



Plain  
Talks  
&  News

DECEMBER, 1973



# Best Wishes For The Holidays

The Christmas and New Year's season is an appropriate time to take a deep breath, reflect on the achievements of a year soon to end and prepare for the contingencies of the future.

For Gulf Staters, 1973 held many challenges. The fuel shortage has obviously had an immediate impact upon us, as it has upon each and every American. Although certain sacrifices, primarily convenience-oriented in nature, will have to be made in order to conserve energy, we are confident that the situation will be stabilized. Our Company can be thankful for our past, present and future planning efforts in coping with the energy shortage. Your efforts in successfully meeting these challenges has made you a better employee and Gulf States a stronger company. For these reasons, we can look ahead with confidence and great expectations.

My best wishes to you and yours for a safe, healthy and happy Holiday Season and a prosperous New Year.

*Floyd R. Smith*

Floyd R. Smith





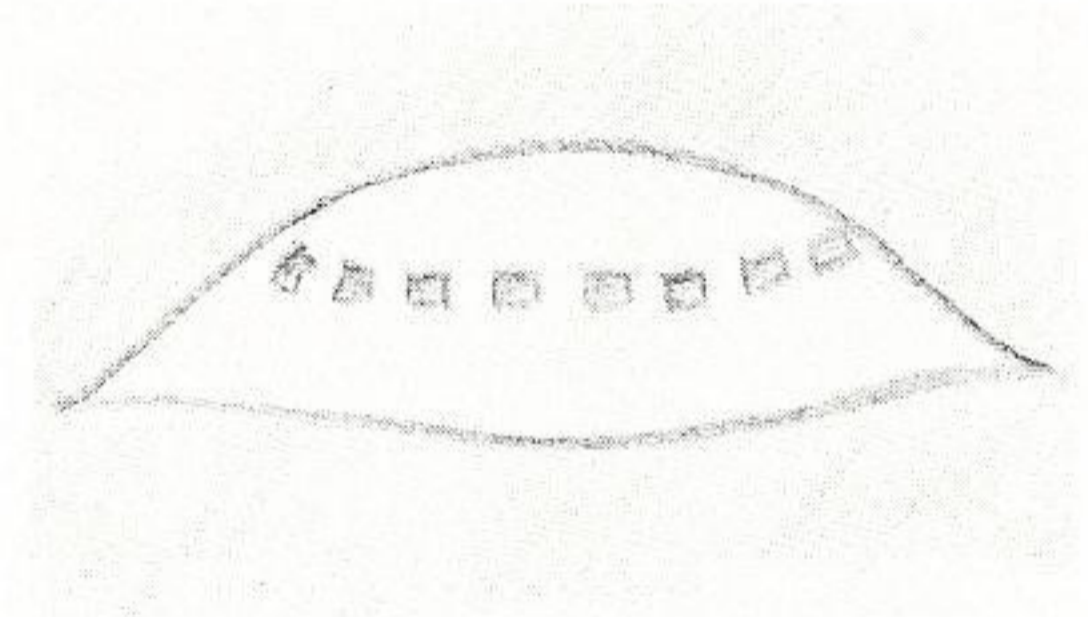


Volume 51

Number 9

December, 1973

|                                     |    |
|-------------------------------------|----|
| <i>The Nelson Station UFO</i> ..... | 2  |
| <i>GSU News</i> .....               | 4  |
| <i>Retirements</i> .....            | 7  |
| <i>People On The Move</i> .....     | 8  |
| <i>Service Awards</i> .....         | 10 |
| <i>How's Your Blood IQ</i> .....    | 11 |
| <i>Coffee Cup</i> .....             | 12 |
| <i>Welcome Aboard</i> .....         | 16 |



UFO, p. 2

Published Monthly By  
Consumer Communication Dept.

GULF STATES UTILITIES CO.  
P. O. Box 2951  
Beaumont, Texas 77704

Joe E. DeJean, Coordinator,  
Consumer Communication  
Mike Shurtleff, Editor  
Pat McMeel, Contributing Editor, Beaumont  
Frank Jones, Contributing Editor, Baton Rouge



# Company Has First UFO

## At Nelson Station

It seems that UFO's come and go in spurts in our country. Months will pass without a single sighting. Then, a rash of phone calls will be made to authorities, proclaiming that strange lights and saucer-like objects have been seen in the sky. Many people are skeptical of UFO's, while some believe in them.

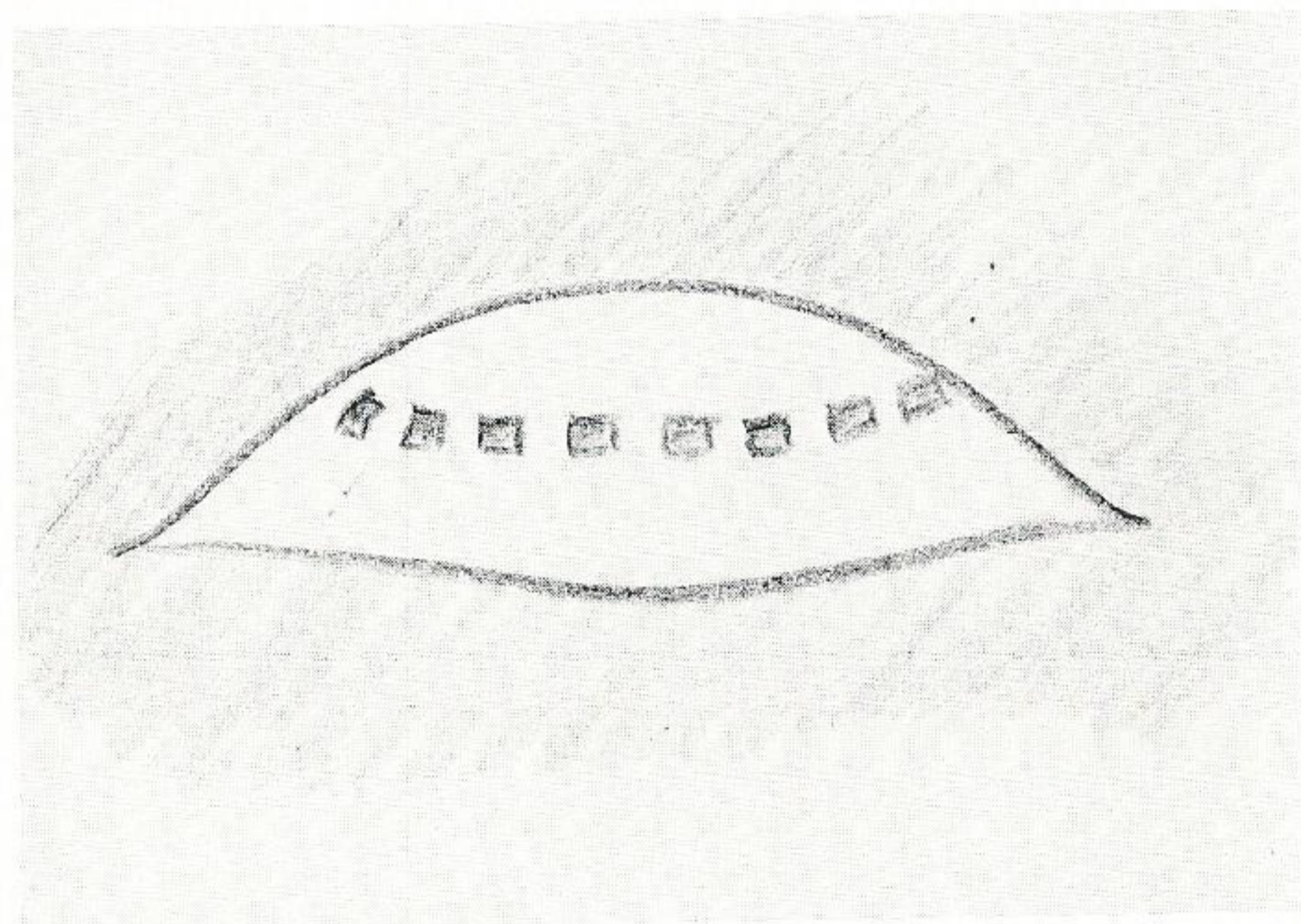
At Nelson Station in Lake Charles, six employees fall into the second category. Why? Because they saw a UFO.

In the early morning of October 17, the six employees sighted a saucer-like craft zooming through clear skies. Dwayne LaFleur, operator at Nelson, said the craft first displayed "red and green flashing lights." Later, he saw it again, glowing with a bluish light.

"Sometime after 3 a.m. an employee saw the craft," Dwayne said. "We were all skeptical, but at 4:30 a.m. we climbed on top of one of the eight-story tall boilers and saw the saucer."

"One guy remained skeptical," he noted, "but after seeing the saucer, he didn't want to come back up on the boiler. He stayed down." Others who saw the UFO were Sam Chamberlain-control room foreman, Curtis Brown-operator, Billy Burge-operator, Kenneth Farrell-operator, and a guard from Stone and Webster. Dwayne said that the craft was flat and "about the size of an airplane. Some of the men saw it about a mile from the plant right over the treetops."

"When I saw it, it was pretty high—about 30,000 feet, I guess—and traveling faster than anything I've ever seen before. Somebody jokingly said maybe it was just trying to get some power." (In view of the energy shortage, any UFO sighted in the near future will probably be classified as a recreational vehicle, subject to fuel curtailment. —the Editor)



This drawing shows the shape of the UFO sighted at Nelson Station. For those unfamiliar with basic flying saucer mechanics, the squares represent the red and green lights emitted from the craft.

A five-year employee of the Company, Dwayne spent three years in the Army as a radar operator. He worked at a Nike-Hercules Missile site from 1963-66. "One of the men called the Air Force radar station here," Dwayne said. "They wouldn't say anything."

In regard to the speed of the saucer, Dwayne said that "when I was working with radar I never sighted any UFO's. At the speed it was traveling there's a chance you just wouldn't even see it."

After the sighting, the Calcasieu Parish Sheriff's Department contacted air traffic controllers at Lake Charles Municipal Airport, who reported no aircraft within 150 miles of Lake Charles at the time.

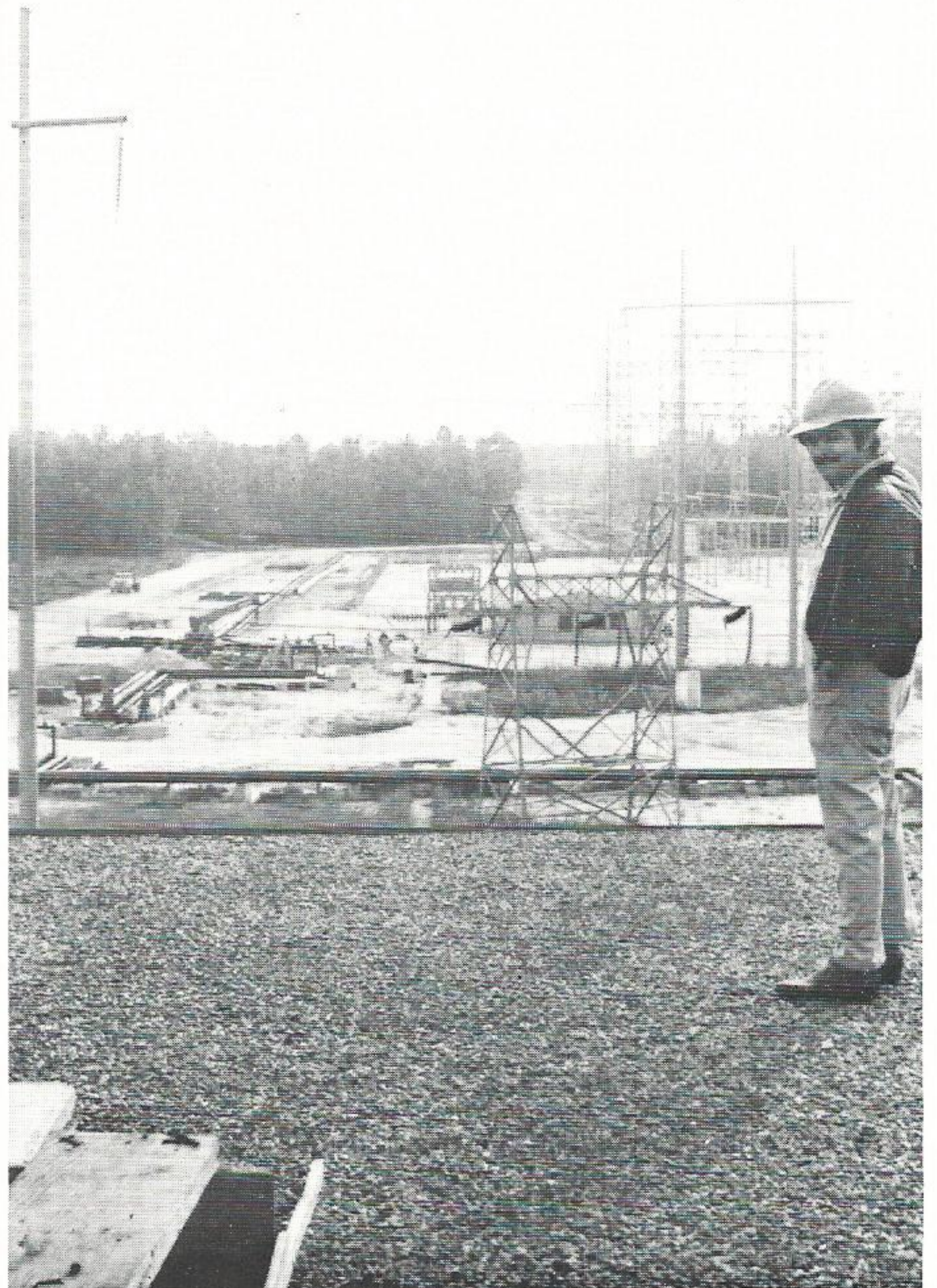




**Dwayne LaFleur, operator at Lake Charles' Nelson Station, stands atop a boiler and points to the area behind the plant where the first UFO sighting was made.**

“At first we saw the UFO west of the power plant, over the Cities Service Plant,” Dwayne commented. “About 5:30 a.m. I saw it zooming from the south to the north over Cities Service. Then it took a U-turn to the southeast.”

The sheriff's office noted that a unit was dispatched to Nelson Station at 4:54 a.m., but no verification of the sighting was made. The U.S. Air Force Detection and Early Warning radar station made a special effort to “look for something” after the sighting was reported, but nothing



**Another sighting of possibly the same saucer-like craft was spotted west of the plant by Dwayne and five fellow employees later in the morning.**

appeared on the squadron's radar screen.

Certainly the morning of October 17 will be remembered by Dwayne LaFleur and his five fellow employees. Who knows . . . maybe there really are flying saucers containing little men (and little women) from outer space. Perhaps they're just looking for a place to live. But, if that's the case, today's high home loan interest rates will surely force them to look elsewhere . . . unless they can qualify for a VA loan.



# GSU NEWS

## Conroe Employees Rescue Woman



Buddy Moore (left) and Dwight Cole.

An 81-year old woman who had lain on the floor of her trailer home near Lake Conroe for two days has now recovered in Montgomery County Hospital after being rescued by two Conroe Company employees.

The elderly woman was found by meter reader Dwight Cole and serviceman-first class Buddy Moore when they were sent to her home to exchange a meter.

Cole and Moore heard the woman crying for help when they knocked

on her door, then discovered what had happened. They immediately summoned a city-county ambulance to the home and rushed the woman to the hospital for treatment.

The accident victim, Mrs. Ima P. Williams, apparently fell in the early morning or afternoon, and stayed on the floor of the mobile home all night and the next day until Cole and Moore arrived.

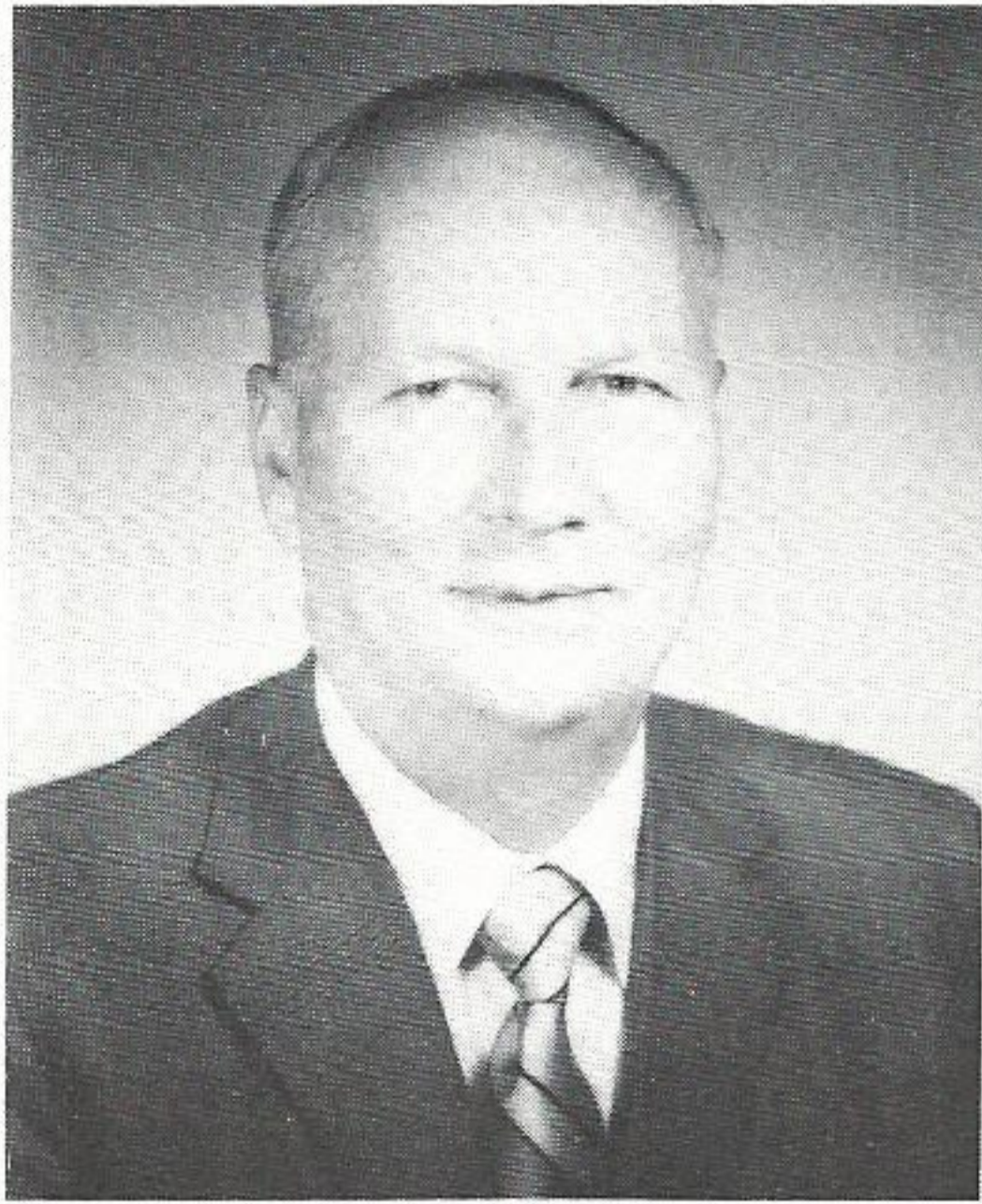
Congratulations to Dwight Cole and Buddy Moore for their assistance.



Company Board Chairman Floyd Smith certainly has reason to smile in this picture, taken at the October 12 United Appeals Campaign Victory Dinner. He not only is standing with three pretty Beaumont office employees, but as chairman of the 1974 Beaumont and North Jefferson County UA campaign has been told that the drive had surpassed its goal. This years' goal was \$1,050,388, but \$1,059,338 had been pledged by the end of the dinner. The latest figures show that \$1,072,676 has been pledged, far exceeding the needed budget funds for 1974. The thermometer in the background proudly displayed the result of hard work by many during the campaign. With Mr. Smith, from left to right, are Flo Wilson, Consumer Communication, Gina Collins, Customer Accounts, and Mary Alberto, Stores and Salvage.



# White Elected Vice President



R. Earl White has been elected a vice president of the Company by the board of directors, it was announced by Floyd R. Smith, board chairman and principal executive officer.

The election was at a recent meeting of the board in Baton Rouge and was effective Dec. 1.

White has been assistant to the chairman of the board since June 1973.

He had previously served as system operations manager for eight years and assistant to the president for two years.

A native of Henderson, Tex., White received his bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering from Texas A&M University. He has completed the Harvard University advanced management program and the Georgia Tech public utilities executive course.

Long active in civic work, he served with chambers of commerce in Beaumont and Port Arthur and was on the Sabine-Neches Chamber of Commerce Council. During 1969-70 he spearheaded the National Alliance of Businessmen program for Jefferson and Orange counties as metropolitan area director.

He has been active in the Edison Electric Institute, Southwestern Electric Exchange and Texas Power Distribution Conference for a number of years.

He is married to the former Dorothy Rossen of Beaumont, and the couple has two children.

## THRIFT PLAN

Purchases of Gulf States Utilities Company stock made by the Trustee during November, 1973 covering employee deductions and Company contributions through October, 1973 were as follows:

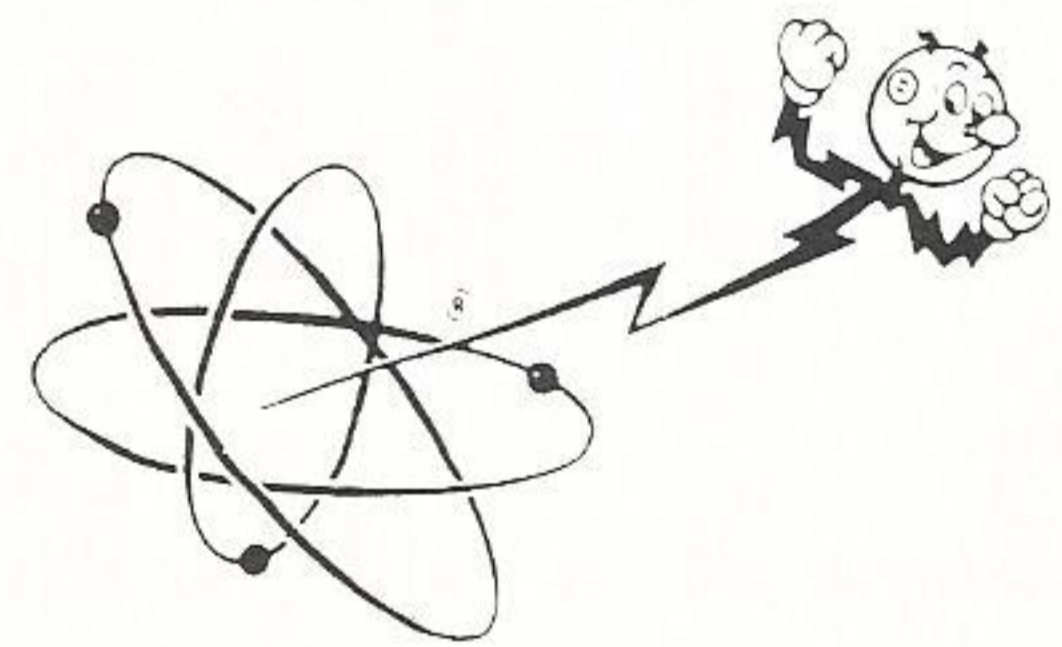
5,424 shares of common stock at a total cost of \$95,274.81, for an average cost per share of \$17.565.

91 shares of \$4.40 Preferred stock at a total cost of \$5,386.19, for an average cost per share of \$59.189.

The Trustee deposited \$63,093.92 with the Savings Department of the First Security National Bank.



Orange District Company employees kicked off their 1974 United Fund Drive on Friday, September 14, completing the drive the same day with 78% FAIR SHARE. Drive Chairman was J. T. Sparks. Departmental workers were: Jean Sandifer, Nancy Thibodeaux, George Crawford, Robert H. Smith, James Dickerson, and Mack Hamilton.



### DID YOU KNOW?

... that in a nuclear power plant the radioactive waste concentrates from the purification process, together with other miscellaneous solid wastes, are encased in concrete in steel barrels until being shipped from the plant to an AEC-approved site for burial or long-term storage.



# Company Contracts

## For Western Coal

Our Company has contracted for the purchase of 50 million tons of Western, low-sulphur coal from the Kerr-McGee Co. of Oklahoma City, it was announced by Floyd R. Smith, Company board chairman and principal executive officer.

Smith stated that the 20-year supply of coal will be utilized as boiler fuel for the production of electric power at two 540,000 kilowatt generating units. The plant site has not been selected.

According to Smith, the diminishing availability and rapidly increasing price of natural gas and oil several months ago prompted Gulf States to study the acquisition and use of low-sulphur coal to assure this area of a continuous, reliable supply of electricity. The first coal-fired electric generating unit is slated to begin operating in late 1977, with the second coming on line one year later.

Smith said that all six of the Company's existing steam generating plants were originally designed to burn natural gas. One large new generating unit at the company's Willow Glen Station near Baton Rouge has been converted to burn heavy oil

and docking and storage facilities have been constructed and are now in operation there. Work is underway to modify two other generating units to burn oil as well as gas.

"Converting these units and building new coal-fired power plants is very expensive but essential in view of the worsening world fuel situation," Smith stated. "This large investment, the rising cost of fuel — which is now our largest operating expense — and the high initial cost of our two planned nuclear power plants, coupled with continuing inflation, are primary reasons why the cost of producing electricity is rapidly increasing, not only for us but throughout the nation's electric utility industry."

According to the contract, delivery of the coal by rail will begin in 1977 and continue through 1997. When both units are operating at near capacity rates, over 6,000 tons of coal a day will be required. The coal will be mined in the Thunder Creek area south of Gillette, Wyoming.

Burning of this low-sulphur type coal will comply with the Environmental Protection Agency's sulphur-emission regulations, Smith said.



Mrs. John C. Sij, of Beaumont, is all smiles following the delivery of a micro-wave oven to her home. Mrs. Sij won the oven by registering during the recent "Parade of Homes" event staged in Beaumont. Delivering the oven were Company Residential Salesmen Richard Duffy, left, and Dennis Pittman.

## Social Security Rates Climb

(THIS INFORMATION IS FROM THE NOVEMBER 9 ISSUE OF CONGRESSIONAL ACTION)

Congress recently approved a new bill that will boost Social Security benefits. The 1974 11% benefit increase is scheduled to become effective in two steps: 7% in the April benefit checks and 4% in the July checks. These increases will be on top of the 51.8% increase that has taken place since January, 1970.

Financing will come from expanding the taxable wage base from \$10,800 to \$13,200. This marks a 22% increase in the maximum that an employee will pay.

Shown is a social security tax schedule from 1937 to 1974:

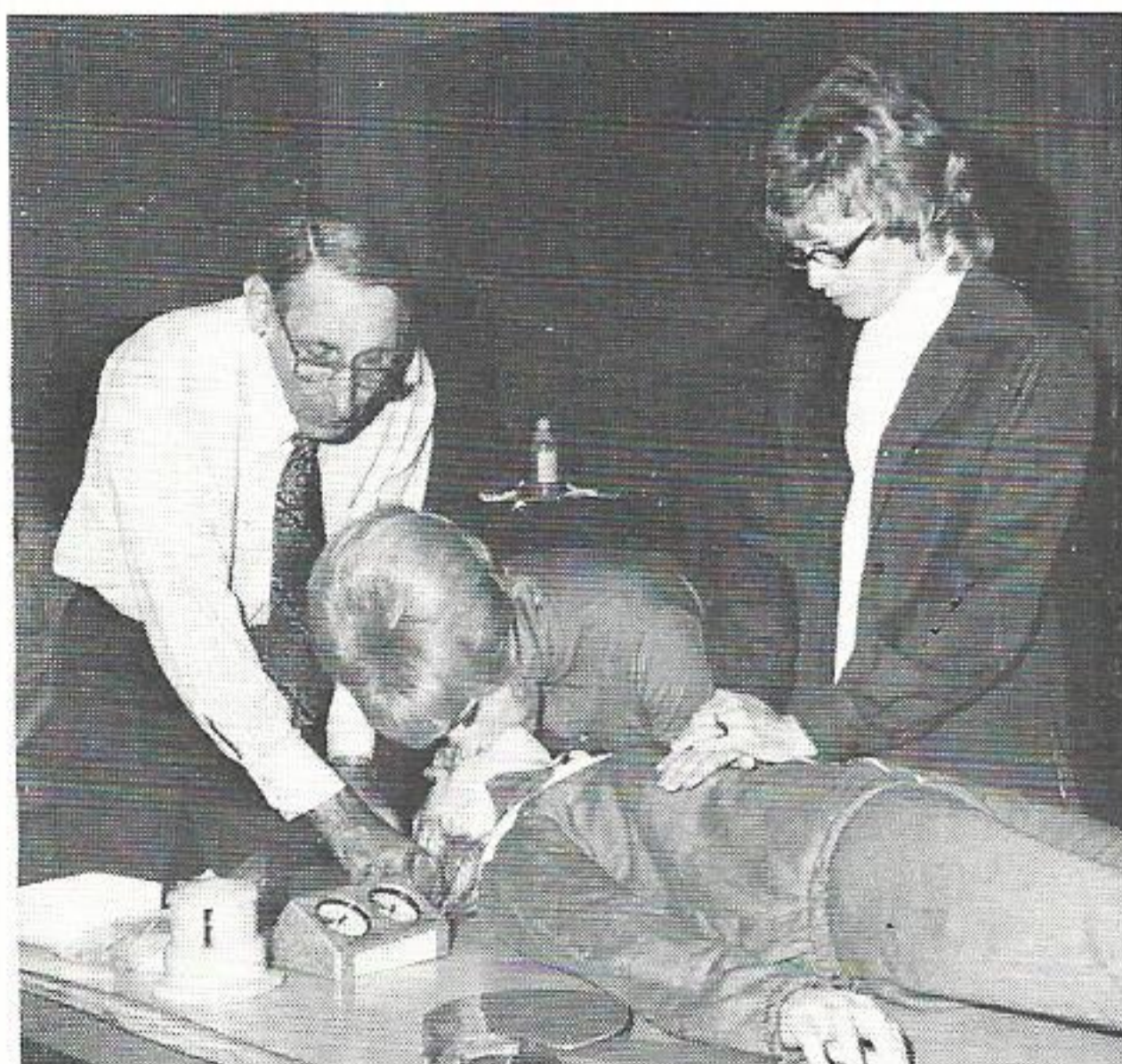
### SOCIAL SECURITY TAX SCHEDULES

1937 through 1974

| YEARS     | TAX RATE | WAGE BASE | MAXIMUM TAX* |
|-----------|----------|-----------|--------------|
| 1937-1949 | 2 %      | \$ 3,000  | \$ 60.00     |
| 1950      | 3        | 3,000     | 90.00        |
| 1951-1953 | 3        | 3,600     | 108.00       |
| 1954      | 4        | 3,600     | 144.00       |
| 1955-1956 | 4        | 4,200     | 168.00       |
| 1957-1958 | 4.5      | 4,200     | 189.00       |
| 1959      | 5        | 4,800     | 240.00       |
| 1960-1961 | 6        | 4,800     | 288.00       |
| 1962      | 6.25     | 4,800     | 300.00       |
| 1963-1965 | 7.25     | 4,800     | 348.00       |
| 1966      | 8.4      | 6,600     | 554.40       |
| 1967      | 8.8      | 6,600     | 580.80       |
| 1968      | 8.8      | 7,800     | 686.40       |
| 1969-1970 | 9.6      | 7,800     | 748.80       |
| 1971      | 10.4     | 7,800     | 811.20       |
| 1972      | 10.4     | 9,000     | 936.00       |
| 1973      | 11.7     | 10,800    | 1,263.60     |
| 1974      | 11.7     | 13,200    | 1,544.40     |

\* Maximum combined tax for both employer and employee.

## A Matter Of Life And Death



Safety representative Andy Poulson, left, watches as Joan Hudson practices mouth to mouth resuscitation while Sharrone Sprague prepares to administer cardiac massage. Poulson conducted classes on the lifesaving technique to personnel in the main office building in Beaumont as part of an over-all campaign to employees aware of the importance of having this knowledge. "Maybe you personally will never actually save a life using this knowledge," said Poulson, "but you sure won't be responsible for losing a life because you didn't know what to do."



# No Future For Santa

by Pete 87776 Simer

*(This is a product of Southern Michigan Prison's Inmate Writing Program)*

Independence can be beautiful for a teenager. It can also be but a bubble. I know. Against my parents' wishes I had left my dairy farm home eleven months before in favor of making it on my own in a nearby industrial city. I found employment with a utility company and, due to aptitude tests, was placed in the car-truck maintenance department. My new work was exciting, a challenge rather than a chore. And I delighted in it — until December 22, 1972.

If I had a care on that rainy Friday it was a bit of indecision that had bugged me since graduation; should I "Go Navy" and further my education in the service or try to shortcut through life on a high school diploma? During my last visit home I had asked dad's advice on this. "You're nineteen now, closer to twenty," he had said tartly, meaning that, since I had chosen independence, such decisions were mine alone to make. But I was going home for the long Christmas weekend. Hopefully, dad would be his old understanding self again.

It was during lunch when a co-worker brought out a bottle of "Christmas spirit". Previously, I had tasted only beer; disliked it. Brandy was something else. From the first

gulp, its afterglow offset the brief agony of getting it down. By quitting time I had sampled wine, gin, bourbon and imported hardstuff. I glowed! I glowed myself into the men's room and onto my knees in front of the flusher . . .

"What are you doing here?" the night watchman demanded.

"Dyin'," I managed miserably.

"Go die someplace else, kid. You shoulda punched outta here two hours ago!" Then, softening to my predicament, he offered a drink and promised, "This'll straighten you out." It did. Temporarily.

I remember stopping—for the first time in my life—in a bar. (A new state law permitted kids, 18 and up, to drink alcoholic beverages.)

I don't remember driving 42 miles to my hometown. But there I was, crossing the ancient, unlighted, two-lane bridge. The rain had turned to sleet and I was speeding. I saw the lights of the oncoming car. Finally, as the other car approached, horn blasting, I realized that I was straddling the centerline. I got back in my lane quickly but not quite in time.

It seemed a minor sideswipe. I maintained control and kept going. My rearview mirror showed me the rest; a car slamming into one side of the bridge, careening across into the other almost head-on, plowing through the guardrail, diving into the deep river.

The sight sobered me considerably

but not enough to notice the red light at Sixth Street or the police car on the corner. I flunked sobriety tests. I went to jail and saw rearview mirror replays until I bugged out. I called a deputy and told all.

Just before dark, Christmas Eve, the sheriff took me to the county morgue. "Here's the Santa Claus you killed, kid," he said, partially uncovering a body. "We found him today, two miles downstream. We also found five soaked Christmas packages in the trunk of his car. He had a wife and four children. An average of forty times in every twenty-four hours, some drunk driver kills a male, female or future Santa Claus in our country. Think about that! You're young, so maybe you'll live to forget this tragedy. But I hope not."

They called it involuntary manslaughter. My sentence was light, considering, and I could be paroled for this Christmas. My parents stood by me throughout. They still want and need me at home. Further, there is a neighbor girl who also frowns lovingly on my being footloose. So I will go home. Meanwhile, my mind remains locked up in this premise: The sheriff should have taken others to the morgue with me. I got the picture. It is permanently exposed on my conscience.

What I'm trying to say is, if you could get the picture as clearly you might get the obvious message as well.



Ottis Parker

## Retirements

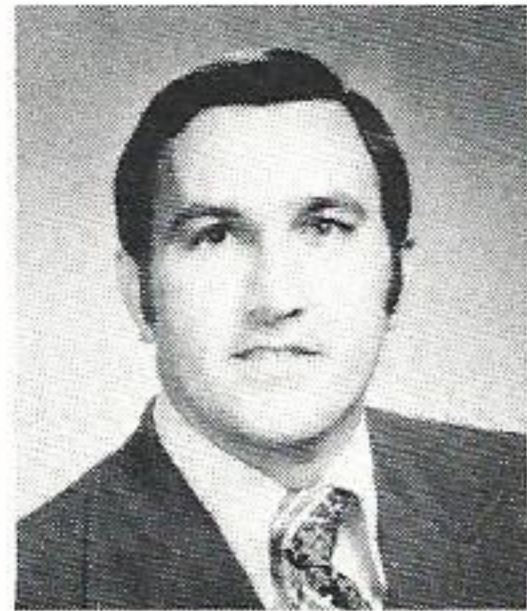
**Ottis Parker** — Production Department at Beaumont's Neches Station — retired December 1, serving the Company for over 40 years.

A native of Winnfield, La., Mr. Parker joined the Company in September, 1929 as an oiler in the Orange Production Department. He became a relief operator at Liberty in July, 1934, was promoted to assistant foreman and transferred to Neches Station in August, 1935 and became an electrician's helper at Neches Station in November, 1938. In May, 1942, Mr.

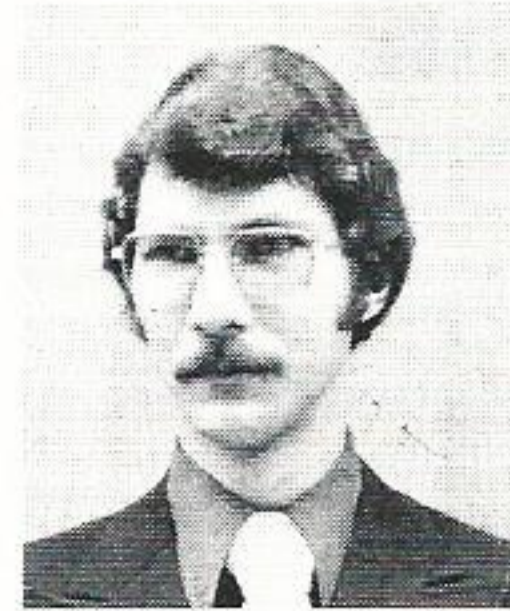
Parker was promoted to electrician-first class and transferred to Louisiana Station in Baton Rouge, then entered the Navy in December, 1943. He returned to Neches Station in February, 1946 as electrician-first class and was promoted to master electrician in August, 1950, the position held at retirement.

Mr. Parker attended grammar school at Sulphur, La. He is a graduate of Beaumont High and attended South Park Junior College.





**William A. Cropper**



**A. A. Johnson**

**William A. Cropper and A. A. "Pete" Johnson** have received promotions within the general offices of the Company in Beaumont.

Cropper, former marketing research analyst in System Marketing, was named financial analyst in the Corporate and Finance Department, while Johnson, a former engineering helper, was promoted to systems analyst in Information and Data Services.

A native of Beaumont, Cropper is a 1957 graduate of St. Anthony High School. He received a bachelor's degree in marketing from Texas A&M

University in 1962, and a master's degree in marketing from Lamar University in 1972.

A four-year veteran of the Company, Cropper is married to the former Genon Oliver of Corpus Christi. The couple has two children, Will, Jr., and Jenna. He is active in civic and professional work. Cropper has served as city chairman of the Beaumont March of Dimes, a director of the Beaumont Jaycees, and has worked in various United Way campaigns. He is a member of the Texas A&M Club, Beaumont Board of Realtors, and is an instructor

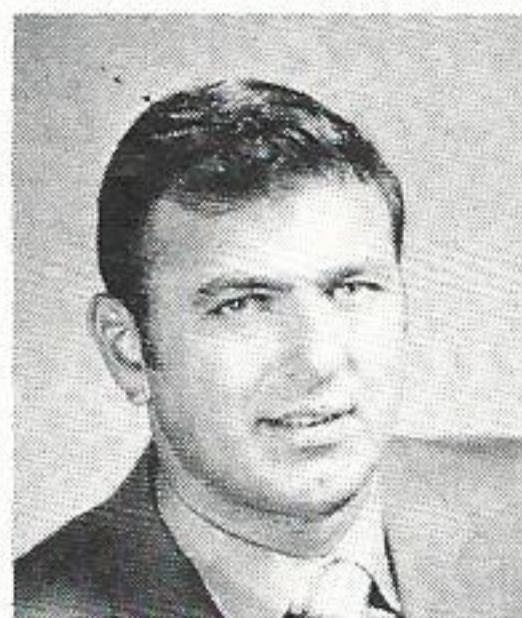
of Marketing Management at Lamar University.

Johnson, a native of Troy, N.Y., is a three-year veteran of the Company. He is a graduate of Titusville, Fla., high school, and attended the University of Florida.

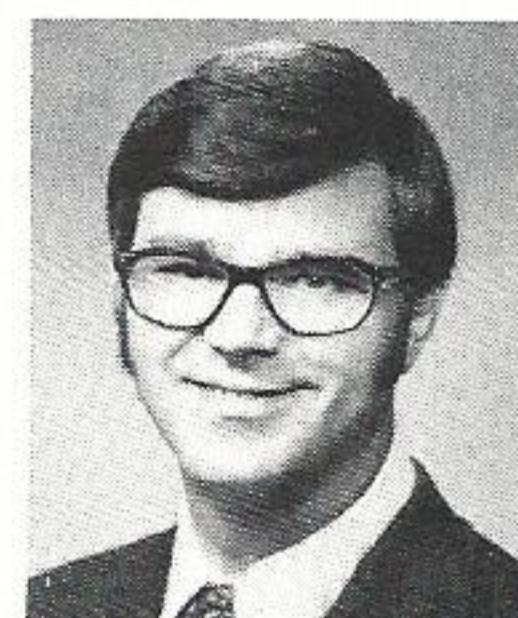
Johnson is married to the former Cheryl Fenley of San Angelo, Tex., and they have one son, Wayne.

Johnson was employed in 1970 as an engineering helper in the Transmission and Distribution Department in Baton Rouge, and was transferred to Beaumont in 1973.

## People On The Move



**James Larry Smith**



**Michael C. Wilson**

**James Larry Smith and Michael C. Wilson** have received promotions to senior internal auditor in the main office of the Company in Beaumont.

Smith, former internal auditor, is a native of Church Point, La. and has been with the Company since 1968. He is a graduate of the University of Southwestern Louisiana, with a degree in accounting and business administration, and is a four year veteran of

the Navy.

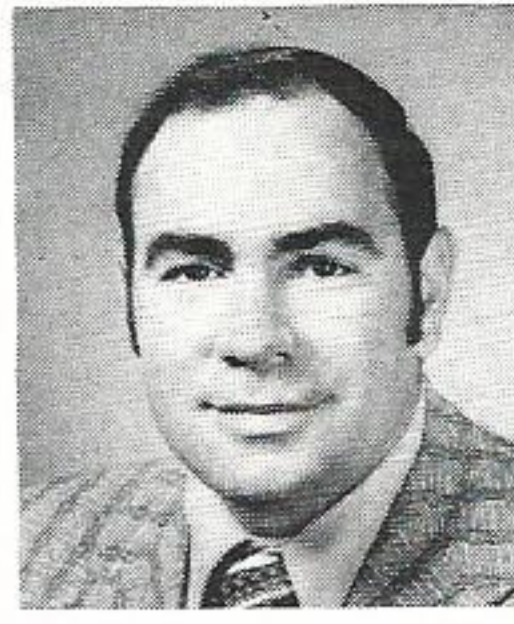
Smith is married to the former Betty Guidry of Church Point, and the couple has two children, Sharon and Kirk. He is an active member of the YMCA, a member of the International Accountants Society, and a group project leader for the Bevil Oaks 4-H club.

Wilson, formerly a financial analyst in the Corporate and Finance Department, is a seven year veteran of the

Company, employed in 1966. He is a native of Port Neches and a 1966 graduate of Lamar University with a degree in accounting.

Married to the former Lynda Durr of Winnie, the couple has two sons, Mike and William. Wilson is an active member of the YMCA and serves on the capital improvements committee of the "Y".





**Lester A. Saucier, Jr.**

**Lester A. Saucier, Jr.**, former industrial engineer in the Company in Beaumont, has been promoted to supervisor of industrial and commercial sales of the Beaumont Division.

Saucier is a 10-year veteran of the Company, having been employed in 1963 in Beaumont. From the Transmission and Distribution Department,

Saucier was transferred into Division Sales in 1970 as an industrial engineer.

A native of Cottonport, Louisiana, Saucier graduated from the University of Southwestern Louisiana with a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering. He is married to the former Arlene Thibodeaux of Sour Lake, and the couple has five children,

twin girls Donna and Dana, Jade, Tammy and Erron.

Saucier is active in civic and professional organization. He is a member of the YMBL, YMCA, is presently co-chairman of the membership committee of the Beaumont Chamber of Commerce, and is a registered professional engineer in the state of Texas.



**William A. Jones**

**William A. Jones**, former lineman in Navasota, has been promoted to utility foreman.

Jones, a native of Orange, is a 19-year veteran of the Company, employed in 1954 as a shop and field tester in the Transmission and Distribution Department at Navasota. He was named substation mechanic in 1958 and progressed through various classifications before being named a serviceman

first class in 1965.

Jones graduated from Lutchter Stark High School in Orange in 1948, and two years later joined the Air Force, where he saw duty in the Korean Conflict. Following his honorable discharge in 1953, he attended Blinn Jr. College in Brenham.

Married to the former Betty Jo Osborne, of Orange, the couple has four children, William H. Jones, Allen

L. Jones, David B. Jones, and Deborah Sue Jones. He is active member of the Navasota Lodge 299 AF&AM, is a 32nd degree Mason Galveston Consistory, and a member of the Veteran of Foreign Wars Navasota Post 4006. Jones has also been active in scout work and is a former assistant Scoutmaster of troop 361, for which he received a citation.



**Lemuel A. Gravelle**

**Lemuel A. Gravelle**, former serviceman-first class in the Transmission and Distribution Department in Jennings, has received a promotion to utility foreman.

Gravelle, a native of Jennings, is an 18-year veteran of the Company. He was employed in 1955 as an engineer-

ing helper, and has spent his career in Jennings.

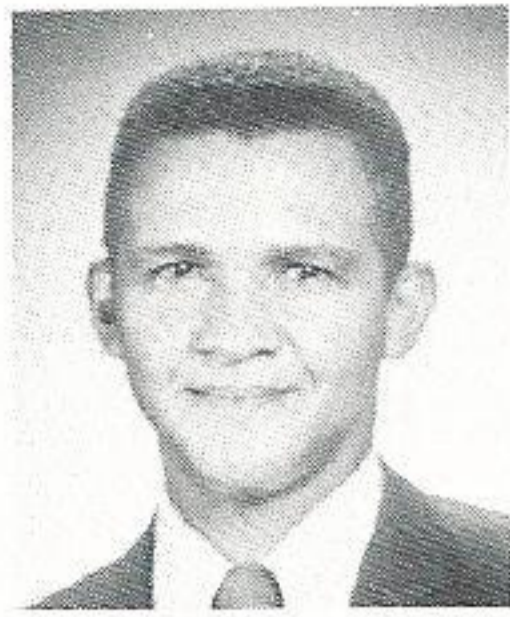
A Master Sergeant in the Louisiana National Guard, Gravelle is a graduate of Jennings High School, and attended the University of Southwestern Louisiana. He is married to the former Sue Marilyn Pugh of Jennings, and the

couple has one son, Kent.

Gravelle is active in outside work and is noted for his abilities as a square dance caller. He is first president of the Louisiana Square Dance Association, and has a national reputation in his field.



## 10 YEAR AWARD



**Joseph Mayfield**  
Gas  
Choctaw

# SERVICE AWARDS



**Robert Fields**  
Production  
Baton Rouge



**Joe A. Locke**  
Distribution  
Baton Rouge



**Jimmie Kimble**  
Production  
Baton Rouge

## 20 YEAR AWARD



**Dallas J. Bouillion**  
Distribution  
Dayton



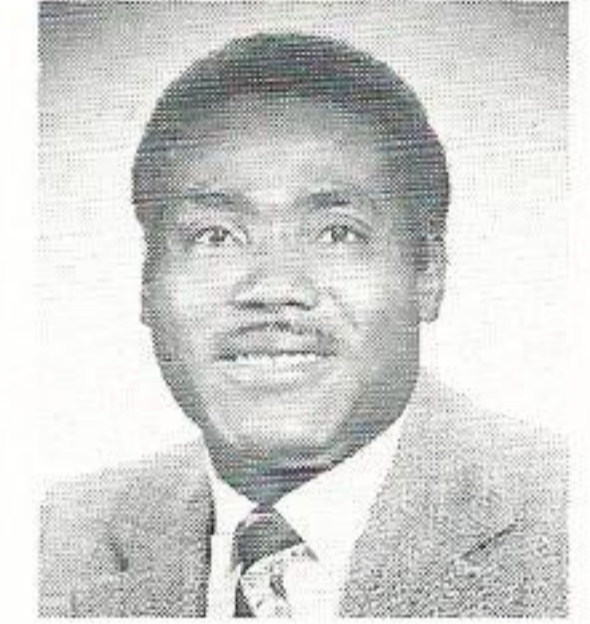
**Paul B. Couvillion**  
Distribution  
Baton Rouge



**Betty Fontana**  
Division Treasury  
Beaumont



**John Kleinpeter**  
Gas  
Choctaw



**Charlie Martin, Jr.**  
Distribution  
Baton Rouge

## Deaths



**Raymond T. Wright**



**Francis M. Peveto**

**Raymond T. Wright**, retired Huntsville district superintendent, passed away October 28 in Huntsville. He served the Company for 46 years before retirement.

Mr. Wright became district superintendent in Huntsville in March, 1936 and held the position for 26 years. He was employed in 1916 as an assistant treasurer in Lake Charles, named Orange district superintendent in 1932, where he served for four years.

April, 1962 saw Mr. Wright elected as Huntsville's mayor. He remained in that office until March, 1966, then became city judge in May, 1966 and occupied that position until November, 1971.

A native of Galveston County, Mr. Wright was married to the former Blanche Ezelle, who died in 1970. He is survived by two daughters, Mrs. Robert A. Werner of Huntsville and Mrs. Ralph Rix of Houston; and one sister, Mrs. Jerome Georgi of Indiana-

polis, Indiana. He had five grandchildren.

**Francis M. Peveto**, retired Port Arthur employee, passed away on October 20.

Mr. Peveto was a line foreman in the Port Arthur T & D Department at his retirement in June, 1965. He was employed in April, 1925 as a helper in Sour Lake, Texas, was transferred in July, 1925 to Port Arthur as a T & D helper, made a serviceman in 1926 and serviceman-first class in 1941. He was line foreman from 1952 until 1965.

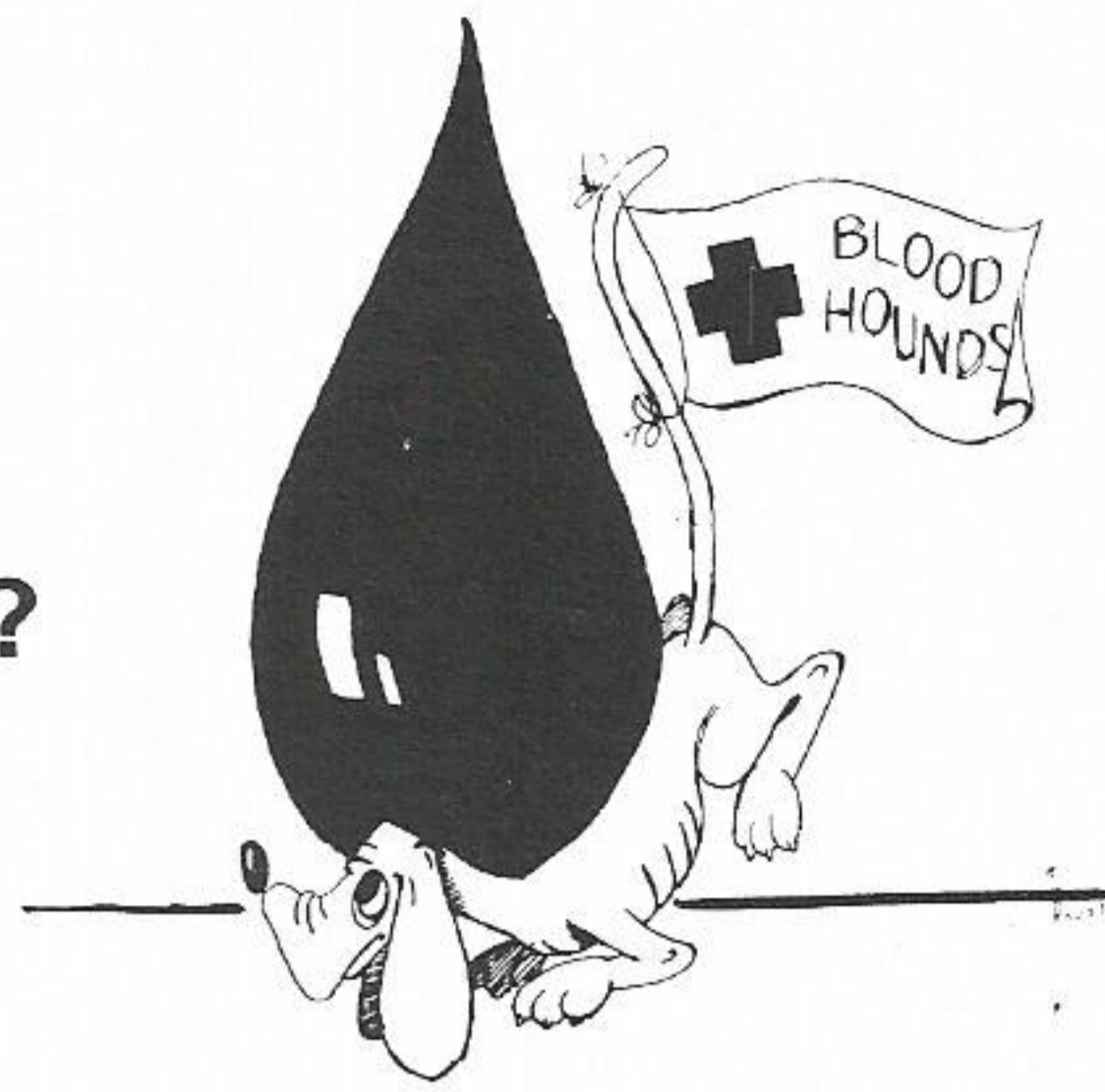
A native of Johnson Bayou, La., Mr. Peveto was married to the former Vera Lewis. He is also survived by a daughter, Mrs. Joe E. Griffith of Crockett, Texas.

Mr. Peveto was a member of Cos Lodge #827, R.F. & A.M. and the First Baptist Church, where he was on the board of deacons.



# HOW'S YOUR BLOOD IQ?

By The American National Red Cross



1. The normal human adult of average weight has approximately 10 to 12 pints of blood in his body, or about 8% of his body weight. True  False
2. Blood carries oxygen, water, and food to all cells of the body. True  False
3. It is estimated that the blood can make a complete round of the circulatory system in approximately 1 day. True  False
4. Blood is comprised of four parts—red cells, white cells, platelets, and plasma. True  False
5. If a person is ill and needs a transfusion, he must be given all four parts of the blood—red cells, white cells, platelets, and plasma. True  False
6. The most common blood disease is leukemia. True  False
7. The main function of red cells is to transport oxygen from the lungs to the tissues and to transport carbon dioxide from the tissues to the lungs. True  False
8. The main function of white cells is to fight infection and help develop immunity. True  False
9. The main function of platelets is to control bleeding. True  False
10. If blood is in short supply, animal blood can be used for human transfusions. True  False
11. Blood of different races can be used interchangeably in transfusions as long as it is properly matched for the blood groups (A, B, AB, O) and for the Rh factor, etc. True  False
12. Since scientists have discovered a method to make artificial blood in the laboratory, there is no longer any reason to donate. True  False
13. When a person donates a pint of blood, the body reproduces the fluid loss in 5 days. True  False

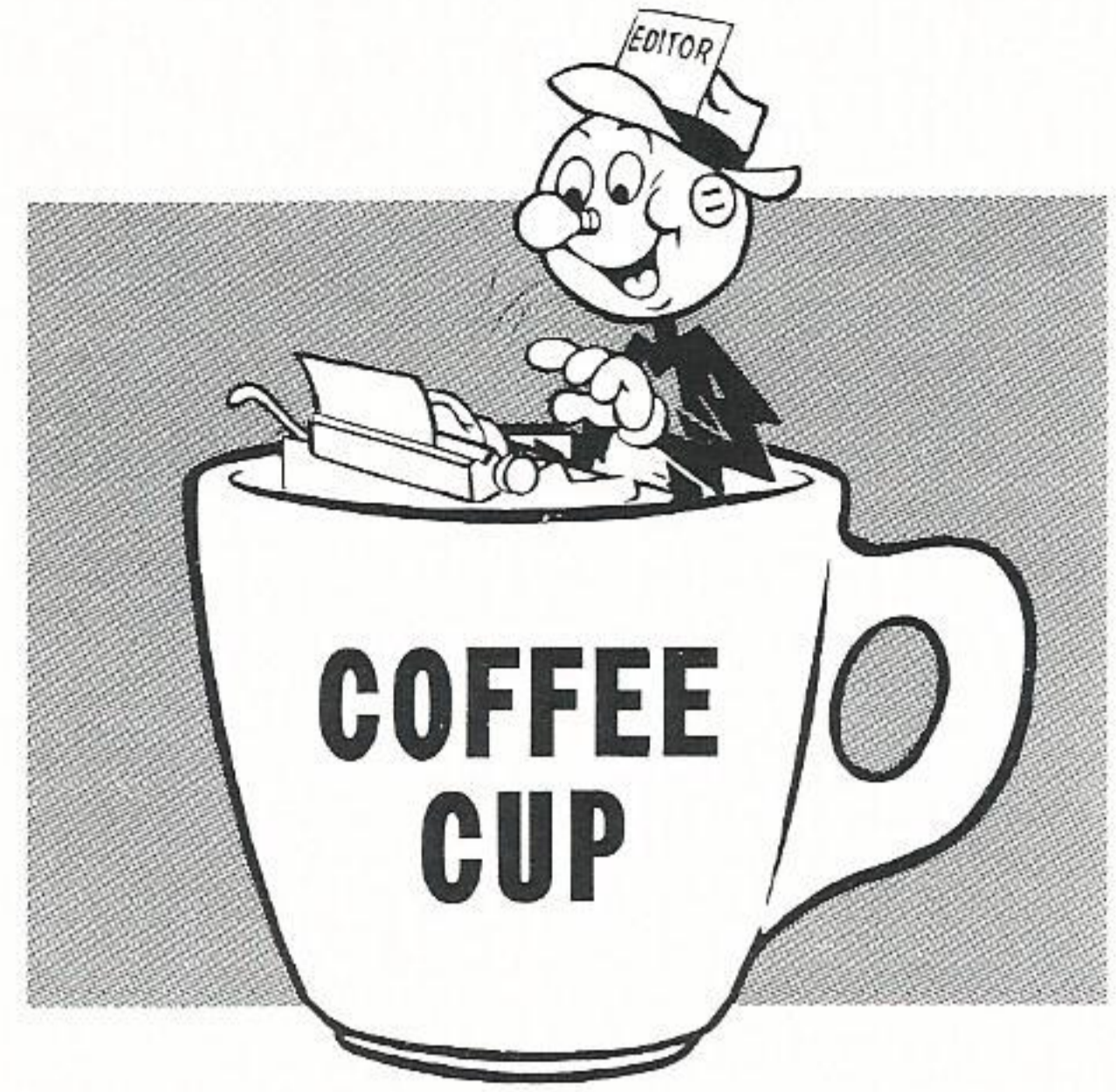
## ANSWERS

1. True
2. True
3. False It takes the blood approximately 24 seconds to make a complete round of the body.
4. True
5. False It is wasteful and frequently harmful to burden a patient with components he does not need. Since it is now possible to separate the red cells, white cells, and plasma of each blood donation, a patient can be given only that part that he needs.
6. False The most common blood disease is anemia.
7. True
8. True
9. True
10. False Blood is highly species-specific. Cells and plasma proteins injected from one species to another act as a foreign protein, causing violent reaction or death to the recipient.
11. True

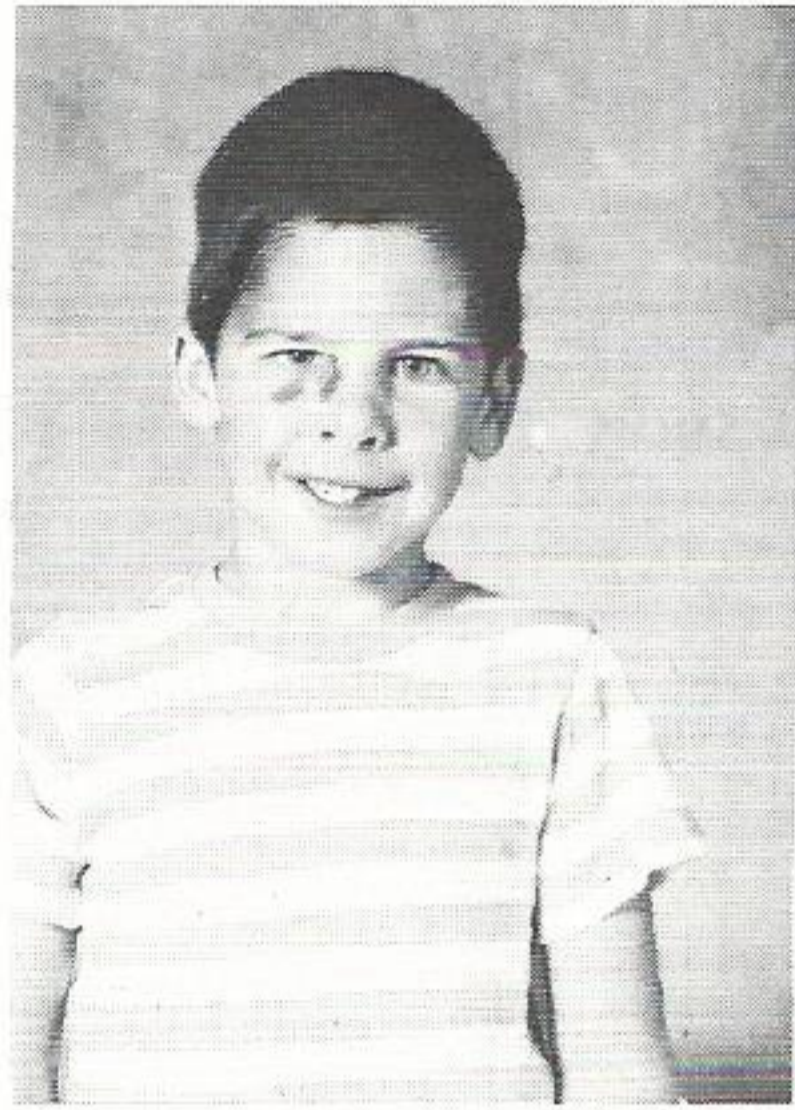
## SCORING

12. False Blood is a fluid for which there is no substitute. Certain substances can be used in limited amounts per pint in place of plasma, but the only source of blood is from human donors.
  13. False It takes only about 24 hours because the re-serve of plasma proteins and fluids is large.
- If you answered 0-5 correct, you have poor knowledge of one of the most important aspects of your life.  
If you answered 6-9 correct, you have a basic knowledge, but could use a little boning-up.  
If you answered 10-13 correct, you deserve congratulations. You have a good knowledge of the importance of blood to you and others.  
No matter what your score, call your local Red Cross Blood Center and go in to donate. They need you badly.

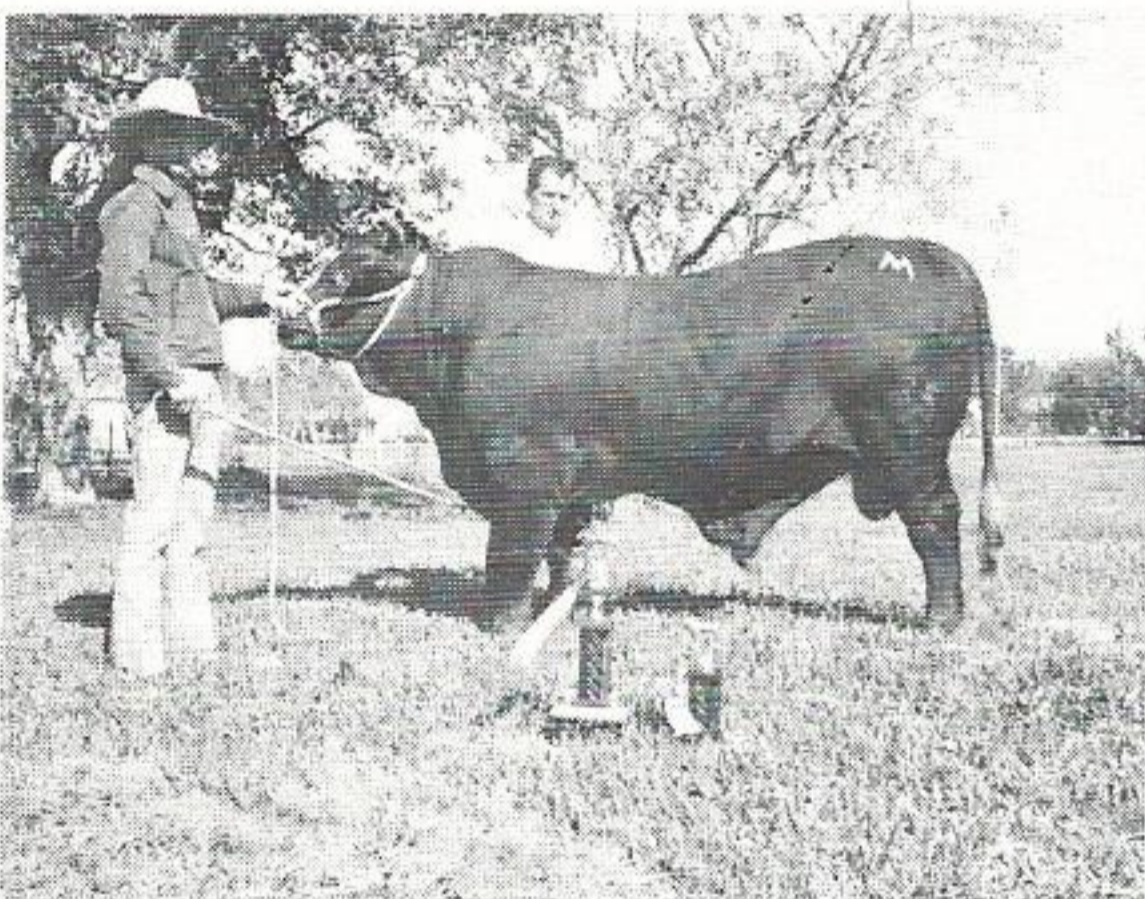




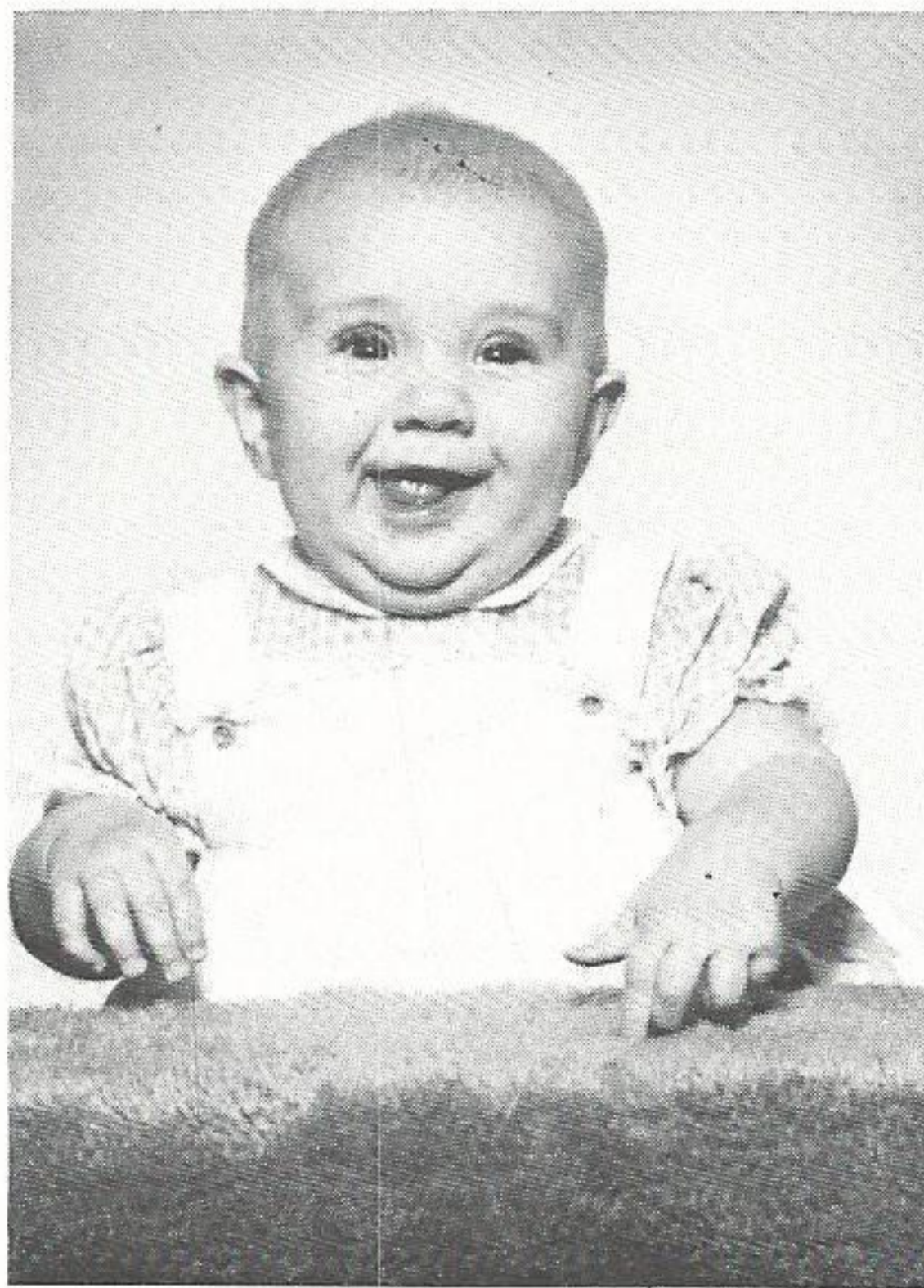
If you have any story you think is interesting and would like to see in **PLAIN TALKS**, just contact the reporter nearest you, and he (or she) will see that it gets to the editor. A complete list of the reporters and their location can be found on the first page of each Coffee Cup section.



These are the three children of John Landry-repairman-first class at Nelson Station. From left to right are Mitch (who was two years old on November 13), Mike and Mona. (from **Martha Caldwell**)



This is James Morgan, Jr. with his bull at the Southeast Texas Rice Belt District Livestock Show, held at White's Park in Anahuac, Texas on November 10. James won first place in the class of 18-24 month old bulls, Breed Champion of the Santa Gertrudis Breed, Reserve Grand Champion Bull of the entire show, and Reserve Grand Champion — Individual Animal. James, who is a sophomore at Anahuac High School and a member of the Anahuac FFA Chapter, is the son of James Morgan, Sr. — Anahuac serviceman. James has been with GSU for 16 years. (from **Ann Heard**)



Giving her best Christmas smile for the camera is Candice Dawn Carnahan, six-month old daughter of Truman Carnahan — electrician — first class at Nelson Station. (from **Martha Caldwell**)

### REPORTERS

If you have any news for "**Plain Talks**," simply send the information to one of the following local reporters. They will be happy to assist you in getting the material to the editor.

**BATON ROUGE:** Margie Force (T&D), T. Boone Chaney (T&D), Melanie Hima (T&D), Jack Gautreaux (T&D), James W. Bello (T&D), Beverly Hull (Gas), Opal Temple (Acct.), Robert Graves (T&D), Susan Wilks.

**BEAUMONT:** Bill Toups (S.C.), Barbara Lindsey, Carolyn Motl (T&D), Ann Ogden, Edy Mathews, Linda Marks.

**CLEVELAND:** Pat Jones, Edd Mitchell.

**CONROE:** Frances Elliot, Bobbie Burke.

**DENHAM SPRINGS:** Lenelle Juban.

**GONZALES:** Billie Fortenberry.

**HUNTSVILLE:** Karen Morley.

**JENNINGS:** Earl Mayfield.

**LAFAYETTE:** Bobbie Denais.

**LAKE CHARLES:** Johnnie Harris (T&D), Janet Followay.

**LA. STATION:** Leslie Jeansonne.

**MADISONVILLE:** Wanda H. Tinsley.

**NAVASOTA:** Betty Dickshat.

**NECHES STATION:** Gene Russell, Hazel Higginbotham.

**NELSON STATION:** Martha Caldwell.

**ORANGE:** Doris Womack.

**PORT ALLEN:** Adele Vavasseur.

**PORT ARTHUR:** Sue Williams, Lorraine Dunham (S.C.)

**SABINE STATION:** Kathleen Fuller.

**SILSBEE:** Maxine Bell.

**SULPHUR:** Pearl Burnett.

**WILLOW GLEN:** Dora Landaiche, James Veatch.

**WOODVILLE:** Alene Cole.

**ZACHARY:** Myra Kirby.

*(Editor's Note: If any of the above reporters are no longer reporting or with the company, we would appreciate knowing about it. This holds true also if any reporter's name has been omitted.)*

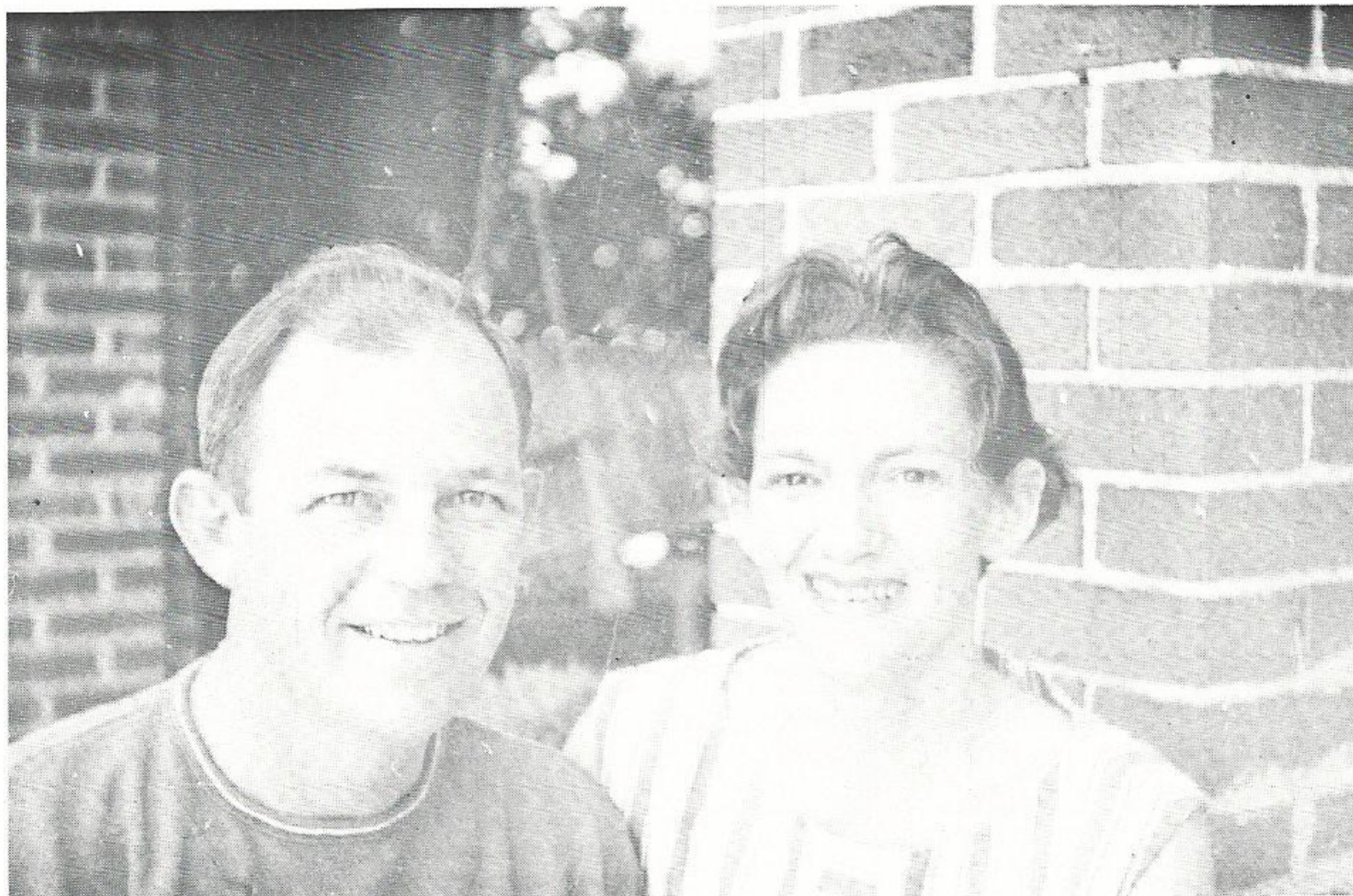




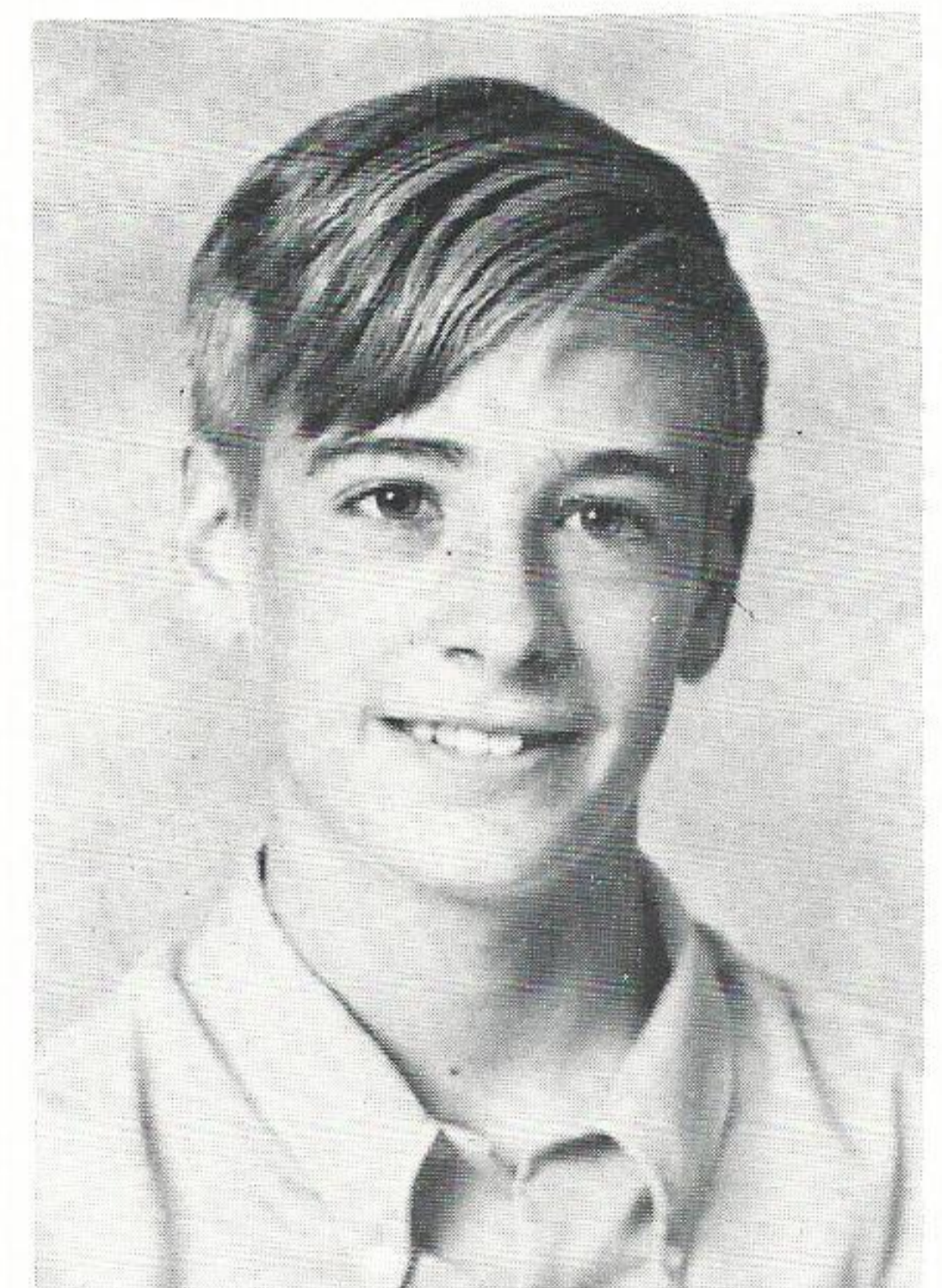
Joe Trum, president of the Sabine Area Apartment Association, is shown conducting a meeting at Port Arthur's Foster Village Apartments. The Port Arthur Home Service Department helped prepare and serve the meal, as well as present a program on apartment lighting. (from **the Editor**)



Mary Lou Farr, Port Allen local office clerk, "retired" November 6 to add to her family. She is shown with gifts received at her farewell party. Taking her place is Myrna L. Hargrove, a former employee who left in August, 1962 to have her family. Welcome back! (from **Del Vavasseur**)

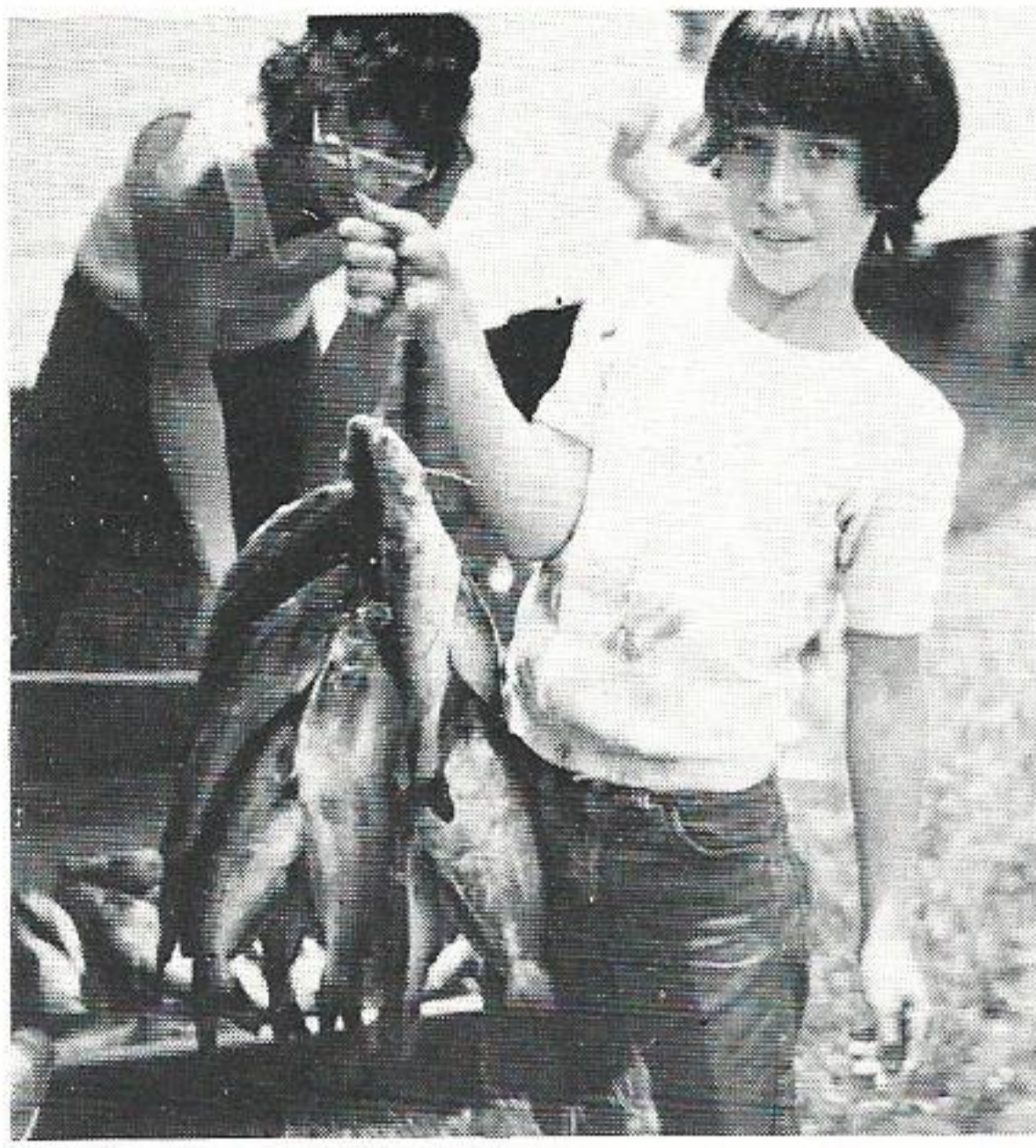


Doug Watkins, superintendent — Louisiana Station, has been a registered Girl Scout leader for six years. He has served on the Boy Scout Troup 82 Committee for three years. This fall, he took on two new jobs. He and his wife, Wanda, have been named Backpacking Coordinators for the Girl Scout neighborhood. He is now Advisor for Post 82 Boy Scouts and Wanda is Assistant Advisor. Their daughter, Jamie, is a Senior Girl Scout and their son, James, is an Eagle Scout who will be serving his troop as Assistant Senior Patrol Leader this coming year. (from **Hazel Higginbotham**)

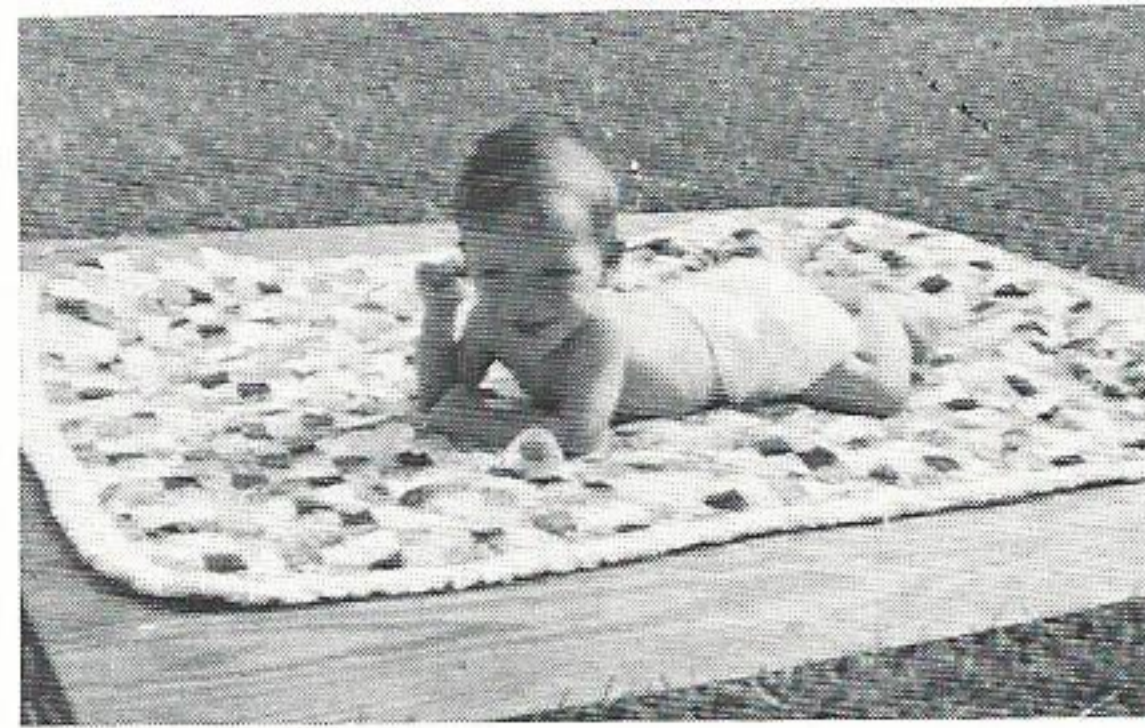


Russell Reynolds, son of W. B. Reynolds — Conroe supervisor — Customer Accounts, has been listed in the 1973 Who's Who American High School Students. Russell is a senior at Glen Oaks High in Baton Rouge and his many activities include the yearbook committee, marching band, church work, Key Club, French Club, and he has also won public speaking awards. He plans on entering college next year and studying to become a doctor. (from **Bobbie Burke**)





John Allen LeJeune, age 10, caught 91 catfish while fishing the Morganza Spillway in July. He is the son of Randy LeJeune, Baton Rouge Gas Sales, and is a fifth grader. (from the Editor)



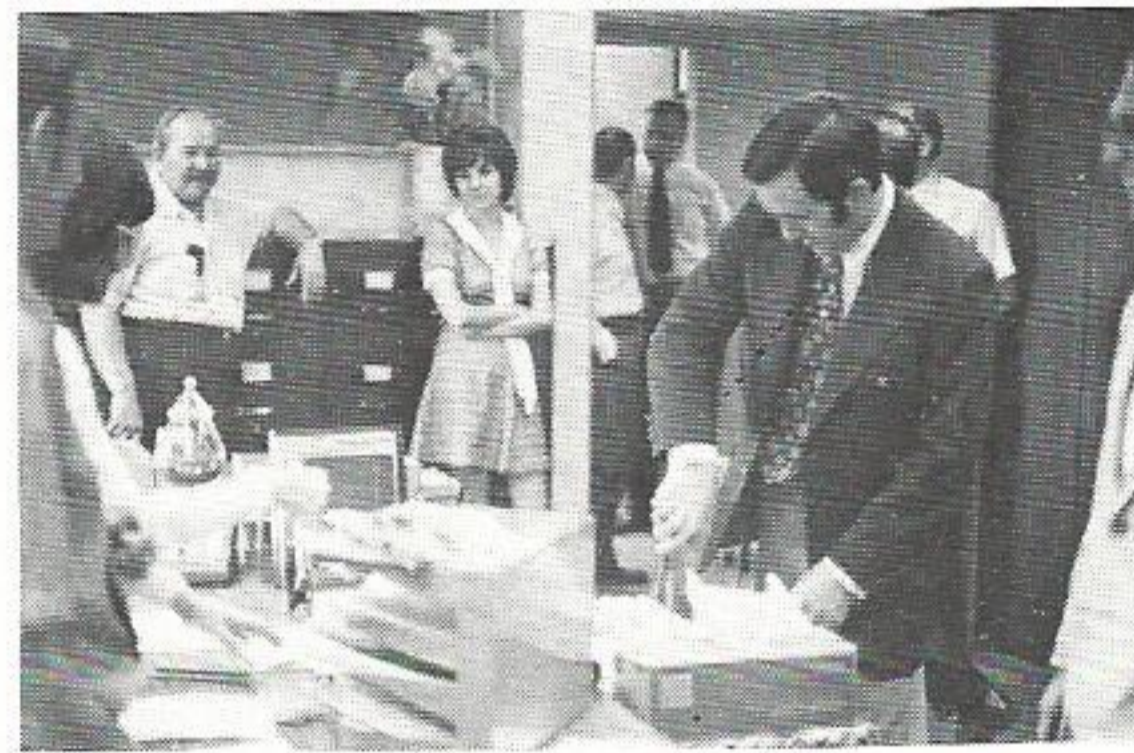
After 5½ years with the Beaumont Service Center, Linda McSwain took a leave of absence to have her first child. Sean Warren, born March 5 at Women and Children's Hospital in Beaumont, weighed 7 lbs. 11 ozs. He is now six months old, and is shown enjoying his first sunbath. Linda is now back at work at the Service Center. (from Carolyn Motl)



Lois Robertson, Port Arthur accounting clerk, attended the District 5, Dale Carnegie Alumni Association 17th Annual Harvest Award Banquet on November 10 at the Ramada Inn in Beaumont. She is president of the Delphi Chapter in Port Arthur, which was awarded the banquet's workshop trophy. Lois was honored as member of the year in her chapter. (from the Editor)

---

Sympathy is extended to:  
 Mildred Nunez (Lake Charles clerk) on the death of her husband, Gabriel "Gabe" Nunez. Mr. Nunez passed away November 8, 1973. He was 65.  
 Allie Gloria (Lake Charles clerk) on the death of her brother, William Coffeman, 57, who passed away November 11, 1973.  
 Howard E. Mack (Operating Superintendent, Lake Charles) on the death of his mother, Mathilda Mack, 71, who passed away November 8, 1973. (from Janet Followay)



The 11th floor of the Beaumont main office held a farewell party for Bill Cropper (cutting cake). Bill, formerly a marketing research analyst in System Marketing, was promoted to financial analyst in Corporate and Finance. Everyone on the 11th floor joined in wishing Bill success in his new job. (from the Editor)



A retirement party was held October 31 for Bonnie Thompson (Beaumont residential salesman). The party was held on the second floor of the Beaumont office and attendees included fellow employees, retirees, family and friends. Shown with Bonnie are his wife and grandson. Retirement plans called for a California vacation. (from the Editor)



A retirement party was held on October 26 in Navasota for Marvin Seigler (right), line foreman. Marvin retired after 46 years with the Company. He received a gift certificate for Western boots and a hat, and Mrs. Seigler was presented a necklace watch. From left to right are Goree Matthews (Navasota superintendent), John Crouch (Marvin's first boss), Mrs. Seigler and Mr. Seigler. (from Betty Dickschat)

---

Answering a report one night that an electrical line was on fire, Huntsville Serviceman John Flynt went to investigate. Instead of a burning line, John found Huntsville's first UFO. An ingenious sky-minded customer had filled a large plastic bag with gas, then suspended a paper sack below it. In the sack was a lighted candle. This was situated so that it floated through the air at night, having the glow of the candle being all that was visible. However, due to circumstances beyond control, the device landed on a Company power line, giving the appearance that the line was afire. Now, there's one less UFO to worry about. (from Karen Morley)

---

In the Gyroscope, weekly publication of the Huntsville Rotary Club, this story appeared: "The Frank Robinson who was charged in a nearby county with cattle theft could not have been our own Frank Robinson. Frank explains that someone left his pasture gate open, and the cows all went home." Frank, Huntsville district superintendent, was quoted as having "no comment" on the issue. (from Karen Morley)





These Port Arthur employees participated in the 1973 United Community Service campaign. From left to right are: Bill Lee (industrial engineer) — Loaned Executive Division; Jim Stelly (sales superintendent) — division chairman and Loaned Executive Division; Tom Clark (sales supervisor) — Division Leader of the Small Business Division. (from the Editor)



Del Vavasseur, Port Allen local office clerk and Plain Talks reporter, is shown wearing the orchid presented her by fellow workers on her 20th anniversary with the Company. She reached the 20-year mark on November 16. (from the Editor)



Robert Glach (left) and David McCauley — Beaumont Service Center Relay and Communications Department — will both graduate from Lamar U. in December with Associate of Science in Industrial Electronics and Electricity degrees. They have been working toward their degrees at night for the last four years. Congratulations! (from Bill Toups)



Three recent birthdays were celebrated in the Port Arthur office. From left to right are: Jim Stelly-sales superintendent (Sam Badger and Dan Puckett in background); Dan Puckett-residential sales representative (Sam Badger and Marianne Nelson in background); Jean Andrews-supervisor of customer service (Kay Foreman and Judy Wyche in background). Happy birthday to all! (from the Editor)

# Merry Christmas!





## Welcome Aboard!

### SYSTEM DEPARTMENTS

#### Information & Data Services

Beauchamp, Tanya S., Beaumont, Dept Clerk - IDS/Recds-Dupl

Robbins, Marlene S., Beaumont, Dept Clerk - IDS/EDP-Data Sys Opers

#### System Engineering

Haynes, Juanita S., Beaumont, Dept Clerk - Eng Des/DEC-Drftg

#### System Treasury

Bartee, Fawn M., Beaumont, Clerk - Sys Treas/Purch-Overall

Richards, Rebecca M., Beaumont, Clerk - Sys Treas/Actg-Order Proc

Malvo, Hellen B., Beaumont, Clerk - Sys Treas/Actg-Accts Pay

Reed, Ella H., Beaumont, Clerk - Sys Treas/Actg-Gen Accts

Sams, Mary D., Beaumont, Clerk - Sys Treas/Actg-Gen Accts

### BEAUMONT DIVISION

#### Distribution

McKenzie, Barry L., Orange, Helper - T&D Dept (Line)

Ward, Christopher G., Orange, Helper - T&D Dept (Line)

Holmes, John E., Beaumont, Attendant-Bldg Equip - T&D/B&G-Main Off

Reynolds, Timothy V., Beaumont, Laborer I - T&D/Garage

Willette, Larry D., Beaumont, Laborer I - T&D/Line

Kettl, Lonnie J., Beaumont, Laborer I - T&D/Appl Repair

Hoffpauir, Deborah S., Orange, Dept Clerk - T&D/Engr

#### Treasury

Barnes, Dora G., Beaumont, Clerk - Cust Acctg

Netterville, James K., Beaumont, Meter Reader

### PORT ARTHUR DIVISION

#### Treasury

Alexander, Bernard, Jr., Port Arthur, Meter Reader

Green, Lovie W., Port Arthur, Clerk - Cust Serv

### WESTERN DIVISION

#### Distribution

Cox, Robert N., Conroe, Laborer I - T&D (Line)

Hoffart, Willie J., Conroe, Laborer I - T&D (Line)

Arndt, Calvin A., Jr., Conroe, Laborer I - T&D/Line

Snoe, Herman E., Conroe, Laborer I - T&D/Line

Haley, Tommie E., Conroe, Laborer I - T&D/Line

Koepke, Thomas H., Conroe, Laborer I - T&D/Line

Stuart, Lloyd K., New Caney, Helper-T&D Dept (Line)

#### Division Sales

Joyce, Carolyn C., Conroe, Home Service Advisor-Jr

#### Treasury

Krischke, Roberta T., Conroe, Clerk - Cust Acctg

Coats, Bobby R., Huntsville, Meter Reader

### BATON ROUGE DIVISION

#### Production

Ingram, Denis H., Baton Rouge, Mechanic Helper (Mech)

La Sta

Welborn, John C., Jr., Baton Rouge, Laborer I - La Sta

Brecheen, Roger M., Baton Rouge, Laborer I - La Sta

### Gas Department

Gremillion, Kathleen S., Baton Rouge, Dept Clerk - Gas Dept/Service

Pack, Janice M., Baton Rouge, Dept Clerk - Gas/Serv

#### Distribution

Webster, John S., Baton Rouge, Helper - T&D Dept (Line)

Voigt, Francis T., Baton Rouge, Helper - T&D Dept (Line)

Rice, Georgia D., Baton Rouge, Dept Clerk - T&D (Eng)

Glasper, Cheryl L., Baton Rouge, Dept Clerk - T&D

(Serv)

Bumgardner, Wanda W., Baton Rouge, Dept Clerk - T&D

(Eng)

Tharp, Chester L., Jr., Baton Rouge, Helper - T&D Dept

(S/Sta)

Stephens, Michael H., Baton Rouge, Helper - T&D Dept

(Line)

Lacroix, Michael J., Baton Rouge, Helper - T&D Dept

(Line)

Blalock, Vernon L., Baton Rouge, Helper - T&D Dept

(Line)

Brigalia, Clinton E., Baton Rouge, Helper - T&D Dept

(Line)

James, Clifton, Jr., Baton Rouge, Engr Helper - T&D/Engr

#### Treasury

George, Virgil W., Baton Rouge, Meter Reader

Willett, Hedy M., Baton Rouge, Clerk - Cust Acctg

Bankston, Rodney G., Baton Rouge, Meter Reader

Alexander, Elouise G., Baton Rouge, Meter Reader

Hudson, Anita C., Baton Rouge, Clerk - Cust Acctg

Sims, Kimberley E., Baton Rouge, Clerk - Cust Rela

Gascon, Karen E., Baton Rouge, Clerk - Cust Acctg

Ridinger, Donny J., Baton Rouge, Storeroom Assistant - Stores

Murtes, Peter W., II, Denham Springs, Meter Reader

Hargrove, Myrna L., Port Allen, Local Office Clerk

### LAKE CHARLES DIVISION

#### Treasury

Kramer, James F., Lake Charles, Meter Reader

Harris, Rose E., Lake Charles, Clerk - Cust Acctg

### MANAGEMENT EMPLOYEES

Hackney, Charles A., Beaumont, Nuclear Staff Asst - PPC/Quality Assurance

DuBose, George K., Beaumont, Admn Acct - Sys Treas/Acctg Opers

Weatherford, William T., Beaumont, Admn Acct - Sys Treas/Acctg Opers

Bragg, James M., Jr., Beaumont, Student Engr - Sys Eng Plann/Plann

Reed, William J., Jr., Beaumont, Engineer - Sys Prod

### PART-TIME EMPLOYEES

Trujillo, Sandra, Beaumont, Dept Clerk - IDS/Recs

LeGros, Jeffrey F., Beaumont, Dept Clerk - IDS/Recs-Dupl-Mail Rm

Williams, Wendell R., Beaumont, Dept Clerk - Sys Eng Des/DEC-Drftg

Smith, Ellen M., Conroe, Dept Clerk - T&D (Eng)

Smith, Randall D., Conroe, Eng Helper - T&D (Eng)

Strait, Byron D., Beaumont, Dept Clerk - IDS/Recs-Dupl

Fontenot, Bruce N., Beaumont, Dept Clerk - IDS/Recs-Sta S/Rm

Osborne, Edward K., Beaumont, Meter Reader - Div Treas

Frost, Tana J., Calvert, Local Office Clerk

Saunders, Beverly O., Lake Charles, Home Serv Advisor-Jr



# CHRISTMAS RECIPES

## SCANDINAVIAN PINWHEEL

One 8 oz. pkg. refrigerated crescent rolls  
Three 3 oz. pkgs. cream cheese, softened  
1 egg, hard-cooked  
1/4 lb. smoked salmon, flaked  
1 green pepper, chopped  
1/3 cup chopped ripe olives  
Mark a 10 to 12 inch circle on a large cookie sheet. Unroll refrigerator rolls. Arrange rolls, points toward center, to fit the circle; press pieces together gently. Try not to have overlaps of double thickness of dough. Bake according to package directions and cool thoroughly. Spread 2 packages of cream cheese over surface of dough. Press egg yolk through a fine sieve; repeat with egg white. Make a circular mound of egg yolk in center of dough circle. Follow with a ring of each of the following: egg white, smoked salmon, green pepper, egg yolk, ripe olives and green pepper. Circle with a border of softened cream cheese. Mound and shape it with a fork or press through a pastry bag with a large star tube. Cover with waxed paper or transparent plastic wrap and refrigerate. It will keep fresh in the refrigerator for several hours. Cut into thin wedges to serve. Serves 12 to 14.

## CRUNCHY COCKTAIL MEATBALLS

1 egg, slightly beaten  
1/2 cup finely chopped onion  
2 Tbsps. milk  
2 Tbsps. chili sauce  
1/2 tsp. salt  
1/4 tsp. garlic salt  
1/4 tsp. pepper  
1 lb. ground beef  
1/2 cup finely crushed shredded wheat wafers (approximately 15 wafers)  
2/3 cup coarsely crushed shredded wheat wafers (approximately 18 wafers)  
Combine egg, onion, milk, chili sauce, salt, garlic salt and pepper. Add beef; mix well. Add the fine wafer crumbs and mix thoroughly. Shape into 48 small balls; roll in the coarse crumbs. Place on a cookie sheet and bake at 350 degrees 30 to 40 minutes. Serve with Sweet Sour Sauce.

### Sweet Sour Sauce

2 cups catsup  
1/2 cup brown sugar  
1 1/2 cups water  
2 tsps. steak sauce  
2 tsps. Worcestershire sauce  
1 tsp. garlic powder  
Combine all ingredients. Pour over meatballs in chafing dish.

## SAUCY SUCCOTASH

One to 10 oz. pkg. frozen corn  
One 10 oz. pkg. frozen cut green beans  
1 tsp. salt  
2 Tbsps. water  
2 Tbsps. butter or margarine  
1/2 cup shredded sharp process American cheese (2 oz.)  
1/4 cup chopped celery  
1/4 cup sliced green onions  
1/2 cup mayonnaise or salad dressing  
1/2 tsp. Worcestershire sauce  
1 cup soft bread crumbs (1 1/4 slices bread)  
2 Tbsps. butter or margarine, melted  
Place frozen vegetables in a saucepan with salt, water and 2 Tbsps. butter. Cover utensil; turn to high until steaming freely. Then turn to low and cook 3 to 5 minutes. Drain. Add cheese, celery and onion. Combine mayonnaise and Worcestershire; fold into corn mixture. Turn into a 1 quart casserole. Combine crumbs and melted butter; sprinkle on vegetables. Bake at 350 degrees 30 minutes. Serves 6.

## ROAST TURKEY

Clean and prepare turkey. Salt inside cavity with 1/8 tsp. salt per lb. Stuff turkey if desired. Closely bind legs and wings to body of bird with strings or with skewers and cord. Brush turkey with liquid shortening or melted butter. Place in shallow pan on rack. If V-shaped rack is used, turkey should be roasted breast side down in shallow pan. Roast turkey as follows:

8-10 lbs., 325 degrees, 20-25 mins. per lb.,  
3-3 1/2 hrs.  
10-14 lbs., 325 degrees, 18-20 mins. per lb.,  
3 1/2-4 hrs.  
14-18 lbs., 300 degrees, 15-18 mins. per lb.,  
4-4 1/2 hrs.

## CORNBREAD DRESSING

1 1/2 cups chopped onion  
2 cups chopped celery  
1/2 cup butter or margarine, melted  
6 cups cornbread  
1/2 cup chopped parsley  
1 Tbsp. salt  
Red and black pepper to taste  
Hot broth\*  
4 eggs (2 raw - 2 cooked)  
3 tsps. baking powder  
Saute onions and celery slowly in butter until soft but not brown. Add cornbread, parsley, salt, pepper and enough hot broth to moisten. Add beaten raw eggs and chopped cooked eggs. Add baking powder. Mix well. Stuff turkey.

\*Make broth by simmering until tender the neck and giblets in enough water, with seasoning, to cover. (Add salt, pepper, piece of celery and onion to water for flavor).

## CONGEALED HOLIDAY FRUIT RING

Two 3 oz. pkgs. strawberry gelatin  
2 cups boiling water  
12 oz. ginger ale  
1 tsp. rum extract  
Slivered almonds (about 30)  
1/4 tsp. ground cloves  
1/4 tsp. cinnamon  
1/8 tsp. allspice  
1 cup chopped candied mixed fruit  
1/3 cup light raisins  
1/3 cup currants  
1/3 cup drained halved maraschino cherries  
1/3 cup chopped walnuts  
Dissolve gelatin in boiling water; add ginger ale and rum extract. Pour 1/2 cup gelatin into 5 cup ring mold. Chill until set, but not firm. Arrange almonds on set gelatin in decorative pattern. Pour another 1/2 cup gelatin over almonds. Chill again until set, but not firm. Meanwhile, add spices, fruits and nuts to remaining gelatin; chill until slightly thickened. Then spoon gently over set gelatin in mold. Chill overnight. Unmold. Garnish with green grapes, if desired. Serves 8 to 10.

## OLD FASHIONED WALNUT BREAD

3 cups sifted flour  
1 cup sugar  
4 tsps. baking powder  
2 tsps. salt  
1 egg, slightly beaten  
1/4 cup shortening, melted  
1 1/2 cups milk  
1 tsp. vanilla  
1 1/2 cups chopped walnuts  
Sift flour with sugar, baking powder and salt. Add egg, shortening, milk and vanilla to dry mixture. Stir just until flour is moistened. Fold in walnuts. Pour mixture into greased 9 x 5 x 3 inch loaf pan. Bake at 350 degrees about 1 hour and 20 minutes.

## CRACKER PIE

16 saltine crackers  
1 cup chopped pecans  
1 tsp. vanilla  
3 egg whites  
3/4 cup sugar  
1/4 tsp. cream of tartar  
1 cup whipping cream  
2 Tbsps. pineapple preserves  
Crumb crackers and mix with nuts and vanilla. Beat egg whites until stiff; gradually add sugar and cream of tartar. Fold into cracker and nut mixture. Pour into lightly greased 8 inch pie plate. Bake at 350 degrees 30 minutes. Let cool. Whip cream and fold in preserves. Spread on pie for topping. Serves 8.



Bulk Rate  
U. S. POSTAGE PAID  
Beaumont, Texas  
Permit No. 11

## Consumer Scene



### Phosphates, Ecology And The Consumer

For years the American homemaker has been bombarded with detergent advertising promising her sheets whiter than white and colors rivaling the rainbow.

For the most part, the detergents were able to live up to these promises. Modern synthetic detergents have relied heavily on phosphates to achieve these high performance levels.

Now the era of "really clean" clothes appears to be in jeopardy as local restrictions on the sale of phosphates in detergents go into effect in many areas of the country.

Some feel that use of phosphate-free detergents will slow down the eutrophication of many of our rivers and lakes, but it also promises a more difficult washday for the consumer. And "ring around the collar," that spectre of scrupulous homemakers, may once again be a commonplace complaint.

How will the phosphate ban affect us? The General Electric and Hotpoint Consumers Institute, after thoroughly testing non-phosphate detergents, offers a discouraging report.

As a general rule, the GE home economists say, you may find your washing results less effective than with the regular phosphate detergents to which you've become accustomed, particularly with synthetic fabrics and hard water.

• In relatively soft water, GE laboratory observations indicate non-phosphates will generally clean cottons as well as phosphate detergents. However, some non-phosphates are more difficult to dissolve and are not recommended for use in cold wa-

ter. Clothes like polyester/cottons and Permanent Press fabrics may not wash well with non-phosphate detergents — with repeated washings they may become dingy and grey.

• In hard water areas, the use of phosphate-free detergents may result in increased fabric harshness—towels, for example, will feel stiff and rough to touch, and clothes will become dull and dingy with time as they are repeatedly washed. Fabric wear also may be noticeably increased.

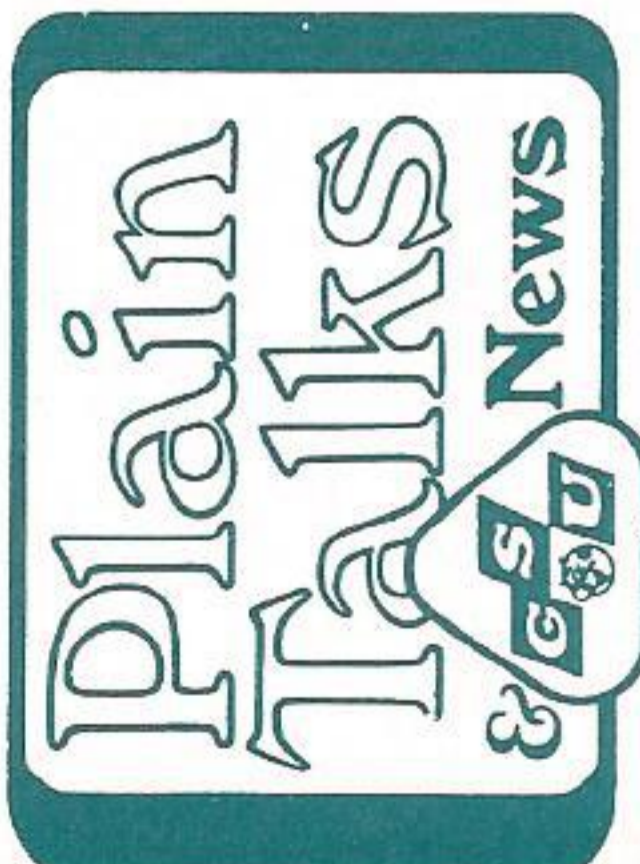
• A white, powdery residue also may appear, especially on dark colored items, and bright colors may spot fade as a result of direct contact with non-phosphate detergents.

• Your automatic washer could be affected as well as your clothes. Parts exposed to the wash solution will develop a scale-like buildup which in time can impair the washer's action by plugging up various small openings in the wash system that are essential to proper performance.

What can you do about it? GE recommends that if you live in a hard water area where phosphate detergents are banned, you may wish to consider installing a water-softening system.

Most important, though, is to follow the manufacturer's recommendations on how to use their non-phosphate detergents, and to follow sound washing procedures. With the advent of phosphate-free detergents, proper washing habits are now more important than at any time in the recent history of home laundering.

AFTER FIVE DAYS RETURN TO



P. O. BOX 2951  
BEAUMONT, TEXAS

RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED