



Shellegram

Deer Park Manufacturing Complex

December, 1986

Vol. 51, No. 10

Cross-state run also benefits ship

Shell donates to Battleship Texas

At a fund-raising ceremony recently held aboard the Battleship Texas, DPMC Manager **HANK BETTENCOURT** presented a \$30,000 check on behalf of Shell Oil for the "Save Our Battleship" restoration project.

The donation goes toward completing major structural repairs needed to keep the battleship afloat.

Located at the San Jacinto Battleground State Park, the USS Texas has been a

popular tourist attraction since 1948. Over the years, rust and neglect has caused the ship to badly deteriorate and it is estimated that total restoration of the ship will cost \$10 to \$12 million.

Attending the Battleship Texas ceremony were several local civilian and military dignitaries, the Houston-area television and newspaper media and about 100 spectators. Military units participated in the ceremony as did members of the Deer Park High School band. Shell Historical Society members displayed their service station-country store float and sold Battleship Texas memorabilia to help raise money for the restoration.

Preceding the onboard ceremony were two fund-raising events — the Trans-Texas Race and a five-kilometer "Save Our Ship" Run.

The Trans-Texas Race, whose course covered 1,062 miles across the state, was the longest marathon ever held in Texas. Race contestants set out to complete the entire course individually, a feat never before attempted. Winners were chosen based on the total number of miles actually run.

Starting at Texline on the Texas-New Mexico border, fourteen runners from the U.S. and France set out on runs covering as many as 64 miles a day over a 19-day period.

Running during the day and resting at

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



Hank Bettencourt stands aboard the USS Texas while addressing the crowd gathered for the "Save Our Battleship" ceremony. Behind him are the runners.

Battleship Texas survives two World Wars

The Battleship Texas, a veteran of two world wars, is the oldest and only surviving battleship of the Dreadnought Era which preceded World War I. She was the U.S. Navy's first coal-fired battleship and has traveled the equivalent of ten times around the earth.

On May 18, 1912, when the USS Texas was launched, she was recognized as one of the most feared warships in existence. She weighed 27,000 tons and displayed ten 14-inch guns.

The Texas was pressed into service almost immediately, steaming to Vera Cruz

with a force of Marines to protect American interests in revolution-torn Mexico. Shortly after World War I, during which she was involved in seven war missions plus two encounters with German submarines, the Texas took part in experiments on the

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'Save Our Ship' runs also raises funds

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

night, the runners made their way through the state's major cities of Dallas, Austin, San Antonio, and Houston. Extreme weather conditions such as freezing rain in the Panhandle and heat and humidity elsewhere faced the runners as they made their way across the state.

Helping with the logistics of the race were DPMC employees **BERTA** and **MEL HOKANSON**, **BILL BOURLAND** and **JIM PAAR**. "A caravan of vehicles followed the runners, and we were among those who drove the vans," Berta explains. "Our job was to make sure the runners had the nourishment they needed while running. We also picked up runners who could not run any more that day. When we arrived at the town where we had planned to spend the night, we made sure all the sleeping arrangements were set up and food was available for the runners."

The Trans-Texas Race ended at the Battleship Texas on the day of the fund-raising ceremony. Two runners completed the entire 1,062-mile course and six others partially completed it.

"In my book, anyone who even attempted at running in the race is a winner," Berta points out.

A much shorter race benefitting the battleship restoration project was held at the San Jacinto Monument prior to the ceremony aboard ship.

The "Save Our Ship" five kilometer run had approximately 325 runners competing for the fastest times. Eight runners from DPMC represented Shell in a corporate running team. They were **JULIE ZEILENGA**, process engineer; **WALT CLEMISHAW**, pipefitter; **DON ALLAN**, staff engineer; **DENNIS COX**, operator; **JAMES COPELAND**, son of Dennis Cox; **BILL BURHANS**, senior financial account-

tant; **SAM RUBBICO**, financial analyst; and **BRAD OTIS**, area engineer.

In the Corporate Team Division I category, the Shell team took first place for the Corporate Male Team, edging out Exxon, and second place for the Corporate Female Team. Individual winners were Julie Zeilenga, who finished third in her age group, and Sam Rubbico, who also came in third in his group.

"It was not only a good opportunity for me to get some more racing experience under my belt," says Sam, "but I also got to help out in my own way to save the Battleship Texas for future generations."

In addition to her involvement with the Trans-Texas Race, Berta was instrumental in setting up the Battleship Texas ceremony and reception which followed.

"A lot of people worked very hard at getting everything ready for the big day," Berta explains. "Along with other organizations such as the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and the Texas National Guard, DPMC did its part to help out." Shell Historical Society members and DPMC employees **JIM PAAR**, **VI COOPER**, **MAURINE BISHOP**, **BILL BURHANS**, **OVIDIA LINDSEY**, **JUNIOR GUILLOT**, **CAROL BOYETT**, and retiree **ROBBIE ROBERSON**, helped in many areas of the fund-raising activities.

"There were times when we weren't quite sure everything would fall into place," Berta recalls. "But we kept going on, knowing that if we didn't do everything we could to save our Battleship Texas, then we possibly would lose an important link with our past."



DPMC's corporate running team included (bottom row, left) Copeland, Clemishaw, Otis, (top row, left) Zeilenga, Allan, Cox, Rubbico and Burhans.

Now maintains vigil over San Jacinto Battleground

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

military uses of aviation. It was from a platform on her deck that the first aircraft, a Sopwith Camel, was launched from a U.S. battleship.

When the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor in 1941, the Texas was almost thirty years old. But she had been completely refurbished including the addition of six

new oil-powered boilers. Responding to the call to arms, she convoyed troops across the dangerous Atlantic waters filled with U-boats. Later in the war, she bombarded the shores of North Africa during the 1942 invasion. She also distinguished herself at Iwo Jima and Okinawa and survived a number of Kamikaze attacks. As World War II drew to a close, the Texas was used

to transport American troops home.

For the past four decades, the U.S.S. Texas has remained an inspiring showpiece of naval history. Since April 21, 1948, when proud Texans donated money and materials to bring her home, she has served as the mighty flagship of the Texas Navy while maintaining her silent vigil over the San Jacinto Battleground.

SCORA News

From the SCORA Board

It is hard to say who is the most disappointed — those children who attended the SCORA Children's Christmas Party who did not receive Santa Stocking and gifts, or the SCORA Board members who helped with the party.

Attendance the past two years has been about 100 children each year. This year plans were made for 180. Actual attendance was about 240.

Arrangements were made to provide Santa Stockings to all the children Santa missed. Tickets were given to the parents to be redeemed for stockings after the party.

The SCORA Board apologizes for any inconvenience this may have caused, and send a big **THANK YOU** to all those parents and grandparents who brought their children and grandchildren to the party.

For next year, a special Elfinland Christmas Party is already being planned, with more entertainment and less waiting. Mark your calendars now and come let us make up for any disappointment this year.

The Board always appreciates comments from those who attend SCORA events so we can try to provide the type of entertainment SCORA members enjoy most.

SCORA Chili Cook-Off

On Saturday, February 28, SCORA will hold their Fifth Annual Chili Cook-Off at the Pasadena Rodeo Grounds. Teams will be competing for the huge winner's trophy and the title of SCORA Chili Champs.

Also on the 28th, the Pasadena Chili Pod is sponsoring their sanctioned chili cook-off which advances winners toward the World Championship Chili Cook-Off at Terlingua, Texas later in the year. SCORA members can compete. The Chili Pod also will hold an auction.

For the SCORA Chili Cook-Off, Campbell Hall has been rented and booth space (10'x10') for a Flea Market is available for rent (\$10 for SCORA members, \$15 all others). Rental chairs and tables are available or bring your own.

A dance will be held Saturday night in Campbell Hall from 9 pm to 1 am.

Details of the SCORA Chili Cook-Off event

will be coming soon by mail and on bulletin boards. There will be a meeting to plan the Cook-Off on January 5 at 2 pm in the North Cafeteria. Anyone who would like to help can attend or contact Junior Guillot at 476-7593.

Saltwater Fishing Contest Winners Announced

SCORA's saltwater fishing contest was held on October 18. Weigh-in was at Sylvan Beach. Following are a list of winners and their cash prizes.

- 1st — Donny Hall/Carl Slaten (\$140)
- 2nd — N.T. McCulley/C.C. Servance (\$90)
- 3rd — B.G. Laird/Donny Brand (\$60)
- 4th — G.G. Griffin/Everett Griffin (\$40)
- 5th — B.J. Baker/Jackie Baker (\$20)

C.C. Servance was the winner of the largest fish category, weighing in a seven lb. redfish.

Special Notes

Entertainment 87 Books are on sale now for \$15 to SCORA members (regularly \$22). Contact Ray White at 476-7436.

TGIF is planned for January 16. Details to be announced on bulletin boards.

On reform in Texas

Hale address DP Chamber



DPMC Employee Relations Manager Walt Hale speaks on "Tort Reform" before the Deer Park Chamber of Commerce.

At the Deer Park Chamber of Commerce's luncheon in December, the guest speaker was **WALT HALE**, DPMC's manager of Employee Relations. His presentation, "Tort Reform," addressed Texas' onerous liability lawsuit system and ways to change it.

"The liability-insurance crisis is the foremost public issue worrying corporate America," says Walt. "More than 1800 delegates to the White House Conference on Small Businesses overwhelmingly voted comprehensive tort reform as number one on their list of recommendations presented to the President and Congress.

"In the 44 state legislatures in session during 1986, lawmakers debated some 1400 bills related to the cost and availability of liability insurance," he adds. "States are the focal point for debate on causes and solutions to the problem."

Walt says that if the intensity of this year's debate is any indication, then the legislative sessions in 1987 will continue the extensive debate and consideration of

bills on the controversial subject of liability insurance. He believes the Texas legislative body will be among this group.

Some facts provided by the Texas Civil Justice League on tort reform are that:

- ★ St. Luke's Lutheran Hospital in San Antonio cut its medical staff from 778 to 653 because the premium for liability insurance went from \$40,000 to \$275,000 in one year.
- ★ One out of five child care centers had their policies cancelled.
- ★ All four YMCA's in El Paso may have to close because of exorbitant insurance rates.
- ★ Six out of ten Texas physicians who deliver babies have been sued.
- ★ The product liability component of a General Motors car now costs more than the steel that goes into it.

Those interested in supporting tort reform can write or talk to their state legislators, or contact the Texas Civil Justice League in Austin, Texas.

New tester program introduced

Allows employees to strengthen skills

A new quality-enhancement program recently was introduced at the North Lab. Called the Tester Development Program, it allows laboratory testers to strengthen their technical and job knowledge skills.

"We recognized that testers, and in a general sense the North Lab's role, sometimes were held back because we lacked formal tester expectations and a training/testing program," says **JERRY WARD**, North Lab manager. "This new program will make it possible for each tester to become more proficient at what they do, to move up as their skill level increases and to contribute to the lab's role at a much greater level."

A series of qualification tests based on analytical methods used in the lab were compiled in a manual for the program. A formal weekly training and testing schedule is used to insure progress is made sometimes even at the expense of overtime.

"The qualification testing rate is a balance of getting the lab's daily work done economically, while at the same time investing time and money in such things as training and providing an opportunity for employee growth," Jerry points out.

Whenever an individual is ready to perform a certain test, they get with a lab foreman who evaluates their testing procedure with an objective checklist. Once successfully completed, it is recorded that the test was accomplished. A certain number of tests contained in the manual must be completed in order to advance to higher pay grades. Advancement is not determined by time in classification or openings.

Developing the qualification tests was the responsibility of Senior Chemist **KEN STARNES** and Operations Coordinator **JIM CHORN**, both from the North Lab. They consulted with a University of Houston professor in order to develop objective tests which would measure skills rather than prerequisites.

To date, five North Lab testers have completed the program and have been promoted from Tester "A" to Tester No. 1. They are **FLORENCE BULLARD**, **MICHELLE BROUSSARD**, **TERRY BELL**, **BRIDGET PARKER** and **JERRY COHN**.

Florence believes the program is worthwhile. "I learned how to handle certain testing procedures earlier through this

program than I would have before," she says. "As a result, I was promoted sooner than expected."

SCARLETT JONES, Tester No. 1 has also competed the program, which is being applied to all North Lab testers in order to standardize techniques and as a cross-training measure.

A long-term goal of the Tester Development Program is to bring new testers into the North Lab who are familiar with laboratory work. Ken and Jim designed an entry-level test for potential employees.

"Through the test they must demonstrate some fundamental lab skills, and display a general knowledge of basic laboratory calculations and some chemistry," Ken explains.

Also, new lab testers will be expected to complete the qualification tests within two years after they come into the lab.

"We see it as a way for new testers to quickly achieve skills needed for the type

of work performed in the North Lab," Ken adds.

Hand-in-hand with the new tester program is a recent restructuring of jobs at the North Lab. "Before, a tester may have done tests only in one certain lab testing area, such as distillations for the entire refinery," Jerry explains. "Now the tester handles work for a specific operating unit regardless of the type of test needed."

As a result of this restructuring, lab testers are now aligned more closely with operators. Testers work in conjunction with unit operators on the refinery control system. This includes the unit hardware, sampling devices, sample transportation, laboratory hardware, testing and communication.

"The system should operate like a closed loop with each step dependent on the previous step," Jerry says.

Examples of a tester's responsibilities are being familiar with sample schedules and expected results, communicating with operators, and maintaining quality control of test results.

"A close relationship between highly competent testers and operators is aimed at helping to make DPMC the most efficient, lowest-cost manufacturer," Jerry points out. "This is one of the ways we think we'll get there in the long-run."



North Lab Tester Florence Bullard recently was promoted under the new Tester Development Program.

18.5 % increase in UW donations makes record gift

An 18.5 percent increase in employee donations helped bring Shell Oil's total gift to the Houston area United Way to a record \$2,896,394. This gift accounts for almost 6 percent of the United Way's 1986 goal.

Employee participation this year was 92 percent, as compared to 88.3 percent last year. The contribution of \$1,405,219 represents a per capita giving of \$121, an increase of 23.5 percent.

The Shell Companies Foundation, Inc., contributed \$1,450,000, the largest corporate gift received by the local United Way.

Shell retirees, conducting their second campaign, raised \$41,175, an increase of 40 percent over last year.

Group Seven reaches high

An awards ceremony was held recently to recognize employees belonging to Group Seven for their high level of participation in the 1986 DPMC United Way campaign. There were eight groups involved in the United Way Group Participation competition.

Departments included in Group Seven are Security, Industrial Relations, Personnel, Training, Accounting, Computer Services, Purchasing & Administrative Services and Economics & Scheduling.

Employees in these departments had a participation rate of 97 percent, compared with an overall DPMC rate of 87 percent.

Campaign co-chairman **BILL COIT**, Complex Superintendent **GAYLE JOHNSON** and OCAW Local 4-367 President **JOHN PATTERSON** were on hand to congratulate the group for their generosity, and to present the group with plaques which will be displayed in the North and South cafeterias.



Plaques naming the winners of the DPMC United Way Group Participation competition were presented to representatives of Group Seven. At left, Gayle Johnson, Complex superintendent, presents a plaque to Don Hewett, a North Warehouse material controller; and Kathy Hudson, an Economics & Scheduling analyst, receives a plaque from John Patterson, president of OCAW Local 4-367.

Department celebrates 17 safe years

In September, employees in the DU-1/Solvents & Treating manufacturing department celebrated 17 years without a lost-time accident. Employees and their spouses/guests were treated to dinner for this accomplishment.

AL SORTINO, operations supervisor for the group, says this is an outstanding record considering the operators have to handle caustic and acid. He attributes the safety record partly to "running a clean unit."



Attending a DU-1/Solvents & Treating recognition dinner are (front row, left) George Buisson, Al Sortino, Jeff Campbell, Joe Mohan, (back row, left) Richard Lathrop, Tony Lloyd, Phill Jordan, Roland Deardorff and Doug Johnson.



Also attending the recognition dinner are Diane Campbell, Hilda Lathrop, Marlene Buisson, Annie Mohan, Addie Adams, Debra Jordan, Bonnie Johnson, Betty Deardorff and Betty Sortino.

CAER exercise tests systems

A joint emergency response exercise involving the City of Deer Park and local industries, including DPMC, was held in early December. The purpose of the exercise, staged for the first time in Deer Park, was to test city and industry communication systems and reaction times in response to an industrial accident.

The exercise was coordinated by members of the Deer Park Community Awareness and Emergency Response (CAER) team, which is headed by Deer Park Mayor **JIMMY BURKE**, a DPMC maintenance supervisor. Serving on the team from DPMC are **TOM GILLESPIE**, HS&E superintendent; **B.T. WAGGONER**, Safety manager; **BILL GIBSON**, Community Relations manager; and **CHUCK VASEK**, Safety inspector.

'Deer Park is one of the first communities in the area to have staged a joint exercise of this kind with local industry. And we will continue to fine tune our emergency response mechanisms through more close involvement with our neighbors.'

Jimmy Burke

Advance planning for the exercise started many months before. A tabletop drill was put on by CAER team members to become familiar with the sequence of events which needed to take place and to identify areas requiring further coordination.

For the December exercise, a scenario was developed in which a simulated toxic gas cloud was released from DPMC and drifted across Highway 225 into the Deer Park community. Here is how the mock drill was staged:

At approximately 1:10 pm on December 2, Shell personnel discovered a chlorine leak at one of the Complex's east side storage cylinders. They immediately notified security personnel at the South Main gate who put into effect DPMC's hazard material release plan.

As part of the plan, the environmental supervisor on duty and DPMC Fire Chief **JACK OLIPHANT** were notified of the situation. Also, calls were made to Deer Park's City Hall, and the city's police and fire departments alerting them of the gas release.

Within seconds, people were in action.

At DPMC, Jack Oliphant handled the coordination. "A call went out to our emergency response personnel who activated the Hazardous Material trailer," he says. "We also alerted all safety personnel to provide assistance at the scene."

People working in buildings on the south side of the Complex were notified that the "gas release drill" was underway. This notice was issued to test the alert systems in place within DPMC.

At the site of the release, water from aerial towers of a DPMC fire truck was sprayed on the imaginary gas cloud in order to disperse as much of the chemical as possible. Response personnel wearing protective gear and self-contained breathing apparatus moved in and contain-

ed the cylinder leak by using a chlorine repair kit.

In order to prevent any injury to motorists on Highway 225 as the imaginary gas cloud made its way across, roadblocks were set up by police with industry personnel assisting in the effort.

While all this was taking place, at Deer Park's City Hall an emergency operations center was set up in the council chamber by the city manager. From this center, communications were coordinated between the various agencies involved.

WAYNE AUSTIN, a DPMC industrial hygienist, responded to a call for Shell assistance. He provided members of the city government team with necessary information at the type of gas and its characteristics.

Dispatchers at the police and fire departments notified schools of the situation and advised its personnel to keep all students inside the buildings. In the event of an actual gas release, air conditioning would be shut off at all buildings.

Also in an actual release, Deer Park residents would be notified by emergency response personnel to remain inside until an all-clear signal had been given.

To inform the Deer Park community of the upcoming practice drill, local newspapers earlier had run articles about the planned exercise and leaflets were mailed in advance to residents' homes. Also, a taped message explaining the exercise was placed on the special 476-CAER informational phone line. This 24-hour line offers emergency information about industry activities or can be used to receive specific CAER information.

CAER team members located at various sites around the city and the Complex acted as observers. They evaluated the actions of participants in the exercise and provided a general critique immediately following the exercise.

For a more thorough evaluation of the exercise at a later date, segments of it were videotaped. Assisting in the taping were DPMC Craft Training employees **TIM GALBAN** and **WOODY PLAHEHN**.

Overall, the CAER exercise provided some valuable insight for both the community and industry.

"For the most part, we can say that the city is ready to protect its citizens in the event of a nearby industrial accident," Jimmy Burke points out. "Deer Park is one of the first communities in the area to have staged a joint exercise of this kind with local industry. And we will continue to fine tune our emergency response mechanisms through more close involvement with our neighbors."

DPMC's Jack Oliphant agrees. "Based on what I saw take place during the Deer Park CAER exercise, I believe we are ready for anything that may come along."

Classified

HOUSE, 3-2-2½, Park Place, pool, deck, bath house, storage, 187'x156' lot. 674-8154 or 645-4853.

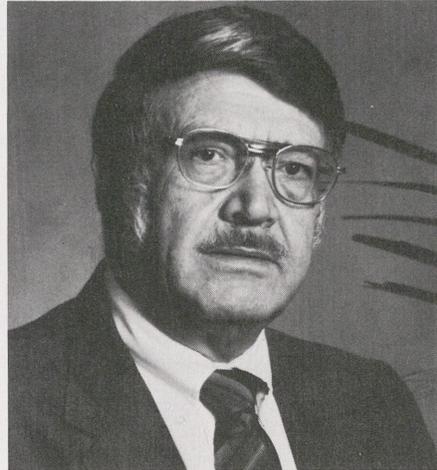
TRAILER, two-wheel, 4'x8', on springs. \$200 or best offer. 480-2006.

FOUND, at the SCORA Children's Christmas Party, a child's multicolored bracelet with hearts, and a small child's coat, approximately size 3. Contact Carol at 476-6173.

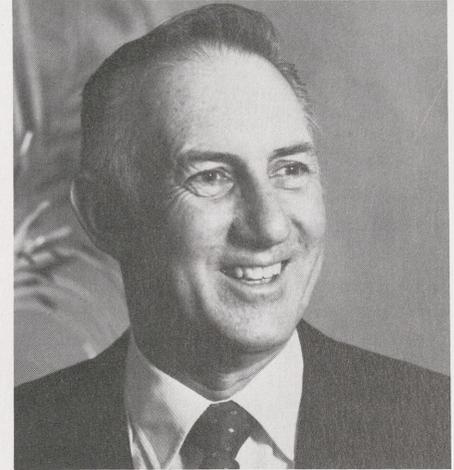
Retirements



N. F. FARMER
34 Years Service



H. H. JENKINS
35 Years Service



I. D. JUNEK
37 Years Service

Dave Kilgore commended for heroism

DAVE KILGORE, an LPA operations foreman, recently was honored by the Texas House of Representatives for showing "tremendous courage...when he risked his own life to help an elderly woman who was being attacked..."

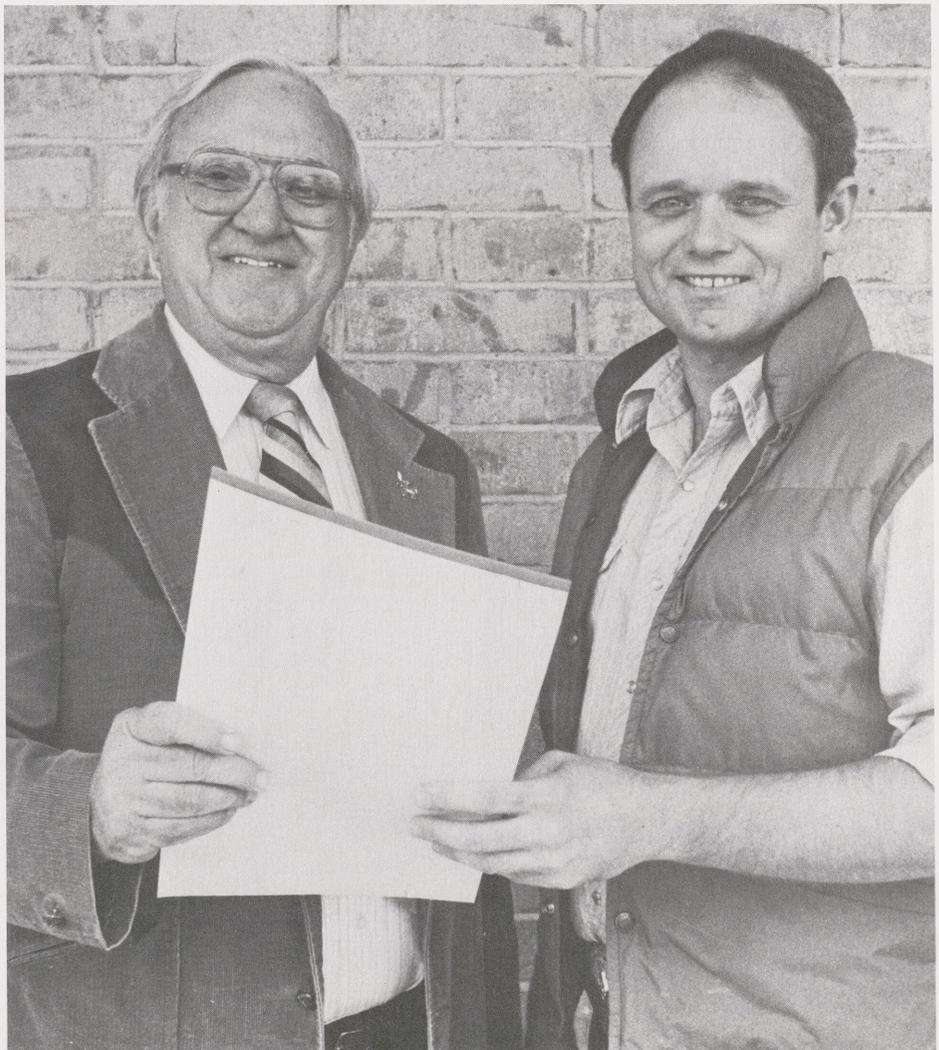
District 129 Representative **ED WATSON** submitted a resolution to the legislative body describing Dave's actions. Following are excerpts from the document:

"Whereas, the heroic actions of this outstanding Texan restore one's faith in one's fellowman and truly merit special legislative recognition and commendation;

"Now, therefore be it resolved that the House of Representatives of the 69th Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby commend David Kilgore on his exemplary act of heroism and extend to him best wishes for happiness and success in the future:

"And, be it further resolved, that an official copy of this resolution be prepared for Mr. Kilgore as a token of high esteem from the Texas House of Representatives."

Earlier this year, Dave was honored by the Texas Senate and received a medal from the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission for his heroism.



Representative Ed Watson (l) presents LPA operations foreman Dave Kilgore with the resolution passed by the Texas House of Representatives honoring him.

Christmas Notes

DPMC's Christmas Tree

DPMC showed its true Christmas spirit this season with the lighting of the 30-foot tree beneath the north side entrance sign.

Members of the Shell Historical Society spent many hours decorating the tree and the society's float sitting alongside. Organizing the project was JUNIOR GUILLOT, and assisting him were MAXINE WALLACE, BILL BURHANS, CAROL BOYETT, JIM PAAR and DILLON SCOTT. DPMC electricians installed electrical outlets for the lights.

In addition to stringing lights on the tree, several wooden boxes were painted and placed beneath it.

This is the first time the tree has been decorated in recent years, and Junior says it will become an annual event.

Food Drive

DPMC employees helped many needy families in the Deer Park, Pasadena and La Porte area by donating 26 boxes full of canned goods and nonperishables in a food drive co-sponsored by the Complex and OCAW Local 4-367.

Collection points for the food were set up at various locations throughout the Complex. All donated food was delivered to the Pasadena Salvation Army for distribution.

The food drive was held in conjunction with the Channel 13 annual food drive which works with the Houston Area Food Bank in giving support to families during the holiday season and throughout the year.



Boxes full of food donated by DPMC employees are delivered to the Salvation Army.

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Published monthly by Shell's Deer Park Manufacturing Complex for its employees and pensioners. All inquiries should be addressed to **SHELLEGRAM**, Shell Oil Company, P. O. Box 100, Deer Park, Texas 77536.

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