
SECTION MEETINGS



Richard A. Sheffield, CEI/Panavision (L), and John Rusche, Detroit Section Chairman.

Detroit, September 21 — The Panacam reflex electronic camera was the subject of the meeting at the Victor Duncan Facilities in Madison Heights. Richard A. Sheffield, CEI/Panavision, gave a detailed description of the new video production camera. He explained that the new camera uses Panavision lenses. Other features he described include a built-in SMPTE time-code generator, a special optical system to give the same angle of view on video as on 35-mm film, continuous automatic exposure with a tone capture iris, and reflex viewing. — John Rusche (Chairman), Sandy Corp., 16025 Northland Dr., Southfield, MI 48075.

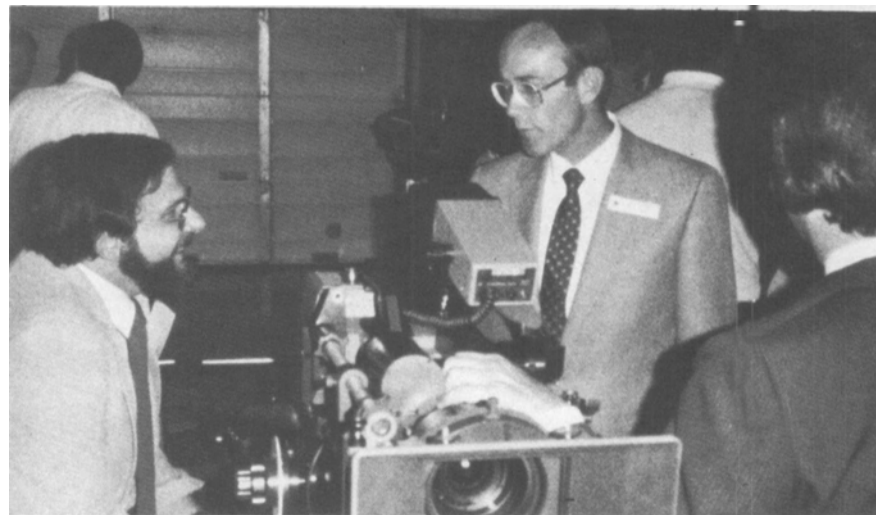
Hollywood, October 14 — Israel Switzer, Consultant to Planned Cable TV Installations, gave a presentation entitled "Cable Television — State of the Art." The audience of 175 members and guests thoroughly enjoyed the presentation. Switzer gave a brief review of the history of cable television, beginning in the 1950's, and up to and including present-day systems being used around the world. He closed his presentation with some of his views regarding the future of this medium.

A lively and enthusiastic question-and-answer period attested to the interest of the audience. The meeting was preceded by a dinner at Chadney's Restaurant. — Jack Spring (Secretary-Treasurer), Eastman Kodak Co., P.O. Box 38939, Hollywood, CA 90038.

Philadelphia, October 5 — Ikegami's EC-35 camera, which blends film and video technology, was the subject of a dual presentation by Herman Schkolnick and John T. Lynch, both of Ikegami Electronics. The presentation covered the five major points that were taken into consideration

when designing the camera: (1) it must generate a quality product; (2) it must be flexible and responsive to creative needs; (3) it must save time; (4) must be acceptable to the photographer; (5) it must be small, flexible, and lightweight for location work. Schkolnick pointed out that another important point was that the camera must simulate the film look. A hands-on demonstration followed the presentation. The meeting, held at the TV Production Facilities of Penn Mutual Life Insurance, was attended by 35 members and guests. — Michael Muderick (Secretary-Treasurer), Penn Mutual Life Insurance Co., 101 Earlington Rd., Havertown, PA 19083.

Nashville, September 30 — The theme of the meeting, held jointly with the Nashville Chapter of the Audio Engineering Society, was "Audio Consoles." Claude Hill, Harrison Systems, showed the different mod-



Ken Fretz, Sales Engineer, John Rusche, and Victor Duncan examining the Panacam camera.

ules that make up the 32-input consoles and emphasized the compactness of the newer units that take up less space in the studio. The discussion that followed was centered on stereo sound for films and video. He touched on some of the problems of stereo sound, especially in large motion-picture theaters. For example, he said, the audio mixer sits in the center of a large screening room during the stereo mix and it may sound great; but since two-thirds of the theater audience does not sit in the center, the stereo effect becomes less enjoyable.

The meeting, held at Harrison Systems, ended with a tour of the facilities, with Harrison engineers explaining how each step was monitored during the building of audio equipment. — Dixie Lee Parman (Secretary-Treasurer), Kingswood Productions/UMCom, 810 12th Ave. South, Nashville, TN 37203.

Rochester, August 11 — The meeting consisted of a guided tour of the Radio and Communications Museum in East Bloomfield, NY. Bruce Kelly, who had been an organizer and motivator for the Antique Wireless Association and the museum, described and demonstrated much of the equipment on display. Early equipment, from the first spark gap transmitters and cat's whisker detector/receivers, early DeForest tube-type transmitters, regenerative and superheterodyne receivers, and frequency modulation transmitters and receivers were shown.

In the television section, early mechanical scan and electronic scan television were demonstrated, as well as electronic scan with mechanical scan for color. Of particular interest was the collection of Zworykin's early iconoscope tubes and the first portable television camera. The 35 members and guests found this to be an interesting and informative tour.

The meeting was preceded by a dinner at historic Halloway House. — Robert N. McFadden (Secretary-Treasurer), Singer Education Systems, 3750 Monroe Ave., Rochester, NY 14603.

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Rochester, September 15 — The September meeting started with an informal dinner at the Just Around the Corner Restaurant. The meeting followed at the JAM Productions facility, hosted by John A. Marszalek, President, and the JAM technical staff, with demonstrations of recently acquired equipment. The capability and flexibility of the Sony BVE 5000 1-in. editing system in conjunction with the Sony BVH 1100A, which has a dynamic tracking recording system, was demonstrated by the staff.

A Chyron IV Graphic System character-generator presentation was made by Tom Olivero, Chyron Company. Its dual channel Digiflex character generator capabilities with full screen background, large color palette, drawing table accessory, and many special effects were demonstrated singly and in combination.

Following this, Al Frede, Eastman Kodak, presented segments from a self-instructional program on a videodisc, written at Eastman Kodak and produced by JAM Productions. The interactive program provides for branching and reinforcement, matching the student's needs. The program was on a DVI disc, played on a Pioneer player in conjunction with an Apple II computer.

The meeting was attended by 43 members and their guests. — Robert N. McFadden (Secretary-Treasurer), Singer Education Systems, 3750 Monroe, Ave., Rochester, NY 14603.

Philadelphia, September 16 — Henry Lassige, President of Alpha Video and Electronics, described the Panavision Panacam reflex video camera for the 25 members and guests assembled at E. J. Stewart Video. Lassige told the audience that the camera accepts 100 different accessories and has a reflex viewfinder for more critical focus. The camera also has an accessory to heat the eyepiece for cold-weather shooting to avoid fogging. The camera is NTSC/PAL-compatible and has constant auto-registration. Other features



The San Francisco skyline seen from the deck of the *Alert*.

include a built-in microprocessor. A demo tape was shown with side-by-side comparison of the Panavision and the Panacam-CEI combination. The camera is a joint venture of Panavision and CEI. — Michael Muderick (Secretary-Treasurer), Penn Mutual Life Insurance Company, 101 Earlington Rd., Havertown, PA 19083.

San Francisco, September 24 — The weather gods were watching over the San Francisco Section when, in the middle of an unseasonably heavy rainstorm, they provided a break in the weather for our September meeting, when 65 members and guests gathered for dinner on San Francisco's Pier 33. Following dinner, the group boarded Highland Film Laboratories research vessel, the *Alert*, for a three-hour trip on the bay. The evening turned out to be one of the warmest and clearest of the season.

Captain Barry Brose spent much of the trip on deck discussing the vessel's history and its current and future projects. An observation stop was made at the Tiburon net depot, where the ship is expected to be berthed in the near future.

The cruise ended around 11 p.m. with the *Alert's* return to her temporary berth at Pier 31 on the San Francisco waterfront. The next morning members awoke to heavy rains all around the bay, which showed how much influence Barry Brose, Highland Labs, and the *Alert* have with the weatherman. — Glen Pensinger (Chairman), San Jose University, 958 Jeanne Ave., San Jose, CA 94303.

Toronto, September 14 — Humorous and award-winning commercials were discussed by Bill Burak, Cadence Company, with emphasis on the non-technical aspects. Following Burak's presentation, Tim Laurence, Cadence, stressed the need of "great creative input" for making successful commercials, noting that commercials are "not news, not sports, not drama." He said that a commercial must be interesting, attractive, to the point, and must project some kind of magic with good picture, good sound effects, good lighting, etc., all in 30 seconds. Technical ability and creative planning are also essential, he emphasized. About 20 minutes of commercials which had been broadcast throughout the world were shown, including commercials for Sony, Coca Cola, VW, Citroen, Olympus camera, and Schweppes.

A brief question-and answer period followed the presentations, after which refreshments were served.

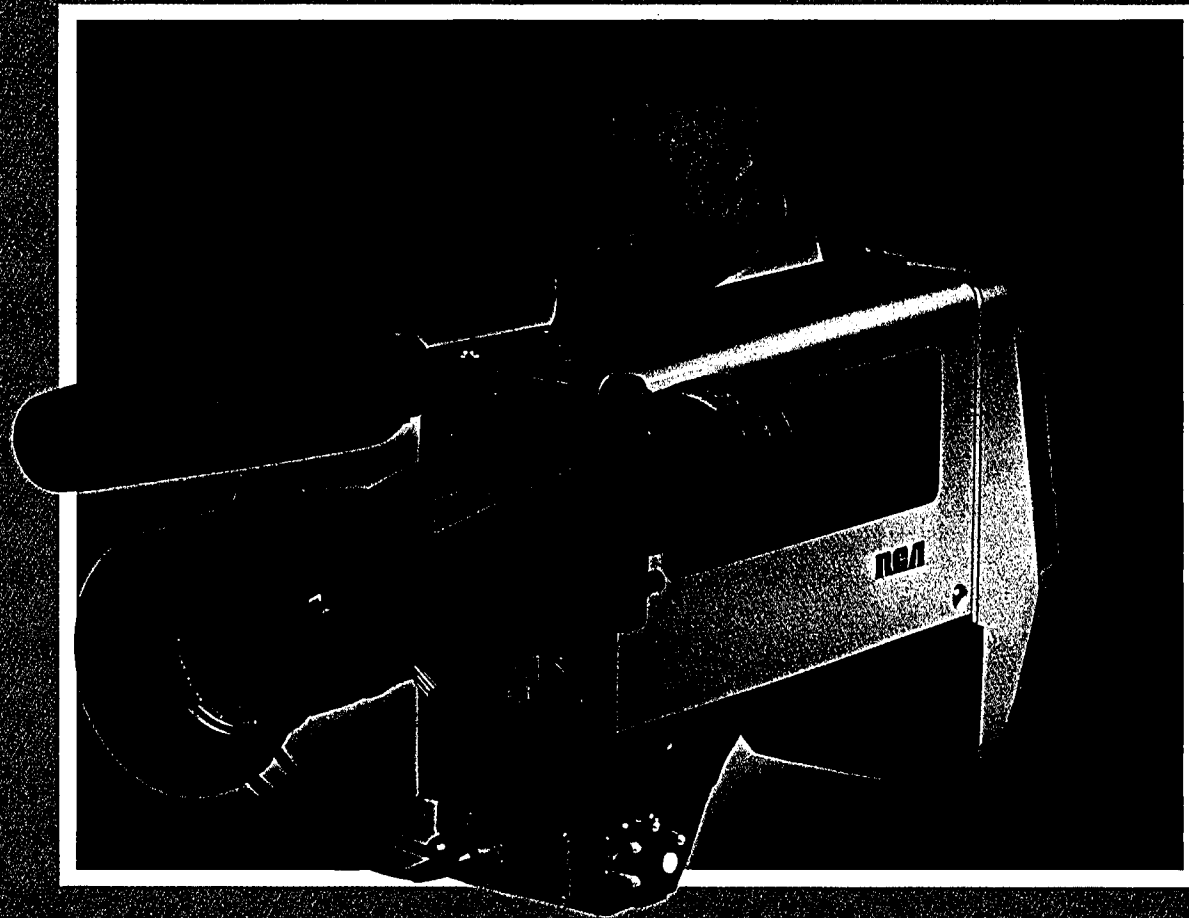
The second part of the program was a presentation by Bob Quaile, Panasonic, on the NV-8950 VHS VCR, explaining features such as still, slow, and 4X speed without noisy bar owing to the incorporation of piezodynamic tracking heads. A timer indicating the remaining tape time is a new feature. A fourth generation tape was demonstrated.

Wine and cheese, provided by VTR Productions Ltd., where the meeting was held, were served following the presentation. A total of 135 members and guests attended the meeting. — Fung Lam (Secretary-Treasurer), Sony of Canada Ltd., 411 Gordon Baker Rd., Willowdale, Ont., Canada M2H 2S6.



Dinner on San Francisco's Pier 33.

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