



# WOOD RIVER REVIEW

WOOD RIVER MANUFACTURING COMPLEX



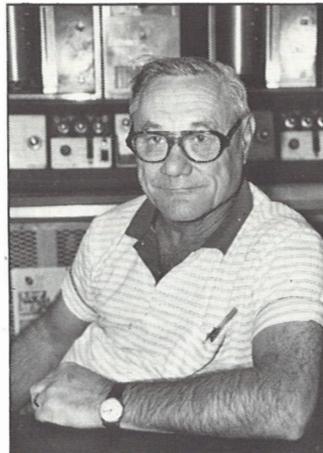
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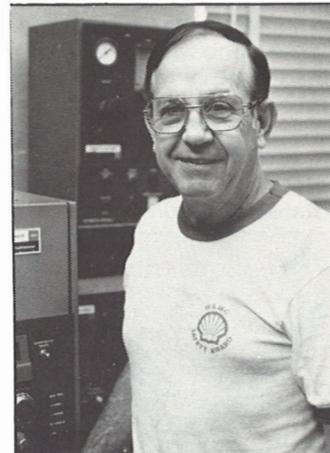
**Joe Fitzgerald** - "We are justifiably proud of our safety performance."



**Logan Bayer** - "Safety to me means using common sense."



**Clarence Delehanty** - "From day one we learn to do things the safe way."



**Ray Ogle** - "Wear protective gear, follow instructions and use your head."

## Department reaches 4 million hours

On July 19, 1965, the safe work hours mark for Quality Assurance/ Environmental Conservation stood at zero. A lost time injury had erased the department's record at that point and it was time to start over.

Eighteen years and four million hours have passed since the last lost timer, and now employees are talking about going for five million hours. Officially, four million hours were reached Sept. 16; the occasion was celebrated Sept. 19 during a reception at the Lab building.

"The safety record is an outstanding achievement and represents individual and collective efforts of the entire department," said **Chuck Walls**, manager. "The diligence of Lab and process engineering/ Environmental employees to work safely is really paying off."

Walls said that in the case of the Lab, typically 1,100 to 1,400 intermediate and finished product analyses are performed a day. The potential for lost time injuries has been greatly reduced by hard work, dedication and adherence to safety procedures by all employees in the department, he added.

Four Lab workers who have contributed to the four million hours safety record are **Joe Fitzgerald**, **Logan Bayer**,

**Clarence Delehanty** and **Ray Ogle**. Their comments about on-the-job safety follow.

**Joe Fitzgerald**, first class tester: "I think I can speak for the Lab by saying we are all justifiably proud of our safety performance. Everytime I put on protective equipment it is a reminder that extra safety awareness is needed. You can't be too careful when handling acids and volatile liquids."

**Logan Bayer**, special tester: "Safety to me means using common sense—keeping goggles, gloves, etc. in good shape and taking the time to do lab analyses safely. Complex Safety inspectors are very helpful in identifying areas and procedures where special safety practices should be followed."

**Clarence Delehanty**, first class tester: "We look out for each other at the Lab. From day one we learn to do  
(Continued on page 3)



**Dr. Bob Beiter**, a Chicago audiologist, makes a point during the Shell Safety and Health Committee seminar in August. The annual seminar also featured a program by **Dr. Arthur Furst**, a toxicologist.

# Helping area youth is 'payment in full' for volunteers

The youngster stood at the curb and watched his mother drive away. When she was no longer in sight, he turned and walked slowly toward the Boys' Club of Bethalto building. Hesitating at the doorway, he drew a deep breath and stepped inside. Apprehension gave way to excitement when two other boys ran over, introduced themselves and asked him to

join their team for a half-court basketball game. Welcome to the Boys' Club.

"One thing we emphasize is getting our young participants involved in activities of interest right away," said **Dan Smith**, Club executive director. "Early on, we like to sit down with the kids and their parents and outline the available programs. Stop by anytime and you'll rarely see a youngster

standing around alone."

Smith's enthusiasm for the Boys' Club is obvious. In his 11 years as director, he has seen the number of participants grow from 150 to approximately 1,400. Despite the name of the organization, the Club's athletic and recreational resources are open to both boys and girls ages 7-17. Youngsters from Bethalto, Moro, Meadowbrook, Cottage Hills, Rosewood Heights and other communities regularly attend Club functions. Participants pay nominal membership fees; major financial support is received from River Bend United Way.



**Jim Harmon and a young friend head toward the baseball diamond at Boys' Club of Bethalto. Harmon, an operator in Distilling, has been a Club volunteer for more than 15 years. He finds the time he spends with youngsters to be personally satisfying.**



## SHELL VOLUNTEERS

Smith credits much of the Club's success to the countless hours of assistance provided by adult volunteers who serve as coaches, counselors, activity coordinators and fund raisers. Two volunteers who have worked in nearly every phase of the Boys' Club operation are Shell's **Jim Harmon** and **Leon Little**. Both are current Club board members.

Harmon's involvement with the Boys' Club began 15 years ago when he volunteered to coach one of the baseball teams. Over the years, his four sons have also been active in Club-sponsored sports and programs. He said each son has improved his communication and leadership skills through interaction with other young people, and guidance from adult leaders.

"Children from broken homes, well-to-do families and every home-life situation in between are attracted to the Boys' Club," said Harmon, an operator in Distilling. "Why? Because our programs are designed to challenge, educate and entertain the youngsters."

Harmon has seen a number of boys whose social behavior was "borderline" when they first became associated with the Club. But given time, they "straightened out." No two boys are alike, he stated, however most are eager to learn and want to get along. Boys' Club gives them an opportunity to work toward and achieve goals—

and have fun doing it.

"I've spent a great deal of time as a volunteer. But you know, I really feel every hour has been worth it," Harmon said. "I love working with young people, watching them grow and mature. It is personally very satisfying and does wonders for bridging the so-called generation gap... for children and adults."

Leon Little, Maintenance foreman at LOP, said most of his volunteer efforts are channeled toward raising funds to supplement United Way allocations. He helps organize basketball games between St. Louis Cardinal football players and coaches from Bethalto area schools. Admission is charged with proceeds going to the Boys' Club. Another money-generating event is a shopping spree worth about \$300 in groceries. Tickets are sold for \$1 apiece and a drawing determines the winner.

"As a board member, I see firsthand

how funds are spent," said Little. "The facility is the only one of its kind in the area so continued success and growth have a lot to do with how well we budget our limited resources."

Little, like Harmon, has a teenage son who is still active in Club events. Through feedback from Phillip, 16, and other participants, Little can get a feel for the effectiveness and popu-

larity of Club programs. The bottom line, says Leon, is the Boys' Club is a place where young people can go for constructive recreation.

Smith singled out Harmon and Little as two of his hardest working volunteers. "Let's face it, without volunteers there probably would not be a Boys' Club in Bethalto," he said. "I could use a dozen more just like Jim and Leon."



Enjoying a game of pool are Leon Little and two Boys' Club participants. The Club offers a full range of recreational activities for boys and girls ages 7-17. Little and fellow Shell employee Jim Harmon serve as board members and oversee the Club's operation and budget.

## 4 million hours

(Continued from page 1)

things the correct and safe way. This place has every kind of safety device you can imagine, plus we are all trained on how to avoid accidents and what to do if there is one."

Ray Ogle, special tester: "My advice to new Lab employees? Wear rubber gloves when working with aromatics, and use a ventilated hood when pouring them from one container to another. The gloves keep the aromatics from harming your skin and the hood prevents you from inhaling the vapors. Other than that, follow instructions and use your head."

## Shell to award scholarships

In its 17th Shell Companies Scholarship Competition, the Foundation will sponsor 50 college scholarships for children who will complete high school in 1985 and enter college in 1985.

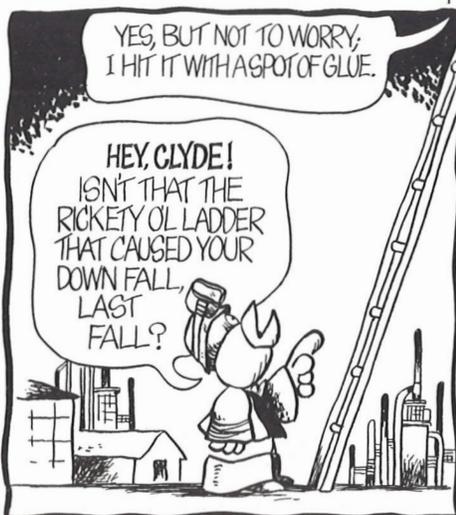
Those eligible to compete are sons and daughters of regular full-time employees and retired or deceased employees of Shell.

Students who wish to compete must submit completed 1985 entry forms

by Nov. 1, 1983 to Scholarship Competition, Shell Companies Foundation, Inc., Two Shell Plaza, P.O. Box 2099, Houston, TX 77001. Additionally, they must take the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) which will be given in high schools on Oct. 18 or 22 of this year.

Descriptive booklets covering the program and 1985 entry forms may be obtained from Employee Relations.

## WOODY & CLYDE



# Major shutdown in progress at hydrocracker complex

It is R & R time for the hydrocracker complex, as in "repair and regenerate." The Hydrocracking Unit (HCU), Catalytic Reformer-1 (CR-1) and Saturates Gas Plant (SGP) are shut down for six weeks for major renovation.

The shutdown was originally scheduled for last May but was postponed when Catalytic Cracking Unit-1 was unexpectedly shut down due to failure of its regenerator liner. To compensate for the nine-week loss of the cat cracker, CR-2 was reactivated and HCU gasoline production was increased. Now, it is the cat crackers' turn to boost production while the hydrocracker is idle.

"The Complex gasoline supply is tight but manageable," said **Howard Olsen**, manager of Economics & Scheduling. "To ensure that Wood River can supply the needs of its customers, we have acquired an additional two million barrels through outside purchases and exchanges."

The timing and scope of the shutdowns are such that three shutdown supervisors are involved: **Don Waters**, **Howard Green** and **Ed Miller**. **Bob Kostelnik**, Maintenance manager - HOP, said these are challenging times for the department. In addition to shutdown work, employees must carry on with routine maintenance projects and prepare the Complex for winter weather.

## HCU

The hydrocracking process takes heavy gas oils from distillation units and cat crackers and converts them into gasoline or jet fuel components. Because of its extreme operating conditions—650 degrees Fahrenheit and 1,800 pounds of pressure—the HCU is normally shut down for major maintenance every year, according to **Homer Dawson**, superintendent of Hydroprocessing. However, exceptional work by Maintenance during the 1982 shutdown enabled the

unit to run efficiently beyond the scheduled time period. In fact, continuous operating records were set this year for the first stage, 406 days ending June 27; and the second stage, 264 days ending Feb. 13. Following startup of the hydrogen-producing Steam Methane Reformer, part of the proposed Yield Improvement Program, future HCU major shutdowns will be planned on an 18-month cycle.

Dawson said three minor shutdowns of about 10 days apiece occurred this summer for repair of a damaged heat exchanger, electrical failure in the switch room and a seal failure on a recycle compressor.

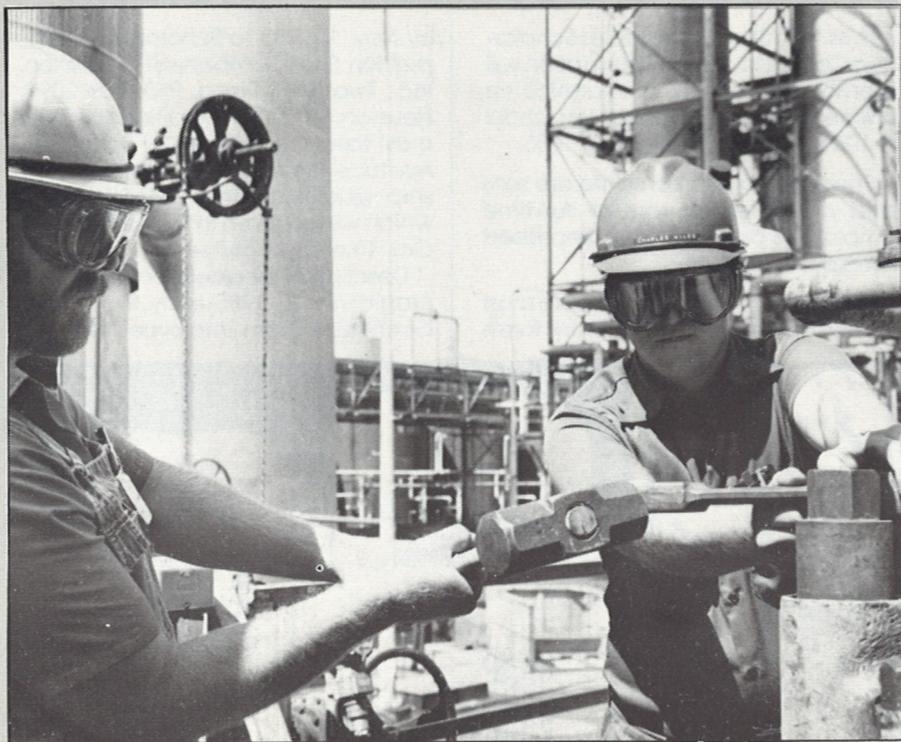
The current HCU shutdown carries with it a price tag of several million dollars for installation of a waste heat recovery system and replacement of the second stage catalyst, said **Manuel Lopez**, process manager of Aromatics West.

The recovery system will capture heat from the flue gases leaving the hydrocracker complex for use in producing 165 pounds per square inch refinery steam. The heat that was previously lost to the stack will now help reduce the amount of fuel needed to produce steam. Estimated savings in decreased boiler fuel consumption is more than \$5,000 a day.

For the first time since 1976, the second stage catalyst is being removed and replaced. The 860,000 pounds of catalyst is to be "dropped" from the unit, regenerated at an outside location, and 560,000 pounds put back in the four reactors along with 300,000 pounds of regenerated catalyst exchanged with Norco Manufacturing Complex in Louisiana.

Used to promote a reaction in changing fuel oil hydrocarbons to higher grade components, the catalyst itself does not become part of the reaction. It does, though, pick up carbon deposits which eventually reduce its activity and slow down the hydrocracking process reaction, causing reduced production and higher energy use.

The catalyst can be regenerated for further use by burning off much of the carbon deposit. But deposits which



Removing a compressor head at CR-1 are machinists **Walter Potwora** and **Charles Wiles**. Shutdown work for the catalytic reformer includes overhaul of heaters, valves and compressors, and replacement of catalyst.

do not burn off build up to a point where the catalyst must be changed.

Other HCU work includes replacing eight thermowells in the second stage reactors. These are sheath-like linings that protect temperature measuring instruments inside the reactors. Additionally, all rotating equipment is being overhauled, control valves repaired, and 20 burners in the fractionator reboil system are to be replaced with 12 burners that release the same amount of heat.

#### CR-1

In excess of \$1 million is budgeted for maintenance on CR-1. The catalytic reformer converts low octane naphtha to high quality gasoline or other chemicals, and produces hydrogen for the hydrocracker. CR-1 was last shut down in May 1982 with HCU.

Lopez said CR-1 is receiving thorough maintenance including extensive heater work and overhaul of eight 24-inch motor-operated valves. With the planned 18-month HCU cycle, it is expected that the CR-1 and CR-3 operating runs will be extended from 18-24 months to approximately 36 months.

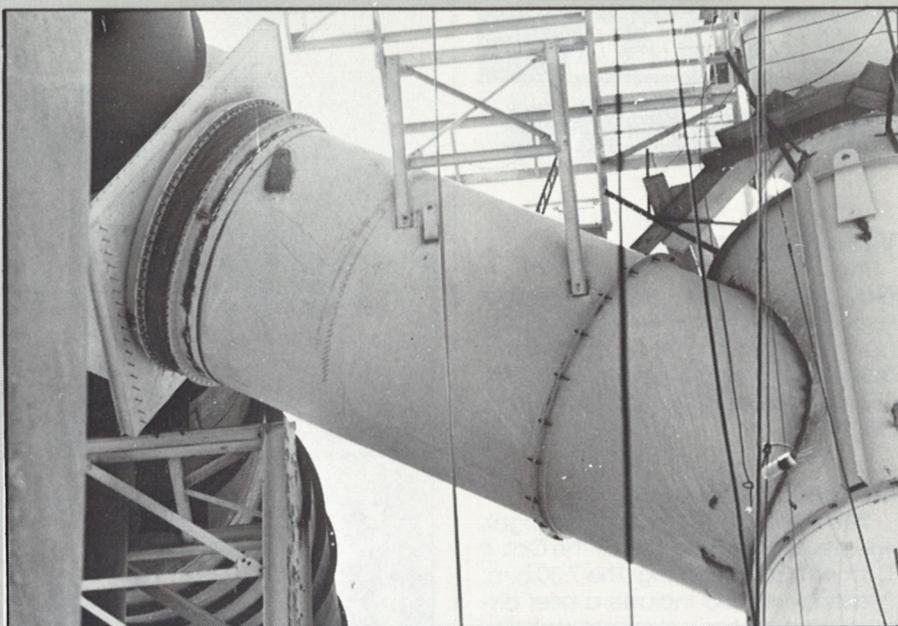
#### SGP

The Saturates Gas Plant recovers propane, butane and other light hydrocarbons produced by the hydrocracker and catalytic reformers. SGP's last shutdown was in 1976—its first and only since it started up in 1970.

Targeted maintenance items are vessels, exchangers and control valves. Major inspection work is also under way during this shutdown, Lopez said. He anticipates the SGP will operate another six to seven years before another major shutdown is necessary.

## ... Heavy Load

*Bird's eye and ground level views - A crane is used to maneuver ductwork into place at the hydrocracker. The duct is part of a waste heat recovery system being installed during the shutdown that will help reduce the amount of fuel needed to heat boilers for steam. Fuel savings are projected to be about \$5,000 a day when the system is in full operation.*



# SHELL SHORTS

## Volleyball begins

The SRA coed volleyball league play got under way Sept. 9 with the PaperWeights taking on Electric Company, and Donna's Gang against the Blasters. Games are held every Friday evening through Oct. 14 at Kendall Hill.

## Camera Club news

**Bill Durland**, Complex manager, will present the program at the Oct. 4 Camera Club meeting. The 7:30 p.m. meeting will also include a brief discussion on a technical aspect of photography. Employees or family members are welcome to attend Camera Club meetings which are held in the Cafeteria.

## Thatcher "Tuning In"

**Michelle Thatcher**, daughter of Jim, process manager - Compounding, was one of 98 young women from across the country to study communications this summer in Charlotte, N.C. The program was a National Girl Scout sanctioned event called Tuning In. Michelle is a member of River Bluffs Girl Scout Council and attends Edwardsville High School.

## One hitter

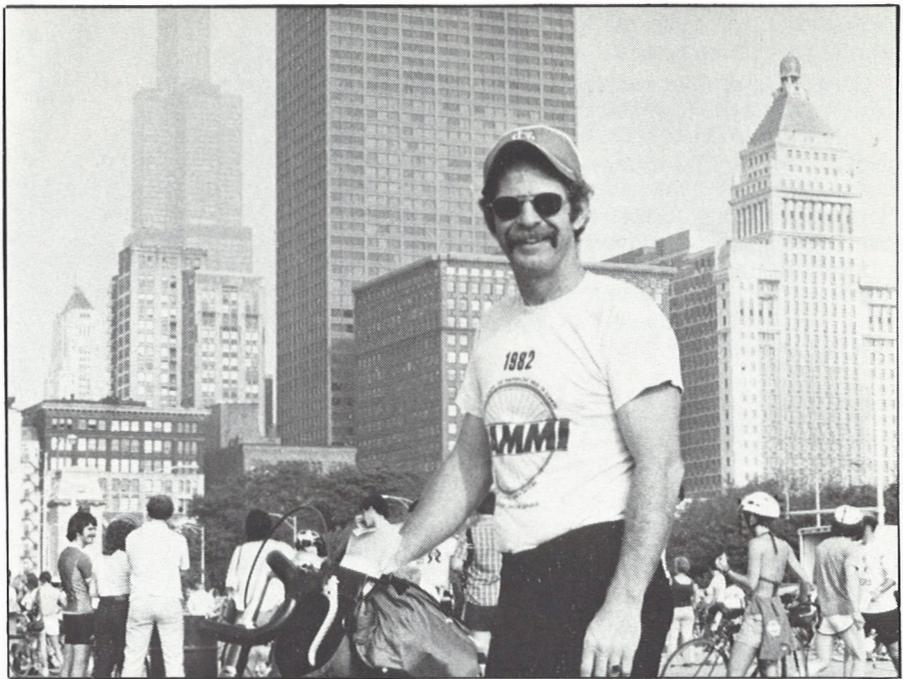
**Steve Franke**, manager - Yield Improvement Program, made a hole-in-one while golfing at Belk Park in August. He used an eight iron on the 130-yard eighth hole to score his first ace. Don't believe him? Playing partner **Dave Chiolerio**, Complex supervisor, was an eyewitness.

## No hitter

**Jean Hayes** pitched an 11-inning, no-hit victory in a major fast pitch softball game in July. The pipefitter is a member of the Sports Center Royals of Wood River which plays in the Amateur Softball Association. In 12 years of competition, Hayes has pitched two no-hitters.

## Trophies wanted

Any individual or team willing to donate Shell sports trophies for the SRA display case should contact **Phil Lamm**, ext. 2432.



*Minutes before climbing on his bicycle for a week-long, 500-mile ride, Frank Menke, pipefitter, poses in downtown Chicago. He raised about \$3,600 in pledges for the Chicago Lung Association as a result of his charity ride from Chicago to Cairo, Ill.*

## Biker rides 500 miles in cross-state event

Time will tell if **Frank Menke** is the winner of a 10-speed bicycle for raising the most pledges in the second annual BAMMI (Bicycle Across the Magnificent Miles of Illinois) charity ride. Sponsored by the Chicago Lung Association, riders solicited "pledges per mile" for the 500-plus mile trip from Chicago to Cairo held July 31 to Aug. 6. Total pledges were more than \$60,000.

"I have a good chance to win the grand prize but I won't know until the end of September," said Menke, a pipefitter in Maintenance. "Last year's top dollar amount was \$2,400 and I have received pledges for more than \$3,600. My original goal was \$1,000."

Menke said about 95 percent of his pledges have come from the Complex. He had no idea that so many employees would pledge contributions but he really isn't surprised. People have a way of rallying around a cause, especially a charitable one, he pointed out.

BAMMI riders departed from Buckingham Fountain in Chicago early Sunday, July 31. They averaged 55-75 miles a day and covered each seg-

ment in six to seven hours. The first three days were relatively flat and the final four days were more scenic and hilly. Menke and other riders camped overnight along the route; BAMMI vehicles transported riders' tents, sleeping bags and other baggage to the campsites.

"Was it a hard ride?" repeated Menke. "I took three extra days of vacation when I got home—yes, it was tough. The weather was hot and the headwinds were strong. The heat made the pavement soft which created resistance on the bicycle tires. Overall though, it was an enjoyable and worthwhile experience."

Menke finished the ride in good physical condition and his bike also held up well. The extent of any mechanical problems was a single flat tire.

He rode the last 12 miles soaking wet but not from perspiration. Menke had jumped into a lake, climbed back on his bike and pedaled the rest of the way in. "The opportunity was there for me to cool off and I went for it," he said. "After 500 miles on a bicycle I wasn't too particular."

# In remembrance

**Chester C. Anderson**, 79, died Aug. 23. Mr. Anderson was a pipefitter helper 1st, Engineering Field before retiring in 1962 after 22 years of service.

**Eugene F. Bensman**, 67, died Aug. 18. Mr. Bensman was a pipefitter 1st, Maintenance before retiring in 1978 after 38 years of service.

**Francis J. Carlin**, 79, died Aug. 18. Mr. Carlin was a design draftsman, Engineering Office before retiring in 1969 after 30 years of service.

**Clifford Arnold**, 72, died Aug. 11. Mr. Arnold was a pipefitter 1st, Engineering Field before retiring in 1970 after 27 years of service.

**Jack Vasey, Jr.**, 79, died Aug. 5. Mr. Vasey was a master mechanic, Engineering Field before retiring in 1961 after 32 years of service.

**Robert E. Weber**, 81, died Aug. 3. Mr. Weber was a yardman, Engineering Field before retiring in 1963 after 19 years of service.

**Irvin F. Fischer**, 79, died July 27. Mr. Fischer was a tinner 1st, Engineering

Field before retiring in 1959 after 24 years of service. (No photo available)

**Clarence J. Little**, 77, died Aug. 27. Mr. Little was a truck driver and tractor operator, Engineering Field before retiring in 1968 after 24 years of service.

# Retirements



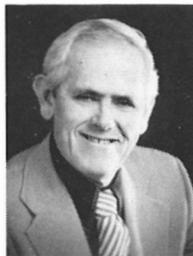
**Luther Felton**  
Purchasing  
41 years



**Burt Schneider**  
Utilities  
41 years



**Joe Slaby**  
Utilities  
41 years



**Mel Kirchoff**  
Dispatching  
36 years



**Maurice Scully**  
Aromatics West  
36 years



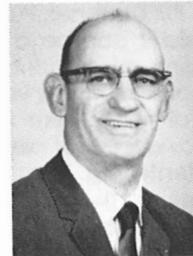
**C. C. Anderson**



**E. L. Bensman**



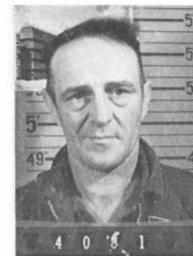
**F. J. Carlin**



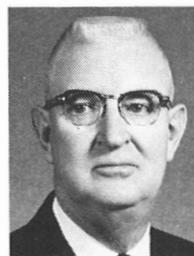
**C. Arnold**



**J. Vasey, Jr.**



**R. E. Weber**



**C. J. Little**

# Anniversaries



**Ray Beckham**  
Maintenance  
30 years



**Ernie Felkel, Jr.**  
Maintenance  
30 years



**Robert Neudecker**  
Maintenance  
30 years



**Jack Ridinger**  
Dispatching  
30 years



**Ron Adams**  
E P & S  
25 years

# Classified Ads

**For sale:** Aluminum awnings for five windows and two doors. W. H. White, 656-2843.

**For sale:** Three-bedroom brick and stone ranch-style house, one and one-half baths, two-car attached garage, 1,500 square feet, gas heat, central air, fenced yard, corner lot. \$49,000. Write Brenda White, P.O. Box 503, Godfrey, IL 62035.

**For sale:** 21-foot Blazon Tandom Travel Trailer, new tires, self-contained, sleeps eight, \$2,500. It can be seen at Shady Acres Campground, Delhi, IL. Contact Brenda White for more information.

# Complex expands vendor programs

Wood River is well on the way to surpassing its 1983 goals of purchases directed to minority and women-owned businesses. "At the present rate, we should easily exceed our expenditure goals of \$1,150,000 for minority vendors, and \$75,000 for women vendors," said **Jack Rinehart**, Purchasing.

Rinehart, **Donna Jacikas** and other department employees actively seek out minority and women-owned enterprises that can provide goods and services to the Complex. Their efforts are part of a Shell program that is helping to broaden the base of available suppliers, stimulate competition, provide an opportunity for minority and women-owned vendors to participate in the business community, and create jobs.

To qualify as a minority or women-owned vendor, a business must be at least 51 percent owned and managed by a minority or woman. Minorities include: Black Americans, Hispanic Americans, Asian-Pacific Americans, Asian-Indian Americans and Native Americans.

Begun as a pilot venture in 1971, Shell's Minority and Business Program was formed in response to a request by the Department of Commerce for corporations to help support minority enterprise. During the first year, Shell's total purchases from minorities was approximately \$100,000. The program was adopted on a corporate basis in 1972 and today Shell does business with more than 500 minority vendors nationwide. In the peak year of 1981 purchases topped \$64 million.

Two years ago Shell started a Wom-



**Darryl Brazil, of Response Media Group, Inc., St. Louis, describes the services his company provides at a meeting of the Missouri-Southern Illinois Minority Purchasing Council. The Council held its August meeting at the Complex. It advises companies, including Shell, of minority businesses in the St. Louis metropolitan area. (Photo by Randy Millikin)**

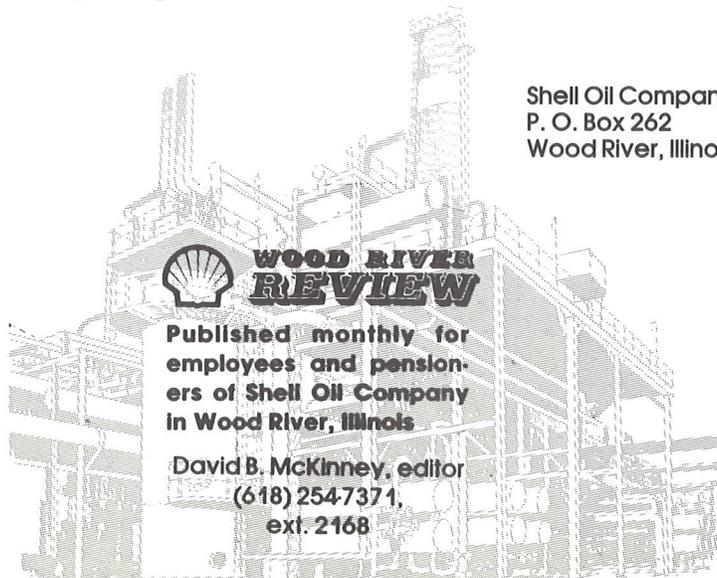
en's Business Program which generated \$18 million for female suppliers in its first 12 months.

**Bill Deubner**, Purchasing manager, said it can be a difficult and time-consuming task to find minority and women-owned vendors in the industrial field. There is an organization, however, that assists the Complex in identifying qualified minority businesses: the Missouri-Southern Illinois Minority Purchasing Council. The Council advises companies in the St. Louis metropolitan area of new and existing minority vendors and what they have to offer. It also stimulates and

encourages local corporations to purchase goods and services from minority firms.

Rinehart, who is Wood River's representative on the Council, said the Complex currently works with approximately 20 minority and five women-owned vendors. And, those numbers increase year to year along with the total expenditures to the vendors, due to support of the program by the Complex.

"We have a good, workable program going," said Rinehart. "One that benefits both Shell and minority and women-owned businesses."



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