

Shellegram

Deer Park Manufacturing Complex

Thursday, January 19, 1978

Vol. 43, No. 3

Faded But Not Forgotten

Although the chugging engine, the whistle and the "All aboard!" have faded, they aren't forgotten by Ralph D. Miller, retired Aromatics shift foreman. As a boy in Palestine, Ralph used to hitch rides on the steam driven train to his favorite fishing holes along its Palestine-Rusk run.

Started in 1894 as a facility for a state-owned iron works at Rusk, the steam driven train and its tracks are now part of the Texas Parks and Wildlife system which plans to have daily runs, seven days a week, from Memorial Day through Labor Day. Plans are to add some open air coaches so that travelers may enjoy the summer coolness of the pine forests.



Don't Mess Around With "Ecology"

"Ecology" is a word that has been around since the 1800's, generally used within the vocabulary of life scientists (biologists, botanists, et al). However, during the late 1960's, the whole country discovered that it existed, and that it was somehow related to the way we live and breathe and all the things around us. "Ecology" became an immensely popular word, and a lot of people began using it in everyday conversation without really knowing what the word is all about.

The next step was to become a dedicated advocate of this newly discovered word (whatever it meant), and almost everyone (well, not quite) who knew something about plants and animals and the seas, skies, plains and mountains, became some sort of a self-proclaimed ecologist. That was the only thing to be, instead of an ordinary, run-of-the-mill, boots-and-Levis field biologist or hip-boots fishery biologist.

About then, our vocabulary took an interesting turn. "Eco-," from the Greek which means habitat or environment, became a prefix for a whole host of words. including ecotastrophe,

ecotoxic, ecotactics, ecominded and ecotrained. Eco-freak doesn't require any further definition, and Ecolibirum (which has a nice ring) has special in-house significance as Shell's external environmental publication.

Along with the eco-this's and eco-that's, people often brought an environmental feature to our attention by prefacing sentences with "Ecologically speaking . . ." and then proceeded to describe some event that had "disturbed the ecology." We heard of "ecological disaster," as earthquakes smashed Guatemala, typhoons lashed Indonesian villages, and Hurricane Agnes dumped billions of tons of water on the mid-Atlantic coast. But we completely forgot that these were perfectly normal, natural events that go on continually as our globe revolves. Human disasters they may well have been - but never "ecological."

This misunderstood and greatly misused word commonly has appeared in places where it is unnecessary and redundant, or wordy, such as in the title of a forthcoming industry workshop "Ecological Effects of Oil Spills on Fish

By Bill Gusey, Wildlife Biologist,
Environmental Affairs, HS&E

and Wildlife." Eliminate "Ecological," and the meaning isn't changed a bit. A far more correct title would be "Oil as an Ecological Factor in the Marine Environment," or just plain "Ecological Effects of Oil Spills." However, a recent newspaper article, based on a statement from a professional society, committed an even greater solecism by stating, "We all have seen what can happen to unprotected ecologies."

A brief explanation or definition of ecology may not provide you with a great cocktail party ice-breaker, but

Continued on page 2.

Shellegram Insert

This week's Shellegram has an insert containing SCORA's calendar of events for 1978 and an attempt to catch up on the numerous new hires, rehires and those transferring into the complex. However, the normal timetable for publishing an employee's arrival within the complex is two to six weeks or longer - depending upon the availability of photographs.

Don't Mess Around With "Ecology"

Continued from page 1. we're going to tell you what ecology is, just in case you want to be one-up on family and friends.

Ecology is a science - specifically the study of the interrelationships or organisms to one another and to their environment. It's just that simple! On the other hand, as a science, it is extremely complex, and only a few pieces of the countless millions of possible interrelationships have ever been studied - let alone understood. By and large, about all that has been learned is that some larger organisms eat smaller ones; some eat larger ones; and that others eat plants, whose existence may in turn depend on other plants and animals.

This vast oversimplification scarcely

Johnny Claims...

One thing E. R. "Johnny" Johnson claims he won't miss when he retires the first of February this year is the 32nd catalytic cracker turnaround. During his 40 years with Shell, Johnny has been directly involved in all of its previous shutdowns.

How well he remembers the first one in 1947. He was an instrument foreman, and it was 18 degrees outside. That's a pretty cool working temperature for a Texas boy. Then in 1949 he was made shop foreman and his part of the shutdown work was handled primarily inside the shops.

Johnny says he's going to miss his many co-workers, but he claims he won't miss those catalytic cracker shutdowns at all. No, sir, he won't miss them one little bit. So he claims . . .

does justice to the efforts and achievements of reputable ecologists. However, fundamentally, it boils down to the fact that every living creature is in some way dependent upon the existence and availability of other living organisms.

Therefore, bear in mind that ecology is not a thing, an event or a phenomenon. You can't see it, live in it, manage it, nor, least of all, disturb it. If you want to do any of the latter, then call it an "ecosystem," which includes a very valid use of "eco-," and refers to a total, interacting plant and animal community along with non-living and climatic components.

Once one begins to understand the fundamental truth about "eco-," then it can be used in very acceptable ways. Some of these are: ecotone, ecotype, ecospecies, ecocline, ecological amplitude, ecological efficiency, and that good old boy - ecological equilibrium

the balance of nature. Add "ecological" to equivalence, succession, factor, indicator, longevity, niche, race, structure, sociology, and a few others, and we end up with a lot of scientifically acceptable ways to sound like we know what we are talking about - "ecologically speaking," that is.

The precise meanings of all of the afore mentioned are a bit mind-boggling, unless one really wants to use them or needs to know. Most of us don't use them. We find simpler ways to express interest in, and concern for, the living things about us that comprise the living and non-living components of our environments - those things that are essential to our very existence. We can do very well without ever saying "ecology." The absence of this word from our everyday vocabulary in no way diminishes the aura of mystery and wonder that surrounds, nor our ability to express respect for, life.

Feeders For Different Birds

A great many people put out a bird feeder and wonder why they only see a limited number of species. To attract a variety of birds, you must have feeders and food that will satisfy the needs of four bird types: ground, tabletop, hanging-type and tree-trunk feeders.

Several kinds of birds actually prefer to feed directly on the ground or at least at ground level. This includes all the doves, song sparrows, quail, juncos and towhees. A very natural-looking feeder which can be made for these birds is to hollow out a wide trench in a small log (four to six inches) to contain the seeds.

Tabletop feeders, such as cardinals, finches, chickadees, titmice, nuthatches, grosbeaks, migrating warbler and thrushes, like to eat directly out of a tray-like container that is well above the ground. Most commercial bird feeders are this type. Some even have a reservoir that feeds the seeds down to the tray.

These same birds, and others, also use the hanging-type feeders with places where the bird can perch and pick out one seed at a time. Another species attracted to a hanging feeder of a different design are the hummingbirds. The natural food for these beautiful little birds is obtained from trumpet-like flowers; so a suspended, narrow bottle containing a syrup mixture is appropriate for them.

Tree-trunk feeders are used to hold suet, fruit and bird cakes. They attract woodpeckers and other insect eaters. Cracked corn, sunflower seeds and millet attract many birds. Beef suet, the hard, dry fat that is available at butcher shops, is a prime food that should be made available to the birds year-round. It is a high energy food that is especially attractive to insect eating birds, such as woodpeckers. Peanut butter mixed with cornmeal and suet makes a fine cake to use in tree-trunk feeders.

Try starting a feeding program with all four types of feeders. You'll be amazed at the variety of birds you will attract, and it just might make a bird-watcher out of you.

Service Anniversaries



35 Years
M. G. Jordan
Oil Movements



35 Years
H. H. Reat
Refinery Lab



30 Years
J. E. Collins
Maint. South



30 Years
A. G. Davenport
Gas Recovery



30 Years
G. R. Dutcher
Quality Control Lab



30 Years
D. C. Marbley
Maint. North



30 Years
C. H. Rusk
Maint. South



25 Years
H. Dibbles
Maint. North



25 Years
J. Falvey
Maint. South



25 Years
T. G. Odom
"A" Department



25 Years
R. M. Treadway
Maint. South



Welcome To The Complex



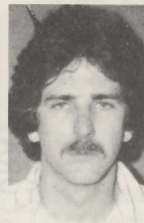
George Allen
General Helper
Maintenance North



Cliff Ammons
General Helper
Maintenance South



Ron Anderson
Pipefitter No. 1
Maintenance South



James Baker
General Helper
Maintenance North



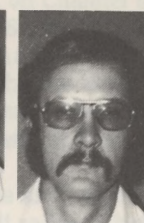
Michele Barber
General Helper
Maintenance South



Tom Boartz
General Helper
Maintenance South



Donald Booth
Boilermaker D
Maintenance South



Bill Boyher
Lab Technician
QC Laboratory



George Bozeman
General Helper
Maintenance South



Alan Brewer
Pipefitter D
Maintenance South



Jacky Brown
General Helper
Maintenance South



Walter Brumley
Rigger D
Maintenance North



Bill Bullard
Pipefitter D
Maintenance South



Kelley Calvert
General Helper
Maintenance South



John Campos
Sr. Clerk
Purchasing



Al Carlisle
Training Rep.
Emp. Rel.-Training



Carol Caul
Emp. Rel. Rep.
Emp. Rel. (Ind. Rel.)



Fred Chapman
X-Ray Technician
Medical



Frank Gore
Instrumentman No. 1
Maintenance North



Green Green
General Helper
Maintenance North



Scott Haiflich
Pipefitter D
Maintenance South



Sonny Hammond
Insulator No. 1
Maintenance North



Charles Harger
Pipefitter D
Maintenance South



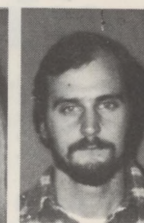
Gus Harris
Pipefitter D
Maintenance South



Mike Harris
General Helper
Maintenance North



Lisa Hart
Sr. Clerk
General Services



Wayne Hays
General Helper
Maintenance North



Benny Hendon
General Helper
Maintenance South



Steve Henninger
Pipefitter D
Maintenance South



Sherrye Jones
Lab Technician
QC Laboratory



Bob Ladnier
General Helper
Maintenance North



Jan Lawson
General Helper
Maintenance North



Wallace Ledet
General Helper
Maintenance North



James Littles
General Helper
Maintenance South



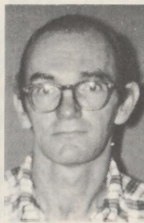
Cedric Lloyd
General Helper
Maintenance South



Charlie Love
Pipefitter D
Maintenance South



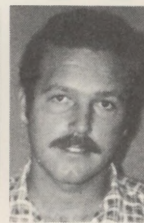
Daralyn Phillips
General Helper
Maintenance North



Dan Rauckhorst
General Helper
Maintenance South



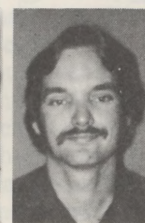
Tom Romig
General Helper
Maintenance North



Stan Sammons
General Helper
Maintenance South



Specs Samuels
General Helper
Maintenance North



Dean Savage
General Helper
Maintenance North



Ricky Scott
Boilermaker D
Maintenance South



Fie Si Fuentes
Pipefitter D
Maintenance South



Dave Smith
Boilermaker D
Maintenance South



Eva Smith
Sr. Clerk
General Services



Larry Smith
General Helper
Maintenance North



Kay-Kay Spade
General Helper
Maintenance North



Harold Stephens
Pipefitter No. 1
Maintenance South



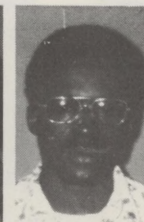
Eva Tallant
Sr. Clerk
General Services



Doug Temple
Engineer - Engrg.
Instrumentation



Lee Valverde
Pipefitter D
Maintenance South



Walker Walker
General Helper
Maintenance North



Steve Walton
Pipefitter No. 1
Maintenance South

MONTH DATE 1978 CONFIRMED

FEB. 11 & 12 • TRIP TO DELTA DOWNS
 15 • ROLLER SKATING PARTY
 25 • FAMILY FILM FESTIVAL

MARCH 17 • SPRING DANCE
 18 • EASTER EGG HUNT

APRIL 19 • LAS VEGAS NIGHT
 • NIGHT AT BUSCH BIRD PARK

MAY 6 • FAMILY PICNIC
 • ROLLER SKATING PARTY

JUNE • SUMMER DANCE

AUG. • ROLLER SKATING PARTY

SEPT. • FALL DANCE

OCT. • TRIP TO COWBOY/OILER GAME
 • HALLOWEEN FUN-FOR-ALL

NOV. 15 • TRIP TO DELTA DOWNS
 • NIGHT AT BUSCH BIRD PARK

DEC. • CHRISTMAS DANCE
 • BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

SQUARE DANCING
 EVERY TUESDAY NIGHT
 ALL YEAR

JAN.-MARCH BASKETBALL

MAY-JULY MEN'S
 SOFTBALL

AUG.-SEPT. LADIES'
 SOFTBALL

YEAR-AROUND
 TENNIS TOURNAMENTS

AUG.-MAY BOWLING

SEPT.-NOV. MIXED
 VOLLEYBALL

YEAR-AROUND
 GOLF TOURNAMENTS

● DISCOUNT BOOKS AVAILABLE TO MEMBERS WITH DISCOUNTS ON CARS, APPLIANCES JEWELRY, ETC.

● THE SHELL TRAVEL CLUB PLANS TRIPS ALL OVER THE U.S. AND THE WORLD - ALL YEAR LONG.

● DISCOUNTS ON MOVIE TICKETS, SPORTING EVENTS, PLAYS, ETC.

● MORE FAMILY FILM FESTIVALS WILL BE PLANNED THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.



SCORA
Activities

DUES ARE STILL ONLY \$10.00 PER YEAR, WHICH ENTITLES YOUR WHOLE FAMILY TO ALL CLUB PRIVILEGES.

RETIREES ARE ELIGIBLE TO JOIN SCORA.

COMPANY CONTRIBUTION PER ACTIVE EMPLOYEE: \$12.00

MORE EVENTS WILL BE PLANNED AND CONFIRMED DURING THE YEAR. WATCH YOUR BULLETIN BOARDS FOR THE MONTHLY SCORA CALENDARS.

MANY SURPRISES ARE "IN THE MILL" FOR 1978!

Metroworld Type Company

Shellgram insert January 19, 1978

The cord No. 189-P Low Jo writv had i up tr if yo rese of ev stole moth searr Pres Our i Ho reali serio he w obtai him he w num chiey Span resp world searr long Agus the S as an Re Gra graf Al does requ graf of th purp howe fairly prod phot Al retu Grad follow

Clay Authors Book, Writing Another

Think writing is easy? Not so, according to retired Dispatching pumper No. 1 John V. "Jawbone" Clay, whose 189-page treatise, **Spain, Mexico, The Lower Trinity**, was completed in 1977.

John's not certain when his desire to write began, but he feels it must have had its roots in the 1930's when he took up treasure hunting: A pastime which, if you are to be successful, requires researching old documents for records of events where treasures were lost or stolen. Then in the 1950's when his mother became unable to continue her search for the long-forgotten Spanish Presidio San Agustin and a mission, Our Lady of Light, she persuaded him to continue the search, which he did.

However it wasn't long before John realized that if he were going to have a serious chance of locating the Presidio, he would have to learn Spanish. So he obtained a couple of books and taught himself how to read the language. Now he was equipped to transliterate the information about the Presidio located in numerous Spanish and Mexican archives.

Although John never learned to speak Spanish, he, at one time, had correspondence in Spanish all over the world. Finally in 1966, after years of searching, he located the historical, but long forgotten, Spanish Presidio San Agustin. His discovery was verified by the State Building Commission of Texas and recorded in its Report No. 6.

Photographs For Graduates' Issue

Remember the **Shellegram's Graduates' Issue** when ordering photographs for the graduate in your family.

Although the **Graduates' Issue** doesn't come out until early July, a request for information and a photograph will appear in the April 27 issue of the **Shellegram**.

The best photograph for reproduction purposes is a black-and-white glossy; however, a color glossy will reproduce fairly well. The least desirable for reproduction purposes is the textured photograph.

All photographs submitted will be returned after publication of the **Graduates' Issue** in July.

Provident Fund

The Provident Fund valuation is as follows:

EQUITIES FUND

December 31 - \$2.476

SHELL STOCK FUND

December 16-31 - \$32.496

When asked if he plans to write another book, John quickly responded with, "Yes, I do. I've done considerable work on it already."

His new book will deal with photographs and descriptions of homes built from the 1850's to the 1920's. So far the oldest home photographed was built in 1851. One of his biggest problems is finding ones that haven't been remodeled. Then there's difficulty in establishing the year of construction. Few old timers are old enough to remember a house built in the late 1900's, let alone the 1850's.

One of the homes photographed in Double Bayou near Anahuac was selected as the site for a movie being produced by WGBH (in Boston) and WNET (in New York) television stations. The movie, "Charlie Smith and the Fritter Tree," is scheduled for pre-

sentation on Channel 8 later this year. "Charlie Smith and the Fritter Tree" deals with a young African boy who was deceived by the taste of fritters and a story about a tree onboard a ship anchored just off the coast which grew them.

After he and several others boarded the ship, it sailed to New Orleans where the young boy was sold into slavery. The year was 1850.

Bought by a Texas Gulf Coast rancher, he was given the rancher's own name, Charlie Smith. Charlie, the slave, still lives in a New Orleans' nursing home, where he reminiscences about Charlie, the rancher, who on his death bed wrote his slave's name in the Smiths' family Bible.

So far John has photographed authentic homes in three counties: Liberty, Chambers and San Jacinto.

50 Years Of "Quite A Life"

In an age where fewer and fewer marriages are making the five-year mark, retiree W. W. "Holly" Hollifield and his wife, "Gene," are a delightful exception.

The Hollifields' 50th wedding anniversary was celebrated January 8 at a reception hosted by their daughter, Virginia, and her family in the fellowship hall of the South Main Baptist Church in Houston. The two-hour reception was attended by 300 relatives and friends, including a number of Shell employees, who were treated to coffee, punch, cake and hors d'oeuvre.

Holly and Gene met while teaching school in New Mexico. They were married in Gene's hometown, Abilene. After the wedding, they went to San Antonio to spend their honeymoon. It's still one of their favorite cities.

In 1944 they moved to Houston as Holly was hired by Shell Chemical. A short time later he was named chief accountant and spent his entire Shell career in Deer Park. He retired in December 1963 as a process programmer with 20 years of company service.

According to Holly, he and Gene have had "quite a life." A life which has raised a daughter, who married Richard Mason and brought them four healthy grandchildren. And one which, over the course of 14 retirement years, has taken them around the world, throughout Africa and South America as well as to Russia, Poland, Hungary, Rumania and Czechoslovakia.

Twice they went to Nigeria where they spent 30 months during 1968-71

relieving missionaries in Ogbomoso (in the western part) and Eku (in the eastern part bordering the State of Biafra).

The Hollifields tend to do most things as a couple. However, there is one interest that Holly does on his own when the "job jar" is empty. That's genealogy. Due to his extensive genealogical research, his daughter was able to join the DRT (Daughters of the Republic of Texas), the DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution), the DAC (Daughters of the American Colonies), the UDC (United Daughters of the Confederacy) and the Colonial Dames of the XVII Century.



Holly and Gene Hollifield

Classifieds

FOR SALE

1966 Buick LaSabre, air, P-S. \$975. 946-8834

1972 Chevrolet Caprice 4-door, auto, air, power, AM-FM radio, good condition. \$1,450. 473-9596

1974 Lincoln Mark IV, loaded, vinyl top. \$4,400. 941-0349

3-2-2 Deer Park house, 8 years old. \$5,000 down, balance 20 years. 479-7603 after 5 p.m.

Pickup truck loads of firewood, delivered and stacked. Will remove or trim trees. 643-4968 or 643-2122

Early American couch, 2 years old. \$100 or best offer. 1970 Mercury Marquis stationwagon, good condition. 643-4968

Brown and white plaid traditional sofa. \$50. 479-4901

1956 Olds 4-door sedan, runs good, new paint and tires. \$500. 479-4901

1974 Pontiac Grand Prix, loaded, new tires, low mileage, excellent condition, original owner. \$3,000. 1972 4-door hard top Chevy Impala, 350 loaded, good shape, never wrecked. \$1,195. 455-7393

1976 XR7 Cougar, fully loaded, 22,000 miles, \$5,195. 471-7848

Tradition, loose-cushion, matching couch and loveseat, off-white background with beige-gray-brown floral pattern in woven Scotchguard fabric, good condition. \$250. 9'x12' red shag area rug. \$75. 471-5365

1965 Fairlane hardtop 289, auto, air, 69,000 miles, good condition, collector's item. 479-2261

Traditional wedding dress and veil, size 8, 8 months old, perfect condition. \$50. 941-7114.

1978 Camaro, 1,300 miles, air, like new. 477-97411

1972 Dodge Demon, 318 V8, air, excellent condition. \$1,600. 476-5382

1977 Ford Granada 4-door, vinyl interior and roof, bench seats, 8-track cartridge, AM-FM stereo, PS-B, air, V6, Equity and take over payments. 667-3683

WILL TRADE

Good light weight tent trailer, sleeps four, for good general purpose hauling trailer. 643-8624.

WANTED

Boat trailer for 16' boat. 479-2261

German Shepherd dog. 466-6096

Play It Safe

Don't Pet Stray Animals

When it comes to petting stray cats, dogs or other animals within the complex, the word from Dr. David Miller is, "Don't."

The Medical Department in its December 29 memorandum to all managers states:

"All employees should . . . avoid contact of stray cats and other wild animals in the complex. If bitten or scratched, the employee should catch

FOUND

Brown lined glove, pipe with pipe cleaner intact, safety goggles. Claim in room 151 of the refinery administration building.

Rules For Submitting Ads

Readers are again reminded of the rules for submitting ads for free publication in the **Shellegram**.

—Ads are published for complex employees, pensioners and families only. Advertiser must be owner and not agent or dealer.

—All ads must be submitted in writing stating item, advertiser's name and home telephone number. Forms are available at the receptionist's desk and the **Shellegram** office. However, ads don't have to be submitted on the forms to be published.

—Deadline for submitting ads is Monday.

—Mail ads to the **Shellegram** office or bring them to room 151 of the refinery administration building.

Please do not attempt to call in ads; they must be submitted in writing.

the animal 'dead or alive' and bring to the dispensary."

Why? Because an untreated bite or scratch from a rabied animal can lead to a painful death. The alternative is an uncomfortable series of rabies injections which may cause undesirable side affects. To date there is no treatment for rabies once symptoms begin.

So, play it safe. Avoid any unnecessary contact with stray animals.



Deer Park Manufacturing Complex

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

Dotti West - Editor

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