



Section Meetings

Australia, 8 Mar. — The meeting, held in the Board Room of the North Shore Motel, Artamon, N.S.W., with an attendance of 28 members and guests, was opened by Chairman Donald Kennedy who drew the attention of the members to the Voluntary Donation Fund established for the purpose of retiring the mortgage on the Scarsdale property as soon as possible. The Chairman mentioned also the current drive for new members and some discussion ensued on how best this could be achieved.

The guest speaker was Herb A. Lightman, Editor of *American Cinematographer*, whose topic was "Current Production Trends of the Film Industry Throughout the World." The subject was of particular interest to those attending the meeting for not only did it give them the opportunity to hear an authority speak on such matters, but they also had the opportunity to ask the speaker for an enlargement on items of personal interest.

Lightman spent considerable time on the comparison of film vs tape as a production medium giving a detailed discussion of the advantages and disadvantages of both systems and what improvements in both may be expected during the coming years. He explained that at present there was considerable compatibility between the two systems, each offering certain advantages as a production tool. The two systems now complement each other and the degree of use depends on the end use of the production concerned.

Lightman said that this principle was being followed by at least one organization he visited shortly after his arrival in Australia which indicated that Australia had introduced into their production chain the variations found by major overseas film production companies to be the most economical in respect to the intended release of the complete production. This principle was found to apply to feature films, documentaries, television programs, commercials, etc.

Considerable discussion on various facets of the motion-picture industry took place following Lightman's address, the discussions covering such innovations as "playback only" videodisc for consumer library use. — Donald D. Kennedy (Chairman), 104 Warrane Rd., Willoughby 2068, N.S.W.

Chicago, 17 Feb. — The meeting was held at Sears, Roebuck and Co.'s National Headquarters with an attendance of 130 members and guests. Subject of the meeting was Sears Internal Communication System, explained and demonstrated by John Connelly, Manager, Conference Center and Audio Visual Facilities, Mike Bozidarevic, Supervisor, TV Studio, and Dave Adam, Creative Director for Merchandising. Various aspects of the internal communication system involving motion pictures and closed-circuit television were discussed and demonstrated. The meeting was followed by a tour of the facilities. The meeting was held jointly with the IFFA Video/Film Communicators. — H. L. Vincent (Secretary-Treasurer),

Eastman Kodak Co., 1901 W. 22 St., Oakbrook, IL 60521.

Dallas/Fort Worth, 3 Mar. — The meeting was held at KERA-TV Channel 13 in Dallas with an attendance of 74 members and guests. The speakers were Tom Rose, Ben Houston and Bill English. The meeting opened with a film showing the 1975 Clio Awards presentations followed by excerpts from KERA-TV productions — *The David Allen Coe Show* and *Pride and America* with Charlie Pride. The main program covered the design, construction, engineering and equipment of the new sound stage recently completed at KERA-TV.

Tom Rose of Joiner-Pelton-Rose, Inc., consultants in sound stage acoustics, discussed the design and the problems involved in the construction of the sound stage to achieve a sound level of no more than 30 dBA with 40 tons of air conditioning under full load.

Ben Houston of Texas Distribution Co. discussed the design and construction of the "Super Quiet" air conditioning system. A special feature of the 40-ton system is that it can automatically step down to a 5-ton capacity or up to the 40-ton capacity depending on the cooling load.

Bill English of ATMOS Corp. demonstrated and discussed the lighting system for the stage, based on a new lighting concept. An important feature of the lighting system is the dimming control which permits presetting of scenes for dissolves and other effects as required. A tour of KERA-TV followed the three presentations. — Melvin E. Dunn (Secretary-Treasurer), 2002 Peters Colony Rd., Carrollton, TX 75006.

Dallas/Fort Worth, 4-7 Apr. — The meeting was a special event by courtesy of the National Cable Television Association (NCTA) which invited members of the SMPTE Dallas/Fort Worth Section to attend the NCTA convention and equipment exhibit free of charge. More than 100 exhibits of interest to the cable television industry were on display. Included were wire, distribution and "head-end" equipment. Also shown were master antenna systems and related equipments. Other exhibits showed studio equipment for local origination use. Of particular interest was the transmittal via satellite of cable programming from New York to the Dallas Convention Center. The signals and display were excellent. — Melvin E. Dunn (Secretary-Treasurer), 2002 Peters Colony Rd., Carrollton, TX 75006.

Detroit, 7 Apr. The meeting was held at the new facilities of the General Television Network (GTN) with an attendance of 73 members and guests. R. Randolph Hippler, GTN Vice-President, gave a brief history of GTN from its founding in 1956 to the present. The Advent Television Projector was used to project excerpts from some of GTN's earliest work and from some of its present work. Following the meeting the group was taken on a tour of the new studios. — Warren Happel (Secretary-Treasurer),

Browne Associates, 25 W. Long Lake Rd., Bloomfield Hills, MI 48013.

Florida/Caribbean, 24 Mar. The meeting was held in the Holiday Inn in Miami with an attendance of 35 members and guests. The program consisted of the showing of a 50-min film on the 1975 Clio Awards. The award-winning television commercials were in a number of categories including cinematography, animation, direction and special effects. A second meeting had been held on 17 March in Tampa, Fla., for the benefit of members residing in central Florida. The Clio Awards film was shown at the earlier meeting. The Miami meeting was preceded by a cocktail hour and buffet dinner. — Frank J. Eberhardt (Secretary-Treasurer), 8860 S.W. 150 St., Miami, FL 33176.

Hollywood, 17 Feb. — The meeting was held at the CBS Studio Center with an attendance of 191 members and guests. Charles P. Ginsburg, Vice-President for Advanced Developments, Ampex Corp., reported on Digital Video. His presentation was entitled "Digital Video: What? Where? When? Why?" and covered such topics as: What Is Digital Video? What Are Its Advantages and Disadvantages — Technological and Economical? Can Digital Recording Approach Film Quality? When Will It Become Available? Ginsburg (who headed the Ampex team that produced the first quad-head video recordings) presented also a report on the activities of the SMPTE Study Group on Digital Television. A lengthy (and lively) question-and-answer session followed Ginsburg's presentation.

George Crittenden, General Manager of Films, Inc., Hollywood, gave a presentation entitled "Filmstrips," dealing with an inexpensive method of preparing filmstrips with sound from existing motion pictures. A demonstration film was shown on a large screen with a filmstrip projector and also with a rear projection classroom model. The presentation was followed by a question-and-answer period followed by a hands-on demonstration of the system.

The meeting was preceded by a dinner at Reuben's in North Hollywood. — Warren Strang (Secretary-Treasurer), Hollywood Film Co., 956 Seward St., Hollywood, CA 90038.

Hollywood, 15 Mar. — The meeting, held jointly with the Society of Photographic Scientists and Engineers, was held at ABC's Hollywood Palace with an attendance of 87 members and guests. The speaker was Walter Clark, Consultant on Conservation, International Museum of Photography, George Eastman House, Rochester, N.Y., whose topic was "Conservation of Our Photographic Heritage." Dr. Clark is the SPSE Visiting Lecturer for 1975-1976. He has had a multi-faceted career in photographic research at the Eastman Kodak Research Laboratories in Harrow, England, and Rochester, N.Y. A special interest has been the preservation and restoration of photographs and photographic equipment.

At the meeting Dr. Clark presented slides of historical photographs, starting with the first images made in 1834 and continuing until the present time. He described all of the backings and emulsions used for photographic prints noting how they have stood the tests of time, climatic conditions, chemical changes and attack

from insects. Examples were presented of many prints that have been restored by chemical action, retouching and rephotographing with filters. Recommendations were made to provide for the longevity of current materials and for their proper storage.

The meeting was preceded by a dinner at the Villa Capri Restaurant. — Warren Strang (Secretary-Treasurer), Hollywood Film Co., 956 Seward St., Hollywood, CA 90038.

Houston, 17 Mar. — The meeting was held at the ACA Recording Studios with an attendance of 26 members and guests. The speaker was R. H. Lawrence of L-W Photo, Inc., whose talk was entitled "Interfacing Film to Tape in the Television Film Chain Projector." He illustrated his talk with a demonstration using equipment supplied by Texas Educational Aids and Video Systems of Houston. — Rob Middleton, KPRC-TV, Box 2222, Houston, TX 77001.

Nashville, 18 Mar. — The meeting was held at Vanderbilt University in Memphis with an attendance of 58 members and guests. The speakers were Blaine Baker, Jim Solomon and Bill Smith, all of Motion Picture Laboratories (MPL), Memphis, Tenn. Baker showed a 20-min film, called *The Film Laboratory*, produced by Indiana University, showing the various steps that take place in the laboratory. Following the film there were a number of questions from the audience, several of the questions dealing particularly with super 8.

Solomon conducted an interesting demonstration comparing different types of color film stocks. He used two projectors for side-by-side comparisons. Blaine spoke briefly about various methods of improving sound pickup and then showed films of color reversal and color positive prints comparing the sound on each type.

Smith demonstrated some very good videotape-to-film transfers and compared them to some very poor kine recordings made in the early days. — S. Lee, Whitehurst (Secretary-Treasurer), WSM, Inc., P.O. Box 100, Nashville, TN 37202.

New York, 10 Feb. — The meeting was held at the United Engineering Center in New York City with an attendance of 90 members and guests. William Connolly of CBS Television Network assisted by Joachim Diermann of Ampex Corp. spoke on "Digital Techniques for an Electronic Still Store." Noting that digital television technology has been applied to the problems of recording, storing, retrieving and playing back in many thousands of still frames the video information broadcast each year by television stations and networks, Connolly explained the advantages of the Electronics Still Store method over the use of photographic slides in a telecine projector. The Electronics Still Store, he said, records stills in digital form on a normal computer type magnetic disc pack. Remote keyboards and monitor units have access to the system for searching, retrieving, displaying and assembling the desired sequence. Advantages of the system include superior picture quality, speed of access and retrieval, minimal possibility of on-air errors and a large on-line store, Connolly said.

Paul Lowry of the American Telephone and Telegraph Co. gave a talk entitled "Corporate Television — an Evolving Communications Tool." He noted that the Bell System has been using television for internal communications for some ten years and at present more than 50 studios are producing programs for training, employee communications, live video conferencing and other corporate needs. To deliver this

material, Bell uses such means as videocassette networks, wired buildings, film transfers and live transmission. Lowry conducted a demonstration showing how television is used in certain corporate situations. He also discussed the concept of "Medium Custodianship" as it applies to the development of television within a corporate or educational environment. — Richard S. Marcus (Reporter), (Rombex Productions Corp.), 1380 Riverside Dr., New York, NY 10033.

New York, 9 Mar. — The meeting was held at the United Engineering Center. In spite of a heavy snowstorm more than 120 members and guests were present to hear Stephen Talian, President of Multi-Track Magnetics, Inc., speak on "The Evolutionary MTM Model PH-16 Holographic Projector." Irwin W. Young, Chairman of the Board of Du Art Film Laboratories, Inc., presented a paper entitled "How Good is a 35mm Blowup From 16mm and Super-16 Color Negative Type 7247?"

Talian demonstrated the projector and showed its ability to project film forward and reverse at up to 12 times normal speed. He pointed out that it handled film gently and provided a flicker-free image.

Young showed a blowup from 16mm negative and reversal to 35mm. He used a split screen technique to make comparisons between currently available film stocks. The quality of the picture blown up from super 16 7247 to 35mm was quite impressive judging from the audience's response. — Richard S. Marcus (Reporter), (Rombex Productions Corp.), 1380 Riverside Dr., New York, NY 10033.

Ohio, 19 Feb. — The meeting was held at the studios of WVIZ-TV in Cleveland with an attendance of 41 members and guests. The guest speaker, Barry R. Enders of Tektronix, Inc., began his presentation by outlining the history of the vertical interval reference signal (VIR) and by describing the components of the signal and how they relate to picture quality. He then went on to describe the Tektronix 1400 Automatic Video Corrector, a device which senses and measures a VIR either on the incoming video or from another source and corrects the video so that the incoming VIR matches a preset reference, thus making up for the deficiencies of microwave links, transmitters, etc. Enders had two of the units set up for demonstration — one to distort the demonstration signal and the other to restore it to its original condition. This was a very convincing demonstration.

After Ender's presentation, Ed Stopke, Chief Engineer of WVIZ-TV, conducted a tour through the facilities, explaining all the operations. — Jon Carter (Secretary-Treasurer), Movie Makers, Inc., 4614 Prospect Ave., Cleveland, OH 44103.

Pacific Northwest, 20 Feb. — The meeting was held at the Holiday Inn of Bellevue with an attendance of 52 members and guests. The speakers were Bob Gardiner who gave a presentation on "Integral Holographic Sculptimation" and Charles Anderson of Ampex who spoke on "The Electric Still Store Projector."

Gardiner demonstrated a technique of producing holograms using a standard light bulb instead of a laser beam. He showed several holograms that allowed the image to rotate while the viewer remained stationary.

Anderson showed slides and explained Ampex's new device intended to replace television slide projectors and slide storage. The Ampex projector uses disc pack storage to store television signals in digital form. Anderson also

showed slides of SMPTE Headquarters and discussed the importance of paying off the mortgage on the Headquarters building. — C. Eugene Newcomer (Secretary-Treasurer), Pacific Northwest Bell, 1200 Third Ave., Seattle, WA 98101.

Rochester, 18 Mar. — The meeting was held at the University of Rochester's Medical Center with an attendance of 37 members and guests. The speakers — all of the University of Rochester — were William G. Aldridge, Director of Education; Nicholas Graver, Photographic Unit; Richard Powers, AV-TV Media Center; and Robert Wabnitz, Medical Illustrations.

Dr. Aldridge set forth the objectives of the Audiovisual Unit. Graver discussed the work of the Photographic Unit which produces photographs for the Medical Center, Strong Memorial Hospital, the School of Nursing and other organizations affiliated with the University of Rochester. The unit, in operation since 1928 provides the staff with the advantage of a fully equipped photographic laboratory. Graver illustrated his talk with examples of the work of the Photographic Unit.

Powers discussed the five-man AVTV media Center which is responsible for all television, motion-picture and audiovisual activities at the University. The equipment includes a CEI 280S color camera for low-light applications; two Sony studio cameras; two Sony 320 I-in videotape recorders; a Kodak Supermatic videoplayer; 16mm Arriflex cameras and an Ampex film chain. Examples of events recorded ranged from a recording of a brain dissection to a recording of a visit of Moshe Dayan.

Wabnitz described the role of the Medical Illustrations Unit. Techniques include high-contrast derivations, PCF film, Diazo and Transparex. The presentation concluded with a lively "light show."

After the formal presentations the group, taken on a tour of the audiovisual units, looked at the equipment and asked many questions. The meeting was preceded by a dinner at the American Towne House. — John P. Pytlak (Secretary-Treasurer), 36 Devonshire Dr., Penfield, NY 14526.

San Francisco, 17 Feb. — The meeting was held at the Farinon Building in San Carlos, Calif. with an attendance of 40 members and guests. Jim Murray, Vice-President and General Manager of Farinon Video Corp., gave a presentation on "Television Microwave Systems" in which he discussed Earth satellite systems. At present, he noted, there are 111 satellite stations serving 64 countries with more being built all the time. Communications satellites are usually located in space in line with the equator so that they can maintain a fixed position relative to Earth. Antennas are aimed and beams can be shaped to provide coverage of selected geographic areas. Murray pointed out that the two key factors in satellite design are reliability and weight. He described the different types of satellites now in use and outlined the electronic design criteria for various applications. Satellites have many possible uses including broadcast of educational television programs in remote areas and even direct home transmission for apartment houses or small communities (a possibility for Pay-TV). Following Murray's presentation members of the audience were taken on a conducted tour of the Farinon Video Corp. plant. — Kay Kibby (Secretary-Treasurer), W. A. Palmer Films, Inc., 611 Howard St., San Francisco, CA 94105.

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