

# SHELL *e* g r a m

D E E R P A R K

## Refinery Managers Create **Haunted House**

Every year, Refinery managers commit to a community service project. This year's project was a real "treat" for those involved as they assembled and painted a haunted

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One of the stories you'll find in this month's Shellegram is about the refinery managers who worked on the haunted house for Deer Park's annual Halloween Carnival. The proceeds from the haunted house benefit worthy educational endeavors, so stop by for a real "treat," if you get the chance.

Each month, there are always so many people to thank for their assistance in gathering information for the Shellegram. This month we say a special thank you to Marcy Bryan, retiree Bill Davis, Mario Hernandez, Darryl Hurt, Darryl Mayfield, James Rhame, Kyle Soderman, Joe Vasquez, Susan Walker and Kim Westbrook. Without the help of those involved in projects, we could not assemble the factual information necessary to publish this newsletter. So when someone from Shellegram calls, we really appreciate your response.

And while we're on the subject of people helping with Shellegram, we really appreciate those who take pictures and submit them to us.

Here are some helpful hints:

- Please do not write directly on photos
- Place a label on back with the name/event clearly written
- Glossy prints are preferred
- Digital photos need to be the highest resolution available; JPEG, or TIFF format

Thanks everyone!

Gina Manlove, Managing Editor

All inquiries should be addressed to  
SHELLEGRAM, Shell Deer Park  
P.O. Box 100, Deer Park, TX 77536  
713-246-6372  
Gina Manlove @  
Manlove Advertising 713-477-9781  
gina@manloveadv.com

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## Haunted House

house to be used in Deer Park's annual Halloween Carnival in the Jimmy Burke Activity Center.

Shell Deer Park donated the material and preliminary labor for the construction, which took place on Oct. 7. Preliminary design for the house was developed by Deer Park High School Building Trades Teacher Roy Giordano and 30 of his students. Giordano and students worked side-by-side with the refinery managers on the building project. Chris Thrailkill, scenic designer with local community drama group The Art Park Players, drew up the final design. Emmitt Drumgoole, maintenance foreman, and Tim Lively, a carpenter in the Chemical Plant, gave the construction a jump start before the big day. Roger Steers was also involved in coordinating the project.

For the first time, this year's Halloween Carnival will take place over a three-day period. Proceeds from the event, which begins on Friday, Oct. 29, and ends Sunday, Oct. 31, will be shared by The Art Park Players and the Building Trades Class. The community theater will use their half of the proceeds for student scholarships and the Building Trades Class will use their portion to purchase materials needed for the school year.

## Shell Deer Park Recognized for Spill Prevention Efforts

In September, Shell Deer Park received a special Environmental Excellence award from the Texas General Land Office. The award was based on the company's performance during a spill that occurred on June 25, 1999.

The spill involved the collision between two barges while one was moored at the Shell Facilities Mud Bank in the Boggy Bayou Basin. The collision caused approximately 350 barrels of untreated kerosene to spill into the waters of the Houston Ship Channel.

Although Shell was not responsible for the collision, marine operations personnel deployed pre-staged booms almost immediately after the incident. The 18" spill booms contained the kerosene inside the Shell slip near the barges.

While securing the spill site, Shell personnel also made the proper notifications, established an incident command post, initiated and followed Incident Command System (ICS) procedures and implemented air monitoring. During the cleanup, Shell personnel filled ICS positions, including safety officer, and assisted in recovery operations. After the cleanup effort was concluded, Shell personnel hosted a critique meeting. Thanks to the quick response of Shell employees, the spill was recovered within 48 hours.

Brett Woltjen, logistics manager, Mike Boaze, Shell Deer Park emergency response coordinator, Tony Mirenda, marine operations safety team leader and Mario Hernandez, oil spill prevention coordinator for the SDPR Health and Safety Department, accepted the award. Hernandez commented that "the spill responders deserved this recognition because of their professionalism and competence."

## Ten Year *and* Over Service Club Celebrates 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Employees from Shell Deer Park Chemical Plant and Shell Deer Park Refining Company as well as retired pensioners from both locations attended the 60th anniversary of the Ten Year and Over service club party on Saturday, Sept. 18 at the Pasadena Convention Center. Event organizers estimated 775 people attended this year's event, which is a higher attendance number than any of the past five years.

Although the event was scheduled to begin at 11 a.m., attendees from out of state started arriving as early as 9:20 a.m. Early arrivals toured the Historical Society display and caught-up with friends until serving began. Lenox Catering, the company that has prepared food for the annual event for more than 40 years, "had a festive display of brisket, ham, catfish and all the fixings," commented event committee member Kim Westbrook. The buffet, along with soft drinks and tea, desserts and munchies were served continuously until the party ended at 7 p.m.

Pensioner invitations for the event were prepared by Madonna Porter. "As part of the invitation, we included refrigerator magnets to help remind everyone of the date," Porter commented. Patti Roberts, who also worked with the event, reported that attendees received commemorative items at the entrance, such as fans and ink pens. Other committee members include Emmitt Drumgoole, Angelo Martinez and Vi Cooper.

Long-time event chair Bill Davis explains that the first party was held in 1939, which was 10 years after the first units came on-line at the Deer Park Refinery. Jimmy Hallmark, who was the first chair of the Ten Year and Over Service Club party said, "The purpose of the party has always been to celebrate our success, tenure and brotherhood."



# SERVE

## Plants Marshes, Builds Track

Two recent SERVE projects were dirty jobs, but the volunteers were happy to help out.

"These are very fragile areas that have had a negative effect for years. When the project is completed, the grass will filter out run-off from the land and help keep the water clean."

On August 28, SERVE joined volunteers from the Galveston Bay Foundation to plant native grass in San Jacinto State Park. Organizers hope to restore and/or create nurseries for small marine species in the weeded marsh areas. Several sites are targeted along a 10-mile stretch from High Island to Freeport. SERVE volunteer Darryl Hurt says, "These are very fragile areas that have had a negative effect for years. When the project is completed, the grass will filter out run-off from the land and help keep the water clean."



Another two-day SERVE project involved installing a six-foot wide by 1,100-foot long track at Gardens Elementary School. Approximately 30 SERVE volunteers worked on Oct. 8 and 9 along with Gardens Elementary school administration and the PTO to complete the installation of the track. Darryl Mayfield surveyed the site, made drawings and obtained the necessary permits before working with Verna Hogan (wife of a retiree) to coordinate the volunteers and refreshments for this project. Prime Equipment donated the machinery to remove four inches of grass and dirt, and compact two inches of granite gravel that had been placed on top of six inches of lime stone and a fiber material.

Although SERVE has several more events scheduled for this year, including the Bridge Ladies' Day of Pampering on Oct. 23 and a Meals on Wheels project in December, the group is also scheduling events for the new millennium.





## Phenol 3 Project Continues On Target

The construction phase of the Phenol 3 project remains on schedule for mechanical completion in late November. Those involved are pleased with the construction progress and the project's record of more than 1.5 million safe hours worked without a lost-time injury. As reported in July, the outstanding safe-hours milestone was achieved by the outside firm in charge of engineering and construction of the Phenol 3 project, S&B Engineers & Construction, and their sub-contractors.

Now that the construction phase is nearly complete, the start-up team is getting ready to begin its "water run." According to Kyle Soderman, location representative on the Venture Management Team and start-up manager for the Phenol 3 project, over a three week



period some systems will be operated with water to verify their readiness. Problems will be identified and fixed, and emergency "red tag" drills will be held, before the plant goes on-line with hydrocarbon. It is anticipated that production of "on-spec" product will begin in January 2000.

Susan Walker of the Engineering and

Construction Department is looking forward to completing the construction phase and turning operations of the plant over to Soderman. Soderman says that once he accepts custody of the 30 or so systems and the plant is operating, Shell Deer Park Chemical should be one of the largest suppliers of phenol.

Those involved are pleased with the construction progress and the project's record of more than 1.5 million safe hours worked without a lost-time injury.



## Global Aromatics Managers Meet in Deer Park

Evidence of Shell's world-wide presence was apparent on Sept. 21, 22 and 23 when Global Aromatics Managers met at Shell Deer Park Chemical Plant. Managers and joint venture partners from six different countries, including the United States, England, France, Germany, Singapore and other national locations, discussed best operating practices, shared common experiences and determined the alignment between business and manufacturing strategies.

During the meeting, attendees had classroom discussions as well as a unit tour where they could interface with operators. The managers agreed that it was very valuable for them to see how Deer Park operates. According to James Rhame, who represented SDPCP at the meeting, the group was very impressed with the Aromatics area.

The managers also found good alignment between the business and manufacturing strategies. "Sometimes the two may conflict," Rhame commented, "but we think the business strategy currently fits well with our operating strategies."

The managers will continue to build on common learnings when they follow up on their findings and hold their next meeting in England in about six months.

## Ergonomics Teams Work to Keep Deer Park Safe

The responsibility of the Chemical Plant and Refinery Ergonomics Teams is to help identify jobs, activities, tools and workstations in the complex that might expose employees to ergonomics risk factors that might lead to injuries or cumulative illnesses. Once these risk factors are identified, the teams work with people who are actually doing the jobs and the Departmental Health and Safety Team (DHST) in the area to find an alternative way to perform the work.

The Ergonomics Teams were established several years ago as a partnership between the Joint Health and Safety Committee and the Health and Safety Departments. The basic goal of the teams as they have grown over the years and performed assessments in the field, laboratories and offices has always been to reduce the incidence of certain types of over-use injuries, such as strains and sprains, as well as cumulative illnesses, such as tendonitis, carpal tunnel syndrome or ulnar nerve syndrome.

The risk factors that are the culprits in these types of ergonomics injuries and illnesses fall into four main categories: awkward posture, exertion of large forces, repetition and vibration. A by-product of the teams' activities is increased employee awareness that those aches and pains that creep up after a long day (or night) of work may well be prevented by changing one or two small things about the work itself. Another point that the teams try to emphasize is that if ignored, those same aches and pains can also turn into serious nerve damage that may well require surgical intervention.

Anyone who suspects there is a risk factor in their area or anyone who has noticed any pain during or after performing work in their job is encouraged to talk with the Ergonomics Team. In the Chemical Plant, call Ron Penland at 713-246-3053 and in the Refinery, call Marcy Bryan at 246-7098.

## New Blitz Safety Training Enhances Education

Shell Deer Park Refining Company has revamped its mandatory Blitz Training Program for 1999. The new approach shifts the training focus from simply meeting compliance to better educating refinery employees on Health and Safety related topics.

Under the direction of the Health and Safety Steering Group, the Blitz committee was instructed to "make this the best Blitz ever." Both union and staff members set out to review previous feedback and come up with an improvement plan. The Blitz committee included: Jay Smith, operation representative; Steve Rouse, maintenance representative; Benjy Morgan, Health and

Safety representative; and Joe Vasquez, Health and Safety representative.

In developing their improvement plan, committee members decided the program would benefit from improved presentations, hands-on skills demonstrations and a classroom set up that enhances learning. An added evaluation process is also part of the improvements. Attendees are now required to score 80% or better, and the scores become part of the employee's training records. The committee also felt that no training program would be complete without incentives, so employees had the opportunity to win prizes, such as

gas cards and koozies, for correctly answering questions.

Topics covered are S-108 respiratory protection, S-124 hearing conservation, EM-106 site-wide emergencies and fire extinguisher training which are delivered in the first half of the Blitz training session. A second half of the training session includes S-102 Permitting, S-114 Process Isolation and S-104 Lockout/Tagout.

Blitz sessions are scheduled every Monday and Thursday from September 9 through December 16

## Chemical Entrances

For August

**Theresa Filberth**  
Administrative Assistant  
Solvents

**Lois Guthrie**  
Senior Administrative  
Assistant  
Community Relations

**A.S. Pyle**  
Engineer Staff  
Tech-Engrg Support-  
Mechanical Equip-  
Olefins

**Kan Tsai**  
Senior Engineer  
BPA Manufacturing

## Chemical Exits

For August

**Ira Braden**  
Pipefitter-1st Rate  
Facilities-  
CMAT/TAS-Pipefitter #1  
Retired 8-31-99

**J.W. Crate**  
Specialist  
Technical-Engrg Support-  
Communications  
Retired 8-31-99

**H.P. Corley**  
Pipefitter-1st Rate  
Facilities-  
CMAT/TAS-Pipefitter #1  
Retired 8-31-99

**D.L. Hammerly**  
Pipefitter-1st Rate  
Facilities-  
CMAT/TAS-Pipefitter #1  
Retired 8-31-99

**M.D. Lannom**  
Control Systems Technician  
Resins/SET MTCE  
Retired 8-31-99

**R.E. Sullender Jr.**  
Electrician-1st Rate  
Facilities-CMAT/TAS-  
Electrician #1

## Refinery Entrances

For August

**Marcia Armstead**  
Operator-3rd Rate  
Hydro/Sulfur-Sulfur-Operator #1

**Isadore Brown III**  
Operator-3rd Rate  
West Distilling-Operator #1

**R.A. Carruth**  
Director  
Business Services-Finance

**Milton Dill**  
Staff Engineer  
Tech Assurance- Operations  
Support

**David Gammill**  
Operator-1st Rate  
Major Projects-Startup Support

**Gregory Hebert**  
Operator-1st Rate  
Cat Cracking/Gas-Operator #1

**Forest Henderson**  
Operator-1st Rate  
Hydro/Sulfur-Sulfur-Operator #1

**Ian Henry**  
Operator-1st Rate  
Coker/GOHT Operations

**Gerald Kast**  
Operator-1st Rate  
Hydro/Sulfur-Sulfur-Operator #1

**Kelvin Lee**  
Operator-2nd Rate  
West-Distilling-Operator #1

**Bruce McMain**  
Operator-1st Rate  
Lubricants-Lube Logistics

**George Salazar**  
Operator-1st Rate  
Coker/GOHT Operations

## Refinery Exits

For August

**R.R. Flores**  
Senior Administrative Associate  
Business Services-Warehouse  
Retired 8-1-99

**George Villarreal**  
Operator-1st Rate  
Logistics-Dispatching Operations  
Retired 8-1-99

M I L E S T O N E S

August

September

## Chemical Entrances

For September

**Ricky Alfred**  
Senior Adm.Assoc  
Business Services-  
Procurement

**R.L. Bordman**  
Operator-1st Rate  
Heavy Olefins/Aromatics-  
Heavy Olefins#1

**Melvin Hagemeier**  
Senior Inspector

Tech-Engrg Support-  
Electrical-Solvents

**Caren McKim**  
Human Resource  
Representative  
Human Resources

## Chemical Exits

For September

**Boyd Hardy**  
SPV Environmental  
Tech-Environmental  
Supervisors  
Retired 9-30-99

**L.E. Leysath**  
Senior Inspector  
Tech-Engrg Support-  
Electrical-Resins  
Retired 9-30-99

**W.E. Ward**  
Operator-1st Rate  
Phenol Acetone  
Operator #1  
Retired 9-30-99

## Refinery Entrances

For September

**R.H. Benson**  
Operator-1st Rate  
Logistics-Net

**Richard Carrell**  
Operator-1st Rate  
OTU Trainees

**Jewell Cummings**  
Operator-1st Rate  
OTU Trainees

**William Green**  
Operator-1st Rate  
Lubricants-Lube Mfg

**Russell Hood**  
Operator-1st Rate  
OTU Trainees

**Stanley Larsen**  
Operator-1st Rate  
OTU Trainees

**Walter McCandles**  
Operator-1st Rate  
OTU Trainees

**Jesse Nickell**  
Operator-1st Rate  
OTU Trainees

**Albert Pickering Jr.**  
Operator-1st Rate  
OTU Trainees

**Larry Richard**  
Operator-1st Rate  
OTU Trainees

**Christopher Richards**  
Manager  
CPI-Project  
Engineering

**Neal Riemenschneider**  
Operator-1st Rate  
OTU Trainees

**Raymond Webb**  
Operator-1st Rate  
OTU Trainees

## Refinery Exits

For September

**Geraldine Gee**  
Operator-1st Rate  
Utilities-Utilities Prod  
Retired 9-29-99



*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



Shell Deer Park  
P.O. Box 100  
Deer Park, TX 77536

## Golf Tournament Benefits **Boys and Girls Harbor**

The 2nd Annual Shell Charity Golf Tournament, held on October 2, raised \$6,100 for the Boys & Girls Harbor. More than 100 golfers, including Shell Deer Park Chemical Olefins area employees and vendors participated in the two-day event. The tournament was hosted by Clear Creek Golf Club and organized by Dan Brooks and Vincent Sloterdijk, both of Shell Deer Park Chemical.



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