

# News

## SMPTE Announces Videotape on Lighting Production Techniques

A videotape of the presentation by Vilmos Zsigmund, A.S.C., at the Hollywood Section 1983 Tutorial Seminar on Lighting Production Techniques is now available from SMPTE Headquarters. The 50-min cassette can serve as an educational or instructional tool.

Zsigmund was the director of photography on such popular films as *The Deer Hunter*, *Deliverance*, and *The Rose*, and won an Oscar for his direction of *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*. In the seminar, Zsigmund demonstrated the various techniques of lighting in a cafe interior set built for studio-type lighting: no ceiling, full availability of lighting fixtures, and overhead catwalks. In the tape, he lights the set for an early morning scene, for early evening, and then for a night scene. In each case, Zsigmund discusses the placement of lights, the ratios of key to fill lights, modeling lights, and the uses of diffusers and barn doors. In addition to these technical aspects of lighting, Zsigmund talks about lighting creativity — the look and mood of a scene and of a total film.

The tape is available to all Sections for presentation at section meetings, or for purchase at \$19.95 for the VHS and Beta formats or \$22.95 for the U-Matic. A vinyl library case will be included with each copy. To order, contact SMPTE Headquarters, 862 Scarsdale Ave., Scarsdale, NY 10583.

The SMPTE Toronto Section will host the 1986 Mini-Conference of the Montreal/Quebec, Rochester, Ottawa, and Toronto Sections, May 2-4, at the Holiday Inn in downtown Toronto. Further information will be published in a future issue of the *Journal*.

The 16th Congress of the Union Internationale des Associations Techniques Cinématographiques (UNIATEC) will be held September 15-19 in Budapest, Hungary, according to UNIATEC President Claude Leon. The biennial congress, organized by Optikai, Akusztikai és Filmtechnikai Egyesület, will have as its theme, "Present State and Tendencies of Motion Picture, Television, Sound and Video Techniques for the Future." The 14th International Technical Film Competition will precede the congress on September 12-13. Those wishing to present papers should write to the Organization Committee by June 1 at Magyar Film-laboratorium, P.O.B. 80, H-1525 Budapest 114, Hungary.

Allied Film & Video and Macrovision have announced that Allied will provide Macrovision electronic anti-piracy protection for clients in the educational, video publishing, and alternative video markets. Macrovision, a systematic method of preserving the playability of an original videocassette while at the same time preventing the making of unauthorized copies, had been used principally to protect videocassettes of feature films. With the agreement, Allied Film & Video becomes the first major videocassette duplicator to offer anti-piracy protection in the non-feature film market. The required equipment is being installed in its several duplicating plants around the country.

The National Film Board of Canada, in an effort "to ensure that cinema continues to play a significant role in the cultural expression" of Canada's collective life, has begun reshaping and renewing its operations. An outline of the overall plan to redirect the organization's activities was made public by Government Film Commissioner Francois N. Macerola, NFB chairman, in a statement in the Board's 1984-85 Annual Report. Among NFB's

redefined priorities and orientations is an aim to distribute its films and videos through public networks.

Fernseh-und Kinotechnische Gesellschaft (FKTG) has issued an official call for papers in connection with its upcoming technical conference. The theme of the 12th Annual FKTG Conference, to be held June 2-6, 1986, in Mainz, F.R. Germany, is "TV and Cinematographic Technology in the Technological Challenge of Today and Tomorrow." Papers are invited under the following topic headings: progress in film techniques, television transmission and distribution systems, advanced television systems, analog and digital TV production, and television reception/picture display. Information is available from Georg Drechsler, FKTG e.V., Veilchenweg 3, D-6500 Mainz 21, F.R. Germany.

Prime Image, Inc., has been formed in Saratoga, Calif., by Bill Hendershot, a founder of Consolidated Video Systems and ADDA Corp. The firm will develop, produce, and manufacture a line of high-performance, low-cost digital video equipment for industrial television and small-market broadcast. The first product in this line is the TBC+, a time-base corrector with digital effects. Al Swain, who along with Hendershot was the recipient of an Emmy Award from the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences

## New Theater Evaluation Form Available

The Intersociety Committee for the Enhancement of Theatrical Presentation, chaired by former SMPTE President Kenneth M. Mason, has announced the availability of a revised and improved Theater Quality Evaluation Form (see opposite page). The original form was first published in the July 1983 issue of the *SMPTE Journal*, together with an article entitled "Theater Quality Evaluation Program," by Kenneth M. Mason and John P. Pytlak. A revised version of the form was subsequently published in the September 1983 *Journal*.

This new form will greatly facilitate participation in the Quality Evaluation Program (QEP) developed by the Intersociety Committee and first announced in 1983. The program has been of great assistance to many theaters across the U.S. The QEP was designed to provide information to theaters about projection and sound quality on a voluntary basis. Members of the Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers (SMPTE) fill out

evaluation forms after attending a theater and submit them to the theater management or circuit office. For further details of the program, please refer to the article mentioned above.

The new evaluation form has been simplified for easier reporting, and now includes a description of the QEP and a statement of purpose. The forms may be turned in to any theater following viewing of the program.

The Intersociety Committee has been in existence since 1978. Its primary purpose is to communicate information to all segments of the industry, with the intention of making theater-going more enjoyable. Some of the committee's accomplishments include the 18-min documentary, *Film Projection for the Reel People*; *The Film Damage Story*, a 15-min slide presentation; program participation at the NATO and ShoWest Conventions; very productive open forums for distribution and exhibition executives; and the voluntary Theater Quality Evaluation Program.

for developing the first digital video time-base corrector, will serve as Prime Image's chief designer.

**Blaine Baker**, president, Motion Picture Laboratories, Inc., Memphis, Tenn., was recently re-elected president of the Association of Cinema & Video Laboratories. ACVL's membership provides film and videotape processing services to the professional motion-picture and television industry. Baker, who also serves as SMPTE Financial Vice-President, will have a support staff consisting of the following elected officers: Burton Stone, Deluxe Laboratories, Inc., first vice-president; Edward Watton, Forde Motion Picture Laboratories, second vice-president; James A. Merkle, Allied Film & Video, treasurer; and Anthony D. Bruno, MGM Laboratories, Inc., secretary.



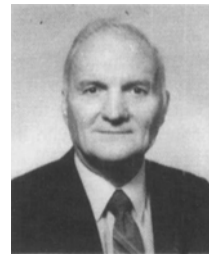
**Dr. Raymond Fielding** has been appointed director of the School of Communication, University of Houston. Fielding, a Fellow of the SMPTE, was also recently elected president of the University Film and Video Foundation, succeeding Dr. Robert Wagner.

**Art Kramer and Michael Callaghan** have been named vice-presidents at Comprehensive Video Supply Corp., Northvale, N.J. Kramer, who will assume responsibilities in the areas of product development, market development, and market communications in his new position, joined the company in 1984. Callaghan, who joined CVSC in 1985, will be responsible for the firm's sales, financial, and operational activities. Comprehensive announced that the two promotions were part of a realignment of corporate management.

**Oscar Wilson** has been appointed regional vice-president, Ikegami Electronics (U.S.A). He is based in the company's Torrance, Calif., office, and will exercise responsibility for sales, administrative,

and engineering activities in the western region. Prior to this appointment, Wilson was a principal of Shoreline, Ltd. Ikegami Electronics is headquartered in Maywood, N.J.

**Charles F. Riley** has been appointed to head the East Coast office of Merlin Engineering Works, headquartered in Palo Alto, Calif., which provides products and custom engineering services to the international television community. The former president of Tele-Color Productions, Riley has made several notable contributions to the broadcasting industry. As engineering vice-president of Logos, Inc., he was responsible for the first color coverage of a NASA missile launch from Cape Kennedy. Prior to that, Riley designed the first color educational station in the U.S., in Mississippi. He has also worked for Ampex Corp. and NBC, Inc.



## Obituary

### Alfred W. (Tony) Lumkin

After a prolonged period of ill health, on October 25, 1985, the death occurred of A. W. (Tony) Lumkin who, before his retirement to the West country in 1979, was technical consultant to the EMI group of companies. He was also well known throughout the world for his untiring efforts in International Standards, and became chairman of the Working Group on Sound Recording and Reproduction.

Tony's interest in sound dates back to his early days as a ham radio enthusiast, followed by a short spell as a sapper in the Royal Engineers in World War II. In 1941, he volunteered for a cloak-and-dagger operation called sonic warfare, and soon rose to the rank of major. Sonic warfare involved playing back sound effects prerecorded on film (which was the best high-quality medium at the time) to divert and alarm the enemy into thinking that an attack was imminent. The entire equipment was mounted in a scout car which paraded up and down in front of the enemy lines, and was frequently the target for mortar attacks.

One of the designers of sonic warfare was the late Bill Clark of RCA (Great Britain) Ltd., who asked Tony to join him on studio installation work at the end of hostilities in 1946, the same year that Tony joined ACT (as it was then called).

He commenced his film career re-equipping the new ABPC Studios at Boreham Wood, and soon became the studio's chief sound engineer under the late Harold King. Tony himself became recording director in 1969, and was later promoted to become executive in charge of technical services.

Tony was a devoted enthusiast to the cause of improving film sound, and a strong supporter of the union. He innovated several "firsts" for the Elstree Studios, including single-track magnetic sound on the Cliff Richards musical *Summer Holiday*, the first Dolby encoded photographic



Alfred W. Lumkin

sound track on *Callan* in 1972, followed by the world's first Dolby Stereo photographic sound track on Ken Russell's film, *Lisztomania*, in 1975. These films were made on equipment Tony designed in collaboration with Dolby Laboratories, and started a whole new trend in cinema sound.

Tony was also a strong supporter of the BKSTS and the SMPTE, and was a Fellow of both societies. At the 1976 SMPTE Conference in New York, he received the Samuel L. Warner Memorial Award (Gold Medal) for his continuing efforts to establish standards for cinema sound reproduction on a worldwide basis. He was largely responsible for pioneering the high quality of film sound as we know it today.

I was closely associated with Tony in the field of standardization during the last 10 years of his career. His capacity for life was huge, his generosity knew no bounds, while his friendliness and sheer enthusiasm for everything he did made him an outstanding personality. He will be sadly missed by all who knew him, and especially his loyal staff at Thorn-EMI's Elstree Studios.

Tony was also a family man and leaves a widow, four children, and four grandchildren, to whom ACTT members express their deepest sympathy.

— John Aldred  
Rank Film Laboratories