

## MESSAGE FROM THE CONFERENCE VICE-PRESIDENT

THOMAS M. JORDAN

### 'Tis the Season

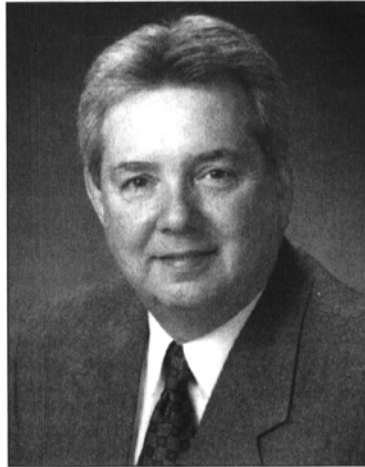
As we enjoy the fading days of summer, those of us involved in conference activities brace for our peak season. The opening of the International Broadcast Convention in Amsterdam heralds the Fall and Winter conference period that includes the SMPTE Fall Conference & Exhibition and the SMPTE Advanced Motion Imaging Conference. In Amsterdam, SMPTE will conduct a one-day tutorial session on Thursday and host a reception Friday evening. The seminar theme will be "Relevant Internet Technology, Business Practice, and Opportunities." If you are attending the IBC, please check the SMPTE website ([www.smpte.org](http://www.smpte.org)) or your IBC conference program for details of these events.

### Conference Happenings

This year's Fall Conference, October 18-21, is at the Pasadena Convention Center in Pasadena, CA, an easy drive from most area airports and media centers. This venue boasts lots of parking and very affordable hotels making for a pleasant experience. The host hotel is the Doubletree, a short walk from the convention center. Conference rates are also available at the Sheraton Hotel (formerly the Holiday Inn, attached to the convention center) and the Hilton Hotel. The Industry Luncheon will be held on Friday, and we are very excited to have Jack Valenti, Chairman and CEO of the Motion Picture Association of America, as keynote speaker. Don't miss this opportunity to hear from an industry icon.

Local arrangements for this conference are under the capable care of John Brooks, Brooks/Fleming Associates and James Smith, WMEX-TV. These gentlemen, along with their appointed committee chairs, committees, and volunteers are busy finalizing the details of what will no doubt be the best conference ever. Program details, daily schedules, and conference registration (with a credit card) are available at [www.smpte.org/conf/142Prog.html](http://www.smpte.org/conf/142Prog.html). Please register early! Also, don't delay in booking your hotel reservation. SMPTE has blocks of rooms available in all three hotels at special negotiated rates. After September 20, these rates are no longer guaranteed and the regular rates are considerably higher.

Our positive experience in Pasadena in 1998 prompted us to consider this location for the next few west-coast Fall conferences. To date, we have booked this location



for 2002 and 2004. This commitment is predicated on the proposition that the Pasadena Convention Center will complete an expansion to convert the existing ice skating rink into conference space by early 2002. This will double the exhibition hall and add large meeting rooms suitable for our seminars by early 2004. With these enhancements, Pasadena could serve our west-coast conference needs through the end of this decade.

The AMI Conference will be held at the Capital Hilton in Washington, DC, February 8-10, 2001. Rudy Niznansky and Ed Williams are in charge of arrangements, and preliminary plans are underway. It's been many years

since SMPTE had a conference in DC, so we are looking forward to this "inside the beltway" experience.

Several other upcoming SMPTE-sponsored events deserve mentioning here. In May, Herb Farmer, in conjunction with the Hollywood SMPTE section, conducts a wonderful one-day video seminar at USC, Los Angeles. This gathering is always well attended and the topics are highly relevant. There is a small charge to attend and the experience is well worth it.

The Hollywood Section also hosts a one-day film seminar in September, during the years that the Fall Conference is in New York. Since the Conference will be held in Pasadena this year, the next film seminar will be in 2001. Topics are strictly related to film and theatrical technology. Last year's session was rated A+, so make plans to attend if you're of the celluloid set.

The Australia Section of SMPTE hosts a four-day conference and exhibition every other year in Sydney. The next one is July 9-13, 2001, at the Sydney Exhibition Centre. The theme will focus on high-definition program production through both electronic and film origination. Details are available at the event management website [www.expertiseevents.com.au/whatson.htm](http://www.expertiseevents.com.au/whatson.htm).

One final note. Your conference management team has a new meeting planner, Dianne Gabriele. Dianne is located at Headquarters and will be providing the professional management needed to organize, coordinate, and execute our conferences. It remains our goal to present the most industry-relevant topics from engineers and scientists working at the heart of emerging technologies and always in a highly professional environment. To this end we welcome your comments and suggestions.

—Thomas M. Jordan