



SHOP TALK

Rochester AudioVisual Association

September 2002

Hear Ye, Hear Ye!

Student Festival Opens RAVA's Year

Tues., Sept. 10

Mark your calendar. The Vincent T. Slavin Student Film & Video Festival moves to The Little Theatre, No. 5, after many years at RIT. Starts at 5:30 PM when the winning students will be asked to speak about their aspirations.

Screening of the 7 best films will start at 6:00 promptly. Parking should be no problem at that early hour, either in the lot right at the theater or in the new lot down the street near the Two Pine Restaurant.

Student winners will be coming from as far away as Los Angeles.

Festival's New Name

After the tragic death of Vince Slavin, the RAVA executive council and SMPTE board of managers voted to name the annual Student Festival the Vincent T. Slavin Student Film & Video Festival.

For this 25th year, Kathy Slavin has worked on the committee by being a judge and designing the program,

The dinner, honoring the 12 winners, will be in The Little Theatre Café at 7:45, immediately following the screening. The winners will be our guests. RAVA, SMPTE members and others will be asked to pay \$15, paid in advance.

Send your check to arrive no later than Thursday, Sept. 5 to Ronald Uhlig, 26 Mandalay Ridge, Pittsford, NY 14534. This is vital.

Leave word with Walter Dixon - 671-7741 - that you will be at the dinner, just in case your check arrives late.

Festival Dinner Menu

Chicken marsala w/rice
or roasted potato
Vegetable lasagna
Seasonal vegetable
Garden salad
Rolls & butter
Dessert tray - hand-held
bite-size bars & brownies
Coffee/tea

Cash bar

Tom Cummings New RAVA Treasurer

Because of health problems, on Aug. 28 Tim Slater resigned as RAVA treasurer. Pres. Tom Hope, with approval of the Executive Council, has appointed Tom Cummings to be RAVA's next treasurer.

Tom Hope thanks Tim for his dedication to the job. *See another story on Tim's health.*

Shop Talk

<http://www.ggw.org/rava/>

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July 2nd Tuesday

June Foster on Cannes

The setting. The 5:30 PM informal "lively meeting" (July 9) had the spirit of yesteryear RAVA. The round table was able to handle everyone as the number grew. Call it networking or camaraderie, the gathering exuded friendliness.

June came loaded for much to see. The huge 2-inch thick book of preregistrants for the May Cannes (France) Film Festival had June's picture along with all the Hollywood celebrities. Another book had the festival schedule of the world's top new films being screened in Cannes theaters. A third book had the full three-week schedule. June also showed dozens of pictures taken at previous Cannes Festivals.

She explained that the 3-week event has three elements: the **festival**

screenings, the exhibit with hundreds of booths and **marketing**. Producers were busy everywhere pushing their latest film with exhibitors

June's role was to let producers know the wonderful features of the greater Rochester region as well as offering Film Office services, for which there have been plenty of accolades. She was on the lookout especially for television program and commercial producers.

Beside large exhibit booths many producers had private hotel suites, which were ideal for pin pointing specific producers.

The discussion branched off into the kind of production coming into our area. Feature films are rare unless a producer has a strong yen for Rochester. The logistics problems are many. Most producers working on the East Coast do not want to go more than a few miles out of NYC.

One side bar. June's associate in the Film Office is "TC." Someone asked what do T and C stand for? Ans. Thomas Carl. TC's father and grandfather were both Thomas Carl, hence the initials for the third one.

Past President

Betty Ann Brunton (**Lentine** when she was at Kodak) emailed us with a new address in Florida. It is 4334 Auston Way, Palm Harbor, FL, 34685. Tel: (727) 789-4390. Email: jbru1938@aol.com.

Betty Ann was RAVA's 19th president 1983 to 1985 and the first woman to hold that post.

Her message said: "I remember my time with RAVA fondly. I have not been back to Rochester for nearly four years but am hoping to make the trip back next summer. I truly appreciate hearing about all of the activities, and am pleased to see that the scholarship and student film events continue."

She works as Customer Care Manager for Smith & Nephew, Inc. in Largo, Florida.

New MCC Instructors

Rich Della Costa is teaching Jack Garner's former class at MCC. Paul Tracy is also teaching this fall.

News

Dengler Studios Closes

One of Rochester's finest recording studios, operated by RAVA member Bill Dengler, shut down in August.

For the past several years Bill has been fighting colon cancer – successfully. But, with his health a constant concern and business slow from the soft economy, he decided this was to time o close up shop.

He will continue to do remote recording. Martha, his long-time associate, is keeping the duping equipment and will provide that service out of her home.

Interesting Side Bar -

When Bill was getting his recording business under way, he did a major recording job for RAVA April 3, 1973. That day RAVA sponsored The Rochester Copyright Symposium at the time when Congress was about to update the copyright law, long overdue. In fact the US Senate held up their hearing on the new bill for two weeks in order to have the transcript of the daylong symposium.

Tim Slater Hospitalized His Mother Dies

It is good to report that retired RAVA treasurer Tim Slater is recuperating at home after hospitalization for congestive heart failure.

In late July Tim entered Highland Hospital. By mid August he went into St. Anne's for rehab, being released on Aug. 31. Tim had triple bypass surgery in the mid 1980s.

We are saddened to report that while Tim was in the hospital his mother died. He had been her caregiver for a number of years. Also, while he was in rehab, his move into a new apartment was completed by his twin brother.

Fall Schedule

- Tues. Oct. 1** – John Marianetti
Post-Central BUBL graphics
- Tues. Oct. 15** – The BUBL at
Roch. Museum & Sci. Ctr.
- Tues. Nov. 5** – Arnie Rothchild
Arts in Rochester advocate
- Tues. Nov. 19** – Visit Video
Propulsion new facilities

Save these dates

A Cogent Idea

If you caught the D&C Letters to the Editor July 17, you saw a letter by Stirlin Harris with a masterful idea – Tom Richards as superintendent of the Rochester School system Tom Richards as superintendent of the Rochester School system

RAVA members are no slouch. Stirlin wrote (in part): “To those who would say Mr. Richards isn't trained or qualified for the job, I would ask if he was trained or ‘qualified’ as a practicing attorney to head up a public gas and electric utility.

“A candidate such as Richards would bring fresh ideas to keep moving our city schools in the direction in which we all want them to go. A staff of professional educators could guide where necessary, while Richards could use his analytically trained mind, organizational skills and connection throughout our community to galvanize wide support for our city school students. He says he has ‘at least one more job left in me.’ ...”

Summer Happenings

Cruising

In mid July and early August Bill Dengler and wife Barbara took a leisurely 3-week cruise to Lake Champlain.

Bill owns a slow-going 34-foot trawler with a diesel engine. He proudly points out that often he can operate an entire summer on one tank full of fuel.

They went down the Erie Canal to the Hudson River and then north to Lake Champlain.

Bells and More Bells

First, **Wedding Bells** -This was, indeed, a busy summer for Walter Dixon. Initially it was getting both the Lake Ontario home and the newly acquired Maine town house ship shape. There was a reason.

Walter and Sheron Dixon's charming home was the setting for a double wedding on the deck overlooking the Lake Ontario woods Saturday, July 13. Their daughter Paris was married as was Sheron's half brother. Then Paris and her husband, John Lanning, went to Kennebunkport, Maine to honeymoon in the Dixon town house.

Second, Anniversary Bells. – Walter took part, in absentia, in WHAM's 80th anniversary as one of the nation's premier radio stations. Walter was with WHAM for 20 years to the day – 1959-1979.

RAVA's Frequent Traveler

Dan Reardon doesn't let any grass grow under his feet.

Nantucket, Las Vegas, Switzerland – all in one summer. Dan spent 10 days with his family in Murren, Switz., a town that allows no automobiles. He should have some interesting tales to intrigue us over the coming months of First Tuesdays.

Father and Sons

Fred Armstrong took one son to look at the University of Maryland and then to Cleveland for the Rock and roll Museum. While there they took in a Cleveland-Chicago White Sox baseball game. Over the Labor Day week he took the other son to Cape Cod.

their son who works in Colonial Williamsburg...
Keith Bullis and Paul Tracy stayed close to home.

Two Reunions..... On the Mississippi & Out West

On a memorable trip Tom and Mabeth Hope went down the Mississippi River where Tom, 65 years earlier as a Boy Scout, had gone with other senior scouts on a raft of old telephone poles 35 miles south of St. Paul to Pine Bend. The logs were hauled up into Friendly Valley to build a two-room log cabin. Three years later another raft furnished logs to build a bunkhouse. Today only the fireplace of the main cabin stands.

Ten days later Tom and one son with family flew out to Helena, Montana where, in 1942 and 1943, Tom had trained in a hush-hush unit of Canadians and Americans (First Special Forces) later to be known as the Green Berets.

What Others Did....

Jim Harte and tribe went to the Jersey shore, Hershey Park and Philadelphia.....
Tom Hanney et al went to Boston for a family wedding.... **Larry Dickens** and Susan just took off going west and ended up spending time in the Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn, Michigan....**Bob Barnes** and Ethyl in October will visit

Meet New Member

**THOMAS P (TOM)
PROIETTI**

**Professor of
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14622
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Tom is a Rochester native, graduating from St. John Fisher. He earned an MF in radio, TV and film at Syracuse University. His first job was as a reporter for Channel 3 in Syracuse.

Tom then taught at his alma mater, Fisher, for the next 11 years. He started its communication/journalism program. In 1980 he tried his hand in the commercial world, working five years with Time Warner. Since 1985 he has been at MCC.

For 10 years he has done an annual stint in London taking 20 MCC students with him as they learn about media in England.

Wife Donna teaches at Rochester's World of Inquiry.

Public Market History Video

You may remember for RAVA's 40th anniversary, we premiered a number of the county's history videos. A gift of \$75,000 had been given to the County to provide small grants for the purpose of making videos on some facet of Monroe County history.

Fred Armstrong's and Jim Harte's popular subway video was one. Stirlin Harris's Heine Clune story/interview was another. One that was never completed has recently surfaced.

Nancy Rosin shot more than 100 hours, which she has edited into a 54-minute pilot. But there's so much more valuable footage.

Now she would appreciate having the counsel and ideas of RAVA members who would like to brainstorm. Her footage encompasses much more than the market. Maybe it could become an economic documentary series on the growth of Rochester.

Anyone interested can see and discuss the 54-minute pilot with Nancy at 6:00 PM on Thurs., Sept. 12 at Corporate Communications, 108 S. Union St. Pizza will be brought in.

Please call Nancy (288-1779) if you plan to be there.

Daughter Amy is in computer programming at U Mass in Amherst. Aaron and his wife Karen are in Richmond, VA where he is a business analyst for Capital One.

Tom is an avid golfer, playing 60 games this year. He enjoys tennis and serves on the Little Theatre board.

**Visual Studies
Workshop**

Word on the street is that Visual Studies Workshop has downsized, cutting some staff. Rich Della Costa, who only joined recently, is out, but he will continue to work with the huge film archive.

The Harbor Town Belle
An Evening on the River
with Mark Twain.

Thursday, July 18, 2002 was a "first" for RAVA. In 1998 when Jim Harte was RAVA president, he tried in vain to organize a summer cruise. In 2001 Terry Palis tried it again. Now in 2002 Terry made it happen with a dinner cruise plus entertainment.

The cruise was sold out with maybe 150 passengers. In fact, that morning a RAVA past president called to see if he and his wife could join us. No luck

The afternoon was overcast with a modest wind. After we had settled at our tables on the second deck, an announcement came over the loudspeaker that we would not be going out on the lake, but rather up the Genesee River. Eating on a bouncing boat on rough Lake Ontario would have been a challenge. Anyway, it was a river, the proper setting for Mark Twain.

After a buffet chicken dinner, those on the lower deck came up to our deck with their chairs. That included probably 35 or 40 preteen

Round and About

What is Lo Film? – It is spontaneous film making in the true sense of the word.

Dave Danesh, House of Foods Productions, defines it as "a short film experiment designed to help actors and filmmakers flex their creative muscles. Basic story conception, shooting and editing take place in one day (well, sometimes two). There are no defined roles or "titles." Every person is a creative force to the extent he/she wants to be. Most of the films are between 7 and 10 minutes long."

At a Kate Kressmann-Kehoe Salon session (July 10 at Visual Studies Workshop),

children. We happened to be sitting close to the area where Mark Twain held forth with his witty monologue for close to an hour. Our "Mark Twain" was a Brighton actor, director and teacher, Tim McCormack.

We went up the river as far as and under the Memorial Bridge that was originally built for \$3 million and more

Lo Film

Dave showed several examples. "A Lively Day" is a silent B&W film with speed modifications. Another, "The Neighbors" is a slapstick horror film that used two cameras. Both films had a crew of seven.

Dave works as a cinematographer, a writer-director and as a producer. He spent time on the West Coast but has returned to Rochester, making industrials, etc. Presently he is developing a proposal for a documentary on the current state of education.

He can be contacted at 202-9577 or dsdanesh@house-of-food.com.

recently renovated for \$30 million. After we had left the extensive boat docks at the head of the river, it was interesting to see how wild the riverbank looked with heavy forage and no sign of habitation. Except for the bridge there was no inkling that there was a bustling city above the banks.