

#### 333 Ravenswood Ave. AC - 108 • Menlo Park CA 94025

Voice Mail: 650-859-5100 Email: alumni@sri.com

Web Page: www.sri.com/alumassoc/

# **APRIL 2008 NEWSLETTER**



## MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT BOYD FAIR



Boyd Fair

Now that you all have finished your income taxes, it is time to sit back and relax and enjoy reading about what is happening at the old "toot" and with the colleagues and friends that you worked with while earning all that money that you are now paying taxes on as you enjoy your retirement years.

Bob Schwaar, our Newsletter editor, has put together another fine Newsletter summarizing some of the recent changes and accomplishments at SRI. The article about the Curt Carlson's recent All-Hands Meeting describes how SRI's CEO views the health and future of the organization. Many of the current SRI projects are focused--not surprisingly given the cost of oil these days-on various forms of energy production. Several of these activities are described in the Newsletter.

The new Letters To The Editor section continues with a discussion about Dyna-Speak®. This section of the Newsletter has solicited some interesting feedback from the alumni in the past and I encourage you to submit any inputs, questions, suggestions or discussions that you might have in the future. Inputs can be sent by mail, left on the alumni answering machine, or submitted via email. We want and solicit your feedback!

You should have already received a separate mailing with a sign-up form for the 2008 Spring Fling. Based upon feedback from last year's event (LLL), Tom Anyos, our Events Chairman, has planned a field trip to NASA Ames that promises to be extremely interesting and exciting. We anticipate a "full house" so I hope you signed up early. If not, contact Tom immediately to see if there is any space still available. If you wanted to sign up and missed the opportunity, you will just have to settle on reading about it in the next Newsletter. BTW, mark your calendars now for the fall reunion planned for Sept 18, 2008.

Russ Dewey and Phil Monti, our Website chairpersons, have been busy adding additional information to the Alumni web page. I encourage you to go to *alumni.sri.com* and read about our activities and look at some pictures of last year's Reunion and Spring Fling. You might even find a picture of yourself there.

The Alumni Association financial health remains good thanks to the support of SRI and the SRI Federal Credit Union. Pete Valenti, our Finance Chairman, has put together an annual report that is contained in this issue of the Newsletter. The financial future of the organization continues to look bright.

The membership has held steady at around 500 members around the world and each of them receive the Newsletter three times a year. The preparation and mailing of the Newsletter is one of the major cost items to the organization. Bob and the rest of the Steering Committee members put a lot of time and effort into making it a quality publication that is (hopefully) of interest to all of you. I believe that we have succeeded again with this issue and that you will agree.

... Boyd

## HISTORY CORNER

## Secret Project in Foothills Park

In the 1960s the city of Palo Alto decided in a controversial election to purchase Foothills Park from Dr. Russel Lee. As it was being developed, Palo Alto residents found that more than twenty land mines had been mysteriously planted in the park.

In one incident, a 9-year-old resident, Peter Towle, found an anti-tank mine filled with 12 pounds of dynamite, according to an Oct. 5, 1963 Palo Alto Times article.

SRI then announced that it had planted "TNT-filled mines" 12 years earlier during a "top-secret Korean War mine detection experiment using dogs". Spokesmen from SRI were not sure who had been responsible for removing the mines after the experiment but they could "not definitely account for 11 of the mines," the Palo Alto Times reported later that month.

This incident was recalled in February 2008 when two rangers in Foothills Park discovered an unexploded shell while walking the fence line of a new property on the 3200 block of Alexis Drive, lying right next to the deer trail. Was this from another old SRI project?

With the help of a cell-phone camera and reference to a Wikipedia article back in the Park Office, Supervising Ranger Lester Hodgins was able to deduce that the shell was most likely a 75 mm fragmentation shell dating from WW I.

The shell probably came from a rifle and artillery range that was located in the foothills off Page Mill Road, where soldiers worked with howitzers and small field pieces. Military officers had moved an artillery brigade intended to be closer to the Stanford University campus into the foothills when university officials balked at its proximity. The operation was part of the activity at Camp Fremont, the sprawling World War I training camp located in Menlo Park just west of El Camino, not far from San Francisquito Creek. The Camp was in operation for some 19 months in 1917-1918.

The Camp had infantry, cavalry, 27,000 men and 10,000 horses and mules. The animals were based on Ravenswood Avenue, probably on or near the future site of SRI.

Of the 1,124 buildings that comprised Camp Fremont, the only one left on the site today houses the Oasis Beer Garden.

So SRI was not connected with the WW I shell, which was safely detonated around midnight by a group from the Palo Alto Police Department and the Santa Clara County Bomb Squad, along with officials from Travis Air Force Base in Fairfield.

The next morning, the only traces of that part of the park's past were a few fragments of sandbags left from the night's detonation.



Spring Comes to SRI

Photos by

Robert Schwaar

# GIBSON AWARD TO PAUL COOK



The Weldon B. Gibson Achievement Award, SRI's most prestigious award, was presented to Dr. Paul Cook, an early employee and a longtime friend of SRI. Paul also served on the SRI Board from 1987 until 1998, and was its Chairman during the critical years of 1993-

1998. He headed the committee that sought out and brought Curt Carlson to become the president of SRI.

Paul Cook, one of Silicon Valley's most respected innovators and entrepreneurs, was SRI's 48th employee in 1948. His seminal research on micro-algae at SRI in the 1940s was fundamental to today's research on carbon dioxide capture and bio-fuels. He pioneered the radiation chemistry industry when he left SRI to found Raychem in 1957. Cook built Raychem into a Fortune 500 company that had sales of \$1.5 billion in 1990 when Paul retired. (Raychem is now part of Tyco International, Ltd.)

In more recent years, Paul founded CellNet Data Systems, DIVA Systems—the first video-on-demand system--and Promptu. He received the National Medal of Technology from President Reagan in 1988, and is a member of the Bay Area Business Hall of Fame. Paul is on the board of directors at SRI's subsidiary, Sarnoff Corporation.

In WW II, Paul was a U.S. Army officer in the 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division, serving in Italy. He was educated as a Chemical Engineer at MIT, and has been active as a supporter of the MIT Corporation.

Paul is a member of the National Academy of Engineering.

The Gibson Award, the first in five years, was made by President Curt Carlson during the January 22 All-Hands meeting. Previous recipients include Doug Engelbart, Ed Robison, Phil Green, Dennis Finnegan, and the ERMA Project Team.

In his acceptance remarks, Paul recalled that one of his early assignments at SRI was to evaluate possible uses of radioactive wastes from nuclear reactors. He found numerous applications, but concluded that those needs could be served in a safer and more economical way by using machines that were then being developed. This was the spark that led to his founding Raychem, initially to produce tough polymers that could be cross-linked by radiation.

RECENT RETIREES  AND OTHER DEPARTURES OF LONG-TIME STAFF						
			Years of Service			
December 2007	-	Phillip Michael West	28			
	-	Glenn D. Cunningham	32			
January 2008	-	John Allen Chamberlain	24			
	-	Roshi K. Easley	25			
	-	Dennis Keith Holler	21			
	-	Reema Yasmin Mahamood	26			
	-	Mustafa Kemal Sonmez	11			
February 2008	-	Carol M. Stetson	30			

#### WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

# Greetings from Paradise!

Doug McConnell writes from Noosa, on the east coast of Australia 2 hr north of Brisbane . . . .

"There is life after retirement. I suffered few adjustment problems, although Gloria initially found it hard in a new country. We are re-connecting with family and friends we seldom saw even on our biennial trips home while living in California. The locals are friendly and accepting, most willing to help newcomers integrate into the community.

"For the last three years I have been the Club Captain at Tewantin Tennis Club where we have eight artificial lawn courts. This led to being the Club's delegate to the Noosa District Tennis Association that organizes the local men's, mixed, and junior competitions among its 12 member clubs. When the secretary resigned and no replacement could be found I was co-opted to fill in and am still filling in.

"Gloria joined the Noosa Chorale, a 50-70 member group that performs serious classical music. Result - I now sing in the tenor section. We performed Verdi's Requiem in 2006 with the Brisbane Sinfonia, receiving great reviews for our performances here in Noosa and in St. John's Cathedral in Brisbane. We perform Orff's Carmina Burana in May.

"Noosa has a very active little theater and last year I "trod the boards" for the first time since high school, in the chorus of Gilbert and Sullivan's Iolanthe. Having learned the hard way about being up-staged and how to use elbows discretely, I decided to put my newly learned skills to use and am currently in the chorus of Gigi, which opens on April 23. One can re-invent oneself and it's fun.

"Last year I was invited onto the Board of a \$10 million not-for-profit company that assists the mentally handicapped to live as independently as possible in the community. It utilizes my business/consulting skills, helps keep my brain active, and satisfies my "do-gooder" needs.

"Our lifestyle has changed a little. Life is far more casual, and I suspect this is both retirement- and location-related. I have attended four funerals since arriving late in 2003, and have been almost the only person wearing a suit and tie.

"Club tennis starts at 6:30 am, so we retire and rise earlier. It avoids playing in the heat of the day, although the men also play in the afternoon. On

tennis mornings I am up around 5 am, so our 13-year old dog, Macgregor, and I breakfast together. He has developed the habit and demands eating at that time every morning. Brisbane is a two-hour drive so we don't get there as often as we used get to San Francisco. However, we subscribe to the Brisbane Ballet, a highly professional company.

"We have been back to the US twice since coming to Australia and have had a few visitors from abroad. We are always delighted to see old friends, and we find e-mail a boon.

"Aging is treating us better than many of our friends. At 75, I am still able to RUN after a tennis ball, enjoy Scottish Country dancing, and contribute a regular tennis column to the local newspaper."

Sincere regards, Doug McConnell

#### Letter to the Editor:

"Your article "Dyna-Speak®" to be used on Fighter Jet" [December 2007, page 6] describes how the F-35 Lightning II, which rolls out in 2008, will be the first U.S. fighter aircraft with a speech recognition system—based on SRI software--that can respond to a pilot's spoken commands. Amazing.

"Readers may be interested to know that the system not only recognizes American English, but also Latin American Spanish, French, German, Tagalog, Mandarin, Egyptian Arabic and Pashto. This will make the F-35 a hot international export item.

"Keep up the good work."

Larry Low



More Spring Comes to SRI

#### **NEWS FROM SRI**

#### State of the Institute

At the beginning of each year, President Carlson reports to the staff on the state of the Institute, reviewing the past year's performance and presenting the goals and plans for the year ahead.

On January 22, Curt Carlson reported that the Institute had an excellent year in 2007. Consolidated revenues for 2007 (SRI International and Sarnoff Corporation) reached \$435 million, up from \$411 million in 2006. At the end of 2007, SRI's full-time equivalent staff count was more than 1,500, and combined with Sarnoff was approximately 2,000.

President Carlson congratulated staff for their contributions to their clients, their technical achievements, and the resulting financial success. He also described some exciting recent and current projects -- some of which are covered here, and others that are not yet ready to announce to the public.

The format was an All-Hands meeting held at 9:00 am in the International Building auditorium. Breakfast snacks precede the meeting. The timing is selected to permit live participation via video feed with other SRI locations throughout the United States. A chatroom feature is also provided, and an overflow crowd is accommodated in the dining room. As a special feature, the Gibson Achievement Award was presented to former SRI staff member and Chairman Paul Cook [see separate article.]

# Carlson Urges Innovation

SRI President Curt R. Carlson warned a Princeton University audience of academics and technology entrepreneurs in February that the country must work harder to cultivate innovators.

"China is producing 10 times as many scientists and engineers as the U.S.," Carlson said. "Innovation is the only way for the West to get to wealth, prosperity, quality of life, sustainability and security." Carlson's visit kicked off a lecture series on technology entrepreneurship.

Growth in jobs and new ideas, Carlson said, lay with small to mid-size companies. But he called the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 an "innovation killer" because of the high cost small public companies face complying with the law. Carlson added that government policies may be stifling innovation by blocking the influx of new thinkers to the country.

# NASA Announces Air Safety Awards

In February NASA's Aeronautics Research Mission Directorate, Aviation Safety Program, awarded some \$1.87 million to four California groups for research in aeronautics. Included were approximately \$500,000 to SRI International for its proposal, "Formal Verification and Automated Testing for Diagnostic and Monitoring Systems Using Hybrid Abstraction."

NASA's Aviation Safety Program conducts cutting-edge research to improve the safety of current and future aircraft operating in the National Airspace System. The research will focus on the way vehicles are designed, built, operated and maintained.

Also receiving awards were Teledyne Scientific & Imaging LLC, Thousand Oaks and M4 Engineering Inc., Long Beach, as well as Stanford University (3 projects).

For more information about NASA research announcements, visit: http://nspires.nasaprs.com

# Global Spa Summit to be held May 18-20 in New York

For the second year in a row, leading executives from the spa, hospitality, travel, wellness, investment and fitness sectors will convene to chart the future of the booming global spa industry at the three-day gathering, to be held at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel. Top industry executives will gather to exchange ideas and advance industry goals, such as establishing a common language and understanding across regions and continents and creating uniform performance benchmarks for spas worldwide.

A highlight of this year's summit will be the presentation of the first-ever "Global Spa Economy" report, prepared by SRI International. The report will be the first major study to define the size and economic impact of the global spa industry. It is expected to play an important role in planning for future growth of the spa industry.

Global Spa Summit (www.globalspasummit.org) is an international organization dedicated to bringing together leaders and visionaries to shape the future of the global spa and wellness industry. Founded in 2005, they hope to do for the spa industry what the Davos conference has done for the Global Economy.

# **NEWS FROM SRI (Continued)**

# PolyFuel Developing Fuel Cell to Power Notebook PCs

PolyFuel, an SRI spin-off company, announced completion of the fourth milestone of a five-step, multi-year development plan intended to kick-start the commercial market for power supplies that can run all day. The goal is a working prototype of an integrated power supply for a notebook PC that surpasses the performance of today's lithium-ion batteries.

PolyFuel president and CEO Jim Balcom said that they are just one step short of introducing an alternative, "non-stop" power technology for laptop computers.

PolyFuel has solved the water management problem that has plagued portable fuel cell developers for nearly a decade. All fuel cells create water as a byproduct of the electricity generation process. The trick is what to do with it.

For this achievement, PolyFuel engineered an entirely new membrane, a breakthrough "membrane electrode assembly" (MEA) design, and a new system design that not only reduces the amount of water byproduct produced during fuel cell operation, but recycles a significant portion of that water directly back through the membrane to the fuel side, where it is reused to generate more electricity.

In consumer-oriented portable fuel cells, this laptop power supply would have "hot-swappable" cartridges of methanol or hydrogen fuel -- easily and safely carried in a pocket or purse -- that could effectively provide continuous power all day -- and all night -- if necessary.

PolyFuel was spun out of SRI International after 14 years of applied membrane research. PolyFuel is based in Mountain View, California, and is publicly listed on the AIM market of the London Stock Exchange. PolyFuel received financial support from the DOE on this project.

# SRI Japan's Karatsu Honored by METI



Osamu Karatsu, executive of SRI Japan, has director received 2007 METI the Minister Award from the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) for the "promotion of industrial standardization."

#### Patents for Voice-to-Database Searches Offered

SRI announced that it is offering for sale its voice-to-database (V2DB) search patents. Three US patents address methods for spoken search and retrieval of information from large databases using a speech recognizer. The SRI-patented methodology can be applied in at least five broad and growing markets: online and mobile search, consumer electronics, telematics, customer call centers, and online commerce.

According to Doug Bercow, director of business development, the SRI V2DB methodology for searching vast, multimillion-record databases surpasses currently available speech search technology. Current methods hit a scalability barrier because search complexity increases with the size of a database. SRI's approach targets a reduction in user steps, directly leading to steep increases in transaction completion rates and customer loyalty.

SRI is the sole owner of the V2DB patents and is actively seeking partners who wish to acquire the V2DB portfolio.

# Artificial Muscle Captures Wave Energy

The people at SRI are looking to the oceans for alternative energy — specifically, at ocean waves.

Partnering with a Japan-based startup, SRI engineers are creating an ocean buoy that harnesses electricity from the up-and-down motion of ocean waves.

The buoys, which are still in the experimental stage, are equipped with SRI's "electroactive polymer artificial muscle," or in more simplistic terms, a sheet of a rubber-like substance attached to a weight.

Like any ocean buoy, the SRI device floats atop ocean waters, bobbing up and down with the swell of ocean waves. As the buoy moves up and down, the rubber-like material stretches and contracts, creating energy.

"There's this stretch component, where the up-anddown motion can generate electricity," says Roy Kornbluh, an SRI senior research engineer. "It's like a souped-up rubber band."

He said the energy harnessed by the buoys could be used to power coastal operations such as offshore oil drilling, or the buoys themselves could double

# **NEWS FROM SRI (Concluded)**

as navigational or metrological devices that are powered by the waves rather than by individual batteries.

A prototype was recently demonstrated at SRI's St. Petersburg labs before the governor of Florida and the mayor of St. Petersburg.

# Talk And Book By Wagner

Dr. Caroline Wagner delivered a talk titled "Science, Ethics, and Institutional Traditions Around the World" at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) in Boston in February. Her talk is based on research for her new book," The New Invisible College: Science for Development", which is being published in Spring 2008 by The Brookings Institution Press.

A Senior Policy Analyst in SRI's Center for Science, Technology, and Economic Development (CST-ED) in Washington, Wagner works on projects related to measurement and evaluation of science and technology. Before joining SRI, she worked at RAND Corporation and served as an analyst for the federal government. She is a founding member of the Washington Science Policy Alliance and a Fellow of AAAS.

Information on Dr. Wagner's new book can be found at: http://www.brookings.edu/press/Books/2007/newin-visiblecollege.aspx

# Ground Breaking for New SRI-Shenandoah Valley R&D Facility

Virginia Governor Timothy M. Kaine and city and county officials joined SRI executives for a ground-breaking ceremony at the new Rockingham Center for Research and Technology in Harrisonburg. The site will be the new home of SRI Shenandoah Valley and its Center for Advanced Drug Research, which has temporary offices and laboratories on the nearby campus of James Madison University (JMU).

The facility is being built in partnership with the Commonwealth of Virginia, Rockingham County, the City of Harrisonburg, JMU, the Shenandoah Valley Partnership, and the Virginia Economic Development Partnership.

# Polysilicon Technology Transfer

Muto Silicon Corporation, a Taiwan-based polysilicon supplier, has been selected by SRI as one of its partners in Taiwan for technology transfer. SRI has selected two to three partners for the transfer of polysilicon technologies, with Muto being one of them. SRI uses the sodium reduction process to produce polysilicon.

See URL: http://www.digitimes.com/bits\_chips/a20080220PD204.html

#### Nordic Green '08

SRI will host a two and- ahalf-day executive event that features CEO presentations, green-tech exhibitions, and high-level debates on the most promising emerging green technologies and new entrepreneurial opportuni-



ties. It takes place at SRI April 21-22.

Nordic Green is where cutting-edge green-tech CEOs from Denmark, Sweden, Iceland, Norway, Finland, and Estonia mix it up with the leading entrepreneurs, investors and industry heavyweights from California's Silicon Valley in order to build lasting partnerships and develop the next generation of collaborative global climate solutions.

300 green-tech CEOs, Some opinion leaders, potential customers, utilities, policy investors, NGO's, makers, service providers, non-profits, and leading members of the press and blogging community will attend Nordic Green. They come to identify and debate emerging trends, build high-level relationships and create new business opportunities.

For more info, visit: http://alwayson.goingon.com/ecom/productview/23627

#### SRI Works with Local Schools on Nanotech

A Foothill College program in nanotechnology-the science of the teeny-weeny--offers internships at SRI. Another program, NanoSense, a curriculum developed by SRI for high school teachers, was piloted earlier this month at Gunn High School in Palo Alto. SRI has been studying the importance of nanotechnology education for the National Science Foundation; for more, see:

URL: http://www.paloaltoonline.com/news/show\_story.php?id=7550

# **ALUMNI NEWS**

# SRI INTERNATIONAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION CASH FLOW / INCOME AND EXPENSE YEAR TO DATE DECEMBER 31, 2007

			YR TO DATE	
CASH BALANCE 12/31/06			\$	18,012.63
INCOME				
CASH INCOME FROM MEMBERSHIP DUES AND FEES DIVIDENDS (INTEREST) ON BANK ACCOUNTS REIMBURSEMENT OF MAILING COSTS	\$	10,464.00 52.75		
CONTRIBUTED FUNDS				
SRI FEDERAL CREDIT UNION	-	2,500.00		
SRI INTERNATIONAL / HUMAN RESOURCES DEPT.	\$	2,000.00		
TOTAL INCOME	\$	15,016.75	\$	15,016.75
EXPENSE				
SERVICES PROVIDED				
SERVICES PROVIDED BY SRI INTERNATIONAL		0.040.77		
REPORT PRODUCTION SERVICES POSTAGE & MAILING EXPENSE		6,243.77 2,093.40		
POSTAGE & MAIEMO EXPENSE		8,337.17		
SPECIAL EVENTS	Ť	0,007711		
ANNUAL REUNION EXPENSE				
CATERING	\$	4,195.05		
SPRING FLING - VISIT TO NATIONAL IGNITION FACILITY		1,364.28		
	\$	5,559.33		
OTHER EXPENDITURES & EXPENSES		004.04		
MISC. SUPPLIES	\$	284.94		
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$	14,181.44	\$	14,181.44
CASH BALANCE 12/31/07				18,847,94
CASH BALANCE 12/3 I/U/			<del></del>	10,047.34

(1) The Archive Fund Balance of \$3,250.50 is included in the above reported Cash Balance.



More
Spring
Comes
to
SRI



# **ALUMNI NEWS (Concluded)**

#### Web Site In Operation

Thanks to Russ Dewey and Phil Monti for maintaining the SRI Alumni Association Web Site (<a href="http://alumni.sri.com/">http://alumni.sri.com/</a>) Be sure to check it out regularly for the latest news of our activities, as well as photos from past events and Newsletters from the archives—in color. You can also tell us what you think of the site [Contact Us in the left-hand bar of the website]. It's also an easy way to let us know of your own activities and pass on news of fellow alumni.

#### Hall of Fame

New members of the SRI Alumni Hall of Fame will be inducted at the Fall Reunion; nominations are now arriving. Look over the roster of Hall of Fame Members on the alumni website (http://alumni.sri.com/fame.html). Nominate those you feel have been overlooked. You can see the sort of information that the selection committee requires by looking at the citations on the website.

# SRIs 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Video Available for Download

In November 2006, SRI celebrated its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary at the Computer History Museum [see December 2006 Newsletter, page 6.] A special 17-minute video was prepared for the event. This video is now available on the SRI website at [http://www.sri.com/about/60years.html]. Several versions are available for downloading, or you can view a streaming version. You can also order your own copy of the DVD.

# **Spring Fling**

On April 24, SRI Alumni will visit NASA's Future Flight Central simulation facility at the Ames Research Center at Moffett Field. This facility is the only one of its kind in the United States. We will also tour one of NASA's wind tunnels and lunch at the Ames Cafeteria. A full report with pictures is planned for the August Newsletter.

#### New Alumni Members

The SRI Alumni Association welcomes new members: Mary Dahlberg, Michael Davis, Peter Duncan, Annette Giron, Sean Fitzgerald, Tim Perkins, George Sibbald, and Edith Yang.

We look forward to your participation in the Alumni Association and hope to see you at our next group event.

#### Members on the Move:

Boyd Fair from Los Altos to Carmel
Tim Perkins from Mtn. View to Palo Alto
Bruce Tupper from Morgan Hill to San Martin

## SAVE THE DATE!!!

The Annual Reunion will be held at SRI on Thursday, September 18<sup>th</sup>.

Tell your friends, and come!

More details in the August Newsletter.

# **CREDIT UNION NEWS**

# **HELOC AT SRI-FCU!**

Prime MINUS .25%!

Home Equity Line of Credit

(As of 3/17/08 the APY\* is 5.75%-rates may be lower)

A Home Equity Line of Credit (HELOC) from SRI Federal Credit Union offers great rates and no fees. With money saved on fees, you'll have more money available to spend on the things you enjoy. You can borrow as much as \$500,000 for anything from home improvements or medical expenses to life events such as a wedding or other large or unexpected expenses. By getting approved for a HELOC today, you will have funds available when you need them. You can access your available credit anytime. Best of all you pay interest only when you use your credit line.

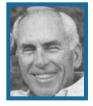
Apply today!

\*APY = Annual percentage Rate

# **IN MEMORIAM**

#### **Roy Amara**

Roy C. Amara, engineer, forecaster, and a founder and longtime president of the Institute for the Future, died on December 31, 2007 at age 82. The Institute for the Future (IFTF) is a Palo Alto nonprofit that pioneered technological and sociological forecasting.



Raised in Boston, Roy served as a Navy electronics technician in the Pacific Fleet during World War II.

After the war, he attended Harvard [BS in Physics in 1948] and MIT [MA in EE in 1949] on the GI Bill. He persuaded his future wife to follow his dream to move to California.

After a brief stint as a high school teacher in Redwood City, Roy came to work in 1952 for SRI, where he worked on the development of the ERMA computer. He earned a PhD in EE from Stanford in 1958. During his 18 years at SRI, he directed research programs on interactive computing and decision analysis. He worked closely with Doug Engelbart on the proposals that led to Engelbart's history-making Augmentation Research Center.

While at SRI, Roy met other leaders in this emerging network of thinkers, including Paul Baran, a scientist at the RAND think tank. In April 1968 Roy, Paul, and several others established the Institute for the Future, a not-for-profit research group to help companies, governments, foundations, and other institutions think about the long-term future. Roy was the Vice-President for Institute Programs at SRI when he left in 1971 to devote fulltime to the IFTF where he became president in 1972.

In 1973 Roy hired Bob Johansen to study how scientists were using the ARPANET, the electronic predecessor to the Internet. "In those days, that was not the sort of study a responsible sociologist would be doing," Johansen said.

At IFTF, Roy established the annual Ten-Year Forecast, now in its 35th year. In 1978 he convened one of the earliest systematic discussions of global climate change.

He retired in 1992 but served as president emeritus of the institute for five more years. The institute, which has about 30 full-time employees, celebrates its 40th anniversary in April, 2008.

After his retirement, Roy indulged his passion for hiking. He was particularly fond of the hills of San Mateo County, where he and his family lived most of their lives in Ladera.

In addition to Margaret, his wife of nearly 60 years, Roy is survived by sons Mark of Moses Lake, WA and Dirk of Auburn, daughter Christine of Redwood City, and five grandchildren.

This article is based in part on a piece by Tom Abata that appeared in the S.F. Chronicle.

#### Joe Carrier



Joseph Etienne Robert Carrier died on January 11 at his Menlo Park home. He was 80.

Joe was born in 1927 in Lynn, MA and grew up in Maine. After serving briefly in the U.S. Navy, Joe earned a BA in Business Administration from Boston University in 1950. He then served as a naval officer aboard the USS Leyte until his discharge in 1954.

After graduate school at Stanford, he joined SRI in 1956 as an economist. He directed numerous programs, and was the Director of Forest Products when he left SRI in 1984.

Survivors include Kathleen, his wife of fifty years, sons Stephen, Michael, Paul, and Robert, daughter Suzanne, and four grandchildren.

#### **Darrell Fowler\***

Darrell Fowler, 71, died November 2, 2007 after a brief bout with lung cancer.

Darrell was born in Omaha in 1936 and grew up in Los Angeles. He earned a BS in Engineering Administration from MIT in 1957 and two masters degrees from Michigan [math in 1966 and physics in 1967].

Darrell joined SRI in 1979 as a Senior Project Manager. He retired in 1998 as a Program Director.

Darrell was also an officer in the US Army Chemical Corps for 22 years, serving in a variety of posts worldwide, and finally retired as head of the Nuclear Defense Agency at the Livermore National Lab.

He was active in SIR Branch 101 and in the Discovery Bay C.C.

Survivors include his wife Martha, of Livermore, son Bill of Acton, MA, daughter Kathy Stewart of Union City, CA, and five granddaughters. Others include a brother and a sister.

#### Richard Goen\*



Richard L. Goen passed away on January 23 in Seattle. He was 76.

Born in June 1927 in Everett, WA, Richard served in the Marine Corps. during WW II. He attended the University of Washington in Seattle, where he earned two BS degrees [math in 1953 and mathematical statistics in 1955].

Richard joined SRI in late 1962 as an Operations Analyst. He became an expert on energy issues. At the time of his departure from SRI in 1986, Richard was a Sr. Energy Analyst in the International Consulting Division.

Richard was an avid runner; he completed a 10K race in 29:37 in Everett, WA at age 70. He also enjoyed folk dancing.

He is survived by his wife Patricia, daughter Sonia Faletti, stepchildren Paul Riemann and Ingrid Reeves, and seven grandchildren.

#### Wilson Harwood\*



Wilson Franklin Harwood, 95, died January 31 at Stanford Hospital. He had been a resident of Portola Valley for the last 40 years.

Wilson was born in San Francisco on December 31, 1912. He attended Lowell High School and graduated from Stanford University [BA in political science] in 1935. It was here that his sister Sally introduced him to his future wife of 69 years, Lee Lewis.

Wilson was a Naval Officer during World War II, serving as an administrative and budget analyst in various government agencies, including the Naval Research Laboratory, Office of Naval Research, and National Bureau of Standards, all in Washington, D.C. He was selected as Assistant Director, Administration for the National Science Foundation when it was formed in 1949.

# **IN MEMORIAM (Continued)**

He joined SRI in 1973 and was a Senior Systems Analyst when he left in 1978.

His career with SRI and other non-profits took him and his family all over the world as he utilized his great gift of transcending cultures and politics to improve the lives of people in Puerto Rico, the Philippines, Iran and Peru, as well as in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and Egypt.

Wilson will be remembered by his family and friends around the world for his love of adventure, global perspective, spirited intellect, and-above all--his colorful stories.

Wilson is survived by his wife Lee, daughters Margaret Milledge of Palo Alto and Sara Arnold of Lexington MA, son Lewis of Bethesda MD, five grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

#### Lawrence Low\*

Cdr. Lawrence J. Low, USN Ret., passed away in his Woodside home on January 3 after a long illness. He was 86.

Larry was born in 1921 in Manhattan. He spent his childhood years in New York City and Paris, and earned a BS degree in Mechanical Engineering from the Stevens Institute of Technology in 1942. He was



employed by Curtiss Wright Aircraft in Buffalo and later at Cornell Aero Lab, where he spent more than a decade in flight dynamics research for aircraft and guided missiles.

Larry moved to California after eight years of active naval service during World War II and the Korean Conflict. He joined SRI in 1955 to direct the Naval Warfare Research Center, which conducted research on the improvement of combat analyses and war gaming techniques. He retired in 1984 as a Senior Management Consultant, but was immediately rehired as Scientific Counsel and remained at SRI until 2006.

Larry settled in Woodside in 1959. He was a private pilot, aviation and automobile enthusiast, and a highly skilled model airplane builder, artist, and pianist. His handcrafted scale models of vintage aircraft were once displayed at the Smithsonian Institution.

He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Mary, of Woodside, and son Tom of Belmont, and three grandchildren. Tom currently works at SRI.

#### Torben Meisling\*

Torben Meisling died on December 13, 2007 at age 84. He had been suffering from Parkinson's disease for more than a year and died of pneumonia.

Torben was born in Copenhagen in February 1923 and earned degrees in Microwave electrical engineering from the Royal Technical University there [BS in 1946 and MS in 1948]. He emigrated to the US in 1948. He taught at UC Berkeley from 1949-1954 (where he earned a Ph.D. in Digital



Computer EE in 1952). He later became a Section Leader at the Lincoln Lab [MIT] from 1950-56.

Torben was the Executive Director of the Information Science and Engineering Division at SRI from 1968 to 1977.

Survivors include his wife Gladys of Palo Alto, son Kristian, and granddaughter Sarah.

#### **Ron Panton**



Ron Panton, 92, died in his sleep December 8, 2007 at the Atherton Convalescent Home. He had been a technician in Ray Leadabrand's radio physics lab for more than 34 years--from 1957 to 1991.

Ronald Alexander Panton was born at home in Novato CA, in 1915 and grew up in the East Bay. By the age of 14, he had learned to play the organ and

the trumpet, and he joined the California National Guard Band.

He became an Eagle Scout, learned Morse code and got his ham license, W6CBE, at age 14. Later he obtained a 2nd class commercial radio license. Around 1934 Ron went to work as an electrician's helper in the Bethlehem Shipyard, but he began a long musical career even earlier

At age 17, Ron played trumpet and wrote the arrangements for dance orchestras, among them, the Freddy Nagel Orchestra and the Buddy Maleville Orchestra.

Ron and his first wife, Jean moved around to Monterey, Sacramento, Santa Barbara, Bakersfield, Long Beach, Boise, and Seattle, following Ron's day job with United Airlines. During this period he continued as the arranger and business manager for Freddy Nagel's orchestra.

After leaving United Airlines (and Jean), Ron returned to Monterey where he ran, and lived at, the KDON FM radio station on Mt. Baldie (near Salinas). During this time, he played French Horn with the Monterey Symphony and composed.

Ron later worked as an engineer at KCBS in San Francisco. There he met and married Helga Roller in 1952. Ron and Helga had two children: daughter Siri and son Neil. During that time, Ron played trumpet and French Horn in the Marin Symphony.

In 1957, Ron began work for SRI as an Engineering Assistant in the Radio Physics lab. During his long SRI career, Ron worked on projects in Guam, Scotland, Alaska, Nevada, and in the South Pacific on the M.V. Acania. In 1962, the U.S. Commanding General on Guam sent SRI a letter praising Ron's work there after Hurricane Karen: ". . . Mr. Panton worked around the clock for six straight days, handled over 1500 Ham radio messages to families of our military personnel . . ." Ron retired from full time work in 1980 and from part time work in 1991.

In retirement, Ron continued to enjoy playing the oboe, composing music, participating in Ham Radio activities, and doing crossword puzzles.

Thanks to Murray Baron for this obituary.

#### Willard Tiffany\*

Col. Wiilard Tiffany died on Dec 16, 2007 after a short illness. He was 90 years old.

Tiff was born in the Philippines while his father was stationed there with the US Army. He came to UC Berkeley to earn a BSEE in 1940. After WWII he and his first wife (now deceased) lived in Japan. They returned to the US where he attended the Army War College. Col. Tiffany later attended Stanford [MBA in 1958] and joined SRI in 1965. He was a Sr. Systems Analyst when he retired in 1981.

Survivors include his second wife, Helen, and a daughter.

# **IN MEMORIAM (Concluded)**

#### **Judy Moore**

After a long struggle with cancer, Judith Gardiner Moore, 63, passed away peacefully at Riverside Convalescent Center in Hampton, VA, on Feb. 9.

Judy was born March 20, 1944, in Dayton, Ohio. She was a descendant of Pocahontas (12 generations removed).

Following studies at the University of New Mexico, she came to SRI as a Scientific Programmer in the Advanced Technology Division in 1965.

She left SRI in 1977 and accepted employment at NASA Langley AFB.

A longtime resident of Olde Wythe [part of Hampton, VA], Judy was a dedicated and active member of the Olde Wythe Neighborhood Association. She gained city-wide distinction as the Webmaster and Secretary. Her hobbies included gardening and reading, and she excelled at crafts.

Judy is survived by her sister, Sallie Moore, of Reno, NV.

#### Jack Van Zandt\*



Jack Van Zandt passed away on December 2, 2007.

He earned a BS in Civil Engineering at UC Berkeley in 1960. He was employed by SRI between 1965 and 1987. His initial assignment with SRI was in Org. 923 as an Operations Analyst. When he left SRI in 1987, he was a Senior Civil Engineer in Org. 690 (Engineering).

#### **Diane Weston**

We received information that Diane Weston has died, but have no details.

She received a BA in Anthropology at the University of California in Santa Barbara in 1976, and came to SRI in 1977. She was employed as an Industrial Economist in the Long-Range Planning Service, the forerunner of the Business Intelligence Program.

#### **Audley Williams**



Audley Oscar Williams Jr. died Nov. 27, 2007 after a long bout with emphysema. He was 84. At SRI he was the Senior Business Manager in the Systems Development Division. Audley also served many years on the Board of Directors for the SRI Federal Credit Union.

Born in August 1923, in Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada, Audley was the fifth of six children. In 1942,

after a semester at Georgia Tech, he enlisted in the Army and was shipped off to Europe as an infantryman in 1944. Audley was captured in the Battle of the Bulge and survived in the German prisoner-of-war camp Stalag 9B.

After the war, Audley returned to Niagara Falls, where he met his future wife and graduated from Niagara University [BS in social science in 1949]. He married schoolteacher Mary Jeanne and they moved to California in 1959. They settled in Sunnyvale where Audley worked for Philco and Lockheed Corp. From 1964 to 1990, he was employed by SRI, where he managed the business office for the engineering division and served on the board of directors of the SRI Federal Credit Union.

Audley became a longtime and popular member of the Widow and Widower's Club of Sunnyvale, which he joined in 1987 following the death of his wife, Mary Jeanne. There he met Pauline Sanchez and they enjoyed a decade of companionship and travels until she died in 1998. It was Sanchez in particular who persuaded him to write his memoir, which he finished in 2004.

"I have been so fortunate in my lifetime to have had two such wonderful women to love and be loved by, and it was my good luck that they were both extremely pretty as well," he wrote in his memoir.

Over the years, Audley became an avid fisherman, favoring the Tuolumne River.

He is survived by his daughter, Deborah W. Trounstine of Aptos, son Audley Mark Williams of Seattle, and eight grandchildren.

This obituary is based in part on an article by Howard Mintz that appeared in the San José Mercury News.

<sup>\*</sup> SRI Alumni Association Member