

The Newsletter for L.A. SIGGRAPH ACM's Special Interest Group on Computer Graphics

June 1992

THREE MEETINGS IN JUNE AT THE ELECTRONIC CAFE

LA SIGGRAPH will host three meetings in the month of June on three consecutive Tuesdays. Starting on June 16 with a meeting featuring Kit Galloway and Sherrie Rabinowitz of the Electronic Cafe. They will talk about all forms of image transmission, where we are headed and where we would rather end up! The Electronic Cafe will be an installation in the art show at SIGGRAPH '92. On June 23, neuroscience fiction writer David J. Brown & Rebecca McClen will talk about their new book "Mavericks of the Mind." On June 30, Bill Villarreal and Phil Feiner of Pacific Title and Art Studio will give a talk about traditional optical printing, digital compositing & the future of film recording. Social hours begin 6:30, meetings at 7:30. \$3. members, \$5. guests.

SIGGRAPH '92

CHICAGO July 26 - 31

Get ready for the 19th Annual International Conference on Computer Graphics and Interactive Techniques. For information about the SIGGRAPH '92 Conference in Chicago you can call the conference management office at (312) 321-6830 you can fax (312) 321-6876; or send electronic mail to: info92@siggraph.org . Leave your name and address and they IMMEDIATY mail you an advance program and application form;

To qualify for membership discounts you must be a member of national SIGGRAPH. Call SIGGRAPH headquarters in New York (212) 869-7440 for more information.

Housing deadline is June 29. Call Travel Planners (212) 995-5644 for flights or hotel reservations. The early-registration discount deadline is June 19, and you can fax the form to: (312) 321-6876. If your registration is not sent in by July 7, you will have to register on-site.

For a copy of the advance program/registration form, you can pick one up at the next LA SIGGRAPH meeting, June 16 at the Electronic Cafe (that way you'll make the June 19 deadline for earlyregistration.)

Phil Feiner & Bill Villarreal of Pacific Title June 30, 1992

Join us, June 30 at the Electronic cafe for a meeting with Phil Feiner and Bill Villarreal of Pacific Title and Art Studio. They will talk about traditional optical printing, digital compositing and give us a glimpse of where film recording is headed for the future

Social hour begins at 6:30, the meeting begins at 7:30.

Dave Brown 'Mavericks of the Mind' June 23, 1992

Neuroscience fiction writer David J. Brown (author of "Brainchild") and Rebecca McClen will be speaking about their new book "Mavericks of the Mind" (due out Spring 1993 by the Crossing Press), which consists of a series of interviews with such renowned thinkers as Terence McKenna, John Lilly, Rupert Sheldrake, Ralph Abraham, Riane Eisler, Jaron Lanier, Timothy Leary and Robert Anton Wilson.

They will be discussing different perspectives on the nature of consciousness, new breakthroughs in neuroscience such as "smart drugs", the evolutionary process, virtual reality, nano technology, lucid dreaming, death, psychedelics and extra terrestrial communication.

ACM 1992 Conference/ CSCW November 1-4, 1992

The Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work will be in Toronto Canada this winter. Program highlights include papers, demonstrations, workshops, panels, tutorials, and videos. A good mix of hardware and psychology folks, and always an interesting variety of project demonstrations on the exhibit floor, mostly from university research groups.

For more information contact: CSCW '92 Computer Systems Research Institute University of Toronto 6 Kings College Road Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5S 1A1

Email: cscw@dgp.utoronto.ca Phone or fax (416) 978-5184

ACM SIGCHI Logo contest August 31 Deadline

Here's your big chance. They would like to solicit your creative input. They are looking for a logo to exemplify what ACM/SIGCHI is all about. So don't get too wierd! Imagine your logo being prominently displayed on everything from t-shirts to stationary! It says "Think of all the fame and fortune if your design is selected." The deadline is August 31, 1992. You can e-mail questions to: sigchi-logo.chi@xerox.com or write to:

ACM/SIGCHI Logo Contest c/o Rosemary Wick, ACM/SIGCHI Public Relations chair 1464 Emerson Street Palo Alto, CA 94301

Chaos Network Conference June 24-26, 1992 Santa Cruz

Global markets, Eastern Europe, the environment, down - and upsizing organizations, the education systems, health care, and the economy are just some of the complex human systems in chaos today. New strategies for surviving this turbulence are developing from the growing understanding of their underlying dynamics, the dynamics of chaos.

This conference brings together pioneers in a comprehensive program designed for sharing and generating new strategies to further develop all kinds of human systems, or "Survival training for our species!" This is one of the few conferences around that offers a track on Metaphysics. It address the role chaos plays in redefining spiritual, mythical, and metaphysical ideas. Sessions include: 'The Eloguent Order Within the South Africa Chaos,' 'The Management of Boredom,' 'Chaos, Spirituality, and Addiction,' 'Chaos Modeling of Higher Education,' and 'Leadership When There is no direction.'

It's \$150. for students and \$445. otherwise. for information call (217) 328-0032.

The Hacker Crackdown

Look for Bruce Sterling's new book, The Hacker Crackdown, soon to be released by Bantam Books. This is his real story about hackers, cops, crackers and the opening of cyberspace. Having spent a year talking to hacker cops, he's more worried than ever about what's going on in this country! It's time we wake up and smell the coffee folks!

Computer Game Developers

Get on this mailing list if this is up your alley. Call Bryn Becker at (818)765-3426.

Lots of interesting locations and good topics. Let them know if you would like to host a meeting or make a presentation.

Need Memory? Call CitiTronics!

CitiTronics has donated 8 4MB Sims for the SIGKids students in Chicago. We thank them! They have an assortment of memory for many different kinds of machines (over 20 O.E.M. lines).

All CltiTronics memory uses only new chips and is fully warrantied. Give them a call if you are in the market for more memory (like who isn't!). Give George Flournoy a call at (818)855-5688.

SIGGRAPH'91

Conference Management Office 401 N. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Il 60611 (312) 321-6830 - voice (312) 321-6876 - fax info92@siggraph.org - e-mail

Dimension, the newsletter for L.A. SIGGRAPH, Copyright 1991 2207 Willetta Ave. LA 90068 Tel. 213.962.1662 Fax 213.462.2109 Publisher/Editor: Coco Conn LA SIGGRAPH Chair: Coco Conn Thank you to Gary Hatfield for his volunteer work this month. Also thank you to Tom Earnist , LA SIGGRAPH's hard working treasurer.

CPSR Holding The Front Lines

"FBI asks technology to not outpace wiretaps," is found in the Boston Globe Saturday, March 7, 1992.

"We're trying to build...a communications infrastructure-not establish a system of surveillance." warned Marc Rotenberg, director of the Washington CPSR, Computer Professionals for Social Responsibility

For the FBI, the problem is that terrorists, violent criminals, kidnappers, drug cartels and other criminal organizations will be able to carry out their illegal activities using the telecommunications system without detection." Surprisingly they left out 'child molesters.'

Industry officials and civil libertarians suggest that the farreaching FBI proposal is troubling because it suggests future phone services will have to be designed with wire surveillance in mind.

World War II events led the European Community to be much more concerned and sensitive to privacy issues then in the United States. Just the cost in reengineering present wiretapping systems to keep pace with the changes could cost "tens of millions" of dollars. These charges would be passed on to the consumer by raising interstate phone rates.

To find out more about the important issues that will affect the future of computer technology, telecommunications and most of all the future of encryption, call . Call Rodney Hoffman, president of the Los Angeles chapter of CPSR, Computer Professionals for Social Responsibility at (213) 222-6618. If your school does not offer courses on Electronic Freedom and Privacy issues, they should order the video library series of The First Conference on Computers Freedom & Privacy. Fifteen tapes Call (310) 455-3915 or e-mail for information to: cfpvideo@wellsf.ca.us

Digital World

June 23-25

One day after the Show Biz Expo, June 23-25, head for the Beverly Hilton Hotel, for a conference on digital technology and the future of the world. It's a mere \$995. for those folks who don't get to all the other conferences.

Folks From Banff

One of the more interesting presentations at Digital Worldwill be made by the folks from Banff. Their exhibits at SIGCHI were wonderful. I especially enjoyed a project by John Harrison and Douglas MacLeod called "Drumming Up A Building." You create three-dimensional architectural shapes on a computer monitor by drumming on a drum machine. The various pads call up different construction classics such as a staircase, a curved wall, or various sections of walls. The foot pedal turns the curser in different directions and moves it forward.

A piece by Dorota Blaszczak called The Voice Machine isalso interesting. The audience uses their voice to modify a 3D audio-visual environment. The sound of the voice drives the speed at which the images play on the screen

You'll hear more about that hot topic, multimedia. You'll also have an opportunity to remind Ameritech about the need for access to all telecommunications for everyone, not just 'business' or big business.'

For complimentary on-site admission call (310) 457-8500.

Creator Centor, A Multimedia Facility

These guys have all the gear and charge daily for it's use. They give classes on: Creating Multimedia, Managing Multimedia Projects, Video Production for Multimedia, IBM UltiMedia Tools and Macintosh Multimedia tools. The courses average 7-8 hours and cost \$240.

After you've learned how to do it, you can rent their fully equiped edit and mixing bays from \$40. to \$60. per hour. Additional creative and technical assistance can be had for another \$40. - \$60. per hour. This beats all those high priced conferences about what you could do if you had the equipment. Roll up you sleeves, and whip out that wallet. Good service, great graphics, strange name.

Free On-Line Bibliography

The HCI Bibliography is a free access on-line abstracted bibliography on the human-computer interaction. It contains over 3000 entries from conferences and major journals in the field. The total disk space of the bibliography is 3 MB. It is not an information service and you must download the files that you want to use from an archive at Ohio State University. Each file contain entries from a (part of) a conference or a journal volume.

Anonymous ftp to archive.cis.ohiostate.edu then look in pub/hcibib Email: hcibib@cis.ohio-state.edu

Floppy disk exchange is possible if you send formatted Mac or Dos (no 360K) floppy disks capable of holding 1.2 MB along with a prepaid return mailer. The files will be loaded and sent to you free of charge.

IICS Special Interest Groups

IICS (International Interactive Communications Society) LA's special interest groups are expanding and if you are interested contact the leader of the specific group for more information.

Virtual Reality Dave Blackburn (310) 545- 0369

Entertainment Software Developers Bryn Becker (818) 765-3426

CD-ROM Technology William Fisher (714) 241-0601

Macintosh/Hypercard Jerry Hamby (818) 712-0077 David Watkinson (213) 396-4084

Multimedia Pubications

Actually, it looks like there are some interesting publications here. Various quarterlies on multimedia, CD-Rom, virtual reality, and High Definition. For a catalogue or to order call: Meckler at (800) 635-5537.

NECC

June 13-17, 1992 Dallas

The National Educational Computing Conference will hold 'Windows to the World' in Dallas, Texas on June 15-17, 1992.

The theme of this conference refers to the ever-growing ability, through technology, to view and interact with the world from the classroom, office, and home. For info: (817) 565-3983

(817) 565-2185 FAX

or write to :

NECC '92, University of North Texas, Box 5155, Department of Computer Education and Cognitive Systems, Denton, Texas 76203

Pacific Title Two Positions Available

Pacific Title and Art Studio, a leading motion picture postproduction facility, is looking for a motivated individual to work in its high resolution digital image compositing facility. Qualified applicants should have a BSEE or equivalent experience and at least 3 years of hardware design experience.

This person will specify, design, build, verify analog and digital circuits, assemble and integrate various computer systems, install high resolution video distribution systems as well as high speed digital signal communication systems. Establish and implement maintenance procedures for specialized custom hardware, set up maintenance shop and spare parts inventory. Experience with PAL, FPGA, and CAD tools essential.

Neat and meticulous bench technique required. Familiarity with computer network systems, Unix systems, assembly language and C language programming a plus.

They are also looking for someone to work in their high resolution digital image compositing facility as an applications developer. Qualified applicants should have a BSEE or BSCS or equivalent experience and at least 3 years of programming experience with UNIX/C systems developing windowed applications and graphical user interfaces running on high end graphics workstations.

Primary duties include specification, design, and implementation of a graphical user interface environment for compositing and manipulation of high resolution images, as well as development of applications as required for the support of the facility. Experience with windowing systems including X Windows, Motif, Unix operating systems and systems programming

procedures are essential.

Please send your resume to Pacific Title Digital Facility, 6350 Santa Monica Blvd. Hollywood, CA 90038. No phone calls please. All inquiries confidential.

Multi-modal Mouse at SIGCHI

Motoyuki Akamatsu and Sigeru Sato have developed a mouse type interface device with tactile and force display. It's the size of a regular mouse. The device provides tactile information by means of an on-off signal which gives information of contact or noncontact with a target.

The tactile information given by the mouse is limited to that controlled by on-off signals. It is , however, possible to provide texture and other tactile surface information by using an actuator, through which stimulus amplitude can be controlled.

One of the functions of tactile information is to confirm touching the object. It can be considered that in this function tactile information is a substitute for visual information. However, when one traces the shape of an object by ones finger tip, tactile information is added to visual information to help increase the velocity of finger movements and, at the same time, reduce the use of visual function.

Their article will appear in the proceedings of The Second International Conference on Artificial Reality and Tele-Existance (ICAT '92), July 1-3, 1992, Tokyo, Japan. You can reach them at the Industrial Products Research Institute in Japan, 1-1-4 Higashi, Tsukubo, 305 japan.

New SIG's More SIG's Wassa SIG?

Since running the LA SIGGRAPH chapter is such a breeze, we've decided to start several other SIGs. Maria came by and started this list. New Sub-SIG's, proposed events or alternative meetings.

SIG-LĬT

Meet once every two months to read a play aloud. Preference on plays with scientific theme, but classics and contemporary work will also be read.

First reading: "Breaking the Code" by Hugh Whitemore, based on the life of Alan Turing

Other suggested plays: Vaclav Havel's "The Memorandum; "G.B. Shaw's "Man and Superman, " "Terrance McNally's "Frankie and Johnny and the Man in the Moon," and Shakespeare's "Hamlet."

TECHNO-TARTS

For women only. No crossdressers. No sensitive males. No substitutes.

High tea and good conversation on issues of interest to women in computer graphics.

SIG-DRAW

Life drawing with live model and instructor. All levels. Beginners welcome. Any medium you choose: pencil, brush, pixel, etc.

SIG-MIX

How to meet women and what to do with them. What guys are really like away from the terminal. Panels and papers.

SIG-SING

Doo Wop

Karoake Bars

Parodies

Just plain good singing — on or off key. Acoustic only. Sorry, heavy metal fans.

SIG-STUFF

Avon Tupperware Discovery Toys Jafra Skin Products Frederick's of Hollywood

SIG-SMART

Education issues and the computer. Addressing math- phobic users. Writing better interfaces. Using plain english. Making advances while staying accessible. Training teachers on new tech.

SIG-PARK

Theme Parks and simulations. Thanks Maria. We'll get right on it!

Super Video Windows

Super VideoWindows is a family of multimedia products for Windows, DOS, and 3rd parties at low prices.

Their hardware provides full motion digital video, video in a window anywhere on a screen, freeze store manipulate and export images, smooth scaling down to any size, graphics and text overlay, 2.1 million colors, and stereo audio. Contact New Media Graphics at (800) 288-2207.

EZTV/Tom Sawyer Exhibition Preparation Workshop July 11 8pm

Join other LA SIGGRAPH members and artists at a Tom Sawyer Exhibition Preparation Workshop. July 11th, 8pm (the weekend after the 4th of July). There will be live entertainment and speakers giving talks on "How to Prepare Your Work For Public Presentation." The space, when painted, will be used to exhibit the work of computer artists.

Wear old clothes and hats. Bring 2" or 4" paint brushes and other paint supplies you might want to use or share.

EZTV is located at 8547 Santa Monica blvd. 1 1/2 blocks west of La Cienega. A \$3. donation will help to cover refreshments. Call Patric Prince for more info: (818) 797-7674.

David Ziedman Speaks On Interactive Design July 21, 1992

LA SIGGRAPH and LA SIGCHI will have a joint meeting July 21 at PIMA. David Ziedman, an Interactive Designer/Line Producer at Philips Interactive Media of America (PIMA) will speak on Creating Interactive Multimedia: A Team Oriented Approach.

This meeting will focus on the ArtSpace Production Team at Philips Interactive Media of America. They have produced a series of art titles including Harvest of the Sun: Vincent Van Gogh Revisited, The Renaissance of Florence, and The Art of the Czars.

The purpose of this series is to provide exciting and dramatic programs based on relatively simple, easy to use, generic controls for navigation. The goal is to produce these titles at the highest possible quality, in terms of graphic design and engineering, under the tightest possible time schedules.

To accomplish these goals, a team was formed consisting of a producer, an engineer, two graphic artists, an art director, a writer, a production coordinator, and last but not least an interactive designer. The production techniques, group interactions, and engineering platforms will be highlighted during the meeting.

Also, the most recent ArtSpace titles will be demonstrated along with other CD-I titles currently in the marketplace. Come and check it out!!

Space for this meeting is limited, so you must call ahead and RSVP: Philips Interactive Media of America (310) 444-6669.

They are located on Santa Monica Blvd. near the San Diego Freeway. RSVP & then get the address.

Project Mathematics! Sines and Cosines

Project Mathematics! is pleased to announce the arrival of a new module called Sines and Cosines, Part I. The module is part of a growing family of award winning mathematics videotapes and workbooks which include: The Theorem of Pythagoras, The Story of Pi, Similarity, Polynomials, and the Teachers Workshop. The materials can be purchased from the Caltech Book store. Each module (tape and workbook) is \$11.25 plus postage and handling. Extra workbooks are \$1.50 plus postage and handling. Videotapes and workbooks can be ordered by mail or telephone. Caltech Bookstore, 1-51 Caltech, Pasadena, CA 91125 (818) 356-6161

Rowland High School Summer Intern

A young and talented high school graduate is interested in an intern position for the summer. He is strong in math visualization, in computer graphics, and in making presentations. Call Philipp Garcia at (818)964-6268. He participated, with his calculus class, in the Rowland High School Animation Festival Open House in May.

Live Interactive Satellite Broadcast June 24, 1992

'Managing The Human Computer Interface', a live interactive satellite broadcast produced by The University of Maryland Instructional Television System will feature James Martin, author and consultant, and David Nagel, Senior Vice President Apple Computers. Wednesday, June 24, 1992, 1-3 pm Eastern Time.

Technology & Persons With Disabilities

There's more going on here than meets the eye. Harry Murphy and his staff at the California State University in Northridge put on this wonderful and important conference. If you are not on their mailing list for next year then get it together and call them at (818) 885-2578. Who is already using all those wonderful interfaces that 'need to be developed'? Who has to push the frontier of user interface? Who really needs new technology? Where can you find unusual new interface ideas for theme park development? Who has gotten past the idea that 'watching' a screen is the future of human computer interaction? The vendors and attendees of this conference!

This year VPL brought their new Macintosh VR system down to share with persons with disabilities at the conference.

A company called CM Research brought something called the Displaced Temperature Sensing System X/10. It allows you to add the sensation of temperature to your virtual reality system, tele-robotics system or prosthetics research.

With this system one can feel the temperature of a remote location (real or unreal) as if you were there. Think of a summer day, a winter storm, a cup of coffee, or a drink at the water fountain. Thermal sensation gives other cues to the nature of things in the environment. The systems attaches to the body via a thermode.

A thermode is an assembly consisting of a thermoelectric heat pump, a temperature sensor and a heat sink. The heat pump moves heat into or out of the heat sink to produce a temperature at the surface of the thermode. Using feedback from the sensor, the DTSS regulates the temperature of the thermode. For more information call them at: (713) 334-4661 in League City, Texas.

The DU-It Control Systems Group has a catalogue of controls for the severely disabled. Call them at (216) 567-2906 in Ohio.

Berkeley Systems Inc.a software company, presented: "inLARGE II and Beyond," "Macintosh Access for Persons with blindness: A Hand-On Introduction," "The Paradox of the Graphical User Interface: Unprecedented Computer Power for People with Visual or Learning Disabilities," and "A Developer's Toolkit for Access to the Graphical User Interface." (510) 540-5535.

To order "Getting There, A Guide to Accessibility for Your Facility" which helps you plan your work environment to include persons with disabilities write: California Department of Rehabilitation, Community Access and Rehabilitation Section, 830 K Street Mall, Room 212, Sacramento, California 95814.

User Interface Software & Technology

UIST '92 is sponsored by ACM SIGGRAPH and SIGCHI. It is the premier forum on innovative engineering of the Human-Computer interface. The intimate size, single track, and comfortable surroundings make this symposium an ideal opportunity to exchange research results and implimentation experiences. For more info contact : Jock Mackinlay Xerox PARC 3333 Coyote Hill Rd. Palo Alto, CA 94304 Tel: (415) 494-4335 FAX: 415) 494-4777 Email: Mackinlay.parc@Xerox.com

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The International Conference of Visual Arts August 3-5, 1992

The Northern California chapter of Artist Equity is proud to be hosting the Second International Conference of Visual Artists. Consejo Mundial de Artistas Plasticos (COMAP, the World Council of Visual Artists) was founded in November of 1989 in Mexico City by two hundred artists representing 21 countries (Europe, the U.S., and Latin america.) Artists united in order to share and communicate information regarding legal rights and protection for artists. The need for artist participation in national arts policy was another topic at this first conference.

This year issues to be discussed include: Artistic Identity, Art & Technology, Public Art, Art & Peace, Multi-Cultural Arts, Markets for Artists, Art & Ecology, and Art in the 21st Century.

Contact Artist Equity at P.O. Box 460931, San Francisco, CA 94146 or call (415) 626-6808 for more

If you would like a copy or a really nicely designed information poster about LAN or ISDN, send a typed letter on your letterhead requesting the poster and saying a few words about the poster's usefulness to you and your work. After they receive your letter they'll be happy to send the poster(s) to you free of charge. They show the relationship between the various available technologies, and products, and they're nice to look at! Send your letter to: James Hake, Access Media, Inc. 3015 Main Street, Suite 390, Santa Monica, CA 90405

The ITS Forum July 16-20

The Int'l. Teleproduction Society is having it's annual forum. Of interest will be the non-linear edit system shoot-out on their exhibit floor on Friday 17, 2:30 pm. Also a View of the Future From the MIT Media Lab at 3:30, Sunday July 19.

Master classes for the Avid, Chyron, Abekas, Alpha Image/Utah Scientific, Quantel, Colorgraphics, Aurora, Quanta, da Vinci, CMX, BTS, and Panasonic.

For more information call the ITS Forum Hotline at (212) 629-3266, or fax (212) 629-3265. Pre-registration deadline is June 26. Registration runs around \$500, unless you're the 7th or 8th person from a facility which brings it down to \$150. or \$75.

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LA ACM SIGGRAPH

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