

NEWS LETTER

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2015

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

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear PRA Members,

I'll have to say that was a winter to remember. I think we used about two hundred pounds of salt on about 100 feet of sidewalk. I hope you got through all the snow and cold weather – or enjoyed life somewhere in the sunny south.

The May Members' Meeting will feature Mr. Scott Hardy, the President of Polaroid Corporation. He has been very supportive of our Land Plaque and looks forward to speaking with us about the New Polaroid.

Also at the meeting, we will thank Walter Byron for his enormous contributions as he completes three 3-year terms on the Board. Bill Rosen is the Board's nominee to replace Walter and additionally, Dick Gellis, James Grunst, Touie Jackson, Edyie Johnson, and Eric Thorgerson will be up for reelection.

Please welcome Art Aznavorian and Al Clark who have been appointed to complete the terms of Directors who have resigned.

On another subject, the American Chemical Society each year designates a National Historic Chemical Landmark. This year the Society approved the Edwin H. Land, Office/Laboratory and Instant Photography at 700 Main Street (the Osborn Street building). This is the first site to be so honored in Massachusetts. The celebration will be held this coming August, and the PRA is included in its organizing committee. We will be asking for your participation in making the event a success.

I think you will be interested to know that a new book about Polaroid, *A Triumph of Genius, Edwin Land, Polaroid and the Kodak Patent War* by Ronald K. Fierstein, has just been published. It is a very good read. An excerpt appeared in the Boston Globe Sunday Magazine's January 25th edition and is reprinted in this issue of the Newsletter with his permission.

Another important event will be celebrated soon. This year marks the 30th anniversary of the PRA and this will be the focus of our October Members' Meeting. Please let any member of the Board know if you'd like to help out.

Finally, I would like to call your attention to an article in the January 18th issue of the Boston Globe. It's an interesting report about the new activities occurring at Polaroid's former Main Street, Waltham Site.

I hope to see you at the May meeting. It's always fun to see familiar faces and catch up.

Eric Thorgerson, President, Board of Directors, Polaroid Retirees Association

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POLAROID NEWS, INFORMATION, NOTICES & ARTICLES

Constitution Changes to be voted on by the PRA Membership on 5/20/15

1. Article VI, NOMINATION & ELECTION OF DIRECTORS, Section 1: "The Board of Directors shall serve as a Nominating Committee to present a slate of candidates for election to the Board, at least ~~sixty (60)~~ forty-five (45) days before the Annual Meeting. Members in good standing of the Association may also nominate additional candidates at the annual meeting."

Purpose – align notification requirement with Newsletter schedule. Clarify when members may add nominations for the Board.

2. Article XIV – AMENDMENTS, Section 2: "Each proposal to amend this constitution shall be submitted in writing to the secretary at least 60 days before the regular or special meeting at which the proposal is to be presented to the members for action."

Purpose – Clarify that members act on proposed amendments.

3. Article XIII – SECURITY BONDING OF OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS. Delete.

Reason: Other than cash payments for luncheons at the door, all expenditures and receipts are reviewed by more than one director, and are subject to audit. The cost of bonding would exceed the cash handled each year.

This PRA Newsletter article serves as the required mailing of proposed Constitution Changes at least 30 days prior to the May business meeting. A majority vote of the membership in attendance is required for adoption.

Lost PRA Members

Do you know the whereabouts of any of these PRA members? Letters to them have been returned as "Undeliverable" with no forwarding address. If you know their status or where they currently reside please drop us a line and let us know so that we can bring our records up to date. Send the information to: **Polaroid Retirees Association, P.O. Box 522, Rowley, MA 01969 or E-Mail it to mlrwruck@comcast.net**

Name

Last Known Address

James M. Flaherty	1114 Inwood Drive, Woburn, MA 01801
Barry Bernard	6377 North 78th Drive, Glandale, AZ 85303
Isminy Cagos	28 Harrington Street, East Falmouth, MA 02536
Peter A. Scibilia	40 Stanford Drive, Westwood, MA 02090
Ester E. Morris	45 Westwood Glen Road, Westwood, MA 02090
Robert E. Gotschall	Two Arrowhead Road Marblehead, MA 01945
Ralph W. Doble Jr.	Hannah Village, 17 Conant St. Apt L-25, Beverly, MA 01915
Joe S. Perkins	8 Elmwood Circle, Peabody, MA 01960
John E. Waldron	340 Main Street, Apt. 602, Melrose, MA 02176
Robert N. Eby	1056 Fearington Post, Fearington Vil. Pittsboro, NC 27312
Joseph English	1462 Kirkwood Street North Port, FL 34288

How Polaroid created a world of need-it-now shutterbugs

By Ronald K. Fierstein

Long before megapixels, iPhones, and Instagram, Edwin Land's camera ushered in a revolution.

IT'S ALWAYS ABOUT the light. Any photographer will tell you that. It was a beautiful December late afternoon in Santa Fe, a place renowned for its unique light. The rocky landscape, faintly dusted with snow, would have been brightly lit in dramatic burnt orange and rose rays refracted from an afternoon sun sinking in the sky. That magical light is the photographer's best friend and secret weapon.

On this day, a little girl was excited as her father snapped away, taking image after image of her with his spiffy high-tech camera. Edwin Land watched his 3-year-old with delight and shared her joy. The wonders of light had enthralled him since his youth, and had already brought him great wealth and success. He was all of 34.

The year was 1943, and the founder of Cambridge based Polaroid Corp. had joined his family for a vacation. As World War II approached its conclusion, Land knew that Polaroid could not rely on sales of sheet polarizer — used in sunglasses, camera lenses, and many military applications — to sustain it. He needed to find a new way to exploit his organization's intellectual capital and entrepreneurial energy.

But when Land arrived in Santa Fe, there was no solution in sight. Then came the epiphany.

The "high-tech" camera Land was using that day was a Rolleiflex box model. The film would have to be unloaded from the camera, taken to a pharmacy, and shipped off to a laboratory to be painstakingly developed before being shipped back.

Land's daughter was disappointed when she learned that it would be weeks before she would be able to see her photographs. "Why can't I see these pictures right now?" she asked. "I don't want to wait."

When confronted with an upset child asking silly questions, most fathers would respond with a comforting if exasperated "because" or even "I don't know." But not this father. As a colleague acknowledged many years later, Edwin Land "never had an ordinary reaction to anything."

Instead, Land shared his daughter's frustration and embraced it. During the course of a long solitary walk, Land decided on the challenge that would ignite Polaroid's creativity: He would build a photographic system — a revolutionary camera and film combination — that would allow images to be viewed immediately after being taken. He would invent "onestep photography."



Land was not intimidated by the magnitude of the challenge. He had great confidence in what could be achieved by following his own personal version of the scientific method. "If you are able to state a problem — any problem — and if it is important enough, then the problem can be solved," he once said. "You can't necessarily separate the important from the impossible. If the problem is clearly very important, then time dwindles and all sorts of resources which have evolved to help you handle complex situations seem to fall into place, letting you solve problems you never dreamed you could solve."

Experience, however, had taught Land that the path to reaching a goal was not always a direct one.

EDWIN LAND'S FASCINATION with light started as a young boy in Norwich, Connecticut, where he became interested in kaleidoscopes, stereopticons, and stereoscopes. The local library had a stereoscope, and Land described how viewing images of caves through it "transported the child through the interplay of stalagmites and stalactites into the distant depths of the caves, having converted the two slightly faded sepia flat dull photographs into a vivid reality in which you could hear the dripping water, smell the dampness, fear the darkness."

Inspired by these devices, Land began to read about optical science and discovered the textbook *Physical Optics*, by a professor of physics at Johns Hopkins University. He slept with the book under his pillow, he later admitted, and read it "nightly in the way that our forefathers read the Bible."

In high school at Norwich Free Academy, he excelled on the debating and track teams. But what really set Land apart was his work in the physics lab. His teacher, Raymond Case, recalled that by Land's senior year, in 1926, "he was already working at a level where I couldn't help him." At 17, Land graduated with "near perfect marks" and enrolled at Harvard University. His stay, however, lasted only a semester.

For years, Land had been obsessed with finding a solution to a dilemma with automobile headlights, which were dim enough to be the cause of frequent accidents. Brighter bulbs could be used, but they would dazzle drivers of cars going in the opposite direction. Although prisms made of certain crystals could theoretically remove the glare by "polarizing"

the light, they were big and very expensive. Land took a leave of absence from Harvard and set out to invent a more practical synthetic polarizer.

Land's father agreed to support the endeavor with the equivalent of a \$50,000 loan, but only on condition that Edwin seek legal protections to defend his future inventions from big companies looking to steal them. Edwin would accrue hundreds of patents in the years to come, many of which would prove essential to the survival of his company.

In September 1928, 19-year-old Land solved a problem that had eluded physicists for nearly a century. He invented a thin plastic sheet that could act as a polarizer and remove the glare from light. The first customer for Land's "Polaroid" was photography giant Eastman Kodak, which bought a large quantity for use in its camera lenses.

Shortly after, he made a deal with American Optical to supply Polaroid for sunglasses. By the late 1930s, Land's Polaroid Corp. was a huge success.

However, by late 1940, events in Europe began to overshadow whatever progress was being made at Polaroid.

England was enduring constant bombing by the Germans, and Land was certain that American involvement was inevitable. Just before Christmas, he gathered his entire staff together for a meeting at their facility on Main Street in Cambridge. From that moment on, Land told them, Polaroid would devote itself to one purpose: "to win this war."

By the December 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor, Polaroid was already making a variety of special products for the military. To overcome the glare that would often blind a gunner, it produced millions of what Land proudly called "the best damn goggles in the world." None other than General George S. Patton appeared on the cover of *Newsweek* outfitted in a pair. And when the *Enola Gay* dropped the atomic bomb on Hiroshima, its crew was wearing special Polaroid goggles, too.

Throughout the war, Land and his team repeatedly proved their willingness and ability to tackle special assignments. Land's work brought him to the attention of America's intelligence community. In the decades to come, Land would serve seven presidents by undertaking a number of top secret projects. Perhaps the most significant was his acceptance of Dwight Eisenhower's request that a means be found to keep a closer eye on Russia, which was then developing an aircraft capable of delivering the atom bomb. Land's answer to the call was to help conceive and then shepherd into reality the U2 spy plane.

Although making a profit had not been one of Land's motives for joining the war effort, his company's con-

tributions proved good for business. When World War II started, Polaroid had about 75 employees and roughly \$1 million in gross annual revenues. By its end, the company employed between 1,200 and 1,300 people and had annual revenues of about \$15 million.

Yet, for all that success, Land was troubled about the future. Despite years of work, his mission to get Detroit to adopt his antiglare technology for headlights remained beyond his reach. The automobile companies considered it too expensive, too impractical, and, arguably, unnecessary. Without that substantial market, Land's polarizing technology did not seem to have enough potential to fuel the growth of Polaroid at a rate matching his ambition.

Land reluctantly gave up the headlight fight. But he learned one very important lesson: "I knew then that I would never go into a commercial field that put a barrier between us and the customer."

Rather than deal with other companies as intermediaries, Land would market his innovative products directly to the public. He believed "that the role of industry is to sense a deep human need, then bring science and technology to bear on filling that need. Any market already existing is inherently boring and dull." Like Steve Jobs many decades later, Land believed that his company should, as he once said, "give people products they do not even know they want."

Fortunately, he already had such a product in mind.

WITHIN DAYS OF returning to Cambridge from his Santa Fe vacation in 1943, Land assigned one of his laboratory assistants, Eudoxia Muller, the task of conducting experiments for his top secret project. While securing the chemicals he needed from colleagues at Eastman Kodak, who had no idea what he was up to, Land sequestered Muller in a separate section of his laboratory, where she worked in complete secrecy. Land was undertaking nothing less than a revolutionary advance in photography, dispensing with the 11 painstaking steps required to develop and print a conventional picture. In Land's system, after the initial exposure, all the steps would be subsumed into just one. For this reason, Land would call his process One-step photography.

His goal was to devise a camera that would produce a finished print within a minute or two after the picture was taken.

Land's fundamental concept was that after exposure, the film would be run through a pair of metal rollers that would be used to superimpose the negative and the positive on each other. The rollers would also spread processing solution between the layers, although how the solution would be contained re-

mained an open question. In September 1944, after several approaches were explored, an employee named Frederick Binda apparently came up with the idea of using a "pod" — a small packet that would release the chemicals when it was burst by the rollers.

Ultimately the pod would be used in every One-step photographic system ever produced. Land loved to joke about all of the "young whippersnappers who get out of MIT, and the first thing they try to do when they come to the company is [to] eliminate the pod."

As the war came to a close, Land increasingly focused on his new pet project. To virtually every Polaroid employee, as well as to the world at large, the company's primary activity was its production of polarizing apparatus. In his report to shareholders in early 1945, Land announced that Polaroid "continues to accelerate its contribution to the war effort" and admitted that deliveries were behind schedule. He mentioned nothing about the intense research being conducted in secret.

Without military contracts, Polaroid's earnings were heading for free fall. As a result, Land wondered whether the time had come to crack the door of secrecy on his project. But competing forces buffeted him, highlighting the trademark dichotomy of his personality. In counterpoint to his penchant for secrecy and disappearing deep into his laboratory for great lengths of time was the enormous, boyish joy he derived from wowing an audience with the magic of his latest discovery.

Finally, Land arranged a demonstration of his technology at the winter meeting of the Optical Society of America, to be held in New York on February 21, 1947. At the Hotel Pennsylvania, a large-format camera built for the occasion was unloaded and set up in the front of the room. Land began his presentation and explained how Polaroid's new camera "will make it possible for anyone to take pictures anywhere, without special equipment for developing and printing and without waiting for his films to be processed."

Land then invited the president of the Optical Society to the front, asked him to pose, and took his photograph. He turned the crank and out came the sandwich of negative and positive. In a minute, Land peeled away the finished print and showed it to the audience. "It astonished everybody," reported an attendee. "Everyone went wild."

Land, a consummate showman, was working his magic. He then took a self-portrait, which was widely featured in newspapers and magazines, including a full-page "Picture of the Week" in *Life*. And as photographers milled around snapping him and his camera,

Land took pictures of them, immediately showing off the results. "Now, let me see your work," he teased.

The reaction from the press was as ecstatic as Land could have hoped. "There is nothing like this in the history of photography," *The New York Times* reported. *The Boston Globe* wrote that the one-step camera "appealed to Americans' innate love for instant gratification." And, as Land himself expressed it, he was delivering "the realization of an impulse: See it, touch it, have it."

IN THE WAKE OF the publicity generated by the New York demonstration, anticipation of the public release of Polaroid's one-step system was high. Unfortunately, Land and his colleagues were not even close to being ready. Getting there would take nearly two more years.

Again, Land turned to his friends at Kodak for help. He demonstrated his new system for Kodak's top scientists, and they agreed to manufacture the negative for Polaroid's process, an element that Polaroid would then integrate with its own image-receiving sheets.

This was the start of a long cooperative relationship between the companies, with Polaroid eventually becoming Kodak's second largest corporate customer. But Kodak would later turn on Polaroid and usher to market its own instant camera. The epic patent battle that followed between 1976 and 1991 would become perhaps the most historic fight over technology in US legal history.

By early 1948, no date for the commercial introduction of the one-step system, the Polaroid Model 95, had yet been announced. The system did make some news, however, when the first patents covering the technology issued from the US Patent Office on February 10. "Four patents on cameras for making instantaneous pictures have been issued to Dr. Edwin H. Land, president and director of research, Polaroid Corp.," read a newspaper account.

(Although Land never returned to Harvard to earn even his bachelor's degree, Tufts College had just given him an honorary doctorate. From this point forward, and for the rest of his life, most people both inside and outside of Polaroid would refer to him as "Dr. Land.")

As 1948 continued, the pressure was on for Polaroid to get its new system out in time for Christmas. The company had posted another loss in 1947 and had to introduce its new products before the end of the year or face dire fiscal consequences.

Making matters worse, some retailers of photography equipment seemed to have doubts about the camera. Was it more than a gadget? Was the price going to

be prohibitively expensive? These reservations led to a wait-and-see attitude on the part of many dealers. In November, Land made another high-profile presentation, this one to the Photographic Society of America at its annual convention in Cincinnati. *The New York Times* reported that the Model 95 “brought frequent applause during the course of the demonstration by Dr. Edwin H. Land, the inventor.”

The photography columnist for *The Boston Globe*, George Green, had known about the Model 95 for months but had been embargoed from writing about it. “If you’ve ever kept a secret for more than a year, you can well imagine how much restraint I had to exercise to refrain from telling these rumormongers that The Polaroid camera is not a gadget,” he wrote with apparent relief. “It stands on the same plane as the comparison between a Model T Ford and a DC 6 airplane . . . both will get you to your destination, but one does it much faster and just as efficiently.”

The date for the public release had been set for November 26, 1948, the day after Thanksgiving. Due to the industry’s initial ambivalence, the decision had already been made not to sell through the normal distributors who dealt in photographic products. Instead, Polaroid would sell directly to the Jordan Marsh department store, which would receive the initial supply of cameras and as many rolls of film as Polaroid could produce.

There wasn’t much. Only 50 cameras could be manufactured before the introduction date. The film, being made by hand at Polaroid’s facility in Cambridge, was

also in very short supply. Nonetheless, there was nothing to do but proceed.

A Polaroid employee loaded up the first batch of cameras and film into the trunk of his car and took them over to the department store in Downtown Crossing. A demonstration platform was set up, with a sign that read: “May we take your photograph with the new Polaroid Land Camera?”

The Jordan Marsh camera department was known for selling low-cost Brownie cameras and other Kodak equipment. Polaroid’s products, however, were aimed at a completely different market.

The initial price for the Model 95 was set at \$89.75 (about \$886 today), and an eight-pack of film was offered for \$1.75 (the equivalent of about \$17). At those prices, would any of the store’s customers be interested?

Any suspense over whether there would be interest in the new system was short-lived. A crowd grew quickly in the store, and excitement spread as people lined up to buy a Polaroid camera on the spot. It sold out in one day.

Ronald K. Fierstein, an attorney and entertainment executive, helped represent Polaroid in its patent battle with Eastman Kodak. This story was adapted from his forthcoming book, “A Triumph of Genius: Edwin Land, Polaroid, and the Kodak Patent War.”

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Although Polaroid quit making film in 2008, and those last packages are now well past their sell-by date, instant photography is not a dead medium. How can you shoot instant pictures today? Read on.

ABOUT FILM

Fujifilm pack film. Fuji continues to make film for Polaroid 100-series pack-film cameras—that is, the models from which each photo is pulled on a paper tab, allowed to develop in a little sandwich outside the camera, and then peeled apart to reveal the print. It produces the cheapest and (arguably) crispest instant pictures ever made, in part because many pack-film cameras have good multi-element lenses. Pack-film backs can also be fitted onto high-quality cameras from Hasselblad, Mamiya, and many other makers.

The color version of this film is called FP-100C, and is still in active production. The black-and-white version, called FP-3000B, is (as of spring 2014) being discontinued, but one more run is apparently going to be brought into the U.S. If you can get your hands on the latter, it is incredibly versatile and lovely; its ASA/ISO

rating of 3000 means you can shoot indoors, even at a dim cocktail party, without a flash. (A slower version, FP-100B, went out of production several years ago, and the supply is pretty much gone.) Admittedly, this peel-apart film in all its forms requires a little fussing, because each photo produces sticky garbage that has to be dealt with. Still: I carry a loaded pack-film camera with me almost every day, and I buy as much of this film as I can afford. I have also filled up a mini-fridge with the black-and-white, and hope to shoot it for a few more years.

This film was also produced in larger-format packs for 4×5 view cameras (color is FP-100C45, b/w is FP=3000B45). Although small amounts of it keep dribbling out of Fuji’s Japanese operation, the official announcement of its discontinuation has been issued, and it is now gone from most stores. (If you see any remaining, grab it fast.) It’s really a shame, because this film makes fantastic big photos, but large-format photography enthusiasts have, unfortunately, grown used to bad news like this.

*Excerpted from Polaroidland.net
Christopher Bonanos*

IN MEMORIAM

For a complete obituary check www.polaroidretirees.org

Aucoin, Winifred J. - Winifred, 91, Waltham, January 19, 2015, worked in the cafeteria at Polaroid Corporation. Predeceased by her husband, Albert, she leaves her children, Patricia, Joseph, William, James; her daughter-in-law, Diana MacKenzie, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.



Barkowski, Ruth L. - Ruth, Braintree, January 20, 2015, wife of Edward, was employed at Polaroid as a supervisory inspector for many years. She is survived by her children, Edward, Linda, Steve and Gary; 11 grandchildren; and 2 great-grandchildren.

Burbridge, Thomas J. - Thomas, 65, Milford, formerly of Somerville, December 8, 2014, leaves his daughter Caitlin, granddaughter Esme, and former wife Sarah Bachrach. He was a mechanic in Cambridge and a decorated U.S. Army Vietnam Veteran.



Carroll, Laurence R., Sr. - Laurence, Revere, 83, US Army Veteran during the Korean Conflict, worked for Polaroid, as a Supervisor. He is the husband of Marilyn, father of Patricia, Laurence, & the late Marilyn J. Carroll; grandfather of Larry, Ryan, Joshua, Michaela & Madison. He was a member of the PRA.



Church, Cornelius N., Sr. - Cornelius (Connie), Pembroke, 85, January 3, 2015, a U.S. Navy Vietnam Veteran during the Korean War was employed as an engineering aid for Polaroid Corp. He was the husband of the late Leatrice, father of Desire, Cornelius, Jr., and Richard, grandfather of Emily, Jason, and great-grandfather of Taliyah.



Downey, Harold F. "Skeets" - Harold, 71, Stow, January 16, 2015, a U.S. Army Vietnam Veteran leaves his wife Gail. He was employed as a financial analyst by Polaroid, Waltham. He is survived by his sister Lynne and his brother Wayne. He was a member of the PRA.

Fontaine, Albert A. - Albert, 71, Acushnet, January 1, 2015, is survived by his wife Carol; his mother Ida; daughters Debbie and Karen; 3 grandchildren, MacKenzie, Nathan and Marissa Elias. He was a member of the PRA.



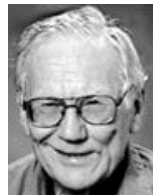
Green, Richard Charles - Richard, Acushnet, 77, January 3, 2015 leaves his wife, Mary, sons, Mark and Todd, two grandsons, Todd and Eric and his great-grandson. He served in the U.S. Army and also in the Merchant Marines. Rick worked as a Supervisor with the Polaroid Corporation, New Bedford.



Kandrick, Edward Leo - Edward, 86, Lowell, November 26, 2014, husband of Maureen served in the U.S. Coast Guard and worked in the engineering department of Polaroid. He is survived by his wife, Maureen, daughter, Paula, son, David, his grandchildren, Conor and James and Peter.



Kleinbans, Robert J. - Robert, Canton, 94, December 16, 2014, was a professional photographer and a mechanical engineer at Polaroid. At age 70, Bob joined the Peace Corps and spent a year in Ghana building water wells. Bob leaves his daughter Penelope, Christopher, and grandson, Justin. He was predeceased by his former wife Shirley.



Kyller, George E. - George, W. Bridgewater, formerly of Quincy, 80, February 3, 2015, a Korean War Veteran USMC, was an industrial engineer at Polaroid. He was the husband of Mary and the late Barbara, father of Michael, George Jr., and Michelle and is survived by 8 grandchildren, 2 great-grandchildren.



Lack, Linda Handler - Linda, Bluffton, SC, 64, December 25, 2014 worked as a Systems Analyst for Polaroid. She is survived by her husband, Ted Lack; father, Arthur, and brothers, Laurence and Robert Handler.



LeBlanc, Richard D. "Doc" - Richard, Billerica, 84, August 10, 2012, was the husband of the late E. May. Doc served his country during WWII with the United States Navy. He was a retired machinist for the Polaroid Company. He is survived by a son, Gary, and a daughter, Sharon. He was a member of the PRA.

Lindquist, Kenneth Leonard - Kenneth, Olympia, WA, 89, December 19, 2014, a Lieutenant, U.S. Naval Reserve served in the Pacific Theater as chief engineer of LST-45 from 1944 to 1946, and designed

IN MEMORIAM cont.

packaging machinery for Polaroid, Cambridge. He is survived by his wife Elizabeth, children, Eric, Tyra Jane, and Dina Ann and grandson, Ellis.

Lyon, Walter R. - Walter, Duxbury, January 14, 2015, U.S. Army Veteran, was the husband of the late Agnes, father of Terry, Mark, Sean, and Ann and Papa of 11 grandchildren. He was a mechanical engineer.



Malek, Stefan Jan - Stefan, 70, December 5, 2014, worked for Polaroid and General Electric in Boston, MA, then with StorageTek in Boulder, CO. He is survived by son Jeffrey, daughter Krista and brother Paul.



Mason, Paul B. - Paul, 87, Gloucester, January 18, 2015, was the husband of Eleanor served in the U.S. Navy. He worked at Polaroid, Cambridge as a Senior Engineer. He is survived by his sons, David, Donald, and Debra, 6 grandchildren, and 2 great grandchildren.



Matkovich, Elspeth Sally Eberlin - Sally, Marlborough, 82, December 18, 2014, is survived by her sister Joel Eberlin. Sally worked as a chemist for American Cyanamid and retired from Polaroid in the early 90s.

McBrien, Thomas Henry III - Thomas, Scituate, 84, December 19, 2014, is survived by his wife Josephine, father of Carolyn, JoAnn, Lynn and son Tommy McBrien IV. He was well known for his expertise in safety and insurance working for Polaroid.



McFeeley John J. "Jack" - John, 69, Norfolk, February 5, 2015, husband of Jacquelyn worked as a Chemical Engineer. He is survived by his daughter, Christine, his son, John "Jay" and two grandchildren, Gabriela "Gigi" and Sofia.



McGeough, Jean A. - Jean, 86, Billerica, January 21, 2015, wife of the late Francis H. McGeough worked in the cafeteria at Polaroid, Waltham. She is survived by sons, Francis and Daniel; daughters, Nancy, Janice, Linda, Patricia and Laura Silva as well as 20



grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren, and her faithful companion Precious.

Newton, Michael G. - Michael, Brockton, 70, December 25, 2014, served in the U.S. Army as a Small Arms Specialist and was stationed at the Schofield Barracks in Hawaii and worked at Polaroid, Cambridge. He is survived by his wife Jean, children Michael Jr. and Lynn, and grandchildren Amanda, Michael, Amber, Ashley and Rachel and great granddaughter Faith.

Page, Harold S. "Hal" - Harold, West Yarmouth, January 6, 2015, predeceased by his wife, Barbara, father to Andrew, Katherine, Barbara, PopPop to Allison, Sam, Katy, Jimmy Susi. After ROTC (US Army), he became Vice President, where he directed both the Personnel, and Quality Control Departments. In 1980 he testified before the U.S. Congress on the issue of mandatory retirement policies. He was a member of the PRA.



Petrosky, Edward D. - Edward, Randolph, December 9, 2014, was a master electrician for Polaroid. He was the husband of Ronilca; father of Aimee and Sandra; stepfather of Luan, Juliana, Sadraque, and Kalleb; former husband of Antoinete and survived by 3 grandchildren.



Rezendes, Stanley S. - Stanley, Arlington, November 28, 2014, was the husband of Catherine, father of Diane, Marilyn, Nancy, and Kathleen and grandfather "Bubba" of Stephanie, Michael, Joshua and Jeremiah.



Tumas, Veronica (Paluckas) - Veronica, Norwood, 94, December. 23, 2014 wife of the late Adam Tumas, mother of John, and grandmother of Todd, William, Alexa and Matthew. Veronica was a retired Technician for Polaroid Corporation.



Walker, Mary "Jean" Hancock - Mary, 82, Forecastle CT., Pamlico Plantation Community, Washington, NC, January 9, 2015, was a line supervisor for Polaroid. "Jean" is survived by her children, Jeff and Donna; grandchildren, Landon, Roger, Paige, Amy Baker, and Beth; and 5 great grandchildren.



IN MEMORIAM cont.

Watson, George E. - George, Naples, formerly of Natick, MA, 93, December 29, 2014, enlisted in the Marine Corps, serving in the First Marine Division, and received a Presidential Citation for action at Guadalcanal. He worked as a pipefitter for Polaroid, Waltham. He is survived by daughters, Sue, Gail, and Carol; 3 grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

Weber, Kurt Heinz - Kurt, 94, Hendersonville, January 23, 2015, the husband of the late Margaret Victoria, obtained his PHD in Physics in 1947 from Yale University, particularly enjoyed the intellectual chal-

lenge of working for and with Edwin Land of Polaroid. Survivors include three sons, Eric, Mark, Craig, a daughter, Margo; eight grandchildren, and a great-grandson.

Young, Sylvia F. (Mendez) - Sylvia, 87, Whitman, December 28, 2014, wife of the late Stonewall J. Young Sr. is survived by sons, Stonewall Jr., Gregory Sr. and Dana Young Sr.; and her daughters-in-law; as well as many grandchildren, great-grandchildren, great great-grandchildren.

Life After Polaroid

We need your "Life After Polaroid" articles for the Newsletter.

Our Retirees; Your Friends, enjoy reading and catching up with what you are doing in your retirement years. Remember to include your name and years of employment at the "Old" Polaroid.

Send your **"Life after Polaroid"** information to:

Bill Rosen - *Editor, Newsletter*, 112 Meadow Lane, Randolph, MA 02368
or send it email to pranewsletter@comcast.net

Marie Salamone writes... Since my retirement (2001), my husband Sal and I have been traveling extensively to Europe, all over the Carribean, visiting many states in the U.S. and also Africa on a few occasions. We summer in N.H. at our cottage on a lake.

Richard Ferreira writes... After 34 years working for Polaroid in New Bedford, I'm still bartending part-time. I certainly miss my Polaroid family and think of them often as the "good old days". I enjoy spending time with my 3 year old Granddaughter who lives in Ct.

David Knauber writes... Alive and well in Georgetown, Maine. Semi Retired, part time custodian Georgetown Central School. Fire fighter/EMT-B Georgetown Fire Dept. set to retire in March 2015. Enjoy keeping up with the "old Polaroid".

Peter Fichter writes... After leaving Polaroid in 2001, I spent several years consulting for a group at MIT to develop an adult education program in Mali, and developing a neona-

tal incubator for use in rural areas of Africa and Asia. Following that, I was one of several founders of a start up developing a mobile network based content delivery system retiring in 2009. We moved to Newbury in 2005, enjoying the many activities NH has to offer. I currently serve as chair of the Newbury Zoning Board and on the board of a real estate holding company dedicated to preserving the rural character of the Lake Sunapee area. During the winter months, I volunteer as a ski instructor at the New England Handicapped Sports Association at Mt. Sunapee.

June Fichter writes... Left Polaroid in 2001 and joined MediSense, a division of Abbott Labs, staying there until our move to NH. I then became and continue to serve as Executive Director of the Lake Sunapee Protective Association, an environmental group founded in 1898 to preserve the Sunapee Watershed. I also serve on several state environmental committees following my passion to protect the state's water quality. We enjoy having children and grandchildren visit us here in NH.

Building 1 Waltham Breakfast Meetings

The Polaroid W1 "Cement Heads" meet on the third Wednesday of each month at Friendly's on Lexington St. in Waltham. The meetings are from 8am until about 10am. We meet with old friends, kibitz and have breakfast. Come join us and keep the tradition going.

The Trades Breakfast Meetings

Will be at Bickfords Family Restaurant at 325 Montvale Ave, Woburn, Ma., about a block from Route 93, directly across from Spuds. The schedule for 2015 is as follows: April 14, May 12, Sept 8, Oct 13, Nov 10, Dec 8. Meeting time is 8.30 AM. Hope to see you there. Any questions call Bob Sheehan at 781-246-2065

New Bedford site Breakfast Meetings

The first Saturday of each month former employees of the New Bedford site get together for breakfast. We meet at Percy's restaurant on Rte 18 in Middleborough at 8:30 AM. Spouses, significant others, etc of the employees are always welcome. Contact Edyie Johnson (edyiej@comcast.net) for more information or to be put on my distribution listing.

THE FALL LUNCHEON WAS A BIG SUCCESS!
MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THE SPRING CELEBRATION MAY 20, 2015

PRA SPRING LUNCHEON
LANTANA'S RESTAURANT, RANDOLPH, MA
WEDNESDAY, MAY 20, 2015

AGENDA

8:30 - 10:00 am. **REGISTRATION** - Coffee & Pastries
 10:00 am. **MEETING CALLED TO ORDER -**
GUEST SPEAKER: - Scott Hardy, Polaroid Corporation CEO, Minnetonka, Minnesota
 11:00 am. **CASH BAR - SOCIAL HOUR**
 12:00 pm. **SEATED FOR LUNCH**
 2:00 pm. **CLOSING STATEMENTS**

Entrée
Selections

Chicken Florentine : Pan Seared Chicken Breast with Spinach, Crimini Mushrooms in a Garlic Cream Sauce
Boston Baked Cod : Served with a New England Ritz Cracker Topping on a bed of Rice Pilaf
 Chef's Choice of Vegetable and Breads

Salad: Classic Caesar Salad, **Dessert**: Strawberry Shortcake, Coffee or Tea.

Name Desired on Name Tag	VEGAN	FISH	CHICKEN

Please Print or use address label

Name : _____

Address : _____

City : _____ State : _____

Zip : _____ Phone : _____

Enclose your check for \$ _____ @ **\$25.00 per person.**

Make Check PAYABLE To POLAROID RETIREES ASSOCIATION, INC

And SEND With Reservation Form to:

George Murray 14 Heywood Road, Westford MA 01886-2220 Phone: 978-692-2270

Please Note: We will be unable to offer refunds for reservations cancelled after **MAY 13, 2015**

In the event of an emergency, please call **George Murray Phone: 978-692-2270**

YOUR TICKET(S) WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE RESERVATION TABLES NEAR THE ENTRANCE

Please Note - Due to local fire laws, Lantana's has limited us to 600 people. Please send your reservations in as soon as possible. We must return any reservations received beyond the 600 figure.

Directions From Boston: Take I-93 South ("Southeast Expressway") formerly 128 North - to Exit 5A (Randolph, Route 28 South). Turn right at the first set of lights onto Scanlon Drive (Shell Gas station on the corner). Lantana is at the end of Scanlon Drive on the right.

Traffic is pretty heavy when exiting the parking lots. It would be easier if you exit to High St. (the back street) turn left on to High St. and take any street on the left which will lead you back to N. Main St. (Rt 28).

Membership Messages

Please look at this latest Newsletter address label and check the notification of how up to date you are with your dues payments.

If you sent a dues payment within the last month, this label may not include your latest payment.If the label indicates you are paid up though 2014 or a later year then you are up to date. If the year indicated is 2013 or earlier, we urge you to send in your dues at \$15 per year as soon as possible. Failure to keep your dues current may cause you to be removed from the PRA mailing list.

If you do not agree with the information on your dues payment please notify us
so that we can correct any errors.

POLAROID NEWS, INFORMATION, NOTICES & ARTICLES



Polaroid retirees continue to help strike out cancer in children. Thank you PRA Team of Walkers and thanks to those who made donations.

On September 21, 2014, the amount of money raised for the Boston Marathon Jimmy Fund Walk exceeded seven and one half million dollars bringing the total amount raised since the Walk's inception in 1989 to over one hundred million dollars.

We can all be proud of the decision made by Polaroid to be the first main sponsor of the walk and helping children afflicted with the terrible cancer disease.

Let's get ready for next year-the 27th Boston Marathon Jimmy Fund Walk. Let's keep walking and pledging money so that some day there will not be the need for the walk, because all the children will be cancer free.

For your convenience:

This is the backside of the membership application. When you renew your membership in the Polaroid Retirees Association, you may wish to add a few lines here about your "*Life after Polaroid*" to be published in the Newsletter. Any questions or comments that you would like answered, will be send to the Board of Directors. We will try to answer some in our Newsletter or we will post them to see if other readers can provide answers.

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 :
POLAROID RETIREES ASSOCIATION, P.O. BOX 522, ROWLEY, MA 01969 ALLOW 3-4 WEEKS FOR DELIVERY.

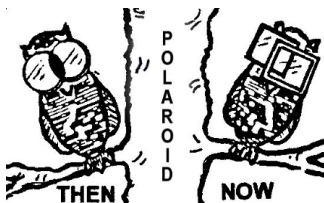
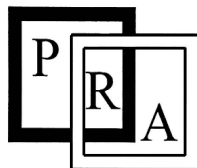
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PRA wants Polaroid Alums - We Need Your Help to Recruit New Members

If you know any former employees of the "Old Polaroid" who are not members of the Polaroid Retirees Association, please tell them about us and give them a copy of the application that is in this Newsletter. Urge them to join - it only costs \$15 a year, and for that they get four newsletters, invitations to our luncheons twice a year, and a copy of our membership list with e-mail addresses. ***You don't have to be retired (from Polaroid or any other business you may have worked for since leaving Polaroid) to be a member of the PRA. You just have to have a Polaroid seniority date prior to July 2002.***
Urge your old Polaroid friends to join!



**COME WEAR A DIFFERENT STYLE OF GLASSES
BUT BE THE SAME OLD OWL!!!**

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION STAY WITH THE POLAROID EXPERIENCE AND FRIENDS!!!

MEMBERSHIP ENTITLES YOU TO:

- SEMI-ANNUAL SOCIAL GATHERINGS
- QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER
- MEMBER ROSTER

Yearly Dues \$15.00

Life Time Membership \$150.00

Make check payable to: POLAROID RETIREES ASSOCIATION INC.

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

PLEASE PRINT : NEW ☐ RENEWAL ☐ LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP ☐ CHANGE OF ADDRESS ☐

NAME : _____
LAST NAME FIRST NAME MI

ADDRESS : _____

CITY : _____ **STATE :** _____ **ZIP :** _____

SPOUSE'S NAME : _____ **PHONE : (Optional)** _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS : _____

Date of Retirement _____ **Employee #** _____ **Age (Optional)** _____

—— Membership fees are due and payable the first of the year ——