



**alumni**  
association

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## DECEMBER 2009 NEWSLETTER



### MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT BOYD FAIR



*Boyd Fair*

Season's greetings! It's the holiday season again and time to digest the Thanksgiving turkey and reflect on 2009. We have had another successful year with three high-quality newsletters, an interesting Spring Fling, and another highly successful annual reunion.

This is the last installment of the 2009 SRI Alumni Newsletter. We take great pride in the quality of the newsletter. Many of you have mentioned to me personally how much you enjoy the document, and I am delighted that you do. Producing such a document takes the concerted efforts of numerous dedicated people who gather, write, edit, and format the articles and pictures for each issue. I want to thank all the alumni members who provided input into the newsletter and a special thank you to Mimi, Klaus, and Joyce for pulling the inputs together, editing and formatting them, and getting the documents printed, collated, and mailed to you.

For any organization to survive and continue with such activities, it must constantly bring in fresh ideas and new energy. This is particularly true for retirement organizations such as the Alumni Association. Many of your Steering Committee members have been volunteering their time and efforts on your behalf for several years. But, as time goes by, people grow older and their personal situations or time availability may change.

The time has now come when we must identify some new individuals to join the Steering Committee. The committee is low key and very flexible in how it operates, so there are no specific requirements to becoming a member other than the willingness to put in a couple of hours a month to attend our meetings and to work on an occasional project, such as a newsletter item or a social event.

Therefore, as you read through the rest of this newsletter, reading and enjoying the articles and the pictures, I ask each of you, and particularly those of you who live in the Bay Area, to seriously consider becoming more involved to help ensure that the Alumni Association remains viable in the future for other SRI alumni to enjoy. Please contact me or one of the other members of the committee to determine how your interests and background can best be used within the organization. If we cannot recruit some additional help, the existing committee will be forced to reassess its abilities to continue all the current activities that we now support. If you would like more information about the Alumni Association and its activities, please check our web page, which is shown above and can be reached via a link on SRI's home page.

In closing, I wish each of you and your families a very happy holiday season, and may 2010 be a happy and healthy year for us all.

— Boyd



## 2009 ANNUAL REUNION

### Annual SRI Alumni Association Reunion



*Joyce Berry and Marlyn Johnson welcomed members and guests.*

About 90 SRI alumni attended the annual reunion on October 8. Many took advantage of the earlier start, arriving at 3:00 p.m. to have plenty of time to chat and enjoy the delicious and abundant hors d'oeuvres and beverages before the program started at 5:00.

Curt Carlson (*pictured*) took time out from his busy schedule to warmly welcome the alumni, and Alice Resnick and Peter Marcotullio briefed them on items of interest about SRI. Then Ted Mill was inducted into the SRI Alumni Hall of Fame for his significant contributions to physical organic chemistry. The program ended with drawings for a variety of items generously donated by the SRI Credit Union and Staff Activities Center, followed by dessert, again featuring the decadent chocolate fountain.



### SRI Doing Well in a Difficult Year



In her overview of business over the year since the last reunion, Alice Resnick (*pictured*) Vice President of Corporate and Marketing Communications, reassured the alumni that SRI is steadfast in its mission of

innovation, continuing to conduct client-sponsored R&D for the public and private sectors, to license technologies, and to create spin-off ventures. As an example, she mentioned Siri, the venture developing a virtual personal assistant for mobile phones. The artificial intelligence technology underlying the assistant originated in a DARPA-funded project about 5 years ago. (See the August newsletter for a short description of the Siri technology.)

SRI ended 2008 with revenue of \$389 million. By the end of 2009, institute researchers will have submitted more than \$1.4 billion in proposals to clients—a number that prompted astonished and enthusiastic applause from the attendees. Including SRI's subsidiary, Sarnoff Corporation, the staff numbers 2,100, located throughout the United States and in Japan, Greenland, and the United Arab Emirates. Alice said that the board of directors has been enhanced with the appointment of John Young, former U.S. Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics.

On the research side, several researchers from the Parkinson's Institute joined SRI's Center for Health Sciences to conduct research on treatments for neurodegenerative diseases associated with aging and environmental toxins. Also, just weeks ago, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved pralatrexate for the treatment of peripheral T-cell lymphoma. Originating from a class of drugs researched in the 1950s by SRI's Joseph DeGraw and William Colwell, the compound was further developed by SRI and then licensed to Allos Therapeutics in 2002. The license has produced more than \$1 million in royalties to SRI.

Alice noted that SRI's contributions continue in education as well. In Florida, the SunBay Digital Mathematics research project has been launched to use digital curriculum to improve middle school students' performance in algebra, the gateway to success in higher math and high-tech careers.

SRI is also innovating in security and energy. Alice cited two new products that provide real-time video surveillance and customized command and control systems for public safety departments. In the energy sector, SRI is working with Showa Denko in Japan to develop a light source that has the potential to be twice as efficient as compact fluorescent lights.

In all, Alice described an SRI that is growing and vital. She thanked the alumni for their contributions to establishing the credentials of SRI as a prominent source of innovation.

### SRI St. Petersburg to Open in December

Peter Marcotullio (*pictured*), Director of Business Development in the Engineering and Systems Division, explained what led up to the opening this December of a new facility in St. Petersburg, Florida. Governor



## 2009 ANNUAL REUNION (Concluded)

Jeb Bush had wanted to expand the state's economic base from tourism and hired SRI to analyze how attractive Florida would be to high tech. The answer was "very attractive." After identifying candidates for innovation generation, SRI was invited to be part of this high-tech expansion. SRI is partnering with local institutions to conduct research on underwater security and surveillance, global climate change, and port and maritime security. SRI is even working in archaeology, researching how to preserve pirate shipwrecks.

### Ted Mill Inducted into SRI Alumni Hall of Fame



Marion Hill (pictured) introduced Ted Mill, the 2009 inductee into the SRI Alumni Hall of Fame, as a strong leader of the Physical Organic Chemistry Department and an environmental research pioneer. One of Ted's noteworthy achievements was his discovery that several types of oxidizing free radicals form in low concentrations in sunlit lakes and streams. This led to a comprehensive description of how sunlight interacts with organic compounds dissolved in aquatic systems. An outcome of these studies was a computer model, Exposure Analysis Modeling System (EXAMS), that predicts how quickly a chemical will move or change in an aquatic system. This research is of great value because it has enabled U.S. and European Union government agencies to determine the fate of important chemicals in surface water and regulate their use to prevent harm to the environment.



*Chairman Boyd Fair presents Ted Mill with his Hall of Fame Certificate.*

### Reunion Photographers:



*Don Berry  
Joyce Berry*



*Boyd Fair*



*Bob Schwaar admires the Alumni Hall of Fame Plaque on display in the International Bldg. Auditorium Lobby (listing all recipients from 1998 to 2009).*

### An Enjoyable Time

As the photos on pages 4 and 5 show, the SRI alums attending the reunion had a great time. The Alumni Association Steering Committee members have begun to plan the 2010 Spring Fling, another opportunity to keep in touch with former colleagues and friends. We'll keep you posted on the date and nature of the outing.



*Flowers by Jane Cano  
(Door prize won by Elaine Hall)*

# 2009 ANNUAL REUNION PHOTOS



*From beginning to end,  
a great time was had  
by all at this very  
successful reunion!*

## 2009 ANNUAL REUNION PHOTOS (Concluded)



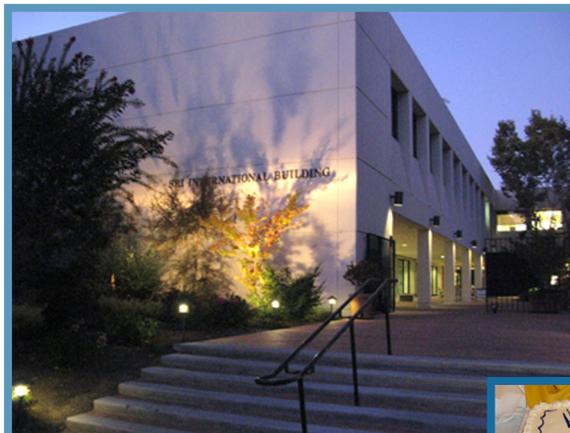
*Thanks, Tom Anyos,  
for planning another  
GREAT event!*



*Chairman Boyd Fair thanked  
SAC (Sandy Hinzmann) and  
Corporate & Marketing Comms  
(Alice Resnick) for their  
continued support to the SRI  
Alumni Association.*



*The chocolate fountains  
were very popular!*



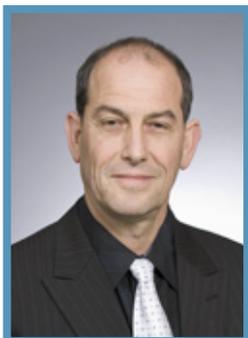
**HAPPY  
40th  
BIRTHDAY  
SRI  
International  
Building**



## SRI NEWS

### 2009 SRI Fellows

**Yigal Blum**, manager of the Chemistry of Materials Program in SRI's Chemical Science and Technology Laboratory, and **Natarajan Shankar**, staff scientist in SRI's Computer Science Laboratory, are the recipients of the 2009 SRI Fellowship Award. This award is SRI's highest recognition of staff members' exceptional technical, scientific, or professional contributions. It is given to individuals whose work enhances SRI's image as a leading research and problem-solving organization.



*Yigal Blum,  
Manager  
Chemistry of  
Materials Program*

Yigal is a pioneer in the development of preceramic polymers used to form high-value ceramics and tough adherent coatings for a wide range of surfaces. His goal has been to develop better materials through new chemistry. He has advanced fundamental understanding of the processes used to convert pliable organo-metallic materials into strong ceramic composites and extended their practical applications. He is now also investigating new concepts for nanotechnology-based composites.

Yigal has a significant patent portfolio, as well as numerous scientific publications.

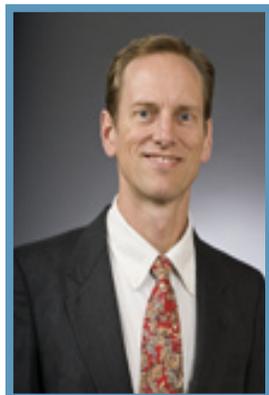
Natarajan performs research ranging from fundamental mathematics to system software building. He is responsible for the creation of the highly influential Prototype Verification System (PVS), a benchmark system for the development of proofs and the verification of algorithms against which other systems are compared. Natarajan's current research ranges from foundational aspects of logic and programming to practical applications in software development, as well as system certification. He is considered one of the leading scientists in his field. His publications reflect the wide spectrum of his research.



*Natarajan Shankar,  
Staff Scientist  
Computer Science  
Laboratory*

### 2009 Mimi Award Winner

SRI's Mimi Award is the highest recognition of staff members who foster the personal and professional growth of their colleagues. The annual award is given to an SRI staff member who has inspired others to realize their goals and vision.



*Greg Faris,  
Senior Physicist  
Molecular Physics  
Laboratory*

**Gregory Faris, Ph.D.**, has been selected to receive the 2009 Mimi Award. Greg, who joined SRI in 1988, is a senior physicist in the Molecular Physics Laboratory in the Physical Sciences Division. His areas of expertise include biomedical optics, nonlinear optics, laser development, and optical diagnostics.

Those who nominated Greg for the award noted that his effectiveness as a mentor stems from his generosity, love of teaching, and special interest in helping postdoctoral fellows succeed in their careers. Greg also works closely with undergraduate students visiting SRI as part of the National Science Foundation's Research Experiences for Undergraduates program.

Greg is described as nonjudgmental, patient, and considerate, with a human touch in dealing with his colleagues that is very motivating. As one of his nominators said, "Greg was the best supervisor one could ever have." He is also regarded as a brilliant scientist and a person of the highest integrity. Passionate about his work, he is a true SRI champion, embodying SRI at its best.

The Mimi Award was established in 1994 in memory of Marian (Mimi) S. Stearns, who was vice president of SRI's Health and Social Policy Division (now the Policy Division).

## HISTORY CORNER

### Forty Years: ARPANET to Internet

Forty years ago, 1969: the year of the first moon landing, Woodstock, and—the birth of the Internet? Well, at least the birth of the ARPANET, the precursor of today's ubiquitous Internet. And SRI was there!

On October 29, 1969, two programmers in California, 400 miles apart, successfully sent a message between two different computers with different operating systems over a network connection—something that had not been possible until then. Charley Kline at UCLA and Bill Duvall at SRI in Menlo Park had no idea they were making history.

UCLA and SRI (then Stanford Research Institute) were the first two functional nodes of what would become the ARPANET, a packet-switched network funded by the Defense Department's Advanced Research Projects Agency (ARPA, now DARPA). The task was to enable communication and file sharing among different types of computers so that computer researchers could collaborate without regard to geographic location or computer language. The solution was to route communications through interface computers (Interface Message Processors, or IMPs), developed by Bolt, Beranek and Newman (now BBN Technologies), which translated messages into forms that each computer on the network could understand.

By late October 1969, IMP systems had been installed at UCLA and SRI, and an AT&T telephone communication line had been set up between them. The IMPs would be managing communications between UCLA's Scientific Data Systems (SDS) Sigma 7 computer and SRI's older SDS 940 computer, each running a different operating system.

29 Oct 69	2100	LOADED OP. PROGRAM CSK FOR BEN BARKER BBN	
	22:30	Talked to SRI Host to Host	CSK
		Left imp. program CSK running after sending a host dead message to imp.	

Log book for UCLA's IMP computer, showing the successful connection to SRI's computer.

The first test, on October 29, would be to log in to the SRI computer from the UCLA computer. At about 9:00 p.m., Charley Kline typed the letter 'l' and asked Bill Duvall (via a regular telephone voice connection) whether he had received it. When Duvall said he had, Kline typed the 'o', which Duvall also received. When Kline typed the 'g', however, the system crashed. After some troubleshooting, they tried again at 10:30 p.m., and this time the connection was successful. The ARPANET was in business, and history had been made.

By the end of 1969, the ARPANET consisted of four linked computer systems with the addition of nodes at the University of California at Santa Barbara and at the University of Utah. Over the next decade, the ARPANET expanded rapidly, and several other networks were created. By 1985, "internetworking" links had been established among different networks, and a global Internet was taking shape. And now, in the 21st century, billions of people are following in Charley Kline's and Bill Duvall's pioneering footsteps—yes, dealing with system crashes but also successfully connecting their computers to millions of others around the world.

For more information on ARPANET and Internet history, see the following links:

<http://www.sri.com/news/releases/102709.html>

[http://www.computerhistory.org/internet\\_history/](http://www.computerhistory.org/internet_history/)

<http://www.computerhistory.org/highlights/10291969/>

<http://www.bbn.com/resources/pdf/arpnet04.01.05.pdf>

<http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2009/10/091029-internet-40th-anniversary.html>

[http://www.livinginternet.com/ilii\\_arpnet.htm](http://www.livinginternet.com/ilii_arpnet.htm)

<http://computer.howstuffworks.com/arpnet1.htm>

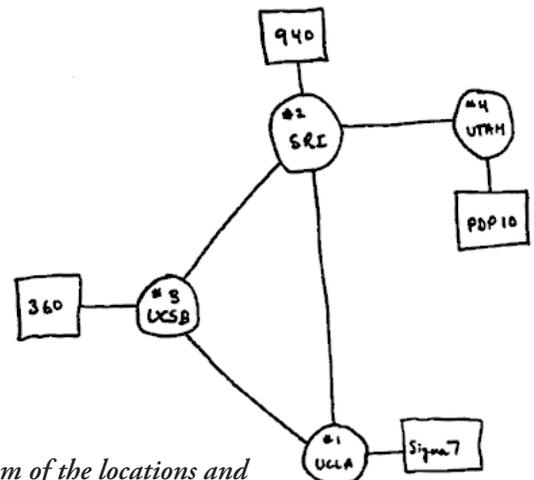


Diagram of the locations and computers of the four-node ARPANET in December 1969.

## HISTORY CORNER (Concluded)

### Richard Lyman Describes Events Leading to Stanford-SRI Split

SRI alumnus David Harvey alerted us to an excerpt from Richard Lyman's recent book, *Stanford in Turmoil: Campus Unrest, 1966-1972* (Stanford University Press), that was published in the January/February 2009 Stanford alumni magazine and describes the severance of the relationship between Stanford and SRI.

In the late 1960s, the civil rights movement and growing opposition to the Vietnam War were inspiring student activists at Stanford to challenge the draft, ROTC, and classified research. The Stanford Research Institute office in the Stanford Industrial Park was a target for their protests because it was conducting projects funded by the Department of Defense, and the activists were concerned the classified research might be on military applications of chemical and biological agents.

Lyman became president of Stanford just as the originally peaceful protests escalated into violence and as students began to demand that the university exert greater control over SRI and stop all classified research. With these demands, university faculty and trustees faced the question of how an open university could tolerate classified research. Lyman describes, from the university's perspective, the events that led to Stanford's decision to break its relationship with SRI.

Lyman expresses strong opinions and emotions about this period of Stanford's and our society's history. SRI alumni who experienced this time will remember the uncertainty—would SRI survive, and, if so, what would it be like? Fortunately, SRI not only survived but thrived and continues to make important contributions to the world of the 21st century.

The excerpt from the book is available online at <http://www.stanfordalumni.org/news/magazine/2009/janfeb/features/lyman.html>

## WHAT ARE THEY DOING NOW?

### NEWS ABOUT ALUMNI

#### SRI Alumnus Visits Menlo Park After 40 Years Away

*By Don Nielson*

On Friday, August 21, I had the pleasure of being host to former SRI employee Art Wilder at SRI in Menlo Park. Art's grandchildren had arranged his visit because he often speaks highly about the institute and has fond memories of his time here. That time was early in SRI's existence, from 1948 to 1960.

At 95 years old, Art was very clear in his recollections. He had been introduced to SRI while a student in metallurgy at Stanford University (MS, 1946). The person who brought him to SRI was Dr. Rudy Thielmann. Art and Thielmann's SRI group made significant contributions to the design of superalloys, materials of great strength able to withstand temperatures of more than 2,000°F. Their principal use was for turbine blades, and they later found popular use in jet engines. Art explained to me how the alloys were made and recalled alloy names like WI-52 and SM-200, which were named for their sponsors: WI for the Tungsten Institute (W is the chemical symbol for tungsten, also known as wolfram) and SM for Sierra Materials.

In 1960, when it was clear Thielmann was going to other ventures, Art and two SRI colleagues, Bill Smiley and John Kelly, formed AstroTemp, a metallurgical company. It lasted only 5 years. After that, Art went to work for Christensen Diamond Products in Salt Lake City, staying there until his retirement.

We had a most enjoyable time reliving SRI history.

#### Ashton O'Donnell: Global Citizen and Philanthropist

After working on the Manhattan Project and for the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) that replaced it, Ashton (Ash) O'Donnell joined SRI in 1954 as Manager of Nuclear Economics to explore peaceful uses for atomic energy.

Explore he did. Ash and his wife, Virginia (Gini) Graham O'Donnell, represented SRI at the first UN International Conference on Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy in Geneva in 1955 and a year later were participants in the San Francisco World Affairs Council Asilomar Conference on the topic. In 1957, Ash traveled to 17 countries in 3 months to learn about their nuclear programs. Although this might seem a daunting schedule, it fit Ash and Gini's desire to travel

## WHAT ARE THEY DOING NOW? (Concluded)

the world to learn about different cultures and apply their talents and skills to benefit business and people.

In 1961, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) offered Ash a post in Vienna, Austria. Seeing this as an opportunity to expose their four daughters to the world around them, Ash and Gini accepted. At the same time, President John F. Kennedy's ambassador to the IAEA hired Ash as his senior scientific and technical advisor. This was the beginning of Ash's post-SRI career and of intensive cultural immersions.

Ash's next move was to Bechtel Corporation in San Francisco in 1964, opening new business ventures, heading divisions, and being elected as a director of The Bechtel Group. He retired in 1987.

From their business dealings with domestic and international clients and diplomatic responsibilities, Ash and Gini saw the need for professionals with a global perspective who

can understand different cultures and the rapid changes in the world. They turned to their alma mater, Whitman College, in Walla Walla, Washington. The O'Donnells had a great appreciation for the education they had received there and were loyal alumni. In addition, a major goal of Whitman was to offer an international curriculum. Ash and Gini decided to provide an endowment to enable Whitman students to, as Ash put it, "go global." The Ashton J. and Virginia Graham O'Donnell Visiting Professorship in Global Studies Endowment was established in 2002. It brings to the college experts in international fields such as diplomacy, engineering, the environment, and the arts. Among the visiting professors who have been funded were a survivor of the Marcos dictatorship in the Philippines and a UN commander who served in Rwanda.

Ash and Gini's generosity will help prepare this and coming generations to anticipate and meet inevitable global changes.

Calling all SRI alumni! Do you have memories or stories to share about your time at SRI or about SRI's role in your life? The editors welcome submissions for publication in future newsletters. Don't be shy; submit your items by mail to SRI Alumni Association, 333 Ravenswood Avenue, AC-108, Menlo Park, CA 94025 or e-mail to [steering-committee-alumni@sri.com](mailto:steering-committee-alumni@sri.com).

### RECENT DEPARTURES OF LONGTIME STAFF

		Years of Service
August 2009	- Virginia Weager	36
September 2009	- Thomas Arms	24
	- Robert Keene	11
	- Songqi Liu	15
	- Mary McElroy	36
	- Robert Stroppini	30
October 2009	- Francisco Uceda	38
	- Sandra Clarke	24
	- Pauline Burke	12
	- Alex Spiridon	31
	- Mary Hancock	30
November 2009	- Kenneth Day	18
December 2009	- Pamela Pallakoff	24



## CREDIT UNION NEWS

GET ON BOARD WITH  
THE VISA PLATINUM  
**4.25% APR\***

LOW VARIABLE INTEREST RATE  
BASED ON PRIME PLUS 1.00%

CREDIT LIMIT \$10,000-\$50,000

NO ANNUAL FEE

NO CASH ADVANCE FEE

NO BALANCE TRANSFER FEE

NO ISA\*\* FEE



SRI FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

\*APR=ANNUAL PERCENTAGE RATE  
\*\*INTERNATIONAL SERVICE ASSESSMENT

## ALUMNI NEWS

### WELCOME

#### *New Alumni Members*

The SRI Alumni Association welcomes new members:

Srishti Jain  
Carla McMurray  
Robin Riviello  
Charles Storey  
Doug Webb

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

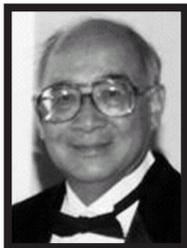
### DIRECTORY ADDENDUM

The enclosed addendum (covering the period of August 1 to November 30, 2009) contains new members and corrections. Please add to your 2009 Directory.



## IN MEMORIAM

### Fletcher Calvin Chan



Fletcher Chan died on September 26, 2009, from injuries sustained in a fall the previous day. He was 82 years old.

After high school, Fletcher joined the Army and served in Korea. He graduated from San Francisco State University and held research and legislative analysis positions, first with SRI and then with Arthur D. Little,

Office of Economic Opportunity, Bank of America, and Blue Shield.

Fletcher loved a good political discussion, betting on the horses, movies, literature, and writing reviews of films. He was very proud of being published and continued reading professional journals and writing in retirement.

Fletcher is survived by his wife, Barbara, his daughters Christina Cox and Alisa Stansbury, and his adoring grandchildren. He was a kind, thoughtful, and generous man, who will be greatly missed by family and friends.

### Dale Marcel Coulson\*

Dale Coulson, born May 10, 1922, in Erwin, South Dakota, died August 10, 2009, in Menlo Park at the age of 87. He was a Senior Scientist in SRI's Analytical Chemistry Department.



Dale was born and raised on a farm, where he acquired his lifelong love of gardening. He had many interests in school, including band, drama, debate, oratory, and basketball. His love of sports also stayed with him; he played golf and tennis throughout his adult life and often invited his colleagues at SRI for a noon tennis game. He loved to watch every kind of sport, including roller derby, basketball, baseball, football, and even bullfighting.

The family lost their farm during the Depression and moved to Los Angeles to work in industry. In Los Angeles, he met and married Maryann Elkins, who is the mother of his three children.

Dale attended Yankton College in South Dakota and UCLA for his undergraduate work in chemistry. During World War II, he enlisted in the Army, but the war ended before he was needed overseas. After the war, he earned a Ph.D. in chemistry from UCLA. He then spent a year teaching at the University of Colorado at Boulder, a year working as a chemist for Shell Oil in Concord, California, and a year teaching chemistry at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. In 1953, Dale accepted a position as research scientist at SRI.

At SRI, he had a 40-year distinguished career doing innovative research and development in analytical chemistry. His pioneering research enabled the previously unattainable detection of parts per billion of pesticide residue. He translated his research into the development of instruments used by government and

industry in the detection of pesticide residue in the environment, improving the safety of our food, air, and water. Other research included detection of asbestos in water supplies and finding a stronger formula for concrete used in the Middle East, where high-rise buildings were beginning to crumble. He is the author of 50 publications. Dale's dedication and scientific skills contributed significantly to the enduring success of SRI. In 2001, he was inducted into the SRI International Alumni Hall of Fame.

In 1974, Dale was awarded the prestigious Harvey W. Wiley Award in Analytical Chemistry from the Association of Official Analytical Chemists, recognizing his contributions to the field of pesticide detection, where he revolutionized trace analysis by permitting the rapid detection and measurement of most of the common pesticides in a single operation using gas chromatography.

In 1969, his marriage to Maryann ended, and he moved from Palo Alto to Menlo Park. He most recently spent many years in the care of the Nazareth Classic Care Community in Menlo Park, where he endured the steady progression of primary progressive aphasia. Throughout the disease process, his loving nature and ready smile remained. He will be remembered for his love of his family and friends, his passion for research, his enjoyment of golf and tennis with his friends, and his gentle, generous, and loving temperament.

Dale is survived by his brother Ralph Earl Coulson; three children, Florence Coulson Tarbox, Barbara Lynn Coulson, and Eric Wayne Coulson; and four grandchildren and one great-granddaughter. He is also survived by his dear friend Virginia Nissen and Maryann Elkins Coulson, mother of his children.

### Harold Leslie Kolberg\*

Harold Kolberg died peacefully in San Jose on May 21, 2009, at age 94. Hal served honorably in World War II as a liaison pilot in the U.S. Army Field Artillery. He worked at SRI from the 1960s to the early 1980s as an industrial economist and marketing manager. He is survived by his brother Paul Kolberg; his cousin Msgr. James Kolberg; his wife, Dottie Fretz Kolberg; her 7 children; and 17 grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

### Charles Magill Westbrook\*

Charlie Westbrook was born in Menard County, Texas, on June 9, 1919, and died in Menlo Park on March 15, 2009.

After finishing high school, Charlie made southern California his home. He worked for Douglas Aircraft until joining the Navy in 1942. For his service as a turret gunner with a naval air squadron, he received a Navy Air Medal and a Presidential Unit Citation.

Charlie married Nathalie Dewey in Oakland in 1944. They moved to Menlo Park in 1952, where he worked at SRI as a field technician in the Physical Sciences Division until 1969. He retired in 1982 after working for Industrial Health and for Exidy, an electronics firm. In retirement, he and Nathalie traveled extensively for years, crossing the United States and Europe many times.

## IN MEMORIAM (Concluded)

Volunteerism was an important part of Charlie's life. He was an active member and volunteer at Little House in Menlo Park for more than 20 years. He also was on the board of the Historic Union Cemetery Association in Redwood City for many years. Friends from Little House enjoyed his guided tours of the cemetery, and Charlie spent many hours tending the roses and grounds. He was also involved with the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program of San Mateo County for 10 years.

Charlie was predeceased by Nathalie, his wife of 50 years. He is survived by three children, Barbara Tanaka of Michigan and Joan Worley and Thomas Westbrook of California; by six grandchildren; and by numerous nieces and nephews.

### John H. Wensley\*

John Wensley, a staff member from 1964 through 1978, died on May 29, 2009, at age 79. He was Program Manager in SRI's Computer Science Lab.

John conceived of the idea and was one of the architects of the SIFT (Software-Implemented Fault Tolerance) computer. It was designed, implemented, and sent to NASA Langley Research Center, where it ran for many years without a single failure. It was the first realistic self-diagnosing, self-reconfiguring, ultra-reliable computer system, designed for fly-by-wire avionics control. John was truly creative and explained his ideas very clearly. He left SRI to form August Systems, Inc., which built fault-tolerant process control computers for a variety of applications, including rocket launch control systems and floating ocean oil-drilling ships.

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\*Member of the SRI Alumni Association



**Holiday  
Wishes**

*The SRI Alumni Newsletter is published three times a year (in April, August, and December) by the SRI Alumni Association,  
333 Ravenswood Avenue, Room AC-108, Menlo Park, CA 94025.*

*Editors: Mimi Campbell and Klaus Krause*

*Layout: Joyce Berry*