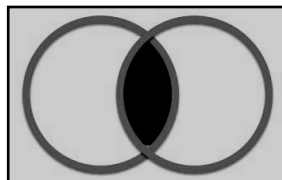


NewsLetter



Newsletter Team:
M. Dentch, M. Hall,
E. Kliem, W. Rosen

Polaroid Retirees Association

January– March
2020

THIS PUBLICATION IS SOLELY FOR THE USE OF THE PRA MEMBERSHIP
POLAROID RETIREES ASSOCIATION, INC. P.O. BOX 541395, WALTHAM, MA 02454-1395
WEB SITE ADDRESS WWW.POLAROIDRETIRES.ORG

Letter from the President

Dear PRA Members,

Here's to a decade of joining friends and family in celebration of past relationships and toast-ing new ones. Welcome to 2020!

In the tradition of New Year resolutions, PRA Treasurer Nino DiIanni puts forth this chal-lenge to us all: "I ask that each PRA member commit to bringing in one new member with our concerted goal, by the end of 2020, of increasing our membership by 100."

Join Nino in bringing old friends to the PRA for renewed connections and to make our group financially stronger. Stay tuned for updates.

At the October PRA Luncheon Monte Reel shared stories of Dr. Land's secret involvement in the development of the U-2 spy plane, and every attendee I talked to was wowed. Reel was funny, engaging and full of information few knew about Land's secret research and design underway during the Cold War. Many thanks to Mary and John McCann for bringing us this exceptional author.

Coming all the way from Chagrin Falls, Ohio, *Newsletter* contributor Ed Byrnes shared his 93rd birthday with us at the Luncheon. Inspired by our singing "Happy Birthday," Ed told us life stories from his exciting birth all the way through his Polaroid career. Reviews are in: "Hilarious!" "Memorable!" "Ridiculous!" Thank you, Ed!

The MIT Museum held a fun Polaroid Day in November and hosted about 200 former em-ployees for talks, curator-led tours of the photographs and memory-sharing sessions.

As mentioned in our last *Newsletter*, the MIT Museum's "The Polaroid Project: At the Inter-section of Art and Technology" is underway. Running until June 21st, the exhibit of over 200 photographs and many technical artifacts donated after the company's bankruptcy is not to be missed. The second Saturday of each month includes speakers and artists presenting the histo-ry of Polaroid's technologies and background stories leading to the extraordinary art. Because of the sensitivity of the artwork, all 200 photos will be switched out in March - so go twice!

Dues are due the first of the year, so get your 2020 payment in today. We want you to contin-ue connecting with Polaroid friends and former colleagues through the work of the PRA. Stay with us!

My very best wishes go out to you for a happy, healthy New Year.

Elizabeth Foote, *PRA President*

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Memories of Dr. Land: Willis Rose

Willis Rose worked 30 years at Polaroid; the first few years at the Polarizer Division— then for Plant Services in Cambridge. After Willis retired from Polaroid in 1996, he submitted an article to the Boston Globe, describing the human side of Polaroid's founder Edwin H. Land. While the Globe did not publish the article, the PRA Newsletter obtained a copy of Willis's testimonial to Dr. Land. We are delighted to share his recollections of Dr. Land with PRA members.

Hired by Polaroid



The reason for recording my memories of Polaroid and its founder, Dr. Edwin Land is to highlight some personal encounters that describe the personality of both the company and the man, Dr. Land. I joined the Polarizer division of Polaroid in

February 1967, having not much knowledge of the company at that time. While driving a truck, making deliveries at MIT frat houses on Ames Street near a Polaroid building, I recognized a high school track teammate who worked at Polaroid. He informed me Polaroid was hiring in Cambridge. In those days most of the Polaroid buildings were not marked, for reasons I did not know. My first unforgettable memory occurred after three or four months in the company. After lunch, break, rather than start production, the workers in the Polarizer Division gathered to celebrate the fifteenth, twentieth, or whatever number anniversary, it was for some employees. My thoughts went back to the union job where I spent six or seven years, and nobody was ever recognized for anything. They were hard working, dedicated men that management seemed not to appreciate at all.

Martin Luther King Jr. Assassination

The uniqueness of Polaroid was captured in its mission statement: "Polaroid has two products, its people and its product." Dr. Land loved and cared for both passionately. His caring for people was boldly demonstrated during an ill-fated period in our country, state and especially our urban cities. Shortly after the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr., in 1968, Land called a meeting of the entire corporation. Employees were bussed from Cambridge, Waltham, Norwood and Needham, where the meeting was held. A warehouse was converted into a large atrium and meetings were held for all shifts, A - B - C over two days. I remember filing into the large make-shift facility and sitting with my department from Ames Street's Polarizer Division. We made sunglass lenses. The company worked 24/7 in those days. There were several hundred employees seated for our "B" shift meeting around 5:00 P.M. The buzz of excitement and anticipation was most evident as we enjoyed time away from the "production wheels," as we called the machines.

The only things on the platform were a lectern and microphone. The chatter suddenly ceased as a man whom most had never seen before walked to the platform. His gate was very deliberate. He paused several times as if to speak, but strode to the mike, not uttering a word.

Surely, he had my attention and everyone else's. Finally, he spoke. His remarks that day stayed with me for many, many years. I thought I would never forget his remarks. I knew most of the speech verbatim, but over the years, my recollection of his words has faded. I do remember the purpose of the meeting. First, he told us what Polaroid meant to him, the company and to the community. He talked about new products and new ideas. Then he addressed the purpose of the meeting. He stated there was a lack of opportunity in the inner city for minorities. And before you knew where he was going, he was already there. Polaroid was going to hire minorities from the inner city, Roxbury and Dorchester.

Inner City

He knew this venture would be disruptive to the routine for the company. Training and workshops for all levels of management would be required. Land had the vision in his mind. He presented his plan to every employee of the company in one- hour meetings, at six meetings. This was the establishment of Inner City, a new subsidiary of Polaroid. Inner City was to be a light manufacturing facility for the training of minorities, prior to phasing them into the mainstream of the company. The idea of a new subsidiary was a tough pill for many employees to swallow. But when he concluded his talk and made his exit, the employees gave him a standing ovation, with few dry eyes among the employees. His closing statement went something like this: "I do not know what religious or moral beliefs you may have with respect to your fellow man or neighbor, but I personally believe you are your brother's keeper."

Cambridge Services

As the years quickly passed, opportunities found me indirectly working for Land, as I became responsible for building maintenance and housekeeping in Polaroid's Cambridge buildings. Once, while I was working on the graveyard shift, 11 - 7:00 AM, Land and a few associates entered the 750 Main Street cafeteria. The Doctor kept ungodly hours. He worked six days a week, as we all often did. He was always in his lab on Saturdays and Sundays. A twelve to fifteen-hour day was routine for Land. He never took a vacation to my knowledge. Land always was driven to work by a Cambridge policeman. On Saturdays, he drove his wagon with his two little Pug dogs in the back. He would spend five to ten minutes, gleefully saying good-bye to them at the rear of the wagon, while they fought for his attention.

On one occasion, I accompanied an electrician to Land's lab and office on Osborne Street, seeking the source of an overheating, foul-smelling light fixture.

Continued from page 2

After we unsuccessfully identified the overheating fixture, Land entered the room and asked: "Did you find it?"

"No sir" was the electrician's reply.

"It's that one" he said and returned to his lab. The electrician started to question Land's finding, but I told him to change the darn ballast, which he did. We returned later to the office with an instrument designed to detect odors. As the electrician surveyed the area, Land reappeared and asked how the device was used. While the electrician was explaining how the device worked, Land took it and retreated to his lab. We never asked him what he planned to do with the instrument; but maybe Land had some invention in mind.

The responsibility for the housekeeping of his areas was assigned to me. Whenever his designated service person was not available, I did his bidding. But Land always asked "would you mind" or "could you do this or that?" He once helped me move a table so I could clean behind it, although I insisted I needed no help.

It was a pleasure to provide service to Land and his staff. He was soft-spoken, yet commanded your attention and respect. He visited each department in Cambridge during the Christmas week, walking through every nook and cranny of all thirteen locations. He would greet some and wave to others, or just nod as he walked through the buildings. He greeted all three shifts. He cared about people. Occasionally, when he traveled on business, he would bring a gift of a hat- not a cap, to the custodian, responsible for maintaining his area. The assigned custodian must have received close to a dozen hats that came from the country or region the Doctor visited.

Retirement

I left Polaroid in January of 1996. I thought the company was still vibrant and destined for a resurgence. The company held department retirement/ severance parties for those leaving. There were eighteen or nineteen that left from my department and forty to fifty people from human resources, housekeeping, security, electrical, plumbing, carpentry, instrumentation and the HVAC departments. We were still a family, even then. We were recognized for our service and achievements, given plaques and allowed to make remarks that reflected our employment at Polaroid. When my turn came, I had much to say, but when given the mike, emotions prevented me from uttering a word. Every time I tried to speak, I would fill up. How does one reflect on twenty- nine years in a few moments? In today's business world often employees are told "you are through " and given a few hours to vacate the area. Sometimes, security might escort you out of the building. Polaroid didn't treat my colleagues and me like that in 1996.

Land's Human Side

A few little-known observations about Edwin Land that a lot of Polaroid employees do not know. He was raised in Connecticut where his father Harry was in the scrap material business. Land's dad employed several minorities in his company. During the 1930s Great Depression, he had to let most employees go. However, the senior Mr. Land maintained a few employees, one of which I knew personally- and he was black. Dr. Land had a personal assistant for at least 25 years, and he was also black. I don't recall that the Land family's support of minorities mentioned in any book or article about Land and his father. So perhaps Dr. Edwin Land's compassion for the less privileged came naturally.

Dr. Land was a man of greatness in many respects: research, photography and the sciences. And he cared about his fellow man. I am honored that I knew him.

Memories of the Early Days at Polaroid by Ed Byrnes

If you've been following Ed's stories, here's Part 2 of:

Chapter 5: The Agonies

By the late 70s, Polaroid was adroitly surfing the high tsunami of its world-wide business, both in name and profits. Unfortunately, there was a tad of growing disquiet within the photo industry for threatening dark clouds of competition were quickly arising in the west. The new emerging imaging technologies were not of the classic chemical family but that of solid-state media. In the ensuing years the battle for survival would rage between classic photography and solid-state technologies.

It was into this period of technological advancement and turmoil that Polaroid introduced, at high investment cost, four new unique products: PolaVision, Polachrome, Joshua (Captiva) and Helios, all fascinating products that held potential similar to the SX-70 camera.

PolaVision, best described as an instant photo-video system was an engineering marvel for its time period. If the system had been introduced some 8+ years prior to its actual release date, perhaps it would have been a great success, both technically and financially. Such personal optimism is duly supported by the market's initial response. Critics praised PolaVision as another "wonder" product from Land's magical cornucopia. Optimism unfortunately was short lived, for within a few years' time, competitive video systems were introduced which quickly eclipsed PolaVision as a viable medium.

When **Polachrome**, an instant 35mm color transparency, was introduced into the product line it was initially well received by the amateur/professional photographers. But not being quite a one-to-one match with Kodachrome quality, it failed to capture a significant percent of the amateur and professional T-film business. To the positive, it did for a time find a home in the field of computer

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graphic slide presentations. Unfortunately, new emerging technologies precipitated existing systems to a state of obsolescence. Thus, in due time, Polachrome ended in the dust bin of relics.

Joshua (sold as Captiva) was a small, neat pocket camera that produced a brilliant color “credit card” size print. It failed to meet market research expectations because big prints were in vogue. In time, Joshua followed Polachrome into retirement.

Helios was a unique “dry” imaging system consisting of a proprietary chemically coated paper which was sensitive to specific radiation. Appropriate exposure would result in an instant dry, high resolution B&W image. One of the more obvious markets for Helios was medical diagnostic imaging...think, CTs, X-ray, nuclear, ultrasound, proton therapy, and so forth. Polaroid chose to market a full system for adapting to client’s diagnostic equipment. This required organizing a sales/marketing team similar in scope and depth to that of the ID systems group. Helios’s smaller film format would struggle to obtain market penetration in that field. Although Helios had a small run, time was not its friend. It eventually fell victim to obsolescence, and as such was retired to the hall of historic relics.

It should be noted that the unexpected short life span of the above products presented significant financial consequences to Polaroid’s bottom line for years to come.

The late 60s into the early 80’s saw major changes in senior management. Dr. Land turned over the CEO chair to Bill McCune who in due time handed the “crown” to Mac Booth. I suspect that **Stan Calderwood** realized his opportunity for attaining the CEO slot was past and he decided to take his dreams elsewhere. Having spent a percentage of my Polaroid career working for Stan, one of our more colorful and astute VPs, I would like to pass along a few words about his future success. His first and brief employment at a new career beyond Polaroid was General Manager of WGBH, Boston’s public broadcasting station. Perhaps it was not a harmonious fit as he shortly moved to the Yale Investment Foundation where he fulfilled his aspirations and goals. To my understanding, he remained at Yale Investments until retirement.

Many years later in an ironic coincidence, my daughter worked as a summer intern at the Yale Foundation. Being familiar with Stan’s name from family discussions, she asked him one day “I think you know my father.” “And who is your father?” asked Stan. “Ed Byrnes.” Well, according to my daughter, Stan laughed. “Oh yes, I know your dad very, very well. Please give him my warm regards”. Although there was no further dialog on Dad, Stan went out of his way to ensure that my daughter had a pleasant internship.

Polaroid business in the mid 80s was still at peak although competition was beginning to impact sales, particularly in the domestic market. To compensate for the loss of income, Polaroid offered a historical first...an early retirement for those employees who qualified. Many took

the offer and left, but the good life continued at Polaroid with its usual politics and personalities. As Director of OEM Asia/Pacific, I spent most of my time in the late 70s and 80s in the Far East selling Chinese herbal medicine. Oops, sorry, wrong script, that’s a story for later discussion. I had offices in both NPKK, Tokyo, and Polaroid Hong Kong. I had visiting rights to Polaroid Australia and all the other dealer/distributors in between. As one might assume, trips were long and could be arduous at times, particularly in China where modern infrastructure was in its infancy. At the time of my first arrival in the mid 70s, one could easily opine that China was a mid-19th century country. For example, Shanghai hadn’t changed significantly from its glory days of the late 20s to mid-30s and its former port area, located along the Huangpu river, was nothing but a collection of rotten wharves, warehouses and mud flats. Today, much like the proverb, “Phoenix Rising from the Ashes”, an ultra-modern, awe inspiring, international city has risen from the previous marshes of detritus.

A bit of history to consider. President Nixon’s opening of China to Western business/technology in 1971 had the effect of a prairie fire on China’s social and economic status. It also had Western corporations salivating at the thoughts of establishing subsidiaries throughout China for business opportunities that bordered upon the fantastic. They were very knowledgeable and adroit in business management. To wit, they set a simple manifesto: You want into the China market, then share your technology. Many Western corporations, blinded by greed, did exactly that. They turned over their proprietary technology to play in the Chinese sand box. Whatever technologies that were not shared or given, were in due time stolen. The sharing/stealing of Western technology gave China over a few years’ time the equivalent of a 10+ year technical education which they quickly put to use. To my knowledge Polaroid was not required to share its proprietary film technology with China. If I remember correctly, we did set up a small factory in Shanghai for manufacturing plastic camera lenses and low-end plastic cameras.

Speaking of China, I am reminded of a stupid but comical incident that occurred in a trip to Hangzhou for a technical meeting with their Technical Institute. In preparation for the trip, a collection of Polaroid technical products and literature was assembled for presentation. Being aware of Chinese custom officials’ alertness for Western high-tech items, it was decided to enter the country via the “Green” or commonly known ‘nothing to declare’ line. This was not an act of subterfuge per se, simply one of time expediency. Thus, the game plan: I, being non-Chinese would be the carrier of the contraband. Paul Bau, my beloved leader, and two members from our HK staff would be my support team. Upon arrival at Hangzhou customs, the Green Line as might be expected, was packed but the Red Line, custom declarations, had but one passenger from our flight. The other hundred plus were in the Green Line. I decided to avoid the hassle of the masses and headed for the Red Line.

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Perhaps I shall never know why, but I decided to avoid the hassle of the masses and headed for the Red Line. Before reaching the custom desk, I could hear my colleagues' plaintive cries of 'no, no, get out.' But my mind was focused on the custom official awaiting my arrival. She was young and sweetly attractive in her starched uniform. My first thought was, she would have made an incredible enlistment poster for the Red Army. Her comment of "Welcome to China and what do you have to declare" was said with a tired smile. For reasons best known to God, I simply said, "only my love of thee"! To be honest, I expected my jocularity (inane at best) to at least give rise to a friendly welcome. Well, I was wrong, very wrong! Within seconds, the smile fled, and her eyes became furious and hard. Having no idea how to handle the seemingly volatile situation, I simply hung my head and stood like an offending oaf awaiting instructions or perhaps trial. After a seemingly long pause, the fair maiden of the gate started to giggle then burst forth into laughter. Her smile returned, both warm and sincere. In a low voice she said, "perhaps next time we can work something out of mutual interest." I immediately knew I would live another day for she quickly stamped my entry declaration forms allowing me to sally forth to the exit hall. Because my comrades were still struggling to breach the border, I sat down and ordered tea. When they did arrive some ten minutes later, they didn't know quite what to say so I treated them all to tea and sweets.

Although Polaroid may have been on a slow, downward slope in the late 80s, not all was grim and dark. Quite the contrary, it was business as usual, albeit profits were falling to a point that necessitated another retirement program for qualified employees. After some 38 + happy years, I, and many others, decided to take the 1989 offer for we all saw serious uncertainty in Polaroid's future. It had become quite obvious that between the financial losses incurred from recent product failures and increasing competition, Polaroid was facing a very challenging future. Because of my Far East experience, I decided to set-up an Import/Export business. Polaroid agreed to let me unofficially represent them in the Far East. For some 10+ years I was able to negotiate additional OEM business for Polaroid as well as my own personal import/export business.

At some point in the early 90s **Mac Booth** retired, and a new CEO took over the reins and ran the company until it filed for bankruptcy in Oct 2001. Perhaps the prime offender of all was essentially becoming an aging, one product corporation. Instant (chemical) photography had become our singular world which in due time fell victim to technical obsolescence. As to Polaroid's original products: polarizers and sunglasses, their contributions to the bottom line were far too insignificant to offset Polaroid's deep financial losses, thus bankruptcy was the only alternative. Many industrial contemporaries of Polaroid who suffered loss of their market mojo fell into mass extinction... few remember Digital, Wang or Muntz TV. Fortunately, the name Polaroid has not only avoided

extinction but has managed to remain relevant both in name and in contemporary businesses. How you may ask? Two basic reasons: the previous Polaroid trademark has been spun-off to various non-photographic products and respectful volumes of instant cameras and film are currently manufactured by others for boutique markets. Users still refer to instant photography as "Polaroid" and sunglasses as Polaroids. It's a unique, original name association much like Xerox for all copy machines, or Kleenex for tissues. I suspect the name Polaroid may never lose its global relevance and remain an iconic, historical symbol of both instant photography, and sunglasses. An achievement of which we all can be proud.

Epilogue: Could Polaroid have been saved? I suspect a consensus may never be reached but it's interesting to speculate. Over the years, Polaroid delved into many non-photographic R&D projects such as water purification, optical disc, fiber optics, color theory and so on. Which gives rise to the question: could any of those technologies been spun-off into viable businesses? Another questionable thought: what if Polaroid had acquired, via acquisitions, other appropriate technology companies? Would such have allowed Polaroid to survive the eventual obsolescence of instant photography? Well, we shall never know but it remains an interesting enigma.

Lastly, there is the issue of our beloved dog with polarizing sunglasses. Let's call him Quiny, a nickname derived from Quinine. Well, Quiny will reach the old age of 89 this year and the polarizing sunglass business he represents is still viable with no end in sight. Thusly, the corrupted word, "Polaroids" will also tend to keep the name Polaroid alive in the minds of all, well into the future.

A word about my 1951 Polaroid freshman classmate and dear friend **George Fernald**. He unfortunately passed away at the age of 72. As fate would have it, I was in the Far East at the time of his passing and did not have the opportunity to bid him, "farewell dear friend."

Thank you Ed Byrnes for sharing your "Memories of the Early Days at Polaroid" - and thanks for sharing your interesting life experiences at the PRA Fall Luncheon!



Ed Byrnes Oct. 16, 2019

“Life After Polaroid”: Betty Parise

Elizabeth “Betty” Parise forwarded a note to describe her “Life after Polaroid”:

Betty Parise joined Polaroid in 1973 and retired in 2003. Betty worked in Human Resources and Polaroid's Camera Repair at Second Ave in Waltham.

- Received a Bachelor of Science, Business Administration from Northeastern University September 12, 2000;
- Received a Certificate of Recognition from Stoneham Chamber of Commerce on September 7, 2007;
- In 2007, the U.S. Army gave me a “Certificate of Appreciation” for gifts I provided to the Soldiers of Task Force 1146 Theater Gateway at the Kuwait Airbase.

I made and sold cookies, cakes and books at the Stoneham Library- raised \$2,500.

I taught evening adult education at Wakefield High School, Reading High School, North Andover High School and Stoneham High School from 2000-2007:

I made wedding cakes and had a wedding business called "Weddings by Dominica." I was at many Wedding Expos and at every Wedding Expo I served 2 cakes, one on each day: one chocolate-cinnamon-raspberry-almond and one white almond. The girls all wanted to book with me for their wedding cakes. They asked me why Montillio's didn't have a cake at the Expo and the next day they had a cake. The girls came back to me and said they wanted to book with me.

From 2006-2009, I made Pizzelle cookies, including chocolate-cinnamon-raspberry-almond, vanilla, anise, lemon, Drambuie and Grand Marnier. I shipped 190,000 cookies from 2006 and 2009, and 800 Rosary Beads, 1,000 date books, and scapulars.

And then I took a respite!

Now I am working with a group in Stoneham: “Helping our Troops” -writing letters and postcards and pamphlets for them to help with their financial problems. I started this work in 2018 and I hope that I live long enough to continue. They ship out 400 boxes each week of toiletries, shampoo, deodorant, cookies and various other things. The “Helping our Troops” website is: <http://helpingourtroopsma.org>.



Betty's Award from the U.S. Armed Forces

Polaroid in the Comics

ARLO & JANIS by Jimmy Johnson



Cuban Missile Crisis: PRA Member Recollections

Monte Reel, author of “A Brotherhood of Spies”, the book that chronicled the Cuban Missile Crisis and Dr. Land’s secret work on the development of the U-2 spy plane, was the guest speaker at the Fall luncheon. Reel’s talk and the Q&A session that followed were enthusiastically received by the luncheon attendees.

Several PRA members submitted notes, recalling where they were during the Cuban Missile Crisis. Maryann Hall, a 30 year Polaroid Camera division employee and current PRA BOD member, provided her recollection of the Cuban Missile Crisis. Her husband David was on active duty with the U.S. Navy in October 1962. David also retired from Polaroid after working 30 years in several Film and Camera division locations. Maryann’s note follows.

“During the Cuban Missile Crisis, David was serving in the U.S. Navy aboard the USS Lawrence DDG-4, docked at the Norfolk, VA Naval Station. The ship received secret orders to go to the Puerto Rican Naval Base for supplies and then proceed to Panama to escort the ships carrying the Marines, who would be the landing force to go into Cuba if necessary. The USS Lawrence DDG-4 joined up with the USS Enterprise to escort it to Cuba. The ship’s orders were to stop all ships going into Cuba. The crew members were instructed to not tell their families where they were heading, but they were allowed to call their families to let them know that they would not be able to write or contact them for a while. All deck guns, 50 caliber and below, were loaded and ready.

At that time, I was living in South Boston with two babies. I did not have a telephone, so in order for David to contact me, the Navy allowed him to use the ship’s shortwave radio. He contacted a designated shortwave radio person in Poughkeepsie, NY, who called the landlord of my South Boston apartment. When the call came in, I went up to the second-floor landlord’s apartment to talk to David. He told me the USS Lawrence DDG-4 was on a secret mission, and he couldn’t tell me where the ship was heading. His duties during this time was four hours on duty at his battle station and four hours off duty.

I told David that I had just returned from the corner store after buying bread and milk and knew that the ship was heading to Cuba. He said “Shush, you’re not supposed to know this.”

But, I knew they were headed to Cuba because I had just seen the USS Lawrence DDG-4’s picture on the front page of the Boston Globe newspaper. The Globe indicated the ship was part of the U.S. Navy’s blockade of Cuba because of the installation of nuclear-armed Soviet missiles in Cuba. No secret at all!”



DC 2, 2nd Class David Hall



USS Lawrence DDG-4

Fall Luncheon Attendees

Dick Adams	Nino DiIanni	Phyllis Horsley	Jim Mitcheson	Barbara Skelley
Arthur Aznavoria	Nick DiMasi	Quentin Hughes	Louis Modestino	Lydia Smith
Cordelia Banks	Mickey Doak	Sue Isgur	Elaine Modestino	Narvous Stamps
Muriel Bartlett	Al Donaghy	Dan Jackson	George Murray	Herb Snyder
Walter Bartlett	Mary Donahue	Touie Jackson	Ernie Nawn	Fran Synder
David Bayer	Terri Duggan	Jaap Van Hell	Mary Nawn	Ellen Szetela
Phyllis Bennet	Robert Eaton	Edyie Johnson	Bob Nowak	Lee Tanguay
Jeanne Benton	Vinny Fiorino	Warren Kantrowitz, MD	Dave Oberhauser	Ann Tennis
Steve Berry	Elizabeth Foote	Jim Kenney	Louise Oberhauser	Dick Terry
Mary Bleiler	Don Foster	Mary Kenney	Irene O'Leary	Joe Terry
Diane Boudrot	Ray Fuller	Gordon Kinsman	Dick Ogilvie	Eric Thorgerson
Bill Boulanger	Ed Gaffey	Erika Kliem	Harriet Ogilvie	Phil Tower
Dorothy Boulanger	Alice Gelenian	Alfredo Kniazzezh	Mark Pandiscio	LeoVan Glabbeek
Bob Boyd	John Gillooly	Laraine Langston	John Pasquale	Ed Wade
Merit Brown	Ethel Goodwin	Kent Lawson	Cecilia Pennell	Edwin Walker
Eric Brown	Deborah Green	Pat Leonard	Margaret Prebensen	Dorothy Walker
Ed Byrnes	David Hall	Paul Lubin	Joe Rainho	Dottie Watson
David Byrnes	Maryann Hall	Frank MacDonald	Willis Rose	Drew Webb
Walter Byron	Tony Hall	Lucille Maregni	Bill Rosen	Pennye Williams
Larry Chelmow	Doris Harriman	Joe Mariano	Richard Rosenblatt	Dick Wilsack
Dan Conley	Corinne Hart	John McCann	Martha Rooney	Mary Winert
Dick Cottrell	Tim Hawes	Mary McCann	Tom Rooney	Dick Wingate
Katherine Curran	Ed Hebert	Carol McCarthy	Bob Ruckstuhl	James Wood
Susan Cusick	Paul Henry	Ken McCarthy	Mary Lou Ruckstuhl	James Wooten
Maarten DeHaan	Jake Herlihy	Julia McPherson	Larry Rudy	Bob Zuccaro
Milt Dentch	Steve Holmes	Doug Miller	Rich Silva	



Phyllis Bennet, Merit Brown
Cordelia Banks



Monte Reel, John McCann



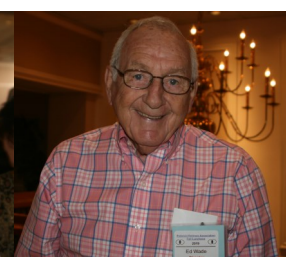
Larry Rudy, Don Foster



Ed & Dorothy Walker



Alice Gelenian



Ed Wade



Dick Cottrell



Leo Van Glabbeek , Doug Miller

Photos by Erika Kliem

In Memoriam

Find more complete obituaries at www.polaroidretirees.org

Banks, Jean R., Lexington, 9/18/19 was the wife of James, mother of James, Alison and Carla, and grandmother of four, and great-grandmother of one. Jean worked in Personnel at 565 Tech. Sq.



Brown, James E., 80, Weymouth, 8/30/19 was the husband of Barbara, father of James, Geoffrey, Denise, and Cheryl, and grandfather of 12, and great-grandfather of 5. Jim served in the U.S. Navy on the USS Saratoga. He was the owner of Braintree Stripper, a furniture refinishing company.



Caplan, Edward M., 78, Swampscott, 10/11/19 was the husband of Diana, father of Andrew and David, and grandfather of two. Ed was a Controller. He and his wife took long bike rides, hosted family meals, served their synagogue, and travelled together. He was a member of the PRA.



Cipriano, Joseph "Joe", Weymouth, 9/24/19 was the husband of Kathleen and the late Louise, father of Lisa, Pamela, Steven, Nancy, Mark and Gina, and grandfather of 17 and, great-grandfather of three. Joe served in the U.S. Army (Korean War). He worked in Research and Development. Joe was a coach for the Little League, Weymouth Youth Basketball and CYO basketball.



Clement, Everett S., 91, Old Orchard Beach, ME, 11/6/19 was the husband of Priscilla, father of Mary Ellen, and grandfather of three, and great-grandfather of three. He enjoyed woodworking, golf and tennis.



Conant, Sr, Michael W., 78, Billerica, 10/27/19 was the husband of the late Edna, father of Kathie, Mike, Rick and Tyler, and grandfather of 9. He was a Machinist Supervisor. He loved country music, rides through the mountains and back dirt roads sometimes with a Coors Light in his hand. He was a member of the PRA.



Cronin, Joseph, Rockland, MA, and Fort Myers, FL, 10/1/19 was the husband of Irene, father of Stacy, Scott, Laura, and grandfather of three. He was a U.S. Coast Guard Veteran. He worked as a Sr. Financial Analyst. Joe enjoyed volunteering at the local food bank and the Jimmy Fund Walk.



Erlichman, Irving, 96, Wayland, 11/8/19 was the husband of Phyllis, father of Howard, David, Philip and Phyllis, and grandfather of two. He served as a Staff Sergeant in Italy during WW2 as a B-24 Crew Chief with the 454th Heavy Bomber Group, 737rd Squadron. Irving was an Engineering Fellow who received over 70 patents, some of which crucial to the development of the SX-70 Camera.

Gibson, Martha, 64, Northfield VT and Cambridge, 8/15/19 was the wife of Keith, sister of Mary Ann, Elizabeth, Frank, Angela, and aunt to several nieces and nephews. She worked as a writer, columnist, investigative researcher, corporate business developer and executive producer/host of Martha Trowbridge Radio, LLC.

Gjeltema, Peter, 88, Northborough, 10/19/18 was the husband of the late Anne, father of Elaine and Paul, grandfather of five. He served in the U.S. Air Force (Korean War). He worked as an Experimental Machinist and was a Tool and Die Machinist. He enjoyed traveling, photography and spending winters in Longboat Key, Florida. He was a member of the PRA.



Hand, Michael T., 59, Bedford, 9/5/19, was the husband of Carol, father of George, Lucy and Victoria, and son-in-law of Dolores. He worked as a DBA/SSA. He was a big brother mentor, a volunteer for Deering Church Camp, 4-H, Girl Scouts and 40 year blood donor.



Hanlon, Margaret M., 65, Franklin, 9/3/19 was the mother of Molli and Errol. She was a Secretary. She welcomed all into her family and home with open arms.



James, Richard, "Dick", Newton, 11/15/19 was the husband of Myra, father

of Ashley, and grandfather of Austin. He was a Quality Manager for Camera Division in Norwood. He was a member of the PRA.

Jarrett, Arthur Derek, 87, Sudbury, 10/15/19 was the husband of late Helen, and father of Anne, Fiona and Ian, and grandfather of seven. Derek was Vice-President of International Operations. He enjoyed vegetable gardening or tending to the fruit trees in his orchard. He was a member of the PRA.



Kenny, Fredrick, 9/19/19. He was a Purchasing Administration member, whom we all called Kenny. He was the person who set up vendors in the computer system.

Long, Ernest W., 90, Waltham, 8/6/19 served in the British Navy. He was an Engineering Fellow in Research and Development and was awarded many Patents for his many inventions and designs. He was a member of the PRA.

Mancini, Pasquale "Pat", Clearwater, FL, 10/23/19 was the husband of Violet, father of Liza, and uncle of many. Pat was an Air Force Air Craft Mechanic (Korean War) and retired as MSGT with the 102nd Fighting Wing in Cape Cod. He worked as a Tool and Die Maker. He enjoyed gardening and reading Tom Clancy and Clive Cussler novels.



Marks, Dorothy L., 95, Somerville, 8/30/19 was the wife of the late Russell, mother of Kathleen, Karen, Russell and Robert, grandmother of 16 and great-grandmother of 19.



Martel, Robert J., 76, Salem, NH, 10/14/19 was the husband of Dorothy, father of Christine and Robert, and grandfather of six. He worked in Needham. Robert loved to travel and was happiest when he was "on the road."



McDonald, Francis P., 77, North Chelmsford, 9/6/19 was the father of Michelle, Tadd, and Sarah. He served in the U.S. Navy (Cuban Missile Crisis) as a radar man. He worked in Computer Engineering. He was an avid skier.



McNeil, Elizabeth "Alice", 95, Dedham, 11/21/19 was the wife of Walter, mother of Walter Jr., Paula and Carol, grandmother of three, and great-grandmother of three. She loved a good bargain, finding treasures, collecting things, talking on the phone, winning a card game and rooting for the Patriots. and going out for fried clams.



Montes, Eddy M., 79, 10/28/19 was the husband of Catalina, father of Ana, Maria, Alexandra, Edward and John, grandfather of 15, and great-grandfather of three. He was a Supervisor for Camera Division in Norwood. Eddy served meals, visited the sick, prepared couples for marriage, researched and wrote homilies for Mass, baptized babies, or helped a grieving family.



Morrison, Clark, 83, Revere, 10/13/19 was the husband of Jeanette, father of Bruce, Dwight and Brian, grandfather of two, and great-grandfather of one. He worked in Cambridge.



Clark will always be remembered for his generosity and kindness. He was a member of the PRA.

Mulrain, Gail M., 74, Hull, 9/27/19 was the sister of Thomas, and aunt of five. She loved being by the ocean, and enjoyed walking on the beach collecting shells.

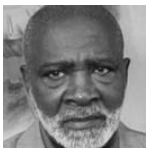


Pearson, Joseph P., 90, Quincy, 10/5/19 was the husband of Ethel, father of Richard, Cheryl and Joseph, and grandfather of eight, and great-grandfather of nine. He was a U.S. Army Veteran (Korean War). He worked in Quality Control.

Plasse, Paul A., Lexington, 10/12/19 was the husband of Merryl and the late Doreen, father of Susan, Daniel, Peter and Jane, step-father of Corey and Sarah, grandfather of 17, and great-grandfather of seven, and great-great-grandfather of four. He was a U.S. Navy Veteran, (WWII) who was on Omaha Beach at H Hour on D-Day at 17 years of age. As a Research Chemist, he developed and managed the Battery Development Laboratory (BDL) Division. He was a member of the PRA.



Prosper, Jacques, 76, Brockton, 9/23/19 was the husband of Veronica, father of Jacques, Yolanda and the late Laraye, grandfather of three, and had many nieces and nephews.



Raso, Helen M., 89, Arlington, 9/1/19 was the wife of the late John, mother of Judith, grandmother of three and great-grandmother of two. Helen was proud to be one of the first female Draft persons.



Ricci, Serafino A., 90, Ormond Beach, FL., 10/19/19 was the husband of late Maria, father of Teresa, and grandfather of six. He was a Crew Chief. He was an avid walker and enjoyed fishing.



Rickter, Phyllis C., 94, Arlington, 10/21/19 was the wife of Don, mother of David and Paul, and grandmother of four. Phyllis was an avid quilter and seamstress, making most of her own clothes. She was a member of the PRA.



Rogers, Bobbie Jean, 73, Huntsville, AL, 10/21/19 was the wife of the late Robert, mother of Christina and Scott, grandmother of two, and great-grandmother of one. She worked in Douglasville, GA.



Rogers, Ernest J., 92, Boston, 8/31/19 was the husband of the late Helen, father of Elaine, Ernest, Mark, Janis, Tracy and the Rev Timothy, grandfather of six, and great-grandfather of four. He was a U.S. Army Veteran, (World War II). He worked in Waltham.

Ross, William J. "Bill", 63, Pittsford, 9/21/19 was the husband of Karen, nephew of Shirley, and son-in-law of the Nickersons. He was a Purchasing Manager. He volunteered with Meals On Wheels and Blessed Sacrament's Supper Program.



Sawyer, Victor G., 78, Wilmington, 11/6/19 was the husband of the late Diane, father of Victor



"Jimmy", the late Lisa, Linda and Laurie, and grandfather of two. Victor was a U.S. Army Veteran (Vietnam War). Victor was a Lab Supervisor in the Chemical Operations Division (W6).

Sorrentino, Frank J., 74, Needham, 9/6/19 was the husband of Linda, and father of Joseph and Maria, and grandfather of two. He was an Instrumentation Technician Specialist Engineer. His legacy is work to the best of your ability and "Never Give Up." He was a member of the PRA.



Tanner, Joseph A., 76, Naples, FL, 8/21/19 was the husband of late Silvia and fiancé of Maria, father of Keri and Julie, and grandfather of two. Joe enjoyed gardening, dancing, and cruises.



Traphagen, Eric, 79, Erie, PA, 7/20/19 was the husband of Brigit, brother to Michael and Susan, and uncle of many nieces and nephews. He was an Advertising Executive in Cambridge, traveling to Australia and the Far East. He loved custom finishing carpentry and designing and building furniture.



VandenBoom, Robert F., 92, Aurora, Ohio, 8/20/19 was the husband of Kay, father of William, James, Susan, Amy, and stepfather of Bradley and Gregory, grandfather of three, and great-grandfather of two. He was a U.S. Navy Veteran (WWII), where he compiled two textbooks on electronics that the Navy used in teaching for 20 years. He worked on Photographic Lighting products.



Voss, Theodore N., 11/1/19 was the son of the late Nicholas and Effie, and brother of Sophia.

White, Graham, Vale of Leven, Scotland, 10/19/19 was the father of Andrew. Graham worked for Polaroid in both Vale of Leven and Waltham, initially in the film division, and later as Manager of the Camera Division at the Vale.

Polaroid Pension News: PBGC

PRA members with an annuity pension funded by the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC) can obtain information at **pbgc.gov** or phone: Customer Service at 1-800-400-7242.

If you are unsure of the surviving spouse benefit option you selected when you left Polaroid (or other questions) contact PBGC.

The Polaroid plan is with the “**Single-Employer Program**”.

“PBGC’s Single-Employer Insurance Program, which covers about 26 million participants, continues to improve and last year emerged from a negative net position or “deficit” for the first time since 2001. Continued future improvement is expected but not assured, and the program remains vulnerable to an unexpected downturn in the economy” (PBGC Projections August 6, 2019).

PBGC operates two separate insurance programs, one for Single-Employer and one for **Multiemployer** defined benefit pension plans. The negative news regarding PBGC relates to the funding deficit for the Multiemployer Program, which is insured independently from the Single-Employer Program.

Sign Up for the Spring Luncheon - May 20, 2020

**PRA Spring LUNCHEON
THE LANTANA RESTAURANT, RANDOLPH, MA
WEDNESDAY, May 20, 2020**

9:30 - 11:00 am **Registration - Coffee & Pastries**

11:00 am **Guest Speaker: Harley Kaplan**

12 noon **Cash Bar - Social Hour**

1 pm **Seated for Lunch**

******FREE** for PRA Members! ****

\$25 for non-members

Thank you, **DIRECT FEDERAL CREDIT UNION!**

*******NOTE TIME CHANGE*******

Chicken Florentine: Pan Seared Chicken Breast with Spinach, Crimini Mushrooms in a Garlic Cream Sauce
or

Boston Baked Cod : Served with a New England Ritz Cracker Topping on a Bed of Rice Pilaf
Chef’s Choice of Vegetable & Breads; Classic Caesar Salad, Apple Crisp, Coffee or Tea

Name Desired on Name Tag	Chicken	Fish	Other*	Polaroid Location

***The Lantana will make every effort to honor your request for a special meal. Please note vegetarian, vegan, gluten-free, etc., in the box above.**

Enclose your check for \$ _____ @ \$25 per non-member guest

Make checks payable to: **Polaroid Retirees Association, Inc.** and mail **with the reservation form** above to: **Jim Mitcheson, 181 Acushnet Rd, Mattapoisett, MA 02739.**

Please note: We will be unable to offer refunds for reservations cancelled after **Wednesday, May 13.** In the event of an emergency after then, please call **Elizabeth Foote at 617-354-5237.**

POLAROID RETIREES ASSOCIATION, INC.
P.O. BOX 541395
WALTHAM, MA 02454-1395

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newsletterpra@gmail.com.

We want to hear from you!

The note above your address is meant to alert you to your dues status at the time the Newsletter is sent.

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Make check payable to **POLAROID RETIREES ASSOCIATION, INC.**
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Last	First	MI
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Email Address: _____ **Date of Retirement:** _____