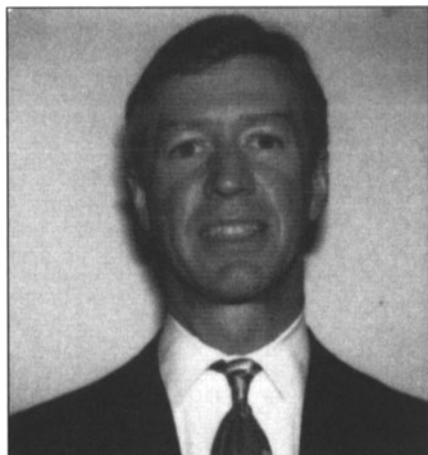


# News



Thomas J. Bentsen

## Society Names New Editorial Vice-President

Thomas J. Bentsen, NASA, has been appointed Editorial Vice-President by SMPTE's Board of Governors. Bentsen replaces Peter A. Dare, Sony Electronics, who resigned the position in May.

As Director of the Television Development Division at NASA, Bentsen is responsible for investigating and implementing advanced technologies for use in NASA space and ground-based systems. He was formerly the director of satellite systems engineering with CBS, New York City. He holds a BS degree in electrical engineering from Clarkson University.

Since joining the SMPTE in 1987, Bentsen has been deeply involved in its

activities. He stepped down as Eastern Region Governor and Editorial Director, Television, in order to take the Editorial Vice-President post. Prior to that, he served as the Washington, D.C., Section Chair; he is also a former Manager of that Section. Last September, Bentsen acted as moderator and chairman of the Washington, D.C., All-Day Meeting on Multimedia and Communications. He is currently the Chair of the Sarnoff Gold Medal Nominating Committee and a former Chair of the Fuji Gold Medal Nominating Committee. He is participating in the 137th SMPTE Technical Conference as the chair for a session entitled "Capturing the Images." Bentsen is responsible for introducing and establishing SMPTE Standards in Space Data Communications documents for Audio, Video, and Still-Image Services.

**Videotek, Inc.**, an SMPTE Sustaining Member, has announced that the company is expanding its research and development activities to Beaverton, Ore., in an effort to prepare for future technologies in the communications industry. The Pottstown, Pa., headquartered engineering group will continue to develop instruments and devices for analog and digital video users. The Beaverton engineering center, focusing on emerging markets, will be fully staffed and in operation by August 1, 1995. Bob Elkind, previously a senior design engineer with Tektronix, will organize and staff the facility. Elkind has a strong background in professional video and is active in SMPTE standards committees.

**The Illuminating Engineering Society of North America (IESNA)** has established an on-line service for IESNA members in conjunction with the Electronic Resource Network of Architecture, Engineering and Construction (AECNET). IESNA will have an established area that will run resident on the AECNET servers. The service will include communication and resource sharing tools as well as libraries and databases of IESNA technical and professional information. IESNA members will enjoy the benefits of being connected to each other, to the IESNA, to the rest of the design and construction industry, and to the Internet in general. The service is accessible via direct dialing, local calling access from across the country, or the Internet, and includes full access to all AECNET resources and Internet services. For further information, call: 800-9AECNET; Modem: 516-757-9300; Telnet: AECNET.com; WWW: <http://www.AECNET.com>; E-mail: [Info@AECNET.com](mailto:Info@AECNET.com).

**An MPEG-1 and MPEG-2 seminar** will be presented by KNK Seminars August 17-18, 1995, in Santa Clara, Calif. Topics that will be covered during the two-day presentation include an image compression overview, an introduction to compression standards, descriptions and analyses of MPEG-1 and MPEG-2 video, and an overview of video implementations. For further information, contact Kristine N. Kneib, KNK Seminars, 6333 La Jolla Blvd., Ste. 376, La Jolla, CA 92037-6622, (619) 459-8058, fax: (619) 459-3654.

## Section Meetings

### Chicago May 9, 1995

SMPTE Conference Vice-President Edward Hobson, Graham-Patten Systems, gave an informative presentation on audio for video post-production for the 30 members and guests who attended. He began with a review of the AES/EBU digital audio format, and then proceeded to discuss the criteria for digital audio mixers under automated edit control and the D/ESAM II protocol. The architecture of the Graham-Patten mixers and the use of a multiplexed digital audio bus were explained relative to the need for features such as equalization and signal delay. Hobson concluded with some thoughts on

implementing digital audio in the broadcast plant and how mixers may evolve as open architecture computers become fast enough to handle all of the required digital signal processing. A Model 400 mixer was set up for hands-on demonstration following the formal presentation. — Steve Robinson (Secretary/Treasurer), Serial Scene

### Houston May 17, 1995

The May meeting, held at Pearlman Productions, boasted an attendance of 35 members and guests, including the SMPTE International Board of Governors. Peter Owen, Quantel, provided a

retrospective on the development of SMPTE standards associated with 4:2:2 digital video, beginning with his first visit to the U.S. for the 1974 NAB Convention in Houston. It was at about that time that the seeds of digital video were sown with the advent of digital TBCs; subsequent work on a digital standard culminated in the adoption of CCIR 601 in 1985. Since then, progress in digital storage medium and software technologies have enabled remarkable advances in the control and manipulation of 4:2:2 digital video.

Owen was assisted by his colleague Jay Frazier in a demonstration of the Quantel PictureBox. The multimedia presentation was followed by a question-and-answer period as well as comments by SMPTE



*Peter Owen addressed members of the Houston Section, as well as SMPTE's Board of Governors, at the May meeting.*

President Stanley Baron relating to the final choice of digital sampling frequencies. Tours of the Pearlman studios were then conducted by staff members. — Andy Anderson (Secretary/Treasurer), University of Houston

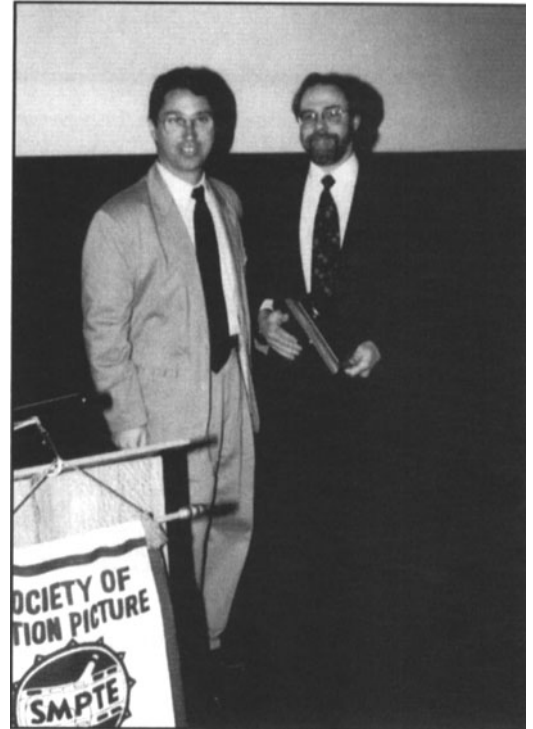
#### **Montreal/Quebec April 26-27, 1995**

The National Film Board was the location of the second tutorial entirely developed by the Montreal/Quebec Section. About 150 people participated in the two-day event, entitled "The Information Superhighway."

The tutorial started with Jean-Louis Gauvreau and Francis Paquet, Bell Canada, who gave an overview of the transmission characteristics of fiber and coax as well as new wireless technologies aimed at wide bandwidth broadcasting. Andre Vincent, CRC, followed with an explanation of how MPEG-2 achieves the

necessary compression; he also showed a video exhibiting the effects of various levels of compression on which artifacts became increasingly apparent as the compression ratio increased. Then Paul Briscoe, Leitch, Inc., offered his view on the use of servers within a television broadcasting facility. Topics covered included high-speed networking and ATM switching and how it could be used to replace existing routing switchers.

An introduction to the Internet followed with Philippe Chartrand, National Film Board of Canada. Connecting to the web and accessing data (video, graphics, and text) were among the items demonstrated in real time over a full-size video screen. Christian Tremblay and Pierre Bouchard, Miranda Technologies, and Benoit Morin, Buzz Post Production, concluded this tutorial with an introduction to digital video and an alternative approach to ATM, exchanging data files (video or graphics) over the existing SDI and SDDI protocol



*Andre Vincent (R) receives a plaque from Montreal/Quebec Manager Michel Yeon for his presentation at that section's April tutorial.*

using CCIR 601, 4:2:2 serial digital component video signals. — Michel Yeon (Manager), Le Réseau Des Sports

#### **Napa Valley College May 22, 1995**

Thirty-one student members elected new officers at the May meeting. They are: Randy Harvey, President; Joe Piazza, Vice-President; Jessica Turnipseed, Secretary; Dominic Cosmi, Treasurer; and Mike Moore, Activities Director. These new officers would like to express their thanks and best wishes to those they are replacing. — Jessica Turnipseed (Secretary)

#### **Pasadena City College March 28, 1995**

Thirty-nine attendees were on hand to watch Jerry Isenhower, Toyota Motor Sales, give a slide presentation on his company's production studios in Torrance, Calif. Included in the presentation were two edit bay rooms, a videotape area, a production studio, a master control room, and a remote van. Some of the equipment used, such as the 241 editor, the ADO 2000, the Venus system, a Grass Valley switcher, and a digital mixer, was also featured.

Isenhower stressed the need to know how to read and operate a waveform monitor. He also told the students that in order to succeed in the industry, one must have a



*The first tutorial entirely developed by the Montreal/Quebec Section was held in April and was very well attended.*

desire to get into the business, be able to get along with others, and have practical experience. — John E. Lopez (Student Member)

### **Pasadena City College April 18, 1995**

Three guest speakers addressed the 36 attendees about the various uses of Avid Technology equipment. Mike Flanagan, Video Symphony, began the session with a brief overview of digital video, digital compression, and nonlinear technology, and he explained how this new wave of technology is redefining the norms of the current post-production industry.

Robert Malachowski, Xtreme Media, said that his company uses Avid equipment to piece together music video and concert promos for major recording artists. He played a reel and explained the various applications he was able to use with Avid, emphasizing the amount of time he was able to save on each project. The final speaker was Mike Cavanagh, Avid Technology, who provided a history of his company. — Clay N. Woods (Acting Co-Chair)

### **Pasadena City College April 25, 1995**

Former Pasadena City College student David J. Wader was the guest speaker at this meeting, attended by 28 members and guests. This Emmy-winning stage manager addressed his audience quite candidly about the ups and downs of the business, including the grueling hours, the personality conflicts, and the potential strains on one's family life. He emphasized, however, his love for his work and how that makes everything worthwhile. Wader encouraged the group to stick to their goals and strive to be the best at whatever may come their way. — Clay N. Woods (Acting Co-Chair)

### **Pasadena City College May 8, 1995**

Twenty-seven students attended this meeting, which featured Lourdes del Junco, KVEA-TV channel 52. del Junco was hired at KVEA-TV, a local Spanish station, when she left Pasadena City College about two years ago. The station's transmitter is located on Mount Wilson and serves more than a half million viewers from Santa Barbara in the north to San Clemente in the south. KVEA receives network feeds from its Miami headquarters as well as produces its own local shows. As master control engineer, del Junco is responsible for making certain that the output signal of programs are within specifications required to be transmitted. The meeting concluded after a lively question-and-answer period. — Gordon Waughan (Acting Chair)



*Peter Jones demonstrates the projector used by Theodore Case in the development of the Fox Movietone sound film system to Rochester members at the May meeting (from left, Vicky Sinn, Lois Eggers, Andy Eggers, Peter Jones, and Alan Masson).*

### **Rochester May 9, 1995**

The May meeting featured a tour of the Case Research Lab Museum, Auburn, N.Y., where in the 1920s Theodore Case and E. I. Sponable invented the first commercially successful sound system for motion pictures. This variable density, sound encoding system consisted of live, in-camera sound recording made by the patented AEO light, and playback with a sound head located on the movie film projector. The initial Case/Sponable movie sound system was promoted in the early 1920s as Lee de Forest's *Phonofilms*. In 1926, the patents for the Case/Sponable inventions were purchased by William Fox and later became widely known as the Fox-Case Co.'s *Movietone News*. The first notable production using the Movietone technology was the same-day release of Lindbergh's takeoff for his solo flight across the Atlantic Ocean in May 1927. The tour, hosted by museum director Peter Jones, featured a review of the laboratory, studio, theater, and a presentation of early test footage. — Walter C. Snyder II (Secretary/Treasurer), Eastman Kodak Co.

### **Sacramento May 23, 1995**

Approximately 60 members and guests met at Play, Inc., Rancho Cordova, Calif., for a demonstration of that company's Snappy and Trinity products; Mark Randall, vice-president of marketing, hosted the meeting. The research and development group includes the Video Toaster software team, as well as engineering talent formerly with the Grass Valley Group. These engineers described and demonstrated the capability of their systems and included a comprehensive demonstration of the Warp Engine 3D DVE card for Trinity. The meeting concluded with a

question-and-answer period and a distribution of a white paper on the Trinity system. — Keith Y. Reynolds (Secretary/Treasurer), Grass Valley Group

### **San Francisco May 18, 1995**

Forty-seven members and guests gathered at the Biltmore Hotel, Santa Clara, Calif., to hear John M. Pichitino, ImMix, present "The ImMix Turbo Tour." The Turbo version of the ImMix has become a real-time digital finishing tool with internal DVE, CG, and special effects. With wavelet compression of 640 x 480 pixel, 30 frame/sec component video, the ImMix is a medium-scale finishing tool based on the Macintosh platform. The product is aimed at the small-to-middle market television post-production edit boutiques and industrial/corporate video applications. The SMPTE group was enthralled with the demonstration and asked many more questions than the organizers planned. As a result, this meeting ran more than one hour past the traditional 8:30 p.m. closing. However, the sponsor, R.E. Snader, kept the coffee and sodas available until the very last guest received an answer to his question. — Charles Hintz (Secretary/Treasurer), KTVU

### **Errata**

The April 1995 issue of the *Journal*, which is the annual Progress Report, mentioned the Ursa Gold digital telecine in a few items about Broadcast Video, Inc. (pp. 189 and 206). It neglected to say that the Ursa Gold Telecine is manufactured by Rank Cintel Ltd., Ware, Hertfordshire, England. It is available in the U.S. from Rank Cintel Inc., 25358 Avenue Stanford, Valencia, CA 91355.