
in memoriam



Dr. Arthur E. Bergles, 1935–2014

Art Bergles - one of the early editors of *Heat Transfer Engineering*, and a major contributor to its pages- passed away on March 17, 2014. Art was a practitioner and exemplar of the full spectrum of activities and responsibilities encountered in the Technology Academe and in the application of those skills in the real world of engineering. And so many of us remember him as a close friend and mentor.

Born in New York City and raised in Rhinebeck, New York, he started his education in a one-room schoolhouse and graduated as valedictorian (and Eagle Scout) from high school in the Rhinebeck Central School System. Entering MIT in 1953, he stayed for 16 years, earning his Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering, spending a year as a Fulbright Scholar at the Technical University in Munich, Germany, and serving as an Assistant Professor for several years. And there he met Priscilla (Penny) Maule, a student at Boston University, who became his wife and travelling companion.

Art moved to Georgia Institute of Technology as Professor, and then to Iowa State University as Chair of the Department of Mechanical Engineering and Anson-Marston Distinguished Professor of Engineering. He also received an Alexander von Humboldt Fellowship and spent a year at the University of Hannover. He capped his academic career as Dean of Engineering

and Clark-Crossan Professor of Engineering at Rensselaer Institute of Technology. Along the way, Art produced over 400 papers, 26 books, and over 400 invited lectures. Upon retirement, Art took Emeritus status at Rensselaer, Senior Lecturer at MIT, and Glenn L. Martin Institute Professor at the University of Maryland- one must say, a rather unorthodox example of “retirement”!

While Art researched, lectured, and published over every aspect of heat transfer science and art, he is probably best known to the readers of this journal for his work on heat transfer enhancement- all the devious schemes by which the engineer can make a heat exchanger transfer more heat for little or no cost.

But there is more: Art was active in several professional societies, including ASME, where he served as President 1990–1991, AIChE, ASEE, and ASHRAE. He was elected to the National Academy of Engineering in 1992 and as a foreign member of the English Royal Society of Mechanical Engineers in 2000. Among his many other honors, domestic and foreign, were the Max Jakob and Donald Q. Kern Awards specifically in the field of heat transfer.

Art was passionate about education and committed to supporting the careers of young scientists, advising 82 thesis students. The Bergles Professorship was established through an endowment by Art and Penny Bergles with the intent of attracting or retaining an outstanding senior faculty member in the thermal sciences at Iowa State University. The Dr. Arthur E. Bergles Scholarship was established in 1996 with gifts from friends, faculty, colleagues, and corporations upon the occasion of his retirement from Rensselaer. The Bergles-Rohsenow Young Investigator Award in Heat Transfer is presented annually through ASME. Art also volunteered his time to serve on numerous fellowship and award selection committees.

If this note were limited to the specifics of Art’s professional career, it would be an incomplete report on Art’s life. I can attest to the fact that Art was a wide-ranging and fun-loving guy, and those who had the opportunity to travel with him and Penny will have instant memories of one or another special occasion. These memories are our reward for having had the opportunity to share a path with Art.

Ken Bell