

The 24th Annual SMPTE Television Conference

Disney's Contemporary Resort, Lake Buena Vista, Fla.

January 26 and 27, 1990

The 24th Annual SMPTE Television Conference was held January 26-27, 1990, at Disney's Contemporary Resort in Lake Buena Vista, Fla.

More than 500 people attended the event, which featured a two-day technical program, engineering meetings, a luncheon, educational tours, a spouses program, and social galas.

The Technical Program

The conference, themed Television — Merging Multiple Technologies, was highlighted by a technical program that featured a total of 28 presentations covering various methods of integrating present and future technologies in a compatible, yet cost-effective manner. The two-day event offered morning sessions focusing on HDTV: Merging the Present with the Future, while the afternoon sessions

concentrated on Merging Traditional Television with Nontraditional Technologies.

The technical program was supervised by Program Chairman Clyde D. Smith (Lockheed Space Operations), Program Vice-Chairman Paul Montgomery (Tasp Group, Inc.), and SMPTE Editorial Vice-President Frank Haney (Capital Cities/ABC). The session chairmen were Ronald Ratner (Club Theatre Network), Paul Barron (Paul Barron Associates), Robert Diehl (WCPX-TV), Rick Mason (R.J. Mason & Associates), Charles T. Brown (NASA), Brian Leitz (Midwest Communication Corp.), Stephen Flanagan (WPLG-TV), and Miles Ptacek (Century III).

Other members of the conference committee were Registration Chairman Dave Perrin (Fuji Photo Film



Program Chairman Clyde D. Smith speaking at the conference.



The Board of Governors meeting.



Officers listening intently at the Board of Governors meeting.

U.S.A.), Display Chairman Jack Hammand (Hammand Broadcast Engineering), Membership Chairman Rob Ross (Florida Video Systems), General Arrangements Chairman David Walters (Tektronix), Auditor Thomas Belleman (Allied Film & Video), A/V and Projection Chairman Albert LeBoeuf (Martin Marietta Aerospace), Opening Film and Tapes Chairman James M. Kelly (Allied Film & Video), and Recording Chairman Oliver Peters (Century III).

"During the technical program an excess of 500 people met to exchange, in an open forum, their ideas, opinions, problems, opportunities, and solutions," said Program Chairman Clyde D. Smith. "As the SMPTE approaches its 75th anniversary, I believe its forefathers would be pleased to see their efforts rewarded and their dreams fulfilled."

All-Day Tutorial

Preceding the Television Conference, on January 25, SMPTE offered an all-day tutorial. Focusing on post-production, the tutorial took the points-of-view of the client and the producer with the emphasis on creatively using the techniques and technology available without concentrating on specific equipment. Topics covered were off-line editing, on-line editing, film-to-tape transfer, electronic graphics, and audio post-production.

The tutorial, which was attended by nearly 200 people, was prepared by Oliver Peters (Century III). Peters has worked in the broadcasting and teleproduction industries for more than 20 years. The speakers were Harvey Kopel (Kopel Films), Michael Orsburn (Post Edge), John C.



Laurence Thorpe, Sony, speaking on HDTV production facilities, as part of the technical program.



Conference Vice-President L. John Spring, Jr.



Engineering Vice-President Stanley N. Baron.



General Arrangements Chairman David Walters.



Public Relations Advisory Committee Chairman C. Robert Paulson.



On-site registration was available to attendees.

Burns (consultant), Greg Sheldon (consultant), and Peters. According to Program Chairman Smith, the all-day tutorial was highly praised by all who attended.

Get-Together Luncheon

All conference registrants were invited to a Get-Together Luncheon on

January 26 at the Gulf Coast/Pacific Room of Disney's Contemporary Resort. Guest speaker Guy Gougeon, vice-president, engineering, Canadian Broadcasting Corp., gave a talk on "Broadcasting — Orchestrating the Future." Gougeon is responsible for all CBC policies related to engineering and technology for the planning



SMPTE President Maurice L. French speaking at the press briefing.

and implementation of building, coverage, distribution, and product facilities projects.

During the luncheon, SMPTE President Maurice French paid tribute to Jeffrey Friedman, editor of the *Journal*, who recently celebrated his 25th anniversary with the Society. To commemorate the event, French presented him with a special plaque honoring his 25 years of service.

Engineering Meetings

In addition to the Television Conference, from January 25–28, several engineering committees met to discuss the status of future papers. High in attendance, the meetings included a working group on professional studio monitors, an ad hoc group on Digital Rep. 1125/60, a study group on editing procedures, a study group for fiber optics applications, a working group on advanced TV productions, and a working group on high-definition electronic production.

Other Activities

At a press briefing held on Thursday, January 25, Public Relations Advisory Committee Chairman C. Robert Paulson (AVP Communications), announced that in honor of its 75th anniversary, the SMPTE will kick off a year-long celebration beginning in October 1990.

The convention offered attendees entertainment as well as information. On Friday, the Spouses Program took participants to Church Street for a



The General Arrangements Committee.



The technical program, themed Television — Merging Multiple Technologies, was attended by nearly 500 people.



An Engineering Committee meeting.

day of shopping, eating, and entertainment. On Saturday, Tektronix sponsored an Innovations tour that offered a behind-the-scenes look at Disney World. Participants then lunched aboard *The Empress Lily*. A continental breakfast, sponsored by the Grass Valley Group, started both days. Nancy Walters and Kay Smith served as Spouses Program Co-Chairwomen.

Evening receptions were open to all conference registrants. On Friday, Sony sponsored a gala at the Studio Theme Park from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. On Saturday, Disney-MGM Studios held a reception on Soundstage 1 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

On Sunday, Century III sponsored a tour of the production facilities at the soon-to-be-opened Universal Studios.

— Carol King