



WESTERN PLASTICS PIONEERS

www.pioneers.socalspe.org

3Q+ 2017

JIM ARMOR IS 2017 WPP HOF HONOREE

Huntington Beach - Jim Armor has been selected as the 2017 Western Plastics Pioneer Hall of Fame Honoree.

Jim fits the definition of a pioneer perfectly. He is an entrepreneur, innovator, risk taker, visionary, and in his own words a "peddler". He says he loves to sell more than anything.

In 1960 as a new graduate from California State College at Long Beach, Jim joined Ducommun Steel as an inside sales associate. Ducommun distributed some 50 thousand products out of a catalogue and had offices located in various geographies to manage distribution. After six months of inside sales and training Jim was assigned a territory that included companies like North American, Douglas, Northrup, and Hughes Aircraft.

One of the products that Jim had in his catalogue was a corrugated fiberglass sheet manufactured in San Diego. It was one product that Ducommun salesmen had that was not territory restricted. So Jim, being a peddler began to look for alternative uses other than patio covers. He took the product to growers and encouraged them to consider it as a more permanent solution to their hot house siding and roofing. Coincidentally, he heard about an organization called The Society of Plastic Engineers (SPE). And, so began his

pioneering career in plastics. He attended the early SPE meetings at Roger Young Auditorium and the seeds were planted for a long career in plastics.

Jim learned early on the logistics and significance of distribution, customer service and the importance of a handshake when doing business. And those became his basic guiding principles for doing business.

He joined the SPE Thermoforming Division in 1960. His membership card is #2489. He started his career in thermoplastic sheet in 1961. By 1965 he was thoroughly involved in sheet sales and he and Milo Hanson formed Alchem Plastics in La Mirada, California followed by plants in Atlanta, Dallas and New Jersey. They co-extruded multilayer sheet utilizing high impact polystyrene, ABS, Polyethylene and Acrylic ABS. By the late 1960s they had become a major sheet extruder. Not satisfied with just extruding product the forward integrated into thermoformed cups, lids, plates, food containers, horticultural products, et al., under the trade name Alplastic.

Alchem Plastics was sold to Spartan in 1980 and Jim remained as president of Alchem/Spartech until 1984. In 1984 Jim founded Agile Enterprises to extrude acrylic, polystyrene and propylene sheet and was president until 1987 when he as-



Jim Armor 2017 WPP Hall of Fame Honoree

sumed the presidency of Alplastic, a roll fed thermoformer and sheet extruder, the same company he had sold to Spartan years earlier.

In 1991, Jim again sold Alplastic and then joined Primex Plastics as Western Regional Manager and National Marketing Manager and remained there until 1998.

In June of 1998, Jim formed Armor and Associates, a sales organization selling thermoplastic sheet and remains active in that role up to the present. He has been a member of the Western Plastics Pioneers for "too many years to count", and maintained his active membership in the SPE thermoforming Division serving as a member of the Board of Directors and as chairman of the Materials Committee. In his leadership role Jim had presented many talks to SPE members regarding thermoforming applications.

WESTERN PLASTIC PIONEERS

2017 Hall of Fame and Scholarship Luncheon

HOF Inductees

- '78 John Delmonte
W. Brandt Goldsworthy
Robert B. Gutsch
Harry Hahn
George Huisman
Fred L. Kennerly
J.D. McDonald
David Swedlow
- '79 Elmer Meyer
Martin Usab
- '80
- '81 Dr. Raymond Seymour
Louis E. Tallman
- '82 Norry M. Hastings
- '83 Leroy Hughes
- '84 William Dewar
Charles Zimmerman
- '85 Jim Prior
- '86 Warren Buschman
- '87 Robert Halliday
- '88 Charles Leighton
- '89 Erin Walsh
- '90 Christine Konecny
- '91 M.C Gill
- '92 Jim Prior
- '93
- '94 Jim Sharbaugh
- '95
- '96 Al Carmien
- DeWitt Cheney
- Elmer Davis
- Ralph Edwards
- William Hess
- Elmer Huling



JIM ARMOR 2017 WPP HOF Honoree

HOF Inductees

- '97 Jim Wolcott
- '98 Frank DeVore
- '99 Ripley W. Gage
Betty Gage
- '00 Les Swanson
Merrill Roth
- '01 Walt Hubinger
- '02 Tom Lee
- '03 Spencer Knapp
Carolyn Knapp
- '04 Joe La Fountain
- '05 Rusty Miller
Bruce Ray
- '06 Jack Gorman
Bill West
- '07 Richard Luciano
Al Schmid
- '08 John La Fountain
- '09 Art Buckle
- '10 Vishu Shah
- '11 John Hoven
Alex Mora
- '12 George Epstein
- '13 Lance Neward
- '14 Ed Fleming
- '15 Ron Hoffman
- '16 Chuck Brewer
- '17 Jim Armor
- Roy Peat
- John Rogers
- Don Welker
- Frank Wilcox
- Frank Kenyon
- Year Inducted Unkown

Sunday October 8, 2017

Hall of Fame Award

College Scholarship Award

*Los Coyotes Country Club
8888 Los Coyotes Drive
Buena Park, CA 96021*

11 A.M. Champagne Reception

12 P.M. Luncheon

\$45.00 per person

Choice of NY Steak, Roasted Chicken, or
Salmon, Vegetables, Rolls, Sorbet and Beverage

Mail Reservations To:

Roger France

6 Rimani Drive

Mission Viejo, CA 92692

949-632-1650 Cell

rogerfrance1@outlook.com

**WESTEC - SEPTEMBER 12-14
L.A. CONVENTION CENTER**

Westec, "Experience the Future of Manufacturing" will take place at the Los Angeles Convention Center this week beginning September 12.

Do you want to learn more about the Technology Hub? Imagine a tech hub of the future where the latest machining, metrology, design, digital 3D printing and engineering expertise convene. Well it is happening daily at WESTEC 2017.

More than 500 manufacturers are just waiting to show you their cutting-edge technology and equipment. You can see solutions in person and interact with innovative technologies and applications and meet face to face with the industry experts.

Update your knowledge on 3D printing, Advanced Materials, CNC, Design and Simulation, EDM, Flexible Manufacturing, Lasers, Lean Manufacturing, Machine centers, Material Handling, Metrology Equipment, Quality, Robotics, Tooling, etc.

Keynote speakers and panels will cover Cognitive Manufacturing, The Next Industrial Revolution, Additive Manufacturing, What Is Smart Manufacturing, to highlight just a few of the workshop presentations.

This year you can ride in comfort with Westec Park and Ride. When you register on line, you can access a free program that will guide you to departure points and information. You can ride in the comfort of air-conditioned transportation and avoid fighting traffic by yourself.

Register at Westeconline.com/highlights of complimentary show floor access.

September 12, 9 am - 6 pm

September 13, 9 am - 7 pm

September 14, 9 am - 4 pm

Western Plastics Pioneers Officers

**President - Dolores "Dee" Ketner
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Vice President - Rick Roelen

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Scholarship - Richard Luciano 562--690-4440

LuciRJ@aol.com

Raffle Chair - Joe La Fountain

Social Events - Doug Halliday

Members Emeritus

Joe La Fountain

Robert Halliday

Spencer Knapp

Richard Luciano



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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.

<i>January</i>	<i>February</i>	<i>March</i>
<i>April</i> <i>SPE—April 19 Jaegerhaus, Anaheim</i>	<i>May</i> <i>SPE—May 8-10—ANTEC, Anaheim</i>	<i>June</i> <i>SPE Golf— June 22</i>
<i>July—Pageant of the Masters</i>	<i>August</i> <i>August 17—SPE Western Plastics Trade Fair—Phoenix Club, Anaheim</i>	<i>September—</i>
<i>October</i> <i>October 8, 2017 Annual Hall of Fame Luncheon Los Coyotes CC Buena Park</i>	<i>November—</i> <i>Ladies Plastics Golf Organization Charity Golf Tournament. Date to be announced.</i>	<i>December</i>