

Established in 1980

# IT History Reference ([www.ithistory.org](http://www.ithistory.org)) Honor Roll

*Who did what, when, and where in the computer industry!*

## INTRODUCTION

I, Lowell, encountered this IT History Society website while doing some people research. Including links to some of their information as a part of our Legacy Anthology is appropriate! Some of the people that the Society recognizes via their Honor Roll tab were a part of our Legacy. Their credo is:

“The IT History Society wishes to acknowledge individuals who have made a noteworthy and out of the ordinary contribution to the information technology industry. Suggestions should be submitted by the community and not the individual. All submissions are subject for review by the IT Honor Roll Committee.”



The Society honor roll has 1,718 entries with mini-bios or accomplishment listings. Over 30 screen pages of thumbnails to scroll through, almost all with photos. About 2.5% of the 1,718 are linked below. A **stark realization** is that the *ERA to UNISYS/Lockheed Martin Legacy* is a very small part of the Information Technology history and industry. Perhaps our (VIP Club) Legacy Committee could submit a few names for recognition over and above the ten listed below.

Their contact link shows Jeffery D. Stein as Chairman of the IT History Society at One Blackfield Drive, Suite 331 – Tiburon, CA 94920. That web page states that they are all volunteers!

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*Booklet created with Microsoft Word*

<sup>1</sup> If viewing with a pdf reader, click on a section title for a quick scroll thereto.

## NOTABLE PEOPLE ON THE HONOR ROLL

People who were directly or indirectly a part of the ERA/UNIVAC/UNISYS legacy – If a reader of this paper happens to recognize someone among the ~1,700 names that I've missed; send a note to [la.gj.benson@comcast.net](mailto:la.gj.benson@comcast.net) and I'll put the names into a paper revision.

- ✓ <http://www.ithistory.org/honor-roll/dr-werner-michael-blumenthal>
- ✓ <http://www.ithistory.org/honor-roll/dr-arnold-cohen>
- ✓ <http://www.ithistory.org/honor-roll/mr-seymour-roger-cray>
- ✓ <http://www.ithistory.org/honor-roll/mr-john-adam-presper-eckert-jr>
- ✓ <sup>2</sup><http://www.ithistory.org/honor-roll/dr-john-leroy-hennessy>
- ✓ <http://www.ithistory.org/honor-roll/mr-herman-lukoff>
- ✓ <http://www.ithistory.org/honor-roll/mr-john-william-mauchly>
- ✓ <http://www.ithistory.org/honor-roll/mr-bill-charles-norris>
- ✓ <http://www.ithistory.org/honor-roll/mr-james-t-pendergrass>
- ✓ <http://www.ithistory.org/honor-roll/mr-erwin-tomash>



ERA engineers Erwin Tomash, left, and Arnold Cohen discuss an early computer design at 1902 West Minnesota Avenue.

{Editor's Note: This photo shows Erwin Tomash and Dr. Arnold Cohen in an ERA office, circa 1948. Mr. Tomash is credited with being a founder of the Charles Babbage Institute. Dr. Cohen was a co-inventor of the magnetic drum – the world's first computer hard drive. The photo was scanned from the ERA 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary booklet.}

People whom I've met, at the University of Minnesota.

- <http://www.ithistory.org/honor-roll/professor-vipin-kumar>
- <http://www.ithistory.org/honor-roll/dr-thomas-j-misa>
- <http://www.ithistory.org/honor-roll/dr-arthur-l-norberg>
- <http://www.ithistory.org/honor-roll/professor-shashi-shekhar>
- <http://www.ithistory.org/honor-roll/professor-marvin-l-stein>
- <http://www.ithistory.org/honor-roll/dr-jeffrey-r-yost>

{Editor's note: Dr. Norberg was the first Director of the Charles Babbage Institute at the University of Minnesota. As such he held the **Engineering Research Associates** Land-grant Chair for the History of Technology. Dr. Misa was the 2<sup>nd</sup> director – and the VIP Club legacy committee advisor for his 11 year's at CBI. Dr. Yost is the 3<sup>rd</sup> and current director – as such directed use of selected CBI materials during development of the Twin Cities Public Television documentary about Minnesota's high technology history - <http://vipclubmn.org/Articles/TPTclips.pdf>.}

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<sup>2</sup> I, Lowell, met Dr. Hennessy when I was program manager for our CIA contracted RISC project.

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People whose names I've encountered while documenting our IT Legacy.

- <http://www.ithistory.org/honor-roll/dr-william-aspray>
- <http://www.ithistory.org/honor-roll/dr-john-vincent-atanasoff>
- <sup>3</sup><http://www.ithistory.org/honor-roll/dr-grace-murray-hopper>
- <http://www.ithistory.org/honor-roll/ms-kathleen-kay-mcnulty-mauchly-antonelli>
- <http://www.ithistory.org/honor-roll/dr-john-von-neumann>
- <http://www.ithistory.org/honor-roll/mr-robert-m-price>
- <http://www.ithistory.org/honor-roll/dr-william-bradford-shockley>
- <http://www.ithistory.org/honor-roll/dr-alan-mathison-turing>
- <http://www.ithistory.org/honor-roll/mr-thomas-john-watson-jr>
- <http://www.ithistory.org/honor-roll/mr-thomas-john-watson-sr>
- <http://www.ithistory.org/honor-roll/mr-stephen-steve-gary-wozniak>
- <http://www.ithistory.org/honor-roll/mr-mark-elliott-zuckerberg>
- <http://www.ithistory.org/honor-roll/dr-konrad-zuse>

### Old, Old Historical Technologists

I recognize these people from my technical education that started in an 8<sup>th</sup> grade science class – then (1949), at the urging of my teacher, Mr. Butler, I bought a Pickett slide rule.

- <http://www.ithistory.org/honor-roll/mr-charles-babbage>
- <http://www.ithistory.org/honor-roll/mr-lionardo-di-ser-piero-da-vinci>
- <http://www.ithistory.org/honor-roll/mr-thomas-alva-edison>
- <http://www.ithistory.org/honor-roll/dr-albert-einstein>
- <http://www.ithistory.org/honor-roll/mr-jean-baptiste-joseph-fourier>
- <http://www.ithistory.org/honor-roll/mr-galileo-galilei>
- <http://www.ithistory.org/honor-roll/dr-richard-wesley-hamming>
- <http://www.ithistory.org/honor-roll/mr-herman-hollerith>
- <http://www.ithistory.org/honor-roll/mr-johannes-kepler>
- <http://www.ithistory.org/honor-roll/mrs-augusta-ada-king-countess-lovelace>
- <http://www.ithistory.org/honor-roll/professor-hans-christian-Ørsted>
- <http://www.ithistory.org/honor-roll/mr-john-napier>
- <http://www.ithistory.org/honor-roll/professor-isaac-newton>
- <http://www.ithistory.org/honor-roll/mr-blaise-pascal>
- <http://www.ithistory.org/honor-roll/mr-nikola-tesla>

### IT HISTORY UNIVAC/UNISYS HARDWARE CLIPS

They have over 15,000 mini descriptions of hardware items - systems on their website, most with pictures. These include about 35 UNIVAC/Unisys entries. Many of these 35 entries give credit to Wikipedia as the information source. They have most of the 1100 series of processors and a few of the early defense processors listed, i.e. AN/USQ-17.

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<sup>3</sup> I, Lowell, also met Commodore Grace Hopper during my career.

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## OTHER SITE TABS

- Software has 2,242 entries including Exec 8 of the 1100 computer series.
- Companies has over 270,000 items – a search thereof shows ERA information at the Hagley Museum.
- Resources include 1,400 listings including a reference to the Charles Babbage Institute – perhaps our Legacy web site should be submitted?
- Quotes has 682 items.
- They have a Blog.
- They have an extensive membership list.
- Their events ‘tab’ goes to the Computer History Museum announcements.

## EPILOGUE

The IT History Society objectives are much broader than those of the VIP Club’s Legacy Committee. We will reach out to them to facilitate sharing of information after cleaning up my plethora of Legacy open items accumulated for 14 years as co-chair of the Legacy Committee.

