



Venue Report #43
Tuesday, August 19, 2008

SMPTE ROCHESTER SECTION



Rochester, New York was the site of a number of firsts for the Taste of NAB Road Show. This was my first time in the city where Eastman-Kodak has its world headquarters, it is the first time I've done two scheduled presentations in the same day and it is the first very successfully attended joint venture between a local SBE chapter (57) and a local SMPTE section. As we were setting up, we were told that a third organization, a locally based group that was founded in the late '40s, would be attending and participating at both presentations: Rochester Audio Visual Association (RAVA). We had a total of 44 in attendance at both the noon and early evening presentations. It was a very long day, but I believe it was all worth it!

I was very much impressed with the interaction that took place between the film, the television, radio and the RAVA folks at both presentations. Our industries technologies so overlap that these kinds of meetings benefit all concerned.

I was able to field questions about Linear transmitters, but when it came to knowing what letters ESE stood for in that company's name, I was at a loss, but I was able to answer the questions about ESE's NTP master clock. We had several who sang the praises of their Audemat Golden Eagle HD monitor, saying that if the ATSC unit is as good, it is some really great technology. I also had very positive comments from local user but their ComPix Media technology.

It has been absorbing to me to observe the interest in the Plura monitors that has been ongoing since they joined us and in particular at this presentation. Questions about the MediaDeck being password protected were field by Bob Valinski. There was a great deal of interest at both presentations about the JVC HD camera we have with us. The fact that it can replicate a film camera in its lens adaptability was of particular interest. I was unable to answer the questions about pricing on the Henry Engineering devices as it may well be different, depending on the source point of distribution that the buyer obtains the item from.

I was unable to answer questions on the losses that could be experienced in fiber optic cable. My response was that it depended on the cable type, length, age and other unknown factors. Were we to have CDs on this and other fiber optic generic issues, it would go a long way in helping us to present this technology.

I appreciate all the efforts of SBE Chapter 57's chairman Ed Wright and those of Patrick Loughney, Rochester's SMPTE Section Manager for helping to make it all possible. I also appreciate and thank the good folks at WXXI for hosting us at their facility. While I'm at it, I also want to thank Ken Freed of JVC, Bob Valinski of Omneon, Henry Lassige of Nverzion, Guy Sayers of Digi-Data for being present to help out and answer questions from those of you who were interested in their respective technologies.

Even though we only had a few radio folks present, I was very happy to have been able to include more radio technology this year than in the past. Radio sponsors have always been difficult to recruit. Adding to that, it was obvious to those in attendance that the television technology was helpful to the film industry folks present.

I truly appreciate the efforts of those who staying around after we were done to help us put things back in the van and to get us on our way. Shawn and I really appreciate their help. It's always difficult when putting together a list of folks to thank without unintentionally leaving some off: if I have, I'm sorry and I owe you.

If you are interested in who won what door prizes and pictures of this event, you can see them on our website at: <http://www.tech-notes.tv/2008/44-Rochester.htm>.

Inclosing, it was good to see Scott Fybush at the evening meeting. Fybush is an industry respected expert on transmitter and antenna sites. He provided us with a door prize and remained after to help us pack up and get us on our way.

I will include received e-mail comments to date in my report on Erie, PA.

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