

# PLAIN TALKS

April 1989

Volume 68 Number 4

**GSU REDDY VOLUNTEERS**



**are READY to help**

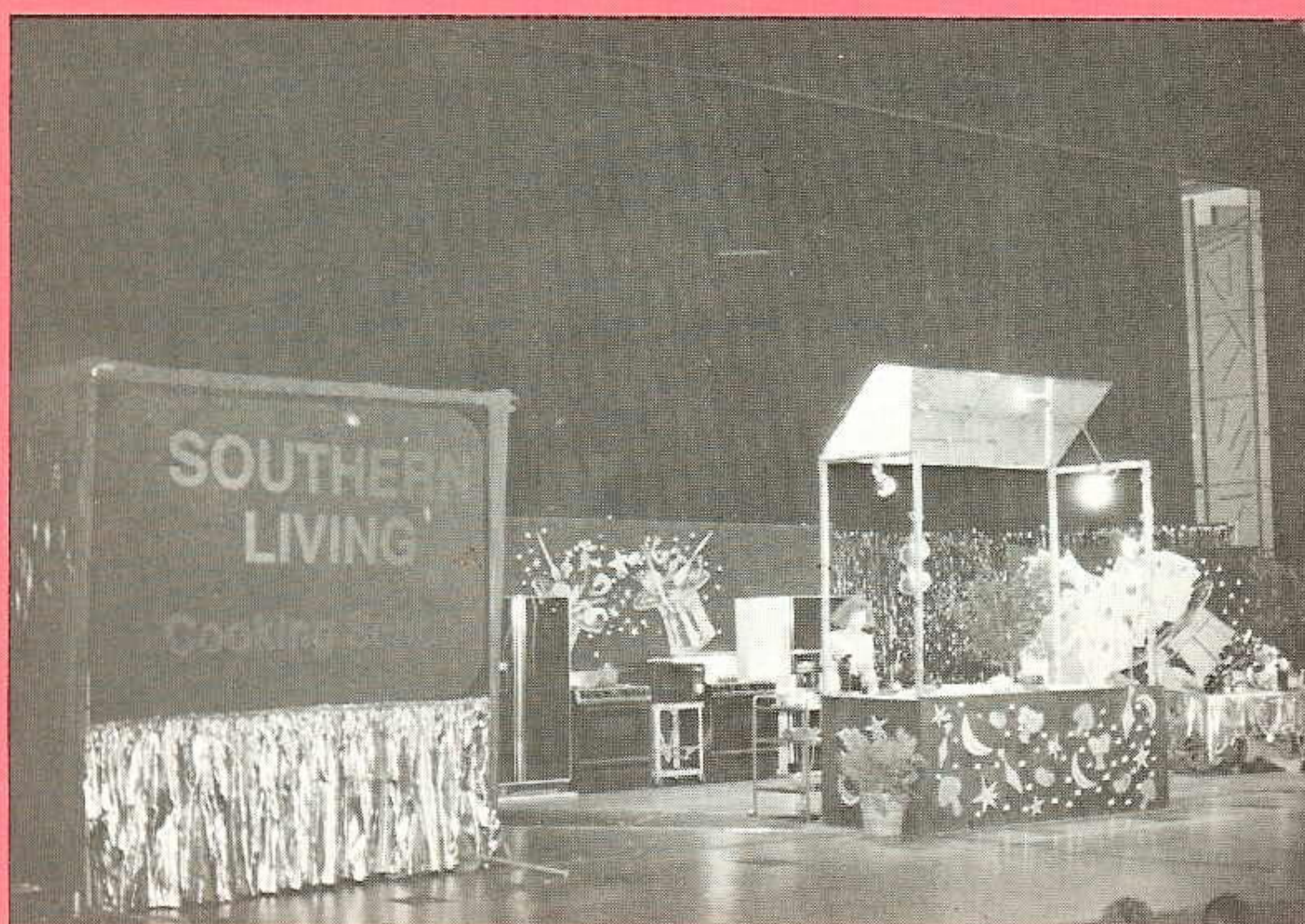


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*Home economists from Southern Living presented a cooking school in Baton Rouge that was co-sponsored by GSU. For more information, see page 6.*

*(About the cover). Don Odom, senior engineering assistant, Conroe, designed the winning GSU Reddy Volunteers logo. For more on GSU volunteerism, see pages 8-9.*

## PLAIN TALKS

April 1989

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Employees who change residences or offices should fill out company mailing-address-forms (GSU0012-00-81) and return them to the mailroom in the Edison Plaza. GSU publications, departmental mailings and other company information are not automatically forwarded; addresses must be corrected when employees move.



# MAILBOX



## Small business support

"Entrepreneur Unlimited appreciates the generosity of Gulf States Utilities in sharing with us the booth at the Business Expo in the Port Arthur Civic Center," writes Sherry Batson to the Marketing Department.

"Having us located in your booth caused the curious to stop ... They were glad to see Gulf States taking part in the small business industry ... The small entrepreneurs of our area are on the increase and seeing a vehicle for their exposure gives them the incentive to stretch out and grow. The bonus of finding large industry is interested enough to support them adds confidence and hope in their venture ... We appreciate the efforts and programs Gulf States is putting forth for the good of all."

## Front line caring

Renee Stone, customer affairs coordinator, Conroe, received this thank you letter from Kathy Doran, center director, Montgomery County YWCA of Houston, and Elaine Thomason, YWCA Senior Festival chairperson:

"The Montgomery County YWCA joins our senior adults who enjoyed this year's CISD/YWCA Senior Festival in thanking you, Renee, for your part in making a successful event. Once again, Gulf States Utilities is on the front line of caring in our community. The YWCA appreciates your commitment to our community and we look forward to working with you in the future."

## Team City commitment

Sam Richardson, economic development agent, Baton Rouge, received this letter from Clark Forrest, economic development specialist, Department of Economic Development for the State of Louisiana, Baton Rouge:

"You and your company are commended for the recent tour of your Beaumont headquarters which you arranged for the Gonzales Team City sales team. The tour was most productive because it demonstrated the total commitment of GSU to its Team City program ... I look forward to a continuous working relationship on Team City."

## First hand experience

"My husband and I often heard how helpful and friendly GSU employees are. But this is the first time we had cause to experience it first hand," writes Orange customer Nora Langley to **Edward Hutchins**, superintendent-Orange, about **Van Kitchens**, Orange service, meter and engineering supervisor, **Wayne Allbritton** and **Doug Blevins**, both serviceman-1st class, Orange.

"Mr. Kitchens came to our residence with a crew of two employees (Doug and Wayne) to connect the new weather head we had to have installed, in order to get better service. Well, these three men could not have been more helpful and could not be nicer to us. We most assuredly do appreciate their kindness."



Kitchens, Allbritton and Blevins.

## Goodwill at a good price

Patricia Fox of Frumbrussels, a home-made candle shop, writes to thank **Cynthia Fontenette**, customer contact clerk, Baton Rouge, for assistance during last Christmas:

"I wanted to thank you for your help in setting up the electricity for our second store at Christmas. When I flew in at 5 minutes till five, I thought I was going into battle but much to my surprise and pleasure, you were exceptionally helpful. The goodwill you created that day was priceless."

## Guatemala greetings

Paul J. Clark, assistant administrator, international programs division, National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, writes this letter to **Ed Loggins**, senior executive vice president, Beaumont, in appreciation of a recent visit by Rodolfo Santizo and Francis Barillas of the Electric Utility of Guatemala (EEGSA).

"I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the time and effort you put into the visit by Senores Santizo and Barillas of EEGSA in Guatemala City. Thanks for organizing an informative itinerary for the visitors and making them feel at home. We hope we can reciprocate in some way and look forward to working with you in the future."

The visit was coordinated by **Jim Johnson**, manager-materials management, and **Mike Denton**, supervisor-stores operations, and was hosted by **Andres Prichard**, principal engineer, all of Beaumont.

## Service commended

"Let me preface this letter by saying it is to thank you and your employees for some outstanding service that you performed for us," writes William Gorham, Lake Charles customer, to **Ted Meinscher**, division vice president-Lake Charles.

A neighbor informed Gorham a fallen tree had lodged on power lines on his property. The least wind could have dislodged it and crushed a small building and disrupted electric service.

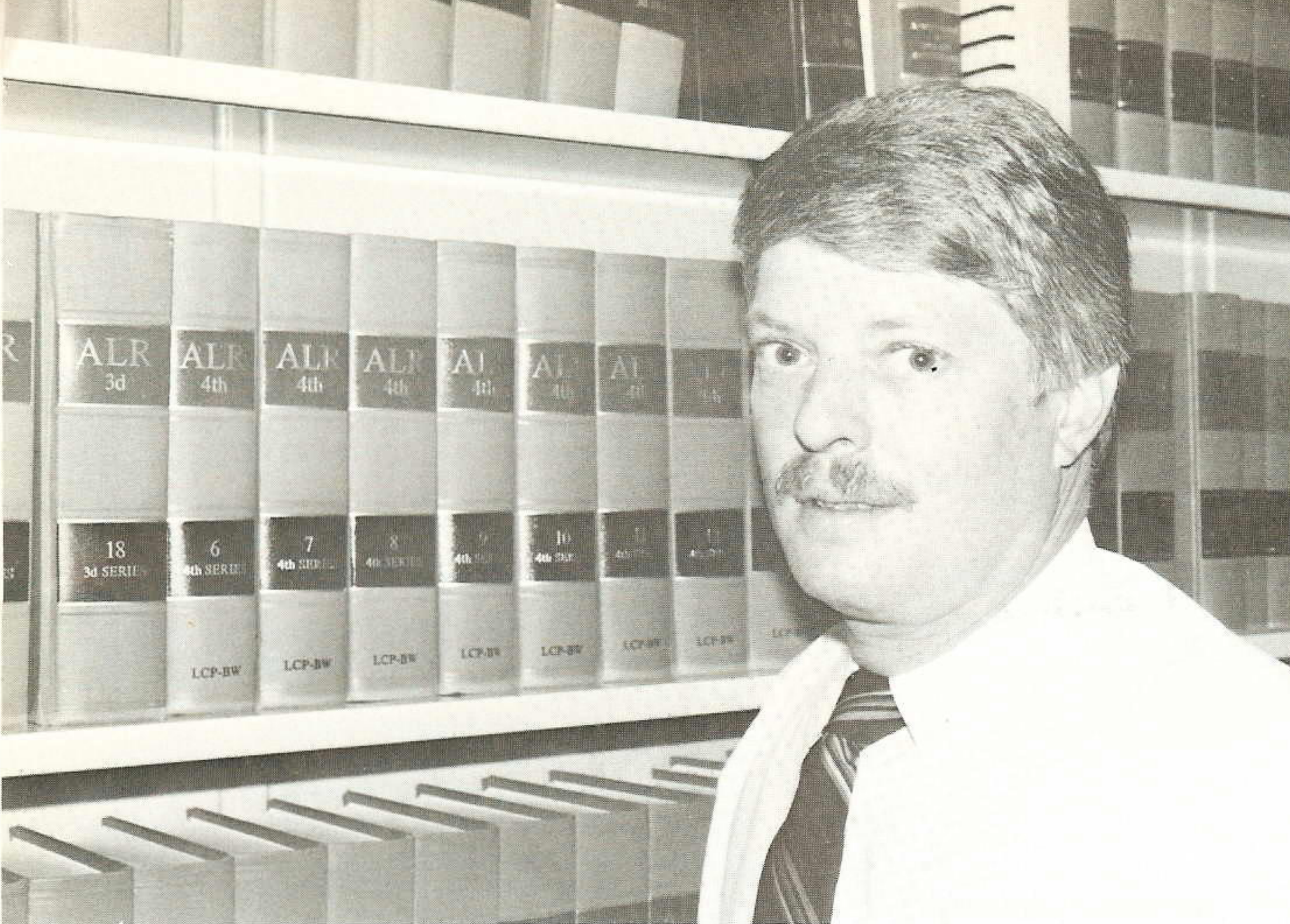
"I called Gulf States and was promptly transferred to some nice lady who said they would send someone right out. **Charles Berry** came out with his crew, sized up the situation and called **Dudley Clarke**. Between them they came to an immediate decision ... and acted so efficiently that I think some sort of commendation is definitely in order.

"It would be appreciated if you will commend those in your employment of their fine service ... we thank you!"

Berry, utility foreman-line, Clarke, general line supervisor, and the "nice lady" **Sue Vige**, departmental clerk, are all in Lake Charles.



# CPAs add up at Gulf States



*"I got my certification to increase my credibility as a witness for the company in rate cases and other proceedings," says Beekman.*

story and photos by Scott Harper

You're standing in a large room with thousands of other people, nervous and scared. You stand in long lines and have your identification papers checked and rechecked. You're permitted to walk only where the arrows on the floor lead you. You're assigned a work station and your identification papers are specifically placed in a designated area of your desk where monitors constantly look at the ID picture and examine you.

No, this is not a scene from a World War II movie. It's the final part of the long, involved, time-consuming, frustrating and demanding process that occurs when you decide to become a Certified Public Accountant (CPA).

Employees receiving the CPA certification comment:

"It was a challenge out there I wanted to beat," says Herbert Stein, CPA, manager-accounting research and regulatory reporting. "It was also a desire to better myself professionally."

David Beekman, CPA, manager-regulatory affairs, says his main reason for becoming a CPA is a result of being a witness in a rate case in the mid-1970s.

"The testimony I was rebutting was presented by CPAs. They

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*"It was a challenge out there I wanted to beat."*

*Herbert Stein*

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really analyzed my accounting background," says Beekman. "I got my certification to increase my credibility as a witness for the company in rate cases and other proceedings."

"I think it makes you a stronger accountant overall," says Jacques Landry, CPA, staff I auditor.

"You're a better accountant having that knowledge."

GSU now has 26 certified public accountants with five employees currently in the testing process.

"It's catching on," says Bobby Willis, vice president and controller. "It's important to the employees to make that step and we support that."

Debbie Null, supervisor-corporate budget, made the decision to become a CPA.

"It was a goal I had set a long time ago but I never did pursue it," says Null.

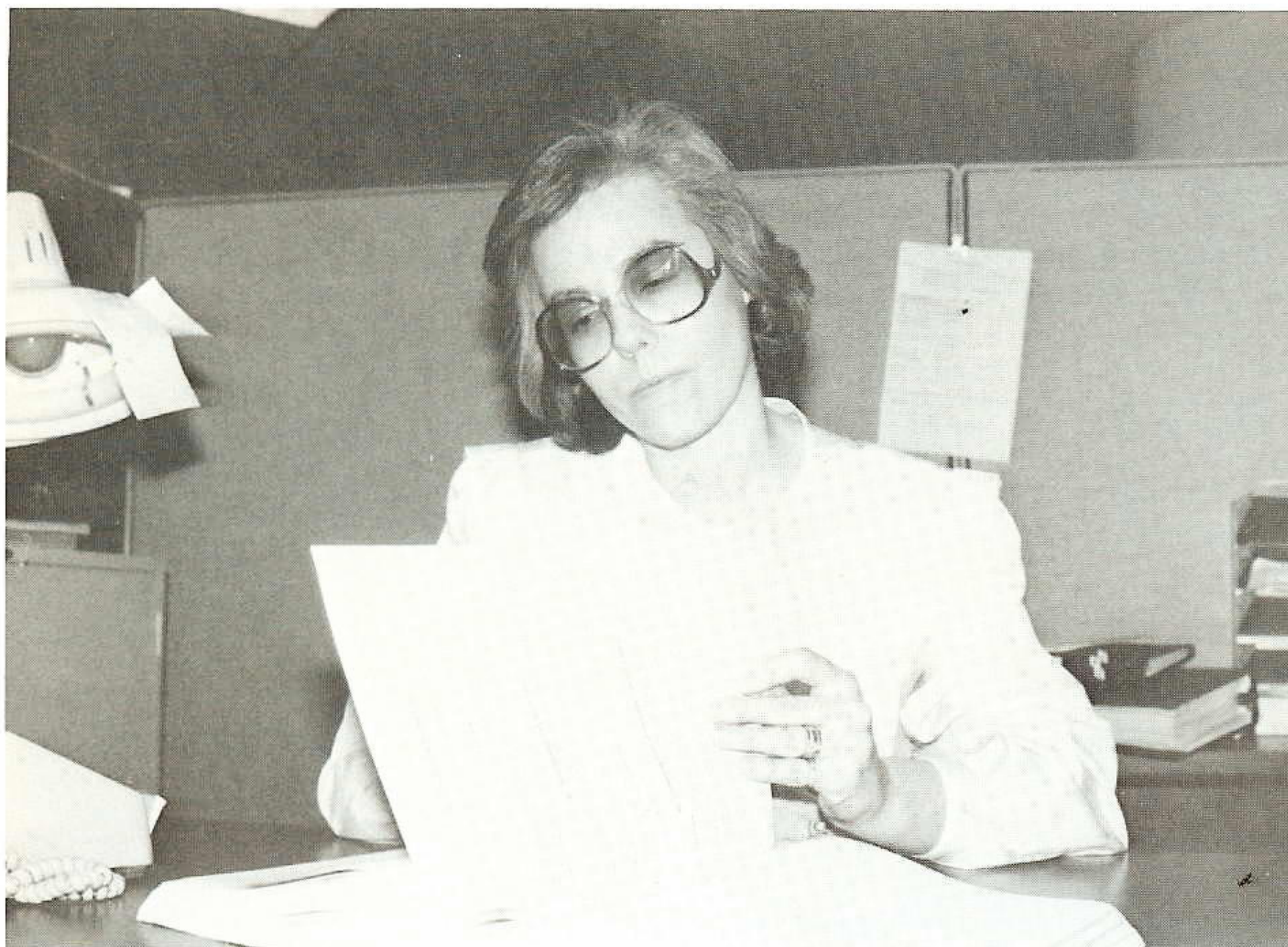
CPA applicants, after meeting stringent prerequisites, must pass a four-part examination, broken into theory, practice, audit and law sections, that totals 19.5 hours.

"The test is spread out over three days," says Null. "You have to pass at least two parts in one sitting, then you have five years to finish the rest."

A major hurdle in the certification process is learning to handle the pressure.

"The major pressure for me was





*Null reviews a chapter in the textbook from her examination review course. "I had to redevelop my study habits," says Null.*

trying to find time to prepare for the test," says Stein. "There's not much time for anything else.

"Preparation is the hard part. Once you get started on the test, it gets easier."

For Null, the environmental pressures are as challenging as the test itself.

"They constantly monitor the applicants. You have to put your ID on the desk and they look at the picture and then examine you while you're taking the test," states Null. "It's pretty intimidating - lots of pressure."

Landry says, "It takes a lot of discipline to pass the exam."

Changes in utility accounting have helped to create the need for certified accountants.

"In the 1960s, utility accounting was pretty static," says Willis.

"Since that time, our business has become incredibly complex. You almost have to have the training of a CPA just to understand the financial statement in the annual

report."

According to Willis, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB), a governing board for accounting practices, made exceptions for utilities regarding General Accepted Accounting Principles

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*"I think it makes you a stronger accountant overall."*

*Jacque Landry*

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(GAAP) due to the regulations of the utility business.

"Since our business is changing, FASB has made lots of changes in an effort to move utilities closer to GAAP," says Willis. "These changes are a prime motivator in our encouraging accountants to get the CPA certificate."

GSU supports employee accountants working for their certi-

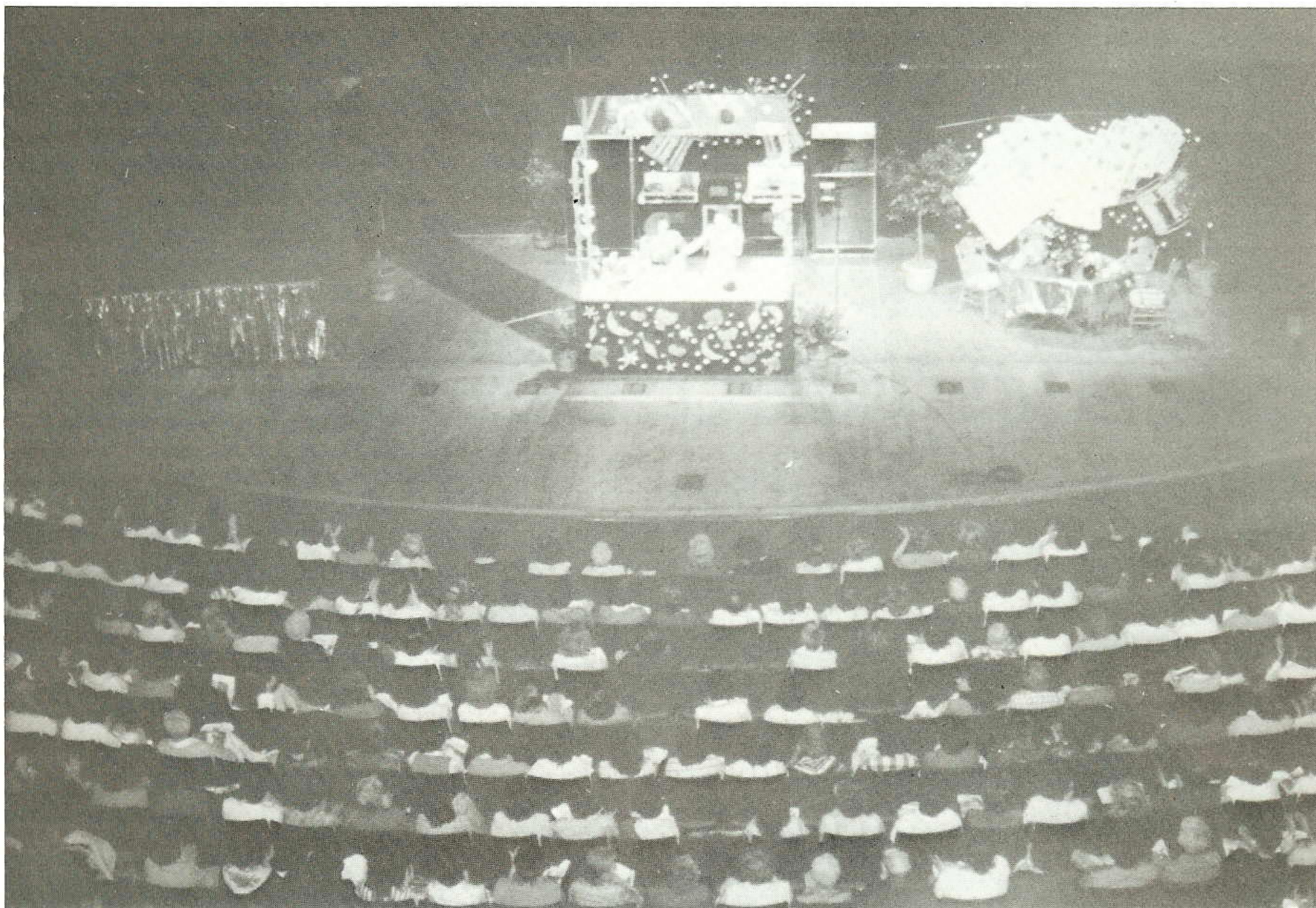
fication.

"Gulf States really encourages getting the certification," says Null. "The company provides support through financial aid."

Beekman says, "GSU helped me financially with the classes I needed for educational requirements."

"The certification is a very important step in the employee's development," says Willis. "It demonstrates a significant amount of perseverance and dedication to self improvement."





*Over 1,400 participants enjoyed two sessions of the Southern Living Cooking School.*

## Cooking school flavors home and garden show

by Scott Harper

"There's nothin' so lovin' like somethin' from the oven," goes the old Pillsbury commercial. Cooking is more than just preparing something to eat. It's an expression of emotion and appreciation. Cooking has become an art.

To help citizens in the Baton Rouge area "beef-up" their culinary skills, GSU co-sponsored a two-day cooking school presented by Southern Living home economists in conjunction with Habitat '89, a home and garden show sponsored by the Home Builders Association of Greater Baton Rouge (HBA).

"We used the cooking school as a lead into Habitat '89," says Dennis Smith, marketing coordinator, Baton Rouge, and co-chairman of the garden show. "It was a great opener."

The cooking school is one part of

the Southern Living Corporation better known for its magazine and cook books. "This was the first time in 16 years we had the opportunity to bring them (Southern Living) to Baton Rouge," says Smith.

Using an entire kitchen setup, the presenters prepared 16 different dishes.

"The program went right along with our marketing efforts. It promoted the use of our product," says Pris Gallagher, coordinator-Louisiana communications, Baton Rouge. "The show was very upbeat and professional."

Two separate shows saw a combined audience of over 1,400 people.

"The participants seemed to be very enthusiastic," says Gallagher. "Giveaway bags with coupons for various products used and a recipe book of the dishes they prepared

were presented to all who came."

According to Smith, the home and garden show is an annual event of HBA and focuses on housing-related products and services. Gulf States' show booth featured the Good Cents program, heat pumps and security lighting.

Smith says his association with HBA has helped to create a healthy working relationship with builders.

"It gives us a good nucleus of builders to work with," says Smith. "We're making progress. HBA's first Parade of Homes in eight years featured some all-electric homes in gas areas."





(Right) United Plaza II is the central building from which chilled water is pumped to the hospital. (Above)



# Hospital uses chilled water for cooling

by Terry Carlin

The past few years have brought major changes in the commercial building Heating, Ventilating and Air-Conditioning (HVAC) and mechanical system design philosophy. Before 1976, engineers working in the GSU area gave little or no consideration to energy conservation when designing commercial heating and air-conditioning systems. It was safer to design the system too big than too small.

Today, commercial customers demand that heating and cooling systems be as inexpensive to operate as possible. Through the growing use of computers, high efficiency HVAC equipment and sophisticated building designs, engineers in the GSU service area are meeting that demand.

Gulf States supports these designs which are geared to give customers as low an electric bill as possible.

If GSU has excess generating capacity, why does the company support something that will lower customer costs? Because customer goodwill always benefits the company in the long run.

The overall objective is for our customers to identify electricity as their best friend rather than worst enemy. With that mindset, electricity will be the fuel choice over natural gas, oil, diesel and other fuels

that drive heating and cooling systems.

The newly-developed Rehabilitation Hospital of Baton Rouge is a good example of electricity serving as the customer's best friend. The 86,600-square foot hospital is located in the United Plaza Office Park, off Essen Lane.

United Companies, which offers services in communication systems, building and grounds maintenance and chilled water loop systems for air-conditioning, developed and sold the property to Continental Medical Systems Inc.

Most commercial buildings have dedicated systems for heating and cooling. Here, the buildings have dedicated systems for heating, but not for cooling. Instead, chilled water is provided from a central building, United Plaza II.

In this process, water is cooled to about 45 degrees Fahrenheit, then pumped to the hospital by way of 1400 feet of insulated pipe. The water circulates through the hospital's fan coil units providing the cooling effect and then returns to the central building at about 55 degrees where it's cooled to 45 degrees and the process starts again.

Why is this more efficient than the hospital having its own system? Traditional chilled-water systems,

like this one, are most efficient while operating at 100 percent load.

In most buildings, peak efficiency is reached during the hottest part of the day while morning and night see the units only operating at part load. As a result, the units produce less cooling for the same amount of electricity required.

In the hospital's case, when less cooling is required, the chilled water is routed to other buildings where it is needed. This keeps the unit in the central building operating at nearly 100 percent load and peak efficiency.

How does the hospital benefit from this system? It pays United Companies a contract fee for the chilled water it uses. This fee is less than what would be paid GSU for the electricity required to operate a dedicated system. The cooling requirement does not put a strain on the electric service and reduces the demand on the system, giving the customer a better load factor. This benefits GSU, the hospital and United Companies.

So, how does customer goodwill benefit GSU in the long run? Continental Medical Systems Inc. has decided to build a similar facility in Beaumont.



## GSU organizes volunteer efforts with committee

Scott Harper



GSU corporate volunteer committee discusses upcoming volunteer events.

by Scott Harper

"It was easy. I just sat down and did it," recalls Don Odom, senior engineering assistant, Conroe, about designing the winning GSU Reddy Volunteers logo.

"We, the employees, are ready to help whenever we're needed," says Odom. "It was obvious that 'ready' and 'Reddy' went together.

"I suppose that willingness to help is companywide. It sure seems that way."

Reddy Volunteers are found in every division participating in Project CARE, helping out at nursing homes, assisting kids in school, cleaning city streets, preparing Christmas food baskets for the needy and a host of other special projects.

Recently, a corporate volunteer committee was created to help

coordinate the volunteer efforts of the company.

"We want to get a feel of what employees are doing," says Jo Ann Smith, manager-community affairs, Beaumont.



Smith

"We want to be able to do a volunteer activity report to the community at the end of the year."

Smith says the committee has been organized, trained and is in the process of organizing division efforts.

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*"As a group, we can make a significant contribution."*

Kerry Frazier  
River Bend

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"GSU is a good, caring organization and we want the community to know we support them," says Smith.

One of the tasks of the volunteer committee is to develop an awards program.

"We're going to create an awards committee that will take information on volunteers and come up with a Volunteer of the Month," says committee chair Tootie Koons, community relations coordinator, Beaumont. "We want to recognize those people for the work they do."

So why should GSU be concerned with volunteerism? Here's what some volunteer committee members have to say.

"It's an important aspect in every community," says Les Jones, customer information coordinator, Beaumont. "It gives us a chance to put something back into the community."

Jones continues, "There are a lot of people in Beaumont Division who like getting involved and enjoy helping others."

"If we're involved in community volunteerism, it enhances the company's image," says Harley Erickson, division engineer, Conroe.

Erickson says Western Division employees are very willing to participate in volunteer work. "There are a number of people we don't even know about who've taken it upon themselves to become involved," adds Erickson.

Sue Williams, supervisor-customer services, Port Arthur, says, "In Port Arthur Division, we put together a steering committee and had a brainstorming session that resulted in three projects. It was really neat."

In addition to ongoing involvement with the Huguen Center for Physically Handicapped Children, the new projects consisted of community beautification, aiding senior citizens and drug awareness.

"The steering committee was

Scott Harper





*"I was really surprised that I won," says logo contest winner Don Odom. "It's pretty exciting to me."*

real excited about the program and starting working to schedule events after the first meeting," says Williams. "By volunteering, we're helping the community feel better about itself and GSU."

"I think it's a great opportunity for employees to enrich and enhance the communities in which they live," says Margaret Harris, customer information coordinator, Lake Charles.

"I've found there is a willingness to volunteer among Lake Charles Division employees," says Harris.

Kerry Frazier, senior nuclear communication specialist, River Bend, says, "Volunteering gives employees a chance to be involved in a meaningful way in the community they live in. As a group we can make a significant contribution."

According to Frazier, there is a high volunteer spirit at River Bend. "People who come here are willing to work hard at making the community their home."

One of the first projects of the volunteer committee was to conduct a survey of employee volunteer activities. Unfortunately, the survey did not yield the anticipated return.

"A lot of people thought they would be getting volunteer assign-

ments by completing the survey," says Smith. "That's not the case at all."

Koons says the recent survey was misconstrued and a revised survey will follow. "This is not to sign up for volunteer work. It's so we can tally GSU volunteer hours and get an idea of the volunteer activities already in progress," says Koons.

Corporate concern and caring dimensions have a high impact on customer satisfaction, according to

*Cambridge Reports.*

"There are business reasons for doing this," says Smith. "We want the customer to view us as the good, caring organization we are."

Through the development of the volunteer committee, Smith hopes employees become a unified body of involved individuals recognized as community volunteers.

"As corporate volunteers, we will be making ourselves a part of our customers' lives," says Smith.

## GSU REDDY VOLUNTEERS CORPORATE COMMITTEE

**Tootie Koons — Chairperson**

**Richard East**

**Harley Erickson**

**Kerry Frazier**

**Scott Harper**

**Margaret Harris**

**Les Jones**

**Doug McCormick**

**Tim Morris**

**B. D. Strait**

**Sue Williams**

**Karen Yates**

**EP-8**

**Baton Rouge (Choctaw)**

**Conroe**

**River Bend**

**EP-9**

**Lake Charles**

**Liberty/Pearl-2**

**EP-8**

**EP-17**

**EP-10**

**Port Arthur**

**Baton Rouge (North Blvd.)**



## An important part of the team

D. W. Rutherford



Deborah Gaiser

James Bond, Perry Mason, LA Law's Arnie Becker. All of these individuals, and many more like them, have one source they depend on to keep them organized, informed and prepared. No, it's not a calendar, computer or dictionary ... but a secretary. Bond calls on his boss's secretary Miss Money-penny. Mason depends on Della Street. Becker relies on Roxanne Mayer.

Gulf States is no exception. GSU secretaries are an important part of the team.

**Plain Talks** correspondents asked some of our secretaries what they enjoy most about their job, what they find most challenging and why they consider the job of a secretary important.

From their responses, it is clear GSU secretaries enjoy working with and helping a diverse group of people. Secretaries communicate with people from all levels of the company.

Most of our secretaries work for more than one supervisor or manager, which, in itself, is a challenge. They coordinate the activities of several people and help keep everyday office procedures running smoothly.

GSU secretaries stress a commitment to supporting their bosses. From being a "right hand" to anticipating their bosses' needs, secretaries feel the responsibility to give assistance that allows their bosses to be more effective and efficient.

Indeed, secretaries have a vital role in our interdependent team and make an important contribution to the company's overall productivity.

**Deborah Gaiser, Lewis Creek, Conroe:** "I'm treated like a person who has some good ideas, who can participate and possibly even add something to a decision. Filing is **not** the most important part of my job. Nowadays, secretaries are allowed to use more thinking skills and tend to fill in the gaps between other management positions. The most challenging part of my job is keeping the spelling correct for my 44 bosses!"

Ann O'Neill



Mary Smith





Marilyn Reynolds



Jean McClummy

**Jacque Perkins, River Bend:** "I like meeting and getting to know people who work in different kinds of jobs, as well as people from different parts of the country. Setting up meetings for those who work different shifts is the most challenging part. Sometimes it's difficult to get people together within the time limit set for the meeting. Secretaries keep things running smoothly and handle the minor details while their bosses concentrate on the big picture. It's hard for me to imagine how a company or office could function without secretaries."

**Jean McClummy, Beaumont Service Center:** "I enjoy the variety of the daily responsibilities and duties I handle. My job isn't monotonous. The challenging part is keeping abreast of new concepts and material handling associated with store-room procedures. Also, I find it challenging to maintain the accuracy of time sheets, freight bills, petty cash records and other paperwork. The job of a secretary is important because it is the backbone of an operation."

**Marilyn Reynolds, Nelson Coal, West Lake:** "My job is very diversified. Probably the most challenging part is the wide range of knowledge and information I must have readily available while being able to type a letter, answer the phone and handle an employee's question all at the same time! I think responsibility is what makes the job so enjoyable and challenging."



Jacque Perkins

**Mary Smith, Human Resources, Beaumont:** "Meeting interesting people, a good work environment, the feeling of being a vital part of the team and good benefits are enjoyable parts of my job. Keeping up with the rapidly changing technology in office equipment and staying apprised of pertinent information is very challenging. I believe the secretary is a supporting person who allows the manager more time to be effective and efficient."



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*"It's hard for me to imagine how a company or office could function without secretaries."*

*Jacque Perkins  
River Bend*

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**Maxie Fair, North Boulevard, Baton Rouge:** "Generally, secretaries organize, coordinate and orchestrate all those things that their office is responsible for. They wear many hats. They very often become caterers, travel agents, accountants, confessors — you name it. It's a real challenging job."

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*"To put it simply, we are here to assist our bosses whenever and wherever possible."*

*Charlotte Simoneaux  
Beaumont*

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**Ann Yates, Conroe:** "I enjoy the versatility of my job. It's definitely not boring. The most challenging part is meeting deadlines on short notice. I think the most important aspect of a secretary's job is making the boss look good because, when he looks good, you look good."

Darlene Rutherford



*Ann Yates*

**Brenda Benoit, Sabine Station, Bridge City:** "In addition to clerical and administrative duties, I assist employees with benefits such as loans, Thrift Plan, insurance, etc. The interaction with employees is one of the things I enjoy most. Diversity is the most challenging aspect of my job. Everyday is different! A secretary should assume as many routine tasks as possible in order to enable the boss to devote time to more important jobs. She should be his right hand which makes her position important."

Lisa Didier



*Maxie Fair*

Gerald Nelson



*Brenda Benoit*





Helen Kennedy

**Helen Kennedy, Lafayette:** "I enjoy getting to meet people from throughout GSU. There is always something to do instead of routine work. I think getting information organized from all different departments in a timely manner is the most challenging part. The secretary's job is important because we do the little extras like planning, organizing and scheduling meetings, so the supervisors and department heads don't have to worry."

**Charlotte Simoneaux, Executive Department, Beaumont:** "I enjoy working for Dr. Draper. He is intelligent, pleasant to be around, and has a keen sense of humor. It's very challenging keeping up with a man whose schedule changes almost hourly. Our bosses have important and pressing things to think about. They shouldn't have to worry about day-to-day details of the office. To put it simply, we are here to assist our bosses whenever and wherever possible."



Charlotte Simoneaux

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*"I think responsibility is what makes the job so enjoyable and challenging."*

*Marilyn Reynolds  
Nelson Coal*

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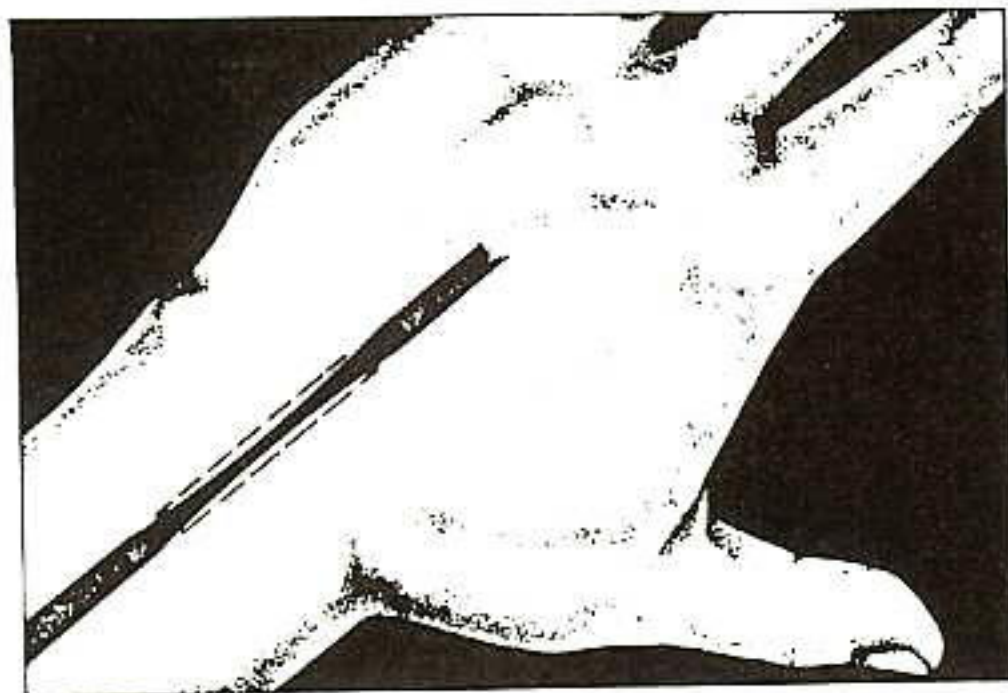


# LIFESTYLES FOR HEALTH

## *What Smoking Does To Your Heart*

Most of us know that cigarette smoking is responsible for about 85% of all lung cancer deaths. But did you know that cigarette smoking is also linked with hundreds of thousands of heart disease deaths each year? Smoking is in fact *the* major risk factor for diseases of the heart and blood vessels. When you understand what smoking does to your heart, you may agree with over 33 million ex-smokers that it's time to quit.

Nicotine causes blood vessels to constrict making blood flow more difficult

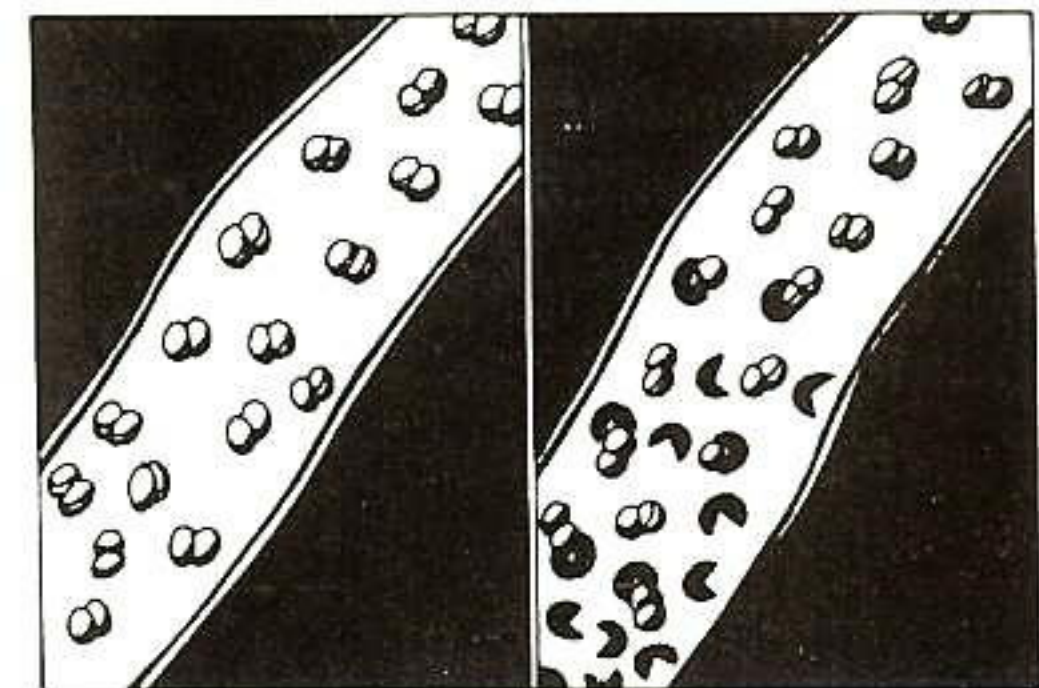


### Smoking Raises Blood Pressure

Nicotine in cigarette smoke is a stimulant. Nicotine stimulates the heart, causing it to pump faster and raise blood pressure. Nicotine also causes arteries to constrict making it more difficult for blood to flow, thereby placing greater strain on the already overworked heart.

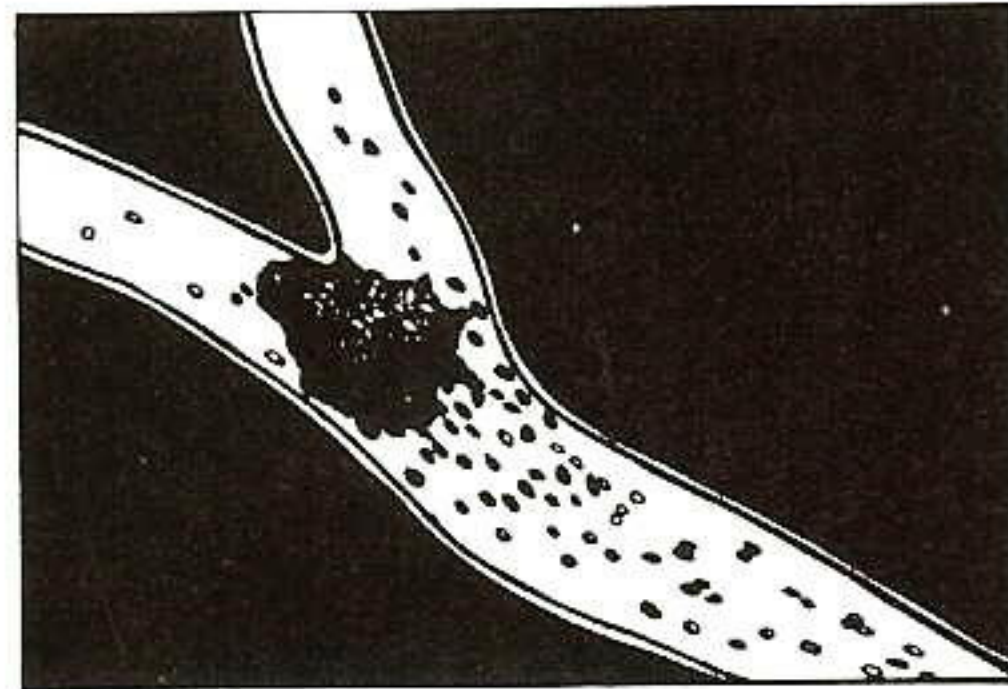
### Smoking Depletes Oxygen

Carbon monoxide, a chemical contained in cigarette smoke, reduces oxygen in the blood. The heart must work harder to supply the rest of the body with needed oxygen.



Carbon monoxide depletes oxygen in the blood.

Abnormal platelets can increase your risk of developing blood clots.

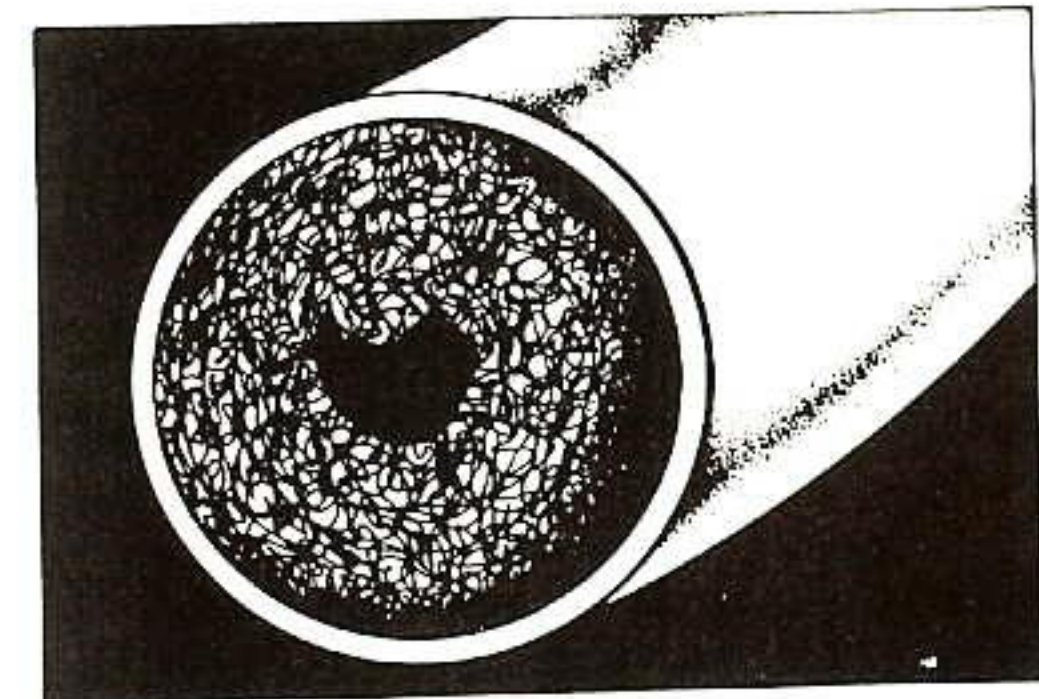


### Smoking Thickens Blood

Smoking also causes changes in the blood. Platelets (blood cells needed for normal clotting) become abnormally sticky, blood becomes thicker, and your risk of dangerous blood clots increases.

### Smoking Damages Arteries

Smoking also causes changes in the inner walls of the arteries, and is a factor in **coronary artery disease** (the build-up of fatty substances in the arteries that nourish the heart).



Smoking contributes to a build-up of fatty substances on arterial walls.

### Don't Let Your Health Go Up In Smoke

The good news is that while smoking is the most serious risk factor for heart disease, stroke, and lung and other cancers, it is a risk factor that is *totally* controllable. The second you quit smoking, you immediately begin to reduce your risk. Don't let your health go up in smoke—quit now for life.



# NEWS BRIEFS

## British visitor compliments museum

The British citizen, who told Jill Street, museum curator, about "Voice of America" and suggested she contact the radio program for an Edison Plaza Museum feature story (see March *Plain Talks*), visited Beaumont in March.

Brian John Lowery, a telecommunications engineer with British Telecom, lives in Lincoln, Lincolnshire, Great Britain, and comes to America every year.

Highly complimentary of the museum, Lowery stated, "It's definitely the best in America. I've been to many American museums and it beats most of them."

Lowery, a big Edison fan, has contributed 30 artifacts to the

museum. "I'm able to acquire some pieces at my work and some I get out of my own interest," says Lowery.

Lowery says Edison is very popular in England: "Everybody knows who Edison is because he came to England and displayed his inventions.

"The Science Museum in London has a lot of his inventions and used to have his original phonograph."

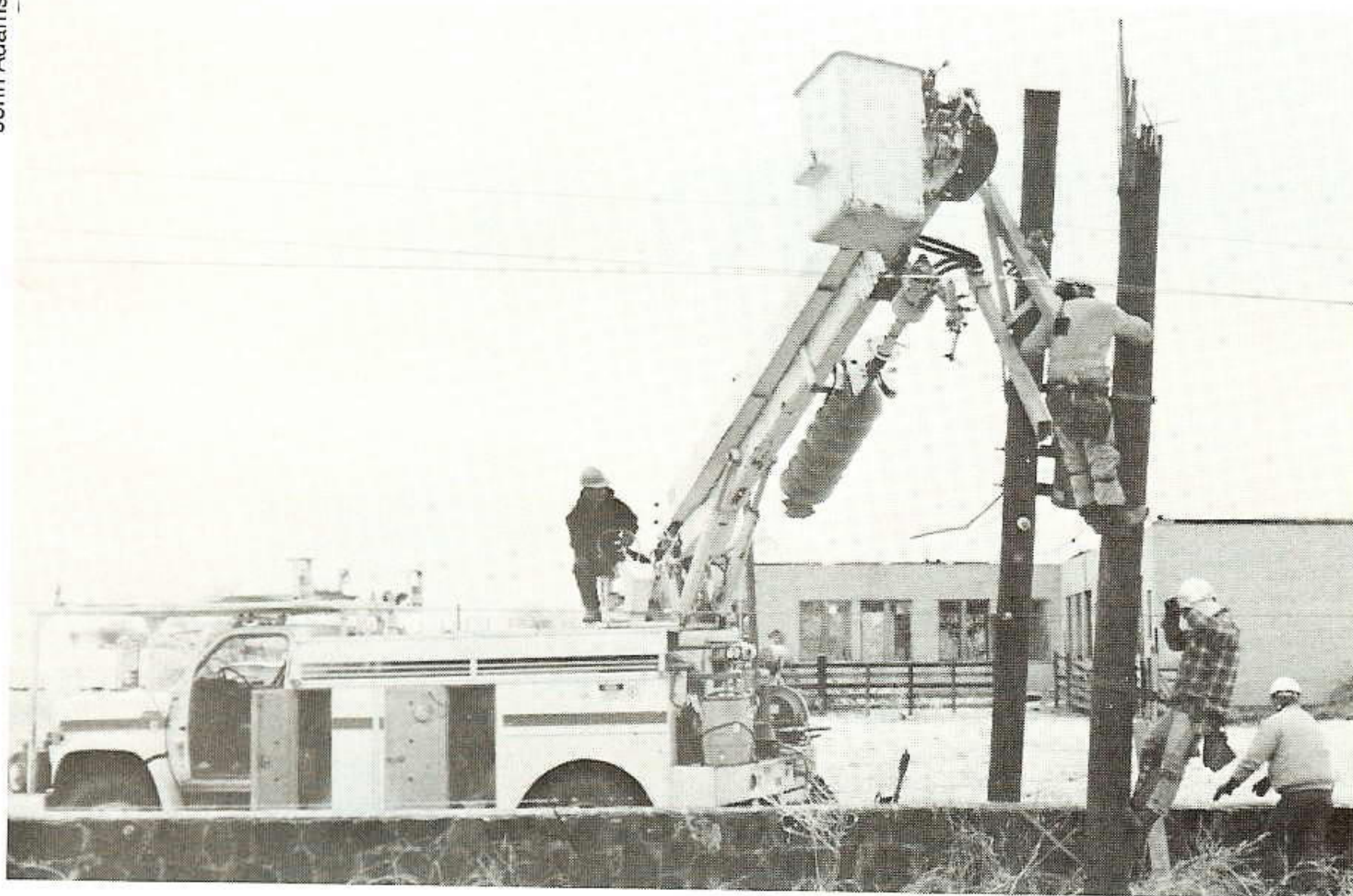
Lowery attributes much of the museum's success to Street. "The reason this museum is the best is because of this lady, Jill," says Lowery.



Street and Lowery

Scott Harper

John Adams



Calvert District line crew and servicemen brave winter elements to repair a broken 45-foot pole hit by a drunk driver during a February ice storm. The crew worked long hours in sleet and 18 degree weather with wind gusts of 25 mph to repair the damage. Left to right - David Martin, utility foreman; Bill Johnson, serviceman; Steve Gordon, lineman; and Billy Skorupinski, serviceman.

Scott Harper



Louisiana Station's Charlie Flynn, electrical maintenance foreman; and Mark Friedman and Jay Scallon, both electricians-1st class, presented the Edison Plaza Museum with a 1926 Westinghouse carbon circuit breaker. The circuit breaker was installed at Louisiana Station in the 1930s and was refurbished and mounted for display by Scallon and the Louisiana Station electrical department. "We wanted a part of the history of Louisiana Station represented at the museum," says Flynn. There are several breakers like this one still in service.



# PLAIN TALKS

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