

Shellegram

Deer Park Manufacturing Complex

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Brenda Lorenz handles a hotshot "swap out" request for the machine shop over the telephone.

Purchasing Job Has Appeal

Who drives a Corvette, spends most of the day on the telephone and makes a super contribution releasing material for immediate use without getting involved in the conceptual part of Purchasing? Blond, brown-eyed Brenda Lorenz. That's who!

Brenda is a gal who left the secretarial ranks a year ago to replace a purchasing agent and hasn't typed a letter since. Does she have any regrets about leaving the typewriter for the telephone? Absolutely none!

Brenda says she finds more satisfaction in ordering parts for broken down pumps than she ever did in typing a letter. "Besides it's more challenging, and you keep a lot busier. Plus, you get to meet so many people - both fellow employees and outside vendors," says Brenda as she enthusiastically describes her job as a purchasing assistant assigned to the refinery central shops. Her counterpart at the chemical plant is Bob Wesley, who says he enjoys his job and for the same reasons as Brenda. It's busy and there are no two

days alike. He also notes that he was the one who set up the job that Brenda is now doing. You might say, he was the "original Brenda."

Brenda's main job is ordering parts for Maintenance North, the Central Power Station (CPS) and the Phenol-Acetone Plant. This means making lots of telephone calls, plus receiving even more. Oftentimes requests for parts are done over the phone, as is the actual ordering of parts required immediately. Hotshot delivery arrangements also are made over the telephone. Then there are the telephone calls to check up on the status of ordered parts and to notify the party who requested the part in the first place that it is ready for pickup.

At first the almost constant ringing of Brenda's two telephone lines got to her, but she soon got used to its "ringing off the wall." Now, when you call her, odds are that you will be greeted with, "Purchasing. Can you hold a minute, please?"

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Energy Related

Questions Answered

Editor's note: Questions and answers to energy related questions are published as space permits. However, all signed questions will receive a response - even if the question is not selected for publication. It is hoped that this feature helps you to understand the energy situation and enables you to answer questions from your friends and neighbors.

Why does Shell expect its employees to believe we're running out of crude oil and gasoline? I've seen how much Distilling is running and if the crude charge is low, it is just barely lower than last year. Besides, crude oil coming up the channel is up 11 percent.

Shell supplies gasoline and other products to the Eastern United States from three refineries (Deer Park, Wood River and Norco), which operate as a system. Shell has been short of crude oil and has not been able to operate these refineries at maximum rates. For various reasons, such as the type of crude available, transportation needs, etc., there may be times when one refinery in the system might operate at higher levels than the other two; but the fact remains that the overall system is operating below capacity because of limited supplies of crude.

Because of the crude shortage, Shell is buying other raw materials and process stocks as they become available. As an example, nearly 950,000 barrels of unfinished naphtha has been purchased and processed at the Distilling units so far in 1979.

The DPMC is one of Shell's most flexible refineries and at times it may operate at higher levels than the others in the system for good reasons. For the past few months, distilling rates (including naphtha) and percentage of capacity were: April, 266,100 barrels a day or 93 percent of capacity; May 268,000 barrels a day or 94 percent capacity, and (preliminary) June, 280,500 barrels a day or 98 percent of capacity.

For the same months the corresponding figures for the Shell East of the

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Questions Answered

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Rockies supply system were: April-672,100 barrels a day or 84 percent of capacity; May 658,000 barrels a day or 83 percent of capacity, and (preliminary) June 696,500 barrels a day or 87 percent of capacity.

Comparing operations of the DPMC refinery this year to last year would be misleading. Last year, refinery operations at Deer Park were affected by major scheduled maintenance shutdowns. The Catalytic Cracker was shut down in January and Distilling Unit II was shut down in April. No similar shutdowns were needed in the first part of this year. Although refinery operations have been affected by crude shortages this year, they may still exceed last year's rates which were affected by the shutdowns.

Imports into one area compared to a given period of time can also be misleading. For instance imports to the DPMC are up considerably in the first five months of this year because of last year's shutdowns and the corresponding lower level of oil imports in 1978. To get a more accurate picture of crude oil and gasoline availability, you would have to look at the entire system, not one refinery or one geographic area. Shell's total system is short of crude oil and imports are down because Shell cannot purchase all the crude oil it would like to.

If Shell's volume percentage breakdown for gasoline is 49 percent and the national average from crude is 39 percent what was the percentage for 1978?

The 49 percent figure is Shell's gasoline production for 1978 as a percentage of total production. The 39 percent figure is the national average gasoline demand for 1978 as a percentage of total oil product demand; national average gasoline production for 1978 was 42 percent of total production, excluding the effect of product imports. Shell's gasoline production for the first five months of 1979 is still 49 percent of total production.

If the percentages are moderately close from 1978 to 1979, then why has individual allocations of gasoline to retail gas stations been cut more than 50 percent as published through the news media? (This question had the

additional comment: "It's hard to understand that since refineries are operating at about 10 percent below maximum levels then why such a drastic cutback on allocations!")

If the refinery is running at about 83 percent (250,000 to 300,000 barrels per day) capacity, why are allocations only 70 percent to service stations?

Shell stations have not been cutback by more than 50 percent, and we know of no news media reports saying that they have.

Shell's total gasoline production has been reduced in rough proportion to its shortage of crude oil. However, government regulations which cover distribution of gasoline have resulted in a lower allocation to retail gasoline outlets. Shell must satisfy the gasoline requirements spelled out under the state set-aside and priority user provisions of the regulations before it determines the amount of gasoline that is available to its dealers. This, plus increases to the base volumes of some customers granted by the DOE, have had some impact on gasoline supplies to individual stations, but nothing approaching 50 percent.

Shell's supply estimates for July offers a good illustration. This month, Shell expects to be about 12 percent short of crude oil. As a result of this crude oil shortage and the company's inability to make planned purchases of refined products, Shell expects to distribute only 80 to 85 percent as much gasoline as it did in July of last year. However, because of the provisions for state set-aside and priority users, Shell's nationwide service station network will only receive gasoline equal to about 70 percent of last July's sales.

Service Anniversaries



30 Years
C. C. Bridges
Project Engrg.



30 Years
F. F. Lewis
Proc. Control/Elect.



25 Years
W. V. Hurston
Training

Purchasing Job Has Appeal

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Even so, Brenda wouldn't change jobs for a minute. Her days go by so fast. Her interview for the Shellegram is just one small example of how quickly things happen on her particular job. It went something like this: The telephone rings and Brenda excuses herself to answer. She handles the caller's needs and hangs up. It rings again. Again she excuses herself to answer the caller's need. Within a few minutes in walks a maintenance supervisor to check on what pump Brenda had ordered for him the day before. She quickly flips through her records and says, "A CP-250 VA."

"Well," the supervisor retorts, "they sent a 500 one instead, so order a 250 'post haste'." Immediately, Brenda is on the phone calling the shipper to swap out the 500 for the 250 pump needed in the machine shop.

With the telephone constantly ringing, Brenda doesn't get out of her office often. But, then with everyone coming to her, there isn't any need to leave. After all, she sees more people in her office in one day than most DPMC employees see in a week.

No doubt, Brenda's telephone is ringing at this very moment. Thank goodness, she loves her job so much.

Provident Fund News

The Provident Fund valuation is as follows:

Equities Fund
June 30 - \$2.921

Shell Stock Fund
June 16-20 - \$40.181

Retirements Announced

Represents 400-plus Years' Experience

James C. Chambers, 62, retired as a shift foreman in "G" Maintenance after 33½ years of company service.

He and his wife, Mary Alice, reside at 2016 Lillian in Pasadena.

E.M. "Bubba" Farmer, Jr., 58, retired as an operator No. 1 in Distilling after 30½ years of company service.

He and his wife, Loretta, reside on Route 2 in Montgomery, Texas.

W. D. Fountain, 53, retired as an operator No. 1 in "A" Department after 30 years of company service.

He and his wife, Charlene, reside on Route 2 in Timpson, Texas.

H. W. "Pearly" Gates, 56, retired as an instrumentman No. 1 in Maintenance North after 30 years of company service.

He and his wife, Lillie, reside at 217 Del Monte in Pasadena.

Jack A Gregg, 63, retired as an operations foreman in Lube A after 37 years of company service.

He and his wife, Juanita, reside on Route 1 in Flint, Texas.

C. L. Ivy, 61, retired as an operator No. 1 in Solvents and Treating after 36 years of company service.

He and his wife, Clara, reside at 911 Maple in Pasadena.

Otto B. Korge, Jr., 59, retired as a pipefitter in Maintenance South after 30 years of company service.

He and his wife, Marie, reside at 1107 St. Lawrence in Montgomery.

Hollis Provost, 59, retired as a general helper in Maintenance North after 30½ years of company service.

He and his wife, Bessie, reside at 405 Magnolia Street in Crosby.

Alex M. Seelhurst, 55, retired as an

operator No. 1 in Lube B with 30 years of company service.

He resides at 8028 Weir Drive in Houston.

Joe C. Wailes, 60, retired as a financial accountant in Financial Support after 25½ years of company service.

He and his wife, Wilma, reside at 9339 Colleen Road in Houston.

Donald B. West, 63, retired as a boilermaker No. 1 in Maintenance North after 30½ years of company service.

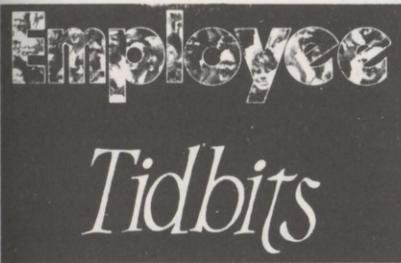
He and his wife, Doris, reside at 7702 Arberry in Houston.

Alfred M. Wigginton, 60, retired as an instrument foreman in Instrument Control after 31½ years of company service.

He and his wife, Joy, reside at 4834 First Street in Pasadena.

W. W. Wright, 60, retired as a senior engineer in Environmental Conservation after 30½ years of company service.

He and his wife, Frances Joyce, reside at 1116 Madison in Pasadena.



Maintenance North instrumentman **S. T. Ridge** drops 45 pounds and goes for a hundred. Light Olefins shift foreman **A.E. "Bull" Nettles** needled by bear. Supervisor, Affirmative Action and Files, **Dave Hood** gains a master.

Maintenance North rigger **Walter Brumley** went a 'fishing and caught nothing while **Mike "Frog" Akers**, boilermaker, landed six big bass on Lake Conroe - or, so the story goes. Personnel manager **Lamar Lewis** so involved with wedding pictures, he forgot the graduate's picture. Purchasing buyer **D.H. "Toby" Essary** recently bought a 25-cent fudgcycle at the chemical plant cafeteria and was reminded of a letter he had written 18 years ago complaining to the Houston Golf Association about the high price of their 25-cent fudgcycles.

Environmental Engineering **Barbara Mickelson** seen modeling the latest in work attire. Services senior clerk **Alicia Sanchez** dines with guest at Kings III. Maintenance North boilermaker **Michael Kenneth Haverkorn** still drives from Huffman in a gas-a-hog. Services manager **Bink Lang** ready to teach "gas-line hog" a lesson if only "she" had been a "he."

Accounting assistant **Juanita Batton** says she has more of this stuff at home. Sonic team member **Charlie Russom** says, Bad News, no way!



Chambers



Farmer



Fountain



Gates



Gregg



Ivy



Korge



Provost



Seelhurst



Wailes



West



Wigginton



Wright

Classified

FOR SALE

1978 T-Bird, low mileage, excellent condition, moon roof, many extras. \$6,400. 941-8823

1977 Toyota Celica GT, 5-speed, AM-FM stereo, 8-track, 20,000 miles, 23 mpg. 488-5980 after 5 p.m.

1977 ¾-ton Silverado Suburban, like new, loaded, towing package, front and rear air, 3 seats, top carrier, AM-FM, tape deck, C.B. 455-0157

Remington 1100 auto. 20 gauge shotgun, used once. \$165. 471-2654

1973 VW Bug, clean, 55,000 miles. \$1,775. 479-0188

White spoke mags and tires for Toyota pickup. Sell trade for standard tires and rims. \$150. 474-4376

New F78x14 tire mounted on new Chevy rim. \$40. 479-7573 after 5 p.m.

1977 Dodge Sportsman window van, V8, auto, air, 13,000 miles. \$5,400. 479-1756

1976 Chevy Malibu Classic, power, air, new tires. 643-8238

Treasured home in Glenbrook Valley, convenient to channel industries and downtown. Financing available for qualified buyer. 645-1041

7' bar and 2 stools, wood with black leather trim. \$150. 472-6396

1971 Chevrolet Impala 2-door hardtop, 38,000 miles, P-S-B, air, excellent car. \$1,050. 458-2751

1974 Chevy Nova, good car. \$1,200. 1973 Newman boat, 23', 302 V8 I-O drive. \$5,000. 489-7708

Parkdale 8' cabover camper top, fits Datsun, LUV., etc., and SWB trucks, stove, refrigerator, table, sleeps 4, stabilizers, jacks, excellent condition. 479-1312

1975 Ford Maverick 2-door sedan for parts, motor shot, otherwise intact, 631-1618

Lake Sam Rayburn 100x70 lot, 2-bedroom mobile home 12x60, all furniture, washer, dryer, central heat, air, 25x15 garage on slab and 220 wiring. 643-4883

20" girl's bike, will deliver to complex. \$17.50. 495-1811

Clean 1977 Chevette, low mileage, automatic, air, AM-FM cassette, new tires, 25 mpg. \$3,400. 477-3745

Chevy van bucket seats, new. \$100 for both. 479-3829

WANTED

Car pool members from Baytown, hours flexible. 427-1696

Scout leaders for Boys Harbour scouting troop. 334-1683

FREE

Small female puppies, short hair, good house dogs, tan or black with tan paws. 944-2823

FOUND

Glasses in brown clip-on case. Claim in room 151 of refinery administration building.



Tomato Plant Thrives In Concrete

Seeing tomato plants popping up through the concrete is enough to make a dedicated tiller of soil wonder what he's doing wrong. Purchasing counter-man H.C. "Sam" Wilson isn't worried, but he is intrigued by the two tomato plants growing out of a crack in the concrete at the warehouse storage area located east of the Maintenance South shops building. One of the plants has several tomatoes the size of walnuts gracing its branches and the other plant appears robust.

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Dotti West - Editor