



Section Meetings

Chicago, 25 January — The meeting was held at the University of Illinois — Chicago Circle Campus with an attendance of 35 members and guests — an excellent attendance considering the bad snowstorm. The speaker was Tom DeFanti, Professor of Engineering at the University of Illinois, who spoke on Computers and Color Television. He discussed the interface of computers with color video processing which has led to the development of computer graphics. The University of Illinois has been responsible for the development of some new techniques in this exciting field. Examples of some of the techniques were demonstrated. Of particular interest was the demonstration of the technique developed by Larry Cuba for the fighter attack in *Star Wars*. A question-and-answer period followed the presentation. The meeting was preceded by a dinner at the Greek Islands Restaurant. — Michael H. Bailey, Allied Film Laboratory Inc., 1322 West Belmont Ave., Chicago, IL 69647.

Dallas/Ft. Worth, 7 February — The meeting was held at the offices of Media Matrix with 30 members and guests in attendance. Joe Bosler, President, Media Matrix, spoke on the General Electric Genigraphics system. Bosler

explained how the system produces high-resolution 35mm color slides.

A keyboard and light pen interactive computer terminal is operated by an artist operator to input all types of numerical data, logo types, designs, etc., into the computer's memory. Then in real time, modifications of type style and size, color and visual placement can be manipulated to produce a full-color graphic design. This information can then be stored on tape or disk for future recall and updating and/or sent directly to a 2000-line color cathode-ray tube where it is photographed on 35mm film.

The average time for inputting a full-color visual is ½ h and shooting time is about 1½ min. The film is then processed conventionally.

Bosler then answered questions about the capabilities and limitations of the system, and a discussion of new applications and technology ensued. Examples of the output of the system were shown, followed by a tour of the facility where the audience was shown the Genigraphics system in operation.

The ever-popular Clio award-winning commercials were shown and refreshments were served — Mike Lorring (Secretary-Treasurer), UT Health-Science Center, 5323 Harry Hines Blvd., Dallas, TX 75231.

Hollywood, 8 February — The meeting was held at KTLA Television's Stage 6 facilities, where two excellent papers were presented to 138 members and guests. Neil Kempt of Rank Precision Industries read the first paper, entitled "Flying Spot Telecines." He covered the theory and design features of flying spot telecines, particularly the Rank Cintel MK3 scanner which features no image retention or lag on moving objects, excellent color registration and contrast, and little or no noise in blacks.

Bill Hogan, Ruxton Ltd., followed with a discussion of the practical use of the MK3 at Ruxton. Hogan discussed the technical characteristics in television that produce the film look or the tape look. He then ran several tapes generated on the MK3 to depict how film can achieve the live look of tape. The excellent transfer characteristics of the machine were readily apparent in a split-screen comparison of several scenes from *Battlestar Galactica*.

The second paper of the evening, "Automatic Plotting Densitometer," was presented by Gary L. Borton of Eastman Kodak, Hollywood. Borton described recent efforts at Kodak's research and development facilities in automatic color densitometry and sensitometric curve plotting. By coupling a densitometer to a commercially available programmable calculator and plotter, a sensitometric strip can be read and analyzed in under two min. The programming allows for simplified operation to obtain density data; process parameters, such as contrast and speed; full curves; and process trends. After presenting the paper, Borton ran a brief film showing the equipment in operation. — John C. Lakotas (Secretary-Treasurer), Eastman Kodak Co., 6706 Santa Monica Blvd., Hollywood, CA 90038.

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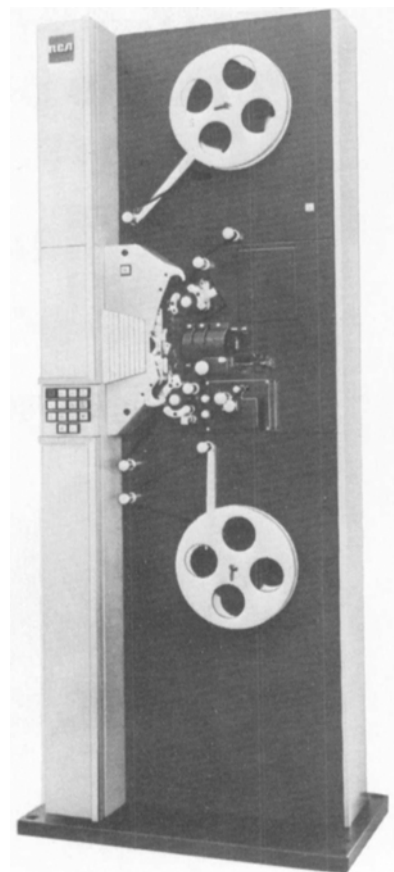
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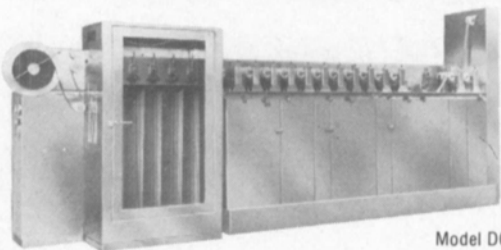
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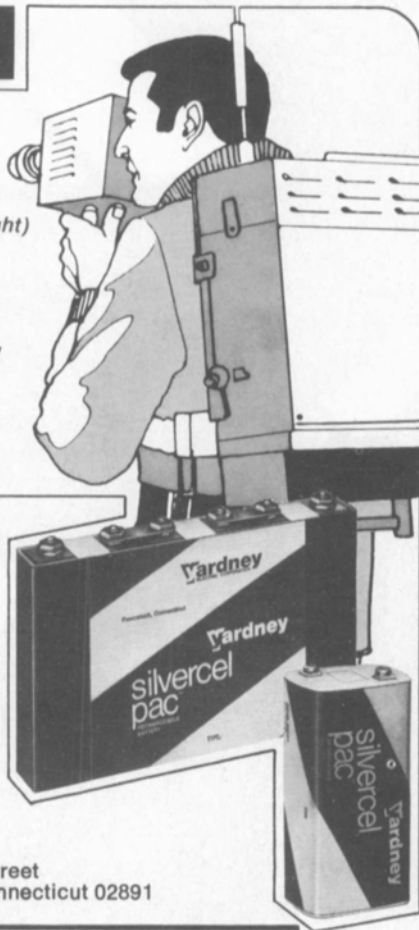
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Houston, 24 January — The meeting was held at Pearlman Film Productions with an attendance of 31 members and guests. Frank Marasco of Victor Duncan, Inc., gave an excellent demonstration of the Arriflex 16SR camera with the Victor Duncan Nagra Caddy audio recorder modification. After showing an excellent videotape on the quality and usefulness of the 16SR camera, Marasco led a spirited discussion which included the video monitoring capability of the 16SR. Close inspection of the working parts of the camera revealed a beautifully designed instrument. — B. F. Secor, Jr. (Secretary-Treasurer), Aldine High School, 6427 Fairwood Dr., Houston, TX 77088.

Nashville, 25 January — The January meeting was a great success with an attendance of more than 200 members and guests. The program had been arranged by Harry Heuer of Eastman Kodak Co. First on the program was John Davis of Dynamic Media, Nashville, who showed how moving a slide show can be with a multimedia slide presentation of the city of Nashville.

Bill Carrier of API Cine, Memphis; Mark Ball of Scene 3 Productions, Nashville; and Chris Taylor of Chris Taylor Organization, Memphis, each showed some extremely good camera work with both tape and film presentations demonstrating how well you can mix tape and film and get the most from both.

Wayne Smith and Jim Campbell of Cascom, Inc., Nashville, showed some great animation and showed also how you can mix animation and live action.

Thom Ferrell of Thom 2 Productions, Nashville, showed how he uses camera negative to get what the customer wants in filming a program or a TV spot.

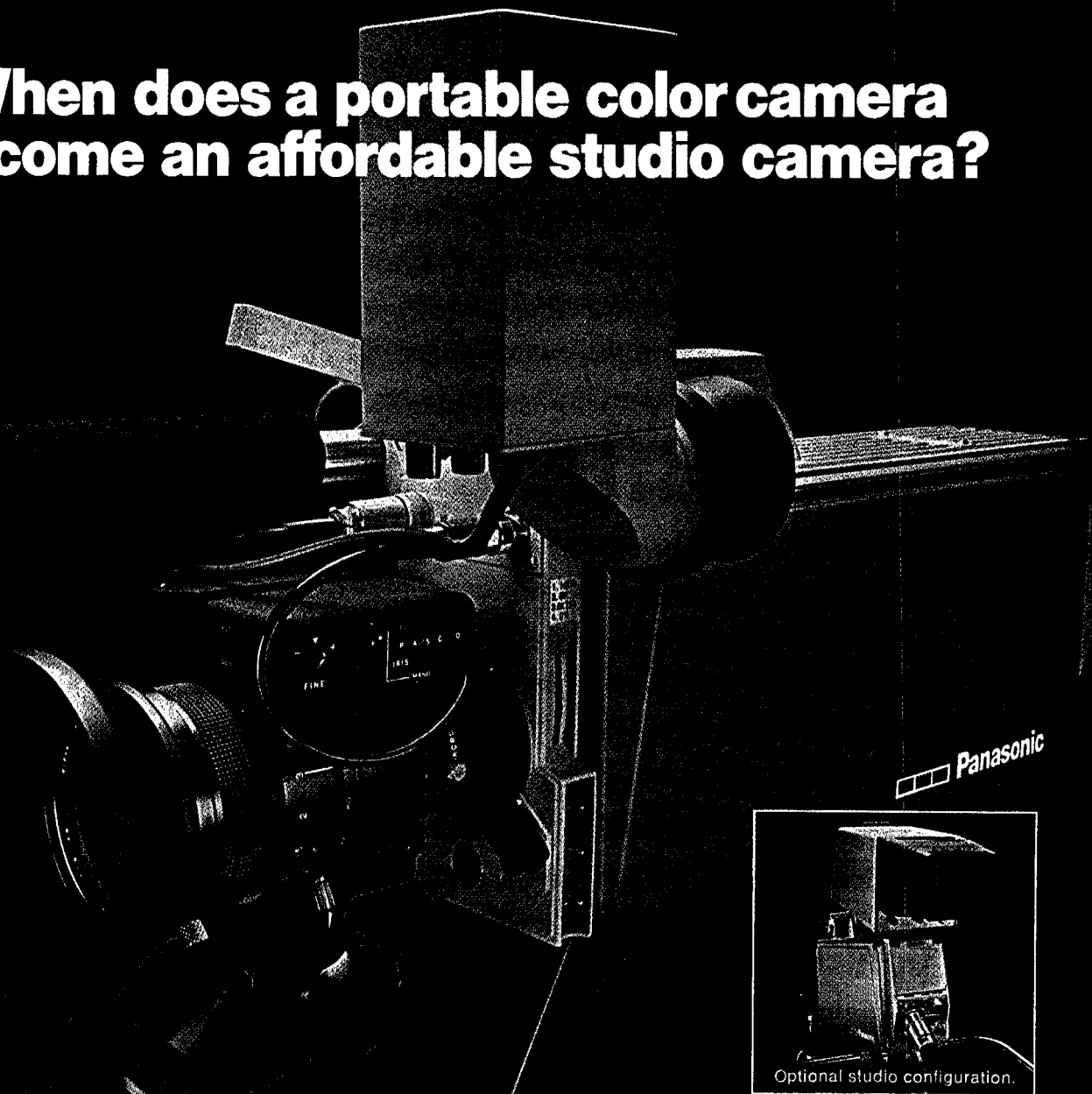
The program was well accepted by the audience and this was evidenced by the amount of applause received by each speaker. A question-and-answer period followed each presentation.

Following the presentations a film of the 1978 International Clio Awards was shown and the crowd stayed right through to the end. — Bill Watson (Secretary-Treasurer), MPL, Inc., 781 S. Main St., Memphis, TN 38101.

Ohio, 25 January — The meeting was held at the Cleveland Engineering Society. Because of the blizzard only seven brave souls, plus the speaker, Stephen Merkel, Project Engineer of the Airborne Manufacturing Co., Elvira, Ohio, attended. Merkel's presentation entitled "A 35mm Motion Analysis Projector for Cine Fluorography," concerned the history of this development (of which he was in charge) and the new concepts involved. He noted that the recording of angiographic examinations on cine film has gained steadily in importance. The projector offers flicker-free projection from 1 frame/s up to 60 frames/s. Features include a high-intensity arc lamp and a quartz halogen lamp for varying projection requirements, horizontal drop-in loading and other features for easy operation and safe film handling. — George F. Golden (Secretary-Treasurer), Film-Lab Service, Inc., 4117 Prospect Ave., Cleveland, OH 44103.

Pacific/Northwest, 26 January — The meeting was held at the Seattle First National Bank, Mercer Island, Wash., with an attendance of 24 members and guests. The program included presentations on cable television system engineering and satellite television signal transmission.

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Frank Bias of Viacom, Inc., described the basic elements in a cable television system and he also explained the major factors that are to be considered in modern system design. Pat Bohana of Scientific Atlanta, Inc., gave a talk on satellite transmission of television signals and how the use of this service is rapidly expanding in cable television. The meeting was preceded by a dinner at the Thunderbird Restaurant. — Thomas J. Bowles (Secretary-Treasurer), King Videocable Co., 320 Aurora Ave., N., Seattle, WA 98109.

Toronto, 16 January — The meeting was held at Ryerson Polytechnical Institute with an attendance of 96 members and guests. The program opened with the screening of a portion of the CBC television special, *Anne Murray in Jamaica*. Jim Shaw of CBC and Ron Hutcheon of Palette Productions then told of their experiences during the on-location production of this special, emphasizing that it was shot using 1-in videotape recording systems. Shaw spoke on the production aspects and Hutcheon described the technical considerations. Some of their more pertinent comments related to the ease of setup, the need for minimal rack space in mobiles, ease of repair and the very minimal need for repairs, ease of portability, and the very low power requirements including batteries and lightweight generators. The quality of the 1-in product was said to be equal to or better than quad. Questions raised during the question-and-answer period concerned problems related to untrained crews and to union jurisdictional problems whereby trained cinematographers were not allowed to handle these cameras. — Peter Mugford (Secretary-Treasurer), OECA, 2180 Yonge St., Toronto, Ont., M4S 2C1 Canada.

Industry News & Educational Activities

Eastman Kodak Company has been selected the official photographic consultant to the 1980 Olympic Winter Games by the Lake Placid Olympic Organizing Committee. In that capacity Kodak will provide complimentary black-and-white and color film processing for all accredited news photographers. For black-and-white film, Kodak will utilize normal and push processing; color processing will be for Ektachrome film, process E-6. The Olympic Organizing Committee will open a broadcast center where Kodak will assist and provide technical advice in regard to processing Eastman Ektachrome video news film 7240, 7250, and 7239 and video news print film 7399. Both services will be provided daily between the hours of 8 a.m. and 2 a.m.

In addition to assisting newsmedia coverage of the Games, Kodak will supply medical x-ray film and the use of Kodak RP X-Omat processing equipment at the medical center in the Olympic Village. Approximately 50 specialists and technicians from various divisions will staff Kodak's facilities in Lake Placid.

The Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences awarded Eastman Kodak Company an

Academy Award of Merit (Academy Statuette) for technical achievement in research and development of Eastman color intermediate II film 5243. The intermediate film, which is used to make color master positives and color duplicating negatives, has drawn wide acclaim from motion-picture producers for its fine grain and accurate color reproduction. It has proven particularly helpful in the production of the new generation of special-effects motion pictures.

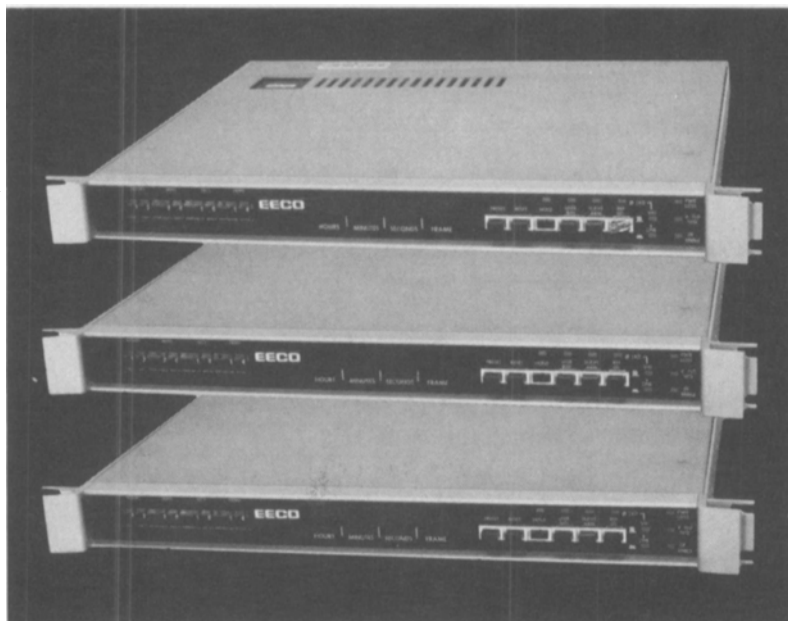
A new television distribution system was jointly announced by RCA American Communications, Inc., Viacom International, Inc., and Post-Newsweek Stations. The system will employ an RCA Satcom satellite to transmit directly to earth stations supplied by RCA American Communications. The first field applications of the new distribution technology will begin this year.

Under the plan RCA will erect, operate, and maintain receive-only earth stations with built-in scrambling and selected decoding capability for specific program reception at specific locations. Viacom will begin distribution of television programs and motion pictures, and the Post-Newsweek stations will receive and record the

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