49 members and guests, was held at the new home of Sierra Video Systems in Grass Valley, Calif. Richard Jackson, ImMIX, presented "Video Compression 101," a tutorial on the compression techniques used in video applications. Among the topics discussed were the reason why compression is necessary, the steps involved in the compression process, and an explanation of the contrast between the JPEG and wavelet compression algorithms. Wavelet compression was illustrated using the ImMIX Videocube system. The meeting ended with a question-and-answer period and a hands-on product demonstration. — Michael Guess, (Secretary/Treasurer), Grass Valley Group.



(L) Nashville Section members listen to presentations about Tennessee's distance education programs at the meeting in March. (R) Duke Fletcher explains the Tennessee network.