



# SRI Alumni Association

## August 2011 Newsletter

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### MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT BOYD FAIR



*Boyd Fair*

Another four months has sneaked by and it is time for the midsummer newsletter. Unfortunately, as I sit down to write this introduction, I am saddened to have to tell you that last month we lost a very active and well-liked member of our Steering Committee. Fred Weil, a longtime Committee member who also served as International Liaison Committee Chairman, passed away peacefully. Fred loved to travel and

visit his SRI friends and did an outstanding job keeping our foreign alumni involved with the association and in gathering information about their activities that was shared in many previous newsletters. The Steering Committee members will all miss Fred, and we send our very best wishes to his family and friends around the world. His passing leaves us with a gaping hole in our linkage to our foreign alumni.



*David Gibby, Fred, Peter Weissuhm and Nick Sturcke (left to right) at the Royal Horticultural Society Gardens, Wisley, Surrey (August 13, 2007)*

As you will notice from the “stuffers” enclosed in your envelope, we are finalizing our plans for the next Alumni Reunion, which will be held on September 22, 2011. It is important that we get an accurate count of those planning to

attend as early as possible so we can finalize the arrangements. So please fill out the reservation form, get out your checkbook, and respond as soon as possible. Note also that you can renew your Alumni Association membership for 2012 on the same form.

Within the newsletter itself, you will see some write-ups about several current staff members who have received very prestigious awards. Specifically, Barbara Means, Dolf Pfefferbaum, and Ray Perrault have been recognized for their outstanding research activities in their respective fields. It is nice to know that SRI, through its staff, continues to be recognized as one of the premier research organizations in the world.

This recognition has also manifested itself in the awarding of several very large new projects to SRI. Read about how SRI has unseated Cornell University to become the new managing organization of the largest single-dish radio astronomy observatory in the world. You will also find an article describing how SRI’s Shenandoah Valley office is expanding to accommodate growth of its Center for Advanced Drug Research activities.

Other articles that we hope you will find interesting include one submitted by William Grindley on the International Industrial Conference, which used to be held every four years under SRI sponsorship. And Peter Miles has contributed an article about Sir Nicholas Winton’s 102nd birthday celebration.

Finally, you will see a few pictures of our very successful Spring Fling to the Walt Disney Family Museum in San Francisco. Speaking personally, it was extremely interesting, and I recommend it to anyone interested in the movie industry or Disney family history.

So your assignment is to read on, then fill out the reunion and membership renewal forms, and send us articles, information, or pictures that we can share with your colleagues and friends in future newsletters. I hope to see many of you at the next Reunion in September.

## Spring Fling: A Day at the Walt Disney Family Museum

On May 12, a group of SRI alumni and their spouses and friends toured the beautiful Walt Disney Family Museum at the Presidio of San Francisco. They were warmly welcomed by Diane Disney Miller, Walt's daughter, who created the museum and located it in San Francisco. The visitors then strolled through the 10 galleries containing artifacts and photographs chronicling Walt Disney's life, from his birth through his industry-building in Hollywood. A particularly interesting aspect was the technical innovation required for the evolution of animated movies. The museum also has a splendid view of the Golden Gate Bridge. When the tour ended, the group enjoyed box lunches on the balcony with a view of the Presidio and the City.

Murray Baron, Don Berry, and Boyd Fair took the photos shown here.



*Don Nielson with Diane Disney Miller and husband, Ron Miller*





# 2011 SPRING FLING (Concluded)



### **Barbara Means Honored by American Educational Research Association for Outstanding Educational Technology Research**



In recognition of her leadership as a researcher whose studies help teachers advance students' learning of critical skills, the American Educational Research Association (AERA) selected Barbara Means, Ph.D., educational psychologist and co-director of SRI's Center for Technology in Learning,

as an AERA Fellow. AERA is the premier association for educational research in the United States. Its Fellows program is a prestigious honor, recognizing outstanding and sustained research contributions.

Barbara directs programs that support the U.S. Department of Education's educational technology efforts. One of these was the development of the *2010 National Education Technology Plan, Transforming American Education: Learning Powered by Technology*. Barbara is helping shape education policy at a critical time, as technology plays an increasingly important role in U.S. school improvement efforts from kindergarten through high school.

AERA Fellows are selected on the basis of peer nomination and approval by the association's selection committee. This year, 31 new Fellows were inducted in April during AERA's 92nd Annual Meeting in New Orleans.

### **Research Society on Alcoholism Gives Adolf Pfefferbaum Its 2011 Distinguished Researcher Award**



In recognition of "an unparalleled level of success in alcoholism research" that has advanced scientific knowledge, the Research Society on Alcoholism (RSA) has awarded its 2011 Distinguished Researcher Award to Adolf Pfefferbaum, M.D. Dolf is director of the Neuroscience Program in SRI's Center for Health

Sciences and professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Stanford University School of Medicine.

Joint recipient of the award was Dolf's longtime collaborator, Edith V. Sullivan, Ph.D., also a professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences.

The awards committee noted that the honorees' neuroimaging studies have enabled testing of alcohol-based brain changes and have led to a better understanding of alcohol-induced brain damage. The researchers were selected for the award because they have contributed new knowledge about how the human brain responds and adapts to the chronic toxicity of excessive alcohol consumption.

In the United States, 17.6 million people—about 1 in every 12 adults—abuse alcohol or are alcohol dependent.

Dolf has more than 300 publications in peer-reviewed journals and more than 200 publications on alcoholism research studies.

The award was presented at the closing ceremony of the 2011 RSA Scientific Meeting on June 27 in Atlanta, Georgia.

### **International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence Honors Raymond Perrault with Donald E. Walker Distinguished Service Award**

In recognition of his substantial contributions and service to the field of artificial intelligence, C. Raymond Perrault, Ph.D., was presented with the Donald E. Walker Distinguished Service Award by the International Joint Conferences on Artificial Intelligence organization (IJCAI) at its 2011 conference in Barcelona, Spain, on July 18. The biennial IJCAI conference is the premier international gathering of artificial intelligence researchers and practitioners.



Ray leads SRI's Artificial Intelligence Center, which creates new technology with applications to bioinformatics, persistence surveillance, virtual personal assistants, and robotics. He has been president of IJCAI and the Association for Computational Linguistics, and he served as co-editor of the journal *Artificial Intelligence*.

Ray served as co-principal investigator of SRI's DARPA-funded CALO Project, a large, multi-institutional project



to develop an enduring personalized cognitive assistant. Several technologies developed in that project are now being transitioned to military and commercial applications (e.g., Siri, as reported in the August 2010 newsletter).

The IJCAI Distinguished Service Award is named in honor of Donald Walker, who built the natural language group at SRI in the 1970s and developed it into one of the world's premier research groups. He was a leader of early speech and language projects at SRI and was heavily involved in the creation and management of several important organizations in artificial intelligence and natural language research, including the Association for Computational Linguistics, the Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence (formerly the American Association for Artificial Intelligence), IJCAI, and the International Conference on Computational Linguistics (COLING).

### **SRI Selected by NSF to Manage Arecibo Observatory**

By Murray Baron

SRI has been awarded a five-year cooperative agreement by the National Science Foundation (NSF) to manage, operate, and maintain the Arecibo Observatory in Puerto Rico. The award, valued at approximately \$42 million, climaxes a multiyear effort to bring Arecibo into SRI's portfolio. The SRI team won the competition over Cornell University, which built Arecibo in the 1960s and has operated it ever since.



*The Arecibo Observatory in Puerto Rico*

The observatory, preeminent for research in astronomy, planetary studies, and space and atmospheric sciences, is the

world's largest and most sensitive single-dish radio telescope. The general public might recognize the observatory as the setting for the climactic scenes in the James Bond movie *GoldenEye* and a good portion of the movie *Contact*, based on a novel by Carl Sagan and starring Jodie Foster.

SRI and its partners—the Universities Space Research Association; the Universidad Metropolitana in San Juan, Puerto Rico; and the University of Puerto Rico—have extensive experience in facility management, space science, radio astronomy, and a wide range of high-power radar techniques, as well as expertise in university partnerships and community relations. This expertise will enable the observatory to become an ever greater resource to the astronomy, planetary science, and space science communities. In particular, SRI and its partners will work together to forge a new future for the observatory. The team will support and, more important, expand the observatory's cutting-edge science programs.

The core of the SRI team is from the Center for GeoSpace Studies (CGS) within the Engineering Group. This center specializes in the study of the fundamental processes governing the nature of the upper atmosphere and space environment. Currently, the CGS operates, manages, and conducts research at the Sondrestrom Research Facility in Greenland, at Poker Flat in Alaska, and at Resolute Bay in northern Canada through various NSF cooperative agreements.

It took considerable teamwork from within SRI, excellent knowledge of NSF's needs and desires for the Arecibo facility, and well-thought-out teaming arrangements to make this award happen. A key element of the winning proposal was incorporating enhanced participation by our Puerto Rican partners in the areas of public outreach, education, and economic development.

This award is clearly quite a coup for the SRI team.

### **SRI Spinoff Creates iPhone App for Real-time Video Sharing**

Tout is an SRI spinoff marketing an iPhone application that enables you to video-record an event using your iPhone and immediately share that video with your Facebook friends, Twitter followers, and phone contacts. Shaquille O'Neal gave Tout tremendous visibility when he used it to announce his retirement from the NBA.

### SRI Developing Speech Processing Software for Noisy Environments

The Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) awarded SRI a \$13-million contract to develop software to process noisy and highly degraded speech. SRI's Speech Technology and Research (STAR) Laboratory will develop speech processing algorithms and software to detect speech activity, identify the speaker and the language being spoken (from a predefined set of speakers and languages), and search for key words. The goal is to extract information from highly distorted audio signals in a variety of languages. These types of audio signals may be found in such contexts as air traffic control, emergency and ship radio communications, a cell phone call on a noisy street corner, and call-in segments of talk shows.

SRI has formed a team of leading academic speech research groups from Carnegie Mellon University, the Berkeley-based International Computer Science Institute, the University of California at Los Angeles, and the University of Texas at Dallas.

### SRI Shenandoah Valley to Expand Operations

Over the next nine months, SRI Shenandoah Valley will double the staff and research capacity at its state-of-the-art research facility in the Rockingham Center for Research and Technology. The Harrisonburg-Rockingham Metropolitan Area in Virginia is the headquarters of SRI's Center for Advanced Drug Research, which is dedicated to improving the productivity of the pharmaceutical industry, helping the nation respond to bio-threats, and developing life-saving treatments for neglected and orphan diseases.



*SRI Shenandoah Valley Research Facility*

SRI Shenandoah Valley opened in 2009 on a 25-acre campus with 15 researchers and support staff. During the past two years, the number of employees has grown to more than 45. With the build-out of additional laboratory space, SRI Shenandoah Valley will be able to accommodate 100 scientists, researchers, and other staff members.

SRI Shenandoah Valley is one of several companies engaged in biotechnology and life sciences work in the Harrisonburg-Rockingham Metro Area. It was established with support from the Commonwealth of Virginia and partnerships with James Madison University, Rockingham County, the City of Harrisonburg, the Virginia Economic Development Partnership, and the Shenandoah Valley Partnership. The goal is to build on SRI's success by encouraging other life sciences companies to move to the center to bring new jobs and opportunities to county residents.

### Café Scientifique: A Monthly Science Forum Open to the Public at SRI Headquarters

For alumni in the Menlo Park area, this is a reminder that SRI is host to Café Scientifique Silicon Valley, an informal gathering that brings speakers on timely science topics to the community. All meetings are free and are held in SRI's International Building on the second Tuesday of most months. Visit the Café website (<http://www.cafescisv.org/>) for more information and to sign up for e-mail reminders of upcoming events.



#### RECENT DEPARTURES OF LONGTIME STAFF

|                   |                       | Years of Service |
|-------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| <b>April 2011</b> | - David Harvey        | 38               |
|                   | - Linda Hawke-Gerrans | 32               |
|                   | - James Manidakos     | 22               |
|                   | - David Martin        | 17               |
| <b>May 2011</b>   | - Patrick Dubberly    | 11               |
|                   | - Patricia McLeod     | 15               |
|                   | - Victoria Shepherd   | 37               |
|                   | - Marvin Simkins      | 17               |
| <b>June 2011</b>  | - Peggy Giacalone     | 10               |
|                   | - Phyllis Levine      | 12               |
|                   | - Sangeeta Mallik     | 11               |
|                   | - Claire Middleton    | 26               |
|                   | - Penny Mora          | 22               |
|                   | - Wayne Ryder         | 12               |
|                   | - Pamela Winegar      | 19               |
| <b>July 2011</b>  | - Ronald Beaulac      | 22               |
|                   | - Kurt Fulkerson      | 11               |
|                   | - James Lane          | 18               |
|                   | - Sarah O'Hare        | 34               |
|                   | - Richard Winegar     | 21               |

### **The Aura of the International Industrial Conference (IIC)**

By William Grindley

Legend has it that the International Industrial Conference was born from a vision shared by Time-Life publisher Henry Luce and SRI's Weldon B. (Hoot) Gibson and that their 1957 conversation ended with a check to fund the first event.

What followed was legendary: eleven conferences; one every four years, hosted in San Francisco by SRI and The Conference Board, with only the *crème de la crème* of the global business elite invited to share their time and thoughts. Addressed at the opening and closing by world leaders, led by peers and experts in roundtables on world business challenges of the day and the future, with time to catch up with peers during the breaks and evenings, IIC sparkled.

IIC was a brand. It carried cachet, and along with it highlighted the two sponsors' leadership in creating the forum, the substance and the style. While hard to believe now in the era of 24/7 global business, Mr. Luce and Hoot embraced having the New York-based Conference Board as cosponsor with SRI because the two organizations were then the best representatives of the USA's very different East and West Coast business interests. It was a partnership that complemented and highlighted each organization's skill and reach, and it served IIC's invitees very well.

The IIC attendees' names and issues changed over the forty years, but the place and forum were fixed in business leaders' minds. David Rockefeller, Giovanni Agnelli, Bill Hewlett, Akio Morita, Walter Wriston, Rahul Bajaj, Jack Welch. They came, they listened, and they led. The challenges of the times may have changed each time: communism, monetary policy, new technologies, corporate governance, or trade imbalances; but every IIC revolved around SRI's mission to promote economic development for humankind's peace and prosperity.

The five hundred leaders heard many firsts: David Sarnoff predicting "the use of self-operating machines" or robots in 1957, Sheik Yamani of Saudi Arabia hinting about OPEC's soon-to-be power, the head of AT&T outlining a world

shaped by global telecommunications, Karl Otto Pohl of Germany's Central Bank foreshadowing global monetary agreements. Within a decade of its founding, IIC became the first venue where major nations' corporate leaders joined business leaders from what were developing nations to open the business-to-business dialogue on how their companies' insights and expertise could increase the material wealth of all nations. IIC was the place and the time to listen to experts share perspectives on the past and futurists conjure up patterns of living and business opportunities in new worlds.

That hectic but always rewarding exchange of ideas in the boardrooms of San Francisco's leading companies opened peers' eyes to California's dynamic economy. Those invited repeatedly to IIC got an intimate perspective of the headquarters and leaders of Chevron, Bechtel, Levi Strauss, and others. Those who came to the later IICs got to know more about the leaders and technologies in what came to be known as Silicon Valley. Every one of them took away something new each time. That was the value of the business side of the six days in 1957 or the later and shorter IICs that reflected the accelerating pace of business.

Business venues were complemented by the grace and graciousness of the Bay Area's hosts and hostesses who offered their homes for IIC private dinners. Black tie evening events, elegance at the opening and closing festivities, and private showings in art galleries from San Francisco to Monterey dotted the agenda. With the sponsors' and invitees' reputations, there were always Bay Area families and companies anxious to reach out and help make IIC as special in its atmosphere as its substance.

IIC is gone now. But SRI's reputation as hosting a unique gathering is still enhanced because of the vision of Mr. Luce and Hoot. To the chosen peers who came, IIC seemed to work like a clock. But that's because behind the scenes, from the first till the last in 1997, the dedication and professionalism of the staff were awesome. Anyone who had a chance to serve that gathering of the best of the business world—and that world's best intentions as articulated every four years in San Francisco—is proud to have been part of the legend. It made SRI special, and SRI made IIC special, too.

## Sir Nicholas Winton Celebrates 102nd Birthday

By Peter Miles

May 21, 2011, was 7,000 years after the flood and predicted as judgment day and the end of our world. However, the Miles family had other plans. They all assembled in Richmond and took the 33 bus to Hammersmith and the underground to Liverpool Street Station to celebrate the 102nd birthday of Sir Nicholas Winton, the initiator of the *Kindertransport*.

At age 13, I, Petr Meisl, was one of 667 Czech Jewish children who were taken to England in 1939 on trains from Prague, organised by a young English stockbroker who recognised the threat of the Hitler regime and negotiated our transit to escape the fate of the Nazi death camps.



Lara Miles in her thank you T-shirt

After a leisurely lunch, my son, Tony, his wife, Bruna, and their children, Lucas (age 6) and Lara (age 2), changed into T-shirts that clearly proclaimed their thanks to Sir Nicholas for preserving their father and grandfather.

At 3 p.m. Sir Nicholas arrived in a wheelchair, pushed by his grandson, Laurence. He cut the inauguration tape of the bronze statue of two *Kinder* produced by sculptor Flor Kent. In front of the station had been erected an exhibition of Winton's Trains, and it was there that the celebrations

took place, with speakers of some of the *Kinder*; the exhibition's organiser, Olga Menzelova; the Czech Ambassador; and Sir Nicholas.

In the meantime, my family had penetrated the crowd toward Sir Nicholas, and Lara, having caught sight of the large birthday cake, requested a portion. She was told to wait but insisted with tears. It was at this moment that the BBC and Czech TV took photos of Sir Nicholas and the Miles family, including weeping Lara, that appeared on TV that night in the UK and the Czech Republic.

After the ceremony, my wife and I were invited to participate in a further party at the residence of the Czech Ambassador, where I had the opportunity to join Sir Nicholas for a pleasant chat in the garden. He was in excellent form and asked me what I remembered of my train journey in 1939. I told him that my parents had wished me a happy "vacation" in England. In my compartment on the train, there were several girls who prior to departure had swallowed plastic bags containing family jewellery and were waiting impatiently to arrive in Holland to recover their uncomfortable diet. I reminded Sir Nicholas that this may have been the preamble to the current cocaine internal transit from Bolivia, Colombia, and Venezuela to Miami.



Sir Nicholas and Peter Miles

That day will long be remembered, with my family on TV and my long-delayed opportunity to personally meet and thank the modest Schindler of Britain, now widely decorated and even proposed for the Nobel Peace Prize.

The next day, Iceland's Volcano Grimsvotn erupted, and the subsequent storm annihilated the Winton's Trains exhibition outside Liverpool Street Station!

(See the International Journal section of the August 2009 newsletter for another article by Peter, reporting on the celebration of Sir Nicholas's 100th birthday.)



## Inviting SRI-Related Materials and Stories for the SRI Nonproject Archives

Among the Alumni Association's activities is one that brings some benefit back to SRI: the collection and maintenance of an archive of non-project-related material about the Institute. The archive contains many different items ranging from annual reports to collections about notable SRI people and projects. We are interested in receiving any materials or artifacts you have that might be considered important to SRI's history. For example, printed material that describes the capabilities of a given group or lab or noteworthy papers of your own can help define SRI at any given time.

Not included in the alumni collection is material associated with client projects, such as reports and other contract deliverables. These are kept by SRI in Records Retention. But artifacts or images otherwise related to important projects or other aspects of SRI's past would be of interest.

The archive also includes pre-digital photographs, whether project related or not. This collection of several hundred thousand film negatives date from SRI's beginning. Prints of part of the collection are available to help locate a particular image.

Finally, this collection awaits many stories to be told about interesting aspects of SRI's history. Those of you who would enjoy bringing some of those stories back to life are welcome to join us. We meet just once a month to help organize the materials we have and filter new contributions that are submitted. If you have materials or are interested in participating, please e-mail [archives-alumni@sri.com](mailto:archives-alumni@sri.com).

## Seeking a Chairperson for the Alumni Association Events Committee

The Alumni Association's Events Committee is responsible for planning and putting on two events a year: the Alumni Reunion, usually held in September, and the Spring Fling, usually held in April or May. We are seeking a new chairperson for this committee. It is a satisfying and enjoyable job that serves not only the alumni, but also SRI as a whole. Please contact Boyd Fair at [boydfair@sbcglobal.net](mailto:boydfair@sbcglobal.net) to express your interest. The chairperson leads the Events Committee in fulfilling the responsibilities described below.

The Alumni Reunion begins with a reception, and then a short program follows, during which the alumni are brought up to date on the state of SRI and learn about an interesting technical advance or innovative program developed during the year. Any new members selected for the SRI Alumni Hall of Fame are introduced and receive their awards. The reunion concludes with door prizes and dessert. The Events

Committee meets with the SRI catering staff to select the menu, arranges to have Curt Carlson or his designee attend to present the state of SRI, identifies the topical speakers, and lets SRI conference staff know of any logistical needs. The committee arranges to have awards and plaques made for Hall of Fame inductees. The committee also obtains the door prizes.

For the Spring Fling, the Events Committee members brainstorm with other Alumni Association Steering Committee members on the location to be visited, generally a place of scientific or technical interest in the Bay Area. The committee works with the site to set a date, charters buses for transportation, and arranges for lunch.

All the Steering Committee members are willing and available to support the Events Committee in these responsibilities.

## Sign up for the 2011 Annual SRI Alumni Reunion on September 22

The annual SRI Alumni Reunion will be held at the International Building in Menlo Park on Thursday, September 22, from 3:00 to 7:00 p.m. This is a great opportunity to catch up with friends and colleagues, enjoy excellent refreshments, and learn about what has happened at SRI over the year.

The charge is \$25 for each attendee. Please send us your signup sheet (enclosed) by September 15. We look forward to seeing you in September!

## Annual Alumni Association Membership Renewal

A form for renewing your SRI Alumni Association membership for 2012 is enclosed. Remember that the annual membership fee is now \$20 per member.

Membership renewals are due by October 15, 2011. You may include your renewal form with your reunion reservation (due September 15) and write a single check for both.

All members who renew by mid-December will be included in the 2012 Alumni Directory, which will be mailed in early January.

## DIRECTORY ADDENDUM

The enclosed directory addendum (covering the period April through July 2011) contains new members and corrections. Please add it to your 2011 directory.

## ALUMNI NEWS (Concluded)



### WELCOME

The SRI Alumni Association welcomes new members:

Anne Sydney Elston  
James Manidakos  
Sally O'Hare  
Gregory Reid  
Isako Wasano

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



## CREDIT UNION NEWS

### STUDENT LOANS

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### Robert Philip Chiralo



Bob Chiralo, a staff member in the SRI-Washington office, died of brain cancer on April 12, 2011, at age 61.

Bob Chiralo had more than 35 years of technical, management, and business development experience in intelligence and defense projects with the federal government. After working at the Aerospace Corporation, Logicon Geodynamics, and Logicon Ultrasystems, Bob joined SRI's Washington office in 1998 as Intelligence Community Program Development Manager. His responsibilities included support of SRI's business development efforts and development of intelligence community programs, including project and program management spanning nearly the entire spectrum of the intelligence and national security communities.

Over his career, Bob established a professional reputation as a pioneer in the area of measurement and signature intelligence, especially in applying the science of sensors to overhead sensing systems support for our national security and intelligence communities. He was extensively involved in the evaluation of new remote sensing and hyperspectral detection technologies and helped establish the Spectral Information Technology Applications Center (SITAC) to formalize the evaluation of new methods in these arenas. Bob's expertise was also called on for service as a technical advisor on image processing in connection with the House of Representatives 1976-1978 investigation of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

He is survived by his wife of 30 years, Monica Dolle Chiralo of Centreville, Virginia; daughter and son-in-law Monette and Michael Johnstone with grandchildren Melissa Mae and Maxfield Alexander Johnstone of Seattle, Washington; parents Anthony Philip and Mary Jane Chiralo of Reading, Pennsylvania; and brother Joel Anthony Chiralo of Carney, Maryland.

### Charles "Chuck" Code



Chuck Code, former SRI electronics specialist, died peacefully at home in Mountain View from lung cancer on July 1, 2011, at age 71.

After growing up and marrying in Montana, Chuck moved with his family to Mountain View in 1963. He joined SRI in 1964 as

an Electronics Technician and retired in 2003 as a Lead Engineering Assistant. Over his nearly 40-year career in the Engineering Group, Chuck worked on many projects, traveled to many interesting (and not so interesting) places, made good friends everywhere, and earned the respect and admiration of his colleagues.

Chuck worked on a wide variety of projects, ranging in size from the 150-ft. radio antenna dish at Stanford to small satellite payload packages. He built electronic packages; operated giant radar systems; processed scientific data; supervised other technicians; established and supervised field sites; helped train scientists, engineers, and technicians; and willingly jumped in to do whatever was necessary to support the projects he worked on. His willingness to travel and to work in remote locations was one of his greatest assets to SRI. The places where Chuck worked included Alaska, Arizona, California, Canada, Florida, Greenland, Hawaii, the Marshall Islands, Michigan, Nevada, North Carolina, Norway, and Texas. As one of his supervisors said in an annual review, "He survived ice and volcanoes."

Chuck was a tremendous asset to all the projects he worked for. He was technically proficient and a problem solver with a "can do" attitude. He mentored younger techs, teaching them by his example of conscientious hard work and dedication to getting a job done and done well.

Chuck will be reunited with his late wife, Janie, in Montana. He is survived by daughters Lauri Ann, Michelle, and Monica and their families.

### Virgil Donald "Don" Cone\*



Don Cone, an electronics and communications technician and engineer at SRI, died of pancreatic and lung cancer on April 7, 2011, at age 84.

Born in Inglewood, California, Don studied photography in his early years at the Fred Archer School of Photography under the tutelage of Fred Archer, a partner of Ansel Adams. He then joined the Army Air Corps, serving for about a year at the end of World War II. He broke his wrist during basic training and was hospitalized in Coral Gables, Florida, where it was discovered that he was a photographer. He spent the remainder of his service as a medical photographer in the hospital, the same hospital where his son, Michael, was born.

Upon discharge, Don continued his love of photography, working for 5 years as a commercial photographer in Pasadena. Realizing that this work was not financially viable with a growing family, he began working as a technician at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena.

A few years later, Don moved to Northern California to work as a technician at SRI, which was the center for developing new technologies for both military and corporate America. At first he worked in the Poulter Lab, where, among other assignments, he used a high-speed camera to view and understand the use of explosives in oil exploration. Later he moved to the Communication and Propagation Lab and, upon their separation in about 1961, opted to stay in communications. The work at these labs led to world travels, building equipment and performing antenna measurements for communications and exploration.

In the early 1970s, the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) became interested in a digital radio network to complement the evolving wired ARPANET. As part of SRI's role in developing a mobile Packet Radio Network, Don was responsible for building a mobile laboratory to house one packet radio node. This laboratory, a van similar to a bread van, became a principal node in the first exercise of internetworking protocols in 1976. (See the History Corner article on the van in the December 2010 newsletter.)

In recognition of his exceptional technical skills and his leadership of his lab's technician staff, Don was promoted to a Research Engineer around this time.

Don retired from SRI in the early 1990s and returned full-time to his first love, photography. This was the beginning of the digital camera era, and Don embraced the new technology with a passion. A master of film photography, he now became a master of digital photography. He was constantly learning and kept in touch with experts who were on the cutting edge of developing new techniques and software. In his spare time, he also developed the database software used by the SRI Alumni Association to manage its enrollment and mailing lists.

Don is survived by his second wife, Patty (also a former SRI employee); his first wife, Dawn Bull; his son, Michael; his daughter, Martha Mayer, and her three children, Brandon Hayes, Robert McCann, and Bonny Adams; and his great-granddaughter, Amelia Joy Adams.

### Elizabeth Ann Cornish



Betty Cornish, a former staff member in Corporate Communications, died after a long battle with breast cancer on July 7, 2011, at age 66.

Betty was raised in Hermiston, Oregon, and lived there until early adulthood. Her SRI career began in 1980, when she worked as a temporary staff member, transitioning to the regular staff in the Corporate Communications Department. She was a Senior Office Assistant until her retirement in 1990.

Betty was a hospice volunteer and a homemaker who loved to do nice things for others. She loved to sew and cook and was great at both. She was a wonderful storyteller and the keeper of family memories. You could always count on her in hard times to give the best advice, along with a hug.

Betty is survived by her husband, Dennis; two daughters, Jessica and Melinda; a son, James; and six grandchildren.

### Francis "Fran" William Dresch\*



Fran Dresch, formerly a mathematician and statistician at SRI, died March 9, 2011, at age 97.

Born in Sharon, Pennsylvania, Fran moved to California to attend Stanford University, where he received a BA in 1932 and a master's degree in 1934. In 1937, he received a PhD in mathematics at the University of California, Berkeley. A prolific and enterprising scholar, he also attended Cambridge University and the University of Paris in 1937-1938.

Fran was a mathematics instructor at Berkeley from 1938 to 1941. He enlisted in the Navy in 1941 and retired as a Commander in 1946. He continued serving the Navy at the Dahlgren U.S. Naval Weapons Laboratory as Assistant to the Director of Computers and Ballistics. In this capacity, he contributed to the development of one of the first computers.

In 1952, Fran joined SRI as a Senior Mathematical Economist in the Information Industries Division. He was a Senior



Statistician when he left SRI in 1979. Fran then worked for 6 years with the Center for Planning and Research, Inc., in Palo Alto. He was a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the American Mathematical Society, the Institute for Mathematical Statistics, and the Econometric Society.

Of his many interests, Fran's favorites included a love for the discoveries of astronomy and a relentless pursuit of the most cutting-edge theories in mathematics. He had a passion for the culinary arts and a penchant for top-notch martinis. Some may remember Fran from the Manhattan Playhouse in East Palo Alto, where he could frequently be seen in the box office, parking cars, or taking an occasional part on the stage.

Fran is survived by his wife, Jeanne, and her two children, Charlotte and Steve.

### Edgar Jacobs\*



Edgar Jacobs, a former SRI staff member, died of pneumonia in Palo Alto on July 16, 2011, at age 82.

Born in Pocatello, Idaho, Edgar served in the Army after graduation from high school and then attended Reed College in Portland, Oregon. He received degrees in physics and business from Reed and MIT.

After working for several companies in Massachusetts, Ohio, and England, he moved with his family to Palo Alto in 1963. He worked at SRI as an Industrial Economist from 1965 to 1987, undertaking many assignments in Europe and Brazil. When he retired, he was a Senior Consultant in the Materials and Mechanical Industries Center.

In 2000, after the death of Jenny, his wife of nearly 50 years, Edgar returned to Pocatello. He had a keen love of nature and enjoyed spending time bird-watching. He was intellectually curious, with a broad knowledge of science and a great interest in world history and art.

After he was diagnosed with lung cancer at the beginning of this year, Edgar returned to Palo Alto to be with his family while he received medical treatment at the Stanford Cancer Institute. He is survived by his son, David, and daughter-in-law, Elga, of Palo Alto; his daughters, Terry, of Palo Alto, and Meg, of Petaluma; and his granddaughter, Sonya, of Sausalito.

### Vincent Salmon\*

Vincent Salmon, a staff scientist at SRI for more than 40 years, died in Santa Rosa on January 17, 2011, at age 99.

Born in Jamaica, he was raised in a number of New England and other eastern states, including New Jersey, Delaware, and Florida. His early life was spent amazing his family with his innovative methods of itinerant farm labor, reading books, playing the clarinet, and winning the duPont prize in chemistry in high school. When his brilliant mind and love of music were recognized and encouraged by teachers, he entered Temple University and went on to get a PhD in theoretical physics at MIT.

While in Menlo Park from 1949 to 1999, he was an acoustical physicist at SRI and taught courses in the Physics Department at Stanford University. Excelling in most areas of interest, he became the president or chair of the Acoustical Society of America, the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (which awarded him a Fellowship in 1962 for unusual distinction in the engineering profession), the National Council of Acoustical Consultants, and the Institute of Noise Control Engineering, as well as a number of local Bay Area organizations.

Vincent is survived by his wife, Elsie, and his daughters, Margaret Goodman and Jean Salmon.

### Jun-ichiro "Jun" Shimosato\*



Jun Shimosato, a former SRI-Japan staff member and contract consultant, died of lung cancer in Tokyo on June 11, 2011, at age 86.

Jun graduated from Tokyo University and received a PhD in ceramic studies. He joined SRI-Japan in 1981 after retiring from Showa Denko, one of the largest chemical companies in Japan. He was a distinguished lab researcher on alumina at Showa Denko's Research Center, but at SRI he started his second career as a chief analyst of research on chemical industries. He was appointed Director of the Chemical Industries Research Group (Process Industries Division) of SRI-Japan in 1986 and stayed in this position until he stepped down in 1990 at age 65. After that, he continued to work for SRI as a contract

consultant until 1995. Then he started his own consulting firm and continued to work for his longtime clients, together with former colleagues in the Bay Area, until he died.

At SRI-Menlo Park, Jun was well known and well regarded in many departments, in part for his willingness to support marketing efforts of programs outside his primary field of chemical industries. His success in the support of aircraft industry consulting was truly remarkable. From 1981 until the month before he died, he acted as liaison between staff in numerous SRI business and engineering groups and the Society of Japanese Aerospace Companies, the leading aircraft industry trade organization in Japan. At various times, each of the major Japanese aircraft companies was an SRI client, with Jun acting as liaison.

Jun had a unique character and talents—for example, to book difficult appointments rather easily with high-level people of big companies for interviews, or to elicit sensitive information without embarrassing the interviewee. All of us who worked with him closely and spent the golden age of SRI in Japan together miss him greatly.

### **Elizabeth Seike**

Betty Seike, a former SRI staff member, died June 29, 2011, in Palo Alto, at age 87. She worked in Human Resources for many years. Her signature appeared on many employee ID cards issued before the process was automated.

### **Fredric Weil\***



Fred Weil, an SRI staff member for more than 30 years, died quietly on July 10, 2011, at age 79.

A longtime resident of Portola Valley, Fred grew up in Shaker Heights, Ohio, and attended Amherst College, graduating in

1954. He completed postgraduate work at MIT and then moved to Palo Alto. His SRI career began in 1965. He worked for several years at the Croydon (UK) office, focusing on project work with the Italian government. While there in the 1970s, he was a key participant in building up SRI's consulting practice in Europe. In particular, he extended the work of Menlo Park's Mechanical & Electrical Industries Consulting Department successfully to Europe. On returning

to Menlo Park, he worked in the Business and Policy Group. At the time of his retirement, he was Director of Special Projects in the Center for Innovation. After retiring in 1996, Fred became an active member of the Alumni Association, in which he was chair of the International Liaison Committee for alumni located in Japan, Korea, and Europe.

Fred loved to travel and visited all parts of the globe. He also enjoyed spending time with all of his family. He is survived by his brother Thomas, daughters Susan and Anne, sons John and Paul, and granddaughter Emily.

### **Douglas Westover\***

Doug Westover, a former software research engineer at SRI, died at his home in Palo Alto on June 9, 2011, after a long battle with cancer. He was 72 years old.

A graduate of Stanford University, Doug worked in the Radio Science and Engineering Division as a Senior Software Engineer. His SRI career spanned 29 years. He was also an active member of the SRI Alumni Association. In addition to his research career, he enjoyed being a ham radio operator for many years and was a past president of the Northern California DX Club.

Douglas is survived by his wife, Myrna, of Palo Alto; son Daniel of Sacramento; daughter Meredith of Madison, Wisconsin; grandchildren Mary and Davis of Sacramento; and sister Connie Haseman, also of Sacramento.

### **Denis Workman**

Denis Workman, an SRI staff member for 37 years, died unexpectedly on June 5, 2011, at age 58.

In his long career at SRI, Denis held several critical positions in the Information Technology Systems Group (ITS), culminating as Technical Lead and System Architect. He began as a computer operator and soon developed exceptional skills in the areas of programming and systems design. Denis was an outstanding technologist. He holds a patent for Sybernet, the system development and reporting tool used by hundreds of staff daily. In addition to authoring Sybernet, he supported many of SRI's business systems. He was also a great mentor, enhancing the careers of many ITS staff.

Denis was an excellent cook and an accomplished classical pianist. He had a German shepherd who never ate dog food—just warm gourmet home-cooked meals. Denis was educated



at the University of California, Santa Cruz, and had planned to settle back in Santa Cruz after his retirement. He was also a runner and bicyclist and liked to ride in the Coyote Hills.

Denis had a beautiful mind and is irreplaceable to his friends and colleagues. His talents, skills, and personality will be sorely missed by many people at SRI.

### **Edith Wyden**

Edith Wyden, a former SRI staff member, died of advanced Alzheimer's disease in Palo Alto on June 19, 2011, at age 91.

Born in Germany, Edith came to the United States in 1939, after her family had fled Nazi Germany. She graduated cum laude from the University of Rochester with a BA in archaeology in 1941 and graduated from Yale University with an MA in Oriental studies in 1943. She was fluent in German, French, and Spanish.

From April 1944 to May 1946, she served in the Women's Army Corps (WAC) in England, France, and Germany. She was assigned to the United States Group Control Council, which was the planning unit for the occupation of Germany. Later, she had a long and distinguished professional career as an industrial economist, researcher, and reference librarian. At SRI, she published papers on economic and industrial development. In addition to SRI, she worked at Stanford University and the United States Information Agency.

Edith is survived by her son, U.S. Senator Ron Wyden of Portland, Oregon, and four grandchildren. Ron Wyden said about his mother, "My mother was my role model, and she wore that mantle for so many others who came into her life. With quiet dignity, she was the consummate achiever, who somehow managed to lovingly raise my brother Jeff who suffered from schizophrenia, worked full-time, and never missed one of my basketball games. I have two daughters, and both seem like my mom, which I will always be grateful for."

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\*Member of the SRI Alumni Association

*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      Design: Linda Hawke-Gerrans*