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ABSTRACT

The refunding of the California Video Resource Project (CVRP), new Federal Communications Commission cable rules, various newsbits, a calendar of events and reviews of print materials are presented in this issue of the CVRP newsletter. A general index to the ten previous issues of the newsletter is given, along with indexes to the reviews of videotapes which have appeared in previous issues. (HAB)

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CVRP PATCH PANEL

The Newsletter of the California Video Resource Project

vol.1, no.10

may/june 1976

CVRP Refunding -1976/77

All things change, and the CVRP is no exception. We have been refunded for one more year for \$54,000 in Library Services and Construction Act (LSCA) monies and will be heading in new directions. Our two targets will be: 1.) consultancy (including on-site visits) to librarians in California on their specific video and cable tv needs and problems, and 2.) publication of the CVRP Patch Panel at its present frequency and quality.

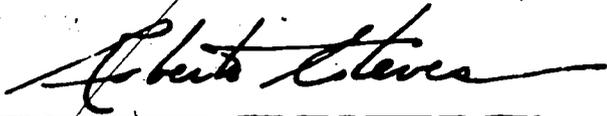
Since Craig will be busy in Hollywood with the BIONIC WOMAN (as of July 1 he is an Associate Producer at Universal Studios) guest technical writers will contribute Technosphere articles and advice. Our good friend, Major Macula, will continue his column. The Patch Panel editor is changing, too. Lee will be taking a full-time position in the Mission Branch on July 1, and I will take over as editor.

Videotape reviews will continue to be a Patch Panel priority. We will only

purchase tapes that we can use in individual consultancies and workshops, rather than for general library use.

Immediately following the ASA programs in July, the CVRP will hold a workshop in cooperation with the Extension Services Chapter of the California Library Association at Richmond Public Library on July 29, entitled "Out of Site---Library Extension Services and the Video Process." We will follow it with an all-day video production workshop on August 21, in cooperation with Helene Kosher, at the Pinole Public Library. Still more distant plans include a videotape editing workshop to make our equipment available for post-production work. The time and place is still to be decided.

If you want more information, please write or call. Our major concern is to respond to your needs. Keep in touch, and let us know what we can do for you.



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CVRP PATCH PANEL

IS A BI-MONTHLY PUBLICATION WHICH IS THE OFFICIAL VOICE OF THE CALIFORNIA VIDEO RESOURCE PROJECT (CVRP), A LIBRARY SERVICES AND CONSTRUCTION ACT, TITLE I--FUNDED PROJECT DESIGNED TO EXPERIMENT WITH AND REPORT ON USE OF VIDEO AND CABLE TECHNOLOGIES AS EXTENSIONS OF LIBRARY SERVICES, PRIMARILY BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY IN CALIFORNIA. VOLUME I, ISSUES 1-10 (DEC 74-JUNE 76) \$10; VOLUME II, ISSUES 1-6 (JULY 76-JUNE 77) \$10. BOTH VOLUMES ARE SOLD ONLY AS SETS. _____ FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL (415) 558-5034, OR WRITE CVRP, SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC LIBRARY, CIVIC CENTER, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF. 94102.

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Cable Enters New Era

In early May, the FCC adopted new access and channel capacity rules that should be of interest to all librarians. To compare the old access rules with the new:

1972 rules

1. Cable systems' compliance by 1977.
2. Only systems having over 3500 subscribers and located within the most populous 100 urban markets need comply.
3. Three access channels: one for public access, one for educational access, one for municipal access.
4. Rebuild all systems to 20-channel capacity, two-way by 1976.
5. Provide one non-broadcast channel for every broadcast channel carried.

1976 rules

1. Compliance by 1986.
2. All systems having over 3500 subscribers, regardless how near a major tv or urban market, must comply.
3. Only one composite access channel, another to be made available only after "full use" of the composite.
4. Rebuild all systems to 20-channel, two-way non-voice return capacity by 1986.
5. Deleted.

Analysis: While expanding the availability of cable television access to communities outside the major urban settings, new Federal Communications Commission rules demonstrate a dramatic relaxation of all other access and rebuild requirements. The two are closely allied, since without adequate channel space on a cable system (many systems still have only twelve channels) there can be no access space. However, if a cable company receives duplicate network programming---from both a local channel and a distant channel---the FCC allows even 12-channel systems to eliminate (black out) the distant signal and replace it with access programming.

The true test of these new rules will be the ability of local educators, municipal agencies and officials such as libraries and librarians, and public interest users to cooperate and resolve the inevitable conflicts of joint channel use. Cable has just entered Phase II. ---ROBERTO ESTEVES---

bits NEWSbits bits

corrections

Is my face red! After Issue #9 came back from the printers, we found several places where information was incorrect. On page 9, under Tripods Heads and Dollies, where it says "next time around, I'll buy a "Swanson...", it should say a "Samson Quick-set Tripod-Dolly," to accept a "Miller (not Mill) 16mm Fluid Head." In addition, on page 8, under Audio Mixers, fourth line, it should be a Sony MX-12 (not MS-12). In the Videotape Reviews, page 16, the first Producer/Distributor should be Gerry Jarocki (not Jarcoki).

Then, to add insult to injury, I discovered that we had printed an incorrect Producer/Distributor in Issue #8. In Videotape Review #73, SHARING BOOKS WITH YOUR PRE-SCHOOL CHILD, it should read: Producers: Mary Pierce, Karol Seehaus, and John Sturgeon; and Distributor: Mary Pierce, Long Beach Public Library, Long Beach, CA 90802. Apologies to everybody.

awards

The very same videotape in the above correction, SHARING BOOKS WITH YOUR PRE-SCHOOL CHILD, along with its companion scrapbook, were the winners of the 1976 John Cotton Dana Award for promoting and publicizing libraries and library services. Congratulations to all who were responsible for them.

"NEWSbits" is a regular feature of the CVRP Patch Panel. If you hear of anything you think our readers would be interested in, please send it to the Editor, CVRP Patch Panel, at the address on page 2.

literacy

ALA's Public Information Office in March released "Literacy and the Nation's Libraries," in which it was reported that "21 million Americans are functionally illiterate, which means they can't read want ads, job applications or long distance dialing directions. Obviously, too, the vast (print) resources of the nation's libraries are lost to them. (my emphasis).

print materials

The fourth issue of the international Video Exchange Directory arrived the other day. A publication of the Satellite Video Exchange Society, 261 Powell St., Vancouver, B.C., Canada V6A 1G3 (604) 688-4336, it lists video groups/individuals active in the U.S. and Canada, as well as Europe and South America. Each entry includes equipment and a brief purpose statement. Not for sale; write for a copy.

Another video publication has bitten the dust. Vision News, the excellent quarterly publication of the NET Experimental TV Lab in New York, (WNET was the first to experiment with broadcasting 1/2" material) is now out-of-print, I'm sorry to report.

VidNews, in its April 26, 1976 issue, reported that "it's estimated there are now 364 million TV sets on planet Earth vs. 360 million telephones and 300 million cars and trucks."

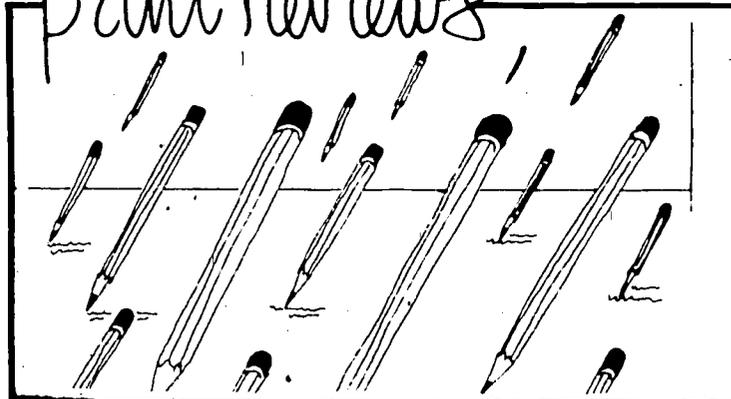
equipment

Sony has introduced in Japan a 30-inch Trinitron monitor (tv set). Scheduled for marketing only in Japan this fall, it is the largest direct-view (non-projector) set presently available. (Source: Videography, June 1976.)

CALENDAR

bay area	united states
<p>July 29---Richmond. Workshop, "Out of Site---Library Extension and the Video Process." Richmond Public Library. CVRP, in cooperation with California Library Association, Extension Services Chapter. By reservation only. \$5. Contact: Larry Cross, Mobile Outreach Project, Richmond Public Library, Richmond, CA 94804 (415) 234-6632</p>	<p>July 16, 17---Chicago. American Library Association Pre-Conference, "Children and Television." Sponsored by American Association of School Librarians and Action for Children's Television. \$35-ALA members, \$45-non-members. Contact: Leonard Freiser, Conference Coordinator, Director of Libraries and Media, National College of Education, 2840 Sheridan Rd., Evanston, IL 60201</p>
<p>August 14---San Francisco. Videotape workshop x403, through UC Berkeley. 3 quarter units, \$155. Lone Mountain College Video Center, 2800 Turk Street, San Francisco. Contact: Ginger Richardson (415) 861-6833 or Jane Turner (415) 642-4101.</p>	<p>July 19, 21, 22---Chicago: Video/Cable Communications Section's programs at ALA. <u>19th</u>- "Video Visionaries #1" (showing of library-produced videotapes over hotel CCTV system, with viewing suite). 6-8pm, Conrad Hilton, Private Dining Room #3. <u>21st</u>- "Video Distribution Panel" (librarians and software distributors discuss acquisition and purchase problems). 2-4 pm, Palmer House, Private Dining Room #14. <u>22nd</u>- "Video Visionaries #2" 7-9 am, Palmer House, Private Dining Room #3. Contact: Roberto Esteves, CVRP.</p>
<p>August 21---Pinole. Workshop on video production at Pinole Public Library. CVRP, in cooperation with Helene Kosher. By reservation only. Contact: Roberto Esteves, CVRP.</p>	<p>October 24-27---Chicago. NAEB (National Association of Educational Broadcasters) 1976 Communications Technology and Materials Show. Hilton. Contact: NAEB, 1346 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20036 (202) 785-1100</p>
<p>October 31-November 4---San Francisco. American Society for Information Science Annual Convention. Hilton Hotel, SF. Contact: ASIS, 1155 16th St., NW, Washington, DC 20036</p>	<p>November 15-17---New York. First Annual International Videodisc Programming Conference. McGraw-Hill Building. \$285. Contact Mark Laifer, United Business Publications, 750 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10017 (212) 697-8300</p>
<h2 style="text-align: center;">california</h2>	<p>If you would like your workshop or event listed in "CALENDAR," send all the information (what, when, where, who to contact) to Editor, <u>CVRP Patch Panel</u>.</p>
<p>September 29-October 2---Palm Springs. IFPA-Film and Video Communicators National Conference, "The Media Revolution." Trade Show and Cindy Awards. Spa Hotel. Contact: Information Film Producers of America, 3518 Cahuenga Blvd.W., Suite 313, Hollywood, CA 90068. (213) 874-2266</p>	
<p>December 2-6---Los Angeles. California Library Association Conference. "Video Software," sponsored by Video/Cable Chapter and CVRP. Marriott and Sheraton Hotels. Contact: Roberto Esteves, CVRP.</p>	

print reviews



VIDEOGRAPHY, published monthly by United Business Publications, Inc., 750 Third Ave., New York, NY 10017 \$10/year

This is a new monthly periodical that libraries ought to know about. Published by the same people who do VidNews, it looks very good. Similar in format to Educational and Industrial Television, the first issue was a glossy compendium of news and comment, hardware reports, software reviews, and articles ranging from "Sound for 1/2-inch" (excellent---written clearly and simply enough for the non-professional) through communications satellites and computers to "microcams" (new 8-lb. color cameras for broadcast use). Get it. -10-

WHAT'S NEW IN VIDEO, TV and FILM COMMUNICATION, Vol. 1, No. 1. MPC Video Industries, Inc., 514 W. 57th St., New York, NY 10019. (212) 586-3690. 1976 \$.50

This catalog of video equipment and accessories is available from the MPC video center in New York, and is a most comprehensive one-step reference guide to new prices and new goodies for better video production. -re-

CABLE TELEVISION . . . BASIC QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FOR CITY OFFICIALS. National League of Cities, U.S. Conference of Mayors, 1620 I St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20036. 1975 \$3.50 30pp.

Even though information on access and recent FCC rules is not included, the questions asked in this booklet are ones I frequently have had to deal with. The simple answers are amazingly perceptive and clear. Also included is a short glossary, and a list of the top 100 TV markets (no longer important since new access rules rely upon system size, not location in an urban market). -re-

MAJOR MACULA

QUESTION: You say on page 10 of the Jan/Feb '76 Patch Panel that a properly recorded "high density" tape can't be played back on a regular machine. Tell me more? There is some confusion among suppliers as to "high energy," "high output," and "high density," and I must confess I am confused as well.

Ken Winslow, Associate Director
Public Television Library

ANSWER: Well, I can understand your confusion. It was impossible for me to come up with a consistent answer to this one. Information and definitions vary, depending on which videotape engineer you talk to. In fact, I could not find anything called "high output" tape. Otherwise, the story is this: high energy tape is designed to provide improved video recording characteristics (which essentially means a better signal-to-noise (s/n) ratio) for any videotape recorder. High density tape provides even better s/n characteristics, but can be used only on VTRs which have a NORMAL/HIGH DENSITY switch (such as the Sony AV-8650 or Panasonic's similar AV-3160) or on VTRs which have been adjusted so they can use high density tape. Here enters the confusion. Most high density tape manufacturers claim that the required adjustment is necessary only to recording and erasing currents of the VTR, and that properly recorded high density tapes will play back on any (unadjusted) VTR. But that isn't so. In my experience, such tapes will not play back properly on an unadjusted VTR. There is also a difference of opinion concerning the VTR adjustments. Some engineers say that a standard VTR could be modified with the addition of a switch and some simple circuitry, so that both types of tapes could be used. Others say that such a modification is much more complex than it might seem at first glance, and therefore the user must decide which type of tape the machine will use, or be faced with the prospect of continual adjustment and readjustment. Your best bet, of course, is to get in touch with the senior tape engineer of whatever manufacturer is supplying the tape you're using. *T.M.*

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INDEX TO PANEL

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