An Occasional Newsletter of the Comings & Goings of the Plastics Pioneers Association

Fall 2012 Meeting

October 18-21, 2012

Thanks to all for making the meeting at the Villas at Grand Cypress a great success.

This fall we will meet in Colonial Williamsburg, Virginia. The meeting is planned for October 18-21, and our hosts will be Don and Marilyn Rainville. As always, you will need to contact the resort and make your room reservations and September 18 will be the cutoff. We will be staying at the Williamsburg Lodge and there are two classes of rooms, Superior for $176.00 per night and Deluxe at $199.00 per night. Three airports serve the area: Newport News, VA ($20.00 cab ride), Richmond ($120.00 cab) and Norfolk ($100.00 cab).

Colonial Williamsburg, with its shops, museums, churches, crafts and historical representations of individuals will quite literally take you back in time. The village itself is like a living museum where life marches along as it did for the founding fathers. Take a walk down Duke of York Street just as Washington, Jefferson, Thomas Payne, Winston Churchill, and countless presidents and world leaders have for over 300 years. Our meeting will be on the anniversary of the Battle of Yorktown where 232 years ago on Oct. 19, our country’s independence was secured. Yes, for those who are interested, there is a great golf course and spa at Colonial Williamsburg.

We are making the final arrangements for next spring’s meeting and we are very cognizant that costs impacted attendance at the last few meetings. We had some surprise costs increases from our preselected resort, Lido Beach, and had to look elsewhere. Our goal was to find something that would be attractive and at a price that would encourage greater attendance. So, we decided to TRY something different. We have scheduled our spring meeting next year from April 10 to April 14, 2013, on Hilton Head Island. We have selected the Omni Hotel, a great property, which is right on the Ocean, and there are a multitude of things to do. It will be easier, faster and less expensive to get to than the Florida venues and rooms will be $185.00, which is considerably less than we would have to pay at comparable facilities in Florida and the rate includes parking, internet connections, shuttle buses and full use of all the facilities. Registration, golf and all activities will also cost less. Be sure to know that we have not surrendered any of the creature comforts we enjoyed at the Villas --- This four diamond facility and its size will fit the Pioneers perfectly.

See you in Williamsburg and Hilton Head.

Site Selection Committee Chair
Chuck Thiele

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE ...........................................2
LAST MEETING RECAP ........................................3
PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS FROM LAST MEETING .................4-7
TECHNICAL ARTICLE: ...........................................8,9
PHAC COMMITTEE REPORT .................................10
50 YEARS AGO TODAY ........................................10
COMMITTEE & BOD LISTING .................................11
DR. KNOVER E. LITTLE .......................................11
OBITUARY REFLECTIONS ..................................12
MUCH TRAVELED SHIRT .....................................13
PLASTICS DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD ..........14
HOBBY CORNER ...............................................15
EDITOR’S NOTE ...............................................15
SUMMARY OF MINUTES ....................................16,17
HALL OF FAME (PPA MEMBERS) .........................18
STORY BEHIND THE STORY ................................19
NEW MEMBER INDUCTIONS ...............................20-24
WHAT’S NEW WITH YOU? ...................................25
Thank you all for bestowing upon me the honor and privilege of serving as your President for fellow Pioneers, I am pleased to report that our Annual Spring 2012 Meeting, held March 29-April 1 in Orlando, Florida was an outstanding success. Our special thanks to Chuck and Nancy Thiele and their Site Selection Committee for choosing the Villas of Grand Cypress Golf Resort for our meeting location. Chuck described this location as truly a “World Class Resort”, and he was very correct. Our special thanks also to Don and Ginny Williams for being our Host Couple. They spent an incredible amount of time planning all our events, and seeing that everything ran as planned. The resort personnel were most helpful and went out of their way to see that all of our needs were met. We commend Carolyn Hodge and her PAL Committee for all the added touches they provided to ensure everyone mixed, mingled, and had a good time.

We scheduled our meeting date to coincide with NPE and ANTEC®, thinking that this would make it much easier and less expensive for our members to have to make only one trip to Florida to attend both events. Our mistake was not taking into account all the work those attending NPE and ANTEC® were required to do the few days before their programs started. The result was that many of our members could not take part in many of our functions because of other commitments. The Board of Governors have agreed we will not do this again.

During our Board of Governors’ meeting on Thursday afternoon, all our Committee Chairmen made reports on their activities for the past 6 months and outlined their goals and objectives for the next 6 months. They reported all this to attendees at the General Business Meeting on Saturday morning.

The President of SPI was our guest for dinner at the pool on Friday evening and spoke a few words to us. Then at our gala banquet on Saturday, the President of SPE was our guest (and spoke to us), along with a large number of Plastics Hall of Fame members. Attendance was over 135 people. Al Hodge, Tim Womer and their membership committee deserve special mention. Eleven new members were inducted and four more have been approved for the fall meeting. Thank you team for a great job!

Also, at the banquet Saturday night, we awarded our first ever Distinguished Service Member Award to Al Spaak. Special thanks to Al Rice and Bob Slawska for developing this award and designing and producing a plaque and a pin. Fantastic job that required a lot of work. The Much Traveled Shirt was awarded to Jack Michael. Jack has worked tirelessly for the past three years developing a new strategic plan for our association.

My sincere thanks to all of you who have contributed your time, your talent and your resources working on a multitude of projects to improve our Association. Major improvements have been made in many of the areas outlined in our new Strategic Plan, and many more are being worked on.

I look forward to seeing all of you at our fall meeting October 18-21 at Colonial Williamsburg, Virginia. Chuck Thiele is the Site Selection Chairman, and Don and Marilyn Rainville are our Host Couple. We are expecting a large turnout as this is one of the most historic locations in the entire country.

Dan McGuire
The winter meeting in Orlando was wonderful! It was a beautiful site. Many thanks to Chuck Thiele and our hosts Don and Ginny Williams for planning such a great time.

The festivities began on Thursday evening with a cocktail party on the pool deck. Friday was a busy day with many activities. There was a PALS meeting in the morning followed by golfing, bocce ball, tennis and a putting contest. Friday evening, we had cocktails and dinner on the pool deck. After dinner, the President of the Society of Plastics Industry, Bill Carteau, spoke briefly about the upcoming National Plastics Exposition.

The theme for the dinner Friday was Disney. Each table had a stuffed Disney character on the table. Our name-tags had similar Disney stickers. We sat at the table matched with our Disney tag. It was a very good way for mingling with each other and also with a new member who was assigned to each table.

Saturday started with a membership meeting and was followed with a presentation by Ronald Thiele, Assistant Dean for Advancement at Syracuse University. He gave an update on the progress of the plastics museum, especially the new plastics website. In the afternoon, there was a tour of the Tiffany Museum.

Dinner, Saturday, included new member introductions, the presentation of the Distinguished Service Award to Al Spaak, the presentation of the “Much Traveled Shirt” and an introduction of the new Society of Plastics Engineers President.
No love lost here!

That’s a long-handled tennis racket!
MOLECULAR REBAR – A FUTURE TECHNOLOGY PLATFORM

Kurt W. Swogger, Clive Bosnyak, Designed Nanotubes, Austin, TX

Multi-wall carbon nanotubes have been in development for many years and have had limited success due to high cost, worries about environmental issues and limited performance in the many applications that they have been tested. Over the last several years, cost has dropped dramatically as new catalysts, processes and increased capacity has been implemented. The understanding of handling and use of the carbon nanotubes has improved such that environmental risk has been understood and mitigated. The last limiting issue to large scale use has been that the carbon nanotubes from the reactor are in clumps and entangled masses that limit successful value creating applications. It is necessary to have individual tubes that are uniformly dispersed to gain the superior properties that justified the investment in this technology. Designed Nanotubes (DNT) has found a process to exfoliate tubes in high yields with high aspect ratios and to control the surface chemistry to keep the nanotubes dispersed in a wide variety of materials. These new materials are called Molecular Rebar (MR) by DNT.

MR is characterized by having an aspect ratio of 50-100 with the tube diameter around 10-12 nanometers and having a relatively narrow aspect ratio distribution. This aspect ratio results in excellent property improvements to a material and yet does not increase the viscosity of the material mixture so much to hamper fabrication processes. The surfaces of the tubes have oxidized species that can be used as chemical sites allowing for addition of various surfactants allowing for dispersion in a wide range of materials.

In Figure 1, SEM’s show the effects of the MR process with the carbon nanotubes as received in the left picture. The second picture shows the exfoliated individual nanotubes in about two layers demonstrating that the clumps of tubes have been converted to individual tubes. The third picture shows the MR well dispersed at the 10% concentration and the fourth picture shows the MR at the 2% level.

These modified MR materials can be converted into a 15% Master Batches by adding rubber. This Master Batch can be easily incorporated into rubber compounds in an existing tire process. In another example for materials use, MR can be added to epoxy materials and used as a MB for subsequent let down into a formulation.

MR in rubber opened the design window for the use of rubber. See Figure 2 for an example for Abrams tank track pads to see the dramatic improvements in tear energy versus modulus. More carbon is added to a standard Abrams tank track formulation to increase modulus and tear until an optimum is reached shown in Blue. Once more than about 60 parts of carbon is added, the tear properties drop dramatically thus limiting improving the track performance and part lifetime.

Shown in Figure 2 in Red is the rubber with MR added. It can be seen that total energy is improved at the optimum and the performance does not drop as much with increasing carbon loading affording new design conditions. Note that the improvements are in the 60-100% range. Based on these results DNT has developed technology for use in tires and for use in rubber parts such as mining belts, blow out preventers and hose materials.
By converting the carbon nanotubes into Molecular Rebar, dramatic improvements can be made to mechanical and transport properties such as ion, electrical and heat properties of any material to which the MR is added and integrated. The concept of MR was developed to explain and understand what the individual carbon nanotubes do if properly exfoliated from the mass of tubes made in the reactors and if properly dispersed in materials such as a polymer or electrical paste for a battery. The individual carbon nanotubes act like rebar in concrete only at the molecular size by adding physical properties and crack resistance. As the analogy is good, the descriptor of Molecular Rebar (MR) was created. Unlike rebar in concrete the MR add transport properties such as ion, heat and electron that can be used in such devices as batteries.

This technology for the rubber market is being developed in a partnership with a large rubber producer to improve tires and rubber industrial parts. The value propositions to justify efforts to develop the technology are improved part or tire lifetime, improved fuel economy, decreased downtime of the vehicle or machine, improved safety and reliability and improved tire performance. The benefits of the addition of the MR do not seem to be offset by any drop in material properties commonly seen with polymer changes. This lack of adverse effects with addition of a new structure is very rare. Key to the development of this market application will be finding markets that will pay for these materials. This does not seem to be a problem if the improved properties are demonstrated in actual part tests. Tires have been made and are on the road to validate the technology.

As can be seen in Figure 7, there are many possible application besides improving material mechanical properties by the MR in the energy storage and generation markets taking advantage of the excellent transport properties of the MR. What can be done with the MR for these uses will not be detailed at this time but the property improvements are substantial and will have an impact in the battery, capacitor and photovoltaic markets.
MISSION: To ensure the collection and preservation of the history of the plastics industry.

Responsibilities:
1. Collect and preserve the histories of the materials and processes that fostered the evolution of the plastics industry.
2. Collect and preserve the biographies of the people and the histories of the companies that created and sustain the plastics industry.
3. Provide History Club programs during PPA meetings.
4. Work with the Special Collections Research Center at Syracuse University as a permanent repository for the Committee’s collection of plastics histories and artifacts.
5. Work with Syracuse University in establishing and perfecting a virtual, online Plastics Industry History Museum.

Time:
The Committee Chair serves from year to year at the discretion of the PPA Board of Governors and/or the Committee.

Committee Composition:
- Membership is open to any PPA member with an interest in and a willingness to work toward achieving the Committee’s Mission.
- Participation in the History Club activities is available to all interested PPA members.

Meetings:
- Meetings are scheduled during spring PPA meetings when enough Committee members are present or as required.
- History Club meetings are normally scheduled for Saturday morning during PPA spring meetings.

50 YEARS AGO TODAY
Fifty years ago today David had a problem and could not get a good night’s sleep. Gloria suggested he visit a psychiatrist. David said “Doc, I have a problem. Every time I get into bed I think there is someone under it. I have even tried sleeping under, but Gloria doesn’t like it down there. When we get back on the bed… I know someone is under it… it’s ruining our marriage! Can you help me??”

“Just put yourself in my hands for six months, come to see me twice a week and I’ll cure you” said the shrink.
“How much do you charge?” asked David.
“Only one hundred a visit,” said the doctor.
“I’ll think about it,” said David as he was leaving.

David never returned. Sometime later he met the doctor on Main Street in Elmhurst.
“Why didn’t you ever come back to see me again?” asked the psychiatrist.
“Didn’t need to,” said David. “I cured my problem for less than twenty dollars.”
“And how in the world did you do that?” asked the shrink.
“Gloria told me to buy a saw… and we cut the legs off the bed” …And that’s the truth!!
Natural Cancer Killing Cells

by Dr. Knover E. Little

First of all you might want to keep in mind that cancer is not a “disease”. We all have cancer cells within our body and the population of those cells is in a constant state of flux. In a simple sense, cancer cell population is similar to the tidal flow of water – having both a high and a low tide. Six to ten times during your life (maybe more based on your diet) your body will experience periods of “high tide” or have a high cancer cell population. Generally, your immune system will react to this and send the N-K natural killer cells to devour the new cancer cells…and restore the period of “low” tide. Are you aware of your N-K cell population? Do you think your doctor should monitor this statistic on a regular basis?

When the immune system is weak or when the number of cancer cells grows out of control they overpower the good cells and you are diagnosed with cancer.

What does this mean? A cancer diagnosis simply means you probably have a nutritional deficiency. Your first line of defense is to change your diet. Eat more foods that create alkali residues and decrease your intake of foods that produce acid residues. Strive for a ratio of 4/1 alkali/acid residue. Increase your intake of fresh fruits, green vegetables, juices, seeds and nuts to shift your body to an alkaline state. Lemon juice once or twice a day has been reported to be 10,000 fold stronger than chemo in killing 12 different cancers…and helps shift the body to alkalinity. Food supplements can increase your N-K cell population by 2-4 fold.

Remember cancer cells are sugar freaks – eliminate sugar from your diet….including all sugar substitutes. A better substitute is STEVIA, a natural occurring product that produces an alkali residue. Avoid coffee, tea, and chocolate. Remember meats also produce acidic residue and are very slow to digest. Chicken and fish are better.

Take time to monitor the pH of your drinking water. If it is less than 7.0 (neutral) it is acidic….consider bottled water with a pH above 7.5. Remember that with orthodox medicine (chemo, radiation and surgery) you run the risk of causing damage to the immune system and your ability to digest foods, Your safest defense is to ALKALIZE !!

Dr. Knover E. Little
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JOHN LEWIS HULL, SR.

Born March 29th, 1924 and passed away peacefully on February 12th, 2012, in the care of Odyssey Hospice, of Alzheimer’s. Born in Waverly, Pennsylvania to Robert and Clara Hull, the last of four children. Became an Eagle Scout and elected member of the Order of the Arrow. Graduated from Phillips Exeter Academy (1941) and then Massachusetts Institute of Technology (1944) with a degree in aeronautical engineering. At MIT, elected to the Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society and participated in varsity crew and club football. Served in the US Navy during World War II as an Ensign. Served with the United Nations as Transportation Officer in China during the Chinese Revolution, where he met with Chou En Lai, and then in Germany where he assisted refugees.

After working at Fisher and Porter in Hatboro, he joined his brother Lewis Hull to co-found Hull Corporation in 1955. Hull Corporation grew to be a small multinational company manufacturing plastic presses and freeze drying equipment.

John was a senior member and Honored Service Member of the Society of Plastics Engineers, holding several executive positions. He served as Chairman and Trustee of the Plastics Institute of America, Lowell, MA, and as President of the Plastics Pioneers Association. Brother Lewis died February 26, 2012.

LEWIS WOODRUFF HALL

Lewis Woodruff Hull Southampton, PA - Lewis Woodruff Hull, 95, of Southampton, PA, passed away peacefully on Feb. 26, 2012. The beloved husband of the late Margaret, Lewis is survived by his four children, Arthur and his wife, Mary; Martha Halvonik and her husband, Terry; Stephen and his wife, Maria, and Rebecca; his grandchildren, Matthew and his wife, Tracey, and their son, Nicholas, and Timothy and his wife, Amanda, and their children, Tallulah and Samuel, and his step-grandchildren, Daniel Wenner and Rachel Wenner. Lewis is also survived by his sister, Barbara Richardson, and was predeceased by his brothers Robert and John.

In 1952, he started Hull Corporation and operated it until 2002. He was involved with HullVac Pump Corporation from 2002 until his death.

JAY MARTIN

Jay R. Martin, 85, passed away on March 13, 2012. He was born in Toledo, OH and was a graduate of University of Toledo and a US Navy veteran.

Jay is survived by his wife, Gwen, 3 daughters - Judy Williamson, Sue Jayne (Bob) Schanz, Sarah (Paul) Taistra; his stepson Miles Johnson; 5 grandchildren; and 1 great grandson.

He has been a resident of Cocoa Beach for over 20 years and has been active in community organizations such as the Waterways Advisory Board, the Cocoa Beach Boating Club, the Citizen Observer Patrol of the Cocoa Beach Police Dept., and a member of St. David’s By the Sea Episcopal Church.

Jay was a member of the Plastics Pioneers Association

JOHN NATHAN RODGERS

May 19, 1917 – January 24, 2012

John Nathan Rodgers, 94, of Gardnerville passed away January 24, 2012. Born May 19, 1917 to Joseph and Marsha Rodgers in Fullerton, CA. John attended the Nevada School of Mines, was an Air Force Officer and Pilot, a small business owner, an executive officer of Ferro Corp., a 60-year Masonic Lodge member, an active member of Carson Valley United Methodist Church, Jazz Organization President and an active industry group participant. He enjoyed fishing, travel, jazz, golf, investing and playing the harmonica. He spent his early years working with his father mining and drilling water wells throughout the Sierra regions in California and Nevada. He loved spending time at the family cabin, built by his dad, in the Sierra Mountains near Bishop, CA.

John was preceded in death by his first wife, Vivian Terry Rodgers and brother, Joseph Ward Rodgers (Elaine). He is survived by his current wife, Wanda M. Rodgers; brother, Marion O. ‘Babe’ Rodgers (Dorothy); daughter, Linda R. Kozak (Bruce); son, Wayne J. Rodgers; grandchildren, Jeffrey A. and Kenneth J. Kozak (Cindy); and great grandson, Jacob A. Kozak.
We have a lot of new members, so perhaps I should explain the history of the outlandish shirt. It all started a gag way back in 1954 when charter PPA member Gordon Brown appeared at breakfast wearing a particularly garish looking Hawaiian shirt, giving rise to many disparaging remarks. He stripped off the shirt and “awarded” it to his loudest critic, with the proviso that he present it to another “deserving” member at the next meeting. That same shirt, now bearing the signatures of each member receiving the award, is presented at the Annual Meeting to a member who in opinion of the current President typifies the Spirit of the Plastics Pioneers. This is now considered the PPA’s most prestigious award and is called “The Much Traveled Shirt”.

Once per year at the annual meeting the President of the PPA has the privilege of selecting one of our members to have the honor of being the bearer of “The Much Traveled Shirt”. That honor is bestowed upon a member who the President thinks has performed in an exemplary fashion, has gone way beyond the call of duty, and has performed a great service to the PPA.

The winner of this year’s “Much Traveled Shirt” was born and raised on the east coast sometime in the 1930’s. He graduated from high school in the ’50’s where he was captain of his football and basketball teams, and was Prom King. He also won the high school “Best Dressed Award” because he had lots of jet black hair and had an Irish looking face. He was awarded two sports scholarships to college, but elected to join the U. S. Marines. He served in the Marines during the Korean War and had duty through Europe. He went to Penn State and completed his college degree in the “evening division”.

He entered the Plastics Industry in 1955 with Scott Paper Company, later he worked for American Can and served for eleven years as President of Fabrical. He has served as Chairman of the Rigid Packaging Container Division of the SPI and has served as Director on the SPI Board.

Two years ago, this person was challenged with the task of heading up a new committee to develop a new long term strategic plan for the PPA. We asked him to tell us where we have been and where we are now, where we should be going in the future, and how do we get there. Quite a formidable task we asked him and his committee to do. You know the results. He completed the task and even more. He told us what we had been doing wrong and what needed to be done to correct it.

He developed for us a new “vision statement”, a new “Mission Statement” and a new advertising/public relations “Tag Line”---how we could identify ourselves and define what we do.

He developed and had published a new brochure. He developed a long list of challenging things we need to do to make our association what we all want it to be. This time last year we started working on many of his ideas and this year we will be working on many more. This man has truly gone way beyond what one would hope for or expect. Jack Michael truly deserves the honor of being the recipient of the “Much Traveled Shirt.”
The Plastics Pioneers Association proudly presented its first ever Distinguished Service Award to Al Spaak. The Association created the Award to honor members such as Al for their lifetime achievements. Al has been a member of the Pioneers for many years and was very active serving as Secretary, Vice President and President of the group. Al is a member of the Plastics Hall of Fame and also was executive director of the Plastics Institute of America.

Al was one of four members who championed the initial contribution to fund a scholarship fund, giving $250,000 to the fund. Al tells the story that the four contributors would meet in Florida at Guy Martinelli’s place, play golf, discuss the industry and that is where they came up with the idea of funding the initial dollars to start the fund which has given out almost 3000 scholarships.

Al worked at several plastics related companies, including De-Mattia Machine and Tool Company where he developed some early injection molding machines and at W.R. Grace where he worked with Wolfgang Mack to sell high density polyethylene. Al once told the European business executives about a huge application and he convinced them to sign exclusive contracts to purchase 250,000 LBS of polyethylene without telling them the actual product. The product turned out to be the Hula Hoop, and at first, they were not happy—until the product became a huge international success.

Al is 91 years old and, due to health reasons, was not able to attend the award ceremony.

Accepting the award on Al’s behalf at our meeting.
One of my favorite hobbies is fishing. I am blessed to live on the St. Clair River in Michigan. This is the river that connects two of the Great Lakes—Lake Huron and Lake Erie. It is known as one of the finest fishing rivers in the country with large amounts of walleye, small mouth bass, perch, and even salmon. There are many other species in the river, but those are the most popular and plentiful.

One day while fishing in front of my house in my boat in about 50 feet of water, for walleye with my son’s father-in-law, I caught this beautiful creature. Can you guess what it is?? They are very rare. It was a sturgeon. They are the closest fish to a prehistoric one that there is. They live a very long time and grow to be several hundred pounds in weight and over 8 feet long. This one was considered to be very young (less than 10 years old) and weighed about 40 pounds. It was over 4 feet long. They are no good to eat, but their eggs are harvested for some of the finest grades of caviar.

There is a sturgeon season in Michigan. It lasts for only a few days, and the limit is one per year. We took pictures with our cell phones, and released it back into the river unharmed. What a thrill it was to catch this unusual fish.

One of my favorite hobbies (I have many) is hunting. I annually hunt ducks, geese, pheasant, quail, and deer (and this year I also got a beautiful sand hill crane).

This past year I killed a deer with my bow and arrow. I hunt out of a tree stand in a small 25 acre piece of woods only 6 miles from my home. Darlene and I both love to eat venison so this was a great addition to our freezer.

Dan McGuire
Call to Order and Review of Agenda The PPA General Business Meeting was called to order by President Dan McGuire at 8:30 AM, at the Villas at Grand Cypress, Orlando, FL. A moment of silence was observed in honor of those members who have passed since our last meeting: John Hull (member since 1974), John Rogers (member since 1983), Lew Hull (member since 1963), Jay Martin (member since 2000).

Donna Davis moved the minutes of the October 15, 2011 meeting be accepted as distributed. Tony Mack seconded. The motion was approved.

FINANCIAL UPDATE AND INVESTMENT REPORT. Treasurer Tony Mack reviewed the finances of the PPA. The Education Account had a net growth of $2,923.00. A total of $38,750 was spent from the Education Account for scholarships, IPEC and administration fees. The PHAC account contributed $4,000 to Syracuse University activity. Tony reported the 2011 dues income was $72,340.68. Expenses were $62,677.42. The net impact was $9663.26 favorable. $15k will be transferred into the Education Fund from the general fund.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE Viv Malpass discussed the budget activities for 2012. There will be 10 $3k-scholarships, $5k for the Polymer Ambassadors, $5k for the scholarship administration, and $5k for PlastiVan support. The SPE is now managing the PlastiVan operations. Gail Bristol is our primary contact for both the scholarship program and the PlastiVan. The local SPE Section and Mold-Making and Mold Design Division are considering endowment for Leonard Abrams, an ex Navy Seal. The PPA Education Committee will consider joining the endowment.

PLASTICS HISTORY AND ARTIFACTS Glenn Beall reported for the PHAC. Harry Greenwald worked with the Syracuse University to develop and host the artifacts and virtual exhibit. There are currently 8,000 artifacts on the website, 97 biographies, etc. This fall, the permanent room will be opened as the Plastics Pioneers Reading Room, funded by Glenn and Patsy Beall. Sam Gruber, the curator, has worked with two graduate students to digitize the Hall of Fame photos. Following the business meeting, Ron Thiele gave an overview of the Syracuse exhibit and website.

MEMBERSHIP Al Hodge reported that 11 new members will be inducted this evening with 2 more scheduled for fall 2012 and 2 more are in the review process. Application forms are available from Al Hodge and Tim Womer.

THE MARKETING SUBCOMMITTEE, led by Dennis Richmond, has been writing the biographies for new members. They have coordinated three press releases noting new members.

THE DISTINGUISHED MEMBER AWARD SUBCOMMITTEE, led by Ashby Rice and Frank Kennedy, developed the criteria and selection process for this award. This evening, the award will be given to Al Spaak, accepted by Bill Humphrey.

THE WHO’S WHO SUBCOMMITTEE, chaired by Gary Oliver and Dan Cykana, is catching up biographies which have not been drafted since 2002. The subcommittee will create a portion of the bio for deceased members as well.

SITE SELECTION. Chuck Thiele noted the fall meeting will be in Colonial Williamsburg, October 18-20. Next spring’s meeting will be in Sarasota at the Lido Beach Resort. Harry Greenwald reported the 2013 PPA meeting will be near Syracuse in October, allowing a visit to the exhibit. Alan Woll will assume chair of the Site Selection committee for meetings after the Fall 2013 meeting. {note- after the meeting the spring site location changed}

WEBSITE. The Website has been revised and is online. Navigation instructions will be sent to members soon. The Website should replace most of the postage and previous paper publication. The Communications Committee will plan expanded functionality and use of the Website to allow meeting planning and registration, etc.

BYLAWS Steve Hershfield reported the four changes approved in the fall of 2011 have been forwarded to Cathy Connell and will be included in the policy and bylaws. Steve invited the members to suggest any needed changes to the committee.
STRATEGIC PLANNING  Jack Michael reported strategic planning committee has accomplished its objectives of identifying and recommending changes to the PPA leadership. These included:
- Submitting over 40 suggestions for managing more efficiently
- Developing the Mission and Vision Statements
- Developing and publishing a pamphlet for publicity
- Developing a tag line “Honoring the Past..Ensuring the Future”
- Analyzing past attendance performance for driving participation

They made several additional recommendations:
- New members commit to attending at least three meetings in the first two years.
- Requiring members attend at least one meeting every three years.
- That the Membership Committee selectively solicit executives/owners to join the PPA.
- That a concerted effort be made for fund raising and public relations.
- Marketing to the top 300 executives in the industry.

President McGuire noted the BOG has implemented 10 of the original 40 items this year and will take on another 10 next year.

PUBLICITY AND PUBLIC RELATIONS  The NPE activities precluded attendance by the Publicity and Public Relations co-chairs; however, their contribution is already noteworthy as evidenced by the publications in Plastics News, Plastics Technology, etc.

FUNDRAISING  Harry Tenney reported on behalf of Bob Swain. The 2011 contributions were 40% higher than the average of the past 10 years. The committee is pursuing matching gifts for the PlastiVan program.

PALS  Carolyn Hodge reported the PALS (Pioneer Action League) was organized last year to support the site selection committee and the meeting hosts. They also encourage mixing with activities like pre-planned seating on Friday evening. They increased the font size of the name tags for easier reading and added ribbons to help drive interaction. Next year will have a 50/50 raffle to benefit the Education Fund. They will help the marketing and publicity committee distribute literature. The committee drafted an invitation for widows/widowers to attend PPA meetings.

NEWSLETTER. David Caldwell thanked the group for feedback (especially compliments!) on the newsletter. The first move to digital publication was not as easy as anticipated; however, it will be the method of the future. All information should be submitted digitally, both photos and prose. They would like to have more “back log” of information such as hobbies, general interest information, and committee reports.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE  Vince will report for the Nominating Committee at the fall meeting. Three board members will rotate off the board in 2013 and beyond. Nominating committee members are the past presidents.

OLD BUSINESS  Glenn Frohring reported the golf was very competitive. Bocce results will be reported at the banquet. Seven tennis players participated and results will be announced at the banquet.

2012 PLASTICS HOF NOMINATIONS  John Kretzschmar reported this year there was a strong tie for 9th place of the HOF candidates; so this year alone, 10 will be inducted. Six of the 10 inductees are PPA members. Eight of the 10 were nominated by PPA members. To date there are 160 members of the HOF, of whom 78 will be/have been PPA members. Over 500 attendees will see the induction.

PRESIDENT’S SUMMARY  Tag Line: “Honoring the Past---Ensuring the Future”
Many new members on Operating Committee, New Fund Raising Committee, New Publicity/Public Relations Committee, and New PAL Committee. Developed job descriptions for Site Selection Committee, Host Couple, and PAL. PHAC funds issue cleared up. Increased dues to $100. Moved dues paying to end of calendar year. Newsletter put on line and increased to 25 pages. DSM Award. Who’s Who put on Web Site. Conducted phone survey of all members and reported results. Sympathy letter approved for families of deceased members. Dues for spouses of deceased members reduced to $50.00 per year. Developed letter to spouses of deceased members inviting them to our meetings. Wrote letter and invited all living members of the Hall of Fame to our Saturday night banquet. PHAC work with Syracuse University and U of Mass Lowell on Plastics Hall of Fame and Plastics Museum.

ADJOURNMENT. The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 AM to Williamsburg, October 20, 2012.
This spring the Plastics Academy inducted 10 new members into the PLASTICS HALL OF FAME and 6 of these are Plastics Pioneers! Our heartiest congratulations to Larry Broutman, Gunther Hoyt, Jay Gardiner, Dick Landis, Dan McGuire, and Tim Womer for this honor and the milestone they have reached. Aside from our PPA membership bond they also share common traits you have heard before like a “hardwork” ethic and industry dedication.

Larry, a former research professor who pioneered research in fiber reinforced composites, founded a materials consulting and testing firm in Chicago.

Dick was a pioneer in thin wall injection molding. He founded Landis Plastics, a single machine shop molder in Chicago and grew that into a six-plant company employing more than 2000 people….and with his wife Bonnie found the time to raise seven boys and one girl to help run the enterprise.

Gunther spearheaded global expansion while at Xaloy. Presently an independent business man and consultant he has played a prominent role in internationalizing the plastics industry.

Our current PPA President, is known as the “father of the resin distribution industry”. Dan started his career in plastics with Eastman Chemical and founded General Polymer with Tom Muller in 1973.

Tim has left his mark in the extrusion industry. Known for his specialty in screw design, Tim worked with Spirex, Conair, NRM and Xaloy and presently operates his own consulting firm.
During the 50’s and 60’s it was common to find the companies involved in the manufacture of plastics resin to have “technical automotive specialists” assigned to Detroit. These specialists worked with the automotive engineers in the design and application of new plastic parts. EXXON had just entered the polypropylene market and at the time was operating under the ENJAY trademark. Technical support came from the ENJAY Laboratories located at ESSO Research facility in Bayonne, NJ. Tom Baylis (formerly of Union Carbide Plastics) had been hired as an Automotive Development Engineer. One of his early projects was the design of a polypropylene accelerator pedal for Ford Motor Company. The proposed accelerator pedal represented a considerable cost reduction over the existing hard rubber pedal but Ford was reluctant to make the change. They were concerned with the quality of the new plastic pedal and as they were not able to define and control the quality of the PP hinge. Baylis recognized that in order for this application to become a reality, he needed a quick destructive part test to define hinge quality.

John McCullock, Director of the ENJAY Laboratories assigned the project to Dr. Charles Williamson and James Rabideau. They, in turn, designed a machine that would flex the Ford pedal through an angle of 135 degrees under a strain of 500 psi. They set about to prove that hinge life was proportional to the degree of polymer orientation occurring in the hinge area and could be measured simply by determining elongation on the hinge with an instron tester. During this exercise it was discovered that a simple flexing of the hinge, while the part was hot and as it was ejected from the mold, would double the life of the part.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SAMPLE STOCK TEMP (°F)</th>
<th>ELONGATION @ FAILURE (INCHES)</th>
<th>FLEX LIFE AT 500 PSI AND 135° DEG ANGLE (CYCLES)</th>
<th>MELT INDEX</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>450 U</td>
<td>0.20-0.25</td>
<td>350,000</td>
<td>7.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>450 F</td>
<td>0.25-0.30</td>
<td>900,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>525 U</td>
<td>0.30-0.35</td>
<td>700,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>525 F</td>
<td>0.35-0.40</td>
<td>1,400,000</td>
<td>7.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>600 U</td>
<td>0.40-0.45</td>
<td>1,300,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>600 F</td>
<td>&gt;0.45</td>
<td>2,000,000</td>
<td>8.8</td>
</tr>
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U = Unflexed  F = Flexed

Ford was so impressed with the manner that ENJAY had addressed the issue that the PP accelerator pedal became production reality the following model year.

This “first” generation pedal was bolted to the floor of the vehicle using a tab with two holes similar to the previous hard rubber pedal. The “second generation” pedal was redesigned to eliminate the tab and had two large molded in-bosses on the bottom lending it to a snap-on assembly.
New Member Induction

We are proud to welcome the following new members into the PPA. The membership is limited to 250 active members who must have 25 or more years of experience in the industry to be considered. In addition, an existing PPA member must sponsor the nominee who is judged on his/her contributions made to the advancement of the plastics industry.

David Stanley Bernardi

David Bernardi has been in the plastics industry since the 1970’s. Following his education at Muhlenberg College and during his continued studies at N.J. Institute of Technology, Dave began a career in plastics with A.F. Niebuhr Sales. After 14 years of plastic equipment sales he transferred into Cincinnati Milacron’s Plastic Group as a regional manager and on to Director of Electron Technologies. Here he advanced the development and use of all electric injection molding equipment in the U.S. market for nearly 10 years. His career path then led him ultimately to UBE Machinery Inc. where he currently holds the position of Senior Sales and Marketing Manager. Dave has been extremely active in the Newark, SPE Section holding positions as president, vice president, secretary and treasurer. The Newark Section selected and honored him as ‘Man of the Year’ for distinguished service. His efforts in the plastic industry also include lectures at SPE events, RETEC®, ANTEC® and NPE. In addition, he has had articles published in all the major plastic journals, Injection Molding Magazine, Modern Plastics, and Plastics Technology.

During his tenure at UBE, David has been awarded a patent on electrically driven apparatus for ejecting injection molded parts. He is also an authority on large tonnage injection molding machines. Dave and his wife Melissa reside in Clarkston, MI. He has been sponsored for PPA membership by Vince Witherup and Allan Niebuhr.

John Blundy

John Blundy has been in the plastics industry for 35 years. He began his career at Husky in 1976 as an area manager and has spent time at both Mannesmann Demag and Krupp Corpoplast in high level management positions. Currently he is Vice President of Business Development for INCOE Corporation. During his career he has been the recipient of two patents.

John has been an extremely active member of SPI. He is past chairman of the Equipment Council and has served on both the Marketing Committee and the Alliance of Plastic Processors. Currently he is on the Public Policy Committee and the Equipment Council. John has spoken at a number of SPI and SPE technical conferences and published a number of articles in industry magazines. He lives with his wife Mary in Seneca, South Carolina. John was sponsored by Allan Niebuhr and Vincent Witherup

Richard Bopp

Dr. Richard Bopp has been in the plastics industry for almost 40 years. He has worked in resin product development for his entire career. He spent 21 years with GE and has been with NatureWorks, LLC since 1996. His current focus is on applications development for polymers made from 100% annually renewable resources. Dick has received numerous professional awards and in 2011 was named a Fellow of the Society of Plastics Engineers. He holds over 20 patents and has published approximately 30 technical articles. Dr. Bopp is also in constant demand for lectures, seminars, and technical presentations.

Dick has been an active participant in SPE, American Chemical Society and American Physical Society. He is the past President of both the Midwest Section and the Hudson Mohawk Section of SPE. Dick has a BS in Chemistry from the State University of NY at Albany, and a MS and a Ph.D. from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. He currently resides with his wife Virginia in Golden Valley, MN. Richard was sponsored by Tim Womer and Donna Davis
**Daniel Cykana**

When you think of profile extrusion, one of the first names that comes to mind is Dan Cykana. If it doesn’t, it should. Dan has spent 48 years in the field, during which time the process evolved from art to science. Dan was there every step of the way, often leading the way by developing new methods and techniques to improve the process.

From 1978 until 2010, Dan worked for Bemis Mfg. Co. in Sheboygan Falls, Wisconsin, most recently as Director of Engineering. For the 15 years that preceded that, Dan was Director of Manufacturing for Northland Plastics Inc. Dan currently owns his own plastics consulting firm, Extrusion Solutions LLC.

Dan has been an SPE Member for 35 years; an SPE Senior Member for 27 years. He has served on the SPE’s Extrusion Board of Directors for 15 years, during which he has been chairman, Technical Program Chairman, International Chairman and Seminars Chairman. During his time at SPE he has received both the Distinguished Service Award, and the Honored Service Award.

Dan is the co-holder of 13 patents in the field of extrusion. He has given presentations on profile extrusion technology all over the world, and is the contributing author to The SPE Guide of Extrusion Technology. Dan is also an accomplished athlete. He is a member of the Sheboygan Softball Hall of Fame, elected in 2010; and was voted to the USSSA (Wisconsin) Hall of Fame 1997. Dan and Jean live in Hingman, Wisconsin and was nominated for membership to the PPA by Al Hodge and Tim Womer.

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**Erika G. Monte**

**Salvatore J. Monte**

Sal and Erika Monte form the foundation of Kenrich Petrochemicals of Bayonne, N.J. As partners in business and partners in life, it is only fitting that they would both be elected as members of the PPA at the same time.

Kenrich is a family owned business that was actually started by Erika’s father, uncle and aunt, so she has been involved with the firm virtually her entire life. She began her involvement in day to day activities in 1973. Erika has been involved in all aspects of the company’s business. Even today Erika will answer the phone. Since 1993 she has served as Vice President and Treasurer of the company.

Erika is a member of numerous associations in the field of plastics and rubber, including the American Chemical Society—Rubber Division; the Middle Atlantic Plastics and Rubber Group; SPI; and the SPE. Erika has lectured before the ACS and has represented Kenrich at hundreds of trade shows all over the world. Erika has been nominated for induction to the PPA by Tim Womer and Donna Davis.

Her husband Sal became a full-time employee of Kenrich in 1966. Sal is the holder of 29 U.S. Patents filed worldwide and one pending. Two patents on “Enhanced Energetic Composites” and “Solid Rocket Propellant” were held under Secrecy Orders by DOD for over a decade.

Sal is the author of 370 ACS CAS abstracted patents, technical papers; journal articles and book chapters on applications of organometallics and reactive diluents in thermosets and thermoplastics. In addition, Sal has authored a 340-page Ken-React Reference Manual on Titanates, Zirconates and Aluminates; authored several book chapters; testified on several occasions before the U.S. Congress on Intellectual Property and Trade issues; and lectured on coupling agents around the world including: Europe, Greece, Turkey, South America, Canada, Mexico, India, Australia, South Korea and Japan.

Sal is a Fellow of the SPE and an SPE Honored Service Member. Throughout his distinguished career he has volunteered his time and talent to various SPE activities, and is still involved with the Palisades, N.J. Section. Sal was nominated for induction to the PPA by Tim Womer and Donna Davis.
New Member Induction - continued
The Plastic Pioneers Association announces the latest inductees.

David Murdoch
Dave Murdoch has held a variety of both technical and management positions in his 25 plus years in the extrusion industry. He began his career as an Engineer with PTI, and then became Extrusion Product Manager for Cincinnati Milacron’s twin screw extrusion business. After Milacron, Dave became President of Michigan Roll Form, a vinyl siding downstream manufacturer. He then went to Davis Standard as the Business Area Manager for its twin screw extrusion business. Currently, Dave is Director, Business Development for Fiberon Decking.

During his career, Dave has received two machinery patents, one plastic product and process patent, and a patent for recycling post consumer carpet into new products. At Davis Standard he developed the counter rotating twin screw product line. For his accomplishments he has received achievement awards at both Milacron and Davis Standard.

Dave has presented papers at numerous trade association conferences, and continues to be an active member of these groups. He has a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering Technology from the University of Dayton and an MBA from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. Dave lives with his wife Colleen in Dublin, Ohio. David was sponsored by Al Hodge & Dennis Richmond.

Gary D. Oliver
Gary Oliver has been in the plastics industry for nearly 40 years. After graduating with a B.S. from Central Michigan University, Gary began his career in plastics with Brown Machine in Beaverton, Mich., which makes thermoforming machines. He spent five years in tooling design and technical service for Homestead Tool & Machine in Coleman, Michigan, then went on to Dow Chemical Co., where for the next 12 years Gary worked as a technician, research engineer, and in tech service. Gary spent the next two years on the processing side as the Director of Plastics Package Engineering at Ball Plastics before joining Cloeren Incorporated, where he worked for 18 years as Senior Corporate Scientist. Gary is now Chief Technical Officer for Extrusion Dies Inc., a manufacturer of dies and feedblock systems for flat film, sheet and coating.

Gary has been extremely active with the plastics industry’s major technical organizations. He has been a member of SPE for 25 years. During that time he has served as member of the SPE’s Extrusion Division Board of Directors, where he has been chairman, technical program director, awards chairman and newsletter editor. Gary has also been a part of the TAPPI Polymer Division for 20 years, serving as both Film Division Chair and Coating Division Chair. Between SPE and TAPPI, Gary has delivered 19 technical presentations.

He currently has 5 patents pending in the areas of die/feedblock design, micro-layer coextrusion, and coextrusion structure composition. In fact, Gary is considered one of the world’s foremost authorities in the area of flat-die coextrusion and micro-layer extrusion technology. He has received numerous honors during the course of his career, including the TAPPI 2003 Samuel Zweig Prize for Technical Excellence, the SPE Extrusion Division Distinguished Service Award in 2005 Extrusion Division, and TAPPI’s Dragan Djordjevic Award in 2007.

Gary and his wife Jackie reside in Broomfield, Colorado, where for 12 years he served as Trustee for the Billing Township Governing Board. Gary has been sponsored for PPA membership by Kurt Swogger, Al Hodge and Tim Womer.
New Member Induction - continued
The Plastic Pioneers Association announces the latest inductees.

Bob Slawska
Bob Slawska is one of the pioneers of the U.S. Industrial Blow Molding Machinery Industry having spent 48 years in Industrial Blow Molding. In 1964, he began his career with Hartig and has been with Black Clawson, Barr, Sterling and WIN. Currently, he is a consultant to Graham Engineering, as well as the owner of Proven Technology. Some of Bob’s achievements include involvement in the development of the first U.S. manufactured accumulator head; the founding of Barr Polymer, Sterling Blow Molding (currently Davis Standard Blow Molding) and WIN Industrial Networks. While at Sterling, he introduced the first microprocessor to be utilized on a blow molding machine and developed the use of dual head systems which are now the standard of the industry. He was also instrumental in developing machines for processing engineering resins. Today, Bob continues to develop innovative technologies for the blow molding industry.

Throughout the years, Bob has been a strong supporter of the blow molding industry. He was one of the founding members of the SPE Blow Molding Division, and continues to serve the division. Over the years, he has given countless papers at SPE ANTEC® conferences, and Section meetings. In 1998, he was elected Honored Service Member of the Society of Plastic Engineers and in 2002, received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the SPE Blow Molding Division. Bob currently resides with his wife Velma in Hillsborough, NJ. Bob was sponsored by Robert Sprague and Al Hodge

Scott Steele
Scott Steele has spent 30 plus years in the blow molding industry. He began his career at Owens Illinois and held a variety of engineering positions. In 1986, he left OI to become a founding member of Plastic Technologies. Currently he is Vice President of PTI. In his years at PTI, he has been recognized for his achievements in packaging design with two Ameristar awards. He is the holder of 10 US patents.

Scott has been an extremely active participant in SPE. He has held leadership positions at both the section and division level. He is past chairman of the Blow Molding Division Board and has been named their Outstanding Board Member. Scott has spoken at numerous conferences in both the US and abroad and published a number of articles in the trade magazines. Scott has a B.S. in Chemical Engineering from the University of Toledo. He lives with his wife Amy in Perrysburg, Ohio. Scott was sponsored by William Humphrey and Tim Womer
**New Member Induction - continued**

The Plastic Pioneers Association announces the latest inductees.

**Frederick G. Steil**  
Fredrick Steil began with a solid basis in plastics in 1958 as a mold making apprentice. Over the next 7 years Fred continued developing his mold making skills at two different mold shops in New Jersey. He then made a career change into manufacturing of plastic parts, injection molding machinery sales with Krauss Maffei in the early 1970’s and then back into plant management of injection molding companies. All the while he kept involved with tooling and material hot runners. Fred’s career path then led him ultimately to the D-M-E Company in Madison Heights, MI where he held the position of Manager Mechanical Engineering and Technical Services until 2005. Here he was able to spread his wealth of tool making and hot runner experience to hundreds of plastic injection molders and tool makers.

Fred is the owner of 10 US patents related to injection molds. He is contributing author to the “Manufacturing Engineering Handbook” and the Canadian Association of Mold Makers Journal. He has given lectures and provided papers to ANTEC® and the Society of Manufacturing Engineers.

Starting as a member in 1972 Fred has been exceptionally involved in the SPE at the national level. His service to SPE continues as an advisor to the Mold Making Board, after having held all the executive committee responsibilities including Division Chair during his tenures.

The plethora of honors Fred has received are all well-deserved for his high-energy professional drive and leadership. “Spirit of Technology” award for creative solutions from the D-M-E Company, “Mold Maker of the Year” by the SPE, and the “Neil Armstrong Award” for his pioneering spirit from Milacron, Inc. to mention a few. Fred now resides in Cape Coral, Florida where he sincerely enjoys his hobby of antique and classic boating. He has been sponsored for PPA membership by Glenn Beall and Scott Peters.

**John Vandenbergh**  
John Vandenbergh has been in the plastics industry for the past 30 years. Following his education at Villanova University John quickly rose to the upper level of management at AEC, Inc. He then followed with 15 years of VP and President level work at Conair where he also gained experience with the European plastics market. John’s next career moves kept him in president positions with Remak, Vandenbergh Sales, and Riverdale Color Inc. His career path then led him to his current position of VP of Operations at Ecospan, LLC.

John has been very active in the SPI and SPE. He has held the position of Chairman twice for the SPI Robotics Committee, Chairman of the SPI Safety Standards Committee and Chairman of the NPE Speakers Conference. He is the founding member of the SPI Robotics Committee. His efforts in the plastic industry also include lectures at SPE events, RETEC’s, ANTEC®s and NPE. As co-author of “Automation for Injection Molding” John is continuing to educate the plastic industry on applying robotics and automation.

During his tenure in plastics John has been active in the Boy Scouts assisting young men toward achieving their Eagle Scout awards along with dabbling in golf club construction as a hobby. John resides in Glen Mills, PA. He has been sponsored for PPA membership by Vince Witherup and Tim Womer.
What’s New With You?

Let us know what’s new and/or exciting in your life, or that of any other of our Pioneer friends. No foolin’, your friends want to know!

Write, phone, fax or email to:
The Much Traveled Sheet
W327 S6754 Westgate Drive
Mukwonago, WI 53149
Phone 262-392-2678

And our final article in this newsletter, a “LAMMIE NEWS BREAK” from Bob and Karen

“2011 did not end on a good note” and “2012 started negatively.” Bob had “Rotator Cuff (Shoulder) Surgery” in early December which was planned.

Karen became Bob’s driver until Karen fell and broke her wrist on December 30th while leaving a restaurant. This was not planned.

Bob and Karen were in the Emergency Room until 4:00 AM on December 31st. The doctor asked who he should work on first – Bob or Karen? He worked on Karen.

Being the active people that Bob and Karen are, they still went to the Yacht Club for Dinner on New Year’s Eve. Bob and Karen have been boating for over 40 years. We were reminded by our fellow members that it was a “New Year’s Eve Party” and not a “Halloween Party.”

Bob and Karen used the same orthopedic surgeon and the same physical therapy group. They have both recovered from these incidents. Bob calls it “The Wonders of Modern Medicine!”

They celebrated 40 years of marriage on January 29th, 2012 on a Caribbean Cruise. Karen was still in a cast and a sling but they made the best of it.

Karen is an artist and the incident hampered her painting for a few months. Bob continues to work at Ampacet Corporation as Vice-President Sales North America and Export. Bob has been in the plastics industry for over 43 years.