



Shellegram

Deer Park Manufacturing Complex

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A Glimpse Of Bygone Days

Several recent issues of the *Shellegram* have printed excerpts from past Deer Park newsletters to give present-day employees a glimpse into its past. With that view in mind, these are the years that were:

1949

This was the year that many Shell children in Houston saw snow for the first time in their lives. The only other snow they had heard about existed in the storybooks that their parents read to them. The children who had their picture taken with their six-foot snowman were: Jimmy Carpenter, Mary Olive Mitchell, Chris Hilliard, Jerry Carpenter, Fay Hilliard, Don Davis, Robert Dorrell, Louadale Dorrell, Barbara Kelsen and Holly Hilliard.

The first 25-year watches were given out by P. E. Foster, refinery manager, at an informal party held in his office. The only exception to Mr. Foster's giving out of the watches came when it was

Continued on page 4

Tour Schedule

Plan Your Day's Activities

Chuck G. Walls, chairman of the 50th Anniversary Tours and Guides Committee, feels it would be a good idea to plan your day's activities around the tour schedule if you wish to visit a particular unit on the 29th. Please remember to stay with your guide at all times while touring a unit control room.

To assist you, the following information is provided:

The Olefins Tour includes OP-II and OP-III. Buses will leave every half hour beginning at 10:30 a.m., with the last bus leaving at 4:30 p.m.

The East Chemical 1 Tour includes "A" Control Room, A & B Distillation, Ketone Furnace, MS&H, G-100 and -200, EC-2, G-300 and -400, SR-3 and -4, BA, and Girbitol. Buses will leave at 10:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m.

The East Chemical 2 Tour includes Site 3, R-D.O. and Labs, ERU-5, Liquid Resins Distillation, Resins Maintenance, Incinerator, Effluent Treaters, ERU-6, and PP No. 2. Buses will leave at 12 noon, 3:00 p.m. and 4:30 p.m.

The East Refinery Tour includes Cat. Cracking, Phenol-Acetone, Lube A, B

and C, SR-5, Hydroprocessing, PXU, Plat. 2, HDU-1, Plat. 1, BEU, ACU, Normal Paraffin Recovery, Cat Cracked Gas Treaters and Fractionation, DHT and CFH. Buses will leave at 10:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m.

The West Refinery Tour includes Tank Farm Control House, CPS, Treaters, LOFU, DU-2, UCC, PP No. 1, DU-1, Flashers 1 and 2, Compressor Plant, Dubbs 9, Alky, and Effluent Treater-North. Buses will leave at 12 noon, 3:00 p.m. and 4:30 p.m.

The North and South Shops and Administration Tours will leave continuously throughout the day.

The Non-stop Complex Tour will leave continuously throughout the day starting at 10:00 a.m. The last tour bus will leave at 5:00 p.m.

Each bus will have a radio and a telephone will be available at Anniversary Central to communicate any problems of a non-emergency nature. The telephone number is 476-6611.



Shell Petroleum Corp
Houston Refinery
Cracking Departments

November 9, 1938

Photographs courtesy of Woody Myers.

50th Anniversary Photographs Identified

Here are the names, as close as we could get, of the 1938ers pictured in the 50th Anniversary celebration issue of the *Shellegram*.

We don't claim perfection in identifying them, but we sure gave it a try.



ight.

Pictured in the Cracking Department photographs on page 2 are:

Front row, C. L. Daniels, Ray Grange, A. S. Mitchell, J. T. McMahon, Bill Owens, Willie Caldwell, Nick Alozerij, H. B. Price, C. C. Suggs, E. S. Bodine and Wimpy Wakefield.

Middle row, R. Theis, Ernie Harris, F. A. Lagana, Susie Elliot, Walt Felcher, Sonny Butler, E. R. Meeks, Dicken, Walt Rarap, Harley Fisher, L. Witt and Shorty Johnson.

Top row, Tiger Burch, Horace Bunkley, V. Stark, Jimmy Love, Richard Robinson, Lou Hubbell, B. F. Coffman, E. D. Butcher, Don Plassance, Oscar Breeding, Jean Elliot, C. L. Carter, A. B. Keese and Sam Koenig.

Front row, Bonnie Sefton, Fred Wischhusen, Jack Devereaux, Carter Goodwin, C. V. Hand, Harry Jones and A. J. King.

Back row, W. B. Rodden, Holloman, Lagano, Perry, Aubrey Poole, B. Anderson, Richard Gates, Head Waiter Todd and Justin Matthews.

Pictured in the Refinery Laboratory photograph on page 3 are:

Kneeling, K. P. Kemp, Herbie Boggess, J. B. Floyd, Jimmie Meynier, Rock Rowe, T. E. Stafford, C. F. Ellis, Speedy Roberts, Bill Ursprung, Woody Myers, Doc Humber, Gene Janes and Fred Norris.

Front row, standing, Preacher Chappell, Fred Spraggins, Jack May, W. T. McBride, Tops Thomas, Beans Polk, O. L. Dodd, Slim Hopper, Raymond Czichos, Jack Spruill, Helen Buyers, L. C. Burrough, Ivy Parker, M. R. Lents, Frenchie Arnold, Charlie Finch and Julius Alford.

Second row, standing, Bill Antone, Cecil Brewer, Donald Henry, Bill Burch, Ace Jensen, F. L. Robinson, Jack Waechter, L. J. Duke, Floyd Mechler, Oscar High, Floyd Good, Doc Thompson, Foots Wilson, Gus Selingslow, Scotty Scott, Coy Lawrence and Claude Cassidy.

Top row, Joe Tipton, Homer Blaylock, Leo Veaser, Johnny Dahl, Felix Haas, Hugo Gray, L. M. Rheman, Morris Cook, H. L. Petrie, J. T. Griffin, Bill Mueller, C. T. Reinhardt, Whitey Whitney, Good Deavours, Chris Raguth, Byron Allen, Jug Carter and Charlie Young.

Refinery Laboratory names provided by Jack May.

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Glimpse Of Bygone Days

Your Schedule Plan Your Day's Activities

50th Anniversary Photographs Identified

The following photographs were identified as being taken during the 50th anniversary celebration of the [Organization Name]. The photos show various scenes from the event, including group portraits, individual portraits, and candid shots of attendees. The images are arranged in a grid format, with each photo accompanied by a small caption identifying the subjects and the location. The captions are written in a small, serif font and provide details about the individuals and the specific activities taking place. The overall tone of the page is nostalgic and commemorative, celebrating a significant milestone in the organization's history.





Photograph courtesy of Woody Myers pictured kneeling fourth from right.

Fifty Years At DPMC In Review

The Houston Refinery had its beginning amidst 850 acres of mud and muck during late 1928 and early 1929.

The idea to build a refinery in the Houston area was conceived in the then head offices in St. Louis. Once approved, however, the idea was given to Shell engineers here for completion. One of those engineers was Randall Lee, who, in 1954, described the first engineering building as a little old-time frame one-room school house located at Center Street and La Porte Road and the refinery site as a flat plain except for a beautifully wooded ravine with a boggy bayou running through it. This ravine was later filled with dredgings from the slip along the channel when the first three docks were built.

Mud was the thing that most impressed everybody that first winter. The thousands of yards of oyster shell used to construct roads didn't seem to help. Wagons hauling heavy equipment and pipe bogged down time and again until the late George "Tony" Blanyer noticed that the mules grazing nearby seemed to be able to navigate the mud without any particular effort. At first his suggestion of using mules instead of trucks to haul the heavy wagons raised a few eyebrows but the plan was eventually adopted. And so it came to pass that the mules conquered the mud that the trucks couldn't.

The first items to be constructed were storage tanks and lines, followed almost immediately by units. By mid-1929 the main office was finished and the topping and cracking units were well out of the ground and being piped to completion. Then on August 13, 1929, the first run of gasoline was produced and the Shell Refinery at Deer Park with its 517 employees was officially on stream.

Old timers report that those were the days when men worked from 7:30 a.m. until midnight seven days a week in order to get the refinery built. Long days and no coffee breaks were the norm. The laborers had no mechanized equipment - only picks and shovels. Bottle washing in the lab was a once-a-month job instead of a full-time daily chore as now.

Next came the staff houses along the channel, two public "greasy spoon" cafes across from the main office building and baseball games.

Those were the years that when it rained there was a fire at the topping units because flanges contracted and leaked. There were no flow controllers, so operators counted pump strokes. The throughput was calculated by backing up to a Troy engine and counting the times it pecked them within thirty seconds.

The plant continued to grow and in June 1936 President Roosevelt and Mrs. Roosevelt came to the Lone Star State to deliver a Texas Centennial address at the San Jacinto Battleground. Although his tour originated in Houston, it carried him down the Houston Ship Channel in a yacht to the site of Texas' victory over Santa Anna. As the President's yacht passed the refinery, Shellites lined the docks and staff house area to shout and wave their greetings.

Ground was broken for the Chemical Division of Shell's Houston Refinery in December 1940. The new plant produced isopropyl alcohol and acetone, doubling Shell's acetone Production capacity. Then on December 7, 1941, following the attack on Pearl Harbor, President Roosevelt approved the Act of Congress declaring war on Japan and marking the formal entry of the United States into World War II. It was

at this time that women entered the refinery's work force en masse so that the men could go to war.

The early 1960s brought the longest strike in the history of Deer Park. It lasted 353 days; and when it ended in 1963 Shell's work force was reduced from 3,603 to 3,196. The reduction reflected not only new automated technology being applied to refining and chemical process operations, but new work practices and the loss of employees who had found work elsewhere.

The end of the 1962-63 strike also marked the beginning of separate managements: one for the refining side and one for the chemical side. The separate management policy continued until 1974 when they were again combined and given the name of Deer Park Manufacturing Complex under the guidance of Gary Dillard, general manager.

The late 1970s were years of rapid expansion. A five-year Major Projects construction program, which began in 1974, was the largest expansion effort ever undertaken by Shell Oil Company. Project after project was completed on schedule in a program which at its peak of activity employed more than 5,500 construction workers representing 50 different construction companies.

The expansion is now complete and the present DPMC site totals 1,400 acres and employs over 3,600 employees. It can process nearly 300,000 barrels of crude a day, some 34 percent of which was imported in 1978. Its docking facility is one of the 20 busiest ports in the nation handling over 380 tankers and 2,500 barges a year.

With its 50th year complete, the DPMC looks forward to playing a significant role in the production and distribution of energy fuels and chemicals.

Bygone Days....

Continued from page 2

his turn to receive his watch. That's when "Buddy" Felton took over as master of ceremonies. Others receiving their 25-year watches were: M. A. Rogers, R. H. Coombs, H. B. Price, W. A. Carpenter, L. J. Grossheim, A. S. Mitchell, Ray Holmes, O. R. Felten and Ray Grange. Ray was the first man to earn the 25-year award.

This was also the year that the company celebrated its 20th anniversary of the first barrel of crude being sent to Badger No. 1. This unit later became known as Topping Unit No. 1. Topping Unit No. 2 was the next in operation on August 26. During the next six months, a third topping unit, four non-residue and two low level cracking units (Dubbs No. 1-6) started up along with needed stabilizers, treaters, pump

houses, laboratories, shops and offices, and three docks for deep water tankers.

From that beginning, the refinery grew by leaps and bounds until it became Shell's second largest refinery in the United States.

1959

Paul Titus of the Research Lab appeared on the first two television shows of a 13-program series sponsored by the Council of Churches of Greater Houston. Called **Talk Back**, the program consisted of a 15-minute movie which set up some type of family trouble or personal problem. A four-member panel, of which Titus was a member, then discussed the depicted situation along with possible methods of handling such problems.

This was the year that the Shell Refinery Employees Federal Credit Union moved into its new home in Deer Park. The move was made in August and an

open house was held. Coinciding with the move to the new location, a number of changes were introduced in the services offered. One of the changes was the elimination of the elusive little passbook, which was discontinued in favor of a more convenient method of transacting Credit Union activities.

Several employees were awarded degrees from the University of Houston in a televised ceremony. The Master of Business Administration degree was conferred upon D. W. Lanning, Refinery Tech Department, B. R. Nelson, Refinery Treasury, and T. K. Stewart, Refinery P&IR Department.

C. L. Smith, Refinery Treasury, and W. R. Davis, Chemical "E" Department, received the Bachelor of Business Administration degree.

1969

On January 4 all units were shut down except those necessary for stand-by utilities. The Houston Refinery was engaged in a strike. Within a week the refinery units were up and running reaching five million barrels of processed crude. By the middle of February the strike ended and the Queen of the West, Dale Evans, shook refinery manager Leonard Wilson's hand.

Go-Texan Day was set for February 19. The cafeteria featured a special western lunch for the old fashioned price of six bits.

Shell's president, R. C. McCurdy, toured the Distilling Department's expansion project during May.

Employees closely followed the space flight of Neil Armstrong, Michael Collins and Edwin Aldrin by inspecting the moon shot chart located in the refinery lobby to pinpoint the splashdown site.

Last Minute Reminders

A. P. "Augie" Augustine and L. J. Hallmark, co-chairmen of the 50th Anniversary celebration, remind you to bring the coupons included with your invitation. One coupon is for entering the Anniversary Central site and the other one is for your souvenir.

They advise you not to come too early as no entries, except for workers, will be permitted before 9:30 a.m. To assist you in finding the correct gate for entering the Anniversary Central site, signs will be posted along Highway 225 to guide you. Once here, there will be plenty to see and do. Food will be available throughout the day, but there will be no carryouts.

Another reminder for all workers

comes from Sandra Bradbury, chairman of the Entertainment-Receptions and Souvenirs Committee, who asks that upon your arrival, you pick up your "official" ribbon at the reception area.

It is at the reception area where all visitors should register as they enter the building. Here they will receive a program and a tour map to help them plan their day's activities.

Many employees have spent hours preparing 50th Anniversary activities and displays for your enjoyment on September 29. It is their hope that the day will be one that you will remember with pleasure during the coming years.



Shellegram

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