

## Section Meetings

### Nashville

June 24, 1999

With 12 in attendance, the June meeting was held at WDCN-TV in Nashville. Titled "Various Options for Digital Conversion," the program took the form of a free-flowing discussion of various options for processing archival material in preparation for digital broadcast. Areas such as noise reduction, image-motion stabilization (both from the aspect of camera shake and gate weave in the case of film material) and aspect ratio format conversion to 16:9 were covered.

Although it was a small group, the 2 1/2 hr discussion was very lively and a lot of very useful information was shared.—William C. Spencer, Section Chair

### New York

June 23, 1999

The June meeting, held at ABC's broadcast center in Manhattan, was titled "NEC's DiskCam—Optical Disk Recording Format for Electronic Newsgathering."

Several manufacturers are currently working on optical recording products stemming from an initiative by NHK. NEC is in the forefront of this technology and introduced the first viable product for broadcast use, a dockable camcorder, at NAB99. John Leahy, NEC, spoke on features of DiskCam and the technology behind the product. The inherently nonlinear, robust recording can present a viable alternative to digital and analog tape-based acquisition systems. A significant breakthrough, it provides the potential for the entire news process to be nonlinear, from acquisition through editing to archive. Many broadcasters view this as the future for ENG. Leahy described the



At the New York Section meeting in June, Mike Strein, ABC, and John Leahy, NEC.

recording process that allows MPEG-compressed video and audio data to be recorded on the media and provided a camcorder and studio player for demonstration.

Steve Pierce, Vibrant Technologies, presented a short paper on nonlinear editing and video networking. Vibrant, one of the editing companies working closely with NEC, provided a system for the demonstration. A lively Q & A session demonstrated the interest this technology is generating.—Mike Strein, Program Manager

### Pasadena City 1999 Progress Report

During the first semester of 1999 our student chapter held four successful noon meetings with an attendance ranging from 19 to 25. We had to cancel our fifth meet-

ing (March 23) after announcements were made, due to a last minute work assignment involving our guest speaker.

Over the years, losing a guest speaker has not been an ongoing problem. We have used backup videotape to substitute, when we had notice of a guest cancellation, but the March 23 cancellation happened with no time to prepare a backup. Our students continue to attend the Hollywood Section evening meetings, and I anticipate very good attendance for our upcoming meetings.

Thanks to Headquarters for providing the SMPTE Student Membership paper, and to David George for granting permission to photocopy his October '98 President's Message for distribution to students. These are valuable tools to use as a means of introducing SMPTE to our students.—Gerald Finn, Advisor

## News

### Eastman House to Receive IDA Film Preservation Award

George Eastman House International Museum of Photography and Film will receive the coveted 1999 International Documentary Association (IDA) Preservation and Scholarship Award.

"George Eastman House has restored and preserved an extraordinary number of motion pictures and still images that are irreplaceable records of our art and

history," said IDA President David Haugland. "This unique organization has also extended its influence around the world by operating the L. Jeffrey Selznick School of Film Preservation. This recognition is a symbol of our appreciation to the many dedicated individuals who have contributed to the success of George Eastman House during the past five decades."

The IDA Film Preservation Award is presented annually to an individual or

organization, either for making notable contributions to preserving motion picture for future generations of historians and fans, or for enhancing the education of individuals in the industry and the general public about the importance of film preservation.

George Eastman House was founded in Rochester, New York, in 1949, as a photography museum and film restoration and preservation center. It was named in honor of George Eastman, who founded

Kodak, and was his home during the years he lived in Rochester. The collection contains more than 23,000 motion picture titles from the Warner Bros. and MGM libraries, independent features and documentaries, in addition to private collections of films.

The presentation will be made during the 15th annual IDA Distinguished Documentary Achievement Awards gala on October 29.

### **Philips Spirit DataCine Awarded for Engineering Excellence**

The Association of Imaging Technology and Sound has honored Philips Digital Video with its 1999 International Monitor Award for Special Achievement in Engineering Excellence. The award was given to Philips for its development of the Spirit DataCine High Resolution Film Scanner, the result of a joint effort between Philips and Eastman Kodak. The core of the Philips Spirit DataCine is an advanced film-imaging head designed by Kodak. It utilizes proprietary CCD technology from Kodak, along with customized high-performance optics and advanced illumination control. The Kodak scanner scans film at a full fixed resolution (up to 2K) in progressive mode, regardless of the selected output format. All processing is performed on the 2K data in realtime, while in still-frame mode, yielding a data throughput of approximately 350 Mbytes/sec.

### **CBS Selects Artel Routing and Control System for HDTV Broadcast Programming**

Fourteen CBS stations, including seven in the ten largest U.S. television markets, are using Artel Video Systems' HDTV routing and control system to broadcast the industry's largest ever HDTV programming package.

Artel's Utah 1500, a fully scalable 32 x 32 HDTV video router switcher, serves as the main router for distributing HDTV programming, sponsored by Mitsubishi Digital Electronics America, Inc., to each of the CBS stations. The Artel Mini Master Control is a compact master control panel that allows CBS to integrate the Utah 1500 as an HDTV house router, as well as a master control interface for on-air broadcasts. The control panel functions with CBS' proprietary automation systems as well as other third-party

automation systems, allowing CBS to control switching between HDTV video signals either manually or automatically.

### **Lucent Digital Video Conducts First Demonstration of HDTV Over VDSL**

Lucent Digital Video has conducted the first viable demonstration of high-definition television signals over a single pair of telephone wires using Very High Speed Digital Subscriber Lines (VDSL). This marks a significant improvement for multimedia broadband access to the residential, small business, and remote office markets. By using VDSL lines, traditional telephony service providers will be able to deliver HDTV signals to customers at the same time that the terrestrial broadcast television industry converts to digital television. VDSL technology has the ability to provide 20 to 50 Mbits/sec of digital bandwidth over a single pair of copper wire, allowing high-quality video streams to be transmitted to a user's location without costly rewiring.

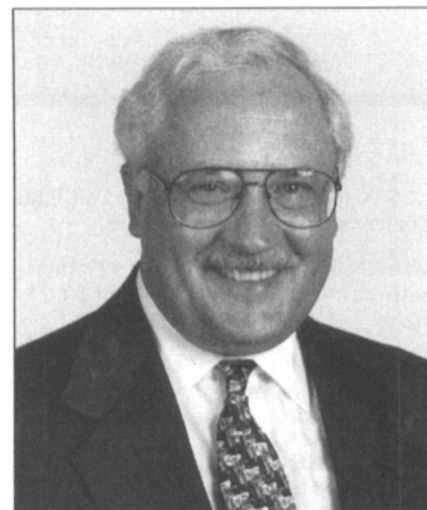
### **Standards Development on the Internet**

The American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) has released a new and improved version of its state-of-the-art Interactive Standards Development Forums. The Forums system is an Internet-based standards development tool, available to ASTM members. Using the Forums 2.0 system, members involved in ASTM standards development activities can view and comment on new standard drafts and revisions to existing standards online. This makes international participation in ASTM activities easier, and reduces the time it takes to draft a standard by providing between-meeting access to documents in progress.

### **SMPTe's Rick Thomas to Head Technicolor NY Lab**

Technicolor Worldwide Film Group has appointed Rick Thomas to serve as vice-president, general manager. Thomas, who has over 30 years of experience in the field, will oversee operations of the company's New York City film lab, which provides both front-end and release printing services.

"Rick is uniquely qualified for this role, based on his experience, and the trust he has earned within the industry during a long and distinguished career," said



Richard Thomas

Ronald W. Jarvis, Technicolor Worldwide Film Group President.

Thomas graduated from the University of Minnesota Institute of Technology with a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering. He has spent more than 28 years with Kodak's Professional Motion Imaging division. His career at Kodak included various sales, marketing, and engineering positions throughout the U.S., with his latest assignment being sales and marketing manager for Deluxe Labs, in Los Angeles, for the last three-and-a-half years.

"This is an important time in the history of our industry, because of the tremendous growth of cinema screens around the world," said Thomas. "We are dedicated to supporting our customers with reliable, high-quality dailies and release prints."

### **Rocky Mountain Film and Video Expo to be Held in October**

The Rocky Mountain Film and Video Expo '99, titled "Cool Gear and Hot Ideas," will be held on October 6-7, 1999 in Denver CO, at the Holiday Inn in the John Q. Hammons Convention Center.

Designed to showcase cutting-edge technologies, the expo will demonstrate new equipment and techniques and provide solutions for the increasingly sophisticated and challenging needs of both creative and business professionals. This year's show will provide access to over 150 manufacturers exhibiting their latest products, 30 Short Takes presentations on "hot" industry topics, and numerous opportunities to network with colleagues and production partners.