

PEOPLE NEWS



John J. Lander • 1918-2000

Dr. John J. "Sam" Lander died May 14, 2000 at the age of 82. He received a BS from Canisius College in Buffalo, NY, in 1939 and a PhD from the University of Maryland in 1948. He was the first recipient of the ECS Battery Division Research Award in 1958.

In World War II, Sam served in the U. S. Navy as a lieutenant, senior grade, at the Naval Research Laboratory (NRL) where he conducted research on submarine lead acid batteries. He continued his work at NRL after the war as a research scientist and became world-renowned for his work on lead batteries. He pioneered the lead alloy work with silver tin, calcium additions to reduce positive grid corrosion. His work also included emissions from submarine batteries including stibine, arsine, and explosive limits of hydrogen-oxygen, hydrogen-air mixtures. In 1956, he moved to the Electric Auto-Lite Co. as research manager for their battery division. In 1958, he went to the Delco Remy Division of General Motors Corp. in Anderson, Indiana, as director for electrochemical research. In addition to lead acid, his activities there included Ni-Cd and Zn-Ag for missiles.

In 1968, Sam moved to Wright Patterson Air Force Base (WPAFB) where he remained until his retirement in 1983. Dr. Lander held a P. L. 313 position as senior scientist and served as scientific advisor to the management of the U. S. Air Force Aero Propulsion and Power Laboratory. He was responsible for establishing an in-house battery R&D program that developed specialty batteries for the Air Force. The laboratory provided expertise and training for Air Force technicians and engineers in the design, fabrication, and testing of Ag-Zn cells, aircraft and space Ni-Cd cells. He initiated the work that led to the development of the electrochemical

impregnation process for nickel and cadmium electrodes, which is still used today for aerospace Ni-Cd cells and Ni-H₂ cells.

Sam played an active role in solving battery-related systems problems including emergency power in missile silos, battery-related mine and fuse reliability, and nickel cadmium aircraft battery specification issues for the Air Force. He introduced radiation grafted polyethylene membrane separators that alleviated gas barrier problems in the aircraft Ni-Cd cells and prevented zinc dendrite formation in Ag-Zn cells. He provided advice and assistance to related battery programs at NASA and the U. S. Navy. Dr. Lander is survived by his wife, Florence, and his nine children. ■

In Memoriam

Murray H. Brooker (1941-2000), member since 1976, Physical Electrochemistry.

Nathaniel Hall (d. 1999), member since 1937, Electrodeposition.

David King (1957-2000), member since 1991, Dielectric Science and Technology.

Millard Loucks (1912-2000), member since 1943, Corrosion.

Kenneth J. Radimer (1920-2000), member since 1956, Corrosion.

Howard Leonard Recht (1927-2000), member since 1957, Battery.



FUTURE TECHNICAL MEETINGS

March 25-29, 2001
Washington, DC

ECS & ISE Joint International Meeting
September 2-7, 2001
San Francisco, CA

ECS Centennial Meeting
May 12-17, 2002
Philadelphia, PA

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