

MovieMaker

The Voice of

AUCKLAND MOVIEMAKERS INC

November 2011



As 2011 draws to a close it's an appropriate time to reflect on the year just past and also an appropriate time to start thinking about plans for the coming year. In the year just past we have been very privileged with the quality of our guest presenters and the quality of our "offsite visits" many thanks to those who have organised these. The club is in good heart however as was discussed at the November committee meeting we must continue to work hard to create an environment and activities that draw new members. The committee meeting spent considerable time discussing this topic including exploring the reasons why people join "hobby clubs" and then asking ourselves the question: "How does the AMM club address the motivators?" We identified the key motivators as:



Knowledge / skill development

Learning about all aspects of film making e.g. script writing, directing, camera usage, software, lighting, audio, editing, researching, presenting, interviewing.

Social interaction / fun

Meeting and chatting with people who have a common interest, sharing experiences, telling stories, planning future projects, light hearted in a non pressured environment.

Assistance & motivation

Amateur enthusiasts are likely to want to improve what they do and "Google" and "U-Tube" only go so far. One of the best ways to learn/progress and gain motivation is to discuss and work with others with greater experience. Making contacts / networking.

Providing assistance to others

Providing an opportunity to use your knowledge and skills to benefit others

Creating the right environment is certainly a challenge but your committee is confident we can create an environment and interesting agenda for the year ahead that will address these motivators and which will attract new members. There was considerable discussion about the way the world was changing including the availability of low price commodity hardware and software for budding film makers, the ability to find out about how to do almost anything, courtesy of the internet and UTube. We concluded that the club must take these factors into consideration when deciding the things we might do to encourage new members. It's also worth pointing out however that the common factor that makes us a club is primarily a love of movie making and that to a significant extent those in the Auckland area who have this passion will find us on the basis that we have a visible presence (on the internet) and continue to build formal and informal networks in areas related to movie making. More on this topic including specific actions will be advised next year.

Also a final reminder about our last meeting together for the year: The Annual Awards dinner on the 24th November at Ryders Theatre Restaurant in Avondale. This should be a great social night out and a terrific venue for celebrating (and awarding) the best work that our members have produced this year. I hope to see you there.

Lastly I wish all members a safe and relaxing holiday season. Take the time to reflect on the year past and to create a plan with the movie making goals that you have for 2012.

Xmas cheer to all!

Ian Hight
President



Our October 26 Club Meeting review



GLASSHAMMER VISUAL EFFECTS

We had an excellent presentation by Justin Buckingham who, together with his wife Jo, are directors of Glasshammer Visual Effects, a company which services the television, advertising and film industries. Justin explained their activities which include model making, set construction, mechanical rigs and the use of electromechanical devices to animate models

He showed how they went about making the wild boar and chimpanzee for the latest Toyota Hilux TV commercial. The storyboard required the animals to appear lifelike in both appearance and movements. They would be an actor in a boar suit and one in a chimp suit.

Moulds made of the actors in the required positions were used to model the boar and the upper part of the chimp. Hand and leg extensions were made, limbs and muscles were shaped and servos were placed in the boar's head to work the ears and jaw. Polyester resins were used to create proper skin texture. Synthetic fur dyed different tones was added. Hairs were applied to the chimp's face one at a time, a painstaking process, followed by make-up and, during post production, animation of the chimp's face. The actors were placed inside the completed suits and filming commenced.

For those who have not yet seen the advert you can Google Toyota New Zealand Hilux TV Ad. Its title is: Tougher Than You Can Imagine. For non-New Zealanders, hokey pokey is a kind of ice-cream.

Murray Davidson then screened part of his movie of a tramping trip he and colleagues did in the Swiss alps. Very good and interesting as always. At Murray's request, the video was critiqued by Martin Beadle and Martin Coles who made constructive suggestions.

Paul Nel

Seasons Greetings

The committee wish all members and friends the very best for the festive season and look forward to seeing you all in the new year, enjoy your holiday.



Videomaker training update

It's Easy to Speed Time Up with Time Lapse Video

Most video editing applications allow you to set the playback speed of an individual video clip. As such, you can take a thirty-second video clip and set the playback speed to play at 200% the original speed. This will make the 30-second clip be only 15 seconds (twice the speed). Let's take a look at how you can use this with a real-life example.

Let's say your 6-year-old daughter will be celebrating her 7th birthday and you want to make a short video for posterity. You've decided that she'll be getting a new easel (she likes to finger paint). You capture every wonderful moment, including her big grin when she opens the easel. You put together a 3-minute video and everything is swell, but you'd like a creative closing shot with the easel in use.

You could show a slowly-paced 5 to 8 second shot of your daughter using the easel while she paints and then fade out to black. That doesn't seem to have the punch you'd like at the end. Wouldn't it be nice to see the importance of the easel in relation to your daughter's artwork? That would make the gift seem much more important, which would make the video much more enjoyable. But how would you achieve this in the final seconds of the video? It's time for time lapse. Now you can set up your camcorder to record your daughter setting up her art easel, and painting a picture of a birthday cake. You record the video in normal speed the entire time. Then, you capture the video in your video editing software. The whole sequence is fifteen minutes long. On the timeline, you select the clip and change the duration to be 8 seconds. Just like changing the playback speed, changing the duration either speeds the clip up or slows it down. In this case we're forcing the 15-minute clip to playback in 8 seconds. There you have it. The final shot of the video shows the birthday present in action tying together the exciting event. And, it was done without invoking any settings on your camcorder.

To learn more about speeding up time, visit "Time Lapse Video."

Ref eNews@videomaker.com



The introduction of the Steadicam in 1976 revolutionized the world of film and video.

New generations of Steadicam have been redesigned to unleash endless possibilities.

Tiffen offers you a complete line of state-of-the-art models to meet your film & video needs.

The Steadicam Smoothee™ is specifically designed and engineered to work with your Apple® iPhone 3Gs. Based on the same technology as the big \$60,000 rigs used in Hollywood, it allows iPhone 3Gs owners to capture incredible video without the shakes normally associated with hand-held video shot on the go, right out of the box, the very first time. The Smoothee can be used with the Apple iPhone 3GS, 4, the Flip Mino video camera, or the iPod Touch with additional models to follow.

"Whether you're a novice or aspiring videographer, the Steadicam Smoothee™ allows iPhone 3Gs owners to have a richer experience and more fun with their iPhone," said Steve Tiffen, president and CEO of the company.

The Steadicam Smoothee™ is small and agile enough to take on vacations or follow the action at sporting events. The Smoothee™ let's you "fly" wherever the scene takes you--up and down steps, indoors and outside, through crowds --almost anywhere, with precise, elegant control and ease. Its quick release mount lets you instantly swap camera connections between your Smoothee™ and any tripod.

While designed for the Apple i-Phone 3Gs, the patented quick release removable i-Phone mount also serves as a tabletop stand or can be mounted to any tripod with a standard ¼ x20" camera mount.

The comfortable ergonomic hand-grip folds up securely when not in use. Also included with the Steadicam Smoothee™ is a quick guide DVD on how to get the best possible shots, along with a carrying strap.

The lightweight, compact, agile, and easy to use Steadicam Smoothee™ features an innovative, patented design built around a durable mono-frame metal structure that requires no complicated instruction to use. With its "go anywhere" compact dimensions, the Steadicam Smoothee™ is approximately 8"W x 14.5" H x 2.5" D (20.3 x 36.8 x 6.4cm) in operating configuration.

For full info :

www.steadicam.com/smoothee_home.html

Free Projection Screen

I have a 95 inch diagonal 16:9 non collapsible projection screen.
No hot spots and pure white vinyl coating on 5mm thick board.
Free for pick-up and removal.

Contact Bryan binnsbj@ihug.co.nz



November club meeting

Annual Awards 2011
Date: Wednesday 23th November
Time: 6.30pm—don't be late
Venue: Ryders Theatre Restaurant—BYO
177 Riversdale Road
Avondale



Master of Ceremonies: Martin Beadle

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 22nd February 2012

2011-12 Officers

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We meet on the 4th Wednesday of each month at:

Auckland Horticultural Hall
990 Great North Road
Western Springs
(opposite Motions Road)
7.30 pm SHARP

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