

Industry News & Educational Activities

Jack Christensen Appointed Managing Editor of *SMPTE Journal*

Jack Christensen has been named Managing Editor of the *SMPTE Journal*, with full responsibility for the administration of the Editorial Department. In addition to his ability as an administrator he has extensive experience as an active editor and writer, including eight years as Senior Editor with the Illuminating Engineering Society. While with the IES he was the recipient of the *Award of Excellence* from the Society for Technical Communication for his editorial coordination of text and graphics of the *Journal of the IES*.

Christensen also served as Associate Editor of *Lighting Design and Application*, a nationally known lighting-architectural magazine, and he was Associate Editor of the *IES Lighting Handbook*. He is the author of numerous articles on architecture and lighting design.



From 1952 through 1956 he served as a communications specialist in the U.S. Air Force. In 1958 he was graduated from the California State College at Long Beach, where he majored in English literature. He also completed several professional courses at Columbia University, with studies in Lighting and Architectural Design and Professional Graphics and Design.

Christensen's most recent assignment before coming to the *SMPTE Journal* was that of Editorial Coordinator for the Mergenthaler Linotype Company where, among other responsibilities, he served as Editor and Writer for the *Linotype News*. For several years, he was also Managing Editor of a nationally known accounting trade magazine.

Christensen has the ability of being able to grasp the essentials in complex publishing situations while understanding the human factors involved in the various operations of an editorial department.

In addition to his interests in graphic arts and book design, he maintains a continuing interest in Elizabethan literature and the ante-bellum period in American history. He also has a strong interest in 18th century music.

He is married and lives in New York City.

SMPTE Chicago Section to Hold All-Day Seminar

The 1981 Film and Related Technologies Seminar sponsored by the SMPTE Chicago Section will be held 9 May 1981 at the Ramada O'Hare Inn near Chicago's O'Hare airport. This will be the sixth annual all-day seminar sponsored by the Chicago Section. Open to non-members as well as members, the seminar provides information not normally available at the regularly scheduled monthly Section meetings. The major emphasis at the Seminar is on papers dealing with practical applications rather than papers that are highly technical.

Members of the committee handling the arrangements for the seminar are: General Chairman, George Halonen, Colburn Film Laboratory; Finance, Mike Baile, Allied Film Laboratory; Program, Ed Blasko, Eastman Kodak; Promotion/Publicity, Byron L. Friend, Telecine Film Studios; Hotel Arrangements, Ted Schulte, Astro Laboratory; Equipment/Projection, Jack Oberhart, Jr., Consultant, and Elmo Clark, Eastman Kodak; Registration, Norman Thelen, EBE Films, and Man-Sung Son, Behrends, Inc.; Sponsorship, Matt Herman, Colburn Film Laboratory; and Hospitality, Chuck Zichterman, Peterson Enterprises.

Further information is available from Byron L. Friend, Box 613, Park Ridge, IL 60068.

Milton Forman has been appointed Chief Consultant for the reconstruction of the Astoria Studios in Queens, N.Y., once the center of East Coast film production for some of the greatest stars and directors of the 1920s.

The Astoria Studios were opened on 20 September 1920 by Adolph Zukor and Jesse Lasky. The new studios, the eastern production headquarters for Famous Players-Lasky (which soon became Paramount Pictures), by 1926 had been the scene for more than 100 silent film productions. Stars who appeared in Astoria films included Gloria Swanson, Rudolph Valentino, Lillian Gish and many more of like fame. Fred and Adele Astaire made their screen tests at Astoria. In 1942 the War Department took over the studio complex, which became the U.S. Army Signal Corps Pictorial Center. The armed services continued to use the Astoria complex until 1970, when the property was declared surplus and turned over to the custody of the City University of New York. In 1978 the main studio building was declared an official New York City Landmark, and during that same year all stages were renovated for commercials, television and feature film productions. The Astoria sound stage is one of the largest in the world.

In 1980 federal assistance was pledged in the form of grants and loans in the sum of \$7.6 million to transform the Astoria studios into a major national motion picture production center. The federal assistance, plus \$500,000 from New York City and over \$7 million in private funding, will be used to renovate the existing sound

stage and for the construction of two new facilities. The plan for the Astoria Studios is to create an integrated studio facility, making available to producers the most modern film and video technology within a single studio complex.

Forman was the consultant for the Samuel Goldwyn Studios in Hollywood when those stages were rebuilt after a disastrous fire.

The 7th Plenary Assembly of the International Telegraph and Telephone Consultative Committee (CCITT) closed 21 November after two weeks of intensive work. The Assembly examined and approved some 200 new recommendations and the revision of over 150 existing recommendations. The Assembly established three new study groups and reactivated a fourth. The three new groups are: Rural Telecommunications; Economic and Technical Impact of Implementing a Regional Satellite Network; and Economic and Technical Aspects of Transition From an Analog to a Digital Telecommunications Network. The study group on Primary Sources of Energy was reactivated.

The CCITT is one of the four permanent divisions of the International Telecommunication Union, which is the specialized agency of the United Nations responsible for telecommunications. There are 154 member countries with headquarters in Geneva. In addition to the CCITT, the divisions are: the General Secretariat, the International Frequency Registration Board (IFRB), and the International Radio Consultative Committee (CCIR).

The University of Southern California has received a gift of \$1.5 million from George Lucas (creator of *Star Wars*, and a USC Cinema alumnus) toward funding new instructional and production facilities for USC Cinema-Television. The estimated cost of the project is \$14 million.

The gift from Lucas will enable USC Cinema-Television to begin construction of a post production facility that will house film and video editing, film and video sound, and the graphics/animation department. In the next few months Lucas intends to provide the major portion of the funding for a Cinema Studios center, the second building in the planned five-building studio complex. In presenting the gift, Lucas said, "The USC film school gave me my start . . . It is logical and appropriate for me as a film producer to support one of the main sources of young talent."

The remaining three buildings in the planned studio complex will be a film stage, a video stage, and a cinema library and research center to house Cinema's large print and film archives.

The Professional Motion Picture Equipment Association (PMPEA) has announced the newly elected officers and Board Members. The new President is Paul Meistrich. Don Civitillo was elected East Coast Vice-President and Ed Phillips is the new West Coast Vice-President. Lee Duncan is continuing to serve a three-year appointment as Secretary/Treasurer.

Chairman of the Board is Grant Loucks. Board members are Nat Tiffin, Jack Behrend, Edwin Clare and Mike Niehenke. Michael Shepard was appointed to fill the vacancy left by former Board member and current President, Paul Meistrich.

David Samuelson was reappointed for another year as European Member at Large.

Further information is available from

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The television set today is becoming a receiving screen for an ever expanding array of sources, including multichannel cable television, pay cable, subscription TV, two-way interacting pay TV, superstations, teletext, home movies on videotape, prerecorded cassettes and now the videodisk, said Herbert S. Schlosser, RCA Executive Vice-President, in an address given at the Indiana University Telecommunications Conference on 10 November.

He said that in addition to entertainment the videodisk has enormous potential for education. He revealed that RCA planned to launch its Selectavision videodisk system (players and prerecorded disks) early in 1981.

Richard Sirinsky has been appointed Marketing Manager of Ampex Corp's Audio-Video Systems Division, succeeding Russ Ide, who has been named Regional Manager of the newly-created Northwest sales region. Sirinsky returned to the Audio-Video Systems Division after a two-year assignment as Vice-President and General Manager of the Europe, Africa and the Middle East areas for Ampex International. In his present post, Sirinsky will develop and implement marketing activities for the division's professional audio and videotape recorders, broadcast cameras, switching systems and computerized editing and video storage systems. He will be located at the corporate headquarters in Redwood City, Calif.

A nonsilver, dielectric recording film, the SO-222, for use in high speed electrostatic plotters, has been developed by Eastman Kodak Co. The film can be used to plot graphic data generated by geophysicists seeking to determine the probable presence of oil and gas. Because the film is based on nonsilver technology, it offers the benefits of film without the need for chemicals and processing equipment. It can be stored under room conditions and handled under normal light.

TRW LSI Products, 2525 E. El Segundo Blvd., El Segundo, CA 90245, has announced plans to move to a new plant in San Diego, Calif. The new 125,000 ft² plant is scheduled for completion in 1982. The new facility, with all the division's activities carried on under one roof, will provide room for expansion. Completion of the building is scheduled for 1982. TRW LSI Products manufactures digital signal processing equipment including multipliers and multiplier-accumulators, video-speed A/D and D/A converters, high speed digital correlators and shift registers.

Klark-Teknik, a British company, manufacturer of signal processing products, has announced the establishment of a new company in the United States, Klark-Teknik Electronics Inc., 262A Eastern Parkway, Farmingdale, NY 11735. The new company will be the exclusive U.S. distributor for Klark-Teknik products as well as Klark-Teknik's new line of Statik Acoustics.

The VHD Disc Manufacturing Company has announced that its manufacturing facility will be located at 2602 McGaw Ave., Irvine, Calif., in

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a 25,000 ft² building. The firm plans to manufacture disks for the new videodisk home systems. Joseph J. McHugh has been appointed Executive Vice-President and Chief Operating Officer for the firm.

Willard K. Bucklen has been appointed Manager, Product Applications for TRW LSI Products, 2525 E. El Segundo Blvd., CA 90245. He began his career with TRW after graduating from the University of California at Los Angeles with a BS and MS degree in engineering. Initially he worked in TRW's Defense and Space Systems Group. In 1977 he transferred to TRW LSI Products. His first assignments at TRW LSI Products were directed toward establishing a video-speed A/D and D/A converter line.

Books, Booklets, Brochures

The Special Kodak Centennial Edition of Studio Light looks at Eastman Kodak's first 100 years from the professional photographer's point of view. Centered on Kodak research, manufacturing and marketing efforts, the *Special Edition* provides modern-day insights into achievements of the past. For example, 35-mm photography can be traced from the first sprocket holes punched in 1899 to accommodate Edison's first motion picture camera, through Kodak research department's discovery of highly sensitizing dyes in 1920, and the resulting 30s films with sufficient speed and image structure to permit considerable enlargement, to the first 35-mm film cassettes introduced with the Kodak Retina

camera in 1934, and Kodak's invention of rare earth glass which made modern camera lenses from zoom to $f/1.4$ possible.

Special attention has been accorded such ongoing Kodak quests as improvements in color films, color papers and the processes required to handle them. The names of such pioneers as Mees, Mannes, Godosky, Capstaff, Speck and Condax mingle with such trademarks as Kodacolor, Kodachrome, Ektachrome, Ektacolor and Vericolor.

A special time-line foldout lists nearly every Kodak move of significance to the professional photographer, plus all important photographic advances prior to 1880.

The *Centennial Issue* is available from IPD Customer Support, Eastman Kodak Co., 343 State St., Rochester, NY 14650.

Case History #437

Electronic News Gathering is one of the toughest environments a microphone will ever encounter. Every mike we've seen has compromised the demand for low handling noise, fine audio quality and virtual indestructibility.

Credit the NBC Electronic Journalism Department/Operations and Engineering in New York for putting the Electro-Voice DO56 shock-mounted omni in the field. Although originally designed as an on-camera entertainment and MC's microphone, NBC found the DO56 to be the microphone that provides an audio signal commensurate with video in real-life crisis situations. In these situations audio often takes a back seat to video,

Electro-Voice DO56 Shock-Mounted Omnidirectional Microphone

resulting in a final product that doesn't accurately reflect the broadcaster's professional standards. NBC discovered that the DO56 takes the

pushes, the shoves, the rubs and finger taps in stride. And when handling *really* gets rough, the DO56's unique internal shock mount virtually eliminates the bell-like clang transmitted by other shock-mounted mikes.

Congratulations to the NBC Electronic Journalism Department in New York. You found the solution - the DO56.

For an in-depth description of this and other case histories, get on the Electro-Voice "Mike Facts" mailing list. Write on your letterhead to Mike Facts, c/o Electro-Voice, 600 Cecil Street, Buchanan, MI 49107.

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Private Television Communications: 1980 and Beyond is a study of the nonbroadcast private television industry conducted by D/J Brush Associates, a management consultant and research firm. It will be available from the publisher, the International Television Association (ITVA), 26 South St., New Providence, NJ 07974, at a price of \$39.95 (\$29.95 for ITVA members). Based on responses to the questionnaire, the corporate and institutional market for the videodisk is at least five years away, the study predicts. "Reading between the lines we see a great amount of unresolved doubt about the videodisk which is due to the newness of the concept and the fact that there are now three major incompatible formats on the market," according to Douglas Brush.

The Annotated Directory of Parts and Services for Audio-Visual Equipment is available from the Association of Audio-Visual Technicians, P.O. Box 9716, Denver, CO 80209, at a price of \$20. (\$10 for AAVT and EPIE members). There is in addition a \$2.00 shipping and handling charge. The purpose of the *Directory* is to assist audiovisual service technicians locate parts and service sources for audiovisual equipment. It now lists some 2000 brand names of equipment and their current parts sources. Also included is a listing of sources of specialty items used by service technicians and a listing (names and addresses) of many associations involved in audiovisual technology.

The Cohu Environmental 2856C/ISIT Low Light Level Television Camera is described in a data sheet available upon request from Cohu, Inc., Electronic Div., P.O. Box 623, San Diego, CA 92112. The camera is highly sensitive and weather resistant. It is designed for use in light levels ranging from extremely dim, such as a cloudy moonless night, to extremely bright, such as noonday sunlight.

SMPTE Conferences

25-30 October 1981
123rd Technical Conference and Equipment Exhibit, Century Plaza Hotel, Los Angeles.

5-6 February 1982
16th Television Conference, Opryland Hotel, Nashville.

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