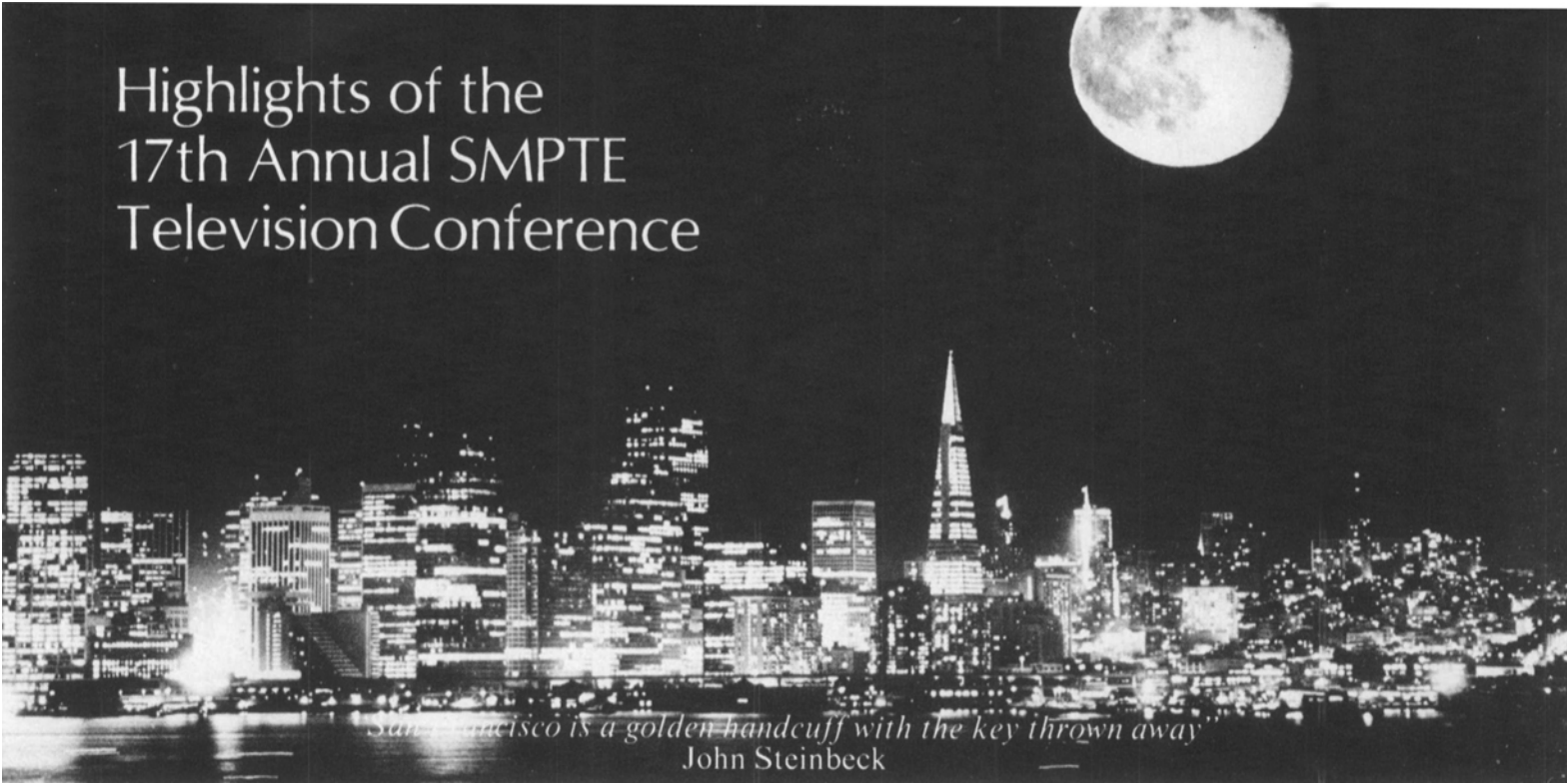


Highlights of the 17th Annual SMPTE Television Conference



San Francisco is a golden handcuff with the key thrown away
John Steinbeck

Union Square, cable cars, the Golden Gate Bridge, and foggy nights in Chinatown will provide a picturesque backdrop for the 17th Annual SMPTE Television Conference to be held in beautiful San Francisco, February 4-5, 1983.

Not to be overshadowed by the glamour of the city, the Television Conference promises to be among the best TV Conferences ever, with an excellent Papers Program arranged by Chairman David K. Fibush, Ampex Corp. Fibush has grouped an extensive presentation of technical works under the theme "Pictures of the Future."

The Equipment Exhibit is also expected to be the most comprehensive in recent years. It will feature equipment directly related to the technology presented in the technical sessions.

Among the other highlights of the conference will be the Get-Together Luncheon on Friday, February 4th, with speaker Boris Townsend, Head of Engineering Information Services, IBA. Known as much for his knowledgeability as for his wit, Mr. Townsend's presentation will be of great interest to all.

The Hotel St. Francis

The Conference will be held at the newly-renovated Hotel St. Francis, a San Francisco landmark since 1904, and a staunch survivor of the earthquake and fire of 1906. Located in the heart of the city's social, theatrical, and shopping areas, the St. Francis is

equipped with excellent conference facilities and several elegant restaurants and clubs, all sure to make the Conference a productive and memorable one. Victor's, a richly appointed dining room on the 32nd floor, specializes in the light enhancements of *nouvelle cuisine*. The Compass Rose, a grand bar with wood paneling, ornate ceilings, and Oriental artifacts, is a convivial rendezvous for light lunches, late suppers, and cocktails, while the oak-paneled, turn-of-the-century English Grill offers one of San Francisco's most extensive "fresh catch" menus. There is also a dance club called Oz, with a panoramic view of the city and bay, a spacious dance floor, and a superb sound system.

Outside the hotel, the entire city waits to be explored in the free hours away from the program and exhibits. Of special interest to history buffs and connoisseurs will be a wine tour of the Napa Valley, arranged by Judi Puckett-Fibush and Charles E. Anderson, both of Ampex Corp.

Napa Valley Wine Tour

On Sunday, February 6, following the Television Conference, a bus will leave the St. Francis Hotel at 8 a.m., bound for the Beringer Vineyards, the first stop on the tour. Established in 1876, this is the oldest continuously-operating winery in the Napa Valley. The Beringer home, a 17-room mansion called the Rhine House, has been designated a California landmark.

Behind it, caves carved out nearly 100 years ago still hold casks of aging wine. These are viewed on 20-minute guided tours, which terminate at Rhine House for wine tasting. The wine list includes a number of varietal and generic table wines, including some bottled under the Los Hermanos label.

Next, the tour will stop at a nearby inn for a buffet lunch consisting of various cold meats, cheeses, and salads, then continue on to the Christian Brothers Vineyards at Mont La Salle, where the Christian Brothers have been making premium wines for almost 100 years. Here the production of table and sacramental wines will be on view to visitors, who are given complete guided tours that end with a visit to the Mont La Salle tasting rooms to sample a wide selection of wines.

Reservations

Seats for the tours are limited to 49, so those who want to be sure to come along should make their reservations early, by enclosing a check or money order for \$23 (non-refundable) with each request for reservations, addressed to SMPTE Headquarters. Reservation forms for the Conference will be mailed to members in late fall, and it is recommended that reservation requests for the wine tour be made at the same time. A complete list of rates for accommodations at the Hotel St. Francis, and a price list for the Conference itself, will follow in a coming issue of the *Journal*.

—Mark Ferris Askew

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