
SECTION MEETINGS

Chicago, January 11 — Barry Wolf, a noted video producer who has a nationwide reputation, rather surprised the audience when he said he was no longer attempting to "strive for sharpness and detail in a video picture" but that he is using the talents of motion-picture people, particularly motion-picture cameramen, in obtaining a "feel" for a scene instead of directing his attention to how the scene will reproduce on television.

Wolf showed several samples of his work, pointing out the difference between his work ten years ago, a few years ago, and today. He gave as his opinion that his customers can now be easily convinced that the contributions of a motion-picture cameraman in the video field is tremendous, and that videotape need not look sharp, clean, and bright in order to convey a thought or a mood.

One of the video engineers in the audience asked a question that seems to be on the mind of everyone in the audience: "How can you be sure that a scene shot without regard to sharpness can be televised at a later date?" With the support of one of the engineers in the audience, Wolf explained that if the viewer is carefully calibrated with a waveform monitor, there is no reason for concern because if it looks good in the viewer it will transmit on television. Wolf's theme was that too many video people have ignored for too long the subject of the picture, instead making all pictures conform to waveform monitors and vectorscopes.

The film people in the audience were obviously gratified that someone of Barry Wolf's reputation is cognizant of the cameraman's contribution to the finished video product. Not only did a lively discussion ensue, but after the meeting was adjourned, many lively conversations were held on the subject.

This noteworthy meeting was held at Video Dub of Illinois with an attendance of 56 members and guests. — Norman Thelen (Secretary-Treasurer), Encyclopaedia Britannica Education Corp., 8513 W. North Terrace, Niles, IL 60648.

Detroit, December 7 — The meeting, held in the Detroit Science Center's Omnimax theater, opened with *Hail Columbia*, the Omnimax film showing the launch of the space shuttle *Columbia*. After the film, the younger members of the audience left to explore the rest of the Science Center, while the adults enjoyed a presentation of the technical aspects of both Imax and Omnimax by William Shaw, Engineering Vice-President of Imax Systems Corp.

He explained to the audience that

Imax/Omnimax uses 70-mm film running horizontally at 336 ft/min to provide a projectable image approximately 10 times larger than the standard 35-mm film image. Everything except the film size is unique, and several innovations were required to make the system work. The most difficult problem, he said, was designing a projector that could pull down (pull across) the 15-perforation-wide, 70-mm-high frame in approximately 10 msec without destroying the film. The ultimate solution was the development of a "rolling gate" that gently places each frame on a register pin for projection.

Following the presentation, members of the audience toured the projection facilities. The enormous projector, which handles 4-ft rolls of film, contains an elevator to move the projection head up from the projection room to the center of the theater. A 12,000-W, water-cooled, xenon lamp-house travels up with the projection head. — Charles Nairn (Secretary-Treasurer), Communications Technology, Inc., 909 Fisher Bldg., Detroit, MI 48202.

Hollywood, December 2 — The annual December Family Program, sponsored by Walt Disney Studios, was held at the Walt Disney Studio Theater. The pièce de résistance of the program was the showing of

the Disney film *Tron*. The attendance was limited to SMPTE members and their families; a total of 550 persons attended the event. — L. J. Spring (Secretary-Treasurer), Eastman Kodak Co., 6706 Santa Monica Blvd., Hollywood, CA 90038.

Nashville, December 16 — Sixteen members braved unusually cold temperatures to hear Jim Solomon, Motion Picture Labs, Memphis, present a paper which addressed the correlation between lens *f*-stops and laboratory printer-points. Mr. Solomon pointed out that the effect of one printer-point of exposure on a reversal product can be vastly different than a one printer-point change in a negative system. He went on to explain that, when a producer is communicating with his lab about exposure, he should use only the *f*-stop system and leave the of printer-points to the internal staff of the laboratory. Part two of the program was a screening of the winners of the international Clio Awards film, a review of the year's best "interruptions to Programming." The meeting was held at Nashville State Technical Institute in the auditorium on White Bridge Road. — Harry D. Heuer (Section Chairman), Eastman Kodak Co., 4596 Crump St., Memphis, TN 38138.

New England, December 7 — Frank Shufelt, Ampex Corp., demonstrated a working VPR-80 VTR for the audience of 70 persons gathered at Howard Johnson's Motor Lodge in Newton, Mass. He followed the demonstration with a description of the newer VPR-3 teleproduction editing VTR, illustrating his presentation with a

Chicago All-Day Meeting to be Held May 7, 1983

The eighth annual special All-Day Meeting of the Chicago Section will be held on May 7, 1983 at the Ramada O'Hare Inn, 6000 N. Mannheim Rd., Des Plaines, Ill.

The theme of the meeting will be motion picture films and related technologies. Speakers will include Judith Schwan, Eastman Kodak Co., Frank Reinking, Eastman Kodak Co.; Chuck Nairn, Com Tec; Aaron Gordon, AGS&R Studio; Irwin Young, Du Art Film Laboratories, Inc.; a representative from Allied Film Laboratories, Inc.; and Rob Halle, Rosco Labs. Some of the topics covered will be "Film and the Future," "New Eastman Color Negative Films 5249 and 7291," "Contemporary Limitations of Motion Picture Sound," "Conversion from 35-mm Slides to Motion Picture Film or Tape," "Film Speed and Quality — Compared to What?" "Film or Tape — Production Consideration," and "Materials for Balancing Light Sources in Film and Video."

Following registration and coffee at 8:00 a.m., the program will run from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., including lunch. At 6:30 p.m. participants are invited to a banquet reception, followed by dinner and dancing at 8:00 p.m.

To qualify for special rates, advance registration for the meeting should be sent before May 2nd to: Norman Thelen, Encyclopaedia Britannica Educational Corp., 425 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60611. Advance registration will be at the reduced rates of \$25.00 for SMPTE members and \$35.00 for non-members. Registration rates at the conference will be \$30.00 for members and \$40.00 for non-members.