



WESTERN
PLASTICS
PIONEERS

WESTERN PLASTICS PIONEERS

www.westernplasticspioneers.org

4Q 2018

2018 HOF LUNCHEON



The Western Plastics Pioneers annual Hall of Fame and Scholarship luncheon was held October 9, at the **Los Coyotes Country Club in Buena Park, California.**

Ed Laird was honored as the 2018 WPP Hall of Fame inductee. Ninety-five Pioneers and guests were present to honor Ed

and this year's scholarship winner Levi Hamernik.

The luncheon is the fundraiser for the Western Plastics Pioneers scholarship fund. This year's luncheon raffle netted \$3190 for that scholarship fund.

Western Plastics Pioneers Has a New Logo and Website

The Western Plastics Pioneers Board of Directors voted at the October 2018 meeting to modify the WPP logo and color with the development of the new website. Green was chosen to represent the fact that plastics really is a green industry.

George Yule and Jeff Lawrence are leading the way to update the image, mission, and communication tools of the Western Plastics Pioneers. The new website, <https://www.westernplasticspioneers.org>, will become the repository of all history, memorabilia, newsletters, Board of Directors action, Forms, Applications, Scholarship activities, etc.

Although in its infancy, the website is up and running. It will be seeing many additions as the Vision Committee continues to update and upgrade the content so that it truly represents WPP, our mission, and our purpose. Contact George Yule (Gyule-48@gmail.com) or Jeff Lawrence (Jeffslaw@earthlink.net) if you have ideas or action suggestions for the website.

Art Buckel, 2009 Hall of Fame Honoree Passes



Art Buckel, Western Plastics Pioneer 2009 HOF honoree and WPP board member passed away October 30 in San Diego, CA. Art was 84. Coincidentally, Art's wife of 61 years, Barbara, passed away exactly one year prior on October 30, 2017.

A memorial service is set for January 12, 11 A.M., at Clairemont Emmanuel Baptist Church, 2610 Galveston St., San Diego, CA.

Art was considered a Thermoforming guru having spent more than 50 years in the industry. He was The Director of the Society of Plastics Engineers Thermoforming Division from 1987 to 2010 and in 2011 was appointed as the division's first emeritus director. Art was honored by the SPE as the Thermoformer of the Year in 1999 for his dedication to the industry and his creative thermoforming approach.

Art was a U.S. Army Veteran. He served from 1959 to 1961. After returning from the service, He jumped back into the plastics industry and founded Pacific Auto Accessories, manufacturing soft goods for auto interiors and convertibles. Realizing the need for after market "hard" accessories, Art purchased a thermoforming machine to address the needs of that market and to expand his market opportunities. In 1972. Art formed Specialty Manufacturing to thermoform heavy gauge automotive parts as well as thin-gauge packaging.

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(Art Buckel Continued from Page 1)

Art sold Specialty Manufacturing in 1992, but remained active in the plastics industry. He frequently spoke at thermoforming conferences around the globe and helped develop international SPE thermoforming divisions in New Zealand and Australia.

2019 HOF Nominations

Nomination forms for the HOF are available on line at the new website www.westernplasticspioneers.org. They can be downloaded and prepared by hand and then forwarded to Richard Luciano, Roger France, or Greg Leighton. Their emails are listed in the adjacent column. Please see the Nomination form on Page 5.

Between January 1 and March 31 *the HOF Committee and the Board of Directors* promotes and encourages the submittal of nominating documents from the membership and the plastics industry at large for consideration. The HOF Committee is chaired by the past president or another officer appointed by the president. The committee is made up of at least three members including a past HOF inductee. The HOF Committee reviews the nominees and uses a metric system to rate and rank the nominees. They then present the candidate/s and qualifications to the Board of Directors for selection by the Board.

The *Western Plastics Pioneers Scholarship Program* was established to further the education of plastics and technology by awarding scholarships to deserving applicants attending colleges in Arizona, California, Oregon, and Washington. The Society of Plastics Engineers was selected to administer the scholarships awarded by the WPP. The Scholarship Committee Chairman works closely with the SPE administrator to evaluate all of the applicants with regards to academic achievement, community involvement, athletic participation, leadership activities, and social commitment. The finalists are submitted to the Board of Directors for the final selection. Scholarships are awarded in the amount of \$1000 and or \$2000 depending on the applicants strengths as judged by the committee. **Contact Richard Luciano** Scholarship Committee Chairman with your questions. (LuciRJ@aol.com)

Western Plastics Pioneers Officers

President - Dolores "Dee" Ketner
909-573-9035

DeeKetner@aol.com

Vice President - Rick Roelen
Newsletter 949-241-9495

rick.roelen@cox.net

Immediate Past President - Greg Leighton
Industry Liaison - 818-837-3773

Greg@CGPlastics.net

Treasurer - Past President Roger France
949-380-8108

Rogerfrance1@cox.net

Secretary - Ed Laird
eclaird@yahoo.com

Annual Luncheon - Rosetta "Rusty" Miller
562-947-5058

rmiller@timesync.com

Membership - Jeff Lawrence
jeffslaw@earthlink.net

Vision & Mission - George Yule
775-771-9432

Gyule48@gmail.com

Board Members

Scholarship - Richard Luciano 562--690-4440
LuciRJ@aol.com

Raffle Chair - Joe La Fountain

Social Events - Doug Halliday

Historian - Chuck Brewer III

Roger Foster

Members Emeritus

*Joe La Fountain, Robert Halliday, Spencer Knapp
Richard Luciano, George Epstein, Bill West*

www.westernplasticspioneers.org

2018 Hall of Fame Luncheon Memories



Ed Laird addresses the HOF Luncheon



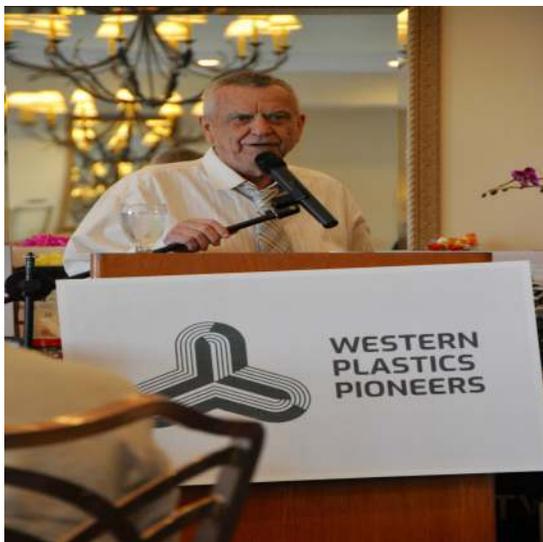
Dee Ketner and Greg Leighton present the HOF award to Ed Laird



Richard Luciano presents scholarship



WPP members & guests enjoying the camaraderie, lunch, and raffle



Joe La Fountain leads the "Biggest Raffle Ever"



PRESIDENTS MESSAGE DOLORES "DEE" KETNER

**Judging by the attendance, the Western Plastics Pioneers 2018 luncheon was a great success (95 members and guests). Do to the large number of donated raffle items, more than \$3K was generated from the raffle ticket sales and went directly into the Scholarship Fund. Thanks to Joe La Fountain and all of the prize donors.*

**Ed Laird was a great choice to be inducted into the Hall of Fame. His plastics coatings development, industry leadership, and social involvement make him a worthy honoree. Levi Hamernik, our scholarship recipient, represents the best of the new generation. Levi produced an acceptance video that can be viewed on the new WPP website.*

**We have a new website thanks to the efforts of George Yule, Vision Chairman, and it is up and running at www.westernplasticspioneers.org. George is also driving the effort to expand our scholarship efforts by working with the Plastics Pioneers of America to explore new and creative ways to increase our scholarship funding and the number of scholarships that we can make available annually.*

**Jeff Lawrence takes over as Membership Chairman from George Yule whose ideas have lead to a 20% increase in membership. Both George and Jeff have revitalized membership solicitation efforts and expanded the focus and reach beyond our normal boundaries. As our membership ages, we need to add new enthusiasm to our numbers. Anyone with 25 years of plastics industry experience is qualified to apply. (jeffslaw@earthlink.net).*

**Ballots will be mailed out to the general membership with nominations for the Board of Directors. You may nominate another deserving WPP member should you choose, including yourself. We are always open to welcoming new ideas and extra hands to share in the leadership of our organization. Please return the ballot in the envelope provided ASAP.*

**The SPI changed its name and focus last December to better serve the entire plastics industry. They are more focused and hawking local, state and federal politicians to be a positive force for our industry. Go to www.plasticsindustry.org to review their efforts.*

2018 Luncheon Memories



2018-19 WPP Board of Directors



Richard Luciano, Bill Brown, Spencer Knapp & John Hoven



Dee Ketner welcomes the HOF Luncheon guests



The Ladies Plastics Golf Organization Board of Directors representatives presented a \$36,000 check to Dr. Ram Rao, Pomona Valley Hospital MC Cancer Center. (Pictured L-R) Lisa Lopez, LPGO Treasurer, Shellie Rese PVHMC Administrative Director Cancer center, Dee Ketner, President LPGO and WPP. Lynn Koch, LPGO Board of Directors, Dr. Ram Rao, PVHMC VP Director of the Cancer Center, Rusty Miller LPGO Board of directors, and Glenda Ferguson. PVHMC Foundation Development.

For the past 19 years the Ladies Plastics Golf Organization has sponsored a golf tournament to benefit cancer patients at the Robert and Beverly Lewis Family Cancer Care Center, at the Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center. The program reaches out to both men and women who have been afflicted with breast cancer. To date, the LGPO has raised more than \$500M towards assisting those affected by this disease.

The Western Plastics Pioneers proudly supports the efforts of this community outreach 501 C (3) Non-Profit and actively supports their mission. Two Western Plastics Pioneers are very involved in the fundraising endeavors of the LGPO. Dolores “Dee” Ketner and Rusty Miller actively manage and promote this charitable endeavor.

The Western Plastics Pioneers Board of Directors asks our members to actively support their efforts by joining other golfers at their annual fundraiser to be held *November 6, 2019*. Mark your calendars and look for more information.

Western Plastics Pioneers Hall of Fame Nomination Form

(DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF NOMINATIONS IS – April 1)

Date: _____

Nominee _____

Nominee’s Address

Nominee’s Phone #

Nominee’s Cell Phone #

Nominee’s E-mail Address

Name of Nominator

Address of Nominator

Nominator’s Phone #

Nominator’s Cell Phone #



**Western Plastics Pioneers c/o
Coatings Resource Corporation
15541 Commerce Lane
Huntington Beach, CA 992649
Attn: Vivian Chavez
714-894-5252 ext.213
www.westernplasticspioneers.org**

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.

2019 Calendar

<p><i>January</i></p>	<p><i>February</i> <i>2/5 WPP BOD Meeting</i> <i>SPE Medical Plastics MiniTec</i></p>	<p><i>March</i></p>
<p><i>April</i> <i>4/2 WPP BOD Meeting</i> <i>SPE—Education Night</i></p>	<p><i>May</i></p>	<p><i>June</i> <i>6/4 WPP BOD Meeting</i> <i>SPE Golf – June 21</i></p>
<p><i>July—Pageant of the Masters</i></p>	<p><i>August</i> <i>8/6 WPP BOD Meeting</i> <i>August 17—SPE Western Plastics Trade Fair—Phoenix Club, Anaheim</i></p>	<p><i>September—</i></p>
<p><i>October</i> <i>10/1 WPP BOD Meeting</i> <i>October 13, 2019 Annual Hall of Fame Luncheon Los Coyotes CC Buena Park</i></p>	<p><i>November—</i> <i>Ladies Plastics Golf Organization Charity Golf Tournament. Date to be announced.</i></p>	<p><i>December</i> <i>12/3 WPP BOD Meeting</i></p>