



# Western Plastics Pioneers

Q 4 2011

*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:

The Board of Directors has been quite busy since our last newsletter. Our successful events included Pageant of the Masters in July, Annual Luncheon in August, selection of the Hall of Fame recipients and selection of the scholarship recipient. Please refer to the articles contained within this newsletter.

We have been going through the Pioneers archives to prepare a complete list of past Hall of Fame recipients. We need your help. Do you have any information as to who our Hall of Famers are? We are looking for names for the years 1983, 1985 through 1989, and 1990 through 1995. If you know recipients for these years, please send me an e-mail to [LUCIRJ@aol.com](mailto:LUCIRJ@aol.com). Perhaps you are a recipient.

The Board has plans to increase the number of special events in the future so as to provide you with an opportunity for unique entertainment with your fellow members and friends. If you have any suggestion for a venue of interest to you, please let us know. Also, we have Board meetings typically the second Tuesday of every other month. Our next meeting is scheduled for November 15, 2011 and you are welcome to attend.

As we approach year end, you may be considering tax deductible donations to various organizations. Please give consideration to the Western Plastics Pioneers where your donations will be used for the scholarship fund or the recycling trailer program.

Best wishes,  
Richard Luciano - *President -Western Plastics Pioneers*

## ***Membership News***

The Western Plastics Pioneers would like to recognize three recent new members: Rick Roelen, Kerry Kanbara and Chuck Brewer III. Please welcome them to our organization. Our membership drive will include participation at the LPGO and at the Western Plastics Trade Fair. Hope to also see you these upcoming events.

For current members, please email me your updated general contact information: address, phone numbers, new email address(s), etc. Send them to [westernpioneers@aol.com](mailto:westernpioneers@aol.com).

Have a great Holiday,  
John Szary - Membership Chair

## ***Board of Directors***

### **Officers**

President  
Richard Luciano  
562-690-4440  
[LUCIRJ@AOL.com](mailto:LUCIRJ@AOL.com)

Vice President  
Greg Leighton  
818-837-3773  
[Greg@CGPlastics.net](mailto:Greg@CGPlastics.net)

Secretary  
Dolores Ketner  
909-573-9035  
[DeeKetner@aol.com](mailto:DeeKetner@aol.com)

Treasurer  
Rosetta "Rusty" Miller  
562-947-5058  
[rmiller@timesync.com](mailto:rmiller@timesync.com)

### **Board Members**

Past Presidents  
Spencer Knapp  
949 643-5182  
[SLKnapp@aol.com](mailto:SLKnapp@aol.com)

Newsletter Chair  
Vishu Shah  
714-674-1981  
714-674-1919 fax  
[Vishu@consultekUSA.com](mailto:Vishu@consultekUSA.com)

Recycling Trailer Liaison  
Chris Mitchell  
951 582-9565  
[Chris.Plastics@ca.rr.com](mailto:Chris.Plastics@ca.rr.com)

Membership Chair  
John Szary  
714-974-3999  
[jszary@aol.com](mailto:jszary@aol.com)

Scholarship Chair  
Roger France  
949 632-1650  
[Rogerfrance1@cox.net](mailto:Rogerfrance1@cox.net)

John Hoven  
310 545-5752  
[Jphoven@gmail.com](mailto:Jphoven@gmail.com)

Members Emeritus  
Past Presidents  
Joe LaFountain  
Robert Halliday

Education Advisor  
Terry Price  
Cerritos College  
562-860-2451 x 2927  
[tprice@cerritos.edu](mailto:tprice@cerritos.edu)

**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

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## Pioneer luncheon Highlights

Submitted by Rusty Miller, Luncheon Co-Chairperson

Although some were saddened to leave the Seaside after 14 years of surf, and sun ambience, all attendees were greeted with champagne, mimosas. Fruit and cheese, overlooking the beautiful golf course and surroundings of Los Coyotes Country Club in Buena Park.

Our day started with the hosted mixer, on the club house veranda, and moved into the Willows dining room for more mixing. President Richard Luciano introduced the Pioneers board, Spencer Knapp, Immediate Past President, gave blessings and lunch was served to 72 members and guests, incidentally our largest luncheon turnout.

President Luciano brought us up to date on our participation

## Scholarship Award Winner 2011



And the winner is ----- Jennifer A. Ramin

Jennifer earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Mathematics at the University of Texas at Austin in 1988 and received a Master of Science degree in nursing at MGH Institute of Health Professions Boston, Massachusetts in 1995. Jennifer is currently enrolled at the University of

Arizona, Tucson, Arizona, pursuing a Chemical and Environmental Engineering Degree. Her combined cumulative GPA is 4.0.

Jennifer is currently employed as a Palliative Care and Hospice Nurse Practitioner. She is licensed as an Advanced Certified Hospice and Palliative Care Nurse. She is also certified as an Adult Nurse Practitioner. Her experience includes Adjunct Clinical Assistant Professor, HIV Nurse Practitioner, Program Manager HIV Practitioner, Adult Nurse Practitioner, Hospice Nurse, and Lecturer. This experience is from 2003 to present. Jennifer has also published several articles pertaining to health issues such as End of Life nursing, Palliative care, HIV issues in India and several others. She is a Member of Engineers Without Borders and Society of Women Engineers.

The reason Jennifer is seeking a degree in Chemical and Environmental Engineering is that she has a very strong interest in the study of biodegradable plastics. She believes that plastics have provided amazing solutions for packaging, containers and medical equipment in addition to countless other uses. The durability of plastic, while beneficial in its use, is a detriment when it has become litter or taking space in the landfill. Significant advances in biodegradable plastics have been made but further advances are necessary. She hopes that her studies will contribute to the successful integration of plastics recycling. Once she completes her advanced studies in chemistry, she intends to seek employment which advances sustainable technology and energy.

Richard Luciano, President



in the Foundation Scholarship Program and our contributions. The committee awarded \$2,000.00 to Jennifer Ramin, Chemical Engineering Major from University of Arizona (Tucson).

Dee Ketner, Secretary and Social Chairperson reported our first social outing this year was July 31<sup>st</sup>. Dinner in Laguna Beach at Tivoli Restaurant followed by Pageant of the Masters performance of Only Make Believe. Dee and Rusty conducted a back stage tour after the performance.

Dee also gave an update on the LPGO 12<sup>th</sup> annual golf tournament to be held at Coyote Hills Golf Course in November. A check for \$2,000 was presented on behalf of the Pioneers to aid in breast cancer awareness.

The hallmark of the luncheon is the Hall of Fame award. This

prestigious award is presented to a Pioneer member with a minimum 25 years in the industry with relevant contributions. This year two members were recognized: John Hoven and Alex Mora (posthumously). John accepted the award with his wife Cheryl, and twin daughters, Lee and Lisa present. Alex Jr. accepted the award on behalf of his Dad, with his mother, Marina and sisters, Veronica and Monica seated close by.

The afternoon ended with the **Greatest Raffle Ever** conducted and collected by **Mr. Joe**.

This was the **best ever** Mr. Joe and we thank you for all the time and effort put into this event, and thanks to all the contributors making it possible for the luncheon to remain on the green side of the ledger.



Alex Mora  
Hall of Fame  
John Hoven



# “PLANT TOUR”



**December 1, 2011**  
**5:00 PM**  
**Niagara Bottling, LLC**  
**2560 E. Philadelphia St.**  
**Ontario, CA 91761 909-230-5000**



As a producer and supplier of Niagara brand and private label bottled water to many of the nation's leading grocery retailers, Niagara has built our business on 45 years of offering our customers unmatched quality, price, and service.

## **High-speed manufacturing and cutting edge bottling technology...**

Niagara manufactures our products with the most high speed, automated, and technologically advanced water bottling lines in the world! Efficiency savings gained with high-speed manufacturing and automation is another important factor that allows our customers to offer the best value bottled water on their shelves.



Pioneer members \$ 25.00

Tour to include light dinner.

Meet in the main lobby for check-in.

Register online at [www.socalspe.org](http://www.socalspe.org)  
or call Mike Schubert 818-247-6000x2318

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