

Section Meetings

Houston, July 18, 1990 — Portable field lighting instruments were discussed by Dale Marks, Lowel-Light Manufacturing, Inc. Before an audience of 35 people, he demonstrated nine different types of small portable instruments, explaining the advantages and the proper methods of mounting and focusing each unit. He showed how a wide variety of accessories can permit a small number of instruments to perform a broad range of lighting techniques. Following his presentation, there was a question-and-answer session and a tour of the production and post-production video and film facilities at Pearlman Studios on the Lake, where the meeting was held. — Robert Musburger (Secretary/Treasurer), University of Houston.

Philadelphia, April 10, 1990 — Analog component systems were discussed at a meeting held at QVC Network, a cable TV home shopping channel. Cliff Benham, chief engineer, gave the 50-member audience a tour of the network's new completely analog facility and talked about why the facility is essential for presenting the home audience with the utmost in picture clarity. Following his presentation, Mike Bober, Grass Valley Group, spoke about his company's Emphasys digital encode system and how it was implemented into QVC's facility to perform the final NTSC encode process. — Jim Izydorczyk (Chairman), Sigma Electronics.

Philadelphia, May 8, 1990 — At a meeting held at Videotek, Inc., Mark Everett discussed system timing in a studio environment and all of the problems that can be encountered. Some of the problems he noted were mismatched cable lengths, switcher and distribution amp time delays, and errors that can occur in SCH phasing. Following his presentation, the

50 attendees toured Videotek's engineering and production facilities. — Jim Izydorczyk (Chairman), Sigma Electronics.

Philadelphia, June 12, 1990 — Broadcast monitors were discussed by Dan Desmet, Barco Industries. Some of the topics he called attention to were concepts of auto setup of intelligent monitors, differences between color analyzers, auto setup probes, and SMPTE recommended practices for studio color monitors. He also mentioned Barco's new intelligent routing switcher, which is used in conjunction with the company's monitors. After the presentation, the 55 members and guests viewed *Coronation*, a video produced by NFL Films about Super Bowl XXIV. — Jim Izydorczyk (Chairman), Sigma Electronics.

San Francisco, July 26, 1990 — Sixty members and guests assembled at the Exploratorium in San Francisco to view two documentary films and meet their producers. Judy Irving and Bob Walker, Independent Documentary Group, discussed their film, *Secrets of the Bay*, which explores the hidden wildlife of the San Francisco Bay. The 28-min film cost \$230,000, and the shooting began immediately after receiving a \$5000 grant. A staff of seven produced the film using Eastman 7291 film stock. The unpredictability of nature photography resulted in a shooting ratio of 30:1. Equipment used included an Eclair NPR with a 12:20 mm Angenieux lens with a 2X doubler, a Century Precision 300 mm telephoto, a Bolex camera, and a Nagra 4.25 tape recorder for sound. Walker explained that at the scene, a steel pipe was driven into the ground to mark the camera's position. Prints from enlarged film frames were then used to guide realignment of the camera, providing a



Bob Walker and Judy Irving addressing the San Francisco Section's July meeting.

smooth transition between the shots. Irving noted that in filming, they used short sequences when it was possible.

Cris Chater showed her 25-min film, *Steaming Up Tamalpais*, which received several awards including the CINE Golden Eagle Award. She not only wrote the script, but also did the directing, editing, and principal photography for the film. The production was recorded on Eastman 7291 film and a Cinema Products camera was used with an Angenieux 12-120 mm lens. A Nagra tape recorder was used for sound recording. Because she could not afford an animation stand, Chater devised her own. The film cost \$30,000 to produce.

Mount Tamalpais is situated 12 miles north of San Francisco and rises nearly 3000 ft. The Tamalpais Railroad operated between 1898 and 1930, until it was replaced by the automobile. While jogging on the old track bed of the railroad, Chater found artifacts such as railroad spikes. These sparked her interest and she began conducting research. She read 200 oral histories and selected people who seemed to have interesting personality traits and then interviewed them. She obtained archival film footage from the Library of Congress, which consisted of Edison films made in 1904. — Vernon L. Kipping (Chairman), Consultant.



Houston Section members discussing lighting techniques with Dale Marks during the July meeting.



Dale Marks demonstrating portable lighting instruments at the July Houston meeting.