

# Shellegram

SEPTEMBER 1993

DEER PARK MANUFACTURING COMPLEX

*Now broader preferences*

## Employees earn pectens in new safety awards program

**Y**ou asked for it, you got it. The new safety awards program introduced this summer was designed to please a wider range of employee preferences while packing more punch into the push for a zero OSHA recordable rate.

Employees are accumulating pectens, a point system similar to what some might remember from several years back. Besides individuals, the Complex and departments are now earning pectens that can be redeemed for gifts or cash.

"We felt it was timely to take another look at our prevention activity program based on the feedback we received from people here and at other locations," says MIKE

RUDNICKI, superintendent, Health, Safety & Environmental.

"We used to reward performance goals like hours worked without a lost time incident. Then we began rewarding individual participation in prevention activities such as Accident Prevention Reports (APRs) and safety meeting attendance," says Rudnicki. "That's helped get participation higher but we're still not accomplishing our performance goals, which is reduc-



ing the number of people getting hurt. Our OSHA recordable rate has been bouncing between 2.0 and 2.4 for almost 2-1/2 years."

The new pecten program helps create a balance between individual prevention activities and department and Complex performance. Departments can be rewarded for doing well, but we won't reach our goal

unless the Complex as a whole does well. Individuals will continue to be rewarded for individual contributions through prevention activities.

Rudnicki says the award program is another component of an overall process to achieve good safety performance, not THE answer, but one more reminder.

"A major part of any safety process has got to

### HOW IT WORKS

#### What is the Pecten Program?

##### Department

- Department activities tied to safety structure (initially HASIP prevention activities) 2 Pectens/qtr.
- Performance based on OSHA recordable numbers
  - Field personnel 2 Pectens/qtr.
  - Office personnel 1 Pecten/qtr.

##### Complex

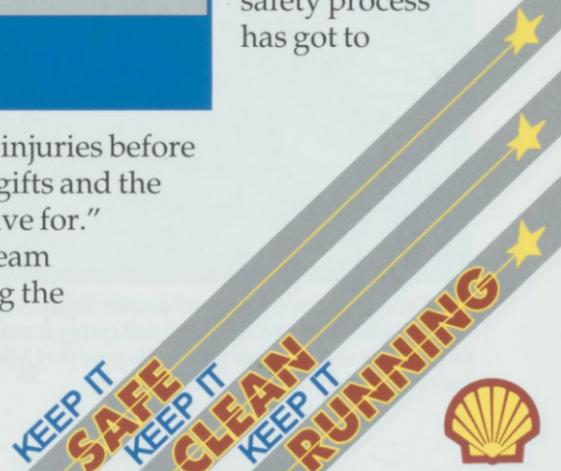
- Performance BONUS based on achieving the TARGET OSHA recordable number < 6 PER QUARTER 2 Pectens/qtr.\*

\*Escalated 1 Pecten per quarter for consecutive quarters in a calendar year

**To be injury-free is up to me!**

be prevention—stopping the injuries before they happen," he says. "The gifts and the cash give us something to strive for."

The Awareness SAFE Team designed and is administering the program. ■



## Spill response on the leading edge

Shell received certification by the Texas General Land Office (GLO) recently after a favorable audit of DPMC's spill response plan and capabilities. The certification authorizes the Complex to operate for the next five years.

In GLO's audit summary, Shell was said to be on the "leading edge" of spill

### Exceptional safety award

The Chemical Manufacturers Association awarded Shell Chemical Company the Lamot DuPont Safety Award for exceptional safety performance.

Shell was one of three winners. Awards were given to member companies which have shown the greatest percentage reduction in total recordable incidence rates of occupational injuries, deaths and illnesses during the past five years. In addition to the reduction in injury rates, a company's total recordable incidence rates for the award year must not exceed the average for all companies in the same category.

The Lamot DuPont Safety Award was established in 1951 "to inspire and encourage CMA member companies to improve and effectuate their industrial safety programs to prevent personal injuries." ■

#### Family S.A.F.E. Team Check your gear for safety



The Cave family won the second quarter Safety Slogan Contest with "The sun is shining and spring is near; it's time for camping so check your gear". They are (l-r) Michael Jr., Haleigh, Tammy, Michael and Ashlynn.

response. However, the GLO believed that Shell Deer Park should work toward continuous improvement.

Auditors interviewed members of the Incident Command System, Emergency Operations Center and Marine Operations; reviewed training records and plans; and inspected spill boom and skimmers.

"The auditors were primarily concerned that people who would be involved in a response knew the plan," says ANDREA HODGE, Marine Services. "Furthermore, the auditors emphasized the use of checklists to guide our response and serve as reminders to certain steps and procedures." She adds that the GLO reported excellent checklists for dock personnel and suggested similar check-

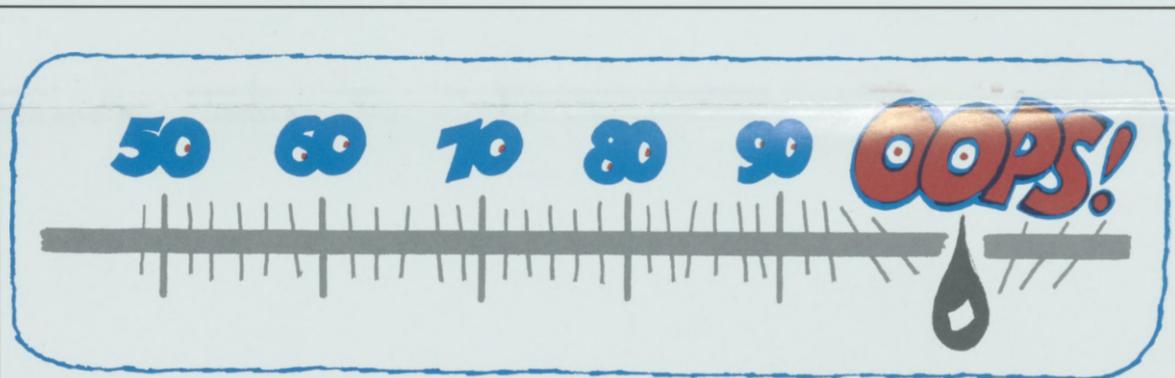
lists for individuals in the Emergency Operations Center, the group that manages all Complex emergencies.

Hodge says the audit went "overall very well." She adds that one of the auditors said he was pleased as a citizen that we have placed such an emphasis on spill response procedures and capabilities.

ROGER DeRICK and JERRY WILLIAMSON, both from Health and Safety, received special commendation by the GLO for the training program.

DPMC transfers, on the average, between 90-100 million barrels of product across its docks.

The GLO inspects all marine transfer related facilities in the state in accordance with the Oil Spill Prevention and Response Act of 1991. ■



### Don't trash that thermostat

by Bob Timmons, Employee Development

I noticed an AC/heating thermostat thrown into the trash container in the kitchen area of the North Training Building.

From past experience I knew some of these contained mercury in a glass capsule for electrical starting/stopping.

After retrieving this particular one, it was confirmed to contain mercury. I transported the thermostat to the North Lab and asked how to properly dispose of it. They explained they had a system in place in their area to properly dispose of mercury and volunteered to dispose of this item.

In the future I would suggest that we insure that the AC/heating equipment repair personnel are aware that mercury has to be disposed of properly and not just thrown into clean trash containers, and that we insure that a system is in place for proper disposal of equipment of this nature. ■

# "There has been an explosion in the Resins Lab."

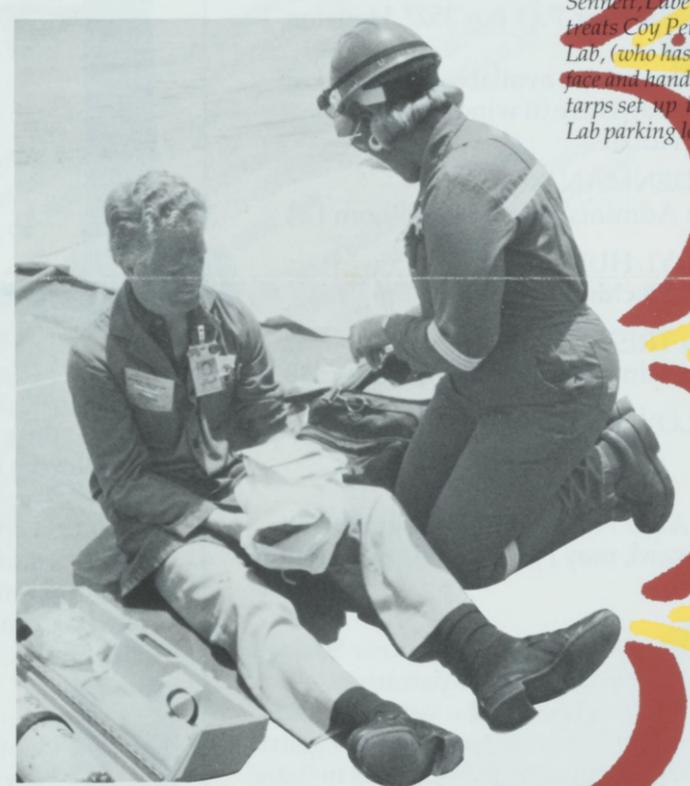
**DISCOVERY**—Greta Ballard, Resins Lab; and Lisa Wharton, BPA4; discuss how to care for Carolyn Stoner, Resins Lab, who was knocked unconscious and bleeding.



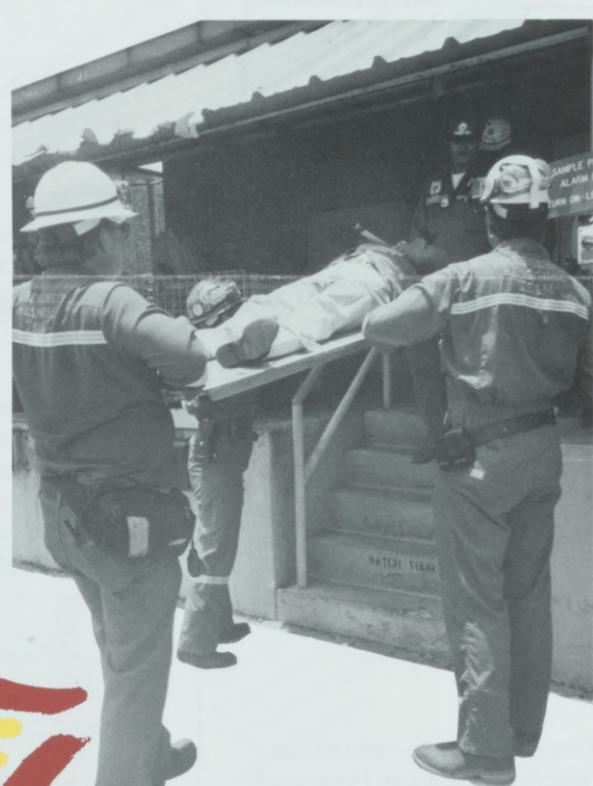
**SET-UP**—Angie Spoboda transforms Tony Hunt into a head wound patient.



**TREATMENT**—Julie Sennett, Lab Manufacturing, treats Coy Pettey, Resins Lab, (who has burns to his face and hands, on one of the tarps set up in the Resins Lab parking lot.



**TRANSPORT**—Billy Stidham, Maintenance Planning; Angie Spoboda, Health & Safety; Don Pogue, Dispatching Docks; and Jay Gantenbein, Health & Safety; carry Ron Sackett, Resins Lab, who is suffering a heart attack, to a waiting ambulance.



## SMART WORK

**T**here has been a chemical explosion in the Resins Lab. The wind is out of the east. Would all occupants please evacuate to the truck parking area."

That distressing message was broadcast over the public address system, starting a chain reaction of activity in the Resins Lab one day last July. SMART Team members quickly went about administering care to explosion patients.

Fortunately, the explosion wasn't real. It was a drill organized so that SMART and Resins Lab workers could become more familiar with what it's like responding to a lab explosion. The idea came from GRETA BALLARD, who works in the lab and is a

member of the SMART Team. The drill was one of the quarterly demonstrations put on by the Resins Lab Safety Committee.

"Everybody including myself was interested in what would happen if a number of people here went down," says Ballard, who was responsible for setting up the drill. "If it happened here, how would we get all these people out and cared for?"

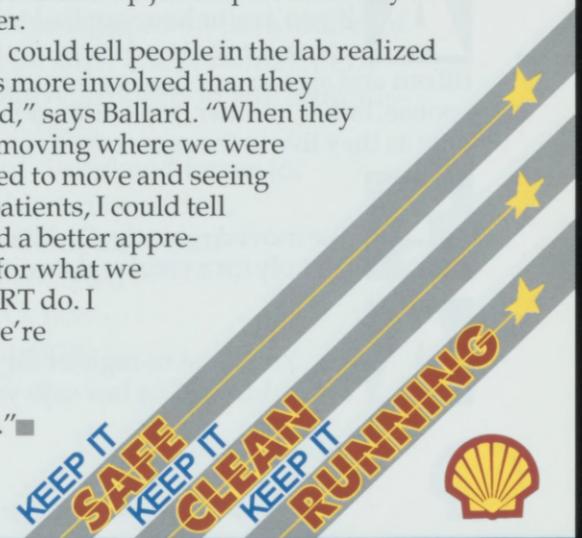
Ballard was surprised at how fast everything moved and how well the actors played their roles, particularly the patients.

"I told the actors not to help the rescuers but to play their parts as realistically as possible. I was really impressed with them. They stuck to their roles."

Patients suffered from open and closed

wounds to the face and hands, heat stress, burns, unconsciousness, and heart attacks. An expert make-up job helped them stay in character.

"I could tell people in the lab realized this was more involved than they expected," says Ballard. "When they saw us moving where we were supposed to move and seeing to our patients, I could tell they had a better appreciation for what we in SMART do. I think we're good to have around." ■



*Editor's Note: Busy schedules, oversights or confusion may result in your missing out in the next election. Here are answers to some commonly-asked questions about voter registration for the Nov. 2 general election. Your county courthouse can answer all others. Voting is designed to be easier than ever before, if you just remember a few rules. This year, several voter registration locations at the Complex have been set up for your convenience.*



How can I become a registered voter?



To become a registered voter you must complete a voter registration application. These cards can be obtained by visiting or calling your local county courthouse. If you reside in Harris County you may visit the Harris County Courthouse Annex at 1001 Preston, downtown, or call the voter registration office at 224-1919, ext. 2310. They can mail your registration card to you or direct you to the branch office closest to you. Return your completed card to the voter registrar in your county. In Harris County that person is Carl Smith, Tax Assessor-Collector, P.O. Box 3527, Houston, TX 77253-9942.

Cards are also available in North Lab Room 102 (cards are in window) or call these individuals:

PAT DENMAN, X6808  
South Administration Bldg. Room 124

DARRYL HURT, X6113  
North Machine Shop

JOHN TRISTAN, X6660  
North Administration Bldg. Room 238

DEE LOWERY, X6247



After I fill out a voter registration card, may I vote in the next election?



You become eligible to vote 30 days after your voter registration application is received by the voter registrar in your county. This year, your voter registration application must be postmarked no later than Oct. 3. But don't wait until the last minute. Fill it out now.



Can I register other members of my family?



If you are, or have applied to become, a registered voter, you may fill out and sign an application for your spouse, father, mother, son or daughter, as long as they live in the same county as you.



I've moved recently. Do I have to reapply for a voter registration card?



Yes. You must re-register for your new address. The law says you can

# Things you may want to know about voting in the 1993 election



vote up to 90 days in your old precinct, but after that time you have disenfranchised yourself from the right to vote and must re-register. To re-register, just fill out a new registration application or take your old certificate, add the new address on the back, sign it, and return it to your county registrar. In Harris County, return the certificate to Carl S. Smith.



I won't be available to vote in the Nov. 2 election. How can I vote early?



Early voting was once called absentee voting. Whether you are going to be out of town, are ill, too far from a voting place or just want to avoid the long lines, you may vote early. Or you may vote by mail if you fall under one of the following conditions:

- If you are 65 years of age or older;
- If you have a disability;



How do I vote early?



Call your county courthouse voting office for details and locations. In Harris County that number is 755-6965.



I live in Harris County. What are the dates for early voting?



Early voting starts Oct. 13 and ends Oct. 29.

- If you expect to be absent from the county on election day (your children away at college may qualify here).

For applications for early voting by mail call the county clerk's office at 755-6965. The deadline for mailing applications is Oct. 26.

## Voting issues

- 16 state-wide constitutional amendments.
- Houston City Council and mayor's race
- HISD trustees race
- Houston Community College trustee race
- Harris County bond election
- Port of Houston bond election
- City of Houston emergency services (selected district elections)
- City of Bellaire mayor's and city council race

Shell Oil Company

Shell Chemical Company  
A Division of Shell Oil Company



Deer Park Manufacturing Complex  
P.O. Box 100  
Deer Park, TX 77536

Dear Employees and Retirees:

As you are well aware, our industry and particularly Shell is experiencing difficult and challenging times. Employees have been asked to make sacrifices to reduce costs and increase profitability. We have made considerable progress through restructuring and other major cost reduction efforts. Continued efforts are needed. Just as we look internally for opportunities to reduce costs and increase profitability, we must look for opportunities externally. One such opportunity is a constitutional amendment on the November 2 ballot which has significant importance to Shell Deer Park, our industry state-wide, jobs and the Texas environment. Proposition 2 reads as follows: "The constitutional amendment to promote the reduction of pollution and to encourage the preservation of jobs by authorizing the exemption from ad valorem taxation of real and personal property used for the control of air, water or land pollution."

This ballot measure will authorize a limited property tax exemption for businesses that are required by law to install pollution-control equipment to meet government-mandated environmental standards. The exemption will only be from property used to control pollution and it will not take existing property off the tax rolls. Passage of this measure is especially important to the Deer Park Complex because of the \$1 billion refinery upgrade now underway. A significant portion of that investment is for pollution-control equipment to reduce air emissions. This exemption could save Shell some very substantial dollars each year.

I strongly believe Proposition 2 is good for Shell Deer Park, our industry, the Texas economy, and most importantly, the Texas environment. I encourage you to educate yourself on this proposition and all the ballot measures. Vote November 2, or during early voting October 13-29. Vote according to your beliefs, but above all vote informed.

Sincerely,

Steve Reeves  
Complex Manager

## Shell sponsors 1995 scholarships

Shell Oil Company Foundation announces its 27th scholarship competition for sons and daughters of regular full-time employees and retired or deceased employees of Shell Oil Company, Billiton Metals Inc., Shell Offshore Inc., Shell Pipe Line Corporation, Shell Western E&P Inc., Pecten Middle Eastern Services Company, Pecten Chemicals Inc., Shell Frontier Services, Inc., Pecten International Company, and SOI Royalties, Inc.

To compete, students must submit entry forms by Jan. 1, available through your Human Resources representative, and must take the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) which will be given in high schools on Oct. 12 or Oct. 16.

The foundation will sponsor up to 50 four-year scholarships for students graduated from secondary school and entering college in 1995. The number of

scholarships is based on the number of eligible entrants. The National Merit Scholarship Corporation will administer the program.

Send completed forms to:  
Scholarship Competition,  
Shell Oil Company Foundation,  
Two Shell Plaza, P.O. Box 2099, Houston, TX 77252. ■

KEEP IT SAFE  
KEEP IT CLEAN  
KEEP IT RUNNING



## Maya project brings changes to Hydroprocessing

**S**ite-clearing activities are in motion to make room for major upgrade facilities within Hydroprocessing, part of Deer Park Refining Limited Partnership's billion dollar refinery upgrade.

Operation of the Delayed Coker and Gas-Oil Hydrotreater, as well as changes in the refinery sour gas system, will be heavily supported by the operation of several new Hydroprocessing units:

- Two new 200 LT/D sulfur recovery units;
- Two new amine regeneration units;
- One new sour water stripper;
- One new pressure swing absorber;
- New and upgraded utilities systems.

BYRON WILLIAMS, Hydroprocessing foreman on assignment to Major Projects, explains, "As the system managers for both acid gas and refinery hydrogen distribution, we are committed to constructing and operating these facilities in a safe, reliable and environmentally sound manner. These units are critical to successful operation of DPMC on Mayan crude oil."

The Delayed Coker and GOHT are an addition to the current sulfur load. Additional hydrotreating and stripping facilities are being constructed to remove the sulfur as hydrogen sulfide. The sulfur recovery units (SRU) then convert the hydrogen sulfide to elemental sulfur. These units bring the number of SRUs in DPMC to five, three of which will be operated by Hydroprocessing.

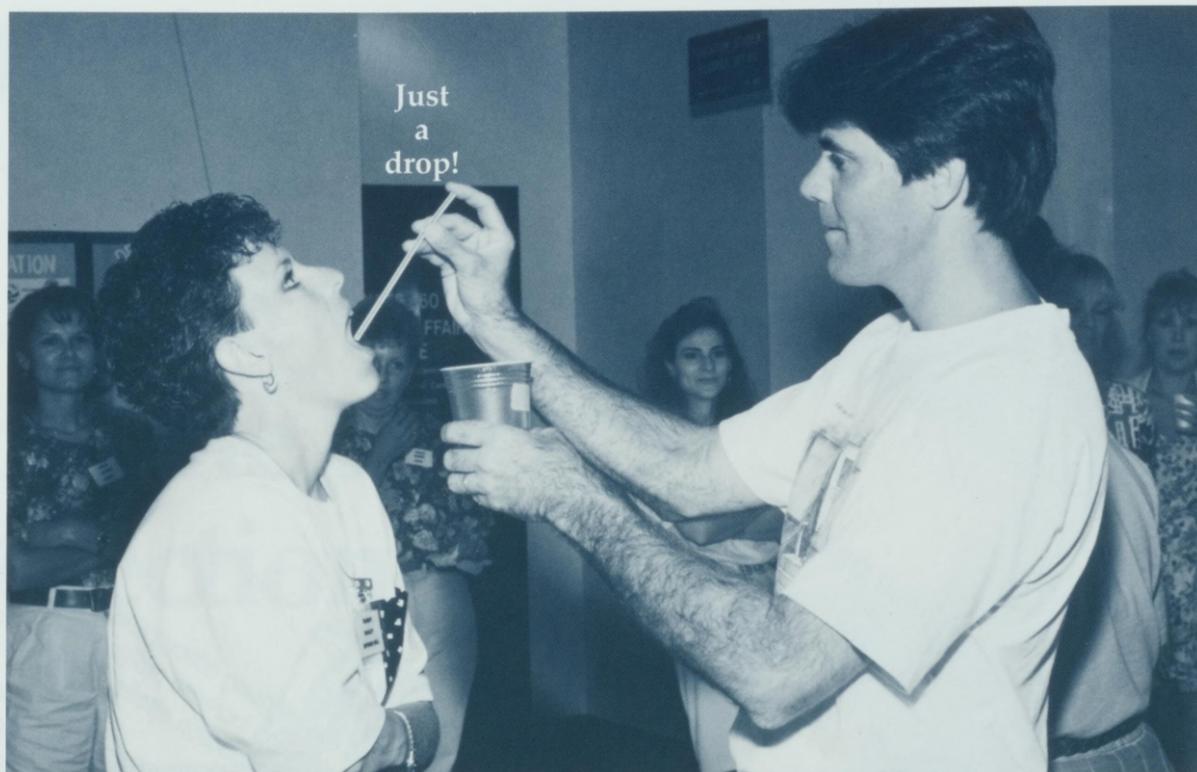
An "exciting" feature designed into the new SRUs is a sublicensed technology from Germany called Lurgi Oxygen Combustion, according to KARL HOOD, process engineer. "This technology of using pure oxygen for combustion in the Claus reactor results in significantly lower capital costs due to equipment downsizing," according to Hood.

Though the Lurgi process has been in successful operation for several years in Europe, Hood says this is the first U.S. application of Lurgi Oxygen Combustion.

Operation of the GOHT requires high pressure, high purity hydrogen. "This hydrogen is supplied by a combination of purchased hydrogen and purified hydrogen from refinery off-gases processed in the new pressure swing absorber," according to LORI LOWERY, process engineer.

Other upgrade facilities include refurbishing the sulfur tank car loading rack, additional sour water storage facilities, construction of a new cooling water tower, construction of a new utility air compressor, and control room modifications to incorporate the new units.

According to Operations Department Manager BILL WENDES, "Hydroprocessing is looking forward to these projects. It'll take commitment and hard work from all of us, but it's worth the effort for DPMC to truly become a world-class refinery." ■



*JUST A DROP—High school science teachers learn the meaning of parts per million as they sample lemon juice added to a glass of water. The teachers visited Shell Deer Park and other plants this summer as part of a two-week workshop on chemicals and the environment.*

## Teachers pick up good lessons on chemical industry

**H**igh school science teachers throughout Texas saw Shell Deer Park and others in the chemical industry up close this past summer in an intensive workshop designed to help them better teach their students about chemicals and the environment.

In the fourth annual workshop "Chemicals and the Environment," science teachers toured several plants over a two-week period, learning how a chemical manufacturing facility works, how workers stay safe and prepared for emergencies, and how chemicals impact the community. They came away with an expanded view of the chemical industry and lots of ideas and resources to use in their classes.

The workshop included a presentation about Shell Deer Park's emergency preparedness, which took teachers into the field for a live fire training demonstration and a tour of the effluent treaters, then into the classroom for discussions on health, safety and the environment.

"The curriculum is very balanced," says GENE CHIAPPETTA, professor of Science Education at the University of Houston, who coordinates the workshop each year. "We borrow from the industry as well as state government agencies for structured materials we can use in the classroom throughout the year."

Chiappetta, who was approached by Shell Deer Park and other companies several years ago to develop a high school science education program, says teachers were able to add several activities to their curriculum as a result of the workshop while being exposed to a side of the chemical industry they don't often see.

Their visit to DPMC happened to coincide with an HCL gas release at the Oxy-VCM plant. "That was a wonderful lesson and couldn't have been better planned," admits Chiappetta.

Chiappetta and the teachers were dressed in FRCs and about to view a fire training

demonstration when the alarm sounded. The tour continued as scheduled after only a brief interruption.

Deer Park High School science teachers ELDON FRANKO and EDWIN BEALE were among those attending the workshop. "I think it [the workshop] helped change some of the opinions of the teachers there," says FRANKO, who teaches advanced biology. "It changed my idea. It showed me that these companies are helping make a better life for people who use everyday products and that they are doing things that help improve the environment and are beneficial for society."

Franko picked up ideas for lesson plans that fit nicely into his environmental, human systems and physical science sections, and a way to tap into Shell Deer Park and other companies.

"We came away with lots of resources," says Franko. "We can now call a plant and know how to arrange for speakers. Some of the literature that was passed on to us included specific contact persons."

Beale, who teaches environmental science, also came away with valuable information.

"As a teacher who has sat through many workshops I tended to go into this one expecting more of the same—long on talk and short on things to actually bring back to the classroom. This was different. Now I can tell my students 'this is what I've seen,' and can actually describe it."

Beale was particularly interested in Shell's groundwater clean-up activities. During a lab, teachers sampled drops of lemon juice mixed with water to experience what parts per million and billion really meant in the discussion of waste-water treatment.

"That was a good activity to bring home," says Beale. "Kids have a hard time with that concept." ■

# SERVE SCRAPBOOK



CLOWNING—SERVE volunteers served up hamburgers and hot dogs and clowned around with Boys & Girls Harbor children in La Porte this past summer, along with local Shriners.

## Retirement Corner

### Central Texas club travels

The Central Texas Shell Retiree's Club gets around—all over the world. Together with the Shell DPMC Retirees Club, members have cruised the Mississippi and the lower Caribbean, and toured southern England, Austria, Switzerland and Germany. Next year, the groups will cruise to Alaska and tour Scotland and Ireland.

The club meets every two months—in different locations since members are spread out over a wide area. The 182 members come from Houston to Marble Falls and from College Station to Eagle Lake.

Meetings begin at 11 a.m. for a social hour, followed by lunch and a brief business meeting. Membership news is kept current with a bimonthly newsletter mailed to homes. In April the club also holds a barbecue to which everyone is invited.

For membership information and the time and date of the next meeting, call WALTER FORTUNE, president at 409/865-5826; A.J. FREE, vice president, 409/836-1986; or AL WILHELM, secretary/treasurer, 409/836-0651.

Membership dues are \$5 annually.

### Hole in one

Bill Telschow, who retired from Chemi-

cal Purchasing in 1978, wants his "cronies" to know he clinched his first "hole in one" after 47 years of play on number 11 par three hole at 170 yards. Telschow used a six iron to do it at a Conroe golf course. Telschow, 73, lives on the number 18 green.

### Floundering

EARL EBELT, retiree, poses with his grandson BRANDON after the child's first fishing trip last July. Brandon and his grandfather caught seven flounder in 1-1/2 hours at East Matagorda Bay. Ten-year-old Brandon is also the son of JERRY WOOD, Logistics, North Treaters. Ebelts retired in 1980 from Dispatching—Railroad Operations. ■

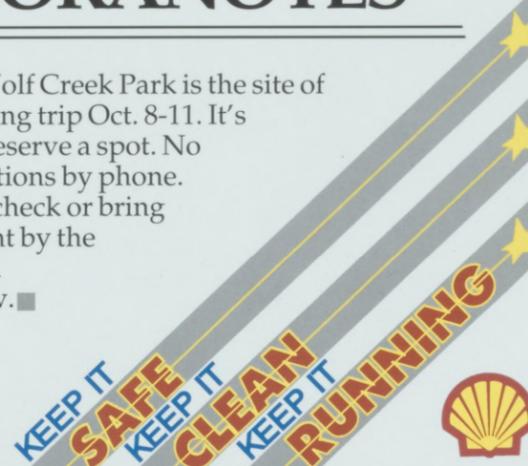


## Volunteers help out at Bay Day

Employees from member companies of East Harris County Manufacturers Association (EHCMA) did volunteer duty at a Sylvan Beach booth in La Porte for the 1993 Bay Day, June 12 and 13. DPMC's MAUREEN HALLER, CHARLES BLAND, LINDA CATHRINER, MIKE RUDNICKI, BOBY SHERVEN and JERRY WOOD helped educate visitors on biomonitoring methods, industrial pollution and regional air quality statistics. ■

## SCORANOTES

Wolf Creek Park is the site of a camping trip Oct. 8-11. It's \$18 to reserve a spot. No reservations by phone. Send a check or bring payment by the SCORA window. ■



# MILESTONES

## Service Anniversaries

### 30 YEARS

G.N. JACOBSON  
PE/CS/QA

### 25 YEARS



M.C. ARCOS  
Logistics  
(above, Aug.)



J.H. BABINEAUX  
Major Projects  
(above, June)

T.A. OVERSTREET  
PE/CS/QA

G.A. PHILLIPS  
Engrg./Mtce/Olef.

J.A. STANLEY II  
Maintenance Plng.

### 20 YEARS

J.L. BIBBY  
BPA4

J.D. HOLLINS  
Resin Mtce.

L. PLUMBER  
Project Engrg.

P. REESCANO, JR.  
Hydroprocessing

L.M. THOMAS  
Administration

### 15 YEARS

D. ALLEN  
Sovents Distrib.

R.L. BAKER  
Hydroprocessing

M.M. BURNHAM  
Human Resources

R.G. HEIBERG  
Control Systems

V.S. McCULLEY  
Resins SET

J.T. MONROE  
Hydroprocessing

J. PALOMAREZ, JR.  
Heavy Olef. Distrib.

V.M. PAVLOVSKY  
Dispatching

V.M. STEPHENS  
Security

A.D. TAGGART II  
PE/CA/QA

P.E. TURNER  
PE/CA/QA

J.P. WEATHERLY  
Dispatching

R.L. WELBORN  
Hydroprocessing

### RETIREMENTS



H.C. BOSTICK  
Control Systems  
(above, March)

### MEMORIAM

CLARENCE M. SHARP, retiree,  
died Aug. 4 in Houston

ESQUE SPROUSE, retiree, died  
Aug. 10 in Ennis, TX.

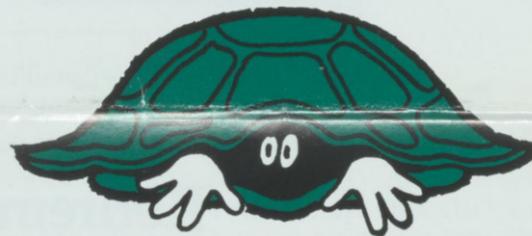
## Shell ranks most improved in Fortune

In its July issue, *Fortune* magazine ranked Shell Oil Company one of 10 companies who have most improved environmentally.

In an article entitled "Who scores best on the environment," the magazine examined EPA, OSHA and other government records of 130 of America's biggest manufacturers.

The article explained that Shell "achieved an 8 percent reduction in toxic chemical releases between 1988 and 1989, set a goal to exceed the 50 percent chemical reduction targets in the EPA's priority program, and volunteered to decrease four other toxic chemicals 65 percent by 1995."

## WHO'S THE WISE GUY?



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

Editor  
Alayne Merenstein



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