Have you seen the new SRI website (www.sri.com)? If you haven’t, go there now and take a look at the alumni pages. Thanks to Boyd Fair and Russ Dewey, these pages illustrate the activities of the Alumni Association in living color! If you have an old SRI colleague who has not yet joined the association, please show him or her the website as encouragement to join the fun.

In this issue of the newsletter, we are pleased to let you know that Jake Feinler was recently inducted into the Internet Hall of Fame as an Internet “Pioneer.” We are proud that Jake has been recognized with this well-deserved honor.

Speaking of Jake, she is chairperson of the Alumni Association’s Hall of Fame Committee, which is now seeking candidates for nomination. The key criteria for selection as a member of the Hall of Fame are listed in the article. SRI staff members from any area of research, management, or service are eligible for nomination. Please contact us with your proposed candidates as soon as possible.

At an All-Hands Meeting in July, Curt Carlson presented the SRI Presidential Achievement Award to the Pharmaceutical Sciences Team in recognition of its five decades of achievement. Many of those involved with this group over the years have been inducted into the SRI Alumni Hall of Fame.

I am continually amazed at the diversity of SRI’s projects. For example, DARPA awarded SRI a $7.1 million contract for phase one of an international research initiative to develop breakthrough language translation technologies. From the U.S. Department of Education, SRI has a $3.5 million contract to evaluate the effectiveness of an online tutoring system for seventh-grade students’ mathematics homework. Under a one-year grant from the Department of Defense, SRI is developing a novel orally administered therapy for multiple sclerosis, a disease for which there is currently no cure. Further, SRI has added one more site to the portfolio of scientific facilities it manages.

You’re sure to enjoy this issue’s International Journal, which features informative and entertaining accounts of the experiences and activities of international correspondents David Gibby, Gia Campari, and Peter Weissshuhn in England, Italy, and Turkey. Bon voyage!

In closing, I have three reminders for you: (1) Don’t forget to sign up for the Annual Reunion in Menlo Park on September 27, (2) don’t forget to renew your Alumni Association membership for the coming year, and (3) don’t forget to let us know whether you would prefer to read this newsletter online or continue to receive it by mail. Distributing the newsletter electronically can save a forest (or at least a stand of trees) and save money that we could devote to new programs, trips, and speakers. Let us know your druthers.

Looking forward to seeing you on September 27!
SF Bay Area Alums Enjoy Spring Fling Outing to the Computer History Museum

On May 17, 2012, San Francisco Bay Area SRI alumni visited the Computer History Museum in Mountain View. The museum claims to be “home to the world’s largest collection of artifacts related to the history of computing.” Shortly after everyone arrived, a museum docent gave a presentation on the museum and its exhibits, especially those donated by SRI. The alumni watched a video on the revolution in computer science and then were encouraged to either tour the remodeled exhibit space on the main floor on their own or wait for a docent who would lead a more detailed tour. (The remodeling was made possible by contributions from venture capitalists Larry Finch and Pitch Johnson, among others.)

After the tour, the group enjoyed lunch prepared by the museum’s catering staff, followed by an exhibition of the operation of the Babbage Engine, a 5-ton automatic computing machine designed by Charles Babbage in 1847-49 and built according to his specifications in 2008. With that, the tour concluded.

The alums enjoyed seeing the renovated museum and being able to appreciate SRI’s contributions to the history of computing. You can visit the museum online at http://www.computerhistory.org/.

Thanks for Spring Fling photos to Tom Anjos, Don Berry, and Boyd Fair
2012 SPRING FLING (Continued)

Hollerith Electric Tabulating System

Keypunch Card Machines and Sorters

Nordsieck Differential Analyzer

Analog Computers

SAGE (Semi-Automatic Ground Environment) Control Console

Norden Bombsight

IBM System/360 Model 30

Memory & Storage

IBM “Stretch” (Model 7030)

Computer Games

Moore’s “Law”

Cray-1 Supercomputer

Cray-1 Logic Column Cutaway

SPACE INVADERS
2012 SPRING FLING (Concluded)

LINC (Laboratory Instrument Computer)

Shakey

L.M. Ericsson Printing Telegraph & Universal 3-A Stock Ticker

Robots

Homebrew Computer Club

Personal Computers

Mobile Computing

i-mode Networking

PalmPilot

Packet Switching

Growth of the ARPANET

SRI Packet Radio Research Van Model
Pharmaceutical Sciences Receives SRI Presidential Achievement Award

At an all-hands meeting on July 11, President and CEO Curt Carlson presented the SRI Presidential Achievement Award to the Pharmaceutical Sciences team in recognition of its five decades of achievement. The Presidential Achievement Award honors SRI staff members and teams whose extraordinary contributions have made a positive and lasting impact on the world, SRI’s clients, and SRI.

Pharmaceutical Sciences certainly meets these criteria. Over 50 years, this team’s efforts have resulted in countless lives saved by preventing and treating disease and improving quality of life. The team develops, prepares, and analyzes drug products for human testing, and it has made contributions to drugs combating AIDS, asthma, cancer, substance abuse, and more. Its novel aerosol generation systems are the basis of a 35-year program to improve worker safety around the world. Pharmaceutical Sciences works under long-term contracts with such government agencies as the National Institutes of Health and Walter Reed Army Institute of Research, as well as industry clients.

The Pharmaceutical Sciences team is composed of 30 research scientists, chemists, technicians, and support staff from the Biosciences and Physical Sciences Divisions, located in Menlo Park and Shenandoah Valley. Helen Parish, Senior Director of Pharmaceutical Sciences, accepted the award on behalf of the team.

Check Out the Great New SRI Website

Just a few weeks ago, SRI launched an all-new website (www.sri.com) that showcases SRI’s R&D focus areas. The site features SRI’s R&D capabilities, projects, and specialized facilities; products, software, and technologies for license; staff members and awards; news and events; podcasts and videos; and even a blog. The layout and colors are modern and appealing, and there are multiple ways to browse the site and find specific information. The SRI Alumni section was part of this renovation, too: http://www.sri.com/about/alumni. Check out the revolving photos on our home page and admire how clearly the contents are laid out. Many thanks to Boyd Fair and Russ Dewey for populating the Alumni section with our information and photos, and hats off to SRI Corporate and Marketing Communications for such a great new site.

Marissa Mayer and SRI: The Connection

Recently appointed Yahoo! CEO Marissa Mayer spent a bit of time at SRI. During her last summer at Stanford, in about 1996 or 1997, she was an intern in the Artificial Intelligence Center working for Karen Meyers. Karen was also Marissa’s senior honors thesis adviser. Her topic: “A Natural Language Interface for the Advisable Planner.” In 1998, Marissa became aware of a couple of young entrepreneurs still hanging out at Stanford and, after resisting a bit, accepted an offer to do computer programming with them as the 20th Google employee. If she is looking for a new challenge, she’s almost guaranteed to find one leading Yahoo! We wish her all the best.

Photo by Scott Bramwell, used courtesy of SRI.
DARPA Contract for Broad Operational Language Translation (BOLT) Program

The Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) awarded SRI a $7.1 million contract for phase one of a five-year contract under DARPA’s BOLT program, an international research initiative to develop breakthrough language translation technologies. The SRI Speech Technology and Research (STAR) Laboratory is leading the project.

The effort builds on SRI’s prior work on machine translation of language. Technology has advanced to the point that the STAR staff can work on moving from a system’s memorization of the forms of language to understanding the underlying meanings. The aim is to develop systems that accurately translate foreign languages and extract information regardless of the genre and the medium. The ultimate application is for bilingual conversations with instant interpretation and automatic clarification.

SRI has a long history of delivering artificial intelligence (AI) technologies and complex language-processing systems for DARPA. Decades of AI research by SRI, including leadership of the largest known artificial intelligence project in U.S. history (CALO), led to the development of Siri, the personal assistant technology now in the iPhone. Under DARPA’s Global Autonomous Language Exploitation (GALE) program, SRI developed software that translates and analyzes volumes of speech and text in multiple languages. Under the Spoken Language Communication and Translation System for Tactical Use (TRANSTAC) program, SRI developed software to enable two-way communication between U.S. warfighters and speakers of other languages. Many of the linguistic resources and technologies developed for the GALE and TRANSTAC programs will be applied on the BOLT program.

SRI is leading the BOLT team, which includes researchers and engineers from Columbia University Engineering School; Queens College, City University of New York; University of Edinburgh; Hong Kong University of Science and Technology R and D Corporation Ltd; Estuate Inc.; Oregon Health & Science University; University of Washington; University of Rochester; University of Massachusetts; Aix-Marseille University/National Center for Scientific Research in France; and University of Texas at Dallas.

Evaluating the Effectiveness of an Online Mathematics Tutoring System

The Institute of Education Sciences in the U.S. Department of Education awarded a $3.5 million contract to SRI, Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI), and the University of Maine to evaluate the effectiveness of ASSISTments, an online tutoring system for mathematics homework. The team will study seventh-grade math students and teachers in more than 50 schools in Maine using WPI’s ASSISTments system.

ASSISTments gives students feedback as they complete homework assignments and adapts tutoring to their individual needs. Teachers receive customized reports each morning on their students’ progress. For the evaluation in Maine, the teachers will be trained in how to use these reports to modify their lesson plans to better meet their students’ needs. In addition, the homework assignments in ASSISTments will be customized to the textbooks used in the participating schools. Maine was chosen for the study because students there are assigned laptop computers to take home and use for homework.

In the four-year study, the team will compare the learning of students using ASSISTments and of students doing math homework in existing ways. Earlier small studies had indicated learning gains for students using ASSISTments. A specific objective of this study is to determine whether students who had previously struggled with mathematics benefit from the online homework tutoring and whether benefits vary depending on the students’ socioeconomic status.

Oral Multiple Sclerosis Drug Under Development

Under a one-year grant from the Department of Defense, SRI is developing a novel therapy for multiple sclerosis (MS). MS is an autoimmune nervous system disease that can impair vision and movement. It affects about 400,000 people in the United States and more than 2 million people worldwide. There is currently no cure for this disorder. MS treatments often require frequent visits to the hospital for injections or intravenous infusions. The novel orally administered form under development at SRI clearly would be more convenient for patients and might also help patients who do not respond to existing medications or who experience significant side effects from them.
SRI Managing Hat Creek Radio Observatory, Allen Telescope Array

SRI is now the site manager of the Hat Creek Radio Observatory facility, the home of the Allen Telescope Array (ATA). Important scientific research about space and complex molecules has come out of Hat Creek Radio Observatory, and SRI plans to expand use of the ATA to support the scientific and technical community in radio astronomy and space science.

Designed as a Large Number of Small Dishes (LNSD) array, the ATA is a very flexible instrument. It is a 42-dish radio telescope that can operate in multiple frequency bands while its digital hardware runs scientific experiments, such as creating images of the sky. It is in a remote area of northern California that has relatively low levels of radio interference and is surrounded by volcanic mountains that keep out such interferences as television, radio, and distant cellular phone transmissions. The ATA was built by the SETI (Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence) Institute and the University of California with major funding from the Paul G. Allen Family Foundation. The SETI Institute will continue to conduct its research at the facilities.

This is the latest addition to SRI’s portfolio of projects to manage scientific facilities. SRI has maintained “The Dish” in the Stanford foothills since the early 1960s and, as reported in the April 2012 Newsletter, was awarded a cooperative agreement from the National Science Foundation to manage, operate, and maintain the Arecibo Observatory in Puerto Rico. SRI also operates, manages, and conducts research at the Sondrestrom Research Facility in Greenland, Poker Flat in Alaska, and Resolute Bay in northern Canada through various NSF cooperative agreements.

New Chief Information Officer and New Vice President of Information Systems Division

Two important positions have been filled at SRI. Jennifer Kenny has been named Chief Information Officer (CIO), and Mark Zarooqian has joined the institute as Vice President of the Information Systems Division (ISD).

Jennifer had been a consultant to SRI since 2008 and acting CIO since late 2011. Last spring, she took on the major challenges of repositioning SRI’s IT platforms for the future. Jennifer has 26 years of experience in technology strategy, strategic process design, and collaboration. She was founder and CEO of bizTH!NK, an IT consulting firm specializing in process design and information. Jennifer also was a senior consultant with Accenture and Booz Allen; an executive with Wells Fargo, where she led a process design initiative; and an executive with Cisco/WebEx, where she was head of Global Professional Services.

Mark is a recognized leader in the Department of Defense and intelligence communities. Before joining SRI, he was the director of Fort Meade programs and Maryland-based cyber programs for BAE Systems. In that position, he was responsible for all operations, program performance, personnel, and customer interfacing. In earlier roles at BAE, Mark managed programs in software development, systems engineering/integration, and business development and led a multimillion-dollar R&D portfolio. Mark is based in SRI’s Washington, D.C., office.
SRI London Alumni Meet in “Little Venice”

By David Gibby

On Sunday, 15 April 2012, a group of SRI UK alumni met for lunch at the Café Laville restaurant, located on a bridge over the Regent's Canal in the Little Venice area of London.

After lunch, we joined a walking tour of the area, led by Shaughan, a stage and TV actor who proved to be very entertaining as well as knowledgeable about this part of London. He even sang a few Victorian-era songs for us!

Little Venice is a very pretty area of London, with some very grand early Victorian houses built in a variety of styles of architecture. The white stucco, the fresh greenery and flowering shrubs, and the reflections in the water combine to form a unique neighbourhood. We were told of the famous residents past and present, from Robert Browning, Sigmund Freud, and Alan Turing to Edward Fox, Joan Collins, and Annie Lennox. We were entertained with spicy anecdotes about Lily Langtry and Oscar Wilde, as well as some about more recent celebrities.

But, of course, Little Venice would not be what it is without its canals and its canal barges, which were working boats towed by horses in former times but are now mostly stationary, used as houseboats. We walked along the towpaths, taking care not to trip over the mooring ropes while peering in through the windows to see how their owners had furnished them. One of the larger houseboats is owned by Richard Branson, and we were told about parties there attended by Mick Jagger and Bob Dylan. Alas, no one so famous was on board when we walked past.

Although most of us had heard of Little Venice, very few of us had visited it before, so this reunion was especially enjoyable. We’re already looking forward to our next event!

In the photo are, from left to right, Margot and Peter Weissbuhn, Maurizio Petitbon, Anne Saunders, Sally and Nick Sturcke, then right to left, Jeanette Gibby, Sue Henning, Bob Morgen, and Gia Campari. David Gibby took the photo.
Friends in Concert 2012
By Gia Campari

Every time I send out invitations to my opera concerts in Fidenza, near Parma, Italy, I can't help panicking—“What if no one shows up this time?” But even I have to admit that, like partners, the last one is always the best! More than 180 people participated in my last Friends in Concert event on May 26, 2012.

Entrance, as always, was by invitation only—no music critics, thank you! Only friends who want to meet old friends, make new friends, enjoy a fabulously positive cosmopolitan atmosphere, step outside their comfort zone, or do something different, something they never thought of doing, something they always dreamed of doing, something they may have been afraid of doing, or just something they greatly enjoy doing, and with chorus members coached by two great professionals.

For me, one of the best aspects of these concerts is the many friendships that are forged and renewed over the weekend. Swedish friends who meet up with English friends in the south of France; friends from Chicago visiting friends from Melbourne and vice versa. For this concert, friends came from the USA, England, Scotland, France, Germany, Switzerland, Sweden, Denmark, Finland, Hong Kong, Lebanon, and Australia.

As always, I sang a few arias, the most taxing of which was “Mi chiamano Mimi” from Puccini’s La Bohème, and two duets with my professional mezzo friend, Lorna. The four staged choruses were the highlight of the evening: the wedding chorus from Donizetti’s Lucia di Lammermoor, bell chorus from Leoncavallo’s I Pagliacci, voyagers’ chorus from Mozart’s Idomeneo, and “Brüderlein und Schwesterlein...” from Johann Strauss’s Die Fledermaus. The 43 chorus members met for the first time on Friday morning and were coached by Mary Hill, Chief Coach and Opera Co-ordinator at the Royal Academy of Music in London, and David Edwards, who works internationally as a stage director, writer, and presenter. Most of the chorus members do not sing regularly, and many sing only at my concerts. The result was quite impressive! We ended the concert by inviting the audience to join us in singing the most famous chorus of all, the slave chorus from Verdi’s Nabucco.

My relatives in California were represented this year by cousin Bob Mohle, who lives near Santa Barbara and who helped wherever it was needed, making my role infinitely easier.

SRI alumni were represented by Andrew Flower (ex-SRI London) and Georges Chrétien (ex-SRI Paris). It was Andrew’s enthusiastic encouragement that made me continue to organize these concerts; otherwise, my first would also have been my last.

I don’t open my concerts to the public because I do not want to lose the wonderful atmosphere that is created by people who come for the right reasons and with the right attitude. I have been asked to organize another one, at the end of May/beginning of June 2014, and as I am confident that all SRI alumni would understand the spirit of the occasion, you will all be invited.

See the April 2012 Newsletter for more on Gia and her concerts. Visit Gia’s website (http://www.friendsinconcert.co.uk/) to see more photos and keep abreast of the planning for 2014. Be sure to note that the delightful animated singer on the site was created by Georgina Flower, Andrew’s young daughter.
Taxi Tales

In the December 2011 Alumni Newsletter, we introduced Taxi Tales, wonderful reminiscences by Peter Weisshuhn about taxi drivers and adventures during his travels with SRI. Peter was in SRI’s Croydon office and worked mostly for European clients, as well as for U.S. and Japanese clients in Europe. In this issue, Peter takes us to Istanbul.

Istanbul

By Peter Weisshuhn

Question: Where do 20-year-old American cars go to die?

Answer: To Istanbul. But before they are finally laid to rest, they must do 10 years of hard labour as taxis.

That was my impression on my first and only visit, in the 1980s, to that city of ancient beauty, urban decay, and traffic chaos. I had taken a morning flight so that I could dedicate the afternoon to sightseeing before business over the following days. Having extracted my suitcase from an infernal baggage delivery system apparently designed to destroy all but the sturdiest cases, I was glad to find a line of taxis waiting outside the terminal.

My taxi was a two-tone Plymouth, just like the car I had learned to drive in 27 years before in Canada. It had long ago dispensed with nonessentials like window winders, interior door handles, wing mirrors, most dashboard instruments, and shock absorbers. The seat springs in the back had quit ages ago. But the vehicle still moved and the horn worked, despite constant use. Better still, it was under the able and fearless direction of a young man, Mustafa, a student of economics preparing for a career in an uncle’s export business. He worked as a part-time taxi driver and tourist guide. The Plymouth belonged to a cousin. Mustafa would be only too glad to show me the sights. As he was keen to discuss management and business, we were soon agreed on the fee for his services.

Mustafa proved an excellent guide, displaying a good grasp of history and the ability to relate the present to the past. We visited Topkapi Palace with its amazing treasures of gold and gems and baskets of pearls as big as cherries. We saw the shallow outdoor pool where long ago the harem ladies had frolicked at sunset for the sultan to make his selection for the night. As there used to be up to 200 of those beauties, that was no trivial task after a hard day running a fractious empire. No wonder the portrait gallery depicted generations of hollow-cheeked, pallid sultans.

We admired the splendours of Hagia Sophia and of the Blue Mosque. Then we ambled through the 2,000-year-old bazaar, stopping in a carpet shop where we sipped coffee from tiny cups and were introduced to the art of carpet making. I did not intend to buy and had made this clear from the start. That did nothing to reduce the zeal of the owner and his helper in unrolling carpet after carpet before us and explaining the finer points of each. There was no pressure to buy when we left; it seemed that they had enjoyed our visit as much as we did.

Mustafa and I had dinner at a fine fish restaurant by the sea, where we discussed Turkey’s past and present, its politics and problems, and Mustafa’s hopes for the future. Then we repaired to a nightclub refreshingly different from the common western formats—the floor shows or the strip joint. This club was frequented by families. The artistes included a couple of highly professional belly dancers, and singers and musicians regaled us with traditional songs of unrequited love and profound, eternal sorrow.

I had been fortunate to meet Mustafa. The memory of our time together sustained me for the rest of my days in Turkey, when I had to make do with drivers who either spoke none of my languages or had nothing of interest to say.
Congratulations to Jake Feinler on Her Induction into the Internet Hall of Fame

In June, SRI alumna Elizabeth “Jake” Feinler received a distinct honor. At a meeting of the Internet Society in Geneva, she was one of 33 charter members inducted into the society’s Internet Hall of Fame. Jake was invited to attend and gave a short, gracious speech in which, with her usual humility, she thanked others for enabling this recognition.

This recognition is truly significant. Of those selected for the Hall of Fame, just 14 were called “Pioneers,” those who had laid the foundation of the Internet. Jake was among them, along with Bob Kahn and Vint Cerf. Jake’s pioneering role was her leadership of the SRI Network Information Center (NIC) for the ARPANET and Defense Data Network, both predecessors of the Internet. Jake describes the NIC as the “prehistoric Google of its day.” For more than two decades, the NIC was the gateway through which all new computer network users came for enrollment. She and her colleagues also had critical roles in arriving at the top-level domain-naming scheme that is still in use today (.com, .edu, .gov, etc.). (See Jake’s article, “The Early Role of SRI in Developing Host Tables and Top-Level Domain Names,” in the April 2011 Newsletter.) To put her accomplishments in perspective, when Jake left SRI and the NIC in 1989, there were about 30,000 computer hosts on what was becoming known as the Internet. Today, there are millions.

Currently, Jake is a delegate at large to the White House Conference on Libraries and Information Centers.

Great inventions have many fathers and mothers, and the Internet is no exception. But at its root, where this communications aspect of the digital revolution was born, there are only a modest number of people to be recognized. We are proud that our colleague Jake has been deservedly honored as one.

2012 Annual SRI Alumni Reunion on Thursday, September 27
Be sure to sign up!

Do plan to attend the annual SRI Alumni Reunion, which will be held in the International Building in Menlo Park on Thursday, September 27, from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. Take advantage of this opportunity to catch up with your friends and colleagues, enjoy the sumptuous refreshments, and hear about what has been happening at SRI.

The charge is $25 for each attendee. Please complete the enclosed sign-up sheet and return it by Thursday, September 20.

Note that it is Alumni Association membership renewal time; you may send your renewal form with your reunion sign-up form and write one check for both membership and the reunion.

We look forward to seeing you in September!

It’s Time to Renew Your Alumni Association Membership

Yes, it’s time to renew your SRI Alumni Association membership for 2013. The fee is $20 per member, and a renewal form is enclosed, along with a return envelope. Please be sure to indicate on the renewal form whether you would prefer to read this newsletter online or continue to receive it by mail.

Membership renewals are due by October 15, 2012. You may include your renewal form with your reunion sign-up form (due September 20) and write a single check for both.

All members who renew by mid-December will be included in the 2013 Alumni Directory, which will be mailed in early January.

DIRECTORY ADDENDUM

The enclosed directory addendum (covering the period April 1 to July 31, 2012) contains new members and corrections. Please add it to your 2012 Directory.
Who were your mentors? What did they contribute to SRI? Seeking Candidates for the SRI Alumni Hall of Fame

The Alumni Association is seeking candidates for recognition in the SRI Alumni Hall of Fame. Such recognition not only honors the person nominated, but also reflects well on work being done by the various groups at SRI. We are seeking nominations for some of the more recent alumni and welcome your help in identifying people deserving of this honor. Go to http://www.sri.com/about/alumni/alumni-hall-fame for a list of those already inducted into the Hall of Fame.

To nominate a candidate or candidates, please send an e-mail to steering-committee-alumni@sri.com. Include the person’s full name, describe his or her role at SRI, and tell us why you think this candidate would be a good nominee. This does not need to be a polished write-up. The Steering Committee will follow up with you. If a résumé for your nominee is available, that would be useful, too.

In case you are not familiar with the awards, they were established by the Alumni Association to acknowledge exceptional contributions to the enduring success of SRI. Awards are made each year at the fall Alumni Reunion, and recipients are listed on the Hall of Fame Web page in the Alumni section of the SRI website. Selection criteria include

- Demonstrating qualities of leadership, vision, and creativity that contributed to the success of SRI
- Leaving a legacy of new or enhanced research
- Providing innovation in a business or support activity
- Providing exceptional community leadership.

Current and former SRI staff members from any area of SRI research, management, or service are eligible.

We hope you can point us to some worthy candidates. Thanks for your help.
SUMMER DRIVES
Get into a new car for your vacation

Enjoy your favorite summer activities and a low rate for your new vehicle
- New auto loans start at 1.99% APR* for 60 months
- Used auto loans start at 2.99% APR* for 60 months

1.99% APR*
New auto loans for 60 months

Already have a car to get you to your summer destination?
Refinance your current loan from another institution for a lower rate

TALK WITH US TODAY
at 800-986-3669, visit our branch or apply online at www.SRIFCU.org

SRI Federal Credit Union

*APR=Annual Percentage Rate.
Robert Arnold

Robert Arnold, a former economist at SRI, died at his home on May 22, 2012, at age 88.

Raised in San Francisco, Bob graduated in 1941 from Lowell High School, where he was Senior Class President. After serving in the U.S. Army during World War II, he attended UC Berkeley, eventually earning a Ph.D. in economics. He worked as a Senior Economist in SRI’s Urban and Regional Studies Department from 1955 to 1969. He left SRI to co-found the Center for Continuing Study of the California Economy (CCSCE), a private economic research organization focusing on economic and demographic trends in the state.

Bob was famous for pursuing causes in which he believed. He ran for Congress in 1968 on an anti-war platform. Although he didn’t win the primary, he won many hearts and minds. He was also devoted to finding novel ways to educate the public on economic topics. He was always ready to join a march, give a speech, or offer to help the causes he believed in. He will be remembered for his integrity, intelligence, story telling, limericks, exuberant good humor, and the positive energy and passion he shared with everyone.

Bob is survived by his wife, Carrie; his three children, Kirk, Keven, and Michael; and his three grandchildren; and by Carrie’s three children, Bret, Karen, and Clay, and her six grandchildren.

Robert Baltodano

Robert Baltodano, an accountant in Accounts Payable, died suddenly and unexpectedly on April 1, 2012, of complications from diabetes and high blood pressure. He was 72 years old.

Born Roberto Ivan Baltodano in Nicaragua in 1939, Robert came to the United States to work in 1980, while his wife and four sons stayed in Nicaragua. In 1983, his sons came to live with him in Fremont, where Robert spent the rest of his life. Also in 1983, Robert started work as an accountant at SRI, a position he held for his entire 29-year career. At SRI, he was known for his wonderful personality and kindness and appreciated for his diligence and follow-through. At home, he loved to cook, sing and dance to Spanish music, and tell life stories.


Patricia “Patty” Cone*

Patricia Cone, a former SRI staff member, died in Scottsdale, Arizona, at age 82, after a long illness.

Patty was a Senior Business Manager at SRI from 1959 to 1988. She was a Renaissance woman who traveled the world and played a virtuoso game of golf. She is survived by sisters Dorothy Miller and Sheila Smyth and by many nieces, nephews, and grandnieces and -nephews.

William Edson*

William Edson, a former electronics specialist at SRI, died in Fairfield, California, on April 13, 2012, at age 99, just six months before his 100th birthday.

Bill was born in Nebraska and graduated from the University of Kansas with bachelor’s and master’s degrees in electrical engineering; he also received an Sc.D. degree in electrical engineering from Harvard University. He began his career at Bell Telephone Laboratories in New York City in 1937 and also worked there during World War II to support the American counter-communications effort. After holding academic positions at the Illinois Institute of Technology and the Georgia Institute of Technology, Bill moved to California to become a Visiting Professor of Electrical Engineering at Stanford and help develop the nation’s largest program for Ph.D.-level electrical engineering. This group was part of the nucleus that spawned the explosion of technology that gave rise to Silicon Valley. He co-founded Electromagnetic Technology Corporation (EMTECH) in 1964 and became its President. In 1971, after negotiating
the sale of EMTECH to another company, he joined SRI, where he spent the rest of his career.

Hired as a Senior Research Engineer, Bill became Assistant Director of the Radio Physics Lab and later Staff Scientist and Senior Principal Engineer in the Radio Science & Engineering Division. During 35 years of full-time and part-time work at SRI, Bill made numerous contributions to communications, radar, antenna, and microwave technologies, as well as less-exotic technologies such as anti-theft tags for items in retail stores. He was known as an innovative, ingenious, and analytical scientist and engineer; as a great writer and communicator; and as great with clients. A productive and valued SRI staff member for 35 years, Bill fully retired from SRI in 2006.

Bill loved poetry and continued to write poems through his later years. He also loved riddles, puzzles, and puns, and delighted in producing a real groaner for his family and friends. He traveled widely, often visiting former students and colleagues.

Bill is survived by his three daughters, Judith Edson, Margaret Edson-Smith, and Carolyn McClain, and by three grandchildren and two great-grandsons. His fourth “daughter,” Elisabeth Uldall of Denmark, joined the Edsons as an exchange student for a year in 1960 and has remained a close member of the family ever since.

Phyllis Hamilton*
Phyllis Hamilton, a former social science researcher at SRI, died of a heart attack in Fort Bragg, California, on July 24, 2012, at age 91.

Phyllis was born in Cotati, California, and raised her family in Willits, California. She attended Graceland College in Iowa and University of the Pacific in Stockton, California, where she studied drama and speech. She returned to school in her 70s, pursuing a master’s degree in social science at San Jose State University.

Phyllis began her 32-year career as a social science researcher at SRI in 1959. Her research focused on labor force issues and educational practices and programs, particularly needs assessments and analyses of program effectiveness. She was a key staff member on SRI’s evaluations of the Head Start and Follow Through programs, which provided integrated educational, health, and social services to disadvantaged young children and their families. She was a talented writer and was proud of the reports and other publications she produced at SRI.

She believed that “life is an adventure” and loved to learn and open her mind to new ideas and cultures. She and daughter Doreen enjoyed traveling all around the world, from Saudi Arabia to Malaysia, Africa, Egypt, Costa Rica, and Europe. She spent the last 10 years of her life at The Redwoods in Mill Valley, where she made dear friends, enjoyed walks along the marsh, and was a founder of Mill Valley Seniors for Peace.

Phyllis is survived by her daughters, Virginia Varnum and Doreen Hamilton Downing; grandchildren Thomas and Jessyca; great-grandchildren Tyler, Dominic, and Lyla; and many more extended family members and friends. Through her work with SRI, she met the Doyne family in College Station, Arkansas, who became part of her own family through the adoption of then-teenaged Dexter so he could attend film school in California. Dexter’s children, LeLe, Kayla, and Mason, called her “Grandma Phyllis.”

George Thomas Hayes II*
George Hayes, a former SRI staff member, died in Palo Alto on March 26, 2012, at age 94.

George grew up in Riverside, California, where he attended school through junior college. He then continued at the Boeing School of Aeronautics, UC Berkeley School of Engineering, and Harvard Business School. During World War II, he was a Lt. Commander in the Navy Air Transport Service, covering the entire Pacific region. His diverse career included employment with SRI, Douglas Aircraft, American Airlines, and Bechtel Corporation.

George lived a life full of travel, reading, sports, hobbies, arts, and family and civic activities. He is survived by 6 children and 13 grandchildren.
Douglas McVeigh, a computer industry pioneer and former SRI staff member, died of pulmonary lung disease at his home in Santa Rosa on April 20, 2012, at age 81.

A second-generation San Franciscan, Doug moved with his family to Sonoma at age 12, where he graduated first in his high school class and then attended Santa Rosa Junior College, where he was a football star on its nationally ranked 1949 team. After he graduated with a degree in mathematics from San Francisco State and did graduate studies at UC Berkeley, he served with the U.S. Army in Germany during the Korean War. He then taught high school mathematics for three years before changing career direction and entering the computer industry. His subsequent career, mostly with Honeywell International, took his family to Los Angeles, Australia, Boston, Montreal, and Vancouver. He also co-founded technology firms in Vancouver and Silicon Valley. Doug joined SRI in 1982 and retired in 1987 as a Senior Consultant in the Information Industries Division.

Doug is survived by Jean, his wife of 50 years; sons Stephen and Bill; daughter Katie Parrish; grandchildren Siena, Sophie, Jake, Kira, and Kyle; and his twin brother, Donn.

*Member of the SRI Alumni Association*