

# Western Plastics Pioneers

[www.pioneers.socalspe.org](http://www.pioneers.socalspe.org)

2013 Q2



*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,

Welcome to the 2013 – 2014 Term. Your new Board of Directors is show in the right column. I would like to thank Richard Luciano for doing a great job leading our group and as Immediate Past President he is still contributing to the Western Plastic Pioneers. Richard, the WPP Board and I share the same vision – grow the membership to at least 100 members. If we need a bigger venue to get all of you in to our events and especially the Annual Luncheon we will find it.

## WPP SCHOLARSHIP AWARD:

The 2012-2013 winner of the Western Plastics Pioneer Scholarship Award is Brian Venturella. Brian is a junior attending Washington State University/Vancouver and is expecting to achieve his Bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering in about a year and is excited about what his future in our industry holds for him.

In addition to attending WSU/Vancouver he is employed by Rex Plastics, Vancouver, Washington and is designing new injection molding programs using CAD. He is learning injection molding, tooling and part design from the ground up at Rex Plastics. I hope that he enjoys his career and is as much as I did in "our industry". Congratulations Brian!

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

July 14 – Pageant of the Masters in Laguna Beach – please see the announcement and contact Dee Ketner or Rusty Miller. It's not just the Pageant but a backstage tour led by Dee and Rusty and there is a dinner prior to the Pageant at Tivoli Terrace too.

August 11 – Western Plastic Pioneers Annual Luncheon @ Los Coyotes Country Club please see the announcement for this event – we want to see you there.

Our Events & Entertainment Team works very hard on these events so please reward their efforts with your attendance. Thank you.

The WPP Board would like to hear from each of you, what other social events would you like to have planned for this year? If you have suggestions we would like to hear from you, we need to hear from you. We are here to serve you! Please help us do that.

See you at the Pageant of the Masters and especially at our Annual Luncheon.

*Roger France, President*

## Newsletter Ad's

Western Plastics Pioneers Newsletter has been an integral and vital part of the organization. Newsletter has played a key role in keeping all the Pioneers informed and involved in the industry. The articles, photographs, news, remembrance and more importantly whereabouts of the friends and what they have been up to made an interesting reading. Newsletter is published quarterly. We are requesting your help by asking your organization to advertise in the newsletter to help us defer the cost of publication and postage.

Single Space 1.75 x 2.625

\$ 100 per year

Contact: Vishu Shah

Double Space 3.5 x 2.625

\$ 200 per year

[Vishu@consultekusa.com](mailto:Vishu@consultekusa.com)

Triple space 4.25 x 2.625

\$ 300 per year

909-465-6699

*Thank you for your support.*

## WPP Leadership

President

Roger France

949-380-8108

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1st Vice President

Dolores "Dee" Ketner

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[DeeKetner@aol.com](mailto:DeeKetner@aol.com)

2nd Vice President

Greg Leighton

818-837-3773

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Secretary

Open

Treasurer

Rosetta "Rusty" Miller

562-947-5058

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## Board Members

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Richard Luciano

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[LUCIRJ@AOL.com](mailto:LUCIRJ@AOL.com)

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Scholarship Chair

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Joe LaFountain

Robert Halliday

Spencer Knapp

Recycling Trailer Liaison

Chris Mitchell

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Education Advisor

Terry Price

Cerritos College

562-860-2451 x 2927

[tprice@cerritos.edu](mailto:tprice@cerritos.edu)

## Save the Date!

June 20, 2013

### **SPE - 31st Annual Golf for Education**

The Southern California Society of Plastics Engineers premier golf tournament to raise funds for it's plastics education program and the George Epstein scholarship award. Held at the prestigious Sierra La Verne Country Club. More information is available on the [www.socalspe.org](http://www.socalspe.org) website or contact Kerry Kanbara 626-966-0302

July 14, 2013

### **Pageant of the Masters**

Festival of the arts show. Includes an after show back stage tour. For more information visit [www.pioneers.socalspe.org](http://www.pioneers.socalspe.org) or email Dee Ketner [deeketner@aol.com](mailto:deeketner@aol.com) or Rusty Miller [rmiller@timesync.com](mailto:rmiller@timesync.com)

August 11, 2013

### **WPP Annual Luncheon**

Los Coyotes Country Club will once again provide a perfect setting for our annual luncheon with it's delightful setting and fine food. WPP will also award the prestigious Hall of Fame Award at the meeting. The reception will begin at 11:00 AM and the address is 8888 Los Coyotes Drive in Buena Park. So mark you calendar to enjoy a memorable gathering of industries friends. For more information visit [www.pioneers.socalspe.org](http://www.pioneers.socalspe.org) or contact, John Hoven 760-924-2822

## Membership News

Re: Jim "Pap" Sharbaugh

Dear All,

We're sad to report that Pap (otherwise known as Jim Sharbaugh) passed away peacefully at home on Wednesday, April 24, 2013. He had been sick with pneumonia for just a few weeks and we were able to bring him home as he had requested to the home that he and Mom have shared for the last 15 years. Pap was able to spend his last week in a bright sunny room with a view of their beautiful garden. We feel very fortunate that it was a brief illness and Pap was able to celebrate his 99<sup>th</sup> birthday on April 13th surrounded by about 20 of his favorite local friends and neighbors (including a sax player!) We are so grateful for all of the kind messages, calls, food and visits we have received and appreciate the sentiments. We certainly knew how special our Pap was but it's been so wonderful to hear the many stories from so many people that he met and touched along they way. A celebration of Pap's life will be scheduled later in the summer and we will share the details once the arrangements have been made.

Pap was a popular fixture at the Rancho Senior Center where he volunteered in the fitness center, maintained a community garden and was a teacher to the local YAT/JYAT kids who came to help the seniors with their gardens. The attached announcement (including some great photos) was distributed by the center.

Also, Pap was an active member of "The 90+ Study" at the Clinic for Aging Research and Education at UC Irvine. He attended regular meetings and had a ball meeting contemporaries, sharing stories and most important, using his experiences to help further their research. He gave them the ultimate donation - his brain to study and continue to help others. We are so appreciative of all the requests we've received for an opportunity to make a donation in Pap's memory and we thought Pap would suggest donations to the study: "UCI Foundation - The 90+ Study". The mailing address is:

Claudia Kawas, M.D., 1121 Gillespie, UC Irvine, Irvine, CA 92697.

Thank you again for all of the care, concern and kindness you've extended to our family.

Warm regards, Eileen, Brooke and Christine



## Most Outstanding Faculty Award

On April 25, Cerritos College recognize key individuals for their continued contribution. This year Terry Price, Dept Chair and Director of Composites Training Center at Cerritos, was bestowed the Most Outstanding Faculty Award.

In a post interview Terry was asked, how did you find your calling (manufacturing/teaching)?

"As a young kid growing up I worked side by side with my father who was a building contractor. He taught me the strong work ethic that is instilled in me today. I enjoyed the time spent working with my dad and when the time came, I decided I wanted to enter an Industrial Arts program, now called Career and Technical Education, and follow that career path. Things were much different back 34 years ago. Plastics and composites was a fairly new area to the educational field in the manufacturing industry, and this sparked my interest in working in an area that was up and coming. Cerritos College allowed me the privilege of taking my interest one step further by becoming an educator. I am proud to say that today the Plastics curriculum at Cerritos is unique in its scope and is known as one of the finest programs in the State of California." Terry Price.

From your fellow Pioneers, "Congratulations and Thank You!"



### **REUNION! REUNION! REUNION!**

To all current and past Presidents or Chairpersons for SPE and SPI, including Sections, Chapters, Western Regions and International/National Board of Directors....

WPP is interested in planning a reunion!

If you or you know of someone who has held one of these positions, PLEASE email or call Dee.

[DeeKetner@aol.com](mailto:DeeKetner@aol.com) or call 909.573.9035

Your help is greatly appreciated!

## SPE Education Night

SPE held its annual Education Night on March 21. This event recognizes the winner of their Wonders of Plastics Essay Contest. The contest is put out to the local high schools science departments. This years section award winner was Abraham Gutierrez of Ontario High School. Plastics Pioneer and SPE Past President, Clarence Smith presented the award to Abraham.



### **"Wonders of Plastics" by Abraham Gutierrez**

Whether we are aware of it or not, plastic is all around us and plays a crucial role in our daily lives. Ranging from children's toys to massive transportation units and from soft drink bottles to school supplies, it has become one of the most prevalent materials in the world. Likewise, this synthetic solid is a prominent resource for humans in terms of production and consumption. Despite its flaws and much opposition, plastic has become a great success due to its product versatility and its energy-saving efficiency.

America has a population that must be satisfied by giving its people what they need and want. Simply, plastic is the perfect material for the satisfaction of every individual's needs and wants due to its high versatility. Interestingly, it has the right materials to be manufactured in ways that serve specific purposes and functional needs for customers. For example, in history, preventing the spoiling of stored food was always a chal-



lenging task; however, with the introduction of plastic wraps and re-sealable containers, protecting food from contamination has become much easier. On the same note, food companies always had difficulties of how long their products are able to be on their shelves before they become expired. Luckily, modern packaging helps keep food fresh for a longer period of time, even with food that expires relatively quickly such as beef and chicken.

Aside from its wide use in food packaging, plastic also plays a pivotal role in terms of our modern, daily household appliances. Due to its extremely high durability, plastic is used in nearly all items found in today's conventional home. For instance, these synthetic solids are used in portable phones and laptops not only because they help reduce any possibilities of shattering, but also because they are fairly light, making portable items truly portable. In addition to phones and laptops, plastic is utilized in major appliances, such as dishwashers and refrigerators, to help resist corrosion, last longer, and operate much more efficiently. In the end, the benefits using plastic would only grow and grow as more of its uses become a contemporary part of life.

Finding a better energy-saving material has always been a goal for American businesses. Plastic has been found to be very inexpensive and effective in saving energy through its production and consumption, especially when compared to other widely used materials like paper. In fact, during its production, one plastic bag requires only two-thirds of the energy needed to produce one paper bag. By using plastics rather than alternative materials, manufacturers save large amounts of energy. Without this reliable material, the energy needed to produce just packaging materials would nearly double. Also, due to their lightweight, they have been effective in reducing the weight of delivery trucks, allowing them to carry more units. The fact that more units are able to be carried allows the need for many trucks to decrease, saving large quantities of energy. This shows the significance of using plastic rather than using other expensive, energy-consuming materials.

All in all, plastic has always been around us for as long as we can remember. Its many uses only allowed it to emerge as the prime material in many household items and utilities. Outside the home, it has also gained popularity in local markets and warehouses because of its packaging qualities. Most importantly, plastic saves energy. Many times, people receive the question, "Paper or plastic?" It turns out that creating plastic materials requires only a fraction of the energy needed to create other materials. In the end, the pros gained from using plastic are far more beneficial than those gained from alternative sources; as a result, it has become the most widely used substances in the world.

## The Birth of the Plastics Industry?

In an article in *plasticquarian* no. 1, it is contended that the birth of the plastics industry could be traced back to 1843 when samples of gutta percha, forwarded from Singapore by Dr William Montgomerie, were examined in November of that year at a meeting of the Royal Society of Arts (RSA) in London. That statement has not been received with universal acclaim and alternatives have been strongly advocated, in particular cellulose nitrate which, as Parkesine, was the motivation for the much admired *The First Century of Plastics* by Maurice Kaufman and in the preceding issue of *plasticquarian*, where it is suggested that ebonite has a legitimate claim. What is now obvious is that, if gutta percha is to be awarded the prize as the first plastics material, the grounds for such have to be made clear.

That gutta percha is a plastics material, there can be no doubt. Unlike its geometric isomer, natural rubber (which has chronological precedence), gutta percha exhibits the classical properties of a thermoplastic, being softened by heat and having the ability to be forced into an appropriate shape which is retained on cooling. It should be noted at this stage that we are not concerned with the subsets of plastics: natural, semi-synthetic, chemically modified, synthetic, thermosetting, etc., but

with the totality – and gutta percha belongs therein.

When considering the inception of any new idea one is struck by the fact that few lack some sort of predecessor. To take but two examples: the sun-centred solar system was advocated by Aristarchus long before Copernicus and the discovery of America by Columbus was preceded by the Norse and the



Basques (to say nothing of Saint Brendan). What then determines precedence? I would suggest it is when the novelty is recognized by those who matter so that it becomes common knowledge and further developments can be seen to follow from that time.

What is clear from the minutes of the RSA is that gutta percha was the subject of great interest from the very beginning. By January 1845 sufficient was known about this new material for the Society to resolve 'that this substance appears to be a very valuable article and might be employed with great advantage in many arts and manufactures of this country'. The report was prophetic. In the same year patents were being applied for, machinery was being developed and the Gutta Percha Company was in being. By 1846 R&J Dick Ltd of Glasgow was processing gutta percha: both these companies would still be in existence 100 years later.

1847 saw the use of gutta percha in both dentistry and golf, and its excellent dielectric properties were being exploited for insulating cable not only in the UK but in Germany and the USA as well. All this activity associated with a material obtainable from sources 10 000 miles distant. Plastics have penetrated every aspect of modern life through their versatility and ease of processing. In this respect, from the very beginning gutta percha set a hot pace. There was a multitude of uses in addition to those already mentioned. By the time of the Great Exhibition in 1851, less than eight years from its introduction, the Gutta Percha Company was marketing articles for over 100 different applications ranging from maritime to domestic, medical to electrical, and sporting to chemical. At this time imports exceeded over 1000 tons per annum in the UK alone.

In the *Plastics Historical Society's* series of 'Great Lectures of the Past', the subject in November 2000 was that given by Alexander Parkes to the RSA in December 1865. Therein Parkes spoke of supplying a cheaper material than gutta percha by producing Parkesine at 'less than a shilling a pound'. So he was seeking to establish his product by undercutting the competition which was already established and dominating the market. Thus, the classical sequence of events: the discovery of a new material and its exploitation in a wide variety of applications opening up new areas of activity which is the very story of plastics. It is gutta percha which, uniquely, first fits that role. If not, then what else does it have to be? What more does it have to do?

[www.plasticquarian.com](http://www.plasticquarian.com)

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Custom Injection Molders of Thermo Plastics

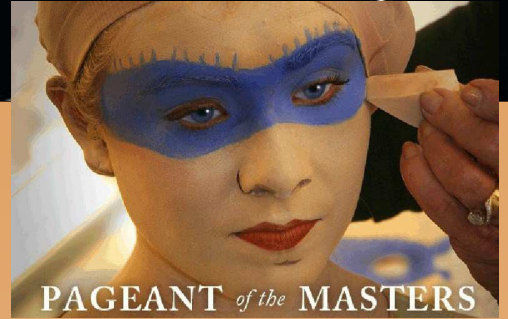
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 MEMBER Society of The Plastic Industry

*The Big*

PICTURE



PAGEANT of the MASTERS

*Pageant of the Masters*  
*80 Year of Living Pictures*

**Sunday - July 14, 2013**

**Special Showing With Tour**

sponsored by Western Plastic Pioneers

Includes admission to Festival Art Show and a  
"Back Stage Tour" after the performance  
conducted by Rusty Miller and Dee Ketner

**\$ 65.00 per person**

**Reserved seats main tier center**

**Show time 8:30 PM**

For Tour, please be prepared to stay  
at the Irvine Bowl until 11:30PM

650 Laguna Canyon Road  
Laguna Beach, CA 92651

**Join us for a pre-show dinner!**

You are welcome to join our dinner group  
at the Tivoli Garden (same address)

5:30PM reservations will be held for you  
under Western Plastics Pioneer

No host - order off the menu day of event



**TICKETS ARE LIMITED – PLEASE RESERVE EARLY**

Make checks payable to "Western Plastics Pioneers" and mail to:

Rusty Miller  
WPP "Pageant of the Masters"  
8410 Saranata Dr.  
Whittier, CA 90603

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Provide names of additional attendees on the back of this registration form.

How many in your party for Festival & Tour \_\_\_\_\_ x \$65 = check total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Are you planning on joining us for dinner? \_\_\_\_\_ How many for dinner \_\_\_\_\_

**For additional information contact Dee Ketner • 909-573-9035 • deeketner@aol.com**





Please join your colleagues in this delightful setting for fine food and another convivial gathering of industry friends.

# Western Plastics Pioneers Annual Luncheon and Hall of Fame Award Sunday – August 11, 2013

Location **Los Coyotes Country Club**  
8888 Los Coyotes Drive  
Buena Park, CA 90621

Reception Cheese & Fruit  
11:00AM with Champagne & Mimosas

Luncheon Spinach Salad  
12:00PM Choice of Petit Filet Mignon or Salmon  
Sorbet with Fresh Berries  
Coffee, Tea, Lemonade

Cost \$45.00 Per Person advance purchase (\$50.00 at door)



Make checks payable to “Western Plastics Pioneers” and mail to: Rusty Miller  
WPP “Pageant of the Masters”  
8410 Saranata Dr.  
Whittier, CA 90603

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Provide names of additional attendees on the back of this registration form.

How many in your party \_\_\_\_\_ x \$45 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Entrée selection: # \_\_\_\_\_ for Filet, # \_\_\_\_\_ for Salmon

**For additional information contact John Hoven • 310-545-5752 • [jphoven@gmail.com](mailto:jphoven@gmail.com)**

# Society of Plastics Engineers

## 31st Annual Golf Tournament for Plastics Education

### Sierra La Verne Country Club

6300 Country Club Dr. La Verne, CA 91750 ph 909-596-2100 [sierralavernecc.com](http://sierralavernecc.com)

## Thursday, June 20, 2013

**12:30PM Shotgun Start**  
**(11:00AM check in)**  
**scramble format**



The Southern California Society of Plastics Engineers is proud to host its **31st** Annual Golf Tournament for Plastics Education. Last year we moved this event to the prestigious Sierra La Verne Country club. Thanks to the overwhelming positive response to the move, we will again return to Sierra La Verne. Event proceeds help support the SoCal SPE education and scholarship programs.

**Sierra La Verne wins again! Winning the 2011 and 2012 INLAND VALLEYS Daily Bulletin Readers' Choice Awards.**

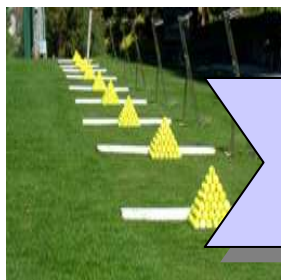
**"Sierra La Verne, Best Golf Course & Best Banquet Facility!"**

Located in the rolling foothills of the majestic San Gabriel Mountains, Sierra La Verne is a premiere private Southern California Country Club, surrounded by great natural beauty.

**Join in after the Tournament for the Buffet Dinner and Golf Awards Banquet (6:00PM)**

SPE will also formally present the George Epstein Scholarship <http://socalspe.org/Scholarships.html>

Past presidents are invited for our traditional informal past presidents meeting



- \*Low Team
- \*Low Gross
- \*Longest Drive
- \*Closest to Pin

**REGISTER ONLINE**  
**[www.socalspe.org](http://www.socalspe.org)**



**Any donations in the form of Raffle Prizes, Tee Sponsorship, Cash or Services for this fundraiser will be greatly appreciated. Your contribution will be recognized at the tournament.**

**Note:** If paying by credit card you can also register online at [www.socalspe.org](http://www.socalspe.org)

Pricing	\$ SPE member / \$ non-member	Name of Participants (group contact as #1)	Index (if used)
<input type="checkbox"/> GOLF & CART+DINNER	\$120/\$140.00 ea _____	1- _____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> GOLF & CART only	85.00/\$95.00 ea _____	2- _____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> DINNERBANQUET only	\$45.00/\$55.00 ea _____	3- _____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> SPONSOR	tee\$100.00 / flag\$250.00 _____	4- _____	_____
Sponsor - Sign at Tee \$100 or Company Pin Flag \$250			
<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION/SCHOLARSHIP donation	\$ _____		
<input type="checkbox"/> I plan to donate a raffle prize or other services			
TOTAL _____			

Company \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Payment method: I will mail in a check \_\_\_\_\_ I will pay by credit card \_\_\_\_\_

Credit card # \_\_\_\_\_

Circle card type: MC Visa AmEx Discover

Exp(mmyy) \_\_\_\_\_ Security code \_\_\_\_\_

For MC, VISA & Discover this is the 3 digit # to the right on the signature side of the card.  
For AmEx this is the 4 digit # on the front right of the card.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**Fax 909-625-2847** (NO REFUNDS FOR CANCELLATION AFTER 06/07/12)

Event coordinators:  
**Kerry Kanbara 626-966-0302**  
**John Catalano 909-592-3663**  
**Mike Schubert 818-247-6000**  
**Rick Hays 714-473-9598**  
**Em: [golf@socalspe.org](mailto:golf@socalspe.org)**



**Make checks payable to: SPE**

Mail to: SPE, attn: Kathi Miller  
14615 Bluebell Dr.  
Chino, CA 91709



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3034 E. Meadow Grove Road, #1S

Orange, CA 92867

[www.pioneers.socalspe.org](http://www.pioneers.socalspe.org)

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