

ICC Annual Banquet
March 26, 2016, 6pm-10pm

Chief Guest and Keynote Speaker



Steve Sasson

Inventor of the Digital Camera

Presentation Title:

*“Disruptive Innovation:
The Story of the First Digital Camera”*

Steven was born and raised in the Bay Ridge section of Brooklyn N.Y. Throughout high school, he had an intense interest in electronics and was a major distraction to his parents' as he collected all manner of discarded TV's and radios from around the neighborhood so he could salvage electronic components for his home projects. With these parts and those purchased on his frequent trips to "Radio Row" in Manhattan, Steven designed and built radio receivers, stereo amplifiers and transmitters in his basement. He obtained his amateur radio license as a teenager and further challenged his parents by putting up large antennas on the roof of the family's rather small row house in Brooklyn. Steven attended Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) in Troy N.Y. and in 1973; he graduated with a BS and a Masters degree in electrical engineering. During the summers of his college years ('68 -'73), he had several jobs that included being a "runner" on Wall Street (before Email!)

After graduation Steven joined Eastman Kodak Company as an electrical engineer working in an applied research laboratory. He engaged in a number of early digital imaging projects. Among these was the design and construction of the first digital still camera and playback system in 1975. Steven continued to work throughout the 1980s in the emerging field of digital photography receiving over 10 key digital imaging patents. In 1989 he led the development of the first prototype mega pixel electronic digital camera utilizing DCT compression that stored images to flash memory cards. Steven continued his work throughout the 1990's by developing one of the first photographic quality thermal printing systems, derivatives of which are still in use in self-service imaging kiosks around the world today. Before retiring in 2009 Steven was a project manager in the Intellectual Property Transactions group at Kodak. Steven is married to Cynthia and they have two children, Michael (28) and Jennifer (25). The family lives in Hilton N.Y. Steven enjoys playing basketball and jogging, in spite of the present state of his 65 year old knees.



President Obama awards Kodak's Steven Sasson with the 2009 National Medal of Technology and Innovation, the highest honor awarded by the US government to scientists, engineers, and inventors

Industry Awards:

- 2001 Eastman Innovation Award
- 2006 Distinguished Scholar, School of Journalism & Communication, Peking University
- 2006 Progress Award, Photographic Society of America
- 2007 Visionary Award, Photographic Manufacturers and Distributors Association
- 2007 Inductee into the Consumer Electronics Hall of Fame
- 2008 Culture Award of the Photographic Society of Germany
- 2009 Rochester Intellectual Property Law Association Distinguished Inventor of the Year
- 2009 The Economist Magazine Consumer Products Innovation award
- 2009 Honorary Doctor of Science from The University of Rochester
- 2009 National Medal of Technology and Innovation
- 2010 Professional Photographers Association (PPA) Technology Impact Award
- 2010 George R. Stibitz Computer & Communications Pioneer Award (American Computer Museum)
- 2010 Stevens Institute of Technology Honor Award
- 2011 National Inventors Hall of Fame
- 2011 Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Hall of Fame
- 2011 Davies Medal for Engineering Achievement (Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute)
- 2012 Honorary Doctor of Engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
- 2012 Progress Medal, Royal Photographic Society
- 2012 Hurter and Driffield Lecture Medal, Royal Photographic Society