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Section Meetings

DALLAS/FORT WORTH, 11 Feb. — The meeting was held at the Eastman Kodak auditorium in Dallas with an attendance of 48 members and guests. Theme of the meeting was Professional Super 8 and Its Applications. John Johnston of Eastman Kodak opened the program with a comprehensive description of the film stocks available to the professional super-8 filmmaker. Projected screen comparisons of various film stocks were shown to enable the audience to appreciate the limitations and advantages of each. Contrast, color shift and graininess were dramatically illustrated.

Norman Bleicher, a Corporate Director of Marketing for Victor Duncan, Inc., presented a very interesting paper on the description, functions, innovations etc. of the fast changing state-of-the-art in professional super-8 equipment — including the available top-of-the-line cameras, sync (crystal and 1/f) functions, sound recorders and a complete double system editing bench very similar to the classical 16mm and 35mm benches.

The display portion of the program was presented by Johnston and Clyde Miller of KERA-TV, Channel 13, Dallas. Super-8 film-to-video transfer was demonstrated using the Kodak Videoplayer (VP-1) (*Journal*, p. 524, June 1973) and an inexpensive flying spot scanner that converts super-8 film to NTSC color signals, 525 lines fully interlaced composite video with separate audio derived from a magnetic edge stripe. The Sony U-Matic 3/4-in videocassette system was used for the transfer. A Sony monitor was used to show both direct from film and playback from tape of selected program material originally shot with the Kodak Supermatic 200 sound camera. The results demonstrated the high quality display attainable from professional super-8 equipment.

The program closed with a hands-on equipment exhibit consisting of the Beaulieu 5008S, Nizo, Canon DS8, Pathe pin register and Kodak Supermatic 200 sound cameras. The super-8 sync sound recorder with microphones, various crystal controls and accessories were available for display and operation. A completely equipped double system editing bench was on display for hands-on operation. Also on display and for operation were the Kodak VP-1 and Sony 3/4-in videocassette systems.

Our sincere thanks and acknowledgments are given to the following companies for their assistance and expertise in the program equipment display: Victor Duncan, Inc., Dallas, Eastman Kodak Co., Dallas, KERA-TV, Channel 13, Dallas, and to Julie Mamolen of Super 8 Sound, Cambridge, Mass. — Melvin E. Dunn (Secretary-Treasurer) (American Schools of Cinema), 2002 Peters Colony Rd., Carrollton, TX 75006.

DENVER, 28 Jan. — The meeting was held at the CEAVCO Audio-Visual Company's fa-

cilities in Lakewood, Colo., with an attendance of 35 members and guests. The speaker was Lee Marvin of Television Research International whose presentation was entitled "Time Code System for All Types of Video Recorders." Using the TRI EA-5 Editor and the Sun Time Code system, Marvin demonstrated the techniques of VTR editing in the helical format. Portable encoding and decoding units for field use were demonstrated. Steve Price of CEAVCO assisted in the demonstration. Following a question-and-answer period, a hands-on demonstration gave members of the audience the opportunity of working with the time code editing system and also with the Sony DXC-1200 color camera displayed by CEAVCO. — Carl R. Dalquist (Secretary-Treasurer), Del Calzo & Associates, 300 Speer Blvd., Denver, CO 80203.

DETROIT, 19 Feb. — The meeting was held at the new Wilding Production Center in Detroit with an attendance of 85 members and guests. The speakers were Charles Abney and Price Pethel, both of Wilding. Abney is Chief Engineer and Pethel is Operations Supervisor. Abney summarized the history of Wilding and played a television tape showing Wilding's facilities. The tape had been prepared especially for the meeting and it showed also some of the production techniques used. Pethel discussed the use of time code tape editing at Wilding and also described methods used for color correction when integrating color material from several sources. A tour of the Wilding facilities followed the presentations. During the tour questions were answered and hands-on demonstrations were provided. — Warren Happel (Secretary-Treasurer), Browne Associates, 25 W. Long Lake Rd., Bloomfield Hills, MI 48013.

FLORIDA/CARIBBEAN, 29 Jan. — The meeting was held at the Holiday Inn in Tampa, Fla., with an attendance of 121 members and guests. The speakers were Blaine Baker, Vice-President; James Solomon, Laboratory Manager; and Gerald Somerville, Chief of the Sound Dept., all of Motion Picture Laboratories of Memphis, Tenn. The three speakers presented an extremely interesting and informative program entitled "An Evening With Film." The program began with a 22-min film describing the various processes that film and audiotape undergo from camera and tape recorder to answer print in a typical film laboratory. This was followed by side-to-side comparisons, using matched 16mm projectors, of results obtainable with the various alternatives open to the producer in terms of camera stock, internegatives and print stock. Also shown were the results of "flashing" and "pushing" techniques. The next item was a brief description of the method of obtaining optimum sound quality in the print by adding a section of cross-modulation test signal to each sound negative and measur-

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ing the cross-modulation in the print. Several 16mm clips were shown demonstrating the improvement that can be expected through use of this technique. Finally the results of the transfer of various formats of video and videotape material to film were shown — from a 1950 black-and-white kinescope to a modern transfer from a 2-in videotape television program to film. Each section of the program was followed by a question-and-answer period.

Preceding the "Evening With Film" Frank M. McGeary, MPL President showed slides of the SMPTE Headquarters and activities and explained the Voluntary Capital Funds Program.

This was the first Section Meeting to be held in the Central Florida area for about four years and it proved to be most successful. Chris Lankester, Section Chairman, was able to meet with a number of members in the Tampa-St. Petersburg area and to discuss with them the possibility of other meetings being held in the Central Florida area in the future. There was a lively demand for information about the SMPTE and available supplies of literature were soon exhausted — Chris H. Lankester (Chairman), 320 N. Luna Court, Hollywood, FL 33021.

NASHVILLE, 27 Jan. — The meeting was held at the WTVF studios in Nashville with an attendance of 32 members and guests. The speaker was Hugh Burney of WIVL, New Orleans, who described the famous Louisiana Superdome (*Journal*, p. 314, April 1972) and explained WIVL's unique contract with Superdome providing for the installation, operation and maintenance of the equipment in the Dome. He described in detail the amount and type of audiovisual equipment installed in the Dome and the methods used in the installation. — S. Lee Whitehurst (Secretary-Treasurer), WSM, Inc., P.O. Box 100, Nashville, TN 37202.

NASHVILLE, 18 Feb. — The meeting was held at the WSM-TV studios in Nashville with an attendance of 34 members and guests. The speaker was Charles Anderson of Ampex who gave a presentation on "Electronic Still Store." He provided an interesting discussion, using slides and chalkboard, on Electronic Still Store — a micro-computerized, all-electronic device for recording and retrieving digital information on a magnetic medium. The device was developed jointly by CBS and Ampex. Anderson described the device, explained how it works and provided detailed information on its operation and discussed possible applications. A lively question-and-answer session followed the presentation. Anderson was assisted by Paul Hansil and Keith Price, both of Ampex. — S. Lee Whitehurst (Secretary-Treasurer), WSM, Inc., P.O. Box 100, Nashville, TN 37202.

NEW YORK, 13 Jan. — The meeting was held at the United Engineering Center in New York City with an attendance of about 100 members and guests. The meeting opened with a showing of *Impressions*, an outstanding 22-min film directed by Carole Chazin and produced by Stanley Shechter. The film was produced in the Communications Department at John Jay College of Criminal Justice of the City University of New York. Filmed on a limited budget and using mainly available light the film is a study of the activities



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and interests of students, faculty and friends of the college.

Edmund M. DiGiulio, President of Cinema Products Corp., Los Angeles, gave an up-to-the-minute presentation on "Techniques for Television Newsgathering — Film," an updated revision of the paper DiGiulio presented at the 9th SMPTE Winter Conference in San Francisco, "Developing Trends in Film and Electronic News Gathering Techniques for Television." The paper was of unusual interest than and — especially in the updated version — is still significant. In the paper presented at San Francisco DiGiulio said, "... it is clear that there is and will continue to be for many years to come, a very valid place for 16mm newsfilm and a very valid and growing place for electronic newsgathering. Chances are that both systems will always co-exist and complement each other..." In the updated presentation at the New York Section Meeting, he pointed to some exaggerated claims made for the cost and reliability of electronic cameras and recorders. He also showed a 16mm color film demonstrating a new body brace that is an aid to eliminating camera shake for handheld camera use. — Richard S. Marcus (Reporter) (Rombex Productions Corp.), 1380 Riverside Dr., New York, NY 10033.

PHILADELPHIA, 3 Feb. — The meeting was held in the screening room/sound studio of NFL Films, Inc., in Philadelphia with an attendance of 70 members and guests. The speakers, all of NFL Films, were Arthur Spieller, Steve Sabol, Gene Mason, Phil Tuckett and Dick De Frenes. Spieller, who is

NFL Production Manager, hosted the meeting and introduced the other speakers each of whom discussed a specific area of NFL Films production. An NFL-produced film was shown giving highlights of the history of NFL since its founding in 1964 to the present. Gene Mason detailed the problems and logistics involved in the weekly football season schedule at NFL Films. Dick De Frenes discussed the camera equipment used by NFL Films. He demonstrated several of the high-speed cameras showing an updated camera and the specific refinements made to the lens mounts unique to the NFL cameras. Phil Tuckett, who is a cameraman, writer and director, described the picture of a young football player who had been dropped by the San Diego Chargers, but who had found a new career in the motion-picture industry at NFL Films. Steve Sabol, the Executive Vice-President, summarized the NFL concept as an extremely creative application of the major components of motion-picture production effectively used in the production of sports films. Following the showing of three short NFL films, members of the audience were shown through the NFL Films facilities including sound studio, editing rooms, animation department, music library and the film laboratory, including the new color positive film laboratory. All in all this was a most enjoyable and informative meeting. — Jonathan W. Flint (Secretary-Treasurer) (Calvin Cinequip Inc. of Philadelphia), 266 Minor St., Malvern, PA 19355.

ROCHESTER, 15 Jan. — The meeting was held at the Memorial Art Gallery in Rochester with an attendance of 40 members and

guests. Unfortunately inclement weather and icy roads prevented many members and guests from attending this extremely interesting meeting.

Following a brief talk by Section Chairman Richard W. Bauer, Joseph J. Charles of the Technology Division of Eastman Kodak Co., Rochester, presented a tutorial paper on "Photographic Soundtrack Technology." The presentation included a number of slides illustrating such concepts as galvanometer and ribbon sound recorders, modulation, noise, frequency response and XM distortion. The presentation was well received by the audience which included a number of student filmmakers from the Rochester Institute of Technology. Following a brief question-and-answer period the meeting was closed by a showing of the excellent film *The Soundman*. — John P. Pytlak (Secretary-Treasurer) (Eastman Kodak Co.), 36 Devonshire Dr., Penfield, NY 14526.

RYERSON STUDENT CHAPTER — The first meeting of the school year was held 23 October 1975. Don Hall of Cinequip Sales and Rentals demonstrated the new TGX 16 camera and the complete lines of Lowel lights and O'Connor tripod heads.

The second meeting of the year was held 3 February 1976 in Ryerson's Photo Arts building. Manfred Klemme of Braun Electric of Canada Ltd. presented a slide show and hands-on demonstration of the Nagra IS recorder. Ted Morris addressed the large audience on the numerous advantages of joining or renewing membership in the SMPTE. Also discussed was the election of a Secretary-Treasurer, an office for which there were no nominations at the last business meeting. It was decided that an election would take place at the next meeting. Meanwhile, Morris, who is Chapter Chairman, has been acting also as Secretary-Treasurer. — Ted Morris (Chairman).

TORONTO, 27 Jan. — The meeting was held at the Ryerson Institute Photo Arts Building with an attendance of 52 members and guests. Findlay Quinn of Quinn Laboratories gave a slide presentation on the SMPTE offices and activities and explained the requirements for funds to defray the costs of the Scarsdale Headquarters. Stephen Talian of Multi-Track Magnetics described and demonstrated the MTM PH-16 Hologscope Projector. The new unit, designed for screening rooms and mini-theaters utilizes a 24-sided hologscope that gives flickerless projection. The film is gently handled to prevent any damage to the film. A 16mm model was demonstrated; Talian reported that a 35mm version will be available quite soon. Talian also demonstrated a new Footage Converter that can be used for 35mm, 16mm and super 8. — R. J. Brulé (Secretary-Treasurer) (3M Company), 790 Wellington St., London, Ont., Can.

WASHINGTON, DC, 4 Sept. — The meeting, held jointly with the Audio Engineering Society, was attended by 140 members and guests who assembled in the studio of WTTG-TV. The speaker was Lawrence Driskill of Electrovoice, Inc., who gave a lecture and demonstration on the practical uses of microphones. — L. Merle Thomas (Secretary-Treasurer), Public Broadcasting System, 485 L'Enfant Plaza, S.W., Washington, DC 20024.

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