

VISUAL EFFECTS AWARD RULES COMMITTEE**Minutes of Meeting****June 23, 1994**

Present were: Chairman Jonathan Erland, Vice Chairman Pete Clark, Howard A. Anderson, Robert Blalack, Rob Bottin, Ray Feeney, Gregory Jein, Peter Kuran, Greg Van der Veer and Paul Wurtzel.

Not present were: Richard Edlund, Rocco Gioffre, David English, Edward L. Jones, Michael Lantieri, J. Kevin Pike and Bill Taylor.

Present for the Academy was Claudia Barrett

Not present for the Academy was Rich Miller

BRANCH STATUS

Chairman Jonathan Erland gave a report to the committee on what took place at the Realignment Committee meeting. He said the committee wanted to make a branch out of the Member-at-Large branch giving them 3 Board governors, one from Visual Effects, one from Makeup and one from the other branch members. That would mean that Visual Effects would get a new Board member every three years. Jonathan felt this would cause problems similar to the Art Directors branch down the line. He said the Visual Effects people haven't had a proper hearing on the validity of Visual Effects branch status.

The Realignment Committee took a straw vote as to whether the Visual Effects members warranted branch status. The results were 6 for, 4 against and one abstention. The Realignment Committee then suggested the Visual Effects members present their case to them to decide whether or not they should make a presentation to the Academy Board of Governors.

Don Rogers who was on that committee told Jonathan that it may be impossible to gain branch status for visual effects alone because there are too many other factions that want branch status also. He recommended that visual effects should accept branch status as Members-at-Large.

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Jonathan asked the Realignment committee to unlink the visual effects from the other discussions and other problems assigned to it. The Chairman said it was a significant undertaking to make the case for branch status on its own.

The Chairman started through his outline. We can hang our case on By-laws Article 2. We need information from all of you about seminars or lectures you have given. Community outreach. The program Ellen Harrington put on was most successful, Show Biz Expo's seminar was well received.

Pete Clark believes the presentation should start with 2 to 3 pages of an impassioned but rational statement.

From Jonathan's outline, use structural history, he quoted Pierre Norma Sands "Historical Study of the AMPAS 1927 - 1947." "The original concept of the Academy was that of an organization uniting all the main facets of Motion Picture production... As the motion picture industry grew in complexity, the number of Academy Branches was increased to insure continued representation from all major facets of production."

"While both art direction and special effects share common ancestry, they have evolved into distinct areas of expertise. The roles today would certainly not be interchangeable."

We would use exhibits, and video tapes to each member of the Realignment Committee and to each member of the Board. And even if this presentation does not accomplish what we want now, it would reside in the archives for future reference and would be a high water mark for other categories who wish to become branches. The way effects are done today is changing and will continue to change. This presentation would be a good record.

ask them for a bid on what it would cost to prepare our presentation. Claudia contact
Movie Magic producers to see if we could use some of their material for our presentation.

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Jonathan, we may be able to use existing material only with an in-house spin.
The Visual Effects committee could pull things out of the Movie Magic material for our
purposes.

Pete Clark we could reach out to various governors showing them how visual
effects has helped them. Pete Clark made a motion which was seconded by Greg
Van der Veer to apply for full, separate branch status. It was unanimously passed
by the Visual Effects Award Rules Committee.

ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN

Jonathan, we do as much of this as possible, write it and then have somebody
package it. The same with the video. ILM will donate facility. Michael Lantieri is
talking to Amblin.

Perhaps we can talk to the governors that put the Short Film presentation
together. Ask for input on cost, etc.

We could enlist donations from visual effects Academy members.

Talk to the Editor of Cinefex Magazine, Don Shay to see if we could use some
of his material. (Rob Bottin offered to contact Don Shay - He knows him). Pete Clark
said he would also like to talk to Don Shay. Jonathan Erland will contact Saul Bass and
Stephen Rocha of Movie Magic. Claudia Barrett will contact Lucia Schultz re Pierre Norma
Sands and send copies of the meeting information to members of the Visual Effects
committee who were not at the meeting.

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Jonathan will write a letter to Sid Ganis, Chairman of the Realignment Committee, to inform him the Visual Effects Award Rules Committee has decided to make a presentation and are starting to research the project. Jonathan will ask Sid Ganis to let the Academy Board of Governors know that it's in works in case they get phone calls from their constituency.

Let the games begin!

There being no other business, the Chairman adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Claudia Barrett