## THE MULTI-MEDIA BULLETIN

QUARTERLY REPORT OF PROGRESS

Spring 1979

Welcome to the first issue of "The Multi-Media Bulletin", a new quarterly publication from The Family of God Foundation, Inc. The "Bulletin" is designed to keep you informed of the plans and progress of the Multi-Media Division toward its objective of global ministry thru film, television, and other visual media channels. Perhaps it will stimulate you to take advantage of our growing list of audio/visual materials for your own ministry efforts, and hopefully it will help us to broaden the base of our prayer and financial support, so essential to the extension of our ministry. We hope also, that the "Bulletin" will provide you with a bit of humor, a touch of inspiration, and a measure of encouragement as you go about your daily work in the affairs of our Father's growing family.

ABOUT OUR NAME: The Family of God Foundation, Incorporated, is the legal entity through which we accomplish our work. The name, Cosmic Pilgrim Productions, predates our association with FOG, as is explained elsewhere in this newsletter. We stopped using the name in preference for the more widely accepted, Spiritual Renaissance Institute, of which we are designated The Multi-Media Division. This name is for public marketing purposes, to identify products and services which are provided by FOG. We have our own studio in Castro Valley, Calif., about a half hour drive from the radio broadcast studios in Berkeley. Close administrative contact is maintained, and many volunteers and co-workers contribute time and effort to both radio and multi-media work. We recently received a mailing of a sweepstakes entry form addressed to the P. Cosmic family: "Imagine the Cosmic family of Castro Valley enjoying this fabulous dream vacation, or a cash prize to the Cosmics for whatever you may desire!" The Father works in strange ways, but. . .



Francyl tunes an oscillator on an electronic music synthesizer during production of the sound track for "And There Was War In Heaven". The division's access to advanced production technology allows the preparation of sophisticated programs on a minimal budget.

A Spiritual Renaissance Publication

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## GROWTH AND PROGRESS; An overview of the past few years:

1974	"Genesis" First presentation; initial work experience in script writing, music mixing
1975	"Family of God FoundationAn Introduction" Short documentary of FOG work; first experiment with two projectors and dissolve, recording and mixing conversations.
1976	"Quest For Perfection" continued development of dissolve technique. "Unification—The Eternal Quest" experimented with image masking and laser effects.
1977	"Vision for an Advanced Civilization" Experiment with three projectors and computer synchronization; experimental animated effects and production of our own original sound track.
1978	"How Jesus Taught" Our first presentation done entirely ourselves; all photography, music production, recording, writing and editing.  "And There Was War In Heaven" Five projectors with computer synchronization, animated effects; construction and photography of models for scenes on other worlds, original sound track produced in electronic music studio; initial experiment in techniques to be used in film production.  Produced first Television program.

The Multi-Media Division had its origin a little over six years ago when David Kantor established an independent effort called "Cosmic Pilgrim Productions" for the purpose of producing and distributing recordings of spiritually oriented electronic music compositions. Then, a little over four years ago, the First Urantia Society of Los Angeles put on a conference built around the theme of utilizing art as a medium of spiritual teaching. For that conference, Sue Kantor, Connie Aller, and David Kantor teamed up to produce a slide presentation called "Genesis", the story of biological evolution up to the times of Andon and Fonta. The subsequent response to that program was so positive that additional work was begun along similar lines.

Cosmic Pilgrim Productions was soon assimilated as a division of the Family of God Foundation, Inc., and a five year plan was developed designed to yield familiarity with the various aspects of producing visual materials, as well as experience in putting on performances and discovering the manner in which visual materials could be best used for reaching the world with a spiritual message. Several friends agreed to help with the financing of the venture, and we were off and running.

A major transition had to take place; Genesis was produced with slides shot from magazines and a sound track lifted from commercial records, all of which were covered by copyrights, making it impossible for us to use the material except in a very limited way.

Beverley Wold of Hemet California played an important part in this transition; she very graciously made available a collection of thousands of slides which she had taken in her travels over many years. This critical step led the way to the creation of our own photographic department, the major contributors to which are Jeff and Penny Oster, David Kantor, and Beverley Wold. The contributions of many other photographers help to broaden the variety of slides available for production work.

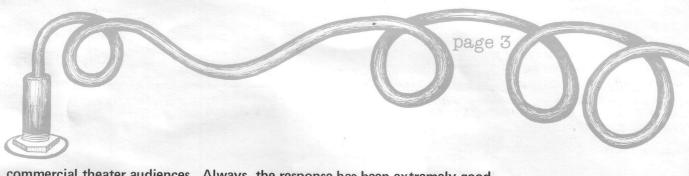
Our sound track capabilities developed along parallel lines; there are many capable musicians within the FOG crew, and the first work which we produced was done in a commercial studio by our own musicians. We now have this capability in our own studio, and now do all the production work ourselves.

Approaching completion of the first five year plan, the division has produced a number of complex computer-controlled presentations for conferences, and has experienced performance situations on the west coast ranging from a few people in a coffee house, to church groups and



Heather Kantor at the controls in the multi-media studio; the division has facilities for the creation of a wide variety of sound, film, and graphic arts materials, enabling the greatest percentage of contributions to be used in the direct production of programs for a rapidly growing audience.





commercial theater audiences. Always, the response has been extremely good.

The first television program has been produced and aired, and with the help of many of you, the division now has over \$25,000 invested in production capabilities; a major program of public

outreach is now in the early stages of development.

Preliminary work has begun on the first 16mm color film, and progress continues on the production of live multi-media presentations. The division is preparing to publish transcripts of its multi-media programs as well as audio cassettes of selected portions of sound tracks. In addition, simple slide/tape programs are being made available for use by individuals around the country. The division is also preparing to expand into videocassettes as that market develops during the next decade. Reaching a viable level of television production for national audiences during the 1980s, as well as beginning to produce animated programs for children are among the list of immediate objectives.

At present, a marketing plan is being developed to facilitate the distribution of materials to teachers in existing institutions who are involved in spiritual education-churches and private schools being primary markets. This is also intended to provide some of the income necessary for the achievement of our

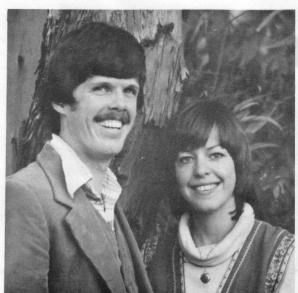
objectives.

The unleashing of such a powerful ministry capability in such a short period of time is a profound reality to experience, but it is also deeply humbling, for it is obvious that we are not in this alone; a vivid awareness of so much unseen help should call all of us to assume our maximum level of responsibility in the work of the Father's family, for we have been assured that if we ask in Jesus' name for that which is consistent with the will of the Father, it will be so.

CONSULTATION SERVICES: We would be more than happy to provide you with information on the development of audio/visual materials for your own spiritual education efforts. We have considerable background in materials, equipment, technique, and information which would be of value to you. Write to David Kantor in care of the Family of God Foundation.

HELP WANTED: You can play a major role in the extension of this ministry; during the 1980s we would like to establish a network of agents in major metropolitan areas around the world, who can arrange showings of films and multi-media programs in their own areas. We will provide the materials and as much support as possible if you can just do the footwork in your own community to get these programs on your television stations, in your schools, churches, libraries, or whatever other forum is available. Although this is still in a developmental stage, if you are interested in participating, please let us know. This work could be done as a group project as well as by individuals.

HELP PROVIDED: A typical multi-media production performed at a conference is the culmination of much work by many individuals. An initial concept and a conceptual outline is presented to several writers who then compose specific segments of a script. Many cycles of submission, editing, and rewriting ensue until a fairly cohesive and unified script has taken shape. From here a screenplay is written to unite the concepts visually, and additional script modifications usually take place at this stage. Meanwhile, photography will have started, in fact, specific visual sequences will have started



Jeff and Penny Oster, pictured above, are major contributors of photographic work. The professionalism of their work has been a major factor in our growth.

development in the initial conceptual stages of the presentation. When the script is finally complete, it is submitted to a panel of at least three people for final approval and grammatical polish. Upon acceptance of a final script, the dialog tracks are recorded. Once a master dialog tape is edited and timed, the visual sequences are refined and coordinated. When a fairly smooth coordination between visuals and dialog has been achieved, the musical score, which has during this time been in various stages of development, is

recorded, and additional refinements of visuals are made to synchronize them with specific musical structures. The entire production then goes through a period of refining and further coordination of its various components until it is complete. A computer program is then written to control the projectors and the presentation is ready for preview. The entire FOG staff is invited to view the program and suggestions and comments are entertained as to further refinements. When these are made, the production is ready for performance. In our experience, actual production time is close to 35 hours of work for each minute of the finished production. It might be added that all of this work is done on volunteer time by individuals who hold full-time jobs and have other foundation work to do as well.

## MATERIALS AVAILABLE FOR YOUR USE:

We are in the early stages of having a catalog of materials which you can use in your spiritual ministry efforts. At present, we have the following materials available:

PEACEFUL KINGDOM a collection of recordings of Francyl and Vern performing at various conferences and events. . . . . . \$5.95 (LP record)

MULTI-MEDIA PASSAGES, VOL 1 a half-hour cassette featuring cuts from sound tracks of multi-media programs. Contains the section on Jesus of Nazareth from "Vision", and Jeffrey Wattles' original guitar compositions for "How Jesus Taught".....\$5.95 (available in Dolbyized stereo for \$1.00 extra)

QUEST FOR PERFECTION a 30 minute slide-tape program consisting of a carousel of slides and a cassette sound track containing a tone to indicate slide-changes. For general audiences, deals with the essence of religion and contains interviews with contemporary religious leaders.
.....\$55.00 purchase, \$20.00 rental (rental applicable to purchase; custom modifications made upon request for use with more sophisticated equipment)

The above prices are all suggested donations, which will cover our costs and contribute towards further work; they are also tax deductible.

We greatly appreciate your prayers and support, and at this point would like to make a special solicitation of your suggestions, ideas, and any criticisms which you might have related to the multi-media project. We look forward to hearing from you.

David Kantor, Director Multi-Media Division



A member of the Sikh Dharma Brotherhood shares music of his faith with an audience consisting of representatives of all the worlds major faiths during the annual Spiritual Renaissance Conference. One of the auxiliary functions of the Multi-Media Division is to provide technical support for a variety of projects undertaken by the foundation.

