



PLASTICS PIONEERS ASSOCIATION

**THE PLASTICS PIONEERS ASSOCIATION** is an organization of individuals who are persons of accomplishment in the Plastics Industry, who wish to foster the bonds of friendship and fraternalism.

The objectives of the organization are:

- To recognize achievements in the fields of plastics and/or polymer science, engineering, technology, education, sales/marketing, or management;
- To support industry-wide educational programs; and
- To promote the study and improvement of plastics and/or polymer science, engineering, and technology in the plastics industry.
- To ensure the collection and preservation of the history of the plastics industry.

These objectives are achieved by:

- Conducting at least one meeting annually to enable members to decide on which programs should be initiated and/or supported, and what achievements should be recognized;
- Contributing funds from its treasury to educational programs deemed worthy of support by its members; and
- Administering a scholarship program for deserving students enrolled in programs leading to careers in plastics and/or polymer science, engineering, technology, education, sales/marketing, or management in the Plastics Industry.

**PPA OFFICIAL WEBSITE:**

[www.plasticspioneers.org](http://www.plasticspioneers.org)

**PLASTICS PIONEERS ASSOCIATION**

A Delaware, Non-Stock, Non-Profit Corporation

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Wendy V. Hoenig  
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Al Hodge  
Paul A. Dumesnil, Jr.  
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Secretary to 2021  
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Past President  
Governor 2018-2021  
Governor 2017-2021  
Governor 2017-2021  
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## Standing Committees

*\*The President is an ex-officio member of all Committees*

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Inge Meyer  
Helen Michael  
Sheri Muller  
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1948-51	Ed Bachner	Al Manovill	Jim Neal	
1949-53	Alan Cole	Garson Meyer	William K. Woodruff	
1951-55	Orlo Marsh	Spencer Palmer	Jim Wilson	
1953-57	Lionel Kavanagh	Stuart Landes	Vic Sammett	
1955-59	Chris Groos	Sid Howell	Henry Rankow	
1957-61	Bob Brannon	George Scribner	A. Van Horne	
1959-63	Bjorn Andersen	Lou Francisco	Arthur Hyde	
1961-65	Frank Groten	B. F. Hantz	William Porter	
1963-67	J. Harry DuBois	Herman Gering	Walter Rahm	
1965-69	Emery Cleaves	William Lester	Joe Rogers	
1967-71	Ed Borro	Stanley Jones, Jr.	Carl Whitlock / Charles Kleiderer	
1969-73	Ed Bachner	Bob Bainbridge	George Whitehead	
1971-75	Sterling Cramer	F. Reed Estabrook	John Labelle	
1973-77	Don Biklen	Stephen Hildebrandt	Lewis Hull	
1975-79	Charles W. Kleiderer	Earl Horton	Joseph Herbert	
1977-81	Edward Fitzpatrick	Wesley S. Larson	Miller Sherwood	
1979-83	Guy Martinelli	Lewis Hull	George Fowles	
1981-85	Harold A. Holz	Jack High	Stanford H. Shaw	
1983-87	John Bachner	John Busada	Michael F.X. Gigliotti	
1985-89	Donald F. Dew	N. Bruce Duffett	John C. Moricoli	
1987-91	Henry Griffith	Fred Schwab	Robert W. Sherman	
1989-93	Ellis Bignell	Jack O'Brien	Richard Stott	
1991-95	Russell Hanna	John Hull / Jerome Heckman	Peter Rodts	
1993-97	Paul Colby	J. Kretschmar / J. Stoddart	Robert Munns	
1995-99	Glenn Beall	Dewey Rainville	Paul Rothschild	
1997-2001	T.G. Debreceni / Tony Mack	Robert Swain	Bruno Wessinger	
1999-2003	Malcolm Riley	David Woodman	Peter Zacher	
2001-05	Richard Johnson	Anthony Mack	Vivian Malpass	
2003-07	Daniel McGuire, Jr.	Vincent Witherup	Suzanne Witzler	
2006-07	Daniel McGuire, Jr.	Frank Nissel	Suzanne Witzler	
2005-09	David Hahn	Stefan Hershfield	Glenn Frohring	
2007-2011	Harry Greenwald	John Michael	David Woodman	
2009-2013	Glen Frohring	Donna Davis	Gordon Lawry	
2011-2015	Peter Bemis	Gail Bristol	John Michael	
2013-2015	Alan Woll	Peter Bemis/Wolfgang Meyer		
2013-2017	Don Williams	Steven Sopher	Timothy Womer	
2015-2017	Roger Avakian	Salvatore Monte	Lance Neward	
2017-2019	Robert Avakian	Wendy Hoenig	Salvatore Monte	Stuart Swain
2017-2019	Dennis Hayford	Charles Sears / Paul Dumesnil		
2019-2021	Paul Dumesnil	Dennis Hayford	Maureen Steinwall	Stuart Swain
2019-2023	Robert Hare	David Murdock	Ashby Rice, III	

## **PPA Officers**

<b>YEARS</b>	<b>PRESIDENT</b>	<b>VICE PRESIDENT</b>	<b>SECRETARY</b>	<b>TREASURER</b>	<b>MANAGING DIRECTOR</b>
1949-51	Herbert Spencer	Nicholas Backscheider	Hans Wanders	Hans Wanders	
1951-53	Nicholas Backscheider	Alan Cole	Hans Wanders	Hans Wanders	
1953-55	Alan Cole	Arnold Pitcher	Hans Wanders	Hans Wanders	
1955-57	Clint Blount	Jim Neal	Hans Wanders	Hans Wanders	
1957-59	Jim Neal	Allan Fritzsche	Hans Wanders	Hans Wanders	
1959-61	Allan Fritzsche	Garson Meyer	Hans Wanders	Hans Wanders	
1961-63	Garson Meyer	Lionel Kavanagh	Hans Wanders	Edward Vaill	
1963-65	Lionel Kavanagh	Lou Francisco	Hans Wanders	Edward Vaill	
1965-67	Lou Francisco	B. Frank Hantz	Hans Wanders	Edward Vaill	
1967-69	B. Frank Hantz	Hank Devore	Hans Wanders	Edward Vaill	
1969-71	Carl Whitlock	J. Harry DuBois	Edward Vaill	Edward Vaill	
1971-73	J. Harry DuBois	Sherwood Young	Edward Vaill	Palmer Humphrey	
1973-75	Sherwood Young	Stanley Jones, Jr.	Stanley Jones, Jr.	Palmer Humphrey	
1975-77	Stanley Jones, Jr.	Sterling Cramer	Albert Spaak	Palmer Humphrey	
1977-79	Sterling Cramer	F. Reed Estabrook	Albert Spaak	Palmer Humphrey	
1979-81	F. Reed Estabrook	G. Palmer Humphrey	Albert Spaak	Palmer Humphrey	
1981-83	G. Palmer Humphrey	Albert Spaak	Lewis Hull	Charles Kleiderer	
1983-85	Albert Spaak	Charles Kleiderer	Lewis Hull	Guy Martinelli	
1985-87	Charles Kleiderer	Lewis Hull	Guy Martinelli	Michael Kubico	
1987-89	Lewis Hull	Guy Martinelli	Michael Kubico	Harold Holz	
1989-91	Guy Martinelli	Michael Kubico	Harold Holz	John Moricoli	
1991-93	Michael Kubico	Harold Holz	John Moricoli	Robert Sherman	
1993-94	Harold Holz	John Moricoli	Robert Sherman	Ellis Bignell	
1994-95	Harold Holz	Robert Sherman	Ellis Bignell	John Hull	Palmer Humphrey
1995-97	Robert Sherman	Ellis Bignell	John Hull	John Kretzschmar	Palmer Humphrey
1997-99	Ellis Bignell	John Hull	John Kretzschmar	Paul Colby	Palmer Humphrey
1999-2001	John Hull	John Kretzschmar	Paul Colby	Theodore Debreceni	Palmer Humphrey
2001-03	John Kretzschmar	Paul Colby	Theodore Debreceni	Robert Swain	Palmer Humphrey
2003-05	Paul Colby	Theodore Debreceni	Peter Zacher	Robert Swain	Palmer Humphrey
2005-06	Theodore Debreceni	Peter Zacher	Vivian Malpass	Robert Swain	Palmer Humphrey
2006-07	Theodore Debreceni	Peter Zacher	Vincent Witherup	Robert Swain	Robert Swain
2007-09	Vivian Malpass	Vincent Witherup	Daniel McGuire, Jr.	Robert Swain	Robert Swain
2009-11	Vincent Witherup	Daniel McGuire, Jr.	Stefan Hershfield	Anthony Mack	Anthony Mack
2011-13	Dan McGuire, Jr.	Stefan Hershfield	D. Davis / A. Hodge	Anthony Mack	Anthony Mack
2013-15	Stefan Hershfield	Gail Bristol	Wolfgang Meyer	Ashby Rice III	Kurt Swogger
2015-17	Gail Bristol	Al Hodge	Wolfgang Meyer	Ashby Rice, III	
2017-19	Al Hodge	Wolfgang Meyer	Steven R. Sopher	Lance M. Neward	
2019-21	Wolfgang Meyer	Lance Neward	Wendy Hoenig	Jeffrey Mengel	

## **Plastics Hall of Fame**

The *Plastics Hall of Fame* was established in 1972 to recognize those Americans who, through their dedication, work, and accomplishment, have contributed most significantly to the growth and success of the plastics industry. The *Plastics Hall of Fame* is administered by The Plastics Academy, and the National Plastics Center has a special wing dedicated to permanently record and display the accomplishments of these men and women. The awards are presented every three years during the National Plastics Exposition to living honorees, and posthumous awards are made at triennial SPE Annual Technical Conferences. The majority of honorees are members of the Plastics Pioneers Association, including:

Edward Bachner	Fred Conley	Jerome Heckman	Spencer Palmer
Clare Bacon	William Cruse	Emile Hemming	Arnold Pitcher
James Bailey	John DeBell	Edwin Hobson	John Reib
Glenn Beall	John Delmonte	Robert Hoffer	Dominick Rosato
John Beaumont	J. Harry DuBois	Harold Holz	Edward Rowan, Sr.
Samuel Belcher	Erik Erikson	Herman Gunther Hoyt	Irvin Rubin
Peter Bemis	F. Reed Estabrook, Jr.	G. Palmer Humphrey	Fred Schwab
Richard Bishop	Robert Forger	Garland Jennings	George Scribner
Clint Blount	Joseph Foster	Lionel Kavanaugh	Miller Sherwood
Edward Borro, Sr.	Daniel Fox	John Keville	John Slater
William Bradbury	Jay Gardiner	Charles Kleiderer	Albert Spaak
Charles Breskin	Charles Gatto	Gordon Kline	Martin Stark
Terence Browitt	Michael Gigliotti	John Kretzschmar	Maureen Steinwall
Gordon Brown	William Goggin	H. Richard Landis	Theodore Stoughton
Lawrence Broutman	W. Brandt Goldsworthy	William Lester	Robert Swain
Edwin Bushman	John Grebe	Robert Malloy	Islyn Thomas
William Carteaux	Henry Griffith	Guy Martinelli	John Von Holdt
Frank Chapman	Palmer Griffith	Daniel McGuire, Jr.	Carl Whitlock
C. William Cleworth	Sid Gross	George Nalle, Jr.	William Willert
Paul Colby	Walter Grote, Sr.	Frank Nissel	Timothy Womer
Charles Condit	Ralph Harding	Ralph Noble	Alexander Zimmerman

## **The Much Traveled Shirt**

It all started as a “gag” 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, A.R. Van Horne, 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 the opinion of the current president, typifies the spirit of the Plastics Pioneers. Now considered PPA’s most prestigious award, honorees, and the meeting sites where the presentations were made are:

1954	A. R. Van Horne	1977	Nicholas A. Backscheider at Buck Hill	2000	Glenn L. Beall at Homestead
1955	Neil Broderson	1978	C. William Cleworth at Hershey	2001	George Schmitt at Mission Inn
1956	Gordon Brown at Shawnee	1979	Stanley W. Jones, Jr. at Bermuda	2002	Frank R. Nissel at Mackinac Island
1957	Donald Dew at Shawnee	1980	Edward R. Borro, Sr. at Chatham	2003	John L. Hull at Oglebay
1958	Frank Shaw at Shawnee	1981	Chris G. Groos at Pinehurst	2004	Robert J. Munns at Mobile Bay
1959	Clint Blount at Shawnee	1982	Ralph Harding at Hershey	2005	David B. Woodman at Mission Inn
1960	Allan Brown at Shawnee	1983	Sterling Cramer at Homestead	2006	Robert D. Swain at Mission Inn
1961	Hans Wanders at Shawnee	1984	Edwin R. Rowan at Bermuda	2007	Michael F.X. Gigliotti at Mission Inn
1962	Stuart Landes at Shawnee	1985	G. Palmer Humphrey at Asheville	2008	Irvin Rubin at Mission Inn
1963	Horace Gooch at Shawnee	1986	Jack G. High at Buck Hill	2009	Theodore G. Debrecini at Mission Inn
1964	Allan Fritzsche at Bald Peak	1987	Albert Spaak at Pinehurst	2010	Paul N. Colby at Hutchinson Island
1965	William T. Cruse at Bald Peak	1988	William H. Willert at Homestead	2011	Harry Greenwald at PGA National Resort
1966	Lionel B. Kavanaugh at Bald Peak	1989	Charles W. Kleiderer at Otesaga	2012	Jack D. Michael at Villas of Grand Cypress
1967	Don Kendall at Bald Peak	1990	Lewis W. Hull at Ashville	2013	Vivian Malpass at Omni Resort, Hilton Head Island
1968	Garson Meyer at Bald Peak	1991	F. Reed Estabrook at Bermuda	2014	Anthony C. Mack at Loews Royal Pacific, Orlando
1969	B. Frank Hantz at Bald Peak	1992	Guy A. Martinelli at Equinox	2015	Daniel W. McGuire, Jr. at San Antonio
1970	Ed Vaill at Otesaga	1993	Bruno Wessinger at Homestead	2016	Ashby L. Rice III at Safety Harbor
1971	Sherwood Young at Otesaga	1994	John R. Kretschmar at Otesaga	2017	Lance M. Neward at North Charleston
1972	David S. Plume at Shawnee	1995	Peter E. Rodts at Pinehurst	2018	Gail R. Bristol at Safety Harbor
1973	Spencer Palmer at Shawnee	1996	Fred E. Schwab at Nashville	2019	Wolfgang Meyer at Santa Fe
1974	George Whitehead at Williamsburg	1997	Harold A. Holz at Sagamore		
1975	J. Harry DuBois at Hershey	1998	John C. Reib at Asheville		
1976	Carl H. Whitlock at Buck Hill	1999	Robert W. Sherman at Hershey		

## **Member of the Year**

In 1972, Sterling Cramer began gathering his Florida-vacationing friends for an unofficial "PPA Southeastern Division" winter meeting at the Mission Inn Golf and Country Club in Howey-in-the-Hills, Florida. The attendance grew as the meeting became more popular, and in 1982 it was decided to create a *Southeastern Man of the Year Award*. Bill Cruse, known as "Mr. Plastics" for his long service to SPI, received the first award by acclamation. The tradition continued, and what makes this award particularly special to its recipients is that each winner is chosen by his or her peers; that is, the previous winners. In keeping with the changes in our membership, the award is now known as the *Member of the Year* award, and has been presented to (the award was discontinued in 2005):

1982	William Cruse	1990	Stanford Shaw	1998	Ellis Bignell
1983	Lewis Hull	1991	Sterling Cramer	1999	Bruno Wessinger
1984	Jack High	1992	Russell Hanna	2000	Albert Spaak
1985	G. Palmer Humphrey	1993	Guy Martinelli	2001	Harold Holz
1986	Earl Horton	1994	John Reib	2002	Robert Sherman
1987	Stanley Jones, Jr.	1995	Michael Kubico	2003	Glenn Beall
1988	Charles Kleiderer	1996	Edwin Hobson, III	2004	John Kretzschmar
1989	George Fowles	1997	Robert Munns		

## **Honorary Members**

Tony Radoszewski  
*President & CEO*  
*Plastics Industry Association, Inc.*

Patrick Farrey  
*Society of Plastics Engineers, Inc.*

Robert G. W. Anderson  
*Science History Institute*

Robert D. Forger  
*Lifetime Honorary Member*

David Seaman  
*Syracuse University Libraries -*  
*Dean of Libraries and University Librarian*

## **Distinguished Service Members**

2012	Albert Spaak
2013	Glenn Beall
2014	John Kretzschmar
2015	John Michael, Sr.
2016	Vivian Malpass
	Vincent Witherup
2017	Stefan Hershfield
2019	Donald Williams