



Western Plastics Pioneers Newsletter

Q4 2010

The objectives of the Plastics Pioneers Association shall be to recognize achievement in the field of plastics/polymer science, engineering, technology and management; to support industry-wide educational programs; and to promote the study and improvement of plastics, science engineering and technology.



President's Message

Dear Western Plastics Pioneers:

I hope you attended the annual luncheon on August 15. If not, you will still enjoy the many Pioneers pictured in this newsletter. We had a great time. The weather was perfect. The location on Newport Harbor was beautiful, and lunch was delicious at a bargain price. Our thanks to Richard Luciano for making the arrangements. John Szary provided professionalism by printing name tags, printing programs that included a picture of Hall of Fame recipient, Vishu Shah, and the names of the many donors of raffle prizes. John also produced Certificates of Membership for all Pioneers in attendance. During the reception and luncheon, Vishu Shah provided a continuous slide presentation of Pioneers pictures from previous luncheons and board meetings and a giant picture of an SPI convention from the 1940's. Dee Ketner and Rusty Miller had a display table for LPGO Golf Tournament, and Terry Price had one for Cerritos College and the Recycle Trailer. Chris Mitchell put together a questionnaire for the group that indicated we had over 2500 years of combined plastics industry experience. Joe LaFountain ran an exciting raffle that broke all records in the value of prizes. Thanks Joe, it was a lot of fun and everyone was a winner.

Social networking seems to be the rage today. We are proud to have been involved in the plastics industry in the West, and it's an honor to be a Western Plastics Pioneer. Give us the names of your past or present co-workers, and we will contact them for membership. Social networking is what the Pioneers have always been about.

Don't forget that our Pioneer's Board meetings are open to all Pioneers and perspective Pioneers who wish to attend. The next board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 2, at the beautiful Los Coyotes Country Club. Just RSVP to any of the Officers or Directors. You are all welcome to attend.

Sincerely, *Spencer L. Knapp, President -Western Plastics Pioneers*

Membership

The Pioneers are grateful to give back to the industry that has supported all of us throughout our careers. Plastics has truly revolutionized the world within our lifetime. Lets all keep a good thing going!

We are all proud to have been involved in the plastics industry in the West, and it's an honor to be a Western Plastics Pioneer. Know anyone with 25 years in the industry? Call a board member with the names of your past or present co-workers, and we will contact them for membership.

Don't forget that our Pioneers Board meetings are open to all Pioneers and perspective Pioneers who wish to attend. The next board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 2, at the beautiful Los Coyotes Country Club. Just RSVP to any of the Officers or Directors. You are all welcome to attend.

Board Members

Officers

President

Spencer Knapp

949-643-5182

SLKnapp@aol.com

Vice President

Richard Luciano

562-690-4440

Secretary

Chris Mitchell

858-405-3599

Chris.plastics@ca.rr.com

Treasurer

Rosetta "Rusty" Miller

562-947-5058

Past President

Joe LaFountain

Board Members

Newsletter Chair

Vishu Shah

714-674-1981

714-674-1919 fax

Vishu@consultekUSA.com

Education Chair

Terry Price

Cerritos College

562-860-2451 x 2927

tprice@cerritos.edu

Membership Chair

John Szary

714-974-3999

jszary@aol.com

2010 Western Plastics Pioneers Association Scholarship Recipient



Devin K. de Keczer is the recipient of the \$2,000 Western Plastics Pioneers Association Scholarship. He will be a junior at California State University-Chico where he is working on his B.S. in Manufacturing Technology. He attended San Jose State University and received his A.A. from De Anza College in Cupertino, CA.

Devin has done volunteer work at a community center in Cupertino, and for the Los Gatos High School Robotics Team where he fabricated and assembled a 14 foot tall practice goal to their CAD specifications. The team's robot used the goal post in preparation for the 2006 FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) robotics competition.

Devin's work experience is varied. He's been a ranch hand, an assistant facility service manager for NASA's Ames Research Center, a Disneyana 2000 graphics and web designer, a freelance motorcycle repairman, and has worked at Goodrich Sensor Systems and Rockwell Automation. He has experience using molds for blow molding, injection molding, thermoforming, rotational molding, compression molding and for a blow film extruder.

Upon graduation, Devin would like a design engineering position in research and development, producing sustainable products for consumers and industrial applications. Ultimately, he would like to own and operate his own injection molding and thermoforming facility, designing and making tooling, dies and packaging for larger companies.


C & G Mercury Plastics
Custom Injection Molders of Thermo Plastics
Gregory Leighton
President
12729 Foothill Boulevard • Sylmar, California • 91342
Phone: 818.8373773 • Fax: 818.8373770
Email: sales@cgplastics.net • www.cgplastics.net
MEMBER Society of The Plastic Industry





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Western Plastics Pioneers
3034 E. Meadow Grove Road, #1S
Orange, CA 92867

The logo for Western Plastics Pioneers features a stylized, three-lobed shape resembling a 'Y' or a 'W' formed by multiple parallel lines. The words 'WESTERN' and 'PLASTICS' are written vertically on the left and right sides of the shape, respectively, and 'PIONEERS' is written horizontally across the bottom.