



David Willoughby
1850 32nd Street
San Diego , CA 92102

619 231-1358

dfwilloughby@cox.net

I received my Bachelor's degree in Physics from UCSD in 1968 and worked for General Atomic for a few years. After I started working on an MBA at San Diego State, a connection through a friend led to a position as a technician, and later as an engineer, designing, building and deploying instruments for the Ocean Bottom Seismology lab at UCSD's Scripps Institution of Oceanography in La Jolla, starting in 1972. I met my wife Janice through the same friend in 1975; we were married in 1983 and separated amicably in 1989.

In 2001, twenty-nine years after going to work at Scripps, I retired, though I continued to work part-time at Scripps and as a consultant in industry for a few years after that. In 2006, I met my current partner, Leslie, and she moved in with me the following year. Neither of us has children, but we share our house in San Diego's South Park neighborhood with four cats.

I love old stuff. I have two old Mercedes Benzes, 1960 and '69 models. I just finished refurbishing the newer one, and the older one, which I've owned for over 35 years, needs its second restoration soon. While they don't ordinarily take up much of my time, my house is almost 80 years old, and some aspect of it always seems to be waiting for my attention.

In 1962, while I was at Helix, I was one of several teen-agers (including fellow '64 alumnus Doug Reynolds) who started the La Mesa Model Railroad Club. We built a model railroad in an old city building on Nebo Drive in downtown La Mesa. In 1979, the city announced plans to raze that building for redevelopment, so the club formed a partnership with two other local groups to create the San Diego Model Railroad Museum in Balboa Park. The La Mesa Club's massive exhibit is a model of the railroad that runs through California's Tehachapi mountains and is still not quite finished. I spend a fair amount of my time working on the design and construction of the exhibit, as well as occasionally serving as an operator when the museum is open to the public.

