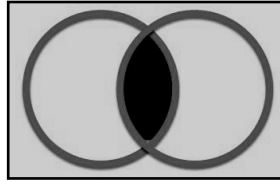


# NewsLetter



**Newsletter Team:**  
E. Foote, M. Hall, E. Kliem,  
M. McCann, W. Rosen

## Polaroid Retirees Association

July - September  
2021

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](http://WWW.POLAROIDRETIRES.ORG) EMAIL: [NEWSLETTERPRA@GMAIL.COM](mailto:NEWSLETTERPRA@GMAIL.COM)

### *Letter from the President*

Dear PRA Members,

It's been a very long year. Through it all we have continued to keep the PRA on course, while responding to all the challenges of COVID-19 and its related disruptions to our daily lives.

The Board of Directors has persevered by meeting, first on Skype and then on Zoom, and found working online to be very convenient and useful. Thanks to Bill Rosen for his management of this website.

I am very honored to have been elected as president of the PRA and to succeed Ed Wade and a long line of outstanding presidents since the creation of the organization over 36 years ago. We have a challenging future ahead of us with respect to a decreasing membership and uncertain times. However, we are still an active and vibrant organization with many good years ahead of us and will strive to serve you, the members, vigorously.

We have elected two new board members in the last month: Dan Dajie and Paul Lubin, and welcomed three other new members during the spring— Ruth Scanlan, Touie Jackson and Johnnie Haywood. We thank resigning board member Eva Karger for her contributions and wish Eric Thorgerson all the best in retirement after 11 years on the board. We now have a robust roster of 17 board members. But are always looking for new members to step forward to join the board as other members leave.

When I joined Polaroid as an assistant scientist in W-6 in 1966, there were approximately 6200 employees, soon reaching a high of over 21,000 at its peak. So many accomplishments were achieved during those years as Polaroid became one of the “high tech darlings” of consumer technology and the “Apple of Wall St.” The legacy of Dr. Land will live on through the many products he developed and the spin-offs and descendants of those products.

Now, as we approach the autumn of 2021, we can confidently plan for a fall Luncheon in October and a happy reunion for all of us. I look forward to seeing you there.

John Flynn, *PRA President*

*From Ed Wade past PRA President:*

**CHANGE:** A word that has invaded our lives for the past 15 months, and we've learned how to live with it and its impact on our personal lives, our families, relationships, communities friends and organizations. Take our Retirees Association for example. WE have endured membership changes, members leaving and joining.

Unfortunately, I have not had a very good year. Continued problems with my (stupid) lap top and my health have sent me to the bench (BIG CHANGE).

Unquestionably John will lead us to new levels of excellence. I congratulate John and wish him well. Unfortunately, we had to cancel the May Lantana luncheon (Big Change and disappointing) but are optimistic that the October meeting can take place. I'm sure that will be a big priority with John. Hopefully, we'll all be READY to accept this CHANGE and will look forward to relating how this pandemic affected us.

Until that time. Stay well, stay safe, enjoy the summer and God Bless.

### **Board of Directors & Officers**

President  
**John Flynn**

1st Vice President  
**Arthur Aznavorian**

2nd Vice President  
**Ruth Scanlan**

Treasurer  
**Nino Dilanni**

Secretary  
**Mary McCann**

### **Directors**

**Dave Bayer**

**Dan Dajie**

**Elizabeth Foote**

**Maryann Hall**

**John Haywood**

**Touie Jackson**

**Erika Kliem**

**Paul Lubin**

**George Murray**

**William Rosen**

**Bob Ruckstuhl**

**Ed Wade**

## John McCann Wins Award



Recently **John McCann** (Research Labs) received a pleasant surprise in an email from Vien Cheung, President of the International Color Association.

<https://aic-color.org> She wrote John to inform him that he will receive the Deane B. Judd Medal at the AIC Congress in Milano in September.

The AIC (Association Internationale de la Couleur) is made up of 25 Color Societies in 25 different countries. <https://aic-color.org/members> AIC is the organization that coordinates activities across all the international Color Groups. Every four years it holds a Congress that brings together all Members and this year it is in Milano. The AIC Congress is unusual in that it incorporates all disciplines of Color: physics, psychophysics, color technologies, architecture, design and artists.

Vien wrote: “AIC Judd Medal is to recognise work of international importance in the fields of colour perception, colour measurement and colour technology. It is the highest honour that can be bestowed by the international colour community.”

John is giving an Invited Lecture at the Milano meeting. The AIC made a promotional video that gives a brief introduction to John’s work.

<https://www.aic2021.org/5-john-mccann/>

<https://www.retinex2.net/Publications/index.html>

John’s work began with a summer job at Polaroid in 1961 working for **Dr. Land** on *Red and White Two-Color Photography*. John’s other mentor was **Ansel Adams** whose Zone System inspired Polaroid’s Vision Research Lab’s digital image processing of HDR scenes. John and **Jon Frankle** set up Polaroid’s first digital lab in 1975. That was six years before Akio Morita demonstrated Sony’s Mavica, the first prototype of electronic photography in 1981.

### Congratulations, John!

## Many Thanks to Eric!



May marked the end of **Eric Thorgerson**’s eleven years on the PRA Board of Directors: two years as an appointed replacement for Peter Bass followed by the maximum three terms of three years each.

Eric was elected as our president for three consecutive years, from 2013 to 2016, and has served for a number of years as Chair of the PRA Finance Committee. This team monitors long-term income & expenditure and membership projections to aid in planning for the PRA’s future.

Eric brought to all of his Board roles and, especially as President, the personal and professional characteristics that made him a successful leader and manager at Polaroid. Eric is always even-tempered and friendly toward all members of the Board and has mentored new Board members in learning their roles.

From mid-2013 to late 2014, Eric led the effort to design, fund, fabricate and install a commemorative plaque honoring Dr. Edwin Land. The plaque can be seen on the corner of Main and Osborn streets in Cambridge at the site of Dr. Land’s research lab. The project required close coordination with the design group, MIT and the City of Cambridge. The result is a source of pride for the PRA and a testament to Eric’s leadership.

Eric’s presence on the Board will be greatly missed, but we’re confident that he will continue on as a friend of members of the Polaroid Retiree’s Association and our Board of Directors.

George Murray

## Meet the New PRA Board Members

*When we called for help after Al Clark, Jim Mitcheson and Eva Karger left the Board, these PRA Members raised their hands. Thank you, Dan, Paul and Ruth! We asked these experienced people to tell us a bit about themselves:*

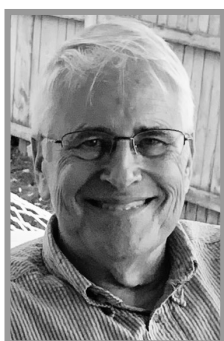
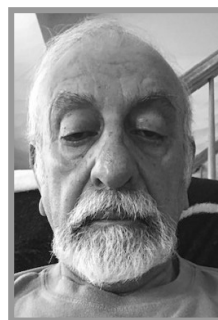
**Dan Dajie** was appointed to the Board in May.

I was hired by **Dick Martin** in 1976, at 103 4th Avenue Waltham. The early part of my career was in EFED where I worked on multiple projects such the number 9, 10, 10A coaters. I was involved in the Ames Street equipment move to Norwood as well.

I then spent many years with improving sheet coating defects in W5 and product quality in W1. After joining the development effort in manufacturing processes on various products, such as magnetic tapes, discs, holograms, security film, etc., I moved to W4 to develop additional products (such as Kojak) for the elimination of 35mm film processing labs.

After leaving Polaroid in 1999, my career continued at Stanford Research in California and I cofounded PolyFuel. I invented a polymer to replace a membrane separator in fuel cell technology. I cofounded Haber Aladdin separation technology to replace cyanide and mercury in gold mining.

I recently volunteered to serve with Elder Services of Merrimack Valley for SMP in Massachusetts (to assist and guide seniors suffering medical abuse and fraud) and for Score in North Carolina (to help people starting businesses and getting small business loans).



**Paul Lubin** was appointed to the Board in May.

I came to the Research Division in 1965, working in the Polymer Lab for **Lloyd Taylor**, who I consider a mentor. After seven years I took a position as a Supervisor in the Negative Test Coater in New Bedford. After 11 years during which I was the Manager of the Analytical Lab and product Engineer for Polacolor, I moved back to Cambridge to work for **Doug Marks** in TCC. I worked mainly in Reagent Development designing reagents for portions of negative that were “not quite right”.

We moved to W4 and I eventually managed that Group and retired in 1996 as Technical Manager when our new CEO decided that we were spending too much money on R&D.

I have an SB in Chemistry from MIT and an MBA from WPI. I have done some chemistry consulting and have edited a couple of books since retiring; went to Travel School in Cambridge; and worked for a year as a travel agent for Garber Travel.

Since then, my wife and I have sold travel adventures as a home-based business. We love to travel with our daughter and her husband and our three grandsons, two of whom are employed engineers and the third who is entering college in the fall. We have lived in Freetown, MA since 1973.

I worked with great people. I miss their camaraderie and enjoy seeing some of them at the luncheons.

**Ruth Scanlan** was appointed to the Board in March.

After graduating from Emmanuel College with a degree in chemistry, I began working in the Color Lab on Osbourne St in Cambridge in 1965. Working in the back chemical testing lab, I believe the Cary Spectrophotometer and I tested every chemical proposed as an opacifier for the SX-70 reagent. I then worked in the ‘Goo’ group, an exciting atmosphere. I was fortunate to be mentored by a principled and caring manager, **Jeanne Ward**. After SX-70 moved to production mode, I served in QC in both W-3 and W-2; also, as Process Engineer in W-2.

In 1977, Jeanne Ward and I left Polaroid to start a commercial farm in Enfield NH. For 20 years we sold vegetables, meats, maple syrup, honey, raspberries and jams. However, I maintained a tenuous connection with Polaroid consulting on several software transition programs. I returned as a part-time employee as Materials Manager for W-2 and then as part of the SAP team.

I was fortunate to work at Polaroid, a company that provided a good salary and a growth path for its employees. Polaroid’s commitment to the community was admirable. In 2000, Jeanne and I moved to North Carolina. She died from complications of Alzheimer’s disease in 2011.



## W-4 Memories by George Murray

I came to Polaroid in 1970 after graduate school at Syracuse University. I was hired as an Evaluation Engineer for the New Bedford plant which was under construction at the time. For training, I was assigned to W-4 working for **Bob Ruckstuhl** and **John Short**. John, in turn, assigned me to shadow "**Wink**" **Dutra** to learn the ropes. Wink was a friend to everyone he met.

This began the most intense learning of my career and the most rewarding work of my lifetime. My undergraduate degree was in Photographic Engineering from RIT, and I had six years of work experience before coming to Polaroid. Learning about Polaroid, and how things were done there, required forgetting a lot of what I thought I knew and relearning principles and systems from the Polaroid perspective.

W-4 was built as a Research/Engineering facility to prepare the company to be able to successfully coat a multi-layer color negative, five feet wide and thousands of feet at a time, in one pass through the coating machine. No US company had successfully achieved this feat other than Eastman Kodak.

**Bill McCune** had led the development of Polaroid's color negative, and **Mac Booth** was tapped to lead the New Bedford construction and process development. W-4 was designed as a dual-path organization, with **Peter Kliem** heading the development efforts for the negative, and **Jim Chamness** heading the pilot manufacturing operation as a bridge to both New Bedford negative manufacturing and Waltham's pack film assembly plant. There was what some might have considered a duplication of effort between the development and pilot manufacturing efforts. In hindsight, it was very appropriate because of the different objectives.

For instance, there were two Evaluation Labs in W-4. The Development Lab, headed by "**Skip**" **Baldwin**, worked to design and perfect fundamental measurement systems for photographic color images. The Pilot Lab developed process control and quality assurance systems for use in manufacturing employing the tools developed in "Skip's" Evaluation Lab. The Pilot Evaluation Lab performed the sensitometric evaluations of test coatings, which were the bread and butter products of W-4, using the methods developed across the hall. These were the measurements of whether the test coatings made each day moved us closer or further from the objective. Skip's right-hand man was a taciturn, down-east Mainer named **Ben Davis**, who commuted every day in a six-wheeled dump truck. He was soft-spoken and very bright and, being a man of few words, one was wise to pay very close attention to whatever he had to offer.

Negative from the pilot coaters in W-4 was just wide enough to be evaluated in the lab, and wide enough for the most promising test coatings to be assembled into actual

film packs. Each day between six and nine coating experiments were made, and the Pilot Evaluation Lab swung into high gear to perform the measurements on images made from the test coatings and to cut and package samples to be rapidly transported to Dr. Land's lab in Cambridge. **Fred Barstow**, who grew up on the Canadian border about 10 miles from my birthplace, was one of

Land's trusted associates, and he often made the "run" into Cambridge at the end of the day. One fateful day, Fred had his stack of opaque envelopes with negative samples, but he placed them on top of his car while he unlocked it and got it started. Guess where the envelopes were when he drove away!

Samples of negative were paired with receiving sheet and processed by squeezing "goo," or reagent, between them. The developed images then had to be measured on a densitometer which output the densities of red, green, and blue reflected light to provide numerical measures used for evaluating the test results. Polaroid had developed, in W-4, a device known as an "ARD" – an Automatic Recording Densitometer, to evaluate the developed images. These instruments were large, complex and very expensive, so there were not duplicates of them in both the Development and Pilot Labs. Instead, a pneumatic tube system, like those used in department stores to deliver change and receipts, was installed between the two labs. Samples were "zoomed" from one lab to the other, and data from the ARD was "zoomed" back to the Pilot Lab. Sometimes, other things like sandwiches, frogs, etc., found themselves zipping back and forth between the labs.

After I had spent 6-8 weeks getting up to speed, and becoming known well enough to be judged a "keeper," Bob Ruckstuhl took me into one of the small lab spaces and explained the SX-70 system, its key features and its challenges to me. At the end of an hour, my mouth was hanging open; I couldn't believe the complexities and challenges that Bill McCune's team had taken on. Because of the film design, in the finished image the receiving sheet needed to be completely transparent because the final image is viewed through the sheet. But during processing, as the film unit comes out of the camera, the negative must be totally protected from light as it develops. I was amazed when I asked Bob how we were going to do that, and he replied, "We don't know yet."



With sleeves rolled up, George gets to work in W-4





George Murray and Fran Matthews, Senior Lab Technician in the Evaluation Lab, review test data in W-4.

Hundreds of millions of dollars had been spent on development of the system, and we all relied on faith and conviction that **Howie Rogers** and his team would figure it out before we went to market. Many of the early cameras had “snouts” protruding from the front which protected the developing image

from light. Rogers came through.

W-4 was expanded several times over the years, and navigating through it to my new office was one of the early learning challenges. In a building with the types of operations in W-4, many of them in the dark, safety was a big concern. **Dudley Hall**, our committed safety officer, may have taken one of the fire drills too far, releasing a smoke bomb in one of the narrow passageways, then

pulling the fire alarm.

Bill McCune came to W-4 for a weekly review and update. I was always impressed by the bump in morale resulting from his visits. He always had a smile and a kind word for everyone he encountered. Maybe not so much for the group that tried to kidnap him from the parking lot.

I never did report to the job in New Bedford that I was hired to fill. When the time came to make the move, management decided that enough people had transferred that they’d better keep a few more in W-4. As time passed, activities shifted to preparing for production in R-2. We not only had to make sure that the product we were developing would take beautiful pictures, but also that it would work as promised. We faced issues such as battery reliability, successfully propelling the picture unit out of the camera and keeping the reagent where it belonged during processing. In September of 1973, I successfully bid on the job as Quality Manager for R-2 film production, and left W-4.

Many of my strongest and longest lasting friendships at Polaroid came from my experiences there.

## Polaroid History by Ed Byrnes

*Yes, he’s back with more great stories of Polaroid and its people. Ed hopes to see you at the fall Luncheon where he plans to celebrate his 95th birthday. Come celebrate with him! He’ll be coming all the way from Chagrin Falls, Ohio. Thank you for another reminder of our company’s extraordinary history.*

Question: What year were you born? If your birthdate was after 1950, then you grew up with instant photography and thus are familiar with Polaroid Corporation and its worldwide reputation. However Polaroid, like many of today’s successful businesses, came from humble origins called “garage start-ups.” Apple, Microsoft, Facebook, etc., quickly come to mind. So, let us parse Polaroid’s past history and its early beginnings to understand how it became, well, Polaroid.

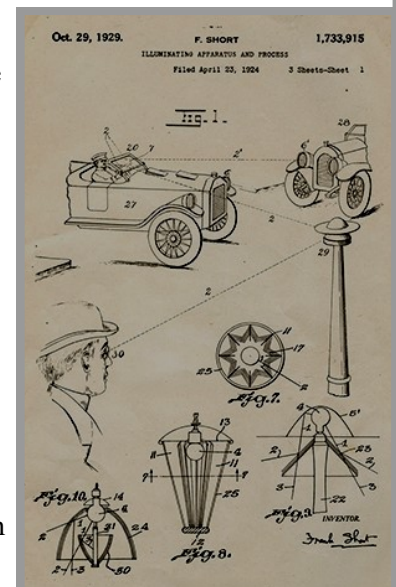
I was born in the mid-1920s, the so-called Roaring Twenties era. The noun “Polaroid” had yet to make its presence into the contemporary lexicon of business names. However, a young Harvard undergraduate by the name of **Edwin Land** who, while studying Herapathite crystals, concluded they were a portal to making synthetic polarizers. He quickly convinced his Harvard physics professor G.E. Wheelwright that large scale synthetic polarizers could be a commercially viable product. Professor Wheelwright, obviously impressed with his student’s insight and brilliance, agreed and “The Land-Wheelwright Company” was conceived in the late ‘20s.

The fledging entrepreneurial company was founded in what one might best describe as an impressive garage facility in Boston. Its product line was simple and straightforward: manufacturing polarizing sheeting for sunglasses and desk lamps. The future looked assured and

Land, although a recent Harvard dropout (the word “college dropout” is now considered entrepreneurial - think Steve Jobs, Bill Gates), possessed the appropriate mental faculties to continue tinkering with scientific concepts and was most optimistic of the company’s future.

As business increased, larger facilities were required and Land moved the company to Cambridge where he resided. The chosen site was a 5-story building complex at 730 Main St. located halfway between Kendall and Central Squares. The off campus legal office, headed by **Don Brown** was lodged in a Kendall Square office facility.

With the fact that polarizing sunglasses removed daylight glare, it was but a simple step to consider



“Illuminating Apparatus & Process”  
October 29, 1929  
Polaroid Corporation Patent Records  
Baker Library  
Harvard Business School



1944 Polaroid Administrative Records  
Baker Library  
Harvard Business School

night driving glare. It was a “Mona Lisa” moment for Land when he realized that polarizing headlights and appropriate polarizing driver glasses were a solution to dangerous night driving glare. Thus, he set out to make it a humanity moment as well.

**Lou Chubb** was given the responsibility for bringing the headlight program to fruition, but it was not to be

a simple task. Formidable obstacles had to be overcome, such as battery power, headlight lumens, electric circuitry, power output, etc. It was not until the early to mid-1950s that a viable system was available.

In 1934, Land-Wheelwright was incorporated into the Polaroid Corporation and the word “Polaroid” was registered as a trademark. The company was now positioned for accelerated growth and most hopefully, international recognition.

The 1930s were the years of the Great Depression which lasted until the onset of WW2. President Roosevelt did his best to keep the economy running by various legislative fiats such as the Civilian Conservation Corps which offered employment in various conservation projects throughout the country. Nevertheless, life was deemed difficult at best.

Surprisingly, the Depression had but a small impact on Polaroid. sunglass and polarizing sun visors, along with other small product lines, generated sufficient income to keep the lights on. However, it was the war clouds hanging over Europe that gave Polaroid a financial boost.

President Roosevelt, ever watchful of Germany’s beloved Fuhrer Herr Hitler, was convinced war in Europe was unavoidable and thus put America’s industrial complex on notice. He also put into effect a board of scientific advisors, of which Land was one, reporting directly to him. It required no great insight to recognize manufacturing opportunities under the control of The War Production Board, and Polaroid quickly secured profitable contracts. Polaroid’s war contributions were many and the company was honored with the banner of “Excellence” which it flew over 750 Main.

It would be remiss on my part if I did not highlight a few of Polaroid’s specific contributions during WW2, including optical products such as goggles for both the Air Force and US Army mobile units. The Navy had its share, such as night adaption goggles, optical ring sights for fighter pilots and anti-aircraft weapons. To the latter we

can add variable light transmitting goggles as pilots and Navy personnel searched for enemy aircraft attacking from the sun direction. Polaroid Vectograph technology found favor with 3-dimensional applications such as cartography, celestial navigation, and weapons training. The war effort obviously added additional employees to Polaroid’s payroll which could not be sustained with the ending of the war. So, employment was reduced to pre-war levels and commercial sales were back to selling various polarizing and vectograph products. However, Land had been working on a secret project that allegedly came about by his daughter’s question, “Why can’t I see it now?” In due time the secret project became known: “Instant Photography!”

Land presented “Polaroid Instant Photography” at the annual Optical Society Meeting in 1946 to great acclaim. One local news outlet jokingly called Land “The Wizard of Cambridge,” a sobriquet he would carry evermore. In 1948 the first commercial sale of some 50 cameras with films was held at the Jordan Marsh Company in Boston. From that humble beginning Polaroid quickly ascended to worldwide recognition and profitability.

Although Polaroid had finally engineered both a viable and workable headlight system by the early 1950s, the politics of how to implement were, unfortunately, insurmountable. Land’s “Mona Lisa” dream was not to be. However, I suspect that his success with instant photography shrouded any vestige of disappointment over his unsuccessful headlight project.

Upon receiving my master’s degree in physics, I started looking about for full time employment. Job offers were plentiful in 1951, and the one I finally accepted was from Polaroid.

Why Polaroid? Well, to be honest, most if not all my other employment offers, think IBM, Raytheon, GE, were of typical pedestrian nature, whereas Polaroid had not only a uniqueness about it but was also led by a visionary Wizard who had insight to unimaginable products. So, it was an easy decision, and...



U.S. Navy sailor demonstrates use of the Polaroid Optical Ring Sight attached to anti-aircraft gun, ca. 1944. Polaroid Corporation Records. Baker Library, Harvard Business School

I never looked back.

**Welcome Back, Former Member Fred Brustman of Auburndale, MA  
Glad to have you with us!**

## In Memoriam

Find more complete obituaries at [www.polaroidretirees.org](http://www.polaroidretirees.org)

**Ayers, Ruth A.**, Medford, 3/7/21 was the daughter of the late Ernest and Alice and was a friend of many. She worked as a Staff Assistant and Secretary.



**Bachtel, Michael B.**, 60, Ohio, 5/23/21 was the husband of Sue, father of Rebecca, Molly and step-daughter Sarah, and grandfather of two. He served in the U.S. Navy aboard the USS MC Fox. Michael was a chemist. He was a self-taught carpenter, building his own home in Westport, Massachusetts.



**Bakish, Andrea J.**, 93, Randolph, 5/15/21 was the wife of the late John, mother of Leo, Steve, Andrea, Dianne, Teri & James, grandmother of fifteen, great-grandmother of 22, and great-great-grandmother of one. She enjoyed vacations every summer in Prince Edward Island, Canada, visiting with her relatives and friends, trips to Foxwoods and most of all shopping.

**Berdine Sr., Kenneth**, South Boston, 5/23/21 was the husband of Jane, father of Kenneth Jr. and grandfather of one. He served in the U.S. Army.



**Blazewicz, Robert J.**, 75, Marana, AZ, 5/21/21 was the husband to Joyce, father of Robert, William and Michael, and grandfather of two. Bob served in the U.S. Army National Guard in the 102nd Field Artillery. He was a Computer Systems Analyst. Retirement brought opportunities to root for his beloved Patriots and Red Sox, spend time with Joyce and enjoy his pool.



**Bowlby, Ronald A., "Ron"**, 88, Waltham, 5/16/21 was the husband of Jeannette, father of Stephen, Michael, Edward and David, and grandfather of six. Ron served in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War, stationed in Germany as a Medical Technician.



**Briber, Robert M., "Bob"**, 91, Schenectady, 4/29/21 was the husband of Katherine (former wife) and Sylvie, father of

Robert and Katherine, and grandfather of two. Bob served for two years in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. He worked for four years at Polaroid with Edwin H. Land where he met Ansel Adams. In 2014, Bob documented his colorful experiences at M.I.T., the White House, and Polaroid in his book entitled *Moments at Mid Century*.



**Brown, Charles J.**, 79, Norwood, 3/25/21, was the husband of Carmel, father of Colleen, Christopher, Courtney and Charles Jr., and grandfather of 5. He worked in Norwood and was an Employee Committee Representative. He was known for his kind heart, generosity and his great sense of humor. He was a member of the PRA.

**Castle, Robert J.**, 77, Leominster, 6/1/21 was the husband of Joanne, father of Pamela, Lynne and Steven grandfather of seven, and great-grandfather of one. Robert worked in Waltham. Robert tried to make every holiday special. He loved to see the joy of his grandchildren opening gifts from under the Christmas tree.



**Clements, Carol A.**, 78, Dedham, 5/7/21 was the mother of Carolanne, Ernice & John, grandmother of 7, and great-grandmother of one. Carol was a Security Guard (Norwood, Waltham and Cambridge). Carol loved Dedham and was active in many activities including volunteering at the Endicott Estate giving tours and teaching crocheting at the Greenlodge School after school program.

**Cross, Fredric J. "Rick"**, 86, Wrentham, 4/12/21 was the husband of Betty Ann, father of Maureen, Ricky, Patricia, Betsy, Eileen and Kevin, grandfather of nineteen, and great-grandfather of two. Rick served in the U.S. Marine Corps (Korean War). He was a Chemist. Rick was an avid sports fan of the NY Giants, NY Rangers and Boston Red Sox.



**Dalzell, William H. Jr., "Bill"**, 84, Marshfield, 4/13/21 was the husband of Patricia, father of Kim and Billy and grandfather of four. He was a Chemical Engineer. Bill will be remembered most as an amazing chef, and also for his quick wit, his pessimistic optimism, his hatred for TV and his secret love of Oreos. He loved to ski.



**David, Donald Murray**, 85, Grand Island, NE, 3/27/21 was the husband of Margaret, father of Scott, Kelley, Chris and Geoff, and grandfather of five. He served in the U.S. Air Force (Korean War). He was an Engineer. He and his friend Don Terry built a two-thirds scale Baby Bell Helicopter which looked liked the M.A.S.H chopper. It was donated to the Heartland Museum of Military Vehicles in Lexington and displayed in a M.A.S.H setting as in the TV show, complete with a mannequin to look like Lt. Houlihan.



**Devereau, John**, 83, Fitchburg, 5/19/21 was the husband of the late Sue-Ann, father of Lee, Lisa, Lynne, John, Sean, Bryan, Erin and Susan. Lee and grandfather of twenty-three. He was a charmer who, whenever asked how he was, would humbly respond with: "Pretty close to perfect."



**DiSanzo, Frederick "Freddie"**, 79, Waltham, 5/13/21 was the father of Mark and Matthew, and "Papa Fred" of seven. He was a Draftsman. An avid car enthusiast, he loved classic automobiles and enjoyed riding in the various Corvettes he owned during his life, enjoyed golfing, darts, gardening, and his friendships from membership in the Lexington Elks Club. He was a member of the PRA.



**English, Paul**, 82, Concord, 3/11/21 was the husband of Linda, father of Alanna and Paul. He served in the U.S. Army (Armor Division, Fort Knox, KY). Paul worked in Marketing and Sales. He enjoyed sailing his boat from Allens Harbor in Harwich, MA, traveling to the Nation-

## In Memoriam

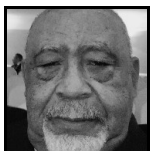


al Parks and tours in European countries.

**Fong, Edward C.**, 78, Braintree, 6/3/21 was the husband of late Marilyn "Mal", father of Jason and Brandon, and grandfather of three. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps and earned the badge of M-14 Rifle Sharpshooter. Ed was a Technical Illustrator. He loved to exercise and stay active especially when he would take walks with his late wife Mal. Castle Island was among their favorites.



**Girouard, Paul C.**, 96, Milton, 3/12/21 was the husband of the late Marjorie Rose and the late Janice, father of Paula, Marian, Claire, and William, and grandfather of nine and great grandfather of three. He served in the U.S. Navy (WWII). Paul was the Director of Materials Management. He was a member of the PRA.



**Hamilton, Lee L.**, Hyde Park, 5/23/21 was the husband of Cicely, father of Lee, Jamil, and Elise and grandfather of six. He served in U.S. Air Force, (Vietnam Era). He was a member of the PRA.



**Herndon, Kenneth**, 88, Bourne, MA 3/16/21 was the husband of Joan, father of Cheryl, and Stahley, grandfather of four, and great grandfather of two. He served in the U.S. Navy as a Personnelman 3C. He worked in Personnel/Human Resources and was Director of Compensation and Benefit. Ken's interests included art, music, reading and getting together with his friends in the ROMEO club (Retired Old Men Eating Out).

**Hogan, Francis E.**, Weymouth, 3/23/21 was the husband of Roberta, father of Kathleen, Michael, Teri, Brenda and Christine, grandfather of thirteen and great grandfather of three. He served in the U.S. Army (Vietnam Era). He was a Construction Engineer. Frank enjoyed cooking, reading or a nice walk with the dog.



**Holmes, Thomas C.**, 88,

Hudson, MA, 3/24/21 was the husband of Carol, father of Margaret, Ruth Ann, and Carol, and grandfather of five. He served in the U.S. Air Force (Korean War) as a Staff Sergeant. He worked in Production and Safety Administration. He had a great sense of humor and will be remembered for the many funny stories he told. He was a member of the PRA.

**Inbar PhD, Shai**, 79, Brookline, 5/20/21 was the husband of Cynthia, father of Adi, and Ofer. He was a Senior Scientist guiding the creation of films and processes for instant photography. He served as a Major in the Israeli army in Uganda and during the Six Day War. Shai was an avid skier and kayaker, an adventurous traveler and a wine connoisseur.



**Kanter, Eugene, "Gene"**, 91, East Falmouth, 2/22/21 was the husband of late Evelyn, father of Patti, Jonathan and Robin, and grandfather of five.

He served in the U.S. Military. He worked in Purchasing negotiating contracts. Gene had a passion for planes, cars and trains, loved building furniture in his woodworking shop, and tinkering with the engine of his car. He was a member of the PRA.



**Lamont, Francis Anthony "Tony"**, 76, Tallahassee, FL, 4/10/21 was the husband of Karen, father of Karen and Audrey, and grandfather of three. He was a Carpenter. He had a love of music, dancing, was an avid billiards fan and loved his Boston Bruins.

**Lau, Kenneth**, 71, Litchfield, NH, 3/9/21 was the husband of Carolyn. He worked in Waltham. Kenny enjoyed hunting for deer but had a passion for duck hunting with his four-legged companion Molly. He was avid fisherman and would often be seen boating around Ossipee Lake which Kenny called his second home.



**Lind, Erland A.**, 89, Marlborough, 5/15/21 was the husband of the late Dorothy and brother of Charlotte, and uncle of many. He served in the

U.S. Air Force (Korean War) as an EMT and Ambulance Drive in Korea. He was an Electronics Technician (Cambridge). He was happy to be able to live out his life in his own home with his four cats, Heather, Heidi, PeeWee and Kinsey, who kept him company and gave him warmth and affection during the difficult times of the Pandemic. He was a member of the PRA.



**Manfro, Theresa**, 84, Nashua, 4/10/17 was the mother of Ellie, Toni and Duke, grandmother of six, and great grandmother of

two. She loved to cook and bake, music, dancing, and watching the Red Sox and Patriots.



**Marshall, Lloyd Alan "Sonny"**, 69, Boston, 3/18/21 was the father of Asha and Kieran, and grandfather of two. He was an Instructor and

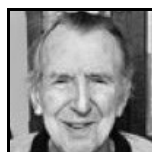
Printing Press Operator. Sonny was a quiet, but a very funny guy. He kept everyone laughing with his antics. He wrote his funeral wishes, and he wanted his last message to his family and friends to be, "After the ceremony everyone go out and get some fish sandwiches or oxtails!"



**Mazonson, Charlotte E.**, 97, Marblehead, 6/4/21 was the wife of the late Barney and life partner Harold, mother of late Dr. Anne, Paul, and Martha, grandmother of six, and great grandmother of two. She and Harold purchased a canal barge, Tskutje and together they cruised the canals of France, Holland and Belgium for 15 years.



**McNeil, Theola**, 69, Valdosta, GA, 9/19/20 was the wife of Will, mother of Bernice and Michael, and grandmother of four. She worked in Production and Quality Control (Cambridge and Norwood). Theola always believed in working hard and was a great cook.



**Miller, Leo**, 95, Mashpee, 4/15/21 was the husband of Marcia and the late Barbara, father of Stephen, Caryl, & Philip and



## In Memoriam

grandfather of six. He was a Psychologist and the Manager of the Counseling Department. Leo enjoyed playing golf, following Boston sports and watching old Western movies.



**Moran, Tom, 69,** Concord, 4/29/21 was the husband of Vanessa, father of Jesse, Lindsay, Bradford and Jennifer, and grandfather of four. Tom worked his way from an entry-level warehouse position, to Financial Analyst, to Marketing Manager, to winning Salesman of the Year honors for the 15,000 person organization. He loved music, sporting events, coaching Little League and exercising.



**Nieh, Douglas E., 90,** Marshfield, 3/16/21 was the husband of the late Loretta, father of Janica, and his honorary daughter Monique, and grandfather of one. He was the Worldwide Manager of Consumer Eyewear Products, responsible for manufacturing to marketing their sunglass and polarizing lens products. He was a member of the PRA.

**Palladino, Joan L., 75,** Stoneham, 12/17/20 was the sister to John & Yvonne, aunt to Lainie, Lorna and Kimberly, and great-aunt to many nieces and nephews. During her retirement she can be remembered volunteering at local food pantries, caring for her dog Mya, whom she adored, and making memories with her loving family.



**Raybon, Robert J., 78,** Salem 3/15/21 was the cousin of Elaine, Laura, Richard and John and best friend of Roy Johnson.

While at Polaroid he also served in the U.S. Army Reserves (Vietnam Era). He was a Research Assistant (Waltham) and was an admirer of Dr. Edwin Land who was a family friend.

**Rivenburg, David N., 78,** Mattapoisett, 7/21/20 was the husband of Virginia, father of Paul and Carl, and grandfather of five. He served in the U.S. Air Force Reserves. He was an HVAC&R Technician. Dave enjoyed many activities with his family including time spent at "the pond", dirt bike riding, sailing, power boating, skiing, square dancing, tennis and golf.



**Sabin, James W. "Jim", 90,** Hanover, 3/16/21 was the husband of Mary, father of Karen, Jim, Jr. Ken, and Scott, grandfather of seven, and great-grandfather of one. He served with the U.S. Navy (Korean War). He enjoyed spending time with family & friends.



**Salomaa, Risto C., 87,** Medfield, 3/22/21 was the husband of Vivian, father of William, Gayle and Leanne, grandfather of five, and great-grandfather of two. He was a Corporal in the U.S. Army (Korean War). Risto was an Mechanical Engineer and Draftsman. He loved playing and watching hockey, and bowling.



**Santsaver, Jr., Peter J., 94,** North Attleboro, 2/27/21 was the husband of the late Eleanor, father of Peter, Brian, James, Karen, Kathy and Kim, grandfather of 18, great-grandfather of 26, and great-great-grandfather of six. He served in the U.S. Navy and was one of North Attleboro's last remaining WWII Veterans.. He was a Model Maker and a Mechanical Engineer. He cared for animals and people in need, was a gardener, donated honey harvested from his own bee hives, crafted wooden heirlooms, and skunked his opponents in games of cribbage.

**Sorli, Duncan C., 85,** Chelmsford, 3/23/21 was the husband of Christle, father of Duncan, Christopher and Brita, and grandfather of six. He was a Mechanical Engineer and forever a tinkerer. His greatest joy was his time spent with his family and four-legged children.



**Stevens, Ann B., 88,** Wattertown & Hampton Beach, NH, 5/22/21 was the mother of Nancy, sister of John and the late Shirley, and aunt of many. Ann was a Past Pres. V.F.W. Aux. #1105, a member of Tomas Cardinal O'Fiaich Div. #14 A.O.H.



**Walker, Sheryl F. "Sherry", 73,** Boston's South End, 3/9/21 was the wife of the late Alonzo, sister of Frederick, and aunt of three. She held Administrative positions. She loved books, their friends, and jazz.



**Obituary notices can be sent to: [newsletterpra@gmail.com](mailto:newsletterpra@gmail.com)**

**or**

**R. Rucksuhl  
Polaroid Retirees Associaton, Inc.  
PO Box 522  
Rowley, MA 01969**

## ***The Business of the PRA***

Once again, the cancellation of the May Luncheon and Business Meeting forced the Board of Directors to carry on business during the monthly Zoom meetings managed by Director Bill Rosen, and we now report the **2020** business to you here instead at our gatherings.

The board elected incumbent and appointed directors, elected officers, discussed the Association's future and managed its present. Director George Murray presented and facilitated work with a PRA Planning Cycle that focuses on the organization's business of officer development, mission, board recruitment, financial viability and succession planning. The work continues and anticipates the involvement of the larger membership.

Print copies of the Newsletter were sent to over 1000 Members each quarter and the website, [polaroidretirees.org](http://polaroidretirees.org), was maintained by Bill Rosen and visited over 16,000 times.

Reports below are respectfully submitted by Committee Chairs and Officers.

### **The Secretary's Report: Mary McCann, Secretary**

In June of 2020, incumbent Board members David Bayer, Maryann Hall and Eva Karger were elected to their third terms, Erika Kliem to her second, and John Flynn to his first.

With the board resignation of Milt Dentch, Elizabeth Foote stepped away from her presidency in October to resume the role of Newsletter Editor. Ed Wade was appointed President to fill out her term. In June, Ed Wade was elected President, John Flynn First Vice President, Arthur Aznavorian Second Vice President, Mary McCann Secretary, Nino DiIanni Treasurer and Bob Ruckstuhl Membership Chair.

### **Membership Committee: Robert W. Ruckstuhl, Membership Chair**

For the tenth straight year the membership of the PRA continued to decline. In the period from May 2020 to April 2021, 90 regular members left the Association resulting in a year-end total membership of 1015. This consisted of 723 regular members, 192 lifetime members and 100 nonpaying spouses of deceased members.

49% of those who left were the result of death while the remaining 51% were due to resignations. In an effort to better understand the historically large number of resignations (due primarily to a failure to keep one's dues current), we conducted a mail survey of 200 of the most recent resignations. The findings of the survey were disappointing, to say the least, as the response was low and no patterns or actionable results could be identified. On a positive note, our year-end numbers were aided by the addition of 15 new members during the reporting period.

After many different and varied efforts to stave off the decline in membership through recruitment, the Board has concluded that such undertakings have borne little fruit over the years. It was determined we should instead focus our efforts on providing services to our current membership while developing plans to manage the decline in membership in upcoming years. Membership projections indicate that, at our current rate of decline, our numbers will reach a level that will jeopardize the continuance of the PRA by the end of this decade.

### **Audit Committee: David Bayer, Audit Committee Chair**

The PRA Audit Committee met via Zoom on Thursday, December 3, 2020, to review the Association's transactions for the period ended December 31, 2019.

Seven (7) large dollar receipts and eight(8) large dollar invoices were selected and verified to supporting documents, then traced to the deposit or charge to the Association's checking account at the Direct Federal Credit Union. No discrepancies were observed, and the Audit Committee voted unanimously to approve the audit.

I would like to thank Committee members Arthur Aznavorian and Eric Thorgerson and PRA treasurer Nino DiIanni for their valuable assistance. A special thank you to Bill Rosen, the Association's Zoom technical expert, for his effort in allowing the Committee to perform the audit.

### **Treasurer's Report: Nino DiIanni, Treasurer**

The PRA financial results for 2020 were as follows:

Total income : \$10,218, from dues and interest.

Total expenses :\$8,021 (Newsletter \$6,615; other expenses \$1406).

Net income: \$2197.

Cash on hand at the end of 2020 was \$31,215.

The PRA thanks all members for submitting their 2020 dues payments on time. 2021 dues were suspended in recognition of the stress incurred by the COVID-19 epidemic. Dues payments will resume in 2022.

## Register Today for the Fall Luncheon - October 20, 2021

PRA FALL LUNCHEON  
THE LANTANA RESTAURANT, RANDOLPH, MA  
WEDNESDAY, October 20, 2021

Come see old friends and make new ones.

Doors open at 10a.m.

12 noon

12:30 pm

Cash Bar

Seated for Lunch

\*\*\* FREE for PRA Members \*\*\*  
\$25 per Guest

Thank you DIRECT FEDERAL CREDIT UNION!

**Chicken Picatta:** Served with a lemon wine sauce and capers over a bed of rice  
or

**Boston Baked Cod :** Fresh baked cod served with a traditional New England Ritz Cracker Topping

**Includes:** Chef's Choice of Vegetable & Breads; Classic Caesar Salad, Apple Crisp, Coffee or Tea

Name Desired on Name Tag	Chicken	Fish	Other*

\*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 guest

### Important! Please read!

The **Direct Federal Credit Union** has once again generously offered to sponsor our Luncheon! The event is **free to PRA Members in good standing** and **\$25 for guests**.

**Your dues must be up to date through 2021 or have been waved** (see the note above your *Newsletter* address label) **to take advantage of the DFCU offer.**

Mail the registration form to **Bob Ruckstuhl, PRA, PO Box 522, Rowley, MA 01969**  
Be sure to include any **guest checks in the amount of \$25 per person** made out to  
**Polaroid Retirees Association, Inc.**

Attendance will be limited according to the most updated state and city guidelines on capacity and social distancing, as well as the room size. **Sign up early!**

We need to know **ASAP** if you plan to attend. Should we be unable to hold the Luncheon, you will be contacted and guests' checks will be returned.

Please be sure your *Newsletter* **address label is correct**. Include any changes with your registration form.

We will be unable to offer refunds for registrations cancelled after October 13. In the event of an emergency, please call **Bill Rosen at 781-885-0150**.

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

**MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY**

CURRENT DIRECTORIES ARE FREE, UPON REQUEST, BUT A CHARGE OF \$6.00 IS REQUIRED TO COVER SHIPPING & HANDLING.

PLEASE MAKE YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO **POLAROID RETIREES ASSOCIATION** AND MAIL TO :  
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**You can read the Board meeting minutes along with past *Newsletters*, obituaries and much more at [polaroidretirees.org](http://polaroidretirees.org).**

**Let us know what you're up to in your Life After Polaroid. Send memories, stories, ideas and greetings to [newsletterpra@gmail.com](mailto:newsletterpra@gmail.com) or send a note along with your dues.**

***We hope to see you again in October.***

**Let us know what you're up to in your Life After Polaroid. Send memories, stories, ideas and greetings to [newsletterpra@gmail.com](mailto:newsletterpra@gmail.com) or send a note along with your dues.**

***We hope to see you again in October.***

*Membership Fees are due and payable the first of the year.*

**Yearly Dues \$15.00**

*Make check payable to: **POLAROID RETIREES ASSOCIATION, INC.***

*Mail to: R. Ruckstuhl, Polaroid Retirees Assn, P.O. Box 522,  
Rowley, MA 01969*

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Please **Print**:      New: \_\_\_\_\_      Renewal: \_\_\_\_\_      Change of Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
                        Last                                                 First                                                 MI

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Retirement: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Last                      First                      MI

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Spouse's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone (optional):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date of Retirement:** \_\_\_\_\_