

Edward P. Hobson

Greetings for 2002! The past year has been a very challenging time for all of us due to world political and economic events. I would like to express my thanks to the hundreds of volunteers, the employers who support their activities, and the staff at Headquarters for their efforts to ensure that the Society's work continues unabated.

The SMPTE Journal

I am especially pleased that the *Journal* received a Gold Ink Award for excellence in design, visual effectiveness, and quality of printing in the Science and Technology magazines category. David Juhren and the Headquarters editorial staff, MaryAnn Frusciante, Mathew Kuriakose, Dianne Purrier, and Marilyn Waldman should be congratulated for their hard work and dedication to the high standards that resulted in this award.

The *Journal* has expanded the use of color photographs, diagrams, and charts, enhancements that make for a much more readable publication. It is now available on the web, and its access will soon be part of our regular membership benefits. If you haven't already visited the website to obtain and set your password, I recommend you do so now.

A new feature introduced over the last year is the SMPTE Almanac, authored by Michael Dolan. Michael's column provides insight into our past achievements and, to quote him, demonstrates "how some things never change." Thank you, Michael, for your efforts in producing this monthly column.

Board of Editors

I would like to give special thanks to LeRoy DeMarsh, Chairman of the SMPTE Board of Editors. LeRoy is retired from Eastman Kodak Co. but continues his volunteer work for SMPTE, leading the group that reads and vets all the papers published in the *Journal*. Under LeRoy's guidance, we have migrated to an all-electronic system to perform the editorial board's work. Like Engineering, the Editorial department has implemented an FTP site for the exchange of documents and information, using the internet with increased speed and flexibility at reduced cost.

During our recent 143rd Technical Conference and Exhibition, LeRoy was awarded the SMPTE Citation "in recognition of his outstanding work and leadership over the past six years as Chairman of the Board of Editors." Thank you, LeRoy, and all the members of the Board of Editors, who are listed on the SMPTE Officers, Governors, and Sections Page every month. I'd again



like to ask for additional volunteers to assist LeRoy and the editors in their work. If you are interested in serving on the Board of Editors, please communicate with either LeRoy or me via e-mail to journal@smpete.org.

Electronic Publishing

We have now instituted the electronic newsletter with selected notifications of upcoming events. Cognizant of concerns about excessive e-mail and especially large files, we try to use simple text messages with links to the SMPTE website to keep the messages to reasonable sizes.

Another environmental and cost-saving measure to be implemented this year is the availability of the Membership Directory on CD-ROM. This will save the Society considerable expense while providing a more compact resource. We are sensitive to privacy issues, so the membership CD-ROM is being designed to reduce the potential for the sale of member data to third parties.

Members can also search the electronic Membership Directory at the SMPTE website, and since they can now update their personal information, the web provides a much more up-to-date resource for contacting other members.

143rd Technical Conference Kudos

I'd like to thank everyone involved in organizing the 143rd Technical Conference and Exhibition, especially Papers Co-Chairs Chuck Phelan and Phil Livingston and All-Day Seminar Chair Chuck Dages. The result was an excellent program of technical papers that received very positive reviews. In the December issue of *Digital TV*, Editor-in-Chief Tim Wetmore headlined, "New York SMPTE Offers Strong Program."

The tragic events of September 11, combined with economic factors, surely reduced attendance; thankfully the program was not affected. As Mr. Wetmore wrote further: "Though conference attendance probably suffered as a result of recent events in the world, those who stayed away missed a good collection of exhibits and a powerful slate of papers addressing the most pressing issues in broadcasting today." I can report that the papers are already being reviewed for publication in the *Journal*, so those who missed the initial presentations will have the opportunity to read the best papers in the near future.

Finally, don't miss an upcoming Society event. At NAB, SMPTE will present an all-day session on standardization efforts in Digital Cinema. Watch the SMPTE website and this space for more information.

Page to Come

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