



Thursday, Sept. 10, 1981

Shellegram

Deer Park Manufacturing Complex

Vol. 46, No. 37

New problems breed new solutions

Complex meets challenges of heavier crudes

When the DPMC was built in 1929, it was designed with flexibility in mind to meet the demands of a rapidly changing world.

And that emphasis on flexibility, which has been maintained through the years, is coming in mighty handy these days. It is helping us cope with unparalleled changes in the petrochemical business.

It is no secret that many of these changes which affect us have stemmed from a large decrease in the public demand for petroleum products. This lessened demand has caused U.S. oil consumption to slip from about 18 million barrels per day in 1978 to around 15 million barrels today.

However, there has been an equally significant change in recent years in the kind of crude oil the Complex has been receiving. A growing amount of this crude is heavier and thicker than crudes we've received in the past. Because it is heavier, this crude yields smaller quantities than does light crudes of high-demand petroleum products such as gasoline.

Heavy crudes pose problems

Instead, the heavy crudes produce a higher proportion of residual fuel. This product, which is in lower demand than gasoline and other fuels, is

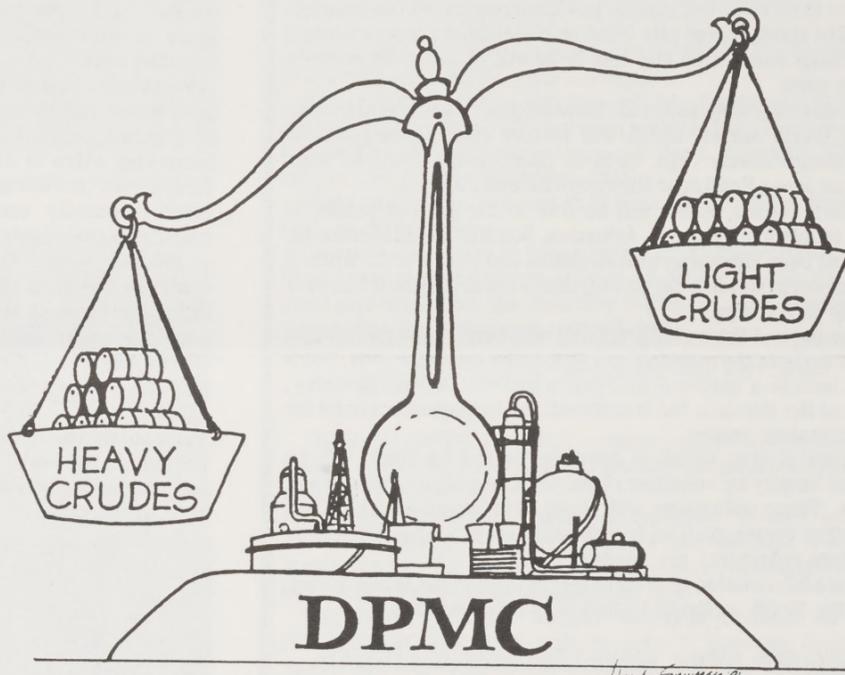
used primarily to produce marine fuel oil for powering ships. This residual fuel is usually in low demand because of its undesirable high-sulfur content.

Another problem with the heavier crudes is that it is more expensive to break them down into high-demand products because it requires more heat and costly energy to produce that heat.

And because the heavy crudes are bulkier than their light counterparts, they cannot travel as easily through the equipment. So, they do not flow well through piping, heat exchangers and pumps that were built at the Complex to handle lighter crudes.

So, the Complex cannot process as large a quantity of these heavy crudes as it could lighter crudes within the same period. Because the Complex is receiving more heavy crudes and because there is less demand for petroleum products, there is a lot less crude being processed here than there used to be.

Dave Kievit, manager, Economics and Scheduling, North, pointed out that while 282,000 barrels of crude were being run through the Complex in 1976, that figure had dropped to 217,000 barrels daily by the first half of 1981. He added that although the amount of crude coming through the Complex during that time decreased,



As shown here, the balance of oil received at DPMC is currently tipping in favor of heavier crudes. These heavier crudes are harder to work with than light crudes. But the Complex is meeting the problems posed by these heavier crudes with new solutions.

the percentage of residual fuel increased. While 35,000 barrels per day of residual fuel were produced in 1976, that figure had jumped to 41,000 barrels by the first half of 1981.

Sources affect heaviness

One reason the Complex is receiving more heavy crudes is because we are getting more crude from Mexico. While we received no crude from that nation in 1976, we were receiving an average of 47,000 barrels a day by the first half of 1981. And many of the recent discoveries made in Mexico have been of the heavy crudes. In addition, DPMC is receiving more from the Middle East, which also produces mostly heavy crudes, while less is coming from places with lighter crudes such as East Texas, Africa and Louisiana.

Heavy crudes are getting heavier

Even the crudes we've been receiving for years from domestic fields such as West Texas and New Mexico are getting heavier. And these account for a third of the total received at the Complex.

Kievit said, "We used to sympathize with our West Coast facilities because of the heavy crudes they had to process. Now, DPMC's average is about the same as the West Coast's was 10 years ago.

"I guess we should still sympathize with them, though, because their situation has gotten heavier still.

"Let me explain the gravity of the situation: The 'gravity index' of crude is a measure of its weight per barrel. DPMC's current average gravity index

is about 33. The thickest stuff we've been running lately has been Mexican Mayan with an index of 26. The West Coast's

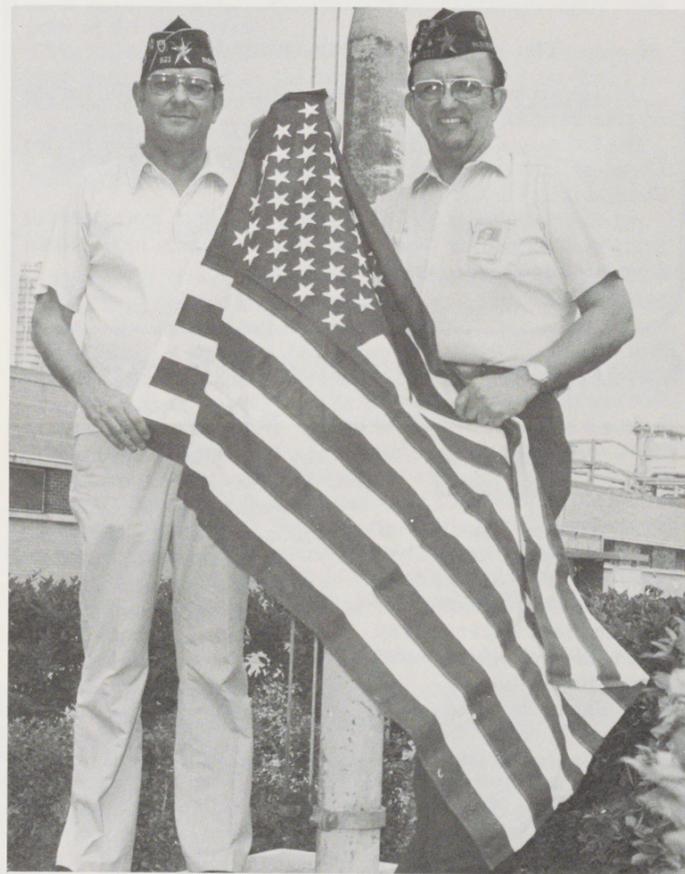
average is currently 25...and some of the crude they are getting is 15!"

Continued on Page 2



Nice day for a swim

The Complex received more than 3.2 inches of rain in a 24-hour period last week on Aug. 28. That may not seem like much in comparison to the more than nine inches that fell here on June 5, but that's still a lot of rain. And it produced high water in some areas of the Complex before it disappeared as rapidly as it came. But as this photo taken near the South main gate shows, the high water didn't keep employees from getting around and it was business as usual.



DPMC will keep it flying

Ralph K. Graves, left, and Melvin Muecke, both special testers, North Lab, and members of Pasadena Post 521 of the American Legion, prepare to hoist the American flag at DPMC North so it can fly here 24 hours a day. While the flag could formerly only be flown during daytime, it can now be flown continuously—as long as it is lighted—thanks to a new law enacted by Congress a few years ago. The lighting which makes the continuous flying of the flag possible at both North and South was installed recently as the result of a suggestion made by Muecke during last spring's BAD (save a Buck-A-Day) program. But Muecke's interest in the flag isn't confined to the Complex. As first vice commander of the Pasadena Legion post, it is one of his duties to present flags on behalf of the Legion to schools, churches and local civic groups. To read about a special flag at DPMC South, turn to Page 2.

Provident Fund news

The Provident Fund valuation is as follows:

Equities Fund

Aug. 15—\$4.300

Shell Stock Fund

Aug. 1-15—\$47.938

The Shell Employee Stock Ownership Fund valuation is:

Aug. 1-15—\$ 47.951



SHORT SUBJECTS

Beepball World Series slated for this month

If you attended the United Way's "Special Days for Special People" in Deer Park last month, you know how much fun beepball can be. The sport, which pits blind or blindfolded players against beeping balls and bases, also has to be one of the most exciting games in town.

But if you really want to see excitement, you've got to come to the Beepball World Series, which will feature championship teams playing competitively Sept. 18-19 at Sportsman's Park in West Houston on Jones Road near Highways 290 and FM 1960.

The World Series, which will be free to the general public, is drawing teams from Kansas, Arkansas, South Dakota, Minnesota, Illinois and New Mexico as well as Dallas and Fort Worth. While it is the fifth world series to be played, this is the first time it has ever been held in Houston.

The two days of the series primarily will feature the games that will start early in the morning and go into the late afternoon. But it also will include a barbecue and dance that will be held Saturday, Sept. 19, at the Ramada Inn Northwest, the headquarters hotel for the participating teams.

The World Series, which is being sponsored by Shell, will be conducted largely by volunteers from the Complex and other Shell locations. These volunteers will serve as umpires and also will handle other duties such as transporting players and registering them. More volunteers are needed.

For more information or to volunteer to work at the World Series, contact the North or South United Way Headquarters.

Registration forms needed for carpool program

To give everyone a chance to register for the Complex's carpool matching program, carpool registration forms are still being accepted although the deadline for signing up for the program passed last week.

If you have an old carpool tag, you'd better register fast as that tag will expire Sept. 21. Otherwise, you won't get a new tag and you can't park in the lot, which has been reserved for carpools.

But you need to get your form to Room 150, DPMC North Administration Building, within the next few days so planning can be completed for this program. If you have any questions, call Chuck Paul, coordinator, of the carpool program, at Extension 7945.

Ten-and-Over Party reminder

Don't forget to mark the Complex's annual Ten-and-Over Parties on your calendar.

The Refinery Party will be held on Oct. 17 and the one for the Chemical Plant will follow on Oct. 24. Both will be at Sylvan Beach Pavilion in La Porte from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Active employees of DPMC who will have 10 or more years of accredited service by Dec. 31 and pensioners who have retired from the Complex are invited to attend.

Continued on Page 3

Complex meets challenges...

Continued from Page 1

Flexibility helps Complex adjust

The growing quantity of heavier crudes has forced many refineries to shut down or to undergo expensive modifications because they were built when lighter crudes were more plentiful.

But Kievit explained, "The Complex is different from many other refineries because we were built to be flexible. We can process a wide variety of raw materials."

As a result of that flexibility, operational personnel, particularly those at Distilling, are growing more used to dealing with the challenges presented by the heavier crudes.

Pete Lanchak, process manager, Distilling, explained that in many cases lighter crudes can be blended with heavy ones to make them more manageable. "It doesn't resolve all the problems, but it helps."

Lanchak added that Distilling personnel can solve many of the problems caused

by the heavy crudes by keeping a closer eye on processing them than was necessary with lighter crudes. "You have to keep a closer eye on the heavy crudes because if you overcook them, you can transform too many of the crude components into gas."

There are also many plans for new equipment on the drawing board to give the Complex more of an edge in handling these stubborn heavy crudes. One of the plans being studied would give DPMC new facilities to convert residue fuel to more valuable products which have more customers than marine fuel oil. And at Distilling, plans are also being studied to revise heat exchangers to process the heavy crudes more efficiently.

Kievit said, "Compared to many other petrochemical facilities, the Complex is in pretty good shape—and there's one primary reason for that. There's a great deal of flexibility built in here which helps us keep up with the constantly changing demands of the marketplace."



Everybody knows it takes something extra to do a job right. Such was the case a couple of weeks ago when maintenance work was needed at the sulfur recovery vent stack for SR-3 and 4. The job included repair work atop the 300-foot stack and the only way to do it was with the services of a gigantic crane. So, the something extra to do the job turned out to be a 300-ton crane—reputedly one of the world's largest. Equipped with a 350-foot boom, the crane came into DPMC to do jobs like lifting workmen to the stack's top. The right photo is an overall view of the big crane (the left one) working with a smaller crane. The top left photo shows the crane's boom working at the top of the stack and the picture below is of the base of the crane.



Giant crane provides extra lift at Sulfur Recovery



Shell flag has French accent

You've probably seen the new Shell flag that has been flying at the South main gate the last few weeks.

But it's no ordinary flag. It came to the Complex all the way from France—thanks to the efforts of Michael Redding, section supervisor, Quality Control Lab, Environmental.

However, Redding wasn't thinking about flags when he originally planned his two-week vacation in France. All he really wanted to do was to visit a friend living in Europe and see how much France had changed since he last vacationed there in 1969.

He said, "I really didn't want a regular European vacation, one of those where you see 11 countries on a five-day tour. Then, you really don't see that much and you don't get a chance to relax."

"I wanted to enjoy myself so my friend and I stayed away from the tourist traps that everybody goes to—the museums and all the historical chateaus. I saw a lot of those things in '69. Besides, if you see one chateau, you've seen them all."

"So, we just got a car and drove along the French coast down the Mediterranean and back. We weren't in any hurry so we just spent a lot of time looking at the countryside. We picnicked, slept under the stars in a tent every night. We also got to meet a lot of French people in the small villages."

"The French in those villages were really friendly. I'd ask somebody for an ashtray or a glass as a souvenir and he would just



Flying below Old Glory, this new Shell flag now greets visitors and employees as they come through the South main gate. But it's no ordinary flag. It was brought back from France as a vacation souvenir by Michael Redding, section supervisor, Quality Control Lab, Environmental.

give it to me.

Redding recalled it was his search for souvenirs that led him to the flag. "I've picked up quite a few Shell things since I started working at the Complex about 10 years ago and I wanted something from France. But I looked all over the country for a Shell souvenir without much success. Then, we pulled into a Shell service station near Orleans in the northern part of France and I thought I'd give it another try."

"I went up to the station owner's wife and started trying to explain that I wanted to purchase a Shell souvenir. It wasn't easy because my

French isn't that great. I guess my Southern drawl gives the French problems in understanding me. At any rate, I finally managed to explain that I worked for Shell in the U.S. and I wanted a souvenir.

"And the owner and his wife were really nice in trying to find me something. But the problem was there wasn't a lot available for souvenirs. The owner had a Shell T-shirt I really liked. But he only had one. He also had a Shell patch on his coveralls. But he only had one of those too."

"I thought I wasn't going to get anything. Then, the owner disappeared into the back room for a minute and came back with this flag. Decked out in bright colors—red and yellow—along with white, it was really something."

"It seems most Shell service stations fly them over there. I never thought I would get one. And the owner wouldn't hear of taking a dime for it. I don't think I'll ever forget his hospitality."

"It wasn't much later that I came home. And one of the first things I did when I got back was to hang the flag in the lab. I kept it there for several days. But so many people seemed to be interested in it—you rarely see one of those flags over here—that I decided to share it with others out here. I'd rather have people looking at it and enjoying it than have it stuck away in a closet somewhere. So, I loaned it to the Complex."

"Eventually, I would like to take it home. But until then, I hope everybody out here enjoys looking at it as much as I have."

DPMC comes through — the United Way

The DPMC's annual United Way campaign only began last week with the rallies depicted in photos on this page.

But by press time, generous employees had already signed up for more than \$92,000 in pledges throughout the Complex. And while DPMC South traditionally does not set a dollar goal, North had reached 79 percent of its 1981 United Way goal of \$84,000 when we went to press.



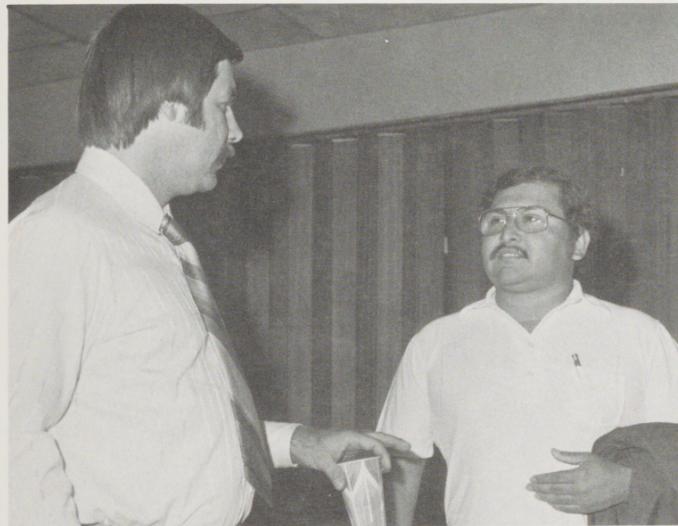
Del Harris, head coach of the Houston Rockets, appeals to employees to contribute the United Way.



George Villarreal, left, and Curley Jefferson, both operators, BA-SR, listen to the United Way message at a South rally.



Derrick Doll Terry Lawrence does her part to keep employees interested by doing a dance routine during a United Way rally.



Dale Cooper, North hourly United co-chairperson, left, discusses the campaign at a North rally with Edward Hinojosa, operator, Alkylation, and a member of the North United Way Drive Committee.



Donna Caves, a local artist with impaired vision, displays the painting she will donate to a lucky Complex "fair share" giver. The winner will be chosen in a United Way drawing later this year.

People Helping People The United Way

Thanks To You, It Works ... For All of us



North Instrument Shop safety party

Among those converging on Monument Inn for the North Instrument Shop's safety party were Gayro Lawson and her daughter, left, Mr. and Mrs. Neal McKinney and W.T. Mehrkam, Tony Perrard and Ralph Mace.

Short subjects ...

Continued from Page 2

Sept. 17 is deadline for submitting vacation material

The Shellegram will accept no more information or photos for our special fall vacation feature after Sept. 17.

Do you want material from your vacation to be included in this special feature? Then, put your photos and a brief description of what you did in an envelope and send them to Les Cole, Room 151, North Administration Building. We'll get your pictures back to you if you put your address on them—at home or at your department at the Complex.

If you have questions, please call Les at Extension 6301.

Camping trip deposits due today

Don't forget. Deposits are due today for the SCORA camping trip to Wolf Creek Park at Lake Livingston.

Each family going on the trip will be charged a \$10 advance deposit, which will be refunded upon arrival at the campground. To turn in deposits and reservations, call Berta Hokanson, Extension 6665 or Doc Laskie, Extension 7220.

The camping trip will cost \$8.25 per night (\$6.25 for each campsite and \$2 per car).

Campers will arrive at the campground on the afternoon of Sept. 18 and return the afternoon of Sept. 20. While SCORA will furnish meat and drinks for the Saturday barbecue, each family will be responsible for bringing a covered dish.

Kennedy Center program set for Sept. 19

"Kennedy Center Tonight," a unique public television musical series, will bring a fourth program into American homes on the night of Sept. 19.

The program will be Leonard Bernstein's "Mass," a massive theatrical display of scores of singers and dancers. It will commemorate the 10th Anniversary of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C.

The "Kennedy Center Tonight" series is produced by WQED-Pittsburgh in association with the John F. Kennedy Center. It is funded by Shell Companies Foundation, Inc., and the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. Earlier this year, the series presented programs featuring the music of Duke Ellington and a dramatic presentation of the life of the actress Sarah Bernhardt.

To find out when "Mass" will be aired in your area, check local TV listings.

Thanks to everybody for the help

We are grateful to everybody who helped us out by identifying the three unknown persons in the vintage picture of the folks playing cards in the North Cafeteria which was published in the July 23 issue of the Shellegram.

The two unknown men in the picture, which is about 30 years old, have been identified as the late Oscar Rape and the late L.L. Burkehalter, both of Dispatching. The woman was identified as Janie Carson of the Treasury Department.

We also appreciate the many other old pictures that have been submitted to us. We will use them in the near future.

Turn in bass tournament fees by Sept. 24

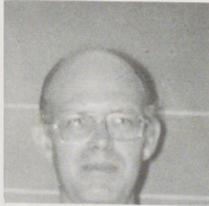
Entry fees for the Sept. 26 SCORA Bass Tournament must be turned in by Sept. 24 to either Bubba Jackson, North Rigging Shop, or Herman Akers, South Rigging Shop.

The basic entry fee for the tournament is \$5, while an additional \$2 entry fee will be charged to those who want to compete in the Big Bass Contest. Competition will be limited to SCORA members only.

The tournament, which will be held from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Galloway's Marina, Lake Livingston, will feature cash prizes which will go to tournament competitors on the basis of the total weight of fish caught by individual boats. Each boat will be limited to two persons per boat. The cash prize for the Big Bass Contest will be given to the person catching the heaviest single bass.

For more information, call Jackson at Extension 6670 or at home at 476-0341. Akers can be reached on Extension 7447 or at home at 473-5030.

Welcome to the Deer Park Manufacturing Complex



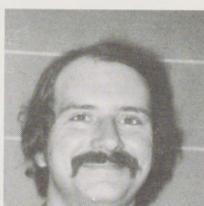
L.J. Abbott
Sr. Draftsman
Eng. Support
Hired in July



Nick Bell
Engineer
Plant Eng.
Hired in July



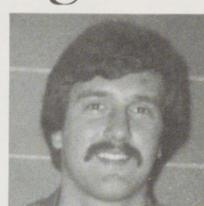
Lisa Cox
Analyst
Services
Hired in March



Ben Gookin
Pipefitter
Maint. North
Hired in July



Carol Hall
Clerk
Financial
Hired in July



John Helms
Engineer
E&S North
Hired in July



Darrell Knapp
Accountant
Financial
Hired in July



M.E. Lammers
Analyst
Distribution
Hired in July



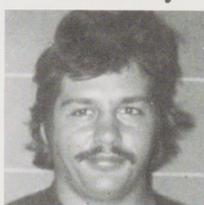
S.T. Reeves
Electrician
Maint. North
Hired in July



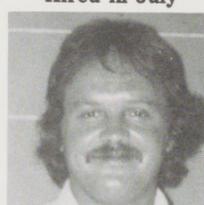
E.S. Spivey
Sr. Secretary
Purchasing
Trans. in July



R.L. Vigneault
Accountant
Financial
Hired in July



Richard Walker
Painter
Maint. North
Hired in July



Rick Witt
Painter
Maint. North
Hired in July



Sandy Womack
Sr. Secretary
Services
Hired in July

Classifieds

FOR SALE

1969 MGB. Restored, AM-FM eight-track, excellent condition. Best offer, possible trade. Call 479-0229.

1977 Cadillac Coupe DeVille, Gold, loaded, 45,000 miles. \$4,995. 1976 Cadillac Coupe DeVille. Maroon with gray interior, loaded. 66,000 miles. \$3,695. Call 479-6957.

1976 Toyota Land Cruiser. Complete, not running. \$500. Call 944-3800.

1955 Chevy sedan. BelAir, 283, bucket seats, looks and runs good. \$2,500. Call 487-4820.

1973 Nova hatchback. Radial tires, AM-FM stereo. Good work transportation. \$1,000. Call 332-2123.

Truck or van tires. Three 8.00 X 16.5 B.F. Goodrich eight-ply nylon, 20 percent worn. \$40 each. Call 944-7343.

1978 Honda CX-500. Drive shaft, water-cooled, 6,000 miles. Plus two helmets valued at \$200. Sale price \$1,500. Call 437-3117.

1980 Yamaha XS-850-G Special. Electronic ignition, shaft driven, cancelling turn signals, black with gold specks. Like new. Only 7,100 miles. \$2,100 cash. Call 444-2005.

Fourteen-foot V-bottom Starcraft aluminum boat. 33 HP electric start Evinrude and trailer. Will sell separately if desired. Price is negotiable. Call 479-2261.

Two and three-quarter acres of land in Lomax. Call 479-3628.

Six grave spaces. In South Park Cemetery, Section M. \$2,000. Four GR 78 X 15 Uniroyal steel-belted radials. Less than 23,000 miles. All for \$45. Call 926-6065.

Kenmore gas range. Continuous cleaning oven, clock,

timer. Harvest gold, one-year-old. \$375. Call 471-2055.

1974 RCA 25-inch all-wood color console. \$75. Call 476-0857.

Spanish chandelier. Fifteen lights, wrought iron. Best offer. Call 476-4849.

Metal detector. Super Pro with headphones. Latest model. In excellent condition. \$280. Call 997-2268.

.22 Remington rifle. Nylon stock. \$60. Call 475-1569.

WANTED

Used two-drawer steel file cabinet. Fourteen inches wide. Call 479-3004.

Used men's golf clubs. \$100 or less. Call 998-0984.

FOUND

FOUND. Silver chain at North change house. Call Les Cole, Extension 6301, describe and claim.

FOR LEASE

Three-bedroom brick home in Deer Park. 1518 Louisiana, fireplace, central air and heat. Never lived in. Immediate occupancy is available. \$750 a month, deposit and first and last month's rent. Call 479-1987.

PERSONAL

I wish to extend my thanks to all of you for my retirement

party, the gifts and fellowship that we had together. But more than that, I want to thank you for the memories of working together down through the years.

—Carl E. Kinsbury

ANNOUNCEMENT

Due to the Labor Day holiday, the Shellegram had to go to press earlier than usual to meet our publication schedule requirements. As a result, we were unable to print as many ads as usual. If you turned in an ad late last week and you don't see it here, you can expect it to be published next week.

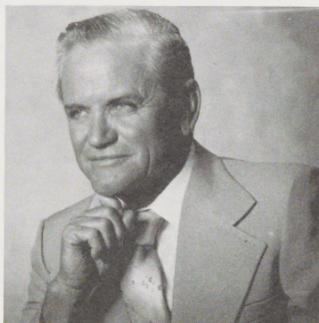
Krell dies



Krell

William L. Krell, retired leadburner, Maintenance South, died Aug. 14. At the time of his retirement in July 1976, he had more than 27 years of company service. He lived in Houston.

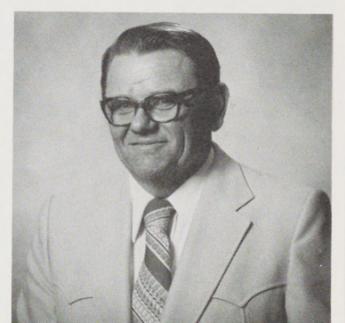
DPMC service anniversaries



35 Years
A.W. Gore
Gas Recovery



30 Years
A.E. Bennett
Utilities-Distribution

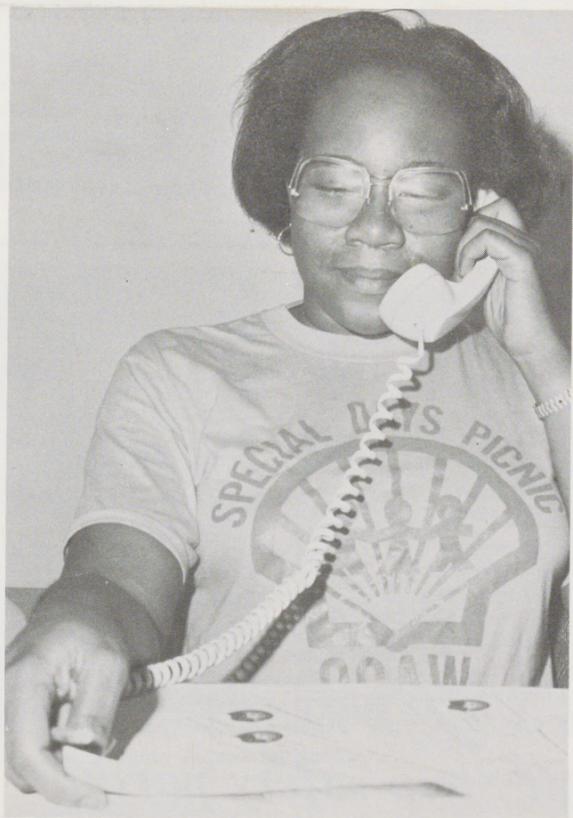


25 Years
J.J. Marek
Lube A

The Shellegram is published each week for the purpose of informing and entertaining employees like Paula Littles, operator, Lube A. A Complex employee since 1977, she is shown here working on the current United Way campaign sponsored by DPMC and OCAW Local 4-367. She is hourly assistant co-chairperson, DPMC North, of that campaign.

Les Cole-Editor
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Deer Park Manufacturing Complex