

# Section Meetings

## Chicago

March 18, 1997

Nearly 70 people turned out for the joint SMPTE/SBE meeting held in March. Will Walkoe, Ameritech, began the program by explaining the bottleneck that exists for users of on-line services. Essentially, modems are connecting to ISPs over a public switched phone system not designed for this type of traffic. Ameritech is proposing to launch a new service that deploys ADSL technology. The next presentation was given by Ameritech's Wallace Murray, who is responsible for the deployment of a fiber-based real-time, uncompressed video service in Detroit. This service connects several production-related companies that have a need to transmit this type of video data. He demonstrated the end-to-end performance by playing back SMPTE 259M video through a simulated 30-mile distance and displayed it on a picture and waveform monitor. — Steve Robinson (Secretary/Treasurer), Serial Scene

## Napa Valley

March 11, 1997

Walter Biglow, Varitel Post Productions, spoke to the 30 members in attendance about his work experience since he graduated from Napa Valley College in 1995. His first job was at Sony Electronics, San Jose, Calif., working as an engineer in Systems Integration. He left after eight months, accepting a position at Varitel, working out software bugs and maintaining the SGI computers, as well as doing such things as changing digital Betacam heads and working on still stores. Biglow showed a demo reel of commercial and animated projects from Varitel's SGI computers. — Robert Maniaci, Student Chair

## Nashville

March 20, 1997

The March meeting was held at WKRN Channel 2 in Nashville. Hal Songer, Custom Supply, Inc., gave a thorough overview of the Media 100's nonlinear editing system. The presentation included samples of work done on the device and comparisons of the video quality at various compression ratios. Songer concluded by stepping through the editing process, showing numerous examples of transitions, digital effects, and the Media 100's titling capabilities. He also discussed the Media 100's integration with third-party software products such as Adobe After Effects. — Mike Arnold (Past Chair), Scene Three, Inc.

## Philadelphia

April 22, 1997

The meeting was held at the Tektronix facility in Blue Bell, Pa., and was a continuation of the program held there in January. At that time, Thomas Freeman, Tektronix, provided a basic technical overview of the MPEG-2 video compression process, dealing with CCIR-601, or serial digital component video (D-1), at a 270-Mbit rate through the intra- and inter-frame (motion compensation) compression process. At the March meeting, he discussed digital audio and its pros and cons, bipolar mark coding, polarity insensitive preambles, data blocks, and the effects of bad connectors and cables on signals. He also covered MPEG-2 audio and why compression is necessary. Freeman presented psychoacoustic models and discussed various masking parameters used in the MPEG-2 audio encoder as well as how to measure the signals. — James E. Landy (Chair), Landy Electronic Reps

## SMPTE SECTION CALENDAR

### Hong Kong

For further information contact Section Chair Kwok-Luen Lam, Wharf Cable Ltd., 5/F Wharf Cable Tower, 9 Hoi Shing Rd., Tsuen Wan, N.T., Hong Kong, tel: +852-211-24511, fax: +852-211-28764, e-mail: kl@hk.super.net

#### Dates for future meetings:

August 1997: VOD/IMS  
November 1997: MPEG-2

### San Francisco

For further information contact Section Chair Charles Hintz, KTVU Partnership, Inc./Fox, tel: (510) 874-0290, fax: (510) 272-9957, e-mail: charlesinca@aol.com

#### The 1997 San Francisco Section Second Saturday Tutorials Schedule

##### August 9, 1997:

Video Acquisition and Display

##### September 13, 1997:

Digital Audio and Compression

##### October 11, 1997: Growing into MPEG

##### November 8, 1997: Living with MPEG-2

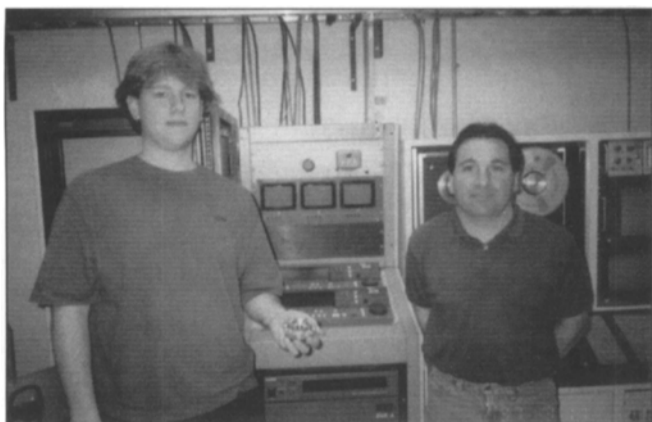
All times are 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Seminars 1, 3, and 4 will be held at Stanford University, Gates B-01 Computer Science Classroom, Palo Alto, Calif. Seminar 2 will be at Dolby Labs, 100 Potrero Ave., San Francisco, Calif.

### Toronto

For further information contact Promotions Adviser Brad Fortner, Rogers Communications Centre, Ryerson Polytechnic University, tel: (416) 237-0625, fax: (416) 979-5203, e-mail: bfortner@acs.ryerson.ca

#### Dates for future meetings:

June 10, 1997: Film and Video Archiving



Speaker Walter Biglow, left, and Student Chair Robert Maniaci at the Napa Valley College TV studio at the March meeting.



Ray Conover addresses the Rochester audience at the January meetings.

**Pasadena City College  
February 11, 1997**

Former Pasadena City College student Leotus Haynes, ABC, discussed the advantages of being both an editor and director, saying that the way he directs would be different if he was unaware of the editing process. He also recommended that future directors have a background in everything from current affairs to acting, as well as know the technical side of the craft. He also said that the director is something of a psychiatrist, explaining that the way the crew is handled directly affects how they will work. He pointed out that the director should tell a story; using the right camera and editing techniques can bring the audience to tears or

make their sides hurt with laughter. Haynes also discussed the importance of pre-production and the art of thinking visually. — Candace Brown, Student Chair

**Pasadena City College  
February 25, 1997**

Former student Phil Jackson, ABC, was the speaker at the second February meeting. He opened the meeting by explaining what he does in his position as a tape supervisor, then gave a chronicle of his career path from his graduation to his current position. He highlighted the benefits of internships, speaking of his early days as an intern at Pasadena's local television station. — Candace Brown, Student Chair

**Rochester  
January 14, 1997**

Ray Conover, USSB and Conus Communications, presented a technical overview of USSB's direct satellite broadcast system. He described the technical specifications of the direct broadcast spacecraft and the company's national broadcast center near Minneapolis. Conover brought slides that showed the facility under construction and later when it was fully operational. He then led a lengthy question-and-answer period, focusing on satellite engineering and encryption/authorization technology. — John Walsh (Secretary/Treasurer), WHEC-TV

## Calendar

### SMPTE Activities

**NEW YORK, N.Y.** — SMPTE Technical Conference and Equipment Exhibit, Marriott Marquis Hotel, *November 21-24, 1997.*

**TORONTO, ONTARIO** — 32nd Advanced Motion Imaging Conference, *February 5-7, 1998.*

For more information on these and other SMPTE activities contact SMPTE Headquarters:

Tel: (914) 761-1100  
Fax: (914) 761-3115

### June

**47th International Design Conference in Aspen**, Aspen Music Tent, Aspen, Colo. Info: IDCA, P.O. Box 664, Aspen, CO 81612, e-mail: idca@csn.net. *June 5-8, 1997.*

**International Conference on Consumer Electronics**, Westin Hotel O'Hare, Chicago, Ill. Info: Diane Williams, Conference Coordinator, Consumer Electronics Society of the IEEE, 67 Raspberry Patch Dr., Rochester, NY 14612-2868, e-mail: d.williams@ieee.org, Internet: <http://www.icce.org>. *June 9-13, 1997.*

**Montreux International Television Symposium and Technical Exhibition**, Rue du Théâtre, Montreux, Switzerland. Info: P.O. Box 1451, Rue du Théâtre 5, 1820 Montreux, Switzerland. *June 12-17, 1997.*

**SHOWBIZ Expo West**, Los Angeles Convention Center, Los Angeles, Calif. Info: Reed Exhibition Companies, 383 Main Ave., Norwalk, CT 06851, <http://www.showbizexpo.com>. *June 13-15, 1997.*

**ATSM Committee E-12 Meeting on Appearance**, Adams Mark and St. Louis Marriott, St. Louis, Mo. Info: Bode Buckley, American Society for Testing and Materials (ATSM), 100 Barr Harbor Dr., W. Conshohocken, PA 19428-2959, e-mail: bbuckley@atsm.org. *June 18-20, 1997.*

### July

**New Broadcast Standards and Systems**, University of Surrey, Guildford, U.K. Info: The Institution of Electrical Engineers, Savoy Place, London, WC2R 0BL, U.K., e-mail: nsharp@iee.org.uk. *July 7-11, 1997.*

**The 1997 ITS Annual Forum**, Beverly Hilton Hotel, Beverly Hills, Calif. Info: International Teleproduction Society, 2230 Gallows Rd., Ste. 310, Dunn Loring, VA 22027. *July 10-13, 1997.*

**ITEC '97**, Tokyo, Japan. Info: Image Information and Television Engineers, Room No. 209, Kikal-shinko-Kaikan, 3-5-8 Shiba-Koen, Minato-ku, Tokyo 105, Japan, e-mail: ite@ite.or.jp. *July 23-25, 1997.*

### August

**The Illuminating Engineering Society of North America (IESNA) Annual Conference**, Westin Hotel Seattle, Seattle,

Wash. Info: Valerie Landers, Manager, Member Services, IESNA, 120 Wall St., 17th Fl., New York, NY 10005-4001. *August 18-20, 1997.*

### September

**IBC97**, RAI Exhibition and Congress Centre, Amsterdam, The Netherlands. Info: Sarah Campbell, IBC Office, Savoy Place, London, WC2R 0BLP, U.K. *September 12-16, 1997.*

### October

**IBTS '97**, Milan Fair, Milan, Italy. Info: General Secretariat, Via Domenichino, 11 C.P. 15117 - 20150 Milan, Italy, e-mail: MC1703@MCLink.it. *October 16-20, 1997.*

### November

**CIE 2nd Expert Symposium on Colour Standards for Imaging Technology**, Scottsdale, Ariz. Info: CIE Central Bureau, Kegelgasse 27, A-1030 Vienna, Austria. *November 20-21, 1997.*

### March 1998

**cinec 98 International Trade Fair for Motion Picture Technology and Post-Production**, M,O,C, Events Center, Munich, Germany. Info: Messe München GmbH, cinec Exhibition Management, Messegelände, D-80325 München, Germany. *March 21-23, 1998.*