

# Industry News & Educational Activities

## Mini-Conference Report

On a partly sunny, cool, typically Rochester day, 160 registrants from as far away as California started trickling into the Colony East Inn in preparation for the Rochester/Toronto/Montreal-Ottawa-Quebec 1980 Mini-Conference. This conference is a yearly Spring event, organized by the members of the Section in the host city, this time Rochester, with assistance from the other two Sections.

As Friday's informal reception to meet the authors got under way, it was evident that this Mini-Conference had the support and interest not only of the local members, but also of the national officers and the SMPTE staff.

General Chairman Robert T. Scott, Eastman Kodak Co., had secured the beautiful and famous George Eastman House for the conference activities. The papers program, held in the Dryden Theater adjoining the Eastman House, was the perfect setting for the interesting and varied program that had been arranged by Thomas W. Hope, Hope Reports, Inc., and John B. Kuiper, of the George Eastman House. While registration was proceeding, and the authors were having their briefing, early birds were partaking of coffee, courtesy of Tayloreel Co., in the solarium of the George Eastman House.

The morning session, comprised of film papers, was chaired by Richard Floberg, Rochester Institute of Technology, and Colin Davis, Kodak Canada Ltd. After the opening film *The Mighty Steam Calliope*, courtesy of the National Film Board of Canada, Robert Scott opened the session by introducing President Robert M. Smith, Du Art Film Laboratories, who welcomed everyone, and thanked the local arrangements committee for the time and effort that was put into this program.

Tom Hope, who two days before had had the misfortune of a broken foot, appeared complete with cast and crutches. He remarked that the response for paper requests had been excellent, and that the program, *Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow*, covering early history to the 21st century, with a balance of the disciplines, was sure to appeal to everyone present.

Daniel Taylor, Kintek Cinesonics, and Barnard L. Sackett, Super V Sound, presented papers on "Breakthroughs in Film Projection" and "Sound Production." After a coffee break, Dr. Wesley T. Hanson, Eastman Kodak Co. (retired), spoke on "The Development of Eastman Color Negative/Positive Materials for Motion Pictures." He was followed by C. Bradley Hunt, Eastman Kodak Co., whose talk was entitled "The Corrective Reproduction of Faded Color Motion Picture Prints Using the Flash Dupe Mask Color Restoration Method."

The Get-Together Luncheon was held at the gracious Hutchinson House, a two-minute walk from the George Eastman House. Arrangements Chairman Julianne Crisante, Eastman Kodak Co., and other members of the Mini-Conference Committee handled the arrangements for this pleasant luncheon, which was expanded from one room to two because of the overflow crowd.

The afternoon papers session, chaired by Grant Dearnaley, National Film Board of Canada, and John B. Kuiper, George Eastman House, centered on electronics/film interface. As an opening film, the Grand Prize Winner of the Rochester Section Student Contest, *The Walrus and the Carpenter*, an RIT Student Production, was shown.



SMPTE President Robert M. Smith.

David English, Walt Disney Productions, spoke on "Computer-Controlled Motion Picture Cameras," and Andre Proulx, Optical Art Camera Corp., presented "The Rediscovery of Consecutive Images."

Later in the afternoon, Thomas Mann, Image Transform, Inc., spoke on a "New Tape-to-Film Transfer System," followed by F. A. Sachs, General Electric Co., reporting on "Solid State Imaging."

In the evening, registrants were delighted to enjoy the banquet in the old world graciousness of the George Eastman House. Again, Julianne Crisante and Bob Scott were called upon to provide further expansion to accommodate the overflow crowd. The Friday and Saturday night receptions were sponsored by the Eastman Kodak Co., Hope Reports, Inc., and the Singer Co.

In keeping with the Society's image, a private showing of *The Black Hole* was shown in the Dryden Theater following the banquet. *The Black Hole*, a Walt Disney Production, had been nominated for a Special Effects Academy Award and because of the paper presentation earlier in the day by David English, the audience was able to fully appreciate the final results in the movie. However, before the movie was shown, the audience was in for another surprise, the lead actor in *The Black Hole*, Robert Forster, Rochesterian, regaled the audience with his view of acting with the modern technology of floating robots



Gathered together in the solarium of George Eastman House are SMPTE President Smith, Overall Arrangements Chairman Robert Scott, Chairman Montreal/Ottawa/Quebec Section Grant Dearnaley, Chairman Rochester Section Dale C. German, SMPTE Engineering Vice-President Roland Zavada, and SMPTE Executive Vice-President Charles E. Anderson.



Gerald Evans, Chief Engineer of WHEC-TV.



**David English of Walt Disney Productions describing some special effects techniques used in the movie, *The Black Hole*.**



**A coffee break in the beautiful solarium of George Eastman House.**



**Fred Kolb of Eastman Kodak Co., David English, and Roland Zavada discussing special effects.**



**Charles Anderson presenting a history of videotape with sections of early videotapes shown on the monitor.**



**Roland Zavada, John Pytlak, Leonard Coleman, and Calvin Hotchkiss at the Authors' Reception.**



**Robert Forster, star of *The Black Hole*, and eager group awaiting the showing of *The Black Hole*.**

and "blue-screen" scenery that really is not there. In all, an informative and delightful evening was had by everyone.

Despite losing one hour because of the change to Daylight Saving Time, the reception area (the garage with an ENG unit open for inspection) and the modern studio of the WHEC-TV, Channel 10, was a beehive of activity by 8:15 a.m., with everyone enjoying coffee, courtesy of the station.

The morning session opened with two videotapes, one featuring the sights of Rochester and welcoming attendees to the Mini-Conference, and the second, called *VTR*, showing special effects scenes in Toronto, Canada.

Clyde Parker, Flower City TV Corp., Channel 13, and Rene Villeneuve, Kodak Canada Ltd., chaired the session which dealt with past, present and future technologies. Bert Kehren, Texas Instruments, talked about the magnetic bubble memory technology, followed by Charles E. Anderson, Ampex Corp., relating the videotape story.

Dana Pratt, RCA Corp., spoke on satellite communications. President Smith then briefly commented on his recent trip to Russia. The final paper presentation, by Jerry Evans, WHEC-TV, was a brief outline, with an accompanying tape, on the various stages of planning and construction for the new

WHEC-TV facilities. The conference officially ended with a tour of the WHEC-TV facilities, but the conversation, exchange of ideas and the feeling that this weekend had been time well spent, lingered on.

Other local arrangements persons whose contributions were instrumental to the success of this Mini-Conference were William G. Doody, Eastman Kodak Co., Operations; John P. Pytlak, Eastman Kodak Co., Finances; Jeffrey L. Burrows, Eastman Kodak Co., Publicity and Printing; Keith Jackson, Rochester Institute of Technology, Registration and Membership; and Hartwell T. Sweeney, Eastman Kodak Co., Solicitations.

Dale German, Eastman Kodak Co., Rochester Section Chairman, was ably assisted by numerous members of the Section in the myriad jobs that always need to be done at these meetings. The Toronto Representative was Colin Davis, Kodak Canada Ltd., and from Montreal, Rene Villeneuve, Kodak Canada Ltd. — *Lynne Robinson*

### Digital Video, Vol. 3, New SMPTE Publication

A new SMPTE publication documents advances in digital technology achieved since publication of two previous volumes *Digital Video* and *Digital Video, Vol. 2*, now classics in the field. The price is \$20, less 20% to SMPTE members. The book is available from SMPTE Books, 862 Scarsdale Ave., Scarsdale, NY 10583.

Editor Richard Marcus has here collected no fewer than 24 of the papers presented at the SMPTE Television Conference in Toronto in February 1980. The authors' names could constitute a short *Who's Who in Digital Television*. The book also contains a transcript of a panel discussion entitled "The Digital Decade" that had been presented by the SMPTE at the 1980 NAB convention in Las Vegas and also a transcript of the Digital Decade Workshop. Also included, through the courtesy of the IEEE, is a glossary of the latest digital video terms to be adopted as an IEEE Standard. Following are papers and authors listed in the Table of Contents of *Digital Video, Vol. 3*:

Integrated Circuits for TV in the Digital Decade, by William M. Webster, RCA Laboratories;

The All-Digital Television Studio, Frank Davidoff, CBS Television Network;

Report of the Committee on New Technology, Robert S. Hopkins, Chairman;

When Are Digits Going to Meet the Action? J. R. Sanders, BBC Research Department;

Digital Audio Formats for Recording and Digital Communication, Toshi T. Doi and Heitaro Nakajima, Sony Audio Technology Center, Tokyo;

An Overview of Progress Toward the Digital TV Plant, A. H. Lind, RCA;

Digital Video Processing—1980, John D. Lowry, Digital Video Systems Inc.

Component vs. Composite Coding for Television Signal Processing, J. L. E. Baldwin, IBA, United Kingdom;

Three-Dimensional Spectrum and Processing of Digital NTSC Colour Signals, E. Dubois, INRS Telecommunications, M. S. Sabri and J-Y Ouellet, Bell-Northern Research;

Current and Future Developments in Digital Switching and Effects, R. Dennis Fraser, NEC America;

Software-Based Digital Signal Processing, Richard Kupnicki, Digital Video Systems Inc.;

Multifunction Digital Video Processor, Stephen Kreinik and Renville H. McMann, Thomson-CSF Broadcast, Inc.;

Network Distribution of Digital Television Signals, Denis J. Connor, MacDonald, Dettwiler & Associates Ltd.;

Overview of Broadcast Teletext Systems for NTSC Television Standards, J. R. Storey, H. G. Bown, C. D. O'Brien, and W. Sawchuk, Department of Communications, Ottawa;

Progress Report of the Subcommittee on Teletext of the EIA Broadcast Television Systems Committee, Robert A. O'Connor, CBS Television Network;

Architecture of the French LSI Set for Antiope Teletext Decoders, Bernard Mati, Yves Noirel and Alain Poignet, Antiope Videotex Systems, Inc.;

Digital Recording; What is to be Done? Dominique Nasse, C.C.E.T.T., France;

Digital Audio Recording for Television: Some Choices, E. S. Busby, Jr., Ampex Corp.;

Digital Video Recording in the 625-Line System, Hubert Forster and Josef Sochor, Robert Bosch, GmbH;

Experimental Digital VTR With Tri-Level Recording and Fire Code Error Correction, Yoshizumi Eto, Seiichi Mita, Yasuhiro Hirano, Hitachi Ltd., and Toshiaki Kawamura, Hitachi Denshi Ltd.;

Digital Video Recording — Some Experiments and Future Considerations, M. Motizono, H. Yoshida and Y. Hashimoto, Sony Corp., Tokyo.

**The sixth Marconi International Fellowship** has been awarded to Dr. Yash Pal, Director of the Space Applications Centre of the Indian Space Research Organization. The formal presentation will take place on 12 October in Sydney, Australia.

Dr. Pal is being honored for his work on the Satellite Instructional Television Experiment (SITE) in India, a project carried on in

conjunction with NASA using the U.S. ATS-6 satellite. The objective of SITE is to bring instructional television to the rural villagers of India. Dr. Pal's contribution included the development of essential hardware with the development of the television programming. The aim of the SITE Project was to reach, initially, 3000 isolated villages and eventually all 500,000 of India's villages.

**Sony Corp.**, Tokyo, announced an agreement with Sundstrand Data Control, Inc., Redmond, Washington, for providing color video projection systems to be used in passenger aircraft. The Sony color video projection system will be marketed by Trans Com, a division of Sundstrand Data Control, Inc., Costa Mesa, Calif. Trans Com will purchase Sony's color video projection systems and integrate them into the total system for installation aboard commercial aircraft. Utilizing the Sony Betamax or U-Matic color videocassette players, the system projects color video images on a large screen installed in the aircraft. The system provides entertainment programs, emergency and safety instruction, and other information which can be viewed in a brightly lit cabin.

**The National Audio-Visual Association** will hold its 1980 Institute for Professional Development 13-18 July at Indiana University in Bloomington, Ind. The Institute is a professional training program designed by and specifically for members of the audiovisual

## National Association of Television Program Executives (NATPE) 17th Annual Conference

NATPE Conference was a "whiz-bang affair" according to the Feb. 22 issue of *Back Stage* and, according to other reports the conference, held in San Francisco 15-21 April, fully deserved *Back Stage's* accolade. The program included sessions on the new technology, programming and the law, the new role of the local producer, a crystal ball look at television in the year 1990, and a variety of other stimulating general sessions and workshops.

The photograph below shows a few of the people who contributed to the success of the NATPE Conference.



First row (seated): Chuck Gingold (NATPE President and Moderator of the Program), Bob Keeshan (Captain Kangaroo), Abbot Washburn (FCC Commissioner), Peggy Charren (President of ACT), Nina Cornell (Attorney for FCC).

Second row (standing): Gene Mater (Vice-President CBS Broadcast Group), Robert M. Smith (SMPTE President, Executive Vice-President Du Art Film Laboratories), John Severino (President Television Arts and Sciences, Hollywood), Timatha Pierce (President AWRT), Thomas Dawson (President BPA), and Giraud Chester (President IRTS).

industry. A team of industry leaders and professional sales trainers will lead eight courses designed to help AV business people develop and improve their sales techniques, management principles, and system design capabilities. The program covers basic salesmanship, advanced selling, AV management, and systems design. New to the curriculum is a course on Selling and Design of Multi-Image systems, an in-depth analysis of multi-image production, applications, and presentations.

Further information is available from National Audio-Visual Association, 3150 Spring St., Fairfax, VA 22031.

**The Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA)** has initiated a project with the principal objective of identifying means of enhancing sound-on-film through advanced technology, analog and/or digital. Organizations representing motion picture producers, sound studios, film processing laboratories, and photographic film manufacturers have joined to underwrite one or more studies by independent consultants. An initial contract for a nine-month study has been awarded to SRI International, Menlo Park, Calif. At present, the study will focus on the evaluation of four systems. However, any organization or individual who has a system under development which may be applicable to an advanced sound-on-film system is invited to communicate with MPAA Vice-President, Allen R. Cooper, 1600 Eye St. N.W., Washington, DC 20006, submitting a brief description of the system. Each such proposal will be

carefully considered to determine if it should be included in the evaluation process.

**Burbank Studio Center** has opened at 301 North Golden Mall, Burbank, CA 91502, after two years of planning and design and one year of construction. The complex covers 12,000 ft<sup>2</sup> of production and post production facilities. Studios range from 400 ft<sup>2</sup> rehearsal rooms to a 4000 ft<sup>2</sup> video/insert rehearsal stage. There is a complete 35-mm mag/opt screening room with full changeover as well as 16-mm projection. Each acoustically designed room contains Altec Stanley Screamer Concert Sound systems with a full complement of microphones as well as various professional lighting systems and broadcast videotaping equipment. President of the newly opened Burbank Studio Center is Elizabeth Trevor.

**Global Specialties Corp.** is the new name for the electronics manufacturer previously known as Continental Specialties Corp. The headquarters of the firm remain at 70 Fulton Terrace, New Haven, CT 06509. The firm manufactures and markets electronic instruments and hardware, such as digital capacitance meters, frequency counters, logic probes, logic pulsers, logic monitors, and others.

**Lisle-Kelco Ltd.** has been appointed Canadian distributor for the Pacex Water Recycling System, it was announced by Robert Kreiman, President of Pace International Corp., 3727 S. Robertson Blvd., Culver City, CA 90230. The system uses ion exchange tech-

nology to remove silver and other pollutants from photographic wash water leaving it pure enough for recycling in a closed loop system. In addition to recovering silver, the Pacex system virtually eliminates water pollution, conserves energy for heating water, and reduces water usage in film laboratories.

**The 700-member Fiber Optics Communication Information Society (FOCIS)** has been officially dissolved and restructured as a working group under the aegis of the Society of Photo-Optical Instrumentation Engineers (SPIE), P.O. Box 10, 405 Fieldston Rd., Bellingham, WA 98225, it was announced by SPIE. According to FOCIS Secretary Richard Cerny, "We feel strongly that SPIE will provide a broader range of educational services, greater recognition for fiber optics professionals and a wider and more effective transfer of information."

SPIE President Robert R. Shannon said "this new association . . . marks the beginning of an even greater emphasis by the SPIE in fiber optics technology."

**Harry Eskridge** has been appointed Director of Engineering and **Paul Spivek** has been appointed Operations Technician for Optimus, a video and film editing company at 161 E. Grand Ave., Chicago, IL 60611. Eskridge has been responsible for engineering service on more than 200 network telecasts including the first videotape coverage of a manned spacecraft recovery. Spivek was formerly with Olympic Broadcasting where he was Technical Director and Manager of Computer Editing.

# TV FRAME GRAB!

## Grab it, store it, process it.

The CVI 274 Video Frame Store allows you a choice:

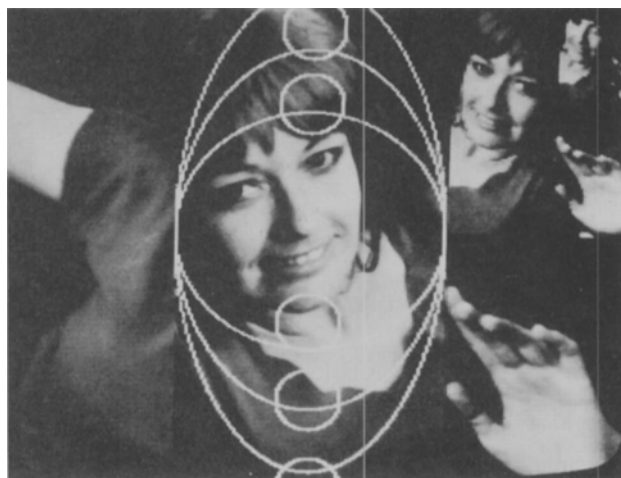
- put video in, get either digital or video out
- put digital in, get digital or video out

Standard features:

- 256 level grayscale
- resolution to 256x512 pixels
- store a single field or full frame of video

And the 274 interfaces easily with most minicomputers.

Specifications cheerfully sent on request.



## Colorado Video Incorporated

Box 928 • Boulder CO 80306 USA • 303/444-3972 • TWX 910-940-3248 (COLO VIDEO BDR)