

# Section Meetings

**Chicago, September 27, 1994** — Twenty-five members and guests were present for the September meeting, held at Northwest Teleproductions. Howard Kagan of Nagel, Hartray and Assoc., discussed the benefits of retaining architectural, engineering, and acoustical experts when planning a project of any size. Kagan, along with representatives from WMA and Shiner and Assoc., explained his particular area of expertise as it pertained to the design and construction of broadcast, production, and post-production facilities. A key point stressed by all was the need to involve consultants as early in the planning process as possible. — Steve Robinson (Secretary/Treasurer), Serial Scene

**Chicago, October 25, 1994** — The October meeting, with 20 attendees, began with a basic tutorial of fiber-optic terms. Dave Iem, Teleport Communications Group, discussed and demonstrated fiber-optic cable, test equipment, and splicing tools. The point of his presentation was to emphasize the fact that fiber technology is ready to be used in more of our day-to-day broadcast video applications.

John Cantrell, Vyvx, then discussed his company's growing fiber network as well as some of the applications used by his customers. The audience was treated to a fiber transmission from the Vyvx master control center in Tulsa, Okla. — Steve Robinson (Secretary/Treasurer), Serial Scene

**Houston, October 19, 1994** — VT/TV Graphics and Productions was the site of the October meeting attended by 25 members and guests. Thomas Hooper, Abekas,

began with a short tutorial on digital technology. He was followed by Richard Lamb, Abekas, who described the advantages of component digital switching for seamless and transparent signal distribution. Lamb used the Abekas A-83 to demonstrate the signal handling capabilities of a component switching system. Combinations of control panels and supporting signal processors showed the flexibility of such a system depending on the demands or requirements of the operation. The meeting concluded with tours of the digital facilities of VT/TV Graphics and Productions. — Robert Musberger (Chair), University of Houston

**Napa Valley College, October 7, 1994** — The 24 students who attended the October meeting were treated to a tour of the KTVU Channel 2 broadcast television facility. That station's Charles Hintz began with a look at the roof, fitted with approximately 12 satellite dishes to the 120+-ft. microwave tower. He then guided the students through master control rooms, edit suites, tape storage, and a technology lab. — Dave Parker (Secretary/Treasurer)

**New York, September 27, 1994** — About 85 members and guests came to the Museum of Television and Radio in New York City to hear Mark Schubin deliver "An Eclectic Look at the History of Television." Schubin traced the origins of video back to the telegraph and presented a number of amazing historical notes. He stated that the basic patent on television scanning was issued in 1885, after the first book on television was published and the

first predictions of HDTV, interactive television, TV news, and home shopping networks were made. Schubin recounted the 1955 predictions that mail would be delivered by guided missiles and automobiles would be nuclear-powered by 1980. Finally, he showed an illustration published in 1685 of a form of image projector that involved a rotating glass disc; this spinning disc, which produced moving pictures, could have been the world's first videodisc. — Walter Druker (Manager), Broadcast Store

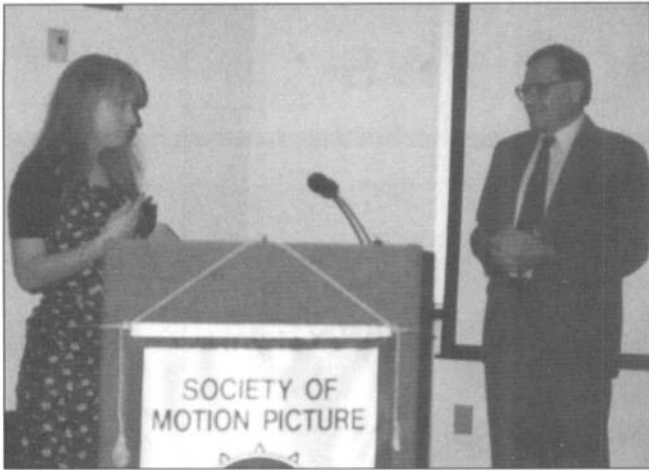
**New York, October 25, 1994** — More than 80 members and guests came to NBC's Studio 8H (home of "Saturday Night Live") for a presentation on "Master Control Monitors in Today's World of Digital Signal Formats." The four speakers — John Clemens, Asaca; Dan Desmet, Barco; Mino Tsutui, Ikegami; and Mark Mifflin, Panasonic — discussed such topics as design parameters, interfacing and processing digital signals, and future trends. The question-and-answer period addressed such issues as color matching computer and video monitors and the potential of projection devices in the post-production environment. — Warren Singer (Manager), Singer Associates

**Pacific Northwest, September 26, 1994** — Some 43 people turned out for the September meeting at KCTS-TV, Seattle, Wash. Speaker Larry Thorpe, Sony Electronics, presented the topic, "Electronic Cinematography — What It Is and What It Is Not," which included a tutorial slide presentation on the technology behind Sony's first totally digital CCD camera/recorder combination (the DVW-700). Thorpe's discussion centered around the direction which imaging is headed and what can and cannot be expected. Electronic cinematography is an important new reality, and as such, electronic and film cinematography will become important allies in an era of expanding digital electronic distribution of entertainment, educational, and informational programming. — Karl Paulsen (Chair), Digital Post & Graphics

**Pacific Northwest, October 5, 1994** — The Pacific Northwest Section joined forces with the SBE and the AES to present "Electronic Media Expo '94." More than 120 people attended the presentation of Sprint's "Drums" network, which connected Bellevue, Wash., with San Mateo, Calif., for an hour-long demonstration of interactivity over conventional T-1 telephone lines. The Drums network is incor-



*New York Section Chair Mike Brown addresses the audience at the October meeting.*



Second place winner Christine Tokash discusses her video production with Vince Slavin at the Student Film and Video Festival, held in Rochester in September.



Carol Zavada and Walt Snyder (C) listen to Greg Winter (R) describe the "River of Light" laser show at the October meeting in Rochester.

porated with SprintLink, Sprint's commercial internet service based on the TCP/IP networking protocol, which allows easy data transmission among multiple business partners and customers. Using the Drums network, it is possible to transfer both compressed and uncompressed video over a conventional T-1 telephone carrier channel. — Karl Paulsen (Chair), Digital Post & Graphics

**Rochester, September 13, 1994** — Student film and video productions were the highlight of the September meeting, with 38 people attending the 17th Annual Student Film and Video Festival at the Carlson Auditorium of the Rochester Institute of Technology. The program, a joint effort between the Rochester Section of the SMPTE and the Rochester Audio Visual Association, featured screenings for first place, second place, and honorable mention in the categories of fiction, non-fiction, and animation. — Walt Snyder II (Secretary/Treasurer), Eastman Kodak Co.

**Rochester, October 4, 1994** — The 32 people who attended the October meeting participated in a tour of the equipment that creates the "River of Light" Laser Show at Rochester's Center at High Falls. Greg Winter and Roy Brown described the computer-controlled, multimedia projection system, which is located in the High Falls Gorge, near downtown Rochester. The gorge wall, created by the erosion action of the Genesee River, is used as the projection screen. Attendees were then guided through the Museum at High Falls by Tim Stoffel, WXXI-TV, who described much of the industrial and natural history of the High Falls area. — Walt Snyder II (Secretary Treasurer), Eastman Kodak Co.

**San Francisco, October 20, 1994** — The October meeting was held at the new Sony facility in San Jose, Calif. The topic for the evening, "Compression in the Broadcast

Environment." was addressed by speaker John Hartwell, Sony Systems Integration Division. With the promise of low-cost storage, less expensive hardware, and enabling technology for video/audio compression, the subject of video servers was discussed enthusiastically. Hartwell outlined the basics for a broadcast plant: real time, interlaced, and broadcast-quality video; and how compression technologies must be worked to their parameters. Examples of compression schemes to meet various needs were discussed. — Richard LeForge (Chair), CalCon

**Washington, D.C., September 24, 1994** — The September meeting consisted of an all-day seminar entitled "Multimedia and Communications." Held at NASA Headquarters, the seminar began with a high-definition video feature, "The Astronomer's Dream," followed by an explanation of the creative integration of elements. Steven Jaffe, David Sarnoff Research, presented a tutorial on multimedia; Lou Ward, Apple, demonstrated digital computer video. "Aural Choices in Multi-media" was pre-

sented by Igor Saulsky, Solid State Logic. The digital domain was explored in "Media Pool" by David Russin, BTS.

Charles Redmond, NASA, probed Cyberspace; "eWorld" examined on-line network interconnection, and Robert Kovacs, Northern Sky Design, discussed video-on-demand. The meeting concluded with "Electronic Field Trips," presented by Terence Woolsey and Judy Garcia, Fairfax County Schools, and illustrated how students have been given the visual opportunity to travel beyond the classroom.

Signals for the meeting were fed from NASA through PBS, uplinking via GI Digicipher compression technology, allowing satellite distribution to PBS stations across the country. In addition, PBS fed an analog signal to Washington International Teleport for uplinking, donated by GTE Interactive Media on a GStar 4 transponder. The seminar was simultaneously aired on NASA Select Television Channel. — Carole Ann Chambers (Program Coordinator) Advanced Television Test Center, and Edwin Kennedy (Secretary Treasurer), Ken-Del Productions, Inc.



Dave Russin discusses the "Media Pool" at Washington's all-day seminar in September.