



WESTERN PLASTICS PIONEERS

2016 1-2 Q

www.pioneers.socalspe.org

RON HOFFMAN 2015 HOF INDUCTEE

The Western Plastics Pioneers honored Mr. Ron Hoffman as its 2015 Hall of Fame inductee during the annual luncheon October 4 at the Los Coyotes Country Club in Buena Park, California.

Richard Luciano introduced Mr. Ron Hoffman to the gathering as a Marine Corps veteran. After his discharge from the service in 1959, Ron applied to the Los Angeles Police Department's Academy. While awaiting a response, he joined Elkay Rubber Company and what followed is his historic contribution to the plastics industry.

Ron began his career on the graveyard shift at Elkay while attending East Los Angeles Junior College. He was promoted to the product



development lab. Ron worked with both rigid and flexible formulations along with color matches in the lab. Among the many applications he developed materials for were flexible and bendable legs for the Barbie Doll. He gained business experience by helping to expand the production capabilities. (see page 3)

2015 Scholarships

Awarded - This year we were able to present two, \$2000 scholarships to very qualified and deserving students. Rachel C. Leacock, a senior majoring in manufacturing engineering at Western Washington University has a cumulative GPA of 3.76. She will graduate in June 2016 was selected as the first recipient.

Preston Zhou, a freshman at California Institute of Technology majoring in Chemistry and Physics, was the committee's second selection. Preston carries a 3.89 GPA. His studies are focused on polymer chemistry.

The WPP scholarship program is open to all applicants that are current college students and majoring in programs leading to degrees emphasizing plastics technology.

WPP Member Recommendations For 2016 Hall of Fame Nominees

The Western Plastics Pioneers Hall of Fame committee is soliciting input and recommendations from the current membership. Nominations for the 2016 Hall of Fame Award(s) in accordance with Article V, Section C of the WPP Constitution and Bylaws (pg4) for this year's Committee should be submitted to the committee prior to June 1, 2016. Normally we are supposed to request this from our membership on or before March 31,

If you have a recommendation or nomination please submit the name/names in CONFIDENCE with a short note of why you believe this person should be considered for this year's award. The committee will review the requests at the next WPP Board Meeting (June 7) and present the recommendation to the WPP Board at the next meeting (August 2). Contact Roger France, rogerfrance1@cox.net.

2015 Luncheon Photos

ED FLEMING 2014 HOF INDUCTEE



Ed Fleming, founder and retired Chairman of Cal-Mols Inc. was honored at the Western Plastics Pioneers 2014 annual luncheon as the Hall of Fame Inductee.

Ed was honored during the largest luncheon turnout in years. His many friends and co-workers were there to make it special for him. Many former employees said that Ed was like a father to some, a confidant to others and a coach to everyone. He was an entrepreneurial enabler to others. Ed always respected the individual worker and believed in the education and promotion of others.

Ed Fleming helped Alex Mora create formula Plastics in Ontario CA as well as the facility in Tecate, Mexico. Alex Mora was inducted into the WPP Hall of Fame along with John Hoven in 2012.

Ed Fleming began his plastics career as a toolmaker in 1952 and established Cal-Mold in 1957. He literally took his work home with him as he worked out of his garage before establishing Cal-Mold. In 1963, he joined toymaker Mattel, Inc. as a Tooling Liasion Engineer. In 1966 he established Cal-Mold as a tooling repair company and eventually expanded into ah injection molding company serving Mattel.

Education and Advancement were always important to Ed. (see Pg 3)

RON HOFFMAN 2015 INDUCTEE INTO THE WPP HALL OF FAME

(Continued from page 1) In 1970 Ron left Elkay and with his friend Howard Vipperman Sr. acquired a 4 1/2 inch extruder and with the help of two partners formed the company Vinyl Compounding Incorporated. The company sold vinyl compounds to various garden hose manufacturing firms. This in turn led to the idea of separating the vinyl from the other materials contained in the hose in order to recycle the PVC material. In 1974 along with Mr. Ford Cowing, Ronford Products was formed. Their new venture business would recycle plastic from garden hose manufacturing sources. Their recycling process enabled them to separate fibers from PVC.

In 1976, Ron reincorporated Vinyl Compounding as Hoffman Plastic Compounds. As the business grew, the demand for and the production of pre-colored compounds expanded. Seeking to meet the needs of a growing Plastics industry, Ron formed R and S Manufacturing and Supply to make color for PVC as well as other plastics. The new plant was located in the City

of Industry. Overtime, the businesses continued to expand and in 1983 Ron purchased the plant and some equipment from Atlas Plastics. Again this allowed Hoffman to consolidate their operations. R & S Manufacturing and Supply was then moved to Pomona. In 1988 Ronford Products was also moved to Pomona. During the period 1991 to 2006 Hoffman Plastic Compounds expanded to making rigid PVC and flexible orange and yellow compounds used for U L approved extension cords. They also made materials for boots sold through Walmart and Toyota floor mats. Hoffman plastic compounds now has 12 pelletizing extrusion lines; Ronford Products has five pelletizing lines; and R & S Manufacturing and Supply has four pelletizing lines. Ron's son Roland is vice president of operations for Hoffman Plastic Compounds and Ron's daughter Sheryl is vice president of R and S Manufacturing and Supply.

Congratulations to Ron Hoffman, his wife Sue and the entire Hoffman family. We thank you for your active support of the SPE and the Western Plastics Pioneers.

Ed Flemming 2014 HOF Continued

(Continued from Pg 2)
He encouraged his employees to study, train and grow by supporting scholarship and continuing education.

In 1998 He built new facilities and moved Cal-Mold to Mira Loma, CA. Here he operated until he retired from the day to day operations.

Not one to sit around, Ed has embarked on a new venture developing a woodworking concept tentatively called Palm Desert Crafts and Wood Shop.

The concept serves two purposes. Ed will have a shop to

pursue his woodworking hobby and provide the local community the opportunity to use modern equipment at a modest rental fee. Thus, woodworking hobbyists can pursue their hobby at a reasonable cost to rent equipment and purchase supplies.

There is no such facility

nearby that can provide instruction, equipment, supplies and plans according to Ed and his business plan is focused on meeting those needs.

The new facility will be located at 73850 #105 Dinah Shore Drive, Palm Desert, CA. Initially, the workshop will be operated by Ed and one instructor.

Hall Of Fame Committee

(Continued from Page 1)

ARTICLE V, COMMITTEES

C. HALL OF FAME COMMITTEE:

a. Chaired by Past President or other Officer appointed by the President. The committee shall be of a minimum of three (3) members, at least one of which is a past HOF recipient.

b. Hall of Fame Candidates: *Each year on or before March 31, poll the members and the industry at large for nomination of candidates for the Western Plastics Hall of Fame.* Present the names of those candidates and their qualifications to the Board of Directors at or before the June meeting who may select a maximum of two (2) for induction at the Annual Luncheon.

USS IOWA EVENT July 16

Don't miss out on the opportunity to join the Western Plastics Pioneers for a tour of this storied warship.

Please see the enclosed flyer to make WPP reservations and see page 5 for more details. You can also log on to [USS Iowa.com](http://USSIowa.com) to get more information.



2016 HOF Award and Luncheon
October 16, 2016 11 AM
Los Coyotes CC, Buena Park, Ca



Ladies Plastic Golf Organization



SAVE THE DATE!

9:00 AM Registration & Contests

10:30 AM Shotgun

4:30 PM Dinner/Awards/Raffle



16th

Annual Charity Golf Tournament
and Dinner

benefiting

Breast Cancer Awareness

Wednesday, November 2, 2016

Coyote Hills Golf Course
1440 E. Bastanchury Road
Fullerton, CA 92835

714-672-6800

Additional Information: Please contact Tournament Director, Rusty Miller - 562-947-5058

Men & Ladies Invited

BATTLESHIP USS IOWA

WHY BATTLESHIP IOWA MATTERS BY JAMES E. SEFTON

Upon America's entry into World War II, the west coast became the staging ground for the largest naval campaign of World War II, and indeed, in all of American history. Thousands of tons of war supplies and equipment left west coast ports. Thousands of servicemen and women saw their last glimpse of their homeland at ports from northern Washington to southern California. [More info...](#)

BATTLESHIP OF PRESIDENTS

During her more than 50 years in service, IOWA has welcomed and escorted our nation's Commander in Chief on many occasions. No other battleship in our nation's history has been host to more U.S. Presidents than the IOWA. [More info...](#)

GENERAL SHIP STATISTICS

SERVICE AWARDS

Ships are awarded ribbons and medals just like sailors. When a ship earns a ribbon, all the sailors serving aboard at the time are also awarded that ribbon. The ship's ribbons are worn on the outside of her bridge wings. The USS IOWA earned 14 different ribbons over her nearly 50 years of service. [More info...](#)

VICTORY THE DOG

When Navy Captain John L. McCrea first brought home a new pet dog, his wife said, "Get that thing out of here." Years later his daughter Annie Sullivan recalled, "my sister named the dog Victory but we all called him Vicky. He was just a mutt." That "mutt" would go on to sleep at the foot of President Franklin Roosevelt's bed, share the Captain's Wardroom with the great military leaders of World War II, log in over 205,000 miles on the Battleship Iowa, and be given full military honors when he finally left the ship. [More info...](#)

BATTLESHIP USS IOWA SERVICE RECORD & HISTORY

[*WORLD WAR II AND THE 1940'S*](#)

[*KOREAN CONFLICT AND THE 1950'S*](#)

[*COLD WAR AND THE 1980'S*](#)

[*POST COLD WAR THRU 2012*](#)

THOSE WHO SERVED

The USS IOWA "Those Who Served" collection provides snapshots and stories from USS IOWA veterans who proudly served throughout its storied service history. This will be a continuously growing Registry of USS IOWA Service where you can search for shipmates or enter information about your own service or that of a loved one. [More info...](#)



Western Plastics Pioneers
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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.

Join us for a great day aboard the USS Iowa.



WPP USS Iowa Tour
Saturday July 16, 2016
10:30 AM Boarding
90 Minute Guided Tour

Reservations Required for this WPP Special Event
Contact Dee Ketner (909) 573-9035

BACK PAGE STORY HEADLINE

Western Plastics Pioneers Officers

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949-920-8108

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Secretary—Open

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rmiller@timesync.com

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Members Emeritus

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Robert Halliday

Spencer Knapp

Richard Luciano