



HISTORICAL ACHIEVEMENTS

## VALLEY OF THE GIANTS

### ALAN WATTON, JR.

A member of the Engineers Club since 1994, Alan Watton, Jr. has long been active in the Club and other Area Activities.

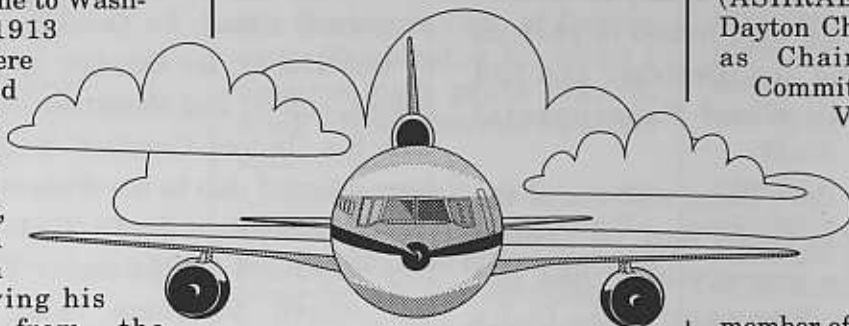
His parents came to Washington State in 1913 from Scotland, where his father worked for the Telephone company. Alan was born in Seattle, August 9, 1915. After high school, he went on to college, receiving his BSEE Degree from the University of Washington in 1939. On September 27, 1941, he married his sweetheart, Beatrice, after coming to work in the Propeller Lab at Wright Field in 1939, where he became Supervisory Electrical Engineer in the development of electrical instrumentation and control systems for propellers in both regular and turboprop engine applications, such as the T-31, T-34, T-38, T-40, T-51, and T-57, and for the turboprop-powered versions of the B-47, B-52, C-130, C-132, C-133 and the F84H.

In 1957, he became an Aerospace Systems Engineer to work on the application of air-breathing and rocket engines to a variety of aircraft, missiles and spacecraft, including "Dyna-Sour" sub-orbital boost-glide vehicles

and an early version of "Aerospaceplane". In 1958, he became Supervisory Aerospace Engineer in the office of Development Planning on a series of advanced system studies relating to Aerospace Plane, ACES, POBATO (propellants on board at take-off), in-flight refueling, hypersonic aircraft, missiles, orbital laboratory, and unmanned vehicles.

During this period, 1958-75, he also served as Director of Advanced Systems Concepts (following graduating with a PHD in Aeronautical and Astronautical Engineering from Ohio State University in 1968) in the study of High Energy Laser weapons on aircraft, Nuclear aircraft, Ejector-wing (STOL) aircraft, and Magnetohydrodynamics.

Alan was a part-time Instructor in Operations Research



1965-1966 at University of Dayton, and in 1975, directed a symposium on "Engineers as Technical Managers".

From 1981 to date, Alan has been associated with Sinclair Community College's Department of Mechanical Engineering Technology, as Lecturer and Research Engineer, as Principal Instructor in a series of courses in heating, ventilating and air conditioning (HVAC) for offices, schools, and other large facilities. He was also Principal Investigator for the development of a group of instructional-type laboratory equipment items for student-conducted experimentation for large system HVAC installations.

Mr. Watton was Director of a

symposium on "New Technology and Applications of Direct Digital Controls and Energy Management" in 1992 joint meeting with ASHRAE, IAS and IEEE.

He is a Senior Life Member (50+ yrs) of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE), member of Dayton Engineers Club 49 years, Associate Fellow, American Institute for Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA), with which he has been associated since 1954, and has served as Treasurer and Chairman of the Honors and Awards Committee.

He has been a member of Sigma Xi since 1957, and has served as Treasurer of the Air Force Dayton Chapter. A member of American Society of Heating, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE), he has served the Dayton Chapter as Director, and as Chairman of Education Committee, and Region V, as Vice-Chairman of Education and Chapter Programs, and with similar responsibilities in the National Society.

He became a recent member of the Instrument Society of America (ISA) in 1990, and was the Principal Investigator for ASHRAE-sponsored study on "The Needs of the HVAC and R Industry for Professional Personnel" in 1991.

Alan has authored several published documents, including two in IRE Proceedings:

"Modulated-Beam Cathode Ray Phasemeter" - May 1944

"Duct Capacitor" - April 1948

Alan Watton is an active member of the Engineers Club's new "Barn Gang", where he has provided an interesting program relating to "Channel Wing Aircraft", and is providing a November program relating to future "Indoor Comfort". He is entitled to be named for this month's inclusion into our respected VALLEY OF THE GIANTS!

## BARN GANG REPORT

Again, we must thank Russ Jerd – this time, for a most satisfying November 16th tour of Sinclair Community College's new Advanced Integrated Manufacturing Center (AIM), following a delicious luncheon as guests of Sinclair. Each of the 30 present were asked to introduce themselves, and to provide a very brief technical background. This was followed by a very interesting briefing from Dr. George Sehi, Dean of Engineering. The tour of the new AIM building revealed a promising facility for modern "hands on" manufacturing instruction activities.

On December 7th, with 30 members present, Ken Zahrt led the group in recalling events of December 7th, 1941 in reaction to the news of the Pearl Harbor bombing. This followed a video presentation prior to and during the luncheon period, of the actual raid and resulting devastation of Pearl Harbor 52 years ago. All members participated, with a wide variety of recollections.

The Barn Gang-sponsored Family Xmas Dinner of December 21st was well-attended, and will be reported on in the February Engineer, along with that of the January 4th luncheon program of Jim Scholz.

Several future programs have been scheduled, including Bob Reemelin, on January 18th on "Flooding," Dick Ittleson on February 1st, Al Watton on February 15th, Jack Darst on March 1st, Rev. Bill Blake on March 15th, Don Wickstrom on March 15th; and on May 3rd, BG members are to be the guests of Wright State's College of Engineering.



### BARN GANG MEETINGS First & Third Tuesdays Each Month

JANUARY	
<b>4</b> – Mike Reed "Investment Information"	<b>18</b> – Bob Reemelin "Miami Conservancy District"
FEBRUARY	
<b>1</b> – Dick Ittleson	<b>15</b> – Al Watton
MARCH	
<b>15</b> – Don Wickstrom	

## THE CLUB STAFF APPRECIATES YOUR CHRISTMAS CONTRIBUTION

On behalf of all the Engineers Club Management and Staff, we wish to thank the Club Membership for their generous contributions to the Employee Christmas funds. This year's contributions exceeded last year's and enabled all staff members to enjoy their Christmas that much more. Thank you very much!!



## CORRECTIONS:

In the November "Valley of the Giants" on Elmer Campbell, we inadvertently reported that Mr. Campbell was the Delco-Remy Plant Superintendent until 1944 and then came to Dayton. Actually, Mr. Campbell held that position until 1955, and then came to Dayton.

and...

Al Watton was featured in the October "Valley of the Giants," and his picture was not included in the article. Our apologies to Mr. Campbell and Mr. Watton.



Al Watton



HISTORICAL ACHIEVEMENTS

## VALLEY OF THE GIANTS



**ROBERT W. HULLER**

Robert W. Huller was born in 1916, in Cincinnati, where his father worked as blacksmith for Bode-Finn, Inc. After the sixth grade, he chose to enter a Vocational Jr. High School, where he learned basic shop mechanics and design. He left school at 16, and joined his father in the plant of Bode-Finn, where he had worked part time, while in vocational school.

Bode-Finn, Inc. manufactured custom truck bodies for a variety of customers, and

young Huller worked in every phase of such production, including design, and at age 18, was both designer and purchasing agent. Then, the Company decided to concentrate on representing several major product firms, and Bob became manager of sales in Tennessee and Kentucky. Bob left Bode-Finn in 1938, and joined Dayton's Superior Auto, Inc., as a designer of various new truck bodies for the refrigerated food industry, utility trucks for Dayton Power & Light Co., and for miscellaneous industries. The Company also, did extensive general automotive repair. Bob fondly remembers discussing automotive repairs with Orville Wright, and promptly supervised the work required on Orville's car.

During World War II, Superior Auto built a large number of very special Air Force truck bodies and trailers, including derricks for drilling holes and setting poles, as well as the so-called "cherry pickers" with compressors, beams and baskets designed for the ultimate in safety, for use in construction of power and telephone lines.

Bob had married his Cincinnati girl friend, Margaret, in 1938, when he moved into the Dayton Area, and he gives her much credit for the encouragement and assistance given him over the years. He decided to sell Superior Auto, which he did, in 1984, and to devote retirement to the enjoyment of life with

Margaret in traveling, upgrading their lovely home at 2110 W. Alexandersville-Bellbrook Rd., and pursuing their hobbies in photography, video, etc., as well as to enjoy their memberships in various organizations, including the Society of Automotive Engineers (since 1948) and the Engineers Club (since 1975). Bob is also a member of the Club's recently-formed "Barn Gang", before which, he made an excellent presentation on October 5th, this year.

Like many of the outstanding successful entrepreneurs of our great Miami Valley, Robert Huller has proved, again, that a dedicated person can, without extensive formal education, but with vision, ambition, dedication, good judgement and proper effort, accomplish unbelievable goals of value to one's self, family and community. He has rightfully earned a place for his name among the others listed in our VALLEY OF THE GIANTS!

### NOTE:

In last month's VALLEY OF THE GIANTS honoring Alan Watton, an error was made in the first sentence. Alan joined the Club in 1944 - not 1994! He becomes a 50-year Member in 1994!