

Safe man-hours top the million mark

It seemed like a long time a-comin', and we came darn close on several occasions, but finally on December 7, 1974, Wood River Refinery employees (including Research) passed through the million man-hour mark for the first time in almost three years.

The disabling injury-free period started 98 days earlier on September 1st.

Achieving a million man-hours without a disabling injury has become a sort of mark of safety excellence. After one million, then two million, then three million, and so on. The real goal, of course, is no injury of any kind, but short of that, the million-notches have become good points to shoot for and exceed.

Number 38

Since records have been kept, this is the 38th time Wood River has made a million man-hours. The last time the refinery went through the million plateau was on January 13, 1972, a string which continued to March 8, 1972... a period of 1,606,800 man-hours without a lost-time injury.

The refinery has exceeded two million man-hours on three occasions -- the all-time record being 3,476,721 which ended December 5, 1947.

Other two-million marks were: 2,765,000 ending October 13, 1950, and 2,484,000 ending April 17, 1952.

Several 'almosts'

Since Wood River last earned its million man-hour badge in early '72, there have been some large numbers put up on the boards only to see them stop short of the million mark.

Almost before everyone could savor the satisfaction of the million man-hour achievement, the string was broken. On December 12, a machinist suffered first- and second-degree facial burns in a quickly extinguished flash fire. The hours stopped at 1,060,900.

Wood River employees have worked together to amass more than a half-million man-hours on nine separate occasions since then, without the satisfaction of getting a million. Four times it was over 800,000... one of these 916,000.

Congratulations everyone

In commenting on the safety achievement, Harry Rollins, Safety manager, said: "Greater awareness of safety and continued efforts by all employees are what keep us all injury-free.

"This includes a sense of

responsibility toward better housekeeping, the use of personal safety equipment, and safe procedures. Good common sense is the basis for it all, though."

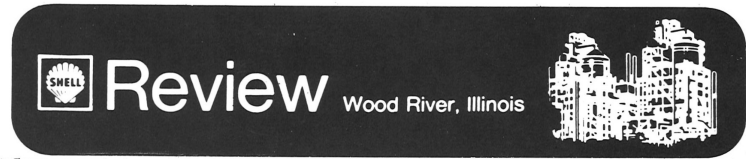
Refinery manager, Art Williams, said, "My personal congratulations go out to everyone. Such an accomplishment is the result of the efforts of each and every Wood River employee.

"Although our satisfaction in reaching this goal was dimmed by our concern for the young man injured December 12th, we can take heart in knowing that we can do it. Let's keep that in mind as we start again toward the million mark... then two million, and beyond in 1975."

To help commemorate the achievement with their families, employees were presented roasting turkeys just in time for Christmas.



FEELS LIKE A MILLION! The safety sign registers a million safe man-hours: Saturday, December 7.



VOL. 37, NO. 12

WOOD RIVER REFINERY

DECEMBER, 1974

One way or another ...

Everyone contributes to the energy search

Should the government play a large role in financing the country's goal of energy self-sufficiency? According to J.B. St. Clair, executive vice president, the answer is an emphatic "No."

"It would not be in the best interests of the industry, the nation, nor the consumer," he told the New York Rotary Club recently. "In fact, I have serious doubts that a national goal of self-sufficiency could be achieved by government subsidy or financing under any circumstances."

St. Clair pointed out that American consumers will eventually have to pay the half-trillion-dollar bill for energy self-sufficiency, either through higher prices or higher taxes.

"Because of the almost incomprehensible magnitude of the required investment, our alternatives are limited," he said. "Either industry shoulders the burden or government does. But neither government nor industry autonomously generates money. It is the American consumer who provides these institu-

tions with the necessary funds to do their jobs, either by purchasing products or paying taxes.

"So, in fact, the American public must decide what mechanism should be used to achieve self-sufficiency for this country," he stated.

In discussing the outlook for oil supplies this winter, St. Clair emphasized that the United States is to a large extent dependent upon the government of OPEC--the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

"Although the capacity to produce plenty of oil is there, we cannot be sure how much oil the OPEC countries will make available for world consumption this winter," he said, although Shell estimates that, barring further disruptions, supply for the U.S. should be adequate.

"However," he warned, "if the OPEC countries are to maintain the close balance between supply and demand that they seem determined to, they face a very difficult job of fine tuning. I'll be the first

to admit that in the past, the U.S. oil industry has not been able to read the requirements that accurately. But also in the past, we have not been in such a critical supply situation."

Reduced energy consumption has provided some leeway before energy problems become critical, St. Clair said. "We can't afford to waste it. If we do not start to act now, we might very well lose the chance to develop resources that will be vital to this country in the next decade."

Employees exceed United Fund goal

Wood River Refinery and Research Lab employees dug deep this year and came up with United Fund donations exceeding their own \$28,000 goal. This was the first time since 1969 that the goal had been topped.

The difficult-to-attain goal of 100 percent participation fell short. Just under 76 percent of the employees contributed -- and still the monetary goal was reached!

Spud Spurlock, Engineering Services manager and co-chairman for this year's campaign, said, "The campaign went smoothly, thanks to the efforts of the Steering Committee members and the many solicitors. Their hard work is appreciated by

everyone connected with the United Fund -- especially those receiving assistance from the funded agencies."

Carpenter 1st, Don Hunt, was the other co-chairman. He said, "To make a campaign like this successful, you've got to have the acceptance and support of most everybody.

"I think the film that was shown before the campaign helped point out that anybody might find himself in need of assistance sometime -- even yourself. When you look at it that way, a contribution is more meaningful because the support you give might help yourself."

At latest count, \$28,038.40 had been collected.

In this issue

GIRLS' LUNCHEON. The annual Ten-and-over luncheon was held at the Lewis and Clark Restaurant. For pictures see page 3.



READER SURVEY. Over 1400 employees and pensioners responded and gave their opinions about the Shell Review. See the results on page 3.



ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY. It was held December 17 at East Alton-Wood River High School, and a big crowd was treated to candy, entertainment, and best of all, Santa Claus! Picture story on page 4.

Sports and shorts

His Honor

Another Wood River employee has become the mayor of his community. Ken Blotevogel, material dispatcher in Purchasing, was appointed mayor by the Worden Village Board after the incumbent moved to another town. Ken had been a member of the Village Board for 12 years.

Who's Who

Paul Gustine, son of Harry Gustine, retired Cracking operator (1969), has been named to Who's Who of American College Students. Paul, an ordained Baptist minister, is taking graduate work in theology at the Baptist Bible College in Pennsylvania. Harry has another son, David, who is in Exploration and Production at Shell's head offices in Houston.

Got a dime, Homer?

Homer Schwab, operator in Gas, had a chance for \$300,000 in the Illinois Lottery drawing October 31... but he didn't make it. Homer had to settle for \$1,000. He says he isn't complaining, though.

Persuasive guy

Wood River's loaned executive to the Alton-Wood River Area United Fund, Herb Foederer, was given special recognition by the Fund. Herb, an accountant in Treasury, was the first area solicitor to reach 100 percent of the goal for one of his divisions.

By early November, Herb's "Building Trades Division" had surpassed 100 percent of its designated goal. Contributions include both those by the companies and their employees. His other division "Industries" also surpassed the 100 percent mark before the drive was over.



Herb Foederer

Double jeopardy

Retired Safety manager, Ray Randels, and his wife, Hazel, captured Wood River honors in the Shell World-Wide Duplicate Bridge Tournament. Their scores, along with the other local contestants, have been forwarded for comparison on a world-wide basis. The Randels' were highest local scorers in the world-wide competition last year.

SRA basketball

Six round-ball teams are lined up to go at it in the SRA Basketball League starting January 7 at the Roxana gym. If you're an SRA member and looking for a team to join, contact Henry Vassar on plant phone 675.

Football champs, again

The Pipefitters captured the SRA Touch Football championship for the third year in a row when they completed the season with a 5-1 record. The fitters lost only to Compounding-- the second place finishers at 4 and 2.

Individual golf champions

Remember golf? That's that "summer" sport where guys with sticks chase little white balls around a big pasture. Well, it took deep into the autumn breezes to finish the individual refinery championships, but winners have been declared:

Flight	Winner	Runner-up
Championship	Tom Buller (Grp Leader-Tech)	Warren Saunders (Refy. Supt.)
A Flight	J.I. Smith (Proc Mgr-Arom E)	John Tomfohrde (Staff Engineer)
B Flight	Dick Webb (Sr Engr-Eng Ofc)	Dale Bristow (Opr Hlpr-LF&E)
C Flight	Larry Schlemmer (Opr-Cracking)	Mike Anderson (Insp Sup-E.S.)
D Flight	Herschel Nelson (Carpenter-Retired)	Bob Woods (Fmn-Distilling)

IN REMEMBRANCE

FRANCIS J. MATHEWS, October 9. Mr. Mathews was a field machinist helper 1st before retiring in 1959. He was 76.

MARSHAL GUY SLOCUMB, October 28. Mr. Slocumb was a tester 1st in the Refinery Laboratory before retiring May 1, 1974. He was 65.

WILLIAM HENRY SHULTS, November 6. Mr. Shults was a truck driver before retiring in 1969. He was 60.

JOSEPH LaRUE HARRIS, November 8. Mr. Harris was an hourly brickmason foreman before retiring in 1968. He was 62.



LARRY STALLINGS of the Football Cardinals was the guest speaker at the Awards Banquet. Enjoying one of Larry's quips are (from left): Ray Thrasher, SRA president; Roy Jenkins, Engineering Services; Charlie Gibson, SRA athletic chairman; Marella Zaganelli, SRA secretary; and Max Clark, SRA vice president.



TO THE VICTORS go the jackets. Victorious teammates Ron Dahlen, machinist; Bob Eagan, pipefitter; and Dave Manning, pipefitter, gather up their jackets and talk of former triumphs. Another teammate, Ron Ragus, laborer, (background) seeks his prize also.

SRA winners hear Big Red's Larry Stallings

The room was pretty much jammed... and everyone there, including the guest speaker, was a winner. The event was the annual SRA Awards Banquet held Thursday, December 5, at the Edwardsville American Legion Lodge.

Champions in team and individual sports and club events ranging from bowling to bridge, fishing to photography -- and many others -- were honored, introduced, and given their appropriate jackets or trophies.

After a buffet dinner, the

group was entertained by guest speaker Larry Stallings, left side linebacker for the National Football Conference-East champions, the St. Louis Cardinals. Stallings exemplified the enthusiasm and positive attitude of the Cardinals in explaining the factors contributing to the team's turn-around from previous years' records.

He also answered questions from the floor ranging from his personal feelings toward the players' strike last fall to the sense of teamwork Coach Coryell has instilled in the

team. He also commented on the status of various injured Cardinal players.

Judging from comments heard after the speech, the Shell group came away with a better appreciation of why the veteran Stallings is considered one of the respected leaders of the Big Red players.

Attending the affair as special guests were refinery manager Art Williams and his wife, Joyce, and refinery superintendent Warren Saunders and his wife, Bea.

ANNIVERSARIES



Fred Jones
Refinery Lab
40 years



Ronnie Waters
L.O.P.
40 years



Bill Bunse
L.O.P.
35 years



Bill Camp
Purchasing
35 years



Lester Edwards
Eng Field
35 years



Harold Eiler
Eng Field
35 years



John Gray
Eng Services
35 years



Ed Hindman
Eng Field
35 years



Charlie Kovarik
Eng Field
35 years



Mac McNeilly
Refinery Lab
35 years



Ness Nesler
Eng Field
35 years



Ralph Scheffel
Eng Field
35 years



Frank Smith
L.O.P.
35 years



Hatty Hatfield
Utilities
30 years



Jonsey Jones
Eng Field
30 years



Hubert King
Hydroprocessing
30 years



Joe Nicosia
Eng Field
30 years



H. D. Pulliam
Utilities
30 years



Jessie Wilhite
Hydroprocessing
30 years



Carl Herzog
Lubricants
25 years



Carl Madoux
Eng Field
25 years



Jack Maher
Hydroprocessing
25 years



Bob Phillips
Eng Field
25 years



Scotty Scott
Hydroprocessing
25 years

Here are the results ...

'Review' readers respond to open survey

As promised, here are the results of the reader survey mailed to you this fall. Over 1,400 questionnaires were returned, which is an excellent response, and will give a good measure of what readers like, dislike, and want to see in future *Shell Review* issues.

The tabulations below are your responses as received from active employees and pensioners. Percentages are based on those answering each question, as not everyone answered all the questions. A dash means less than one percent checked that box.

Comments were encouraged, and many of you offered constructive suggestions and comments. Although it would be impossible to discuss every comment, some will be reviewed in future issues.

1. From what sources do you get most of your information about what is going on at Shell?

No single source dominated the answers of either active employees or pensioners. However, both groups said that the *Shell Review* and management letters were among the most important sources. Active employees also rated bulletin boards very high; whereas, pensioners cited *Shell News* as another important source.

2. From what sources do you get the least information about what is going on at Shell?

Here again, no single source dominated. Active employees indicated they got little information from their supervisor, from "Instant 500", or from Company booklets. Even "other employees" didn't fare too well as an informative source.

Pensioners said they get little information about Shell through non-Shell publications... and other employees/pensioners don't seem to be the best source of information for pensioners either.

3. To what extent do you (active employees) read the bulletin boards at work?

Always	(79%)
Occasionally	(19%)
Seldom	(2%)
Never	(-)

4. To what extent do you (active employees) use the telephone information system "Instant 500"?

Frequently	(21%)
Occasionally	(32%)
Seldom	(34%)
Never	(13%)

5. How often do you read the Wood River "Shell Review"?

	Active Employees	Pensioners
Always	(87%)	(98%)
Occasionally	(11%)	(2%)
Seldom	(2%)	(-)
Never	(-)	(-)

6. How much of each issue of the "Shell Review" do you have time to read?

	Active Employees	Pensioners
Usually about all	(71%)	(86%)
Most of it	(12%)	(10%)
Read a few articles	(12%)	(2%)
Glance through	(5%)	(2%)
None of it	(-)	(-)

7. Do members of your family or friends read your copy of the "Shell Review"?

Yes	(73%)	(77%)
No	(24%)	(15%)
No family members at my house	(3%)	(8%)

8. Do you find the "Shell Review" interesting and informative?

Always	(42%)	(86%)
Occasionally	(53%)	(13%)
Seldom	(5%)	(1%)
Never	(-)	(-)

9. Do you feel you can rely on the accuracy of what you read in the "Shell Review"?

Always	(33%)	(58%)
Usually	(66%)	(40%)
Seldom	(1%)	(1%)
Never	(-)	(-)

10. What do you think about the use of pictures in the "Shell Review"?

Too many	(2%)	(1%)
About right	(73%)	(66%)
Need more	(25%)	(32%)

11. Has the "Shell Review" become more or less interesting in the past several years?

	Active Employees	Pensioners
More interesting	(47%)	(60%)
Less interesting	(10%)	(5%)
About the same	(43%)	(34%)

12. To what extent do you believe you are well-informed about what is happening at the Wood River Refinery?

Always well-informed	(3%)	(14%)
Usually well-informed	(43%)	(46%)
Occasionally well-informed	(32%)	(19%)
Seldom get enough information	(19%)	(17%)
Almost never get enough information	(3%)	(4%)

13. To what extent do you believe you are well-informed about what is happening throughout Shell?

Always well-informed	(2%)	(12%)
Usually well-informed	(31%)	(44%)
Occasionally well-informed	(34%)	(23%)
Seldom get enough information	(27%)	(16%)
Almost never get enough information	(6%)	(5%)

14. Readers were given a list of different article subjects and were asked if they'd like to see "more", "less", "the same", or "none" of them.

In nearly every instance, readers said they would like to see the same -- if not more -- coverage. Pensioners as a group leaned more heavily toward the "more" side than did active employees.

Four different subjects for articles drew significant interest by all readers for "more" coverage. They are: how Shell is doing financially; public issues affecting our industry; refinery operations; and the economics of our business.

CLASSIFIED ADS

For Sale

Good pets. One-year-old male Beagle. Two-year-old male Black Labrador Retriever. Bill White. 618-656-2843.

Electric typewriter. SCM-Office. Latest 1974 model. Elite type. Ten percent below list price. 618-654-9745 after 5:30 p.m.

Battery tape recorder. North American, transistor. Reel to reel. Variable speed. Hardly used. Gil Barrett. 618-466-6512.

Cassette recorder. Webcor. AC-batteries. About one year old. \$20. Moss Armistead. 314-741-2210.

Camera equipment/tires. Argus C-4 35mm camera with light meter and flash. Excellent condition. Bell and Howell slide projector. H78x15 snow tires. Used one season. Jim Nielson. 618-656-5398.

Recreational. Girl's white leather ice skates. Size five. Girl's 26-inch bicycle. Very good condition. Barbell and dumbbell set. Bob Port. 618-344-4347.

Furnish your home. Duncan Phye dining table with five chairs. Oak kitchen table with four chairs. Copper tone formica dinette table with two chairs. Maple colored two-piece corner table. Sectional love seat. H. Kuhlman. 618-888-2427.

For the home. Bedroom suite. Kitchen table and six chairs. Lyman rifle re-loader. Donna Yates. 618-635-5168.

1969 VW fastback. Mechanically good, 58,000 miles. Four new tires and two snows now mounted. \$1,000. Ray J. Alexander. 618-498-3930.

1965 Ford Country Sedan. 390 cu. in. Good condition. \$350. Dan Olson. 618-656-3113.

1972 Ford Galaxie. Two-door hardtop. Metallic cocoa brown with vinyl top. Power steering and brakes. Radio. Air Conditioning. Excellent condition, \$1,900. Bob Hartsock. 618-259-3321.

Ford footwear. Four, 14-inch Ford wheels. \$4 each. Four, 14-inch Mustang spinner type wheel covers. \$12 for the set. Jim Sauerwein. 618-377-6347.

Girls' ten-and-over luncheon



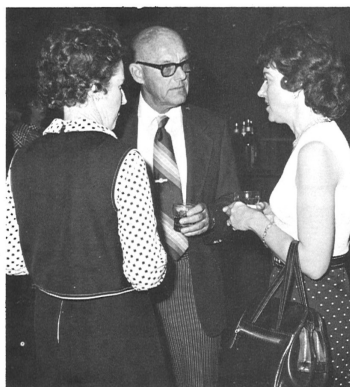
Members of senior management are special guests at the annual gals' luncheons. Here, Mary Hyndman, senior clerk, Employee Relations, chats with refinery manager Art Williams.



Cele McLagen, senior clerk, Engineering Office (foreground), makes a point and her listeners are all ears. Other conversationalists are, from left: Shirley Allen, senior key punch operator; Barbara Simms, Purchasing secretary; Spud Spurlock, Engineering Services manager; Judy Blackburn, office assistant, Compounding; Gini Jones, data processing assistant; and Liz Halliday, head teletype operator.

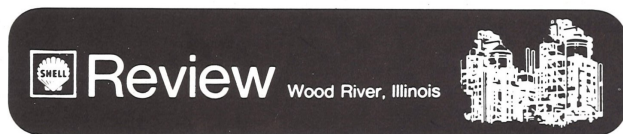


Gil Barrett, assistant public relations manager-midwest, finds himself literally 'in the middle' of a conversation with Margaret Stullken, secretary to the research director (left), and Arlene Tutt, Engineering Field secretary.



New members to the ten-and-over sorority received head table seating. With Art Williams are Wanda Westerhold, Technological secretary (left), and Marella Zaganelli, senior stenographer. Flanking Art on the other side were Judy Schrewe, Employee Relations secretary, and Brenda White, Dispatching office secretary.

*'Twas a
Merry Christmas party*



VOL. 37, NO. 12 WOOD RIVER REFINERY DECEMBER, 1974

Published monthly for the employees and pensioners of Shell
Oil Company's Wood River Refinery and Research Laboratory.

Bill Gibson, editor

SHELL OIL COMPANY
P. O. Box 262
Wood River, Illinois 62095

Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
PAID
Wood River, Ill.
Permit No. 229