
SECTION MEETINGS

Atlanta, September 12 — Jim Richardson and the staff of the Georgia Pacific Corp.'s Teleproduction Center presented a program highlighting the activities of this impressive new facility. Georgia Pacific has equipped this studio to conform to the highest broadcast standards. A videotape showing excellent examples of the production work going on in the new studio was shown to a group of 33 members and guests. — John F. Swanson (Secretary-Treasurer), Cox Communications Inc., 1601 W. Peachtree St. N.E., Atlanta, GA 30309.

Atlanta, October 11 — The program opened with an excellent film showing sequences of skiing, surfing, hang gliding, sky diving, and frisbee throwing. Following the film, Section Chairman William Reddick presented a detailed description of the SMPTE's theater quality evaluation program. His description included a full explanation of the program's history and purpose. He also explained how to use the evaluation form. Following Reddick's presentation, Ed Graham, University of Georgia, and Bob Baker, Eastman Kodak Co., gave an update of the available SMPTE test materials for motion-picture and television use, and explained their role in assistance to the sections. — John F. Swanson (Secretary-Treasurer), Cox Communications, Inc., 1601 W. Peachtree St., N.E., Atlanta, GA 30309.

Chicago, October 12 — Larry Ocher, vice-president of engineering for WTTW-TV, described a decade of struggles, maneuvers, endless hearings, and tests, that led to WTTW-TV being granted a license to broadcast a multichannel aural signal to accompany their visual programming. Although the Japanese have been commercially using this technology for nearly four years, Chicago's PBS affiliate is the first station to continuously broadcast TV with stereo sound in the U.S., Ocher said.

Telesonics, the licensing adjunct to WTTW in this technological endeavor, succeeded against two other contenders in designing and documenting what may be certified by the FCC as the standard format.

Using several graphs and block diagrams, Ocher explained the anatomy and spectral position of his company's multichannel design. Some outside detractors, he said, have suggested that stereo experiments are merely a marketing ploy to sell home television sets. What was apparent, however, to nearly everyone present, is how unlimited are the practical and creative

applications. Ocher stressed that, although hardware implementation will be left to qualified manufacturers, the potential of programming for this technology is open to all. Anyone who tries perspective audio-follow-video production, or experiments with multichannel sports, or who scripts aural panorama manipulations, will be pioneering stereo TV techniques. — Paul R. Markun (Secretary-Treasurer), Skylite Communications, Inc., 625 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60611.

Dallas/Fort Worth, September 25 — The Fort Worth Museum of Science and History, in conjunction with Imax Systems Corp., Toronto, were hosts for the meeting. Bill Shaw, vice-president, engineering and operations, Imax Corp., gave a presentation on IMAX and OMNIMAX theater design. He covered acoustics, projection, camera, and film requirements for the system. He also discussed upcoming projects including the placement of an IMAX camera on the NASA space shuttle. The museum presented two films demonstrating the IMAX format, *Hail Columbia*, and *Oceans*, accompanied by a multi-image slide presentation on the history of Fort Worth. — Sam Stalos (Secretary-Treasurer), Spectrum Image System, 11034 Dennis, Dallas, TX 75229.

Detroit, September 22 — Tom Landgraf and Ernie de los Santos, Sony Corp., gave a presentation on Sony's Beta Hi Fi and PCM audio. The Beta Hi Fi utilizes an FM carrier to record two channels along with the picture and normal audio channels. A Sony microcomputer was used for the graphic display. The meeting, held at the Sheraton Oaks amphitheater, Novi, Mich., was attended by 70 members and guests. After a lengthy question-and-answer period, the meeting moved to the Sony exhibit area where cameras, video recorders, and editing equipment were displayed. — Stan Nalski (Secretary-Treasurer), Film Craft Laboratories, Inc., 66 Sibley St., Detroit, MI 48201.

Detroit, October 18 — George Panagiotou, Cool-Light Corp., gave a presentation on the Cool-Light concept and the technology behind it. He explained that this new kind of lighting can achieve accurate color temperature and a heat-free beam through the precise control of reflective wavelengths. Particular emphasis was placed on day-light balance and its extensive use in film production on the West Coast. A lengthy question-and-answer period followed. — Stan Nalski (Secretary-Trea-

surer), Film Craft Laboratories, Inc., 66 Sibley St., Detroit, MI 48201.

Nashville, October 10 — Larry See, camera products manager, Sony Broadcast Co., demonstrated Sony's BVW-3 Beta Cam system, and the BVW-10 studio playback machine for an audience of 32 at WTVF-TV. The system consists of a single-piece, three-tube camera and 1/2-in. Beta recorder combination. The system has an improved SNR and higher resolution, plus better image definition. The audience seemed genuinely impressed with the camera/recorder presentation and responded with many questions at the close of the meeting. — Bill R. Watson (Secretary-Treasurer), 640 Merritt, Memphis, TN 38128.

Rochester, September 14 — Dr. Brian J. Thompson, Dean of the College of Engineering and Applied Science, University of Rochester, gave a presentation of holography which included the historical background, its current state, and applications. Uses in optical image formation include displays, photography of transient events, microscopy, and particle-size analysis. Non-image forming applications include interferometry, optical elements, and spatial frequency filters. Illustrations of optical image formation included displays, slides of transient events, and microscopy. A film showing industrial applications was screened. — Robert J. Erskine (Secretary-Treasurer), 168 Vinedale Ave., Rochester, NY 14622.

Rocky Mountain, September 19 — The kick-off meeting of the 1983-84 program had a festive air because of the opportunity to tour the new Lawrence Phipps IMAX Theatre at City Park. The program began with a verbal presentation by hosts, Mark B. Peterson, executive manager, Imax Corp.; Richard Vincent, general manager; and Steven Schwartz, producer/director. The presentations included historical background on the beginnings of this new Colorado theater and some of the problems faced in redesigning the old auditorium to accommodate IMAX and the multi-image presentations. Existing programs and future plans for the theater's operation were described. In addition, some insights were given on the production of *Denver Currents*, a 24-projector multi-image presentation, and two IMAX films, *To Fly* and *Silent Sky*. After this spectacular experience, we were invited to tour the projection booth, and were given the opportunity of having a close-up view of the IMAX projector, multi-image equipment, and the theater sound system. The 150 members and guests were thoroughly awed and entertained. Following the tour, refreshments were served. — Donna D. Zingelman (Secretary-Treasurer), Audio Visual Concepts, 558 South Swadley St., Lakewood, CO 80228.

San Francisco, September 16 — Seagoing media support was the topic for the meeting. Seventy-eight members and guests met for dinner at the Pier Inn before boarding Highland Laboratory's research vessel, the *Alert*, for the evening's program. Owner and skipper, Barry Brose, traced the *Alert*'s history since her decommissioning by the Coast Guard and purchase by Highland Laboratory. The ship has had a varied career, including such diverse activities as Bay pollution studies and CBS News documentary production.

The *Alert*'s participation in media events over the years was traced by a series of videotapes that were shown below decks in the galley. Following Brose's presentation, visitors toured the ship while it went for a two-hour cruise from Pier 31 in San Francisco, under Bay Bridge, around Angel Island, and back past Tiburon and Sausalito. All those present expressed appreciation for Highland Laboratory's generosity, and agreed that this was one of the most outstanding events arranged by the San Francisco Section. — Glen Pensinger (Chairman), San Jose University, 958 Jeanne Ave., San Jose, CA 94304.

Toronto, September 20 — Leonard Green, assistant director, technical and production services, National Film Board of Canada, spoke on "The National Film Board: Past and Present." He gave an interesting summary of many of the highlights in the history of the National Film Board's technical operations. Complementing his paper, Green made excellent use of slides. The visuals consisted of two synchronized, side-by-side frames, often showing a picture and explanatory material simultaneously. The presentation was both informative and entertaining, as he described some of the unusual conditions prevailing during the early days of the Board. At the close of his talk, Green answered a number of questions from the audience. Following the presentation, a reception was provided by VTR Productions Ltd., and guided tours of the various operations of VTR Productions and Eastern Sound were conducted. — Howard E. Wilkinson (Past Chairman), Canadian Broadcasting Corp., P.O. Box 500, Terminal "A," Toronto, Ont., Canada M5W 1E6.

Washington, DC, September 27 — The meeting was held at WNVC and WNVT-TV, Falls Church, Va., with an attendance of 40 members and guests. A tour of the facility was followed by a discussion of the history and objectives of both stations, presented by Dan Ward, general manager, WNVC-TV. WNVT is an educational television station, servicing the schools of northern Virginia. WNVC is a public television station (not PBS) covering federal, state, and local affairs. Both stations are non-profit. — Arthur Florack (Publicity Chairman, Washington, DC Section).

NEWS

Audio Engineering Society Holds 74th Technical Meeting

The 74th Technical Meeting of the Audio Engineering Society was held October 8-12, 1983, at the New York Hilton Hotel. This was an unusually rewarding meeting — more than 70 papers were presented at 10 technical sessions. Nine workshops were conducted, and there were special events, including a digital audio tutorial seminar and a compact disk presentation. In addition, a well-attended equipment exhibit, which filled the entire exhibit area, featured the latest products of 50 manufacturers.

The theme of the meeting was "Exploring the Digital and Analog Domains of Today and Tomorrow." Topics of the technical sessions were: Digital Recording and Broadcasting; Signal Processing — Analog; Studio Design; Sound Reinforcement; Loudspeakers — Network Considerations; Loudspeakers — Transducers and Low-Frequency System Alignments; Signal Processing — Digital; Psychoacoustics and Subjective Testing; Test and Measurement; Disk Recording and Multichannel Sound.

The nine workshops covered Hands-On Digital; Economics of Operating a Recording Studio; Microphone Techniques for Stereo Video Production; SMPTE Code and Synchronizing; Console Troubleshooting; Audio Production Techniques for Major Motion Pictures; Multitrack Tape Machine Maintenance; Recording Techniques for the Digital Age; and Grounding and Shielding.

Among the special events, the digital audio tutorial seminar conducted by Ken Pohlmann, University of Miami, Fla., provided information on many aspects of digital technology. The Monday afternoon workshop on SMPTE code and synchronizing stressed the practical approach. The workshop included a panel discussion moderated by Richard Mack, National Recording Studios/Video Center, New York, which was followed by simultaneous hands-on equipment demonstrations.

The workshop on audio production techniques for major motion pictures, chaired by Tomlinson Holman, Lucasfilm Ltd., was held at the Ziegfeld Theater. The workshop covered recording and mixing techniques for the dialog, music, and sound effects on a motion-picture soundtrack. As an illustration, the first reel of *Star Wars*, with the original production sound, was played to show how much work was required to produce the finished product. Next, the finished version was shown, then the production pro-

cess was explained in detail, with slides and film illustrating the presentation.

Presentation Systems for Film and Television, a 14-week course sponsored by the USC School of Cinema-Television and the SMPTE Hollywood Section has been announced by Don McCrosky, Hollywood Section's education committee chairman. Classes will begin Wednesday, January 11, 1984, and will be held on Wednesday evenings through April 18.

The course will examine modern presentation systems for film and television from very large screen theater and stadium displays for entertainment and sports, to small screen delivery systems. There will be special emphasis on related sound systems and the latest technological developments in film and video formats for instructional, industrial, and scientific applications, including teleconferencing systems, scanning systems for medical and technical information, interactive video disk systems, surround visuals, multimedia, and other presentation systems.

The Massachusetts Institute of Technology has announced plans to establish an Interactive Video Laboratory. Equipment has been donated by Ampex Corp. Long a leader in developing new technologies in film and video, MIT intends to explore possibilities for computer/video systems to be used interactively with human beings in multimedia performance.

The RCA Solid State Technology Center has been transferred to the Government Systems Div. in a move to strengthen RCA's position in the areas of aerospace and defense. The Solid State Technology Center, located in Somerville, N.J., employs approximately 200 engineers and support personnel. Its principal function is to translate basic research efforts of RCA Laboratories into various materials and processes that can be utilized in products and systems involving new concepts.

Lucasfilm Ltd. and Convergence Corp. have formed a joint venture company to produce and market an advanced video editing system for both film- and video-style editing. The new editing product, called EdDroid, incorporates computer technology and human engineering to create a film-oriented videotape/disk system.

Number 1 TV Inc. has acquired General TV Network which has become a wholly-owned subsidiary, according to a recent