



Chairman's Message

I hope that this newsletter finds all of our Connecticut Rubber Group members healthy, happy and enjoying their Summer. While the stock market has us all down I hope that all of you are beginning to see improvements in business conditions that will continue through the year. Isn't it a nice thought that manufacturing could lead us out of the recession caused by "the new economy"?

As business conditions improve, so does the performance of the Connecticut Rubber Group. As you will read in the pages of this newsletter, the CRG is basking in the success of the annual Mixing Course. Our attendance was up as compared to 2001. Also the addition of new sections on extrusion and continuous vulcanization added new value to the program.

Congratulations and thank you to all of the people who planned and implemented the Mixing Course program.

Also the recently concluded CRG Golf Outing was another success as a full field of golfers faced the challenges of the links. Thanks again to Mike DiPino and all of his helpers for running another outstanding program.

We have two main events ahead of us as we enter the second half of the year. The first will be our Fall technical meeting which is scheduled this year on Nov. 14th.

The second event is our elections for new members for the Connecticut Rubber Group Board of Directors. This year we face additional challenges as recent retirements and relocations means we have many Board positions to fill. If you would like to increase your participation in the Connecticut Rubber Group and are interested in serving on the CRG Board, please contact Mike DiGiovanni or me. We welcome the active participation of all members.

Thanks to everyone for their support of events so far this year and we look forward to your attendance and participation for the remainder of the year.

Sincerely,
Joseph E. Royal
2002 CRG Chairman

CRG 2002 Scholarship Winner Announced

The Scholarship Awards Ceremony is conducted at the Golf Outing Dinner, and the winners are invited to attend the dinner with their parents.

This year's scholarship winner is Cathy Shu. Cathy attends Princeton University and is majoring in Operations Research and Financial Engineering, and minoring in Engineering Biology. Cathy was awarded a \$2,000.00 scholarship at the Connecticut Rubber Group Golf Outing Dinner on June 20, 2002.

Cathy was sponsored by Chung-Yuan Lin. Her parents, Edward and Mei-Di Shu, attended the dinner CRG dinner, at which Cathy was presented a check for the scholarship monies.

The Connecticut Rubber Group Scholarship Committee consists of Art Delgrosso, Tom Jablonowski, Chitta Lahiri and Russ Mazzeo. The Scholarship Committee plans each year to select and announce the scholarship recipients just prior to the CRG Golf Outing.

Russ Mazzeo

Scholarship Committee Chair

Next Meeting Reserve this date!!!

Thursday Nov. 14, 2002

Fall CRG Technical Meeting will be held at:
Rapps Inn, Ansonia, CT

**Scenes from the
Connecticut Rubber Group
Mixing Course**



***CRG Mixing Course Organizers
Russ Mazzeo and Mike DiGiovanni***



Animated discussions about mixing equipment



***Dan Szwec explains features and benefits of
various extruders***



The one that got away was soo big



***Bernie Kreiger answers questions about
microwave curing after his talk***



***Extrusion experts show the operation of
the microwave curing line at Uniroyal***



***A look into the heart of the machinery during
the Farrel tour***



***Technicians monitor the Davis Standard
extruder during the microwave demonstration***



Organizers (r. to l.) Mike DiPino, Ralph Annicelli and Linda Daniello relax before the work begins.

Scenes from the Connecticut Rubber Group Golf and Tennis Outing



Andy Gaworowsky serves match point to Mary Ellen Mastromatteo while Larry Smith waits to poach.



A fully-stocked prize table



Our scholarship awardee and her proud parents



Dinner under the big top



The foursome with low gross,



closest to the pin



The happy fifty - fifty winner



and longest drive.



Linn Mace, Dave Paulin, John Rickert, Craig Busby, Kerri Sheldon



Ken Kelly, Dennis Kime, Joe Denaro, Marty Sheridan, Bob Matta



Jim Kaminski, Mark DiGiovanni, Jamie Fritz, Chitta Lahiri

From the Historian's Corner

The Spring Meeting of May 16, 1974 was a Technical Seminar concerning "Trends in Elastomer Testing". Al Seymour, Technical Director of Sponge Rubber Products was the moderator of four speakers. The panel was as follows:

Speaker: Ted Roger, Group Leader - Application Research Monsanto Industrial Chemicals.

"Fatigue Failure in Elastomers"

Abstract: Fatigue failure or flex cracking is a major source of failure in rubber articles operating under dynamic conditions. An experimental method enabling parameters, which affect such failure, to be identified and examined is essential in the development of compounds having maximum service life. NRPRA workers showed that growth of a cut was dependent upon the strain energy due to imposed deformation and developed a simplified equation to relate fatigue life to the basic cut growth of elastomers. The fatigue to failure tester developed, provides a meaningful measurement of fatigue life of vulcanizates. The tester was described and samples were provided along with examples of methods of treatment of the results. Correlations of service life of tire treads; conveyor belting and V-belts with results from the tester were shown.

Speaker: Don Dobay, Manager, Latex & Polymer Development, Sponge Rubber Products.

"Recent Developments in Flammability Testing"

Abstract: The wide variety in type of fire situations demand that the following 5 factors be included in testing studies: ease of ignition, flame spread, amount and rate of heat release, gas emission and amount and type of smoke generated. Federal Trade Commission action in May 1973, against ASTM, SPI and individual companies made obsolete most of the flammability test then in use as not predictable of actual situations. With the obsolescence of these old tests, more realistic tests must be developed. One such test, developed at the University of California, was described and demonstrated significant differences in flammability of materials

previously rated equal by older methods.

Speaker: Dick Tweedie, Group Leader, Physical Testing Labs, Uniroyal Chemical.

"A New Automatic Tensile Tester - Bud II"

Abstract: The traditional manual technique required in preparation of samples and machine operation when performing stress-strain testing of elastomers have been a burden to laboratory managers for decades. When repeated in high volume, they became a significant cost factor. As a result, such testing became a prime area of study for automation. To meet the demand for greater test production, higher reliability of information than was possible with the old methods, and to lower operating cost, Uniroyal developed the Bud II, a fully automated tensile tester. Automated operation included bench marking, gauging, pulling, data gathering and printout of results. A combination of load-cell and photoelectric extensometer provides modulus values at intervals of 100% elongation. With this machine, one operator, using only a minimum of time, prepares specimens and completes up to four times as many tests in a day as with earlier methods, while providing highly reliable and computerized information.

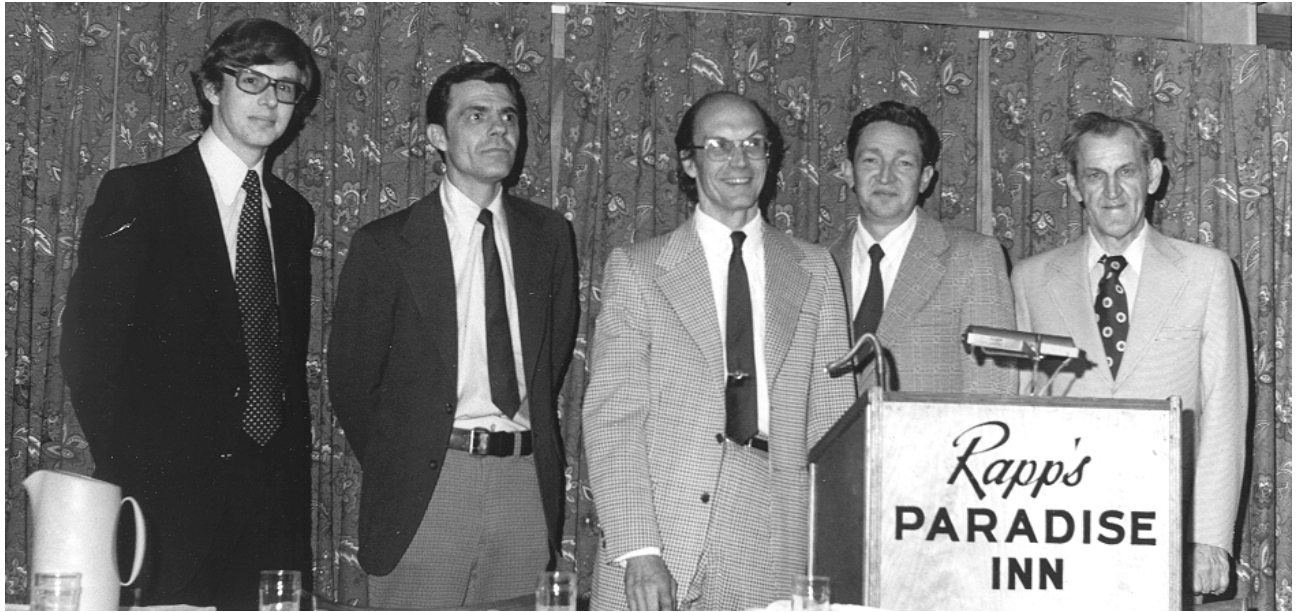
Speaker: Tom Capps, Manager of Instrument Sales, Monsanto Chemicals.

"The Use of Capillary Rheometers in the Rubber Industry"

Abstract: The development of the Automatic Capillary Rheometer allows precise measurement of flow properties of thermoplastics, thermosets, adhesives, fibers, elastomers and other viscous materials. It consists of an extrusion unit mounted in a pressure-ram stand, is completely self-contained and operates over a wider range of shear rates than other viscosity testers. Typical uses include: 1) correlation of flow properties with molecular parameters, 2) simulation and determination of production processing conditions, 3) polymer stability as a function of dwell time, 4) study of melt fracture, 5) determination of memory or die swell and 6) measurements of orientation and melt strength. Advantages for use in QC and R&D were cited including fast automatic operation, quantitative results, correlation with processing and reproducibility.

Ralph

Ralph Annicelli, Historian



May 1974 Meeting (left to right): Ted Rogers, Tom Clapp, Donald Dobay, Richard Tweedie and Albert Seymour (moderator)

Treasurer's Report

Since the last newsletter, we had our major fundraiser, the annual Mixing Symposium, in June. Through the hard work of Mike DiGiovanni and his committee, the Mixing Symposium had much better attendance than last year, and consequently, we made out better financially.

We also had a successful golf outing, with good weather, good attendance, and good fun, and we managed to finish in the black as well with this event.

On the down side, our investments, along with everybody else's, have dropped significantly the last quarter with the drop in the stock market. Fortunately, these are only paper losses, and we continue to get dividends on these investments.

Additional details are in the newsletter mailed to members.

Tom Jablonowski
Treasurer

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