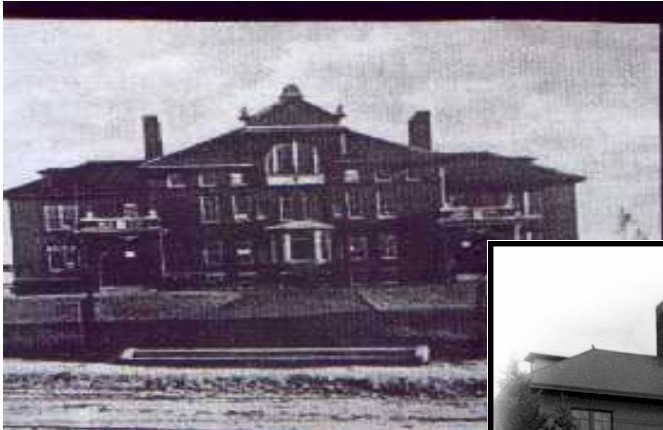


NPCM NEWSLETTER



SPRING 2003

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Plastics with a Passion

The National Plastics Center & Museum....Lee Noe, editor of PM/USA, wrote the following on December of 1984.

“After 30 years in the plastics industry, I know that nothing happens easily, even things like a sunflower, just good, worthy, needed and long overdue. Yet somehow this idea grew, and like a sunflower, just kept on growing. Like many other important organizations such as SPI, SPE and the Plastics Institute of America to name a few, they become reality because of the vision and dedication of many persons. The National Plastics Center & Museum is no different. Many have contributed with their time, spirit, and money. But you should know that the glue that held this fragile idea together was generated by a few members of the Pioneer Valley Section of SPE...it goes way back to a time when one of the founders, Jack Keville, would make speeches, newspaper articles, radio series on the history of plastics, ...local media resisted yet when reminded of the importance of plastics business like Nypro, the Foster Grant Company, and Borden to the local economy, they got the message.”

...and the message has continued.

It’s the message that says plastics is noteworthy. At NPCM plastics has a pedestal, it has a home for it’s history. From the medical and transportation fields, packaging and electronics, textile and sports arenas, NPCM is committed to carry out its mission into the 21st century.

All we need is you. Be involved in the furtherance of our mission, it’s a way of saying thanks to the industry that has enriched our lives.

Pictured on the right, 1st graders are lining up to learn the chemistry of plastics at NPCM’S 1st trade show appearance in Philadelphia while students were seen picketing the plastics trade show.



Environmental Gallery

Phase one of the new environmental exhibit has begun . The new gallery promises to heighten the visitors' experience by educating them on five solutions to the garbage problem....

- Waste to energy
- Recycling
- Degradable plastics
- Source reduction
- Landfills

Each panel of the exhibit depicts the advantages and limitations of each solution. Thus visitors can weigh the solutions making wise product and packaging choices based on the most up to date environmental facts and figures.

Phase two is scheduled for next fall and will include an Environmental Home, as well as a section on the economic factors in the Environment.

New Home for Hall of Fame



The Plastics Hall of Fame has moved to an exclusive room on the second floor. The Plastics Hall of Fame honors the great accomplishments of individuals

who have contributed significantly to the development of plastic or the plastic industry. The focal point of the exhibit is an archway adorning the illuminated acrylic columns. Beneath the archway is John Wesley Hyatt: patent, his company plaque, and his artifacts. The reverse side highlights a hall of fame member: his/her picture, artifacts, and memorabilia for a period of time. This will enable visitors to get a closer look at the featured member's contributions. The new Hall of Fame opened the evening of the 20th anniversary Gala honoring 20 years of the NPCM. As a tribute to the gallery the posthumous members of the Hall of Fame were officially inducted that evening.

The room is a wonderful tribute to the industry leaders for these achievements in plastics.

Recent Donations

- **Susan Mills**, Leominster, MA

Tool box and tools used by her grandfather, Nathaniel H. Lowe, in 1920's to engrave celluloid combs and to set stones.

- **Connie Ailey**, Fitchburg, MA

Is preparing a genealogical review of the Tupperware family for the NPCM.

- **N. Bruce Duffett**, Erie, PA

Story of the history and photo of the Bakelite Formulating plant located in Monterey, Mexico where Mr. Duffett has served as plant superintendent.

- **Mrs. Seymour Lavett**, Rockville, CT

Collection of plastics related books and papers of her husband's. Mr. Lavett was a plastics consultant, educator and industry veteran.

- **Kent Kopplin**, St Louis, MO

A large shipment of Plastics Encyclopedias, assorted trade journals of the plastics industry and related paper. Kopplin Molding Corp. custom molders.

- **Nasha L. Miller**, Waban, MA

The complete reference library of her late husband, Bernie Miller who was the editor of Plastic World Magazine.

- **Larry McGee**, Leominster, MA

Larry, a member of the Operational Management Committee, arranged for one of our "Florence" molds to be cleaned, polished and flash chromed by a concern in Cincinnati.

- **Harold Holz**, Lyme, CT.

Vintage Tupperware Collection from 1950's and 60's.. now on display.



Collections are the nucleus of the Museum. While we cannot display all of our growing collection all of the time, it is often consulted by Historians around the world. We welcome any contributions you make to this essential part of our mission.

NPCM Seeks Funding for Automotive Exhibit

Since the mid eighties and perhaps even before, the founders of NPCM anticipated an exhibit that would educate the public on Plastics in Transportation. NPCM is proud to announce that an automotive exhibit is in its fund raising stages. The exhibit will revolve around a plastic car. The visitors education includes under the hood, exterior and interior applications. The benefits of plastics coupled with the automobiles unique demands will heighten the publics appreciation for the technology needed in this discipline. Programs have already been prepared that will heighten the visitors experience while viewing the new automotive exhibit. In 1953, that's 50 years since the dawn of plastics in automobiles, corvette was the first automobile that pioneered door panels.



In-House Education

The In-House Program of the museum continues to focus on hands-on programs on polymer chemistry, plastic processing for student field trips. Our goal is to create an exciting and positive attitude towards science, technology and of course plastics. In our chemistry lab , students learn polymer science by making a rubber ball, green slime, and chilly putty.

In the processing lab students explore the process that turns pellets into the multitude of products that fill our lives.

The environmental issues discussed in the environmental gallery include showing all 7 recycle monomers and their products, a "trash and recycle" video, grinding plastics HDPE bottles and remold onto key-chains (or trail markers) with an injection molder.

We have special programs for birthday parties and scouts on Saturdays and afternoon senior groups. Our museum's programs for visitors (not field trips) are presented demonstrations. In addition we have Medical Exhibits, History Exhibits and the Plastics Hall of Fame. Our curator guides the seniors and adult visitors. We are looking for volunteers to help the visiting students and exhibit tours.

NPCM continues to fulfill its mission of preserving the past , addressing the present, and promoting the future use of plastics through public education and awareness.

The Keville Room

Over the last year our Keville Room function has been gaining popularity.

The North Central Massachusetts Chamber of Commerce has held their Women's Executive Network monthly meeting with us. It's been a huge success with attendance of 80 to 100 women each meeting.

We also hosted a Chamber "Power Lunch" which is a quarterly event where over 100 area business man and women are asked to meet and discuss a select topic; they were so pleased with the response they've booked another luncheon December 11th.

In the fall we are looking forward to our first ever craft show. The Material Girls Quilt Guild will be using our 1888 renovated brick school house, now the National Plastics Center & Museum, to showcase their hand made quilts. The Keville Rooms brick walls will be the perfect back-drop for these beautiful pieces to be displayed.

We are excited about the progress, and hope to continue making our function facility, friendly and inviting for a myriad of social events.





National Outreach PlastiVan™ Program News From the Road

The PlastiVan™ were in full force this past school year reaching approximately 60,000 students ranging in ages from 5 years old to 90 years old. This hands-on science and technology program has WOWed participants across the United States. The three vans travel throughout the United States educating students, teachers and the general public about chemistry, history, manufacturing, environmental issues, application and social impact of plastic. Also, along the way the PlastiVan™ teachers have helped change the public's perception of the plastic and chemical industry in 40 states throughout the country.

Location of the three PlastiVan™ are, one in the Southeast and two vans in the Midwest. There is no place too far off the beaten path for this program to travel to. The outreach team would like to visit you and your community.

PlastiVan™ scheduling is taking place now for the next school year, 2003-2004. Marjorie Weiner is accepting Sponsor Commitment forms now: this will secure your spot on the PlastiVan™ calendar.

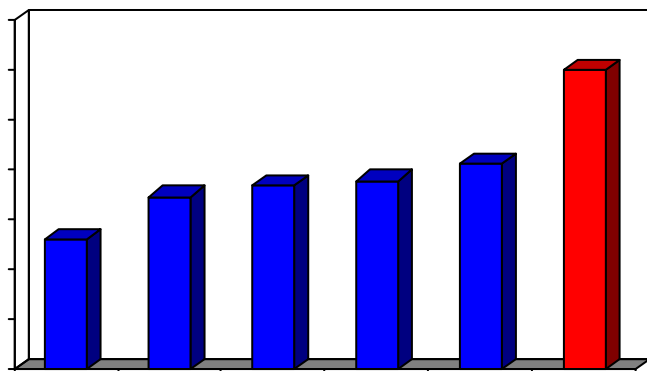
The outreach department would like to thank the following organizations for funding, assistance and their continued support of the PlastiVan™ Program.

American Plastics Council

The Society of the Plastics Industry

The Society of the Plastics Industry: Molders, Moldmakers & Machinery Divisions

The Society of the Plastics Engineers: Thermoforming Division



Trade Show , Indianapolis

John Wesley Hyatt Leadership Circle & Annual Memberships



John Wesley Hyatt
Grandfather of the Plastics Industry

We welcome all to become members of the John Wesley Hyatt circle. This special group of members, corporate and individual, donates a minimum \$1,000 per year to the annual operating fund of the NPCM. Their contributions help cover an important part of our operating costs and are essential to our continued growth of the NPCM mission.

Just as Hyatt's inventive and entrepreneurial drive led to the creation of a whole new industry, the purpose of the John Wesley Hyatt Leadership Circle is to preserve his pioneering spirit and support the founding objectives of the National Plastics Center & Museum.

The John Wesley Hyatt membership entitles you, your employees and guests to enjoy the following benefits and privileges:

- Reciprocal admission at over 200 science centers nation wide and Admission passes
- Public recognition through the NPCM newsletter, website and lobby display
- Newsletter and Annual Report
- Corporate Membership Cards
- Keville Room discounted rate

General Membership

The NPCM is happy to announce a new general membership program. This affords all members of the plastics industry to participate with the NPCM to ensure the future of the plastics industry through education. Just as the JWH Leadership Circle ensures the NPCM's growth, the general membership also ensures the growth of the NPCM.

Supporting Member-\$250

- Unlimited free admission to the NPCM and over 200 other science centers across the United States.
- 10% discount in the museum store
- Member discount off special programs
- NPCM Newsletter
- NPCM Annual Report
- Complimentary NPCM Coffee Mugs

Family Membership-\$50

- Unlimited free admission to the NPCM and over 200 other science centers across the United States for a single household (up to six)
- 10% discount in the museum store
- Member discount off special programs
- NPCM Newsletter

Individual Member-\$25

- Unlimited free admission to the NPCM and over 200 other science centers across the United States.
- 10% discount in the museum store
- Member discount off special programs
- NPCM Newsletter

Visiting Artist Series

In conjunction with the Leominster Art Association the NPCM has a gallery dedicated to "Plastics and Art". A different local artist exhibits his/her work every 6 weeks. All the artwork has a plastic component. There are gallery talks, and exhibit openings scheduled for the spring.



National Plastics Center & Museum
210 Lancaster Street
Leominster, MA 01453

Plastics
Past
Present
Future



Revised Educational CD Rom

Second edition of popular CD now available.

At long last, we have received a supply of the second edition of our popular CD Rom, Exploring the World of Plastics. Acclaimed by teachers from middle school through college chemistry, this educational CD includes such topics as: polymer chemistry, plastics processing, history of plastics, uses of plastics in a variety of applications, and environmental issues.

The CD was designed and executed by Board members Dr. William Vining and Dr. Richard Stein of the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, and made possible by generous contributions from G.E. Plastics, Exxon, the American Chemistry Society, the National Science Foundation, and Honeywell Specialty Chemicals.

Exploring the World of Plastics is available from the Museum's gift shop or on our Web-Site: plasticsmuseum.org at a cost of \$10.00, prepaid, including shipping within the United States.

For further information on this and other educational items call (978) 537-9529

Or visit our Web-Site: plasticsmuseum.org

Phone: 978-537-9529

Fax: 978-537-3220

Web-Site: www.plasticsmuseum.org.