



Section Meetings

Australia, 1 May — The meeting, held in the Sydney Opera House, was planned to give Section members a guided tour of the behind-the-scenes technical activity in the Opera House. Keith Yates, Deputy Technical Manager, John Northeast, Electronics Master, and Brian Gruit, Sound Master, conducted the 34 members and guests through the Opera House's inner workings. The 34 were separated into three groups for the tour, making for easier observation and better communication with the group leaders.

The three groups followed separate courses among performance sound, lighting, scenery control, communications, set movement with its massive engineering, fire control and evacuation, air conditioning, plant room, and other technical areas. All were amazed by the extent of the complex required for the presentation of consistently outstanding performances.

The meeting was followed by a dinner in the Benelong Restaurant, but, because of an 8 p.m. meeting of the Australian Cinematographers Society, only 13 attended. — Phillip H. Budden (Chairman), Colorfilm Pty Ltd., 35 Missenden Rd., Camperdown, NSW 2050, Australia.

Australia, 8 May — The meeting was held at Film Australia with an attendance of 50 members and guests. The speaker was Walter A. Seys of Agfa-Gevaert N.V. Antwerp, Belgium, who was on a short visit to Australia. Through the courtesy of Agfa-Gevaert Ltd. he presented two papers, "Some Consideration on the Further Rationalization of the Color Print Film Process" and "Gevacolor Negative Film Type 680," illustrating both papers by slides and films. These two excellent papers were very informative and of great interest to the entire audience. A lively question-and-answer period followed the presentations. — James E. Pemble (Secretary-Treasurer), Agfa-Gevaert Pty Ltd., 2 Byfield St., North Ryde, Sydney, Australia 2113.

Chicago, 6 May — The meeting was held at Editel-Chicago with an attendance of 74 members and guests who assembled to hear a program on a Specialized Film-to-Tape Transfer System. George Slominski, Editel-Chicago's Chief Engineer, gave a demonstration of Editel's computer-controlled scene-by-scene film color correction system which utilizes the RCA TK 28 color film chain with the FR 35 and TP 66 projectors.

Warren Smith of Warren R. Smith Co., Fairlawn, N.J., gave a demonstration of his telecine zoom-blow-up positioner for 35mm and 16mm projectors.

A tour of the Editel facility was conducted following the presentations. — Paul R. Markun (Secretary-Treasurer), The Media Works, Inc., 300 West Washington, Chicago, IL 60606.

Florida/Caribbean, 31 May — The meeting, held jointly with the Society of Broadcast Engineers, took place at the WPBT Channel 2 studios with an attendance of 70 members and guests. The purpose of the joint meeting was to provide demonstrations, discussions and com-

parisons of 1-in helical broadcast-quality videotape recorders. Jim McGrath of RCA and Howard A. Lilley of Ampex demonstrated various models of recorders. The demonstrations were followed by a question-and-answer hands-on interaction. — Stuart H. Weinstein (Secretary-Treasurer), University of Miami, Mailman Center for Child Development, P.O. Box 520006, Miami FL 33152.

Hollywood, 24 January — The meeting was held in the University of Southern California's Eileen Norris Theater with an attendance of 124 members and guests. An excellent student film on falconry, introduced by Herbert Farmer of USC's Division of Cinema/Television, was followed by a presentation by John C. Lakotas, who described the pre-process flashing procedure used to enable intercutting of Eastman films Ektachrome Commercial 7252 with the higher speed Ektachrome video news films 7240 and 7250. Results of flashing by the use of a motion-picture printer to give a uniform low-level exposure were shown. An excellent film shot in the Naples Valley of New York was used to demonstrate the results of the method. A lively question-and-answer period followed, which included a discussion of the pros and cons of optical tracks on various stocks.

Brad Blake of Glen Glenn Sound Company then gave a presentation entitled "A Post Production Audio Processing System for Motion-Picture Films." He described the new PAP process developed at Glen Glenn, the parameters used, and the process of transferring the work picture and dialog track to helical scan videotape and multitrack audio tape (to which the SMPTE time code is added). Sound effects and music are then added using low-cost videotape players and monitors. — Craig Curtis (Secretary-Treasurer), NBC, 3000 West Alameda Ave., Burbank, CA 91523.

Hollywood, 21 February — The meeting was held at the Walt Disney Theatre in Burbank with an attendance of 626 members and guests. Albert J. Whitlock and Bill Taylor, both of Universal City Studios, gave a presentation entitled "Matte Painting and Traveling Matte Techniques." They gave an outstanding demonstration of the art and science of special visual effects for motion pictures. Whitlock demonstrated industry and demo reels of footage utilizing matte paintings and miniatures. Special emphasis was placed on the effects in *Hindenberg* and *Airport 77*. Taylor discussed recent developments in traveling matte photography, illustrating his talk with demos from several recent motion pictures. A long and lively question-and-answer period followed. A number of students attended the meeting. — Craig Curtis (Secretary-Treasurer), NBC, 3000 West Alameda Ave., Burbank, CA 91523.

Hollywood, 14 March — The meeting was held at the University of Southern California's Eileen Norris Cinema Theater with an attendance of 175 members and guests. The meeting opened with an excellent student film on USC's marine

science program. The first speaker was John McCracken of 3M Company, whose presentation was entitled "A High Performance Digital Audio Recorder." McCracken described the performance, features and specifications of the 3M professional 32-track 1-in magnetic audio recorder using digital signal processing. Features such as no measurable flutter, 12 dB headroom, 20 Hz to 20 kHz bandwidth, 90 dB SNR, no print-through and almost nonexistent crosstalk were discussed and illustrated by graphs and slides. Bob Brown, also of 3M, joined in an animated discussion.

Thomas G. Stockham of Soundstream, Inc., Salt Lake City, gave a presentation entitled "Implications of Digital Audio Recording in Motion-Picture Sound." He demonstrated a quadrasonic digital recording system which, for demonstration purposes, was tied into the theater's excellent (but film response oriented) sound system. The audience was most impressed by the totally "live feel" of a musical group actually on stage. Stockham also presented several excerpts of both orchestral and vocal demonstrations, even A/B-ing a "reconstructed" voice from an old Caruso phonograph recording and demonstrating a voice and orchestra recording of *Am I Blue* which left the audience "in the pink." Stockham also described a digital editing system, possibly the only one in the world at that time, to a fascinated audience. — Craig Curtis (Secretary-Treasurer), NBC, 3000 West Alameda Ave., Burbank, CA 91523.

Hollywood, 18 April — The meeting was held at the CBS Studio Center in Hollywood with an attendance of 84 members and guests. Howard La Zaire presented a paper authored by himself and Edward Reichard entitled "Computer Surveillance of Film Printing-Phase II Revisited." The presentation, illustrated by slides, described a computerized printing and stock control system. The system is designed particularly for film laboratory problems which cover the spectrum from film piracy and raw stock control to order status, sensitometric monitoring and employee efficiency. The system's network captures all pertinent information directly from each printing machine as events occur. The data thus acquired are utilized for current needs and are also stored on a magnetic disc for later analysis and report generating.

Following La Zaire's presentation, Fred Scobey of DeLuxe General presented a paper authored by himself and David Degenkolb and Arthur Ford entitled "The Reuse of Film-Process Wash Water," which describes the DeLuxe General method of processing wash water for reuse. The same technology used for silver recovery by ion exchange was used to achieve the results, the method being especially effective for the removal of such water contaminants as thiosulfates and sulfites. DeLuxe has installed closed loop water recycling on all of their positive machines resulting in an overall water reduction of 60% with a 40% saving in gas consumption. Solar energy is used to reheat the recycled water. — Craig Curtis (Secretary-Treasurer), NBC, 3000 West Alameda Ave., Burbank, CA 91523.

Hollywood, 16 May — The meeting was held at the NBC Rehearsal Hall in Burbank with an attendance of 166 members and guests. John C. Adison of RCA Broadcast Systems, Camden, N.J., presented a comprehensive slide demonstration of the design considerations, setup and overall characteristics of the TK-47 television camera. He examined the need for an automatic camera with a memory with the reliability de-

signed into the microprocessor-controlled system. He explained the simplification of the camera setup and operation through the automation of scores of interactive control functions. Adison also spoke of the potential utilization of larger format, high-resolution pickup tubes for use in such applications as electronic moviemaking or extremely high-quality closed circuit. Many questions from the audience were answered in detail following the presentation. — Craig Curtis (Secretary-Treasurer), NBC, 3000 West Alameda Ave., Burbank, CA 91523.

Houston, 25 April — The meeting, attended by 14 members, consisted of a study of three transmitters (dual remote, channel 11; dual remote, channel 2; and a new transmitter, channel 39) conducted by Marion Art Biggs, Chief Engineer of KHOU-TV in Houston. Biggs and his staff explained how the remote controls for each transmitter work by showing a 3/4-in videocassette of the equipment located at the main studio 25 miles away. A number of questions were asked (and answered) about the new transmitters and how they worked under emergency conditions. The group then moved to the KPRC-TV transmitter to observe a different type of system being installed there. After a tour with the engineer on duty for that equipment, the group moved to KHTV to study the new UHF transmitter. — Jack Long (Secretary-Treasurer), A.I.E. Studios, 3905 Braxton, Houston, TX 77063.

Houston, 27 May — This was a special meeting consisting of a daylong seminar held at the University of Houston's Communication Center. Sponsored jointly by the SMPTE's Houston Section and the International Television Association, it was attended by 165 members and guests. The seminar centered around film, videotape, tape-to-film transfers, production and editing with demonstrations of equipment. Leading the discussions were James Davidson of A.I.E. Studios, Ben Pearlman of Pearlman Film Productions, and Robert Paulson of AVP Communications. Equipment demonstrated included Cinema Products Steadicam, the CP-16 camera, the RCA TK-76 color television camera, Philips and JVC cameras, the Convergence video editor, the Moviola film editor, the Ampex VPR-1 videotape recorder and the Sony BVH 1000. — Jack Long (Secretary-Treasurer), A.I.E. Studios, 3905 Braxton, Houston, TX 77063.

Montreal/Ottawa/Quebec, 11 April — The meeting was held at the Tele-Metropole studio with an attendance of 75 members and guests, following a dinner at L'Auberge de la Marie Galante. The program was a visit and tour of the new Sonolab facilities in Montreal.

The tour was well organized with guides from Sonolab who gave a complete description of each area visited, both the sound facilities and the laboratory. Later, the group viewed a 35mm feature film entitled *La Menace*, dubbed from French into English by Sonolab; the release prints were also made by Sonolab. — Grant Dearnaley (Secretary-Treasurer), P.O. Box 787, Station "C", Montreal, Que., Canada H2L 4L6.

Nashville, 13 April — The meeting was held at Sarratt Center, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, with 67 members and guests attending. They came to see Phil Johnson's excellent documentary film, *Tutankhamun — Live Forever*. Johnson, News Director of WWL-TV in New

Orleans, and his photographer, Jim Tolhurst, spent three weeks in Egypt filming in the Cairo Museum, in Tutankhamun's tomb in the Valley of the Kings and in other tombs. The resulting documentary film was to commemorate the treasures of Tutankhamun coming to the United States, which it does in grand style. It is one of the best examples of documentary filmmaking around and was thoroughly enjoyed by the audience. — John F. Swanson (Secretary-Treasurer), WTVF (TV), 474 James Robertson Pkwy., Nashville, TN 37219.

Nashville, 22 May — The meeting was held in the Grand Ole Opry House with an attendance of 47 members and guests. Larry Driskill gave a presentation entitled "Microphones — Applications and Techniques." He discussed the basic design of various microphones using slides to show the designs visually. He explained the proper use of each microphone and also discussed problems of sound pickup and their solutions. An audio tape was used to demonstrate examples of the techniques discussed. — John F. Swanson (Secretary-Treasurer), WTVF-TV, 474 James Robertson Pkwy., Nashville, TN.

Rochester, 12 April — The meeting was held at the Hilton Inn on Campus, Henrietta, N.Y., with 26 attending. Gerald Evans and Robert Erskine, both of WHEC-TV, Rochester, were the speakers for the evening.

They gave a demonstration of the "Live Eye" electronic newsgathering capabilities of WHEC-TV (Channel 10), Rochester. The equipment on display included an Ikegami HL 77 camera, JVC 4400 video recorder, and a 13-GHz windowsill microwave unit. A specially equipped news van was on hand, with portable generating equipment and complete switching facilities for four cameras.

Slides were shown of the microwave-receiving facilities on top of Lincoln First Bank, one of the tallest buildings in downtown Rochester. The editing facilities at the station were also shown. After the presentation, there was a lively discussion about the costs, flexibility and portability of the ENG system.

Members of the audience got hands-on experience with some of the equipment. News Director of WHEC-TV, Phil Smith, was present to answer questions about the production aspects of the "Live Eye." — John L. Baptista (Secretary-Treasurer), Eastman Kodak Co.; home address: 180 Woodcroft Dr., Rochester, NY

Rochester, 25 May — The annual RIT Student Awards Night was held in the General Studies Auditorium on the Rochester Institute of Technology campus with an attendance of 80 members and guests. This RIT night is a traditional joint meeting of the SMPTE Rochester Section and the SPSE Rochester Chapter in cooperation with the SMPTE/SPSE Student Chapter at RIT. The presentations to the award-winning students recognize their accomplishments in creating a superior film or videotape in their 1978 course work. In addition to the awards presentation and the showing of the award-winning films, three papers were presented — "Determination of Line Spread Functions in Non-Conventional Photographic Materials" by Peter Jann, "Production of a Micro Scale Linear Density Wedge" by Roger Triplett and Lawrence Mattison, and "A Comparison of Sulfur Sensitization on Silver Bromide and Iodobromide Emulsions" by Fred Marland.

The student competition consisted of three categories — Dramatic, Experimental and

Nonfiction — with First Year and Advanced Divisions in each. The First Year winners were: Dramatic, John Borden; Experimental, Tomas Gasek; and Nonfiction, Peter Knausdorf. The Advanced winners were: Experimental, Laurence Legere; and Nonfiction, Malcolm Spaul. There were no Advanced entries in the Dramatic category. A special award was presented to Malcolm Spaul for the best overall entry in the competition. — John L. Baptista (Secretary-Treasurer), Eastman Kodak Co., 180 Woodcroft Dr., Rochester, NY 14616.

San Francisco, 18 April — The meeting was held at the Kodak Color Print & Processing Lab, in Palo Alto, Calif., with 65 attending. The speakers were Ms. Pat McFerren, of Eastman Kodak Company, on "Color Print and Processing," and Bob Beck, also of Eastman Kodak, on "Laboratory Operations."

Beck and McFerren presented an overview of the various film handling, processing and printing operations performed in the laboratory. The overview included a brief history of the laboratory, including the customers and markets which it serves in the Pacific Northwest. This presentation was followed by a very interesting and informative tour through the laboratory. A question-and-answer session was conducted at the conclusion of the tour. — Joerg D. Agin (Secretary/Treasurer), Eastman Kodak Co., 3250 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco, CA

San Francisco, 18 May — The meeting was held at the Eastman Kodak Marketing Center in San Francisco with an attendance of 33 members and guests. The speakers were David Fibush of Ampex Corp., who gave a presentation on "Type C 1-in Videotape Format," and Barry Brose of Highland Film Laboratories, San Francisco, whose presentation was entitled "Viscous Film Processing Technology." Fibush has been a member of the 1-in Videotape Standards Committee of SMPTE which evolved the new type C 1-in format for videotape. He discussed the new standard, the reasons for it and the history of its development.

Brose discussed the feasibility of a viscous film process as an alternative method of processing newsfilm for television stations that use limited amounts of newsfilm. — Joerg D. Agin, Eastman Kodak Co., 3250 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco, CA 94109.

Toronto, 23 May — The meeting, held jointly with the Audio Engineering Society, took place at George Brown College in Toronto with an attendance of 60 members and guests. The speakers were Bob Snelgrove of Gerr Electro-Acoustics, Doug Loney of Broadcast Equipment, and Ray Brule of the 3M Company. Snelgrove's paper discussed in detail his observations at AES conventions in Hamburg, Los Angeles and New York regarding new developments. Doug Loney then provided a 10-min audiovisual presentation covering radio and television highlights in the career of Harry "Red" Foster.

Ray Brule's presentation was entitled "Are You Up to Standard on Audio and Video Recording?" His talk covered his recent trip to Budapest for the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) meeting of Technical Committee 60, Recording. Brule explained the organization of IEC in Canada and throughout the world. He also outlined the work presently going on in TC 60. — Harold J. Eady (Secretary-Treasurer), Bonded Services International, 205 Richmond St. West, Toronto, Ont., Canada M5V 1V5.

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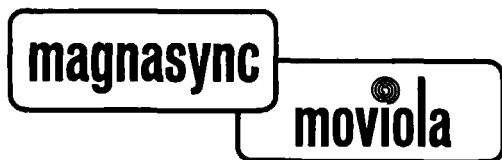
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