

Safety effort tops million hour mark

Over 1,700 people working safely for 116 days adds up to over one million safe hours worked by Wood River employees.

It also adds up to an admirable safety record that reflects the hard work and extra effort toward working safely put forth by every employee in the Complex.

The record of one million safe hours without a lost time accident began on April 22 and was reached at 12:01 a.m. on August 14. Unfortunately, a lost time accident occurred three days later, halting the safe hours tally at 1,032,400 hours.

One million safe hours was last reached on July 7, 1980. Prior to that, the mark had not been reached since 1977. Two million hours hasn't been reached since 1952. Wood River accumulated

close to three and a half million safe hours in 1947.

There is no disagreement that congratulations are in order for reaching this significant safety milestone.

"I definitely want to congratulate all members of the organization for the team effort on this important achievement," said Complex Manager Art Williams. "While recognizing that our goal of two million safe hours can't be reached this year, we can still get another million and get a start on a second million."

Williams pointed out that while the records are an important gauge of the safety effort at Wood River, it is performance that is important.

"The records are just numbers," said Williams. "What is important is

that we are working safely and preventing injuries."

Harry Rollins, manager of Safety and Industrial Hygiene, agreed with Williams' assessment of the safety statistics.

"The safety record at Wood River is one of the better ones in the Shell system," Rollins said. "In the past our incident rate has been enviable. This is because of the participation and dedication of all employees to work safely.

"It is somewhat disappointing that the safe hours figure doesn't always reflect that dedication. Statistics are just figures, however. What counts is working safely."

Rollins added his congratulations for the accomplishment to that offered by Williams and offered a thought for the future.

"I look at the million safe hours as step one. In recent history we haven't been able to put together our million hour accomplishments to make them add up. We now need to address that continuity of effort," he said.

More kudos came from Warren Saunders, Complex superintendent.

"You can't achieve a record like that without people working extra hard on it," he said. "It isn't easy to reach the million hour mark. We know because we haven't been able to get there every year."

In recognition of the million hour accomplishment, each employee received an Anslu Sentry 2½ pound fire extinguisher. The extinguishers, filled with a multi-purpose dry chemical, were delivered to employees' homes.



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The unassuming gray box being put into place on Boiler 15 can save the Complex close to \$600,000 a year in fuel costs.

Addition improves boiler efficiency

It doesn't look like much. Just a rather large metal box.

But behind that mild-mannered, gray steel exterior lurks an addition to Boiler 15 that will conserve energy and save the Complex over \$600,000 a year in fuel costs.

The 76,000 pound box, called an economizer, was installed on the boiler the morning of Sept. 3. It took a 200 ton crane and two days of preparation to lift the 20'x7'x11' piece of equipment into place near the top of Boiler 15. The crane arrived at the Complex in six pieces because of its size and had to be assembled. Twelve mats made of huge wooden ties, each weighing five tons, had to be positioned under the treads of the crane before it was ready to lift the economizer.

The addition to Boiler 15 will use waste heat from the exhaust stack to heat water entering the unit. This means the boiler uses less energy to heat the water to steam temperatures.

"This is just another project in our continuing effort to reduce energy consumption in the Complex," said Bill Carr, manager Utilities.

Carr explained that the economizer is a "great big heat exchanger" with hot flue gas on one side and incoming water on the other.

Like a pressure cooker on your stove, the boiler units in the Complex operate under pressure. Pressure increases the boiling point of water. Boilers in the plant operate under 600 pounds of pressure, which raises the boiling point from 212 degrees to about 750 degrees.

"We have to combust enough fuel to heat the water to steam temperatures from whatever temperature it comes in at," said Carr.

Without the economizer, water enters the unit at about 250 degrees and is heated to about 750 degrees to make steam. With the economizer, waste heat will bring the temperature of the water coming in up to about 350 degrees without burning any additional fuel.

"What we're doing is recovering waste heat to improve the efficiency of the boiler," said Carr. Efficiency of the boiler is increased by three percent with the economizer.

Along with installation of the economizer, existing burners were replaced with modern "low nitrogen oxide (NOx)" burners. This will allow the boiler to run at capacity and still stay within safe environmental limits for NOx emissions. The new burners will also allow the boiler to burn pitch, a low grade, low cost fuel.

Boilers 15 and 16 were derated by the EPA in 1974 from their original design capacity because of excessive NOx emissions while firing utility fuel oil, explained Steve Stimson, senior engineer in P & PE.

"In addition to increasing the efficiency of the boiler, with the new burners we also increase the capacity of the boiler from 175,000 pounds/hour to 250,000 pounds/hour, which is what it was supposed to produce in the first place," said Stimson.

Additional savings will be realized because Boiler 15 (and Boiler 16 which will have an economizer installed in the spring) will be able to handle more of the load, meaning less steam will have to be produced on the less efficient boilers, Stimson pointed out.

Of the nine boilers in the Complex, Boilers 15 and 16 were chosen to receive the economizers because they were derated. With the addition of this unit they can be brought back up to capacity.

"With the revisions we are able to burn less fuel, burn less expensive fuel (pitch), with a lower NOx emissions," said Carr. That makes sense in anyone's book.



Shell shorts

Cub makes Shell leader proud

Pipefitter and Cubmaster **Randy Smith** has real reason to be proud. One of his cubs, ten-year-old Brad Choat, has been selected to represent the 10½ state North Central Region of the Boy Scouts of America as the nominee for Cub Scout National Youth Representative.

Smith is cubmaster of Cub Scout Pack 46, sponsored by the Nameoki School PTA. He was very proud of Choat, chosen for the nomination from 150,586 Cub Scouts in 5,606 Cub Scout packs in the region.

Of the nominees from the five regions in the United States, one will be selected to join a delegation to Washington, D.C., to meet with the President of the United States and Congress.

Contest casts winning fisherman

The results of the third of four fishing contests to be held this year are in.

The latest tournament was held Sept. 12 at Kinkaid Lake in Murphysboro, Ill. Taking first place honors was **Ron Miller**, Maintenance, with a one pound six ounce catch. Second place went to **Ed Miller**, Maintenance (reportedly no relation to the winning Miller). Third place belongs to **Denny Line**, Engineering Services.

The fourth and last fishing contest will be held Oct. 10 at Lake Loueager in Litchfield, Ill. Contact **Orville Rahn**, ext. 2220, for more information.

Shell Foundation wins arts award

The Shell Companies Foundation, Incorporated won a 1980 Business in the Arts Award for a program that included support for opera, ballet, drama, museums, libraries and education.

The award resulted from an international competition co-sponsored by Forbes magazine and the Business Committee for the Arts. An independent panel of leaders from the arts, business and government reviewed nearly 300 nominated programs and selected 51 winners.

Mrs. Doris J. O'Connor, Senior Vice President, Shell Companies Foundation, accepted the award from Grace Bumbry, the internationally acclaimed opera star, during ceremonies at the St. Louis Art Museum on June 25. Each of the winning companies received an original, limited-edition print by the distinguished American artist, Chen Chi, and a scroll containing a congratulatory letter from President Reagan. It was the third time Shell had received a Business in the Arts Award.

Reservations available for pensioners' dinner

It all began 15 years ago with a dozen retirees getting together for dinner over the Christmas holidays. Now the Wood River pensioners' dinner is one of the biggest in the Shell organization with over 300 retirees expected to attend.

This year's dinner will be held Oct. 31, at the Wood River Moose Hall. Doors will open at 11 a.m., with the meal served at noon. The dinner is open to men and women who have retired from Wood River.

Complex Manager **Art Williams** will be on hand to address the crowd, as will a special guest speaker from Head Office, **W. A. Carpenter, Jr.**, general manager engineering products.

"We have a program but the dinner is really for a meeting of each other," said **Joe Lanzerotte**, president of the Wood River Retirees. "The main feature of the dinner is to visit with people you haven't seen for a while. Some of these folks came last year from Florida and Colorado. I'm sure they'll be back again this year."

To reserve a spot at the dinner, fill out the order form below and return it with a check or money order for \$5.50 to **John F. McConnell**, secretary/treasurer. For further information about the dinner, call Lanzerotte, 259-5304, or McConnell, 462-2596.

Wood River Pensioners' Dinner

Saturday, October 31, 1981
Wood River Moose Lodge
11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Meal served at noon.

Enclosed is my \$5.50 check or money order. Please reserve me a place.

Name _____

Department _____

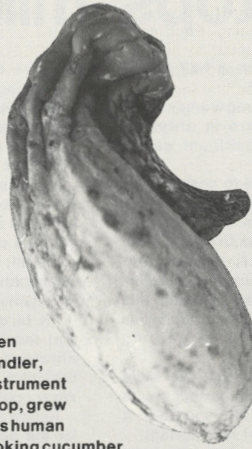
Age _____ Date retired _____

Town of residence _____

Return to: **John F. McConnell**, 3552 Aberdeen Ave., Alton, Illinois 62002. All reservations payable in advance. Deadline October 26, 1981. Please make checks payable to "Shell Pensioners Dinner Fund."

Shell's strange but true . . .

Retiree **T. J. Leatherby** was shocked to discover his cow **Rosie** had given birth to triplet calves. The trio is the first seen by anyone in the area.



Glen Gindler, instrument shop, grew this human looking cucumber in his home garden.



Anniversaries



Harlan Boedeker
Maintenance
30 years



Jim Brendle
P & PE
25 Years



Dean Fleming
Maintenance
30 years



Raymond Fralich
Maintenance
30 years



Dick Mehrhoff
Hydroprocessing
25 years



Peggy Murphy
Financial
35 years



Tony Sitko
P & PE
40 years

Classifieds

Luggage. Samsonite Best Silhouette folding wardrobe, used once, blue, \$40. Call Carl Madoux, 459-3682.

Trailer hitch. Fits '76 Cadillac El Dorado. Call Paul Sauerwein, 377-6347.

Water-ski vest. Ladies Skimaster size 35-38, Coast Guard approved. Call Paul Sauerwein, 377-6347.

'78 Ford Granada ESS. Four-door, 6-cylinder, full power, AM-FM stereo, A/C. Call Cliff Davidson, 466-4284.

Organ. Sear's Silvertone with music and listen and play instruction course. Call retiree Amos Shelton, 254-1615.

Miscellaneous. Blood pressure monitor with large dial; swivel bar or kitchen counter stool; bathroom space saver; all in good condition. Call retiree J. Katrenich, 217--835-4475.

In remembrance



T.V. Allaria



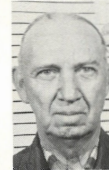
E. Fry



L.A. Lohman



W.C. Redd



E.L. Sinclair



L.H. Wagner

Tony V. Allaria, 63, died July 23. Mr. Allaria was a senior inspector in Engineering Services before his retirement in 1980.

Elmer Fry, 80, died July 20. Mr. Fry was a pipefitter 1st before his retirement in 1960.

Louis A. Lohman, 81, died July 18. Mr. Lohman was administrative superintendent before his retirement in 1959.

William C. Redd, 78, died July 25. Mr. Redd was a craft supervisor in the Engineering Field before his retirement in 1963.

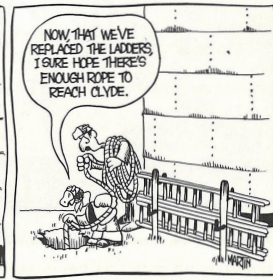
Elmer L. Sinclair, 78, died July 19. Mr. Sinclair was an Electrician 1st in the Engineering Field before his retirement in 1965.

Lawrence H. Wagner, 77, died July 26. Mr. Wagner was a zone foreman in the Engineering Field before his retirement in 1961.

WOODY & CYDE



YIKES!



Updating estate plans makes sense

Avoid problems by having current beneficiaries named

Charlie had designated his wife as beneficiary of his Provident Fund, Shell Employee Stock Ownership Plan (SESOP) and Group Life Insurance benefits. They divorce. Charlie remarries and fails to change his beneficiaries. After the divorce, the Provident Fund and SESOP designations became invalid. Later he dies. His ex-wife receives the Group Life Insurance payment.

Mary, while single, had named her parents beneficiaries of the Provident Fund and of her Group Life Insurance benefits. Then she marries. In the meantime her parents die. Then Mary dies. Her benefits are added to her estate rather than passing directly to her spouse.

Sue dies in an automobile accident. She doesn't have a will. Her minor children are named as beneficiaries of SESOP. Before her children receive the SESOP payment, her husband must go to court to have legal guardian appointed to represent the interest of his children.

These are some of the situations that may occur when people neglect their personal estate planning. Each could have easily been avoided by updating beneficiaries for SESOP, Provident Fund and Group Life Insurance, and by writing properly executed wills.

"As we go through life, things change — marriages, deaths, divorces," said Harvey Birmingham, Employee Relations. "Employees should remember to keep their beneficiaries current."

Having up-to-date beneficiaries named can expedite settlement and insure that payments are made to the right person, Birmingham pointed out. He encourages all employees to check their Provident Fund and SESOP "designation of beneficiary" papers and their Group Life Insurance policy to make sure they have named the beneficiaries that are correct for them now.

Employees who discover a change that needs to be made or have questions about their beneficiaries can call Barb Wieckhorst in Employee Relations, ext. 2763.

Keeping beneficiaries current greatly simplifies estate settlement. Shell's Provident Fund and SESOP can make prompt settlement with only minimum of paperwork if a member has a valid beneficiary named at the time of death.

But if the beneficiary has died or the designation has been voided by other circumstances (such as divorce), there is no choice but to pay the deceased's estate.

State law governs how money and property are divided if an individual dies without a will. Handling such estates can take months or years and involve considerable expense.

Given that, Birmingham also encourages employees to have a will written as part of thorough personal estate planning. A lawyer should be consulted on this procedure.

Beyond the need to keep beneficiaries current, Birmingham pointed to another problem that occurs. "Sometimes there is a misunderstanding

over whether an employee is even enrolled in a benefit plan. This applies not only to the Provident Fund and Group Life Insurance programs, but also to hospital-surgical-medical, dental and income protection insurance (IPI)," said Birmingham. An employee may think he is covered only to discover in a pinch that he was never properly enrolled in the program.

An easy way to verify the programs you are enrolled in is to check your payroll check stubs to make sure the appropriate premium deductions are being made. Again, any questions can be directed to Wieckhorst in ER.

Company adapting to use low grade crude

Construction is on schedule for Shell's extensive modernization of its West Coast refining system, designed to increase the company's ability to turn heavier, high-sulphur domestic crude oil into much-needed products like gasoline and jet fuel.

The program consists of major projects at Shell's Wilmington and Martinez, Calif., manufacturing complexes. At Wilmington, a 20,000 barrels a day (b/d) hydrotreater, two 200 ton per day sulphur recovery units, and a 36 million cubic feet per day hydrogen plant are under construction along with extensive revisions to the catalytic cracking unit (CCU).

The hydrotreater processes a mixture of gas oils and produces a premium, low-sulfur fuel or feedstock for conversion into gasoline. The sulfur recovery units extract sulfur from gas fed from the coker and hydrotreater. The hydrogen plant produces hydrogen to supplement a refinery's processing needs. A catalytic cracking unit converts the heavier distillate fractions of crude oil into gasoline. Revisions to the Wilmington CCU will reduce energy consumption, improve gasoline conversion and reduce sulfur emissions.

At Martinez, a 22,000 b/d flexicoker, a 7,500 b/d dimersol unit and a 31 million cubic feet per day hydrogen plant are being built. Sulfur recovery facilities to be built include a 65 ton-a-day sulfur unit.

The flexicoker processes pitch and clarified oil to produce gases, gasoline and light and heavy oils. The gas oils are sent to other units in the modernization program to produce more gasoline and jet fuel. The dimersol unit converts propylene to dimate, a gasoline component, and separates propane from the dimate.

The construction work force neared its peak this summer, with about 1,000 working at Wilmington and 2,000 at Martinez.

The West Coast modernization will take more than another year to complete and will cost more than \$500 million. It will enable Shell to minimize its dependence on premium quality foreign crudes and to replace Alaskan North Slope with heavy California crudes, which are becoming available in increasing volumes from Shell's California offshore and central valley oil fields.

The program will also enable Shell to upgrade high-sulfur residual fuels into gasoline, jet fuel and low-sulfur residual fuels into gasoline, jet fuel and low-sulfur fuel oil. The program's equipment was designed with fuel-saving and emission control features.

Country flair for dance

Cowboy boots and ten-gallon hats will be in order for the SRA fall dance, to be held the evening of Oct. 23.

For one, the country music sounds of Morgantown, a five piece country rock band, will be filling the air with some good 'ol fashioned boot stompin' music.

Another reason for cowboy garb is that Halloween will be just a week away. But whether you dress up or not, the Firemen's Hall in Collinsville will be the place to be.

A slightly different twist to this year's dance is the option of a buffet dinner. By reservation only, the dinner will be held from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. On the menu is hot roast beef, ham and cheese, potato salad, slaw, mostaccioli and potato chips. The cost for dinner, which includes admission to the dance, is \$6 a couple

for SRA members and \$12 a couple for guests. Dinner tickets will be given out at the door the evening of the dance.

The cost of admission to the dance alone is \$3 a couple for SRA members and \$7 for guests. There will be free set-ups, popcorn, and door prizes. Beer may be purchased for \$1 a pitcher.

Reservations, with check made out to the Shell Recreation Association, should be sent to Mr. R.H. LeBrun, Maintenance Field Office # 1, before Oct. 19. Please include your name, department, company number and plant phone number. Also indicate whether the tickets are for SRA members or guests.

Dinner reservation forms can be picked up at the Main Gate and South Gate. Dress for the dance is informal.



Morgantown, a five-piece country rock band, will provide music for the upcoming SRA fall dance.

LeBrun for health, fun is running strong at 51

Triathlon. Three grueling tests of strength and stamina, one after the other. Swimming 1.2 miles, biking 56 miles, topped off with running 13.1 miles, half a marathon.

"You're as young as you feel," Rene LeBrun, senior instrument inspector, is fond of pointing out when talking about his athletic activities. With that in mind he jotted on the cover of his entrant's packet to the Warrior's Path Triathlon, "oldest cat (30 going on 52)."

LeBrun may feel 30 years old, but the truth is he'll be 52 in December. As such he was the oldest entrant in the triathlon, held Sept. 6 in Kingsport, Tenn. It must have been that youthful frame of mind that helped LeBrun finish 81st out of 113 athletes who finished the event.

Completing a triathlon is a feat in itself. LeBrun began the morning swimming the 1.2 miles in one hour, 30 minutes. Out of the water, just enough time for a quick change of clothes, and it was on a bike to cover 56 miles of roller coaster hills in three hours, 54 minutes. Then off the bike and onto the trail to run 13.1 miles in two hours, 18 minutes. A total of seven hours, 46 minutes after he started, LeBrun crossed the finish line.

"I felt great when I finished," said LeBrun. "I was exhausted, but a half hour later I ate a sandwich and went to the celebration party."

Jotted on the cover of his entrant's packet was another notation: "Did outstanding job at celebration Beer Party."

"If you had told me five years ago that I would be running marathons and triathlons I'd have told you you were crazy," said LeBrun.

But what started four years ago as a way to take off a little extra weight has led LeBrun to six marathons (26.2 mile race) and now a triathlon. He started with bicycling. Riding back and forth from his home in Granite City to work at Shell, LeBrun was able to put in 25 miles a day. Soon he was supplementing his daily biking with trips on the weekends - some 50 miles, some 100 miles.

When fall came, and the sun began to set earlier, LeBrun discovered it wasn't light enough to ride the bike home after work. He decided to try his hand at running.

"The first time I went out to run I went a half a mile and thought, 'Ugh,'" he said emphatically. "I didn't care for it. Running wasn't for me."

But he needed the exercise, so he went and bought a good pair of running shoes and tried it again. He learned to like it.

"I started with one mile, then two miles, and then I was running marathons," said LeBrun with a laugh. "Well, not marathons right away."

Actually it was after a year and a half of running that LeBrun decided he wanted to take on the challenge of a marathon. Being a spectator at a marathon and watching the runners cross the finish line provided the inspiration.

"It seemed like such a big thing," LeBrun explained. "If you can finish a marathon, you can do anything. It's a great accomplishment."

LeBrun started training and ran his first marathon in 1979. His finishing time was four hours, 12 minutes. The most recent marathon he ran brought his time down to three hours, 24 minutes.

Now a goal is to compete in the granddaddy race of them all - the Boston Marathon. If LeBrun

can shave four more minutes off his best marathon time he will qualify in his age bracket to compete in Boston next spring.

"I'm pretty sure I can do it," said LeBrun.

The rule is easy-hard, easy hard. You run easy one day, hard the next. Training for a marathon means starting 15 weeks beforehand and putting in 50-plus miles a week. Included in the 50 miles is one 15-to-20 mile run to build endurance.

LeBrun is in training now for two marathons coming up in October and November. That means most days include a side trip on the way home from work to the campus of SIUE to log the 50-plus miles a week he needs to put in.

Training for the triathlon was even more demanding. For thirteen weeks prior to the event, LeBrun swam two one-hour sessions a week at the YMCA, took ten bike trips averaging 70 miles each, and ran 30-35 miles a week.

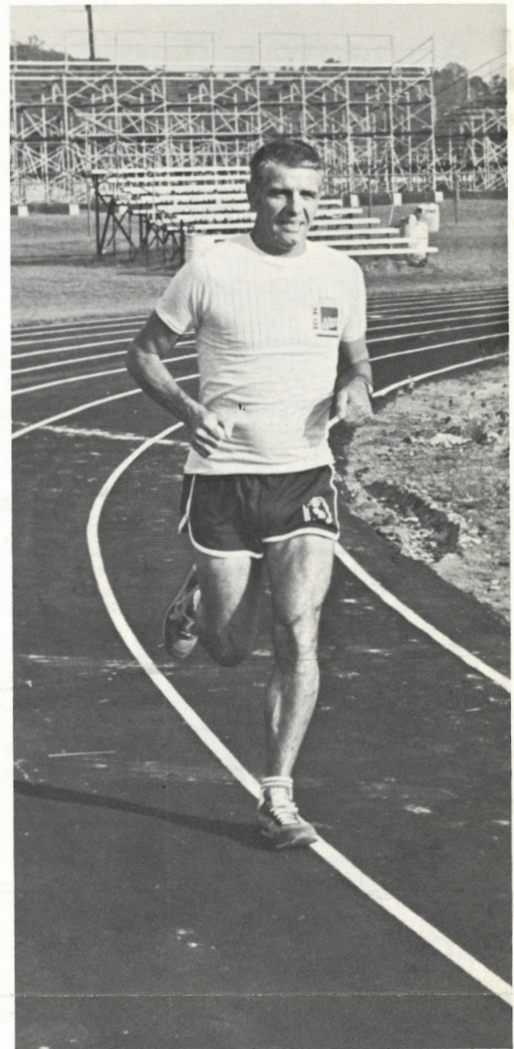
"If you don't like it, you don't do it. It takes a lot to get up at five in the morning and go jogging. It takes dedication. It takes many long hours. But the benefits are well worth it," said LeBrun.

Part of the benefits are psychological. "I call it a relief valve," said LeBrun. "To relieve the mental you have to stress the physical. It's a beautiful way to relax."

LeBrun has come a long way since he ran that first half mile. And he hasn't stopped yet. Along with running the Boston Marathon, his goals for the future include running 50 mile ultramarathons and competing in the Iron Man Triathlon held annually in Hawaii. The Iron Man, the original triathlon, is double the distance of the triathlon LeBrun completed: 2.4 mile swim, 112 mile bike ride, and a complete marathon, 26.2 miles.

"There are thirty million people in this country running," said LeBrun. "Thirty million nuts."

"A lot of people think we're crazy. Well, maybe we are, but we're having fun."



Top, staying in shape to run marathons means LeBrun stops frequently at the SIUE campus to run on his way home from work. Above, George Chaffee (left) and Ron

Adams, both from Engineering Services, toast to LeBrun's sixth marathon finish, run in March of this year. (Photo by Ray Thrasher)

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