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In this column, we provide interesting historical briefs from the journal articles of days past. The purpose of this column is primarily entertainment, but we hope it will also stimulate your thinking and reflection on the Society's history, how far we have come in the industry, and (sometimes) how some things never change. This column is sponsored by Television Broadcast Technology, Inc., since March 2001: <http://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/7257346>.

25 Years Ago in the Journal

The March 1997 *Journal* published in “AMPAS Presents Scientific and Technical Academy Awards for 1996:” “Arthur Hiller, president of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, has announced the recipients of the 1996 awards... The recipients of the Scientific and Engineering Awards are: John Schlag, Brian Knep, Zoran Kacic-Alesic, and Thomas Williams for the development of the Viewpaint 3D Paint System... William Reeves for the original concept and the development of particle systems used to create computer-generated visual effects in motion pictures... Jim Hourihan for the concept and design of the Dynamation software system for motion picture visual effects... Jonathan Erland and Kay Beving Erland for the development of the Digital Series Traveling Matte Backing System... The recipients of the Technical Achievement Awards are: Perry Kivolowitz for the primary design and Garth Dickie for the development of the algorithms for the

shape-driven warping and morphing subsystem of the Elastic Reality Special Effects System... Ken Perlin for the development of Perlin Noise, a technique used to produce natural appearing textures on computer-generated surfaces... Nestor Burtnyk and Marcell Wein of the National Research Council of Canada for their pioneering work in the development of software techniques for computer-assisted key framing for character animation... Grant Loucks for the concept and specifications of the Mark V Director's Viewfinder... Brian Knep, Craig Hayes, Rick Sayre, and Thomas Williams for the creation and development of the Direct Input Device... James Kaiya and Timothy Kay for their pioneering work in producing computer-generated fur and hair in motion pictures... Jeffrey Yost, Christian Rouet, David Benson, and Florian Kainz for the development of a system to create and control computer-generated fur and hair in motion pictures... Richard A. Prey and William N. Masten for the design and development of the Nite Sun II lighting crane and camera platform.” For the full article, see <https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/7243700>.

50 Years Ago in the Journal

The March 1972 *Journal* published in “Broadcasting from Satellites” by C. A. Siocos: “The use of artificial earth satellites to distribute television signals has commanded the attention of those interested in broadcasting ever since this application of space technology became a distinct possibility. The interest of SMPTE in this field is quite active as evidenced by the Symposium on Commercial Satellites during its Technical Conference in Los Angeles in April 1971... Broadcasting from satellites is considered by many to hold the key to widespread educational television service (especially for developing nations) and to other important expansions of television service such as additional television programs. Reflecting the worldwide interest in this, the United Nations, within its Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, set up in 1969 a Working Group on Direct Broadcast Satellites which reported on the many aspects of the subject such as technical (including feasibility), international legal, broadcast content, and international cooperation.” For the full article, see <https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/7239810>.

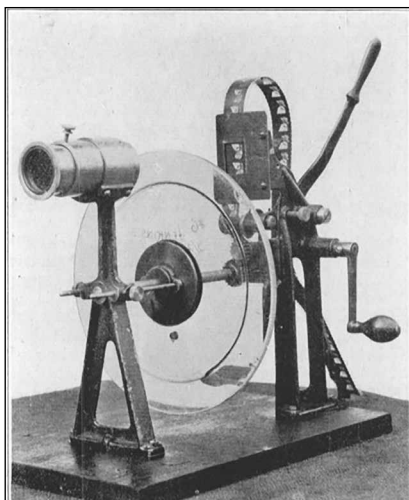
75 Years Ago in the Journal

The March 1947 *Journal* published in “Report of the General Secretary, January 1, 1946, to December 31, 1946:” “Increased interest in the work of the Society is shown by the large increase in membership during the year. The net increase for the year for all grades is 466, which is the largest increase in the history

of the Society. Total membership now stands at 2,432, which includes six honorary, 64 sustaining, 154 fellow, 561 active, 1,588 associate, and 59 student members.” For the full article, see <https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/7251588>.

100 Years Ago in the Journal

The May 1922 *Journal* published in “Prismatic Rings” by C. Francis Jenkins: “This paper discloses the progress made in the grinding and polishing of the prismatic glass rings and mechanisms employing them... The following instruments have actually been constructed and are in use or are in course of structural development: (1) a motion picture projecting machine for translating continuously running film into a picture on the screen; (2) a high-speed



Machine for demonstrating behavior of prismatic ring Fig. 1 (from *Trans. SMPE*, May 1922, p. 66).

camera, in which the upper limit of speed seems to be desirability, rather

than mechanical limitation; (3) a practical and safe motion picture machine for the home with lithographed pictures in color on paper discs, a 12-inch record, about 5/8 inch thick, containing the equivalent of 1,000 feet of motion picture film, and of standard frame size; (4) a stroboscope for direct viewing of moving objects to make them appear to stand still, and without appreciable diminution in illumination; the instrument, when required, having a meter attachment giving a direct reading of the linear speed of the object viewed; (5) a direct-reading ground-speed meter for airplanes, which gives a correct reading of the true flight irrespective of wind velocity or drift.” For the full article, see <https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/7229976>.

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