

Biographical Sketch

Howard T. La Zare SMPTE Vice-President for Motion Picture Affairs 1982-1983



of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

Howard T. La Zare, Vice-President of Engineering for Consolidated Film Industries, Hollywood, is the SMPTE Vice-President for Motion Picture Affairs.

La Zare was graduated cum laude from West Coast University, Los Angeles, with the degree of Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering in 1969. In 1970, from the same university, he was granted the B.S. degree in Mechanical Engineering, graduating magna cum laude. His entire professional career has been with Consolidated Film Industries. He was instrumental in the development of the computerized light valve monitoring system for motion-picture printing, which earned a Class II Academy Award for CFI in 1973. With this system, all three color light valves on CFI's high-speed printers are connected through a CFI-designed circuitry and multiplexing unit to an IBM System/7 computer; errors, even those well below the acuity level of human vision, can be instantly detected by the computer system. The system is described in a paper co-authored by La Zare in the October 1973 *Journal* ("An On-Line Light Valve Monitoring System").

In 1981 La Zare and Leonard Sokolow received an Academy Class II Award for the design, engineering, and development of the Stroboscan projection system. The Stroboscan viewer is a shutterless non-intermittent film viewer for continuous print inspection at the take-off end of a processing machine. It utilizes a synchronous pulsed light which provides a sharp, steady, brilliant picture.

La Zare is a registered Professional Engineer in the State of California. He is a member of the American Society of Cinematographers and the Academy

SMPTE Activities

La Zare joined the SMPTE in 1971 and was made a Fellow in 1975. He is a member of the Nominating Committee, the duties of which are to recommend nominations to the Board of Governors for the annual elections of officers and governors. He is Chairman of the Herbert T. Kalmus Gold Medal Award Committee. He is also a member of the Fellow Membership Committee, the Progress Medal Award Committee, the Committee on Laboratory Services Technology, the Educational Advisory Committee, and the Papers and Publications Advisory Committee. He served as Conference Chairman at the 123rd Technical Conference (Los Angeles, 1981) and Co-Program Chairman at the 121st. At the 117th Conference he was Session Chairman for the Laboratory Practices Session, and at the 119th Conference he served as both Session Chairman and Topic Chairman for the Session on Unconventional Imaging Systems. Among his other services, La Zare was Chairman of the Hollywood Section for the 1979-1981 term, a Manager for the 1977-1979 term, and Secretary-Treasurer in 1979.

La Zare is one of the pillars of the SMPTE. His services to the Society go far beyond the offices he has held. His enthusiasm for the Society and all it represents is evident whenever he speaks of his experiences as a member and what the SMPTE can do for its members — both young and old, but perhaps especially for the young who are starting a career which has hazards as well as rewards. "Membership in this tremendous organization," he said, "carries with it both responsibilities and privileges, but the privileges — the

benefits — are great." He pointed out that one of the many benefits of the Society is the opportunity of associating with the leaders in the fields of science and technology which the Society serves.

He mentioned the SMPTE Conferences, emphasizing that their importance cannot be overestimated: "Papers presented at the sessions provide information on the latest technological advances, and the social activities bring together persons of like interests to their mutual benefit." He added, "and for those who cannot attend the conferences, the *SMPTE Journal* keeps them informed about technological advances and Society activities." He pointed out, also, that "the SMPTE is becoming more and more international in scope, thereby extending its influence throughout the world for the benefit, not only of its members, but of all those who use or are affected by the many new developments for entertainment and information."

Hobbies

La Zare plays chess; in fact, when asked about his leisure-time activities, he mentioned chess first, then backgammon, tennis, swimming, and electronics. Electronics, however, he considers an avocation, of more importance than a hobby.

Family

La Zare's wife, Phyllis, shares his interest in the SMPTE and has several times been a member of the Spouses' Program Committee. They have two children, a son, Adam, now 20 years old, and a daughter, Kim, 17. Adam is attending the Golden Gate University in San Francisco and is also running for the State Assembly (11th District). La Zare said that his son would be 21 before the election and so would be eligible to hold office. His son is also co-authoring, with his professor, a textbook on macro economics.

La Zare's daughter, Kim, loves horses, especially her own horse, BJ. At her very first horse show she and BJ won a blue ribbon.

In addition to horses, the La Zare family loves dogs, especially two who are "practically members of the family," a weimaraner named Fubar, who loves to swim and enjoys the pool, and a toy collie named Chipper.

It is obvious that with the CFI, the SMPTE, his leisure-time interests, and his family, Howard La Zare certainly enjoys a well-rounded life.