

# Section Meetings

**Atlanta, December 14, 1987** - At WSB Television in Atlanta, Ga., Phil Godfrey of Ikegami introduced his company's Enhanced Television System. He discussed the technical aspects of the system, its different components, and applications. The 41 meeting attendees gained new insight into an emerging technology. - Paul E. Hogan (Secretary/Treasurer), Tektronix, Inc., 1150 Lake Charles Dr., Roswell, GA 30075.

**Australia, February 9** - Eighteen people attended the Australia Section meeting at the Armada Hotel in Sydney. Roy English, representing Intergroup Video Systems, presented the company's Series 9600 video production switcher. He discussed the engineering aspects, maintenance, and performance features of the switcher. The Series 9600, explained English, stores events and sequences in individual keys. It has "select personality," which allows each operator of the system to select his own particular set of functions. The Series 9600 is software-driven, hence it can be addressed by a conventional PC or other terminal. - Dominic Case (Chairman), Colorfilm Pty Ltd., Missenden Rd., Camperdown 2050, Australia.

**Detroit, January 19** - At the Birmingham, Mich., offices of Eastman Kodak Co., 21 SMPTE members and guests heard a presentation on the Kodak Ektapro 1000 high-speed motion analyzer. Guest speaker Gerald Lilly, from Kodak's Spin Physics Division, talked about the camera's features and applications. He pointed out that the Ektapro 1000 is solving the imaging problems frequently encountered by people in the medical, industrial, and research fields. - Bruce R. Keplin (Secretary/Treasurer), Eastman Kodak Co., 19792 Scenic Harbor, Northville, MI 48167.

**Houston, December 15, 1987** Twenty-five SMPTE members and guests attended the Houston Section meeting at KHOU-TV, Houston, Tex. Joe Guerrero, Sony Corp., discussed and demonstrated the Mavica, a new magnetic video camera from Sony that stores still images and sound on a small 2-in. magnetic disc manufactured of videotape. Mavica is capable of recording 50 fields, or 25 frames, of video with 10-sec bursts of audio. The meeting also included a tour of KHOU's remodeled production and news areas. - Robert Musburger (Secretary/Treasurer), School of Communications, Univ. of Houston, Houston, TX 77004.

**Houston, January 20** - The Houston Section meeting in January was held at JVC, Houston, Tex. The subject of this meeting, which was attended by 50 persons, was the Super-VHS video recording format. Mike Halbrook and Lee Philips of JVC traced the evolution of Super-VHS, which had its beginnings in 1976 with the introduction of VHS. JVC later enhanced VHS by adding high-fidelity, high-quality (HQ) circuitry, and other features. The company subsequently developed a "Super compatible" video recording format and labeled it Super-VHS, or S-VHS.

The guest speakers also discussed the technical characteristics of S-VHS and talked about the advantage of separating the Y and C signals into the component standard. Halbrook and Philips then demonstrated some S-VHS equipment and screened sample S-VHS tapes. - Robert Musburger (Secretary/Treasurer), School of Communications, Univ. of Houston, Houston, TX 77004.

**Nashville, February 16** - The Nashville Section held a joint meeting with the Society of Broadcast Engineers at WKRNTV, Nashville, Tenn. Thirty people heard Jim Edwards of Tektronix, Inc., give a talk on video measurement technology. Edwards's program included a slide presentation on the Tektronix VM-700. The unit combines the capabilities of a digital waveform monitor, digital vectorscope, and automatic test instrument into a single user-programmable device. It can

measure amplitude, timing, phasing, distortion, signal-to-noise, and other signal parameters. The instrument also makes hard-copy printouts and will sound an alarm if readings are outside given limits. Edwards demonstrated these and other performance features of the VM-700. Following the technical program, the meeting attendees were given a tour of the WKRNTV studios. - Buddy Gailey (Secretary/Treasurer), Nissan Motor Manufacturing Co., Nissan Dr., Smyrna, TN 37167.

**New York, January 26** - A total of 200 SMPTE members and guests attended the New York Section meeting at CBS Studio 44 in New York City. Don Gotimer, senior vice-president and managing director of the CBS Operations and Engineering Division, presented a paper titled, "The CBS Hard News Center - An Integrated Facility for Newsgathering and Broadcast."

Gotimer opened his program with a brief overview of the history of newsgathering, then described the Hard News Center. Constructed on three floors, the center comprises twenty edit rooms, three narration booths, and two control rooms. It also contains five edit suites for editing the late news feeds, a playback/record room capable of handling up to 25 incoming feeds simultaneously, an international communications room that can control up to 7 feeds from other parts of the world, and a special "flash" studio. Program producers, writers and editors, traffic control people, and other personnel work out of the main studio/newsroom facility.

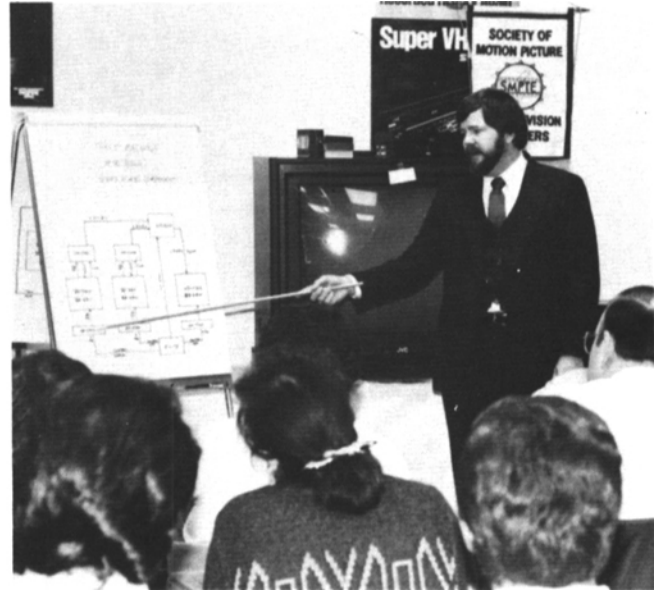
CBS, said Gotimer, uses 1/2-in. videotape at the Hard News Center, which allows the network to air much of the news material received late. Satellites are also



Officers of the SMPTE Atlanta Section with guest speaker Phil Godfrey (third from left) at December 14, 1987, meeting. (L-R) Paul Hogan, John Swanson, Godfrey, Bebe McClain, Earl Higgins, and Dick Perin. Behind the group is the Ikegami Enhanced Television System.



Joe Guerrero, Sony (center), describes the features of the Sony Mavica at the December 15, 1987, meeting of the Houston Section.



Lee Phillips, JVC, discusses the S-VHS video recording format at the Houston Section meeting on January 20.

used for newsgathering. Following the talk, the meeting attendees toured the facility. — Roger Salles (Program Manager), Geocam Corp., P.O. Box 704, Orange, NJ 07050.

**Rochester, January 28** — The Rochester Section meeting took place in the Dryden Theater of George Eastman House, Rochester, N.Y. Ioan Allen, Dolby Laboratories Inc., delivered a paper titled, "The History of Sound in Motion Pictures." The paper chronicled the evolution of 35mm stereo optical soundtracks for film, from Alan Blumlein's experimental recordings in 1933 to the most recent developments in Dolby spectral recording. Several landmark soundtracks were described and demonstrated. Approximately 150 SMPTE members and guests enjoyed the program. — Bill Denne (Secretary/Treasurer), Tektronix, Inc., 327 Keyes Ave., Watertown, NY 13601.

**Rocky Mountain, January 21** — Curtis Chan, vice-president of marketing and product development for Centro Corp., addressed 45 SMPTE members and guests at Eastman Kodak Co., Englewood, Colo. Chan reviewed the performance characteristics of the various videotape formats now in use. He then demonstrated the effect of applying each format to a videotape production facility by showing a typical system flow diagram which might result. Detailed system presentations ranging from analog broadcast video to digital video incorporating both D-1 and D-2 videotape units were displayed. Following the presentation, four video spots produced by Centro were shown. These spots utilized, at various times, digital video, clay animation, and film and advanced video technology re-

quiring 10 to 64 generations. — Andy Anderson (Secretary/Treasurer), KRMA-TV, 7505 W. Yale Ave., Denver, CO 80227.

**San Francisco, December 15, 1987** — At the Redwood City, Calif., headquarters of Ampex Corp., filmmakers Don Briggs and Robert Scott discussed the challenges and technical problems and solutions in motion-picture production. Briggs, an independent producer of nature documentaries and a Colorado River guide, presented his latest work, *River Song*. The film, which has won numerous awards, captures the essence of the Grand Canyon. While *River Song* was being screened for the 60 SMPTE members and guests present, Briggs described some of the logistical and technical problems he encountered and overcame. Then Scott, who is an independent producer and director of horror movies, screened *The Video Dead*, which was originally released to theaters and later in VHS format. He explained his approach to working within a limited budget: first he shoots on film, then transfers to tape for the promotional rough-cut and for editing, and finally transfers back to film. Scott also discussed the new videotape editing techniques in film post-production, and explained how off-line film production closely relates to off-line video editing. — Peter Hammar (Secretary/Treasurer), Hammar Communications, 22400 Skyline Blvd., La Honda, CA 94020

**San Francisco, January 27** — Approximately 150 SMPTE members and guests attended the San Francisco Section meeting at Ampex Corp., Redwood City, Calif. Guest speaker Yves Faroudja, president of Faroudja Laboratories, Inc., in Sunny-

vale, Calif., presented a program on "Super NTSC: A Compatible Approach to Better Television."

Faroudja, whose technical work in optimizing NTSC signal performance earned him SMPTE's 1987 David Sarnoff Medal Award, proposed that the NTSC color television system currently in use in 32 countries could be improved to rival high-definition television in picture clarity. When NTSC was developed in the U.S. in the early 1950s, said Faroudja, its performance far exceeded the hardware technology available at the time. However, three decades of progress in video hardware have made it possible to improve NTSC to where it can deliver a very high-quality picture. Improvements could be achieved, maintained Faroudja, without a change in bandwidth or standard.

Over the past ten years, Faroudja has developed techniques that virtually eliminate most of the defects inherent in conventional NTSC. He has applied his patented technology not only to the NTSC system, but also to the S-VHS video recording format, other VTRs, encoders and decoders, and computer graphics. Now Faroudja has announced Super NTSC™, a comprehensive system of improvements in both broadcast NTSC equipment and home receivers. According to Faroudja, Super NTSC achieves a picture quality that rivals HDTV. — Peter Hammar (Secretary/Treasurer), Hammar Communications, 22400 Skyline Blvd., La Honda, CA 94020.

**Toronto, January 12** — The Toronto Section's second satellite meeting was held at Global Television Network, Don Mills, Ont. More than 200 SMPTE members and guests attended a program on CCD imaging technology. Lou Montana of



*SMPTE New York Section members and guests tour the Hard News Center, CBS's ambitious newsgathering and broadcast facility.*

Imagineering Ltd., the first of five guest speakers in the program, introduced the subject. In his general overview, Montana, the manager of Imagineering's Studio Systems Division, explained the performance features and advantages of CCD broadcast cameras. He described interline-transfer, frame-transfer, and frame interline-transfer CCD designs and their unique applications. He concluded

by noting the technical challenges faced by CCD camera manufacturers, namely their need to eliminate picture artifacts and to improve resolution and signal-to-noise performance.

Phil Godfrey of Ikegami U.S. presented two of his company's cameras, the HL-379A and CCD-770. The former utilizes an interline-transfer CCD, and the CCD-770 is developed with an MOS imager

device. Godfrey, who directs Ikegami's engineering and development operations, said at the end of his presentation that CCDs would eventually replace tubes.

The third speaker was Doug Spears, representing Sony of Canada Ltd. Spears outlined some of the improvements that Sony has made in the BVP-50. The camera features an electronic shutter and a newly developed frame-interline transfer mechanism that virtually eliminates vertical streaking.

Frank Coleman of BTS described his company's new LDK-90, an ENG camera that uses full-frame transfer with a mechanical shutter. He talked about the benefits of shuttering as well as the ergonomic design of the camera body.

Peter Conner, manager of Professional and Broadcast Products, Hitachi Denshi Ltd., closed the program. He discussed how CCD camera picture resolution can be improved and aliasing minimized by spatial offset methods. Conner stated, however, that improvements in the design, engineering, and manufacture of tubes should keep the tube camera in the studio for several years to come. Following Conner's presentation, the five speakers answered questions from meeting attendees and from viewers at the satellite receive sites. — Fred Lemmin (Secretary/Treasurer), PFA Motion Picture and Video Laboratories, 330 Adelaide St. W., Toronto, Ont. M5V 1R4, Canada.

## News

### Chicago Section to Hold All-Day Meeting

The SMPTE Chicago Section will hold its 12th annual all-day meeting on Saturday, May 14, 1988. The site is the Eastman Kodak Co. in Oak Brook, Ill. Presentations will be given on center-track time code, computer-aided design, non-linear editing, test signal measurements, advanced audio finishing, and the MIDI/SMPTE interface. The meeting will also include a luncheon and special keynote address. Registration begins at 8:00 a.m.

For additional information on the meeting, contact Jack Behrend, Behrend's/Cyclops Productions, 219 W. Carpenter Ave., Chicago, IL 60607, tel. (312) 243-8074; or Donald W. Henderson, Eastman Kodak Co., 1901 W. 22nd St., Oak Brook, IL 60521, tel. (812) 654-5335.

### SMPTE-Sponsored Engineering Courses Slated for May

The Univ. of Southern California and Pasadena City College, in cooperation

with the SMPTE, will conduct engineering short courses for students and working professionals.

The course at the Univ. of Southern California, named Sound Mixing and Recording in the Production Environment, will be held on Saturday, May 14, and Sunday, May 15, 1988, in USC's Norris Hall. Designed for the working professional and the graduating student, the workshop will cover a range of topics, including electronic acoustics, synchronization, the impact of sound on post-production equipment, and transfers. Presenters will include specialists in the sound mixing and recording industry. Ray Dolby will give the keynote speech.

The cost of the course is \$75.00. For additional information, please call the university at (213) 743-7469.

Graduating film and video engineering students now facing the job market will find the course at Pasadena City College very beneficial. Getting Started in Film and Video, to be offered on Saturday, May 7, 1988, in the college's Forum, will equip the student with many important

job-search techniques and skills. Personnel consultants and human resources specialists will discuss everything related to the job-search campaign: preparing for a career, writing the resume, winning job offers. The workshop will include a panel discussion.

The course fee is \$15.00. For additional information, please call Pasadena City College at (818) 578-7216.

**The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc.**, has announced a meeting on professional certification programs. The meeting, to be held on June 16, 1988, at the New York City Technical College in Brooklyn, will include presentations by representatives from the Society of Broadcast Engineers, National Association of Business and Educational Radio, and National Association of Radio and Telecommunications Engineers. Handouts, membership information, and certification applications will be available. The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m., preceded by refreshments at 5:30 p.m. For further information, call Mike Hayden at (212) 246-2350, Ext. 278.

**The CBS Television Network**, beginning this fall, will broadcast all its programs in stereo, it was announced recently by Thomas F. Leahy, president of the net-