

# SHELL *e* g r a m

D E E R P A R K

## SERVE @ Work

Shell Employees and Retirees Volunteerism Effort (SERVE) members frequently organize or support community outreach events and programs. In case you're unfamiliar with the great deeds performed by this dedicated group of volunteers, here are a few examples of their endeavors.



### Porch Project

SERVE made a difference in the life and home of an elderly Deer Park resident when they added a covered front porch and created a back exit to the home. SERVE members worked with an Explorer Scout group, who cleaned up and beautified the yard. When the woman returned from her time away, she was greeted with a new porch, a new and improved stairway and a clean yard.

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SERVE Volunteers



Count on Shell



It takes the efforts of many people each month to gather ideas and information for Shellegram stories. This month we would like to thank Bob Chow and Ken Smisor for providing information on a new control system for Distilling Unit #1, and Kara Uptegraph for supplying facts about the new crisis management software. These two new systems will assist our operating efficiencies and safety performance.

We'd like to thank Lois Guthrie for a recap on SERVE events. These volunteers do a great job in our community and are always looking for smiling faces to join the fun. Also in the community outreach department, Mindy Yount and Bob Sherven told us about their activities with Junior Achievement.

Thanks to Ed Koch for providing information on the Contractor Forum meetings and to Dan Burt for his update on the Maya II Project. Dan also provided us with photos.

In trying to communicate ongoing and upcoming programs, activities and events at Shell Deer Park, we're always looking for story ideas, so please contact us and let us know what's going on. We always appreciate your help.

Gina Manlove, Managing Editor

*Gina*

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Continued From Cover

## SERVE@Work

### Green Valley Elementary School

More than 40 Shell Deer Park Chemical Plant employees visited Green Valley Elementary School for a morning of environmental learning that included lessons on recycling, indoor air pollution and water sheds. The Galena Park Independent School District elementary has 45 individual classes, ranging from Pre-K to fifth grade, and each of them hosted at least one Shell Chemical Plant employee. In addition to the lessons, a demonstration was set up in the cafeteria for students to see how plants give off oxygen.



### What a Difference a Day Makes

Shell Deer Park opened its doors and SERVE members opened their hearts to welcome 11 ladies and 22 children from The Bridge for a "Day of Pampering." After a light breakfast, the children enjoyed games and activities while their mothers received manicures, pedicures and hair consultations by students from Pasadena High School Cosmetology Department, make-up tips from Mary Kay Consultant Roxanne Diaz and a fashion show by Shell employees. Some of the employee's personal clothes used in the fashion show were later donated to The Bridge's Resale Shop.

Shell topped off the "Day of Pampering" with a formal luncheon that featured motivational speaker Sonya Ware discussing "What Makes Women Special" and door prizes. All of the ladies who participated received flowers and gift bags with beauty products, while their children received goody bags with toys and pencils.

### Going the Extra Mile

Equipped with their trademark yellow shirts and shovels, more than 15 SERVE volunteers helped construct a running and walking track for Gardens Elementary School in Pasadena. The two-day community service project was a team effort from the start with Shell's drafting department providing preliminary sketches and the elementary school hosting fundraisers to help cover the cost of materials. Prime Equipment Company even loaned all of the machinery needed to build the track free-of-charge. The track was a gift not only to the students, but teachers and neighborhood residents as well.

SERVE board members



### Providing Brain Fuel for TAAS Test Takers

For the fifth consecutive year, volunteers got up bright and early to encourage and nourish Deer Park High School students taking the Texas Assessment of Academic Skills (TAAS) test. The Shell volunteers served breakfast to students, helping them get a jumpstart on the day and on the test. Approximately 1,000 students filled up on kolaches, sausage, juice and milk before the TAAS test. Students also received a "TAAS Survival Kit" that included #2 pencils, a cereal bar and a mint.



These are just a few of the many community activities at Shell Deer Park. Other volunteer opportunities include:

- The Environmental Project
- Junior Achievement
- Olefins Golf Tournament
- Partners in Education
- Refinery Managers Annual Project ('99 - Haunted House)
- Supporting Explorers Scouts
- Toys for Tots

*Annually, employees and retirees from Shell Deer Park Refining Co. and Chemical Plant volunteer approximately 150,000 hours in the community. Ask anyone who is involved and they'll tell you that after volunteering, they feel good about what they accomplished, and they feel good about themselves. To join the fun and volunteer for one of the upcoming activities, contact Lois Guthrie at 713-246-6247.*



## SHELL SPEAKER SERIES SPONSORS COOL CAREER EVENT



Shell Deer Park had students tuning in for another "Cool Careers" speaker series with Steve Robison, the morning show host for 107.5 "The Buzz" radio station. Held on Jan. 28 at Deer Park High School, the third part of the program series again focused on off-the-beaten path careers.

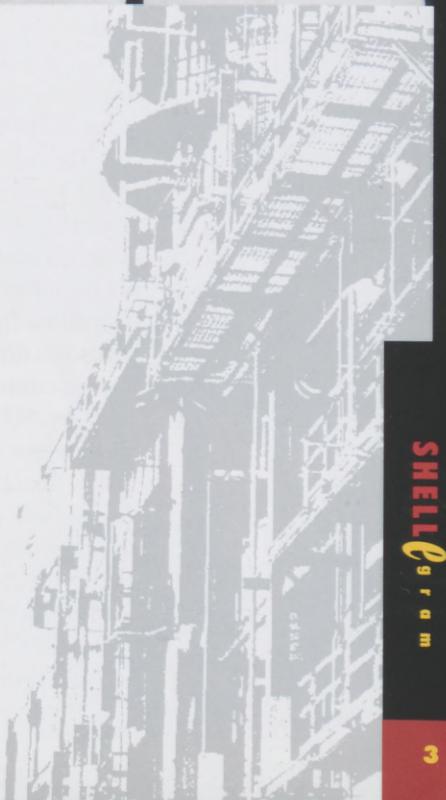
One goal of the speaker series is to prove to students that any career, even unusual ones, are within their reach if they stay in school and continue their education. Since young people have a broad range of interests, Shell Deer Park tries to include a variety of occupations with the hope that students can find an appealing career.

Robison, a nine-year veteran of the Houston radio market, shared advice and

stories from his radio career. Additionally, one of the Buzz's vehicles was on location to provide an example of the technical aspect regarding broadcasting.

Previous speakers have included Bill Records, vice president of marketing for Equilon Lubricants, who talked about life in the fast lane with the Texaco Grand Prix, and Rufus Lovett, a noted photographer whose images have appeared in publications such as *Texas Monthly* and *Southern Accents*.

Shell provided hot dogs and other refreshments for students, who were eligible to win "cool" prizes such as head-phone radios, a CD player/jambox, T-shirts and Buzz giveaways.





Ken Smisor pictured above

## Refinery Completes Control Modernization Project

"We would like to thank the DU-1 operators for their dedication and patience during the six-week hot cut over period."

— Ken Smisor, control systems engineer for Distilling and Alky/MTBE

To enhance the operating efficiency of Distilling Unit #1 (DU-1), Shell Deer Park Refinery Co. converted the units control platform to a more efficient system. The new Distributed Control System (DCS) provides easy access and real-time information on activities from feed rate to product makes, which should improve production, yields and profits from DU-1.

The advanced technology allows DU-1 to run more smoothly, since it's now faster to access information and determine the root cause of problems. "Since control is much easier," says project leader Ken Smisor, control systems engineer for Distilling and Alky/MTBE, "I was able to automate the seal oil pressure control and resolve a control issue in less than two hours." According to Smisor, it would have taken days to resolve the problem with the old system. DCS also alerts operators of abnormal situations through various levels of alarming.

Many people were involved in this nine-month conversion. Project engineer Rene

Maggiore worked on funding, material purchases and contractor selection. She was followed by Eugene Arana, also a project engineer, who coordinated hot cut over preparation and field construction.

Training coordinator Rick Skillern developed detailed hot cut over plans and conducted communications on the hot cut over process. The operations representative was James Dampier, who helped design graphic displays and was instrumental in leading the hot cut over process. Process manager John Griffiths and operational supervisor Clyde Stewart also supported all of the activities for the project. "We

would like to thank the DU-1 operators for their dedication and patience during the six-week hot cut over period," Smisor stated.

Since the conversion, DU-1 has operated from the Fuels West Control Center along with its sister unit DU-2. In the coming months, Smisor and control specialists Bob Chow will continue to implement advanced controls aimed at improving unit operations and further optimizing DU-1, which currently has a capacity of 70,000 barrels per day.



Back row: (left to right) Darrell Gardner, Johnny Walker, Bob Chow, Ken Smisor, Clyde Stewart  
Seated: Richard Davis, Denise Benson

# Maya II

## Maya II Update

The Maya II Project, which is approximately 40% complete and on target for a Spring 2001 startup, received special deliveries during the early part of March. First to arrive was the new 90-ton Post Fractionation column, which is 15 feet in diameter and 97 feet long. Next, arriving at the docks from Japan, were two 300 plus ton coker drums, each 28 feet in diameter and 122 feet long. The coker drums will be lifted into place in late April.

Workers are nearing completion on the foundation area of the vacuum flasher and will begin receiving equipment in June. At that time, the 105-ton vacuum flasher vessel, which is 20 feet in diameter and 61 feet long, will be lifted into place. In July, the Distillate Hydrotreater, which weighs 325 tons, will be lifted into place.

In anticipation of the 1,500 workers who will be added during the summer months to assist with construction of Maya II, a second left-hand turn off of the Highway 225 feeder is open. Dan Burt, vice president of Major Projects, says thanks go to Dave Smith in the Security Department at Shell Deer Park for working with the City of Pasadena

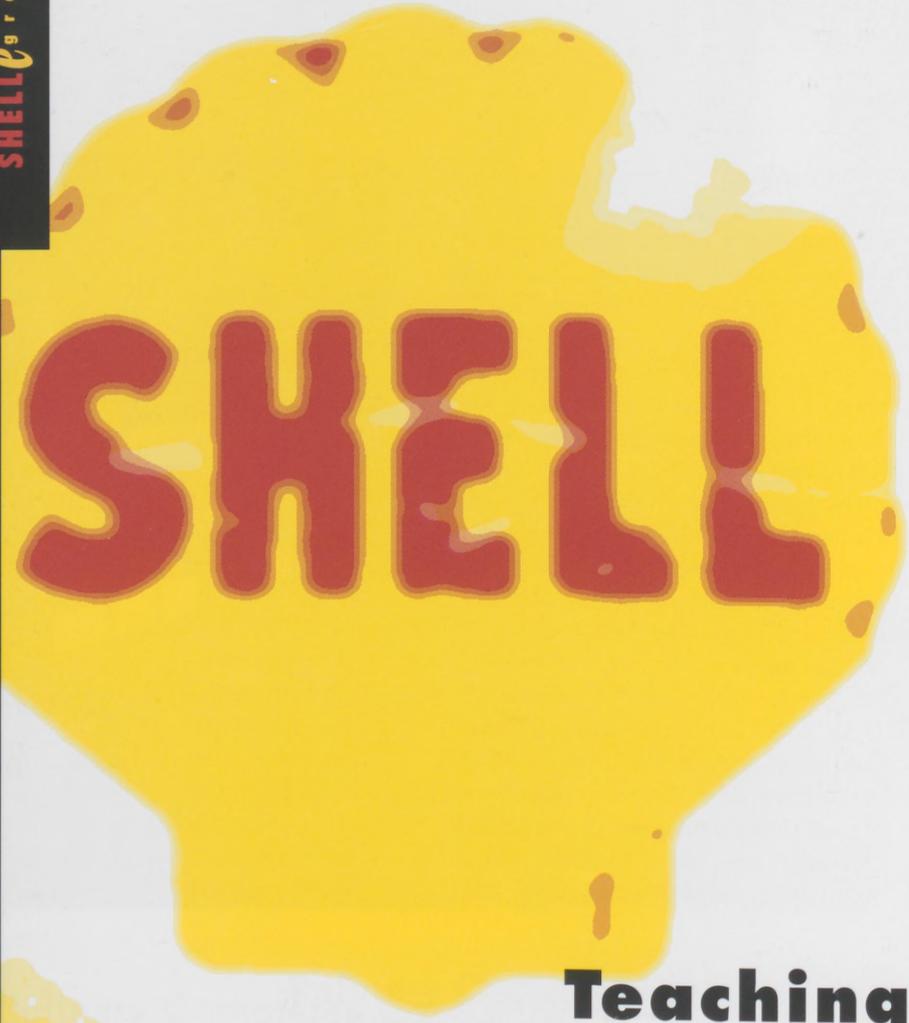
Highway Department and "making things happen." Not only was Smith successful in securing the second left-hand turn lane, but he also coordinated the retiming of traffic lights during busy travel times. Burt says that Major Projects also thanks the Harris County Sheriff's Department for the deputies who direct traffic along Highway 225.

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# SHELL

## Teaching TOMORROW'S LEADERS

As part of Shell Deer Park's commitment to education and community outreach, two refinery employees participate in Junior Achievement as instructors. Over a 12-week period, Mindy Yount, a chemical engineer in Business Analysis, and Bob Sherven, a control systems engineer in Special Projects, each spend part of a day teaching a class in basic business and economics at area schools.

Yount uses lessons and activities that expose eighth-grade social studies students at Deepwater Junior High School to concepts such as supply and demand, or what it takes to start a business. For example, in teaching about the benefits of teamwork, students participate in a paper hat-making contest. "Students quickly realize they can make more hats during the allowed time period when they work as a team and members perform a certain task," Yount stated.

Sherven spends Fridays instructing senior economic students at Sam Rayburn High School. The lessons Sherven teaches - on how to run a company and make capital investment, sales and marketing decisions - are supplemented with activities on a software program. "Students want to win the computer game so they have an added incentive to learn what I teach them," Sherven commented. He also covers topics such as saving money and interviewing for a job.

Both Yount and Sherven say they enjoy spending time with the students and the students have fun with the lessons and activities.

**"I think it's great that the kids see Shell participating in their community in such a positive way."**

— Mindy Yount  
Chemical Engineer in Business Analysis

## EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS CENTER RECEIVES NEW CRISIS MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE

Shell Deer Park recently purchased PlantSafe, an interactive computer software delivery system for crisis management and emergency response. The technology supports users by simplifying complicated problem-solving decisions. The emergency management tool will be used in the Emergency Communications Center (EOC) and mobile incident command vehicle to improve response to chemical and fire emergencies that occur in either the Chemical Plant or Refinery.

Training on PlantSafe is ongoing and includes an overview of how the system functions and an incident scenario demonstration. The overview presents how the PlantSafe system asks key questions during an emergency. After input questions or cues are answered, the system then displays advisory recommendations based on the user's responses. As additional information becomes available about the emergency, it is also possible to roll back and re-answer questions. Users have the ability to implement or override the action recommendations provided by the system.

The current trained core users group to assist the EOC and incident command staff includes Jim Beasley, Mike Boaze, Collette Brooks, Randy Burow, Rhonda Champon, Hank Craddock, Gary Hart, Ed Hawthorne, Benjy Morgan, Lynne Tackett and Kara Uptegraph. According to Hawthorne, "We think that PlantSafe is a product that will improve our ability to respond effectively to chemical and fire emergencies, including documentation management."

## Refinery Entrances

For January

**Lewis Barnes**  
Foreman MTC  
Prod-Central MTC-  
TAP

**Jeff Deerhake**  
Manager  
TA-  
Mechanical/Electrical  
IEQ

**Brett Henderson**  
Operator 1st  
Prod-West OPS-  
Coker

**Dale Manley**  
Foreman MTC  
Prod-Central MTC-  
TAP

**Stephan Mason**  
Sr.Analyst  
HR-  
Business/Technical  
Team

**Allen Mott**  
H&S Rep  
Health & Safety

**James Steller**  
Engineer  
TA-Pressure  
Equipment

## Refinery Exits

For January

**J. G. Cedillo**  
Control Systems Technician  
ENG/MNT Central Maint-  
Control SYS  
\*Retired 1-30-2000

**Ira Gigout**  
Sr Admin Assoc  
Logistics-Quality Assurance  
\*Retired 1-31-2000

**W.D. Griffith**  
Machinist-1st Rate  
ENG/MMT-Coker Maint  
\*Retired 1-30-2000

**A.L. Kelly**  
Special Tester  
Logistics-Quality Assurance  
\*Retired 1-31-2000

**De Kornele**  
Foreman MTC  
Central Maintenance, TAP  
\*Retired 1-31-2000

**Ord Limbrick**  
Engineer  
CPI-Proj Engineering  
Transferred

**Roger Pawelek**  
Operator-1st Rate  
CAT Cracking/Gas  
\*Retired 1-31-2000

**Gail Sandles**  
Sr Admin Assoc  
BS-Accounting  
Transferred

**D.R. Sauber**  
Manager  
HR/IR  
Transferred

**Velit Seyfettin**  
Manager  
TA-Electrical/Mechanical Eqpt  
Transferred

## Chemical Entrances

For January

**L. Escobedo**  
Pipefitter-1st Rate  
Solvents-MTCE-Pipefitter #1

**Kathleen Specht**  
Admin Assoc  
BPA Manufacturing

**Marcha Van Manen**  
Analyst Purch  
Major Resins

**Tracey Wood**  
Engineer Sr  
MPO Administration

\*Retirees

## Chemical Exits

For January

**L. Barnes**  
Facilities CMAT/TAS  
Transfer to refinery

## Chemical Entrances

For February

**Jason Ahrlert**  
Operator-Start Rate  
Phenol Acetone Operator #1

**Sandra Brou**  
Operator-2nd Rate  
Olefins-OPII-Operator #1

**Edward Finley**  
MTC General Helper-Start Rate  
Olefins-OPII-Operator #1

**Robert Hayes**  
Operator-Start Rate  
EPONS-Operator #1

**Jesus Lopez**  
Operator-Start Rate  
Phenol Acetone Operator #1

**Joseph Herrera**  
Operator-Start Rate  
EPON 5-Operator #1

**Michael Hicks**  
MTC General Helper-Start Rate  
Phenol Acetone Operator #1

**Brad McBride**  
General Helper-Start Rate  
Olefins-OPII-Operator #1

**Nolan Melonson**  
Operator-2nd Rate  
Phenol Acetone Operator #1

**James Minter**  
Operator-Start Rate  
EPON 6-Operator #1

**Randall Nelson**  
General Helper-Start Rate  
Olefins-OPII-Operator #1

**Marc Razo**  
Operator-Start Rate  
Phenol Acetone Operator #1

**James Roberts**  
Operator-2nd Rate  
EPON 5-Operator #1

**Felipe Silvas**  
Operator-Start Rate  
BPA Manufacturing-Operator #1

**Charles Stewart**  
MTC General Helper-Start Rate  
Phenol Acetone Operator #1

**Patricio Tristan**  
Operator-Start Rate  
EPON 6-Operator #1

**Michael Uhlig**  
Operator-Start Rate  
Phenol Acetone Operator #1

**Timothy Weinberger**  
Operator-2nd Rate  
Phenol Acetone Operator #1

**Billy Williams**  
Operator-2nd Rate  
Phenol Acetone Operator #1

**John Zachary**  
MTC General Helper-Start Rate  
Phenol Acetone Operator #1

MILESTONES

January

February

## Refinery Entrances

For February

**Kevin Clay**  
Operator-1st Rate  
Lubricants- Lube Manufacturing

**Scott Gordon**  
Engineer Process  
CPI-Project Engineering

**Edgar Hinojosa**  
Operator-1st Rate  
Major Projects-Startup Support-MAYA

**Stacy Minton**  
Sr Admin Assoc  
Business Services, Purchasing

**Brian Semff**  
Engineer Sr  
Business Management-Business Analysis

\*Retirees

## Refinery Exits

For February

**Alvin Buffington**  
Operator 1st Rate  
CAT Cracking/Gas-Operator #1  
\*Retired 2-29-2000

## Chemical Exits

For February

**K.R. Latimer**  
Control Systems Technician  
Solvents-Cntrl Sys-Control Systems Tech #1  
\*Retired 2-29-2000



*Strategies for Today's  
Environmental Partnership*

Editor's Note: Shell Deer Park supports these initiatives: Responsible Care, through the Chemical Manufacturer's Association, is a continuing effort to improve the industry's responsible management of chemicals; STEP, through the American Petroleum Institute, addresses public concerns by improving our industry's environmental health and safety performance.



**Responsible Care  
A Public Commitment**

## Contractor Forum Produces Positive and Proactive Communication

On the third Wednesday of each month, from 6:30 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. in the South Conference Center, members of the Shell Deer Park Chemical Contractor Forum meet to discuss safety issues, problems and concerns. Ed Koch, Kenney Moore and Don Smith coordinate the meetings, which are open to all Shell contractors.

During the meetings, which have 50 to 80 attendees each month, the group focuses on challenges that effect employees and contractors, as well as identifying workplace hazards. "The meetings also provide the opportunity for us to communicate changes in Shell's policies and procedures," commented Koch.

The group keeps an active list of issues, which in the past has included topics such as: building a sign indicating who to call for a hot-work permit and replacing the wind socks at Aromatics and Solvents. When appropriate, guest speakers are invited to address the forum on topics ranging from bug/snake bites and emergency reporting.

Those interested in attending a meeting or placing a topic on a meeting agenda should contact Ed Koch at 713-246-7510.



**Count on Shell**

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