

Remembering Al Millikan

My life and times with Al began at Kodak in the early 1960s, not long after I had been hired into the Emulsion Research Division. At that point, Al may still have been in the Photo Technology group in Kodak Park, but soon he also landed in ERD, and we got acquainted professionally. I learned that he was an Oberlin undergraduate and Purdue masters graduate and that had previously served in the U.S. Navy Air wing stationed in Chicago (before 'landing' at Kodak).

It soon became clear that this was a *remarkable* man! And over several succeeding decades I was privileged to establish a memorable friendship with him, and to appreciate the breadth and depth of his personality, curiosity and creativity. Over the years, I saw him immerse himself in an amazing number of activities and technologies, each at a very high level of competence and accomplishment. A partial list follows:

- *Skiing – the sport itself, downhill and alpine; race timing; snowmaking and grooming; innovative slope-grooming vehicle design; volunteer leadership of a private ski area operation
- *Rhododendron culture – from the ground up
- *High-powered outboard motorboats – their handling and performance levels
- *Birding – observations at diverse locations; bird identification and high-end optics
- *Astronomy – he spent a year on a KRL Academic Assignment at the Solar Observatory in Tucson (1972-3), working on special photographic materials and techniques for recording astronomical objects and phenomena
- *Architecture and innovative building materials/design – he built and significantly customized a large deck-house home
- *Koi and koi habitats – he quickly learned that Great Blue Herons *love* koi and help themselves
- *Horse and show photography – he established Millikan Equine Photography
- *Music – performance – he played French horn in a fine community band; appreciation – he and Beth were regulars at Rochester Philharmonic concerts; reproduction – he studied state-of-the-art in sound system design and he personally designed and built several innovative examples (operating as Millikan Speakerworks)
- *Cooking – with a French emphasis
- *Wine making and appreciation (that also included fine Cognacs)
- *Arabian horses – ownership, performance, showing and judging; he and Beth added a well-equipped horse barn to their deck-house plan; generous support of his daughters' remarkable adventures and accomplishments in horsemanship, show performance and equine care
- *Emulsion making at Kodak – he personally innovated highly successful lab-scale precipitation process control equipment that he demonstrated at TECHFAIR 86
- *Blood-testing device designs and elements that were co-patented as the heart of Kodak's Ekta hem analysis system

Al immersed himself in each of the above seeking to know and to achieve the state-of-the-art; and he generously shared his knowledge of theory and practice with others. I was highly privileged to be one of those 'others'. I will greatly miss our many collaborations and post-retirement communications.

Bob Bacon
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