

# Broadway stars shine on "Kennedy Center Tonight"

If you didn't watch the opening show of this season's "Kennedy Center Tonight" series, underwritten by a grant from the Shell Companies Foundation Inc., you missed a toe-thumping tribute to jazz great Lionel Hampton. Three more programs are scheduled for this season, covering Broadway, dance and opera, providing a cultural feast for your eyes — and ears.

The first season of the public television series was a great success. A grant from the Shell Companies Foundation guaranteed a second outstanding season, launched in January by a jazz salute to the legendary Hampton, which took place at the White House.

On March 13, the second show of the series will air on PBS. "Broadway Plays Washington" will recreate great Broadway moments over the years.

Some of Broadway's biggest and brightest stars will be on hand to replay their own great moments along with those of other theater legends. Some of the stars include stage and screen actress Raquel Welch, Bea Arthur of TV's "Maude," Andrea McArdle, the first "Annie" on Broadway, and Imogene Coca, who began on the vaudeville stage in 1928.

The show was performed at the Kennedy Center on February 11 and taped for PBS telecast, the first of its kind to air. Several segments of the show were taped at other locations, including one from the current Broadway smash "Sophisticated Ladies."

Two shows in May and June will complete this year's season. On May 5, "Kennedy Center Tonight" will spend an evening with the Dance Theatre of Harlem. The

multiracial company has grown into one of the most prestigious ballet companies in the world in just 13 years.

The Dance Theatre of Harlem consisting of 39 dancers, performs a repertoire of more than 60 classical, modern and ethnic works. It has toured Japan, Australia and Europe, and danced at the White House for the first state dinner of the Reagan administration.

The season climaxes June 16 when 15 of the world's finest opera singers pay tribute to their friend and mentor, George London, of the Metropolitan Opera. Some of the stars appearing in the salute include Marilyn Horne, Evelyn Lear, Beverly Sills, Joan Sutherland and James McCracken.



## Shellegram

Deer Park Manufacturing Complex

Thursday, March 11, 1982

Vol. 47, No. 10

## Bluegrass Ramblers featured at chili cookoff

By Dillon Scott

Some people call it "hillbilly" music. Others recognize it as a true American art form. But to Johnnie Martin, it's bluegrass music any way you look at it.

Martin and his band, the Bluegrass Ramblers, have performed before thousands at festivals and concerts across Texas, Louisiana, Alabama and Mississippi. They've appeared on television and radio, and have recorded four albums, the latest to be released this month.

Martin, a machinist in G Maintenance, doesn't limit his band's performances to only big-scale events. "We've played at everything from a family reunion to the Kerrville Bluegrass Festival," he said.

Martin and the Bluegrass Ramblers will provide the music for the second annual Shell Clubs Chili Cookoff on March 13. Their sounds will put the festivities in high gear, and set the mood to enjoy some real Texas chili cooking.

The cookoff will draw chili chefs from other Shell locations, as well as DPMC's

finest cooks. There will be fun for the entire family, including a jalapeno pepper eating contest, a \$1.98 beauty contest and a beer drinking contest.

The Bluegrass Ramblers started more than 20 years ago when Martin and five other part-time musicians got together. "When we first started, we needed a bass player," Martin explained. "Since I knew how to play the guitar, the guys gave me the bass and told me to play it. I learned as I went."

Over the years, the band evolved from playing in living rooms to a big-time operation, with record contracts and their own bus.

Martin, the only original member left in the group, said bluegrass music has become more popular recently.

"For generations, bands like the Ramblers have been playing bluegrass music. But only recently has it been played outside the Appalachian Mountains area," Martin said. "In Texas, bluegrass music was like hen's teeth — it didn't exist."



**Johnnie Martin and the Bluegrass Ramblers**

Members of the band include, from left to right, Russell Moore, Johnnie Martin, Marvin Hutchins, Kenneth Holder and John Tielke. The band will perform at the Shell Clubs Chili Cookoff Saturday.

Instruments played by the group's members include two guitars (one played by Martin), a banjo (played by DPMC boilermaker Marvin Hutchins), a fiddle, a bass (played

by Martin's son Dwayne) and a mandolin. Both of Martin's sons have played with the band at one time or another.

If you enjoy good food and good music, come on out to the

Shell Clubs Chili Cookoff on Saturday. The contest will last from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Deer Park Chamber of Commerce Building, 500 W. 13th Street.

## Hernandez earns Wise Owl award

Reuben Hernandez was in the G-200 unit several months ago when he noticed a leaking

seal pressure gauge. As he tried to fix it, the gauge blew out, spraying him with

hydrochloric acid, a dangerous corrosive. He immediately safety-showered, isolated the leaking valve, and went to the Medical Department for help.

Hernandez, a G Department operator who has been at DPMC eight years, received minor acid burns from the acid spray. If he had not been wearing safety glasses and goggles, he would have lost something much more precious — his eyesight.

"The spray would have gotten in my eyes if I hadn't been wearing safety glasses and safety goggles," said Hernandez. "It hit me square in the goggles. If you see something dangerous, you always wear goggles."

Because his eyesight was saved by wearing protective eye equipment, Hernandez recently was admitted to the Wise Owl Club of America, a nationally-known organization that recognizes the conscientious use of eye protection in industry. Membership in the Wise Owls is open to any employee whose sight is saved by the use of protective eye equipment.



**John Hoesel, left, G Department process manager, presents an award to Reuben Hernandez, right, welcoming him to the Wise Owl Club for his conscientious use of eye protection on the job.**

## Health Awareness Week focuses on "silent killer"

Greater Houston will be observing Health Awareness Week April 19-23, and the DPMC focus will be on hypertension, commonly known as high blood pressure. The Shell Companies Foundation is just one of the event's sponsors. The DPMC Medical Department will feature special activities during the week, including free blood pressure screening for the families of Complex employees.

Most people associate high blood pressure with the elderly or overworked stockbrokers. Actually, hypertension is common, affecting 10-15 percent of the adult U.S. population. During a recent blood pressure screening at the Complex, the Medical Department found a similar percentage also suffered from hypertension.

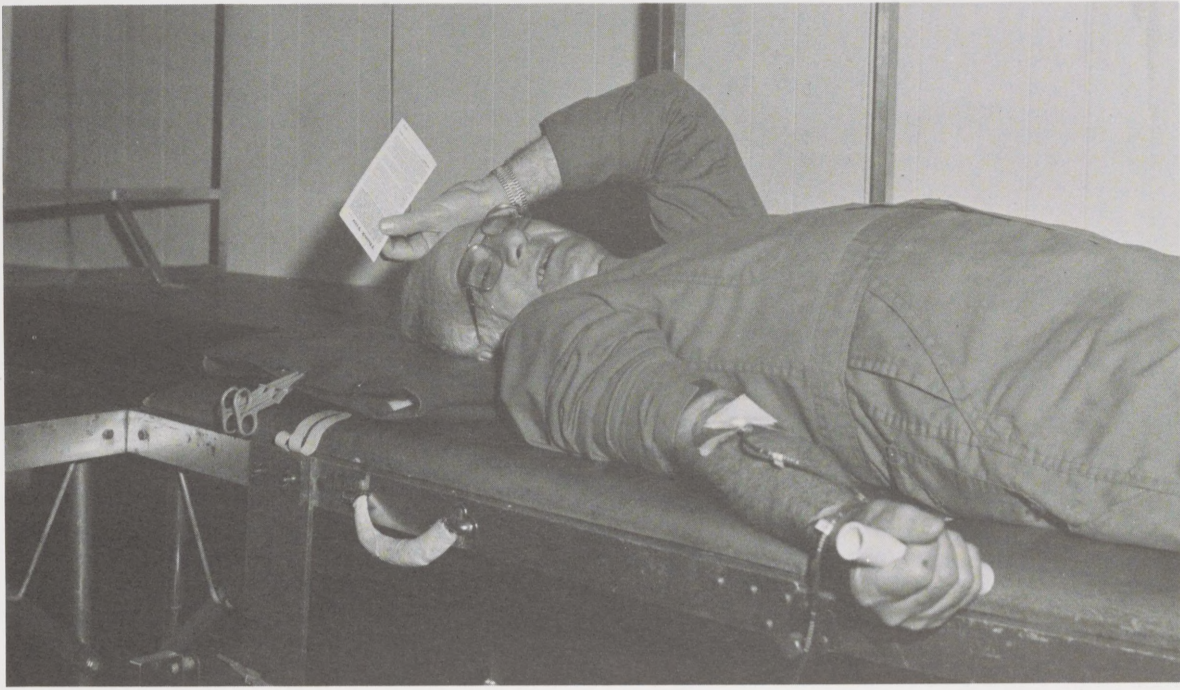
Furthermore, the effects of this "silent killer" are devastating. Hypertension is one of the major contributors to cardiovascular deaths in the country. It can cause not only

strokes and heart attacks, but also kidney failures.

Most of us don't realize how serious a long term, sustained elevation of blood pressure can be. Because most people afflicted with hypertension show no symptoms, they don't realize they have a disease. Waiting for symptoms could be deadly, since the first sign of high blood pressure can be a heart attack.

While hypertension is rarely "curable," it is "controllable." But the first step is realizing you have high blood pressure; the only way you'll find out is to have your blood pressure checked.

The issues surrounding hypertension will be discussed in a series of Shellegram articles leading up to Health Awareness Week. The DPMC Weight Loss Contest, which kicked off this month, also will culminate during Health Awareness Week. If you haven't weighed in yet, don't fret — you can still weigh in at either dispensary, and start shedding pounds.



## The Gift of Life

The 1982 Spring Blood Drive found employees throughout the Complex donating "the gift of life." Above, Bailey Gunn, an operator in Environmental Conservation, took his turn on the table. Gunn, who has worked at DPMC 34 years, said he's been donating blood for 25 years. The Complex is trying to reach a 500 unit goal that will benefit everyone at DPMC — as well as the recipients of the vital gift.

### EDITOR'S NOTE:

These Anniversary and Retirement pictures were printed incorrectly in the Feb. 25, 1982, issue. The Shellegram regrets any inconvenience it may have caused.

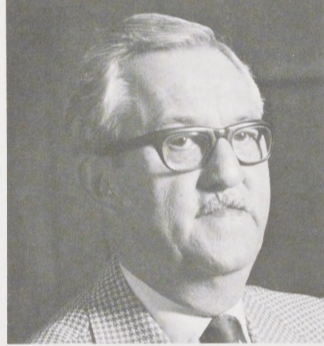
## Anniversaries



Ed Burr  
Lube C  
40 years



M.L. Cox  
Emp. Relations  
35 years



F.T. Carlson  
Econ. & Sched. S.  
30 years

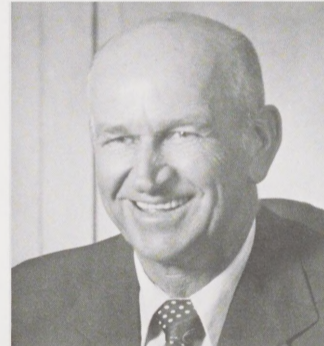
## Retirements



James Morrison  
Security  
26 years



Lewis Nenno  
Maint. South  
35 years



Jacob Phillips  
Maint. South  
33 years

## Lube A and B Safety Dinner

Two departments from the Lube plant recently held a safety dinner at Angelo's Fisherman's Wharf in Houston to celebrate their outstanding safety records. Lube A completed one year with no lost-time accidents or OSHA recordable incidents, and Lube B completed two years with no lost-time accidents or OSHA recordables.



Visiting before dinner were, from left to right, Charles Evans, Dorothy Sims, wife of the late George Sims of Lube A, Mickey Holy and Leroy Holy, operations supervisor, Lube A.



Above, from left to right, Diane Fenzl, guest of Lube B shift foreman Les Penland, Pat Mitchell and Lube B training coordinator Jack Mitchell sharpen their taste buds.



Relaxing after dinner were, from left to right, Ray Rackley, Lube B operator, Polly Rackley, Freddy Kilgore and Dave Kilgore, an operator in Lube B.

# Shell News



### Shell high bidder on Gulf of Mexico tracts

Shell Offshore, Inc., a recently-formed operating subsidiary of the Shell Oil Company, and co-bidders made high offers on 19 tracts in the Gulf of Mexico Federal Lease Sale last month. The sale covered 1.2 million acres throughout the Gulf, from south Texas to offshore Florida.

Shell Offshore alone was high bidder on 10 tracts off western Florida for a total of \$2.5 million. The tracts ranged from about 3 to 121 miles offshore, in water depths up to 4,100 feet.

Along with Florida Exploration Company, Fluor Oil and Gas, Apache, Crown Central Petroleum and Columbia Gas, Shell Offshore submitted 21 bids in different combinations totaling \$265.1 million. They were high bidders on nine of these tracts — three offshore Texas, five offshore Louisiana and one offshore Alabama — for a total of \$153.4 million.

"We are very pleased with the outcome of this sale," said Lloyd Otteman, Shell Offshore spokesman. "Competition was very strong considering the variety of tracts offered. The quality of these ranged from rank wildcat tracts to areas close to known production," he added.

### A pair of lifesavers

Two lives were saved recently because Shell employees were trained in the Heimlich maneuver to help choking victims.

Last fall, Mike Boggers successfully used the technique on another employee at the Marietta Chemical Plant. Virgil Holsinger choked on a piece of meat, and Mike came to the rescue.

Another life was saved by the wife of an employee who was trained at the Wilmington Manufacturing Complex. Sue Berlanga saved her mother-in-law from choking to death in a local restaurant. She learned the Heimlich maneuver from her husband, Dave, who brought his training pamphlet home from work and demonstrated the technique.

Training in the Heimlich maneuver is included in the First Aid course taught at DPMC. For more information, call the DPMC Medical Department at 6932.

### Understanding oilpeak

If you don't know the difference between a coker and a cat cracker, a new book written by Shell manager may be for you. Entitled "Petroleum Refining for the Non-Technical Person," the book is designed to help people who work in the oil industry but have trouble understanding what engineers are talking about.

Bill Leffler, business manager for Gasoline in the Gasoline Business Center, wrote the book out of his own frustration with oil industry jargon. His goal was to take the mystery out of the language, and there's no mystery to the book's sales — more than 3,000 copies so far.

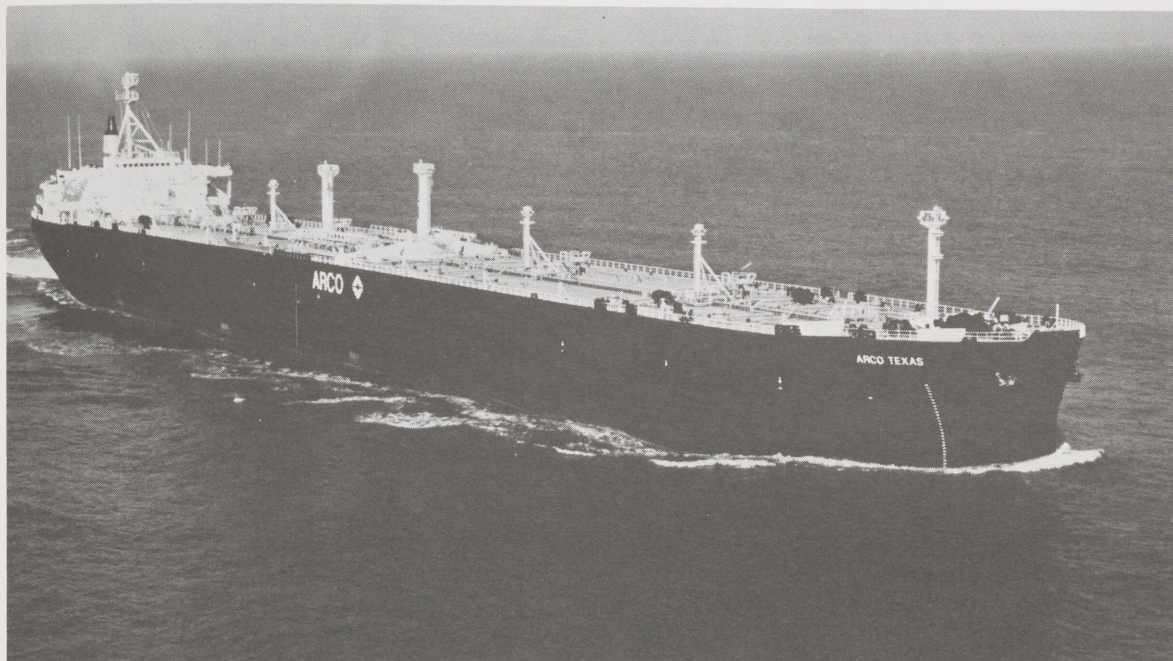
You can order Leffler's book by calling Pennwell Publishers at 1-800-331-9151, or requesting it through the Shell Library.

### El Paso completes injury-free year

Congratulations to all El Paso Chemical Plant employees! On Jan. 28, they celebrated one complete year without a disabling injury. The agriculture-chemical formulation plant in Illinois has had outstanding performance in avoiding serious injuries over the past three years.

DPMC shares your pride in both your current achievement and in the growing El Paso tradition of safe working.

# Spirit of Chevron Hawaii sails in new tanker



## The ARCO Texas at full steam

### A record-setter on her maiden voyage

This story was prepared with the generous help of Martha Terry, editor of ARCO Marine's Maritimes magazine.

The Chevron Hawaii listed like a sick drunk in the murky waters of the Ship Channel. Scarred and burned, it was a mass of wreckage, a riot of twisted steel. Quiet and eerie, the ship seemed to be the victim of a war-time bombing.

But like the phoenix, the mythical bird that rose from its ashes in the desert, the Chevron Hawaii would live again. Despite the destruction, she would sprout new sails.

September 1, 1979. Labor Day weekend. The 810-foot-long Chevron Hawaii was moored at the DPMC docks, unloading its cargo of 130,000 barrels of heavy oil. The storm that had threatened all day swung from the south in the afternoon. Rain. Thunder. And lightning.

One clean bolt arced down to the ship, silent before the thunder. The explosion drowned the sound that would follow. The blast rumbled

through the tanker, and a giant fireball leaped into the sky. A piece of the exploding bulkhead rocketed into a storage tank 800 feet away, causing 30,000 barrels of ethyl alcohol to explode, shooting the tank roof 100 feet into the air.

An army of 350 firefighters — 100 of them from Shell — battled the fires that engulfed the docks and threatened to spread along the channel. An early estimate of the damages to DPMC facilities ranged between \$17 and \$20 million. Three men died on the decks of the Chevron Hawaii. The \$50 million ship, declared a total loss, burned like a funeral pyre in the channel.

A Shell News article on the fire, published shortly after the fire, painted a grim picture. "The huge tanker was destroyed. The bow rested on the bottom of the 40-foot deep channel. The middle of the ship was gone; twisted pieces of metal poking out of the water or crumpled on the dock were the only evidence it ever existed. The stern leaned sharply to the starboard,

capped by the mashed-in control house."

For those who battled the blaze, and later helped with the clean-up, the charred ship remained an angry reminder of the destruction. All that was left was to tow the ravaged hull out of the channel.

The insurance underwriters declared the 70,000 deadweight ton ship a total loss. The hull was salvaged and sold to the Los Angeles Steam Ship Company, who planned to rebuild her. But in 1980 she was swapped to ARCO Marine, and the ARCO Texas, slowly rising from the Chevron Hawaii's ashes, was born.

Although it may be hard for DPMC folks to believe, the damage to the Chevron Hawaii looked worse than it really was. The main deck had been blown off from the top of three tanks and there was damage to the port side of the bridge and superstructure. But the engine room and the pump room were intact, an important factor in the decision to rebuild the tanker.

A 13-day tow from Houston brought the wreckage of the

Chevron Hawaii to Newport News Shipbuilding in June, 1980. While she rested, the ship would be redesigned and updated with the latest technology. The odyssey of her reconstruction is fascinating.

January, 1981. New components are fabricated and pieced together indoors. Sixty percent of the steel in the old ship is replaced.

April, 1981. The hull is towed into dry dock, where it takes three days to pump out tons of water from the her basin before actual work can start. The forebody of the hull is cut from the ship's stern, and the dock is partially flooded to float the wrecked hull out of the area.

May, 1981. The new hull is pieced together from 22 sections, using 18,500 tons of steel. The keel is laid later that month.

June, 1981. The 22 hull sections are lowered into place

with a giant crane and welded together. The ARCO Texas grows to 899 feet in length with a maximum cargo capacity of 635,238 barrels.

Two years after the spectacular explosion aboard the Chevron Hawaii, the ARCO Texas was floated out of dry-dock. Construction was completed in a record 16 weeks, over a month ahead of schedule. She was christened last October beneath the explosion of fireworks.

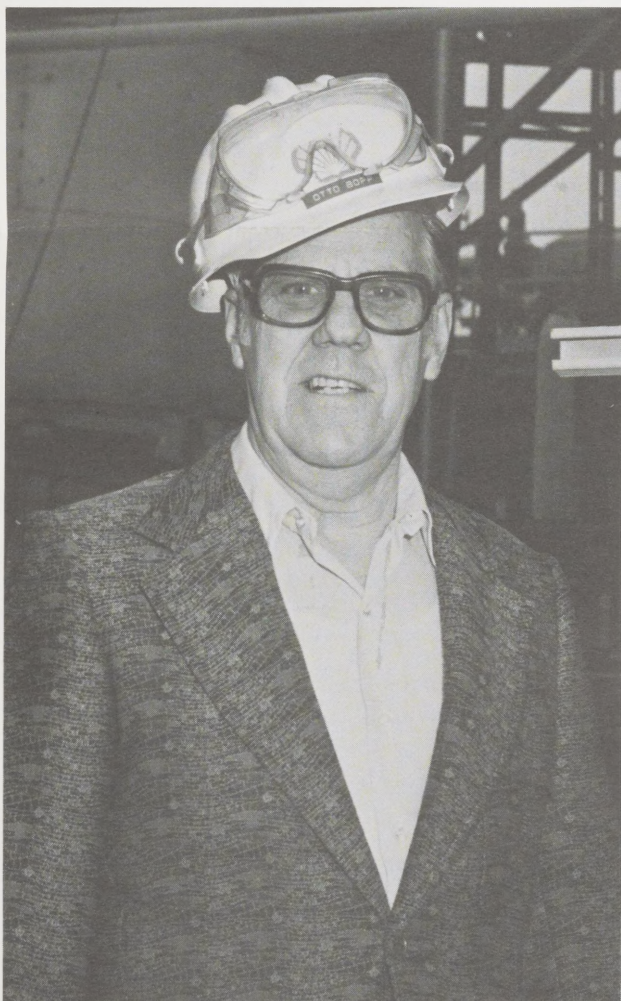
The 89,900 deadweight ton ARCO Texas is the largest jumbo job completed by Newport News Shipbuilding, which pioneered the process of turning an older ship into a larger, more efficient and safer vessel. Cargo capacity was increased by 30 percent, and the ship was equipped with the latest navigational and communication systems.

Continued on page 4



The scarred hull of the Chevron Hawaii gave evidence to the devastation of the explosion and fire that engulfed the ship. But the jumbo tanker, written off as a total loss, had more sailing to do.

## For 46 years, Bopp's career has measured DPMC's progress



Otto Bopp

Otto Bopp is a crusty old Texan, tall and lanky, with a spring in his step. You might see him in the plant, carrying a clipboard, a hard hat jauntily off to the side of his head. Or, he may be in his office, but he's more comfortable in motion, in operations.

Bopp is in the 46th year of his Shell career, making him one of the leaders in DPMC seniority. All his time has

been spent at Deer Park except for 11 years on the West Coast at the Martinez refinery. He is a witness to the tremendous growth that has made DPMC one of the nation's largest oil and chemical manufacturing locations.

"Physically, the Complex has changed a whole lot," Bopp said. "Everything is more crowded today. The biggest change was putting the Chemical plant and the Refinery together into one big plant. When they tore the fence down, you felt like a part of both places."

Bopp has had a diverse career at Shell, constantly moving up the operations and management ladder. Currently he is on special assignment with the Pressure Equipment Group auditing some of the Complex's older units. "Some of the procedures used in these units aren't acceptable anymore, whether from a safety, environmental or efficiency standpoint," Bopp pointed out. "Our job is to go in and nudge them a little bit."

Bopp was hired by the company in 1936 as a water boy. He was 18 at the time, and he left a job in an East Houston malt shop to join the oil company.

"Those were lean years in the mid-30s," he said. "The economy was bad and it was hard to find a job. The seniority system expanded slowly since the refinery was new. Not many people left in the days when I first started working here."

"It took 20 years to become a shift foreman," Bopp said. "Back then, instead of formal training, you did your training while you were on the lower job before you moved into a higher position."

Bopp got his first taste of operations in the DUBBs unit, which for the most part is now torn down. He fondly remembers those early years.

"The older men who were working in the unit would take an interest in the younger fellows," he recalled. "They would take you under their wing and make sure you learned how to do things right. They would lend you the benefit of their experience."

Bopp admits a formal training program is a much better way of preparing new recruits for jobs in operations, but he thinks something may be missing. "The older workers helped me develop an attitude not only about my job, but about myself and my life," he said. "If I started all over today, that's what I would miss most."

When the Cat Cracker was built in 1945, Bopp moved there. He earned his first staff job in 1956 as a shift foreman at Aromatics East. He returned to the Cat Cracker in 1962 as shift foreman, and moved up another step when he returned to Aromatics as operations supervisor three years later.

In 1967, Bopp and his family went west. He was the assistant department manager at LOP at Martinez, before being named process manager of Alkylation and Treating at the refinery.

He said he enjoyed the California scenery, but added, "I'm one of these damn fools who thinks home means something. Sure, I missed Texas." He was transferred back to DPMC in 1978, entering the Training Department.

Bopp was on special assignment in 1980 with the Alkylation Department. His project was to create an operations manual for new recruits. When he finished that, he joined the Pressure Equipment Group, and began to audit the older units he was so familiar with.

Bopp, who lives near Alameda Mall with his wife, Elsie, said he never lost track of where his career was taking him. "When you have a job, an activity you're committed to, it's easy to know who you are. That's your identity," he stressed. "When you establish your identity, you're in charge."

Bopp has a clear perspective of his retirement, when he calls it time to hang up his hard hat. "I plan to get out of Houston and head up near Lake Tyler. I'll just take things easy, fishing and gardening." After 46 years, Bopp is still in charge.

## Classifieds

### FOR SALE

1981 Mazda GLC. Air conditioning, AM-FM cassette, rear window defogger. Take over 13 percent loan. Notes \$180 per month, \$500 equity. Call 471-8013.

1974 Chevrolet Caprice. Fully loaded. Power steering, brakes, seats, etc. Good condition. \$750. Call 437-3117.

1979 Honda CX500. Low miles, cruise control. Top condition. \$1,750. Call 471-0868.

30 foot sailboat. Many extras. Call extension 7613 or 789-4764 after 5 p.m.

357 Smith and Wesson Magnum. Seven months old. 22 caliber rifle and scope. Ammunition, cleaning equipment and cases, also. \$300 or best offer. Call 479-3738.

Wall and attic insulation. Call 476-4934.

Fire wood, tree and tractor work. Trees removed, stump grinding. Call 455-8605.

1981 Honda Goldwing. Low mileage. Adjustable backrest with luggage rack. \$3,400. Call 471-3001.

Italian Marble Coffee Table with carved wood base. Oval-shaped top four feet by two feet and 19 inches high. \$195. Call extension 6294 or 795-4036 after 6 p.m.

Dracena plants. Two very bushy stalks. One eight feet, the other six and one-half feet tall in large clay pot with clay saucer. Beautiful, care-free house plant. \$100. Call extension 6294 or 795-4036 after 6 p.m.

Three fully-lined red panel drapes. Two panels each 29x90 and one panel 59x90. Excellent condition. \$100. Call extension 6294 or 795-4036 after 6 p.m.

Brunswick Regulation Pool Table. Slate bed. Includes balls and cue sticks. Good condition. \$350. Call 482-5011.

### WANTED

Volunteer ushers needed for "The King and I" play starring Yul Brynner at the Music Hall in downtown Houston. Call Deanie Gillum at 991-2626 or Mae Patterson at 991-2620.

### FOUND

Bowling ball in Refinery parking lot. Claim in person at Shellegram office, North Cafeteria.

### PERSONALS

Thanks to each of you for your friendship and the many happy memories I have of working with you. I'll cherish them always! Thank you for the nice gifts and I'm looking forward to using them. I will remain in Pasadena. Stop by anytime; the coffee pot is always on.

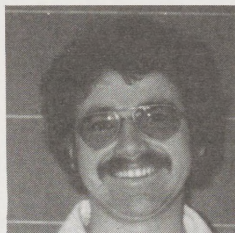
May God bless you

L. M. Nenno

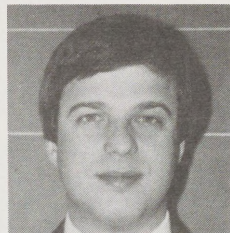
### NOTICE

We will hold a retirement party for A.W. Gore of the Gas Recovery Department on Thursday, April 1, 1982. Join his friends at the Refinery Cafeteria from 2 p.m. until... For more information, call M.L. Booty at extension 6236, B.L. White at extension 6827 or W.C. Fulton at extension 6237.

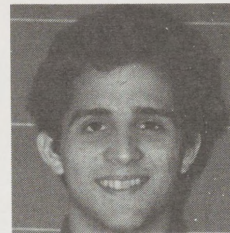
## Welcome to DPMC



Chris Hymel  
Engineer  
Plant Engrng.  
Hired in Jan.



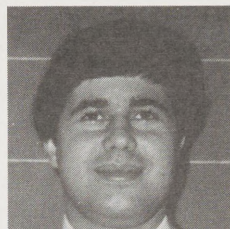
Lee Patterson  
Representative  
Emp. Relations  
Hired in Jan.



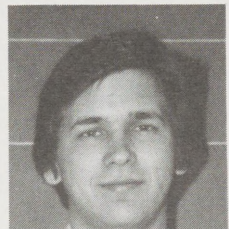
Ray Rodriguez  
Engineer  
Plant Engrng.  
Hired in Jan.



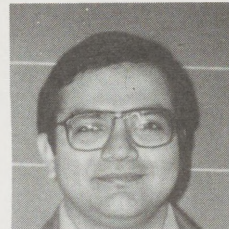
Kali Schneider  
Analyst  
Emp. Relations  
Rehired in Jan.



Alex Stangl  
Engineer  
Plant Engrng.  
Hired in Jan.



Cary Wilkins  
Analyst  
Emp. Relations  
Hired in Jan.



Andrew Zamora  
Engineer  
Process Eng.-LPA  
Hired in Jan.

### ARCO Texas ...

Continued from page 3

The new ship didn't waste time making her mark. On her first voyage the ARCO Texas broke the existing record for the largest cargo ever carried through the 62-year-old Panama Canal. The ship was loaded with 64,946 long tons of Alaskan North Slope crude oil, breaking by 343 long tons the previous record. The ARCO Texas and her cargo were bound for East Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Don Lanning, DPMC Docks process manager, watched the fire burn aboard the Chevron Hawaii that September day two and one-half years ago. He said the ship's stern looked salvageable, but the damage to the ship was hard to gauge. "While it was burning, no one knew," he said.

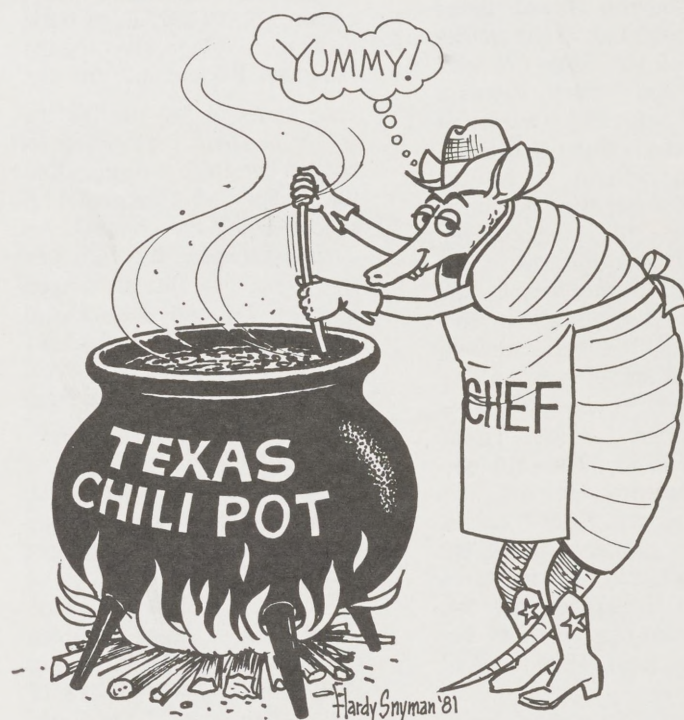
The reconstruction of the flaming tanker was probably the last thing on the minds of the firefighters who battled the blaze that day. But the ship clung to life, and passed her spirit to the ARCO Texas, which today sails in her memory.

### There's something good cooking ...

Shell Clubs Chili Cookoff

Saturday, March 13

11 a.m. to 6 p.m.



Deer Park Chamber of Commerce Building  
\$2 Admission Fee \$1 for children under 12



## Provident Fund



The Provident Fund valuation is as follows:

Equities Fund  
Jan. 31 - \$3,986

Shell Stock Fund  
Jan. 16-31 - \$36,580

The Shell Employee Stock Ownership Fund valuation is:

Jan. 16-31 - \$36,903



Ted Holt

The Shellegram is published each week for the purpose of informing and recognizing pensioners and employees like Ted Holt, an operator at the VCM unit. Ted has worked at the Complex since April of 1976.

John P. Abbott - Editor  
Extension 6301  
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**Shellegram**  
Deer Park Manufacturing Complex