



Section Meetings

Australia, 24 May — The meeting, held at Macquarie University, Sydney, brought together 146 members and guests to view examples of the latest developments in holograms and their possible future application to the production of three dimensional motion pictures. Although still pictures were used for the demonstration, it was evident that the technique could be developed for motion-picture use.

The speaker was Elmar Laisk, Visiting Fellow in Physics, who demonstrated the new techniques and treated the audience to a most amazing display of 3D images together with an explanation on how they were produced. Laisk explained to the meeting that there were several problems to be overcome before motion pictures in full color and in three dimensions could be presented commercially through the medium of the hologram technique but, in his opinion, the present, rather involved, method of projecting such images in auditoriums designed for large audiences would probably be overcome within the next decade.

The production of motion pictures using the laser-hologram technique opened up an entirely new field. In addition to the advantage of seeing films in 3D without special glasses or gimmicks, one of the many advantages was that films

running through the projection mechanism need not be intermittently moved as is the case with the present conventional motion-picture projector. In a hologram projector, the film would move at a constant speed past the scanning aperture. Another advantage of film prints made by the suggested method was that the image on such prints was not affected by scratches or mechanical damage as occurred in the type of prints now in use.

Laisk answered many questions from those present at the meeting on the techniques he had demonstrated and all present went away with a clearer understanding of what the future may bring in relation to the commercial presentation of third-dimension motion pictures. — Donald D. Kennedy (Chairman), Project Officer, Australian Commonwealth Film Unit, P.O. Box 46, Lindfield, N.S.W., Australia.

Dallas/Fort Worth, 9 June — The meeting was held in the studios of Mulberry Square Productions in Dallas with an attendance of 97 members and guests. The program centered around the activities of Mulberry Square with Ben Vaughn, Vice-President, Production, providing an account of the history and development of Mulberry Square and the production of *Benji*

and *Hawmps*. Theme of the meeting was "Feature Film Production in the Southwest," the speaker noting that the independent feature film producer has come of age in the Southwest.

Mulberry Square produced their first feature, *Benji*, in 1974-75 and decided to form their own distribution company for releasing. In spite of a disastrous fire and mistakes along the way they got the production on the road where it resulted in a smash boxoffice of \$30 million. Prior to this successful venture, Mulberry Square had concentrated entirely on TV commercials, but after *Benji* Mulberry Square officials came to the conclusion that, considering the talent available in the Dallas-Fort Worth area, and the nearby locations, they could venture into the feature film business. A decision was made to limit production to one G-rated family feature a year.

Their second feature *Hawmps* is now in release throughout the country with every indication of a gross box office approaching \$100 million. Joe Camp, Mulberry Square President, developed the idea for *Hawmps* (Texas pronunciation of "Humps") from an incident in Texas history prior to the Civil War when camels (Arabian mounts) had been imported to replace horses in the cavalry with the thought that camels would be more maneuverable in the desert than horses.

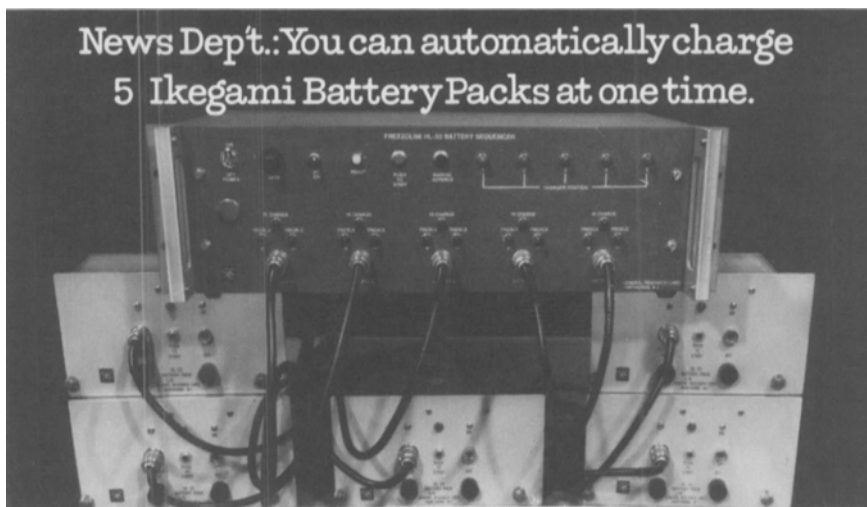
The decision to start filming was made in August 1975. The first camera rolled in November 1975 and the production was completed by 17 February 1976. Panaflex with 1.85:1 ratio and Eastmancolor 5254 comprised the basic package for this production. For sound, Nagra IVs, standard microphone booms and wireless microphones were used. The sound production was so successful that only 10 lines of dialogue had to be looped, although the entire production had been shot on location in sync/sound. The location was on the Old Tucson set because the cost of building this type of the set in Texas Big Bend Country would have been prohibitive. About two-thirds of the production crew were recruited from the Dallas area. Most of the post-production was completed in California at CFI and Glen-Glenn Sound. The biggest problem was time and weather. A nine-week schedule was shot in 11 weeks — the delay being mainly because of weather conditions. Yuma, Ariz., used as the locale of the desert sequence, normally has three days of rain a year. At the scheduled time of shooting it rained for 10 straight days and production was further delayed to let the sand dry out.

The next Mulberry Square feature, *Love of Benji*, is scheduled to begin production in Athens, Greece, in September 1976.

A poignant moment in the meeting came when the entire Jamieson film family — who first started film production in Dallas several decades ago, were introduced to the audience who responded with an enthusiastic and rousing ovation.

At the end of the program Mulberry Square was given a round of applause and a standing ovation. — Melvin E. Dunn (Secretary-Treasurer), American Schools of Cinema; home address: 2002 Peters Colony Rd., Carrollton, TX 75006.

Detroit, 26 May — The meeting was held in the main studio of Magnetic Video in Farmington Hills, Mich., with an attendance of 47 members and guests. Al Eicher, Vice-President for Magnetic Video, gave a brief history of the firm. He discussed also the Betamax helical format and the duplication of helical format tapes. (Magnetic Video is involved in the duplication of he-



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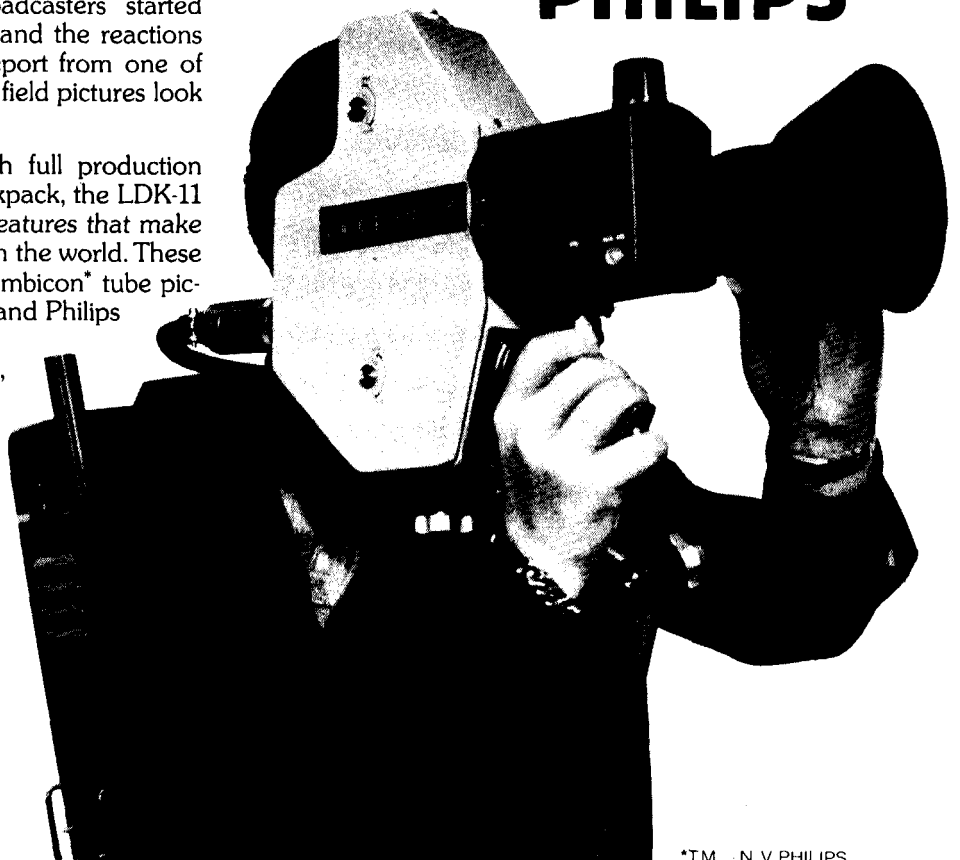
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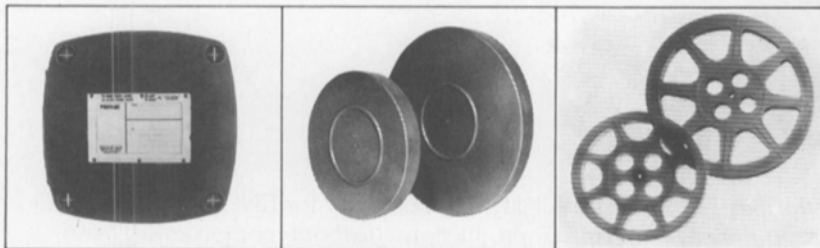
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lical format videotapes as well as audiotapes.) Following Eicher's presentation, Ray Mallon conducted a tour of Magnetic Video's facilities. — Warren Happel (Secretary-Treasurer), Browne Associates, 25 West Long Lake Rd., Bloomfield Hills, MI 48013.

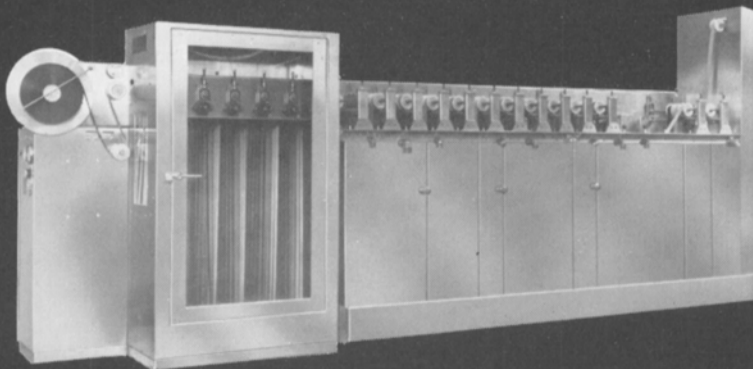
Florida/Caribbean, 26 May — The meeting was held at the Holiday Inn in Miami with an attendance of 36 members and guests. The speaker was Michael J. Smith, President of Florida Video Systems, Fort Lauderdale, who spoke on "Basic Television Concepts for Film People." He explained the operation of television cameras, receivers, videotape recorders, video signal processors and other related equipment. He went, also, into some of the problems associated with television transmission of motion-picture film and the transfer of film to tape and tape to film. His presentation was followed by a lively question-and-answer period. — Chris H. Lankester (Chairman), 320 North Luna Court, Hollywood, FL 33021.

Hollywood, 15 June — The meeting was held at the Roger Young Center with an attendance of 69 members and guests. Theme of the meeting was "Colorimetry of Television Cameras." Principal speaker was Robert Manahan, assisted by Peter Bernstein, both of Amprex Electronics Corp., and Gustavo Dato, Theodore Untiedt and Hugo DiLenardo, all of ABC-TV Hollywood. Noting that the high reflectance of infrared from polyester fabrics and artificial hairpieces, is seen differently by the camera than by the human eye, thus posing problems for the color television camera, Manahan explained how Amprex Electronics handles these and other unusual color shifts. Dato discussed aspects of various lenses and Untiedt and DiLenardo discussed camera considerations for this problem. Bernstein discussed a Spectral Tablet Test Wedge for the entire TV system designed to cope with the problem. A lively question-and-answer period followed the presentations — Warren Strang (Secretary-Treasurer), Hollywood Film Co., 956 Seward St., Hollywood, CA 90028.

Montreal/Ottawa/Quebec, 18 May — The meeting was held at the CBVT studios in Quebec City with an attendance of 21 members and guests. The speakers were Jacques Marcoux, CBC Supervisor of Technical Services and Pierre Rochette of Les Laboratoires Kineco Inc. Inclement weather was responsible for the poor attendance. Unfortunately, guests and members from outlying cities could not risk the icy roads although the presentations were extremely interesting. As customary in Quebec City, the program was given entirely in French. Marcoux illustrated with a slide presentation the evolution of this CBC station in Quebec City since 1966. Rochette provided a practical presentation showing utilization of VNF-7240 by local cameramen from Quebec City and vicinity. — Robert Desrosiers (Chairman), P.O. Box 787, Station "C," Montreal, Que. H2L 4L6.

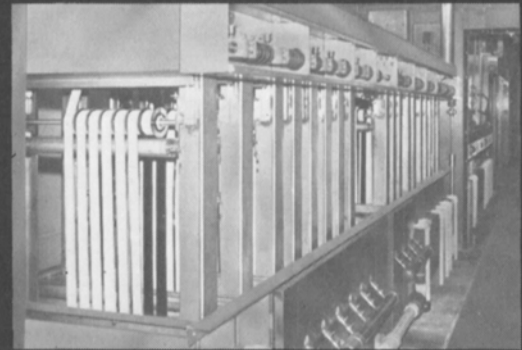
Nashville, 8 June — The meeting was held at WNGE studios with an attendance of some 100 members and guests. The speaker was Julius Barnathan, Vice-President, Broadcast Operations and Engineering, American Broadcasting Co., who spoke on "ABC's Coverage of the Winter Olympics." He discussed the logistics and magnitude of the Olympics coverage and then gave a brief history of ABC's coverage of the Olympics, noting that it takes three years preparation to cover such a stupendous event. Barnathan gave a slide presentation of the

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12th Winter Olympics showing not only the technical and operational aspects of the event but also some of the beauty of Innsbruck and its environs and some of the colorful people involved in the Olympics. Following the slide presentation he showed a very good kinescope recording made from tapes produced during coverage of the Olympics showing excerpts from many of the events. — S. Lee Whitehurst (Secretary-Treasurer), WSM, Inc., P.O. Box 100, Nashville, TN 37202.

New England, 12 May — The meeting was held at Howard Johnson's in Newton, Mass., with an attendance of 75 members and guests. The speaker was Charles Wyckoff of Applied Photo Sciences, Inc. Wyckoff, a member of the Boston-based Academy of Applied Science research team investigating the possibility of an actual, living Loch Ness monster in Loch (Lake) Ness in northern Scotland, attempted to provide an answer to the question, "Is the Loch Ness Monster just another myth?" In Wyckoff's opinion, based on the photographs filmed last year by the research team, there are, in fact, large animate objects in Loch Ness. — John P. Olsen (Secretary-Treasurer), Foxboro Corp., Neponset Ave., Foxboro, MA 02035.

New England, 9 June — The meeting was held in the studios of WCVB-TV, Needham, Mass., with an attendance of 45 members and guests. The speakers were Steve de Satnick of WCVB-TV and Paul Beck of the Foxboro Company. The theme of the meeting was "Video Technology — Catching Up in 1976." de Satnick discussed new developments in video systems designed especially for electronic news-gathering. Beck described the latest equipment available to both broadcast and industrial users. Included in the presentations was information about new cameras, new color systems, frame synchronizers, recorders, time base correctors and other types of "black box" technology. — John P. Olsen (Secretary-Treasurer), Foxboro Corp., Neponset Ave., Foxboro, MA 02035.

New York, 8 June — The meeting was held at the United Engineering Center with an attendance of 150 members and guests. The speakers were Si Becker, Chief Engineer of Applied Film Laboratory, Inc., Detroit, Mich., and Calvin M. Hotchkiss of Eastman Kodak Co., New York City. Becker gave an informative presentation on the photographic aspects of producing film-strip and slide duplicate masters. Using three slide projectors and three screens Becker presented clear comparisons of the different materials available to the photographer for the copying of slides and graphics. The advantages and disadvantages of each of the duping materials were clearly seen. The presentation was warmly received by an interested and involved audience.

Hotchkiss provided an exposition on the use of 16mm Eastman Color Negative II film 7247 shot around the globe for German television and cut and edited in Germany. The print on 16mm Eastman Color Print film 7381 was made from a contact Color Reversal Internegative (CRI) 7249. The film had an English narration. This was a very informative and entertaining film. — Richard S. Marcus (Reporter), Rombex Productions Corp.; home address: 1380 Riverside Dr., New York, NY 10033.

Ohio, 24 June — The meeting was held in the newly expanded facilities of FilmLab Service, Inc., Cleveland, with an attendance of 50 members and guests from Ohio and three

neighboring states. The three speakers, all of FilmLab Service were George Golden, President; Bill Thornton, Lab Manager; and Lowell Jowers, Operations Manager. Theme of the meeting was "A Look at Liquid Gate." The meeting opened with a screening of 16mm prints made from 7247 ECN II originals and from 7249 C.R.I., printed both by conventional methods and on FilmLab's continuous contact liquid gate printer. Also shown were prints made with FilmLab's solid-state liquid gate method without the use of liquids or special printers.

After the meeting, tours were conducted through FilmLab's new facilities with firsthand looks at the Carter liquid gate printer, the Hazeltine color analyzer, color processors and other lab equipment. — Jon Carter (Secretary-Treasurer), Movie Makers, Inc., 4614 Prospect Ave., Cleveland OH 44103.

Pacific/Northwest, 7 May — The meeting was held at the facilities of Tektronix Inc. in Beaverton, Ore., with an attendance of 47 members and guests. The speakers were Steve Kerman of Tektronix whose presentation was entitled "A New Precision TV Demodulator"; Herb Randall of KGW-TV who spoke on "AM, FM and TV Transmitter Remote Control"; and Arlen Evenson and Robert L. Zurcher, Jr., both of Teknifilm Inc., whose presentation was entitled "Demonstration of Latitudes Available in the New ECN Camera Negative." — C. Eugene Newcomer (Secretary-Treasurer), Pacific Northwest Bell, 1200 Third Ave., Seattle, WA 98101.

Philadelphia, 4 May — The meeting was held at the studios of WPVI-TV with an attendance of 38 members and guests. Selwyn Robbins, President of Berkey-Manhattan Filmstrip and Slide Laboratories gave a presentation on "Making Filmstrips From Motion Pictures." He discussed the viability, economics and techniques of making filmstrips from selected frames of 16mm or 35mm motion-picture footage. Highlight of the presentation was a side-by-side comparison of slides from the original motion-picture print and the dupe made by Berkey-Manhattan Labs. The quality of the filmstrip was apparently as good, if not better, than the frame from the motion picture and there was very little increase in contrast or grain.

Low Page of the Broadcast Equipment Div. of Harris Corp. gave a presentation on Circular Polarization (CP) for Television. He reviewed the history of circularly polarized television broadcast antennas and summarized the results of field tests at WLS-TV and at Modesto, Calif. Side-by-side slides of monitor reception at various ranges from the antennas very effectively showed a remarkable improvement in the reception quality of pictures broadcast with the CP antenna as compared to the conventional horizontal antenna. Field tests indicated that the CP antennas provided excellent axial ratio, thus reducing ghosting effects, and providing excellent horizontal circularity, improved resolution and wide bandwidth, and permitting multiplexing of all VHF highband TV channels. Page noted that a number of broadcasters are planning new facilities in expectation of the adoption of circular polarization. Page informed the group that the Harris Broadcast Products Div. had initiated a comprehensive development program on the VHF High Band and Low Band Cavity Backed Radiator (CBR) CP Antenna. — Jonathan W. Flint (Secretary-Treasurer), DBS Films, Inc.; home address: 266 Minor St., Malvern, PA 19355.

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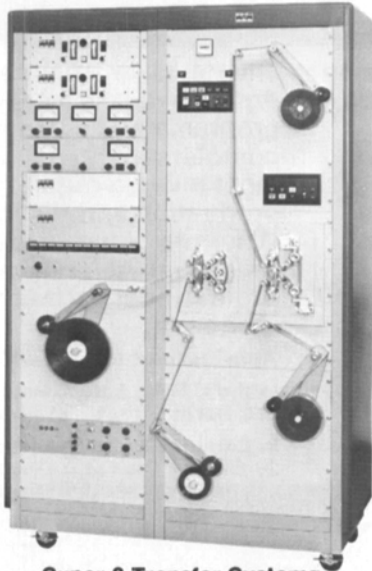
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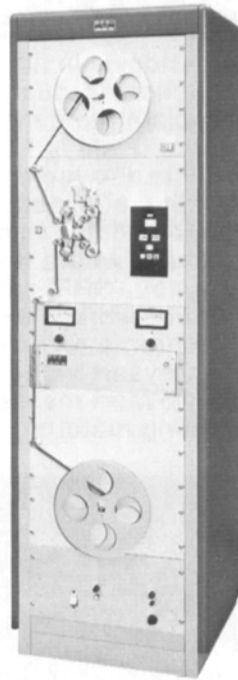
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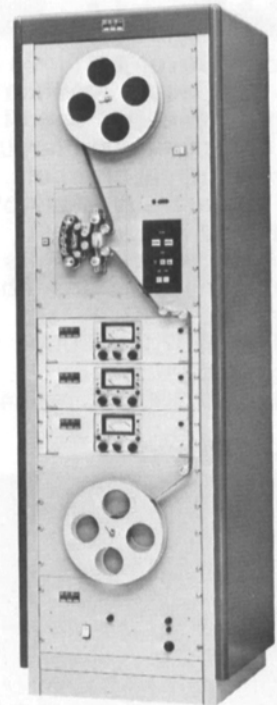
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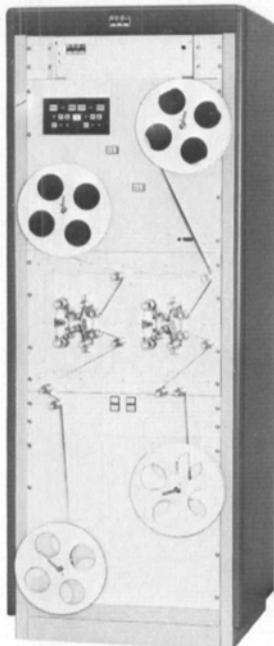
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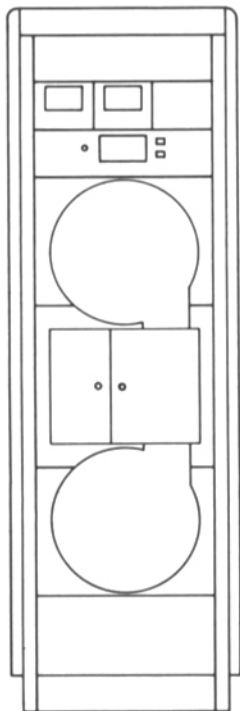


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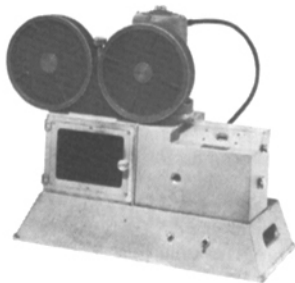
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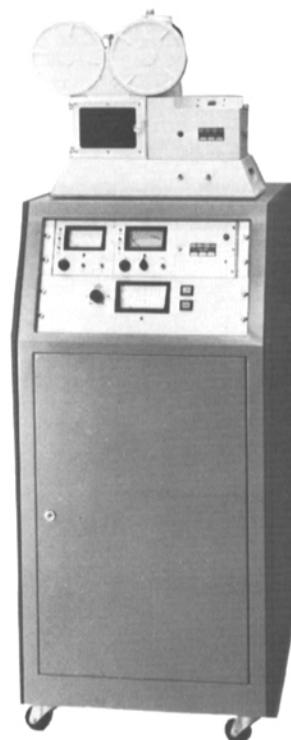


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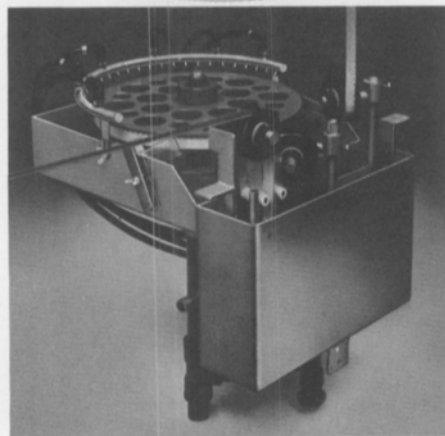


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Rochester, 13 May — The Rochester Section's annual RIT Night was held on the campus of the Rochester Institute of Technology with an attendance of 75 members and guests. The speaker was Ernie Crisp of Eastman Kodak Co., whose subject was "How to Survive in the Motion Picture Business." He directed his remark to the many RIT students in the audience who (at that time) would soon be graduating and facing the fact they must find full-time employment in the real world. A cinematographer for 22 years, Crisp has an outstanding background as an award-winning newfilm and documentary producer. He is currently an instructor in basic and advanced cinematography at the Kodak Marketing and Education Center.

Prize-winning student films were shown and awards presented. Richard Weber won first prize and Dave Allman second prize in the Super-8 category. Steve Thomas won first prize and Vic Pimentel second prize for their 16mm entries. Student participation in SMPTE activities is noticeably increasing under the leadership of Richard Floberg of RIT. — R. A. MacNally (Program Chairman), Eastman Kodak Co.'s International Div., 343 State St., Rochester, NY 14650.

Rocky Mountain, 3 June — The meeting was held at the facilities of Colorado Video Inc., (CVI) Boulder, Colo., with an attendance of 25 members and guests. Glenn Southworth, CVI president, who holds several patents in the field of digital video, gave a presentation on "Digital Video Techniques and Developments." Wyndham Hannaway, also of CVI, gave a demonstration of video art. Southworth demonstrated various applications of slow-scan television as transmitted over audio grade circuits. He was assisted by Hannaway who demonstrated the various techniques available for generating still television graphics through computer and special processing circuitry. The use of color, developed through CVI equipment, to change, distort and create new images was of special interest to the audience. A discussion period followed by a tour of CVI technical and manufacturing areas concluded the meeting. — C. R. Dalquist (Secretary-Treasurer), Del Calzo & Assoc., 300 Speer Blvd., Denver, CO 80203.

San Francisco, 26 May — The meeting was held at W. A. Palmer Films, Inc., in San Francisco, with an attendance of 54 members and guests. The speakers were Joseph W. Schmit of Technicolor, Inc.; John Corso of W. A. Palmer Films; and Steve Beck, a video artist. The meeting opened with Schmit's presentation of a tutorial paper, "Optical Printing Techniques," in which he described various types of optical printers, methods of creating special effects, format conversions and the theory and practice of liquid gate printing. The presentation was illustrated by slides.

Corso showed a demonstration reel of 16mm special effects made at Palmer Films. These included split screens, matte printing and bipak effects, color titles over moving backgrounds, and freeze frames. He discussed some of the considerations involved in the creating of special effects such as the original planning, and selection of film stock for original photography.

Beck described his work with the Video Synthesizer which creates color television images, patterns and effects. Beck also creates electronic music to accompany his films. He showed two films which had been created while he was working on a grant from the National Center for Experiments in Television.

The program concluded with a showing of

With Enough Bananas, a film created by Phil Makanna. The film has a number of blue screen and video effects in 16mm. — Kay Kibby (Secretary-Treasurer), W. A. Palmer Films, Inc., 611 Howard St., San Francisco, CA 94105.

Toronto, 25 May — The viewing room of Mirrophonic Sound Studios was jammed for this interesting three-part program. It was standing room only for the 55 members and guests. The Section Chairman, Peter Elliott, introduced the Membership Chairman, Harold Eady, who spoke briefly on the advantages of membership in the SMPTE.

The first presentation, a paper entitled "Digital Television," was given by John Lowry, Vice-President of Digital Video Systems. The paper was slanted toward those unfamiliar with digital techniques. Analog and digital signals were explained and examples given of each. A brief explanation of binary arithmetic was followed by an explanation of the requirement for an 8-bit word to define video levels. The handling of a video signal in digital form has led to many devices such as standards converters, time base correctors, gamma correctors, image enhancers, frame stores and special effects generators. Devices such as digital video recorders may be possible in the future by recording the differences from frame to frame Lowry said. He predicted that special effects now using film techniques would soon be available as video techniques.

The second paper, which described Ampex's new ATR100 Audio Recorder, was presented by George Rollo. During the design stages at Ampex, Rollo explained, the project was given the code word GNAT, an acronym for Great New Audio Transport. The new recorder has no pinch roller. Other features include ferrite heads, capstan and reel servos, ceramic tape guides, 500 in/s shuttling, a lower speed spooling mode for good tape packing, direct drive dc motors and dynamic braking, according to Rollo. A demonstration was given including a tape to show the high (81 dB) SNR. Many questions followed the formal presentation.

The third paper, "Image Matte," was presented by Jack Sinclair, of Motion Picture Video, who is the co-developer of the process. Image Matte uses a 655-line, 24-frame videotape system for production. This is then transferred to 35mm film for direct viewing. Filmclips of the process were shown along with 35mm film originals.

The meeting was preceded by a dinner at the La Cantinetta Restaurant. — R. J. Brulé (Secretary-Treasurer), 3M Company, 790 Wellington St., London, Ont., Can.

Washington, 25 May — The meeting was held at the Xerox International Center for Training and Management Development, Leesburg, Va., with an attendance of 65 members and guests. Main event of the meeting was a guided tour of the Xerox Center's tape and film facilities. Tour Guides were Bob Jackson, Supervisor of Television Engineering; Dick Martin, Supervisor of the Graphic Arts Department; Merrill Worthington, Staff Photographer; and other staff members from the A-V Service Group. The facilities are used mainly for producing training films and videotapes for Xerox employees. The meeting was preceded by a dinner at the Holiday Inn at Dulles Airport. — Robert W. Hiltwine (Secretary-Treasurer), Washington Film Laboratories, Inc., 1042 Wisconsin Ave., N.W., Washington, DC 20007.

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