

PLAIN TALKS

March 1985



Straight talk about:

- Benefits package
- Cogeneration
- Customer communication

Volume 64

Number 2

Consolidation provides benefits 'package'	4
CEO focuses on cogeneration	6
Landry fashions energy education	9
Christmas Album	10
Inside GSU	15
On the move	18
Graduation picture deadline nears	19

PLAIN TALKS

March 1985

Published for employees and retirees of Gulf States Utilities Company. Address all communications to PLAIN TALKS, Gulf States Utilities Company, P. O. Box 2951, Beaumont, Texas 77704, Phone (409) 838-6631.

Executive Editor:

Betty Gavora

Co-Editors:

Susan Huff Gilley

T. J. Reyes

Correspondents:

Dona Austin

Ronnie Bordelon

Barbara Broussard

Ella Brown

Myra Castello

Susan Choate

Lisa Creekbaum

Betty Dickschat

Betty Dowell

Andy Dreher

Bonnie Duval

Donna Fancher

Charlotte Gautreau

Rhonda Haskins

Connie Herford

Les Jones

Lynda Kapalski

Helen Kennedy

Clint Lilley

Debra Patin

Edith Patterson

Carol Payne

Myra Ponthier

Kitty Prouse

Casey Richert

Mike Rodgers

Concetta Rollins

Greg Russell

D. W. Rutherford

Carol Sharp

Sue Simon

Laurie Tenner

Monica Thomas

David Thornhill

Jean Tinsley

Delores West

Nina Wiley

Angela Wilks

Dianna Winkelmann

Robby Zeringue

Employees who change residences or offices should fill out company mailing-address-change 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.

4-Hers say thanks

Kenny Comeaux
Gulf States Utilities
Zachary, La.

Dear Mr. Comeaux:

On behalf of the East Baton Rouge Parish 4-H staff and club members, I would like to express our sincere appreciation to you and Gulf States Utilities for erecting our banner during last week. Although we were disappointed that only one banner came in, we feel that it was a valuable addition to our National 4-H Week promotion. Without your help, we could not have increased the public awareness of 4-H as we did.

Thanks once again for your cooperation.

Sincerely,
Jeanette A. Tucker
Home Economist
East Baton Rouge Parish

Editor's note: Comeaux is a utility foreman in Zachary.

Professional help

T.P. Young
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Dear Mr. Young:

Enclosed is the executed agreement for electrical service at our station at Blanks, Louisiana.

I would like to personally commend you and your company for the prompt and professional manner in which you handled our power needs. I have installed similar facilities in several states and have dealt with many utility companies in the past few years. None have been any better or easier to deal with than you. It has truly been a pleasure to work with you and Gulf States Utilities Company. If I can ever be of service to you, please let me know.

Sincerely,
B.J. King
P&O Falco, Inc.

Cooperation cited

Jim Moss
Gulf States Utilities
Baton Rouge, La.

Dear Mr. Moss:

It has been the privilege of the College of Design to work with Mr. Wayne Hiter, superintendent of Marketing & Consumer Services, and his capable staff on the Passive Solar Demonstration Research Project. We have enjoyed the professionalism of Mr. Hiter's staff. Ms. Harriet Babin has worked enthusiastically and professionally to coordinate and organize the various participants in this research. Professor A. Peters Oppermann, director of the School of Architecture; Dr. Neil G. Odenwald, director of the School of Landscape Architecture; and Professor Shirlee Singer, associate director, School of Architecture for the Interior Design Program, have all appreciated the opportunity that the grant from Gulf States Utilities has given us to further our knowledge on passive solar energy conservation. We hope that the completed project in the Shire Subdivision will bring positive feedback to Gulf States and that the research data that we hope to gather from this project will be helpful to all parties concerned.

The College of Design Research and Service Division and the School of Architecture, Office of Building Research, looks forward to continued work on future projects that may be of assistance to Gulf States Utilities. Once again, we thank you for this opportunity and the outstanding efforts of the Baton Rouge professional staff who have worked with us.

Sincerely,
Jerry L. Nielson, Dean
College of Design
Louisiana State University

Holiday help given

Gulf States Utilities
Orange, Texas

Dear Sirs:

Just a note to express our appreciation for your fast response to a service request on Christmas afternoon. The repairman was extremely courteous.

The utilities are "much maligned," so we thought you might enjoy a little praise for a job well done.

Thanks again,
Shirley Burney

Editor's note: Fred Augustine, serviceman-1st class, answered the trouble call received at 5:30 p.m. Christmas Day.

Grateful church

Gulf States Utilities
Corrigan, Texas

Dear Sirs:

We, the pastor and members of Baldwin Chapel Baptist Church of Groveton, Texas, take this means of thanking you for the very fine way you assisted us in beautifying our campus with lights. Your thoughtfulness will ever be remembered. Thank you again.

Yours in Christ,
Rev. Precious Gibson Jr.

THE COVER

The cover shot illustrates the concept that the switch to Provident Life and Accident Insurance Co. resulted in a neat 'package' of benefits.

A feature on page 4 explains what did and did not change as a result of the consolidation. Susan Gilley photographed the cover.

Consolidation provides neat

by Susan Gilley

The consolidation of dental, medical, disability and life insurance under a single carrier simply provides a neat package of benefits. Little has changed about coverage and the way to file claims since the switch to Provident Life and Accident Insurance Company became effective Jan. 1.

Molly Field, coordinator-employee benefits, explains, "Benefit levels are the same as before. The most noticeable change is in the way employees will receive their checks for both medical and dental claims. Provident will send the explanation of benefits in one envelope, then follow a day later with the check in a separate envelope. Sometimes, multiple explanations of benefits will be sent in a single envelope, followed by a single check covering all the claims," she adds.

Field notes that the dental plan for active employees was slightly

improved. Late enrollment in the plan is now open year-round, rather than just in April. While late applicants must provide x-rays, rejection of one family member's application does not disqualify the entire family. Further, dependent coverage is now continued to age 25, rather than age 23, and the student requirement has been eliminated.

What had been the most important rule for filing claims under Blue Cross and Blue Shield continues to apply to claims filed with Provident, Field emphasizes: "Completely fill out the claim form, answering all questions." Claim forms may be obtained from local Employee Relations units or from Employee Benefits in Beaumont.

No changes were made in the life insurance or disability plans. "Coverage continues at the same levels as before," Field notes. Provident will mail new certificates of insurance to all active and retired employees.

While Field and other Employee Benefits staff members should be

able to answer most employee questions, specific questions about claims may be posed directly to Provident personnel by calling GSU extension 722-6022.

As before, dental plan participants are strongly urged to file a description of any procedure expected to cost more than \$200 in covered dental expenses, as well as to report the dentist's estimated charges, **before** the treatment is undertaken. Provident will then notify both the dentist and the employee of the benefits that would be paid under the proposed course of treatment. This predetermination of benefits does not apply to emergency treatment, however.

Following are the general rules for filing claims with Provident:

In filing claims for more than one patient, complete a separate claim form for each patient. Expenses for accidental injury should be filed on a separate claim form, too.

Attach a copy of the original, itemized bill to each claim, showing the breakdown of the charges for the services provided. Doctors, pharmacists, hospitals and clinics will provide the necessary statements for filing with a claim. **DO NOT** send a copy of a personal check or a receipt or bill that shows only the balance of the bill or a balance forward. Provident will not pay a claim from these items.

If you or your dependent have primary coverage with Medicare or another group insurance, you must file eligible expenses with the other insurance carrier first. Then attach a copy of the original bill and a copy of the other carrier's Explanation of Benefits (EOB) to the completed Provident claim form and mail it to Provident for additional payment.

All Provident claims must be mailed to the Provident office at P. O. Box 219700, Houston, Texas 77218.

Once a claim is paid, keep the original or a copy of the Provident EOB for your records to show how the claim was paid.



benefits 'package'

Claim procedures may vary for specific kinds of claims, as follows:

- For inpatient hospital expenses, the claim will be filed directly with Provident by the hospital.

- For inpatient and outpatient doctor charges and laboratory and x-ray fees, many doctors will file with Provident for the patient. To ease the process, however, take a **completed** Provident claim form with you to the doctor's office. If you are required to file these claims yourself, attach a copy of the original, itemized bill showing the breakdown of charges for services provided to the completed Provident claim form. (Attach a copy of the other carrier's or Medicare's Explanation of Benefits, if applicable.) If you must file yourself, you may ask for help from the insurance representative in the doctor's office or from the GSU Employee Benefits unit.

- For prescriptions, attach a copy of prescription drug receipts to the claim form. Each receipt must show the name of the drug, the patient's name, the doctor's name and the date the prescription was filled and the reason for the drug (the diagnosis). If you lose the actual prescription receipts, you may obtain a signed statement from your pharmacist listing all the drugs purchased by you over a period of time.

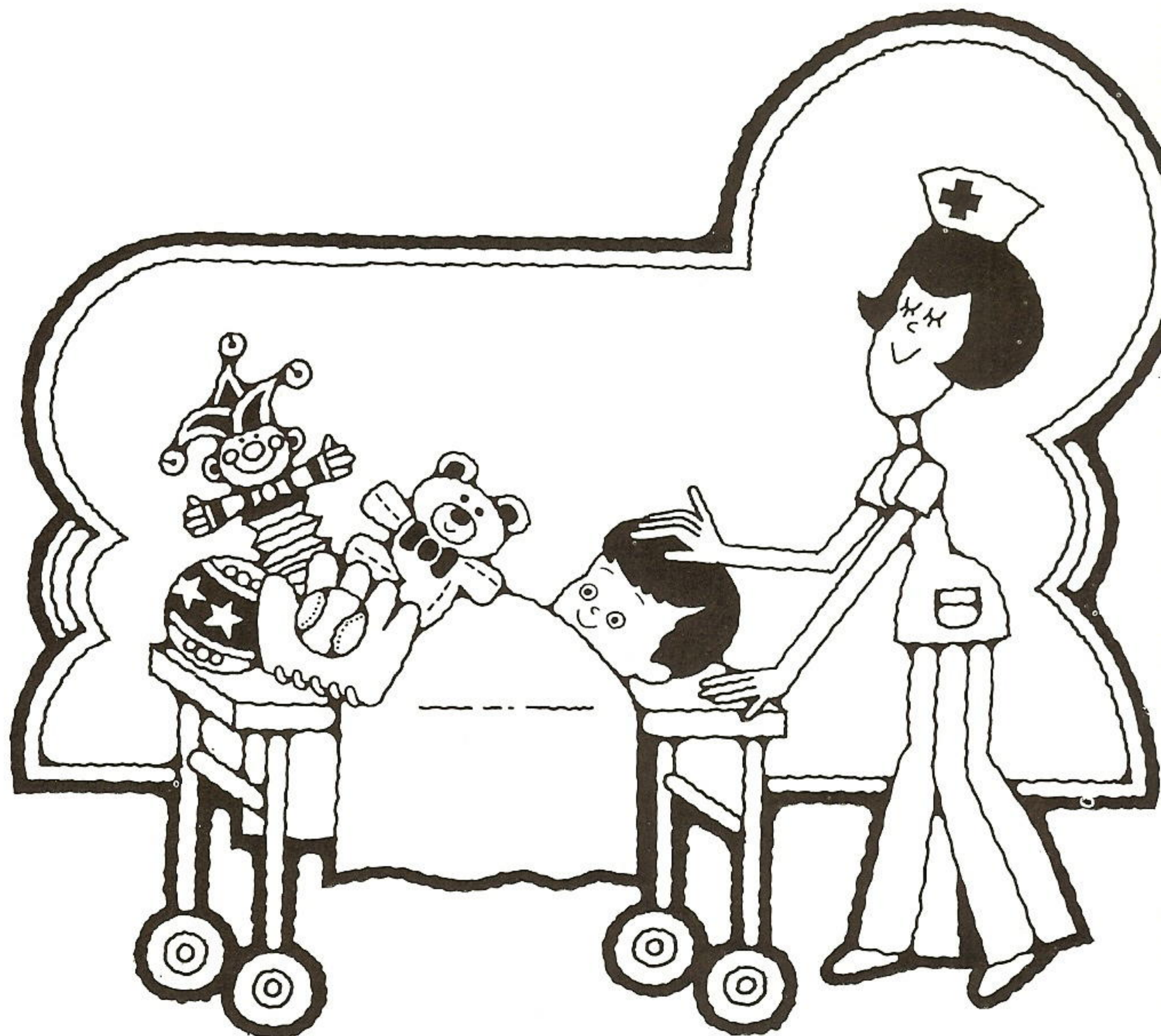
- For private duty nursing care provided by a licensed vocational (or practical) nurse or registered nurse, attach a copy of the itemized bill, showing the day-by-day breakdown of the nursing charges. The bill should also show the hourly charge for nursing care and the name and license number of the nurse providing the service. You should also attach a copy of the doctor's prescription for the nursing care and copies of the nurse's notes, showing the type of service actually performed. It should be noted that unless the nursing care is determined by Provident to be "medically necessary," the

claim will not be approved. Provident will not cover nursing services provided by a nurse who

is related by blood or marriage to the member or patient.

Points to remember

- GSU interoffice telephone number to Provident: 722-6022
- *Primary* coverage is provided by your place of employment. Medicare provides the prime coverage for retired persons 65 and older.
- If you or your dependent have *primary* coverage with Medicare or another group insurance, you must file eligible expenses with the other insurance carrier first. Then attach a copy of the original bill and a copy of the other carrier's Explanation of Benefits (EOB) to the completed Provident claim form and mail it to Provident for additional payment.
- All Provident claims must be mailed to the Provident office at P. O. Box 219700, Houston, Texas 77218.
- If your doctor's office will file for you, *fill out* a claim form for your doctor and *take it with you* to his office.
- *Don't be surprised* when your Explanation of Benefits arrives *before* the check — Provident mails them separately.
- Keep the original or a copy of the EOB for each Provident claim.



Cogeneration, economic situation

by Betty Gavora

The first part of a two-part interview with GSU Chairman Dr. Paul Murrill appeared in the January-February *Plain Talks*. The second part of that interview follows:

Plain Talks: Dr. Murrill, we've been hearing a lot about cogeneration lately. We hear there are two sides to it — on the one hand, it could be a way for us to have some extra power when we need it and, on the other, it could possibly take away some of our

business. What are your thoughts on this?

Dr. Murrill: Cogeneration is one of the oldest techniques around for producing electricity. With cogeneration a plant uses fuel to produce the steam, which it uses in its processing. The by-product of that steam is electricity, which can be used by that facility or sold back to an electric utility such as GSU.

Gulf States probably has more extensive experience with cogeneration than any other utility around the country. In fact, Loui-

siana Station was built in 1927 to take advantage of it, and many of our current customers have cogeneration.

In 1959 I worked for Pittsburg Plate Glass in Lake Charles and spent a period of time working in their cogeneration power plant, so there is nothing new about the technique of cogeneration. What is new is PURPA (the Public Utility Regulatory Policy Act). PURPA requires the utility to purchase excess power from the cogenerator at "avoided cost."

Cogeneration projects discussed

Dr. Paul Murrill: "In our area, we have seen a very strong impact on industrial usage of electricity."



present challenges

today fall into two categories — those in which the cogenerator has a good economic use for the steam to be generated and those in which the economics of their operation do not justify this technique for their own purposes, unless they can sell some of that electricity at high prices.

Now, when the facility has a good economic use of this generated steam, the result is a combined thermal-dynamic efficiency for the power that is far superior to what we can produce in a central station plant. That is the reason cogeneration has existed for years, to exploit that advantage when there is a good use for both the steam and the electricity.

The second category of cogenerators hope to go beyond that thermal-dynamic efficiency and to exploit some of the legal aspects of the law which force us to buy the cogenerated electricity. And they want us to buy it at very high prices. So, if we were to buy that power at very high prices, they wouldn't need an economic use for the steam to make the project viable. Many of them hope we will pay those high prices.

The whole question evolves into what is our "avoided cost" because the law says that's what we're supposed to pay. We say our "avoided cost" is really just

"Gulf States probably has more extensive experience with cogeneration than any other utility around the country."

what we avoid in fuel or energy costs by getting the electricity from the cogenerator instead of generating it ourselves or buying it from someone else. Many of the cogenerators would like for us, in addition, to pay them



Murrill: "Cogeneration is one of the oldest techniques around for producing electricity."

"capacity charges." As an example, they might say that by buying this power from them, we would not have to build a new power plant in 1995; and, therefore, we ought to give them that money which we otherwise would have spent for a central station in 1995.

We take the position that we're not going to pay that money on the thought that sometime 10 or 15 years from now we might be in a different situation. If the

time were really to come when the existence of cogenerated power would allow us to avoid the construction of a central station, at that time we'd pay capacity costs. But until that time comes, we're not going to do it unless we're ordered to do so by regulatory authorities.

Well, when you take away that portion of the cost of a cogenerated station, they drop back to having to let the economics of their plant itself support the



Murrill sees employees able to handle the challenges of 1985.

project. And many of the projects being talked about today are not viable under those circumstances.

While we are happy to buy the energy based on true "avoided cost," we are not going to get ourselves involved in exploitation of a loophole in the PURPA law to provide a sweet deal to one particular cogenerator. The reason is — if we do that, who pays for it? The homeowners and all our other customers. What would be terrific for one cogenerator would be a penalty for all our other customers and ratepayers.

Plain Talks: Talking about the economic situation in our service area, how do you see that having a bearing on our company in 1985?

Dr. Murrill: As the recovery has taken place, it has been reflected, in general, in personal income and the level of commercial business. In our area, we have seen a very strong impact on industrial usage of electricity. So it has been very strong in '84, but it does not appear that it will be as strong in '85. It is clear, also, that the petroleum industry, the petrochemical industry and the chemical industry, which are

large components of our industrial base, have been severely hit by some structural changes. The obvious weakness in those industries has produced problems for a lot of individuals and for a lot of businesses in our service area. As you know, the effects of that flow directly through to Gulf States.

"... In our area, we have seen a very strong impact on industrial usage of electricity."

Plain Talks: Do you think 1985 will be better for us in that respect?

Dr. Murrill: It doesn't appear so because at the moment oil prices are still weak. As that happens and as the dollar remains strong, imports flood in — imports of crude oil and refined products and bulk chemical commodities. Those imports will provide real competition to local area industries. In all likelihood, they won't run at high levels of capacity. So they won't use as much electricity. And they won't employ as many people. And they won't add capacity. That hurts.

Plain Talks: What are we doing to handle that loss of load that we might have in those areas?

Dr. Murrill: Obviously, that's the reason a company like GSU devotes resources to economic development activities, but I think everybody has to realize those are very long-term efforts. They do not pay quick, instantaneous dividends. It takes a long time for economic development to work.

Landry fashions energy education

by T.J. Reyes

During college, Karen Landry focused her studies on fabrics rather than fuels. But since joining GSU six years ago, the fashion merchandising major has established herself as an "energy expert in the educational field," according to George Irvin, general superintendent-Lafayette District.

That praise seems to be well earned. Last year, Landry prepared and presented 215 programs, 144 of them to students, with public speaking skills which she says were developed "on-the-job" by just "getting up in front of groups and talking."

As a consumer information coordinator in Lafayette, Landry spends much of her time with groups — students, from kindergarten through college, their teachers and civic clubs as she presents energy-related programs.

Landry uses teaching materials including such "props" as a miniature steam generator and "take-homes" like comic and activity books to provide present and future customers with information to make sound energy decisions. The audience watches as the model power plant heats water to produce steam which turns a small generator to illuminate an attached light bulb.

Another attention-getter is an electric meter connected to a three-way light bulb which visually demonstrates higher wattages use more energy by making the meter spin faster.

Landry finds meeting other Marketing and Consumer Services employees from across the system helpful in preparing her programs. "Each person demonstrates a presentation that's been successful for them," she explains. "These meetings are a good time for idea-sharing."



Karen Landry, consumer information coordinator.

Landry has ample opportunities to put those ideas to work since she also conducts in-service workshops for teachers and compiles useful energy suggestions into a newsletter for the elderly on a fixed income. In addition, she serves as GSU's media contact for the Lafayette area. Irvin notes her reputation as an expert provides Landry with a "high degree of credibility," making her a natural for this responsibility.

Time away from Gulf States is devoted to her family. Karen

married husband Mark shortly after being hired by GSU. Now they are the parents of Megan, age 1½. The child, who was born on Halloween Day, briefly had the nickname "Pumpkin" hung on her by one grandfather. And her mother gratefully recalls, it never really stuck. But Karen laughingly adds, "A Halloween birthday is hard to forget. At least I'll always have a theme for Megan's birthday parties."

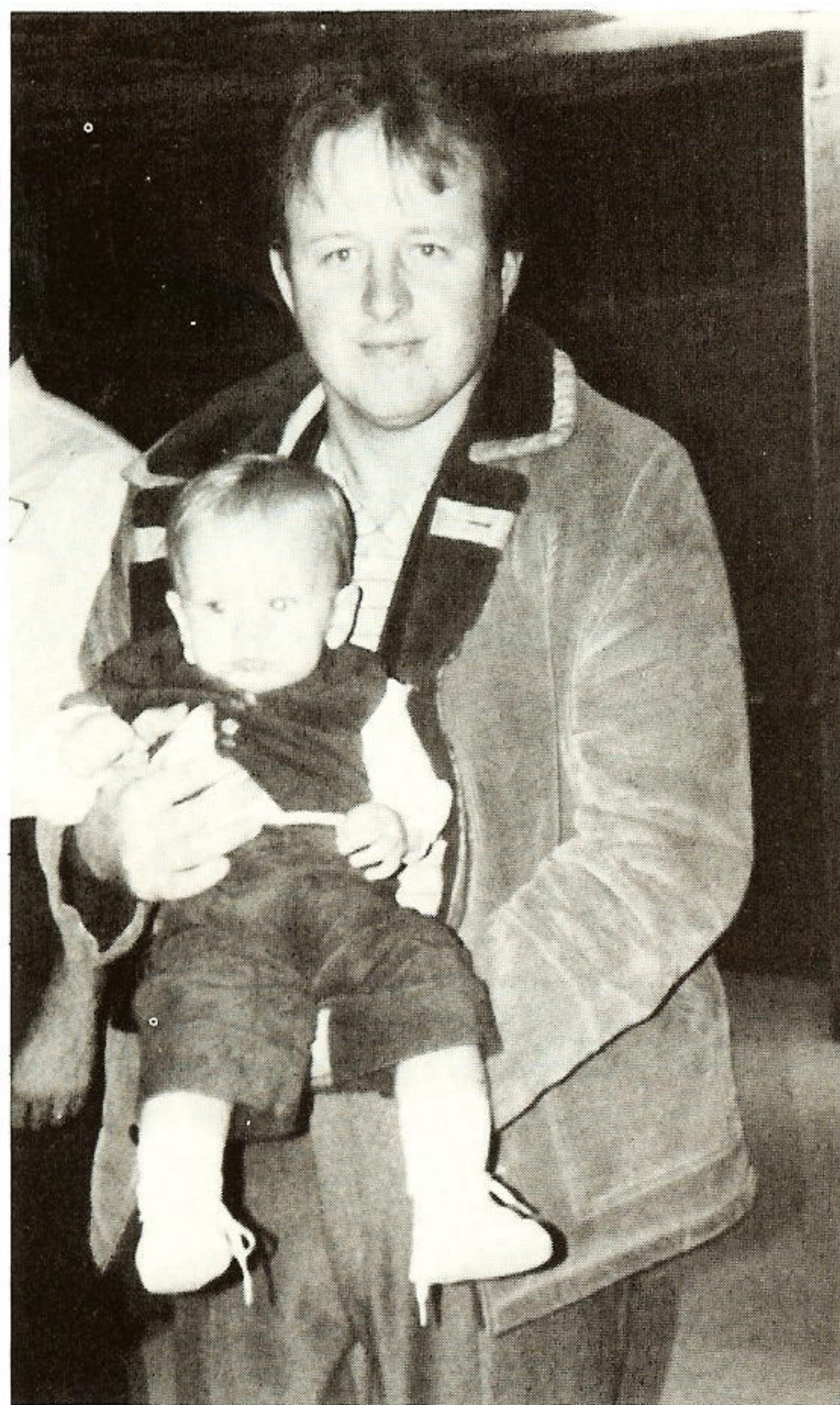
Christmas Album



Beaumont Division



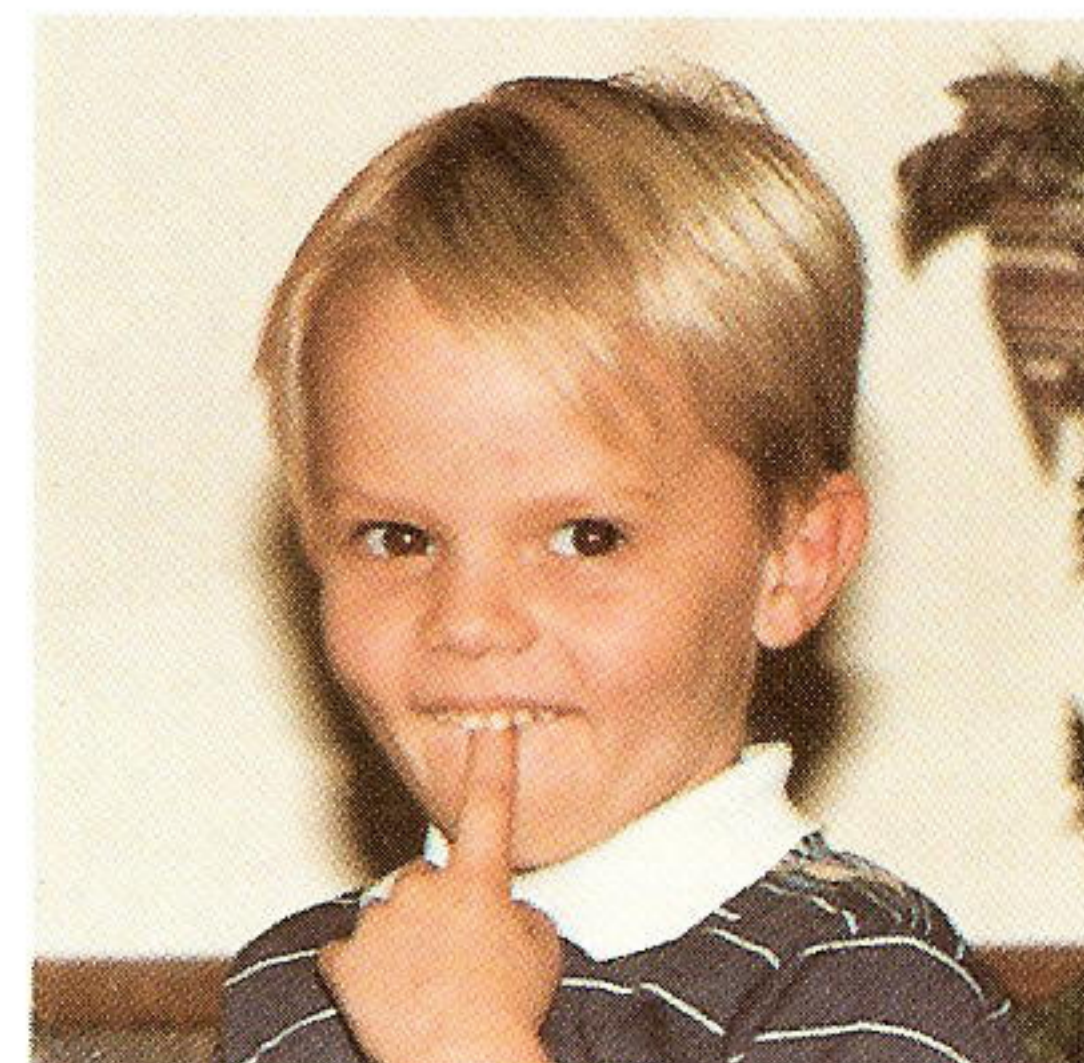
Navasota & Somerville



Sabine Station



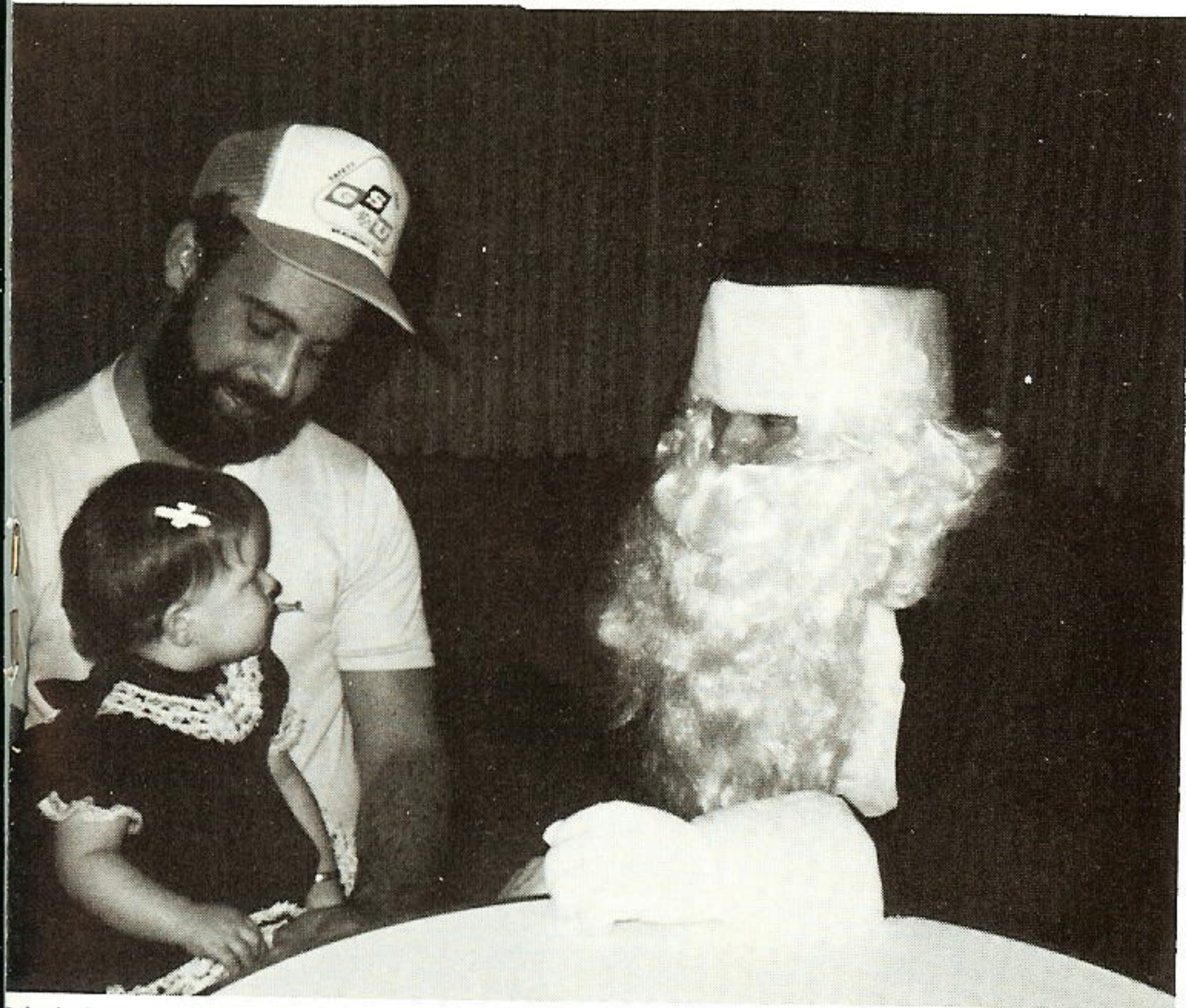
Beaumont System



Conroe



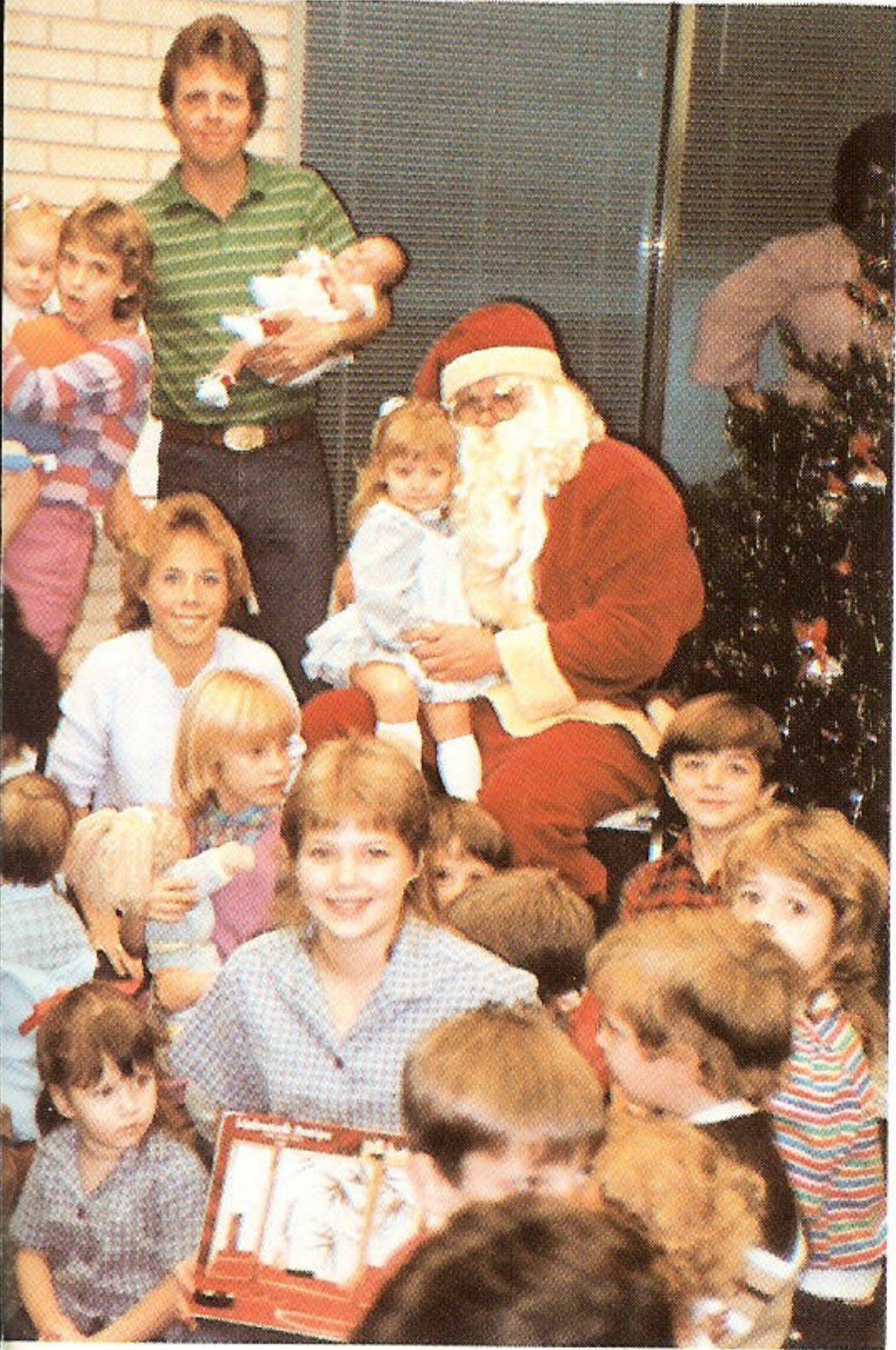
Baton Rouge



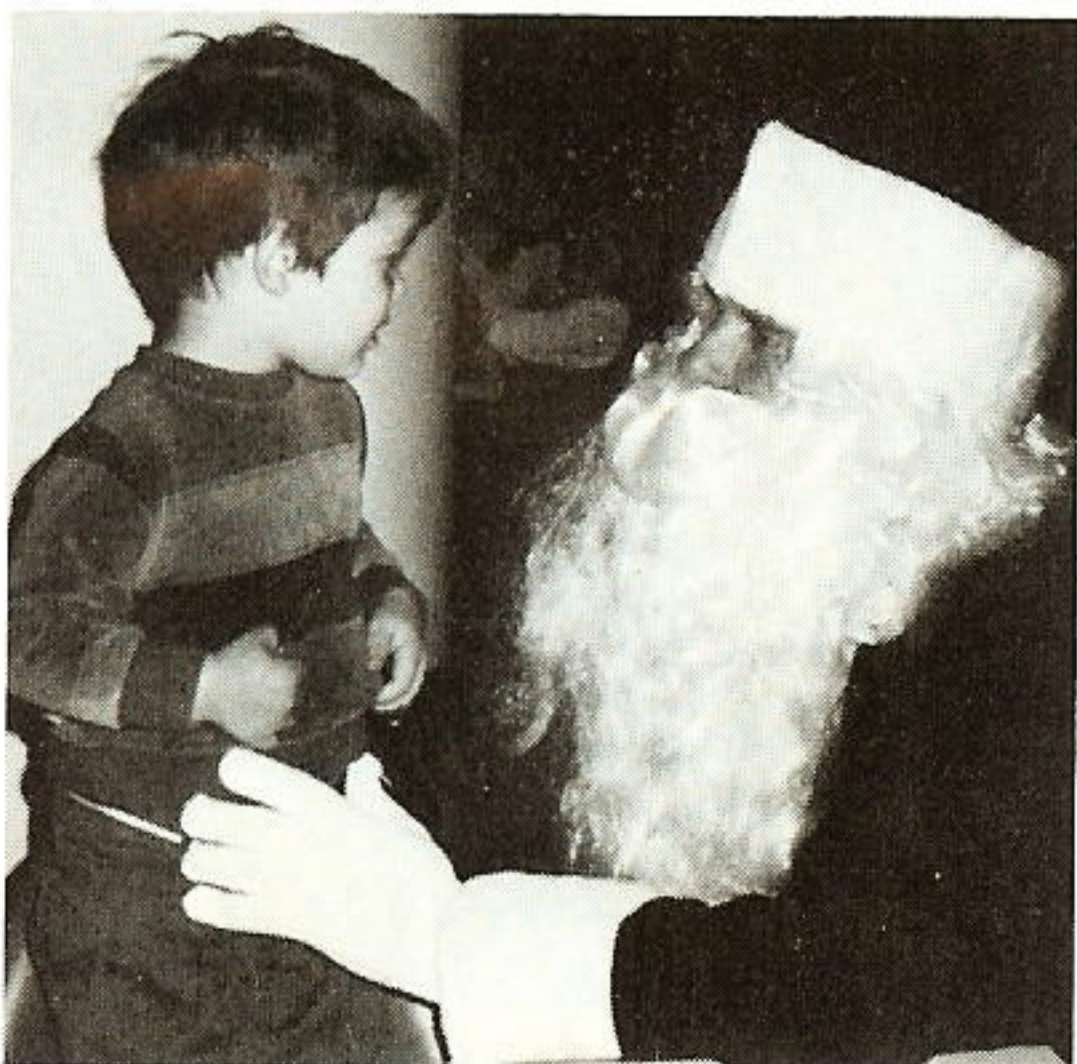
Division



Conroe



Gonzales



Beaumont Division



Vidor



Lake Charles, Sulphur, Nelson Station



Baton Rouge



Huntsville



Conroe



New Caney



Conroe



Lafayette



Huntsville



Port Arthur

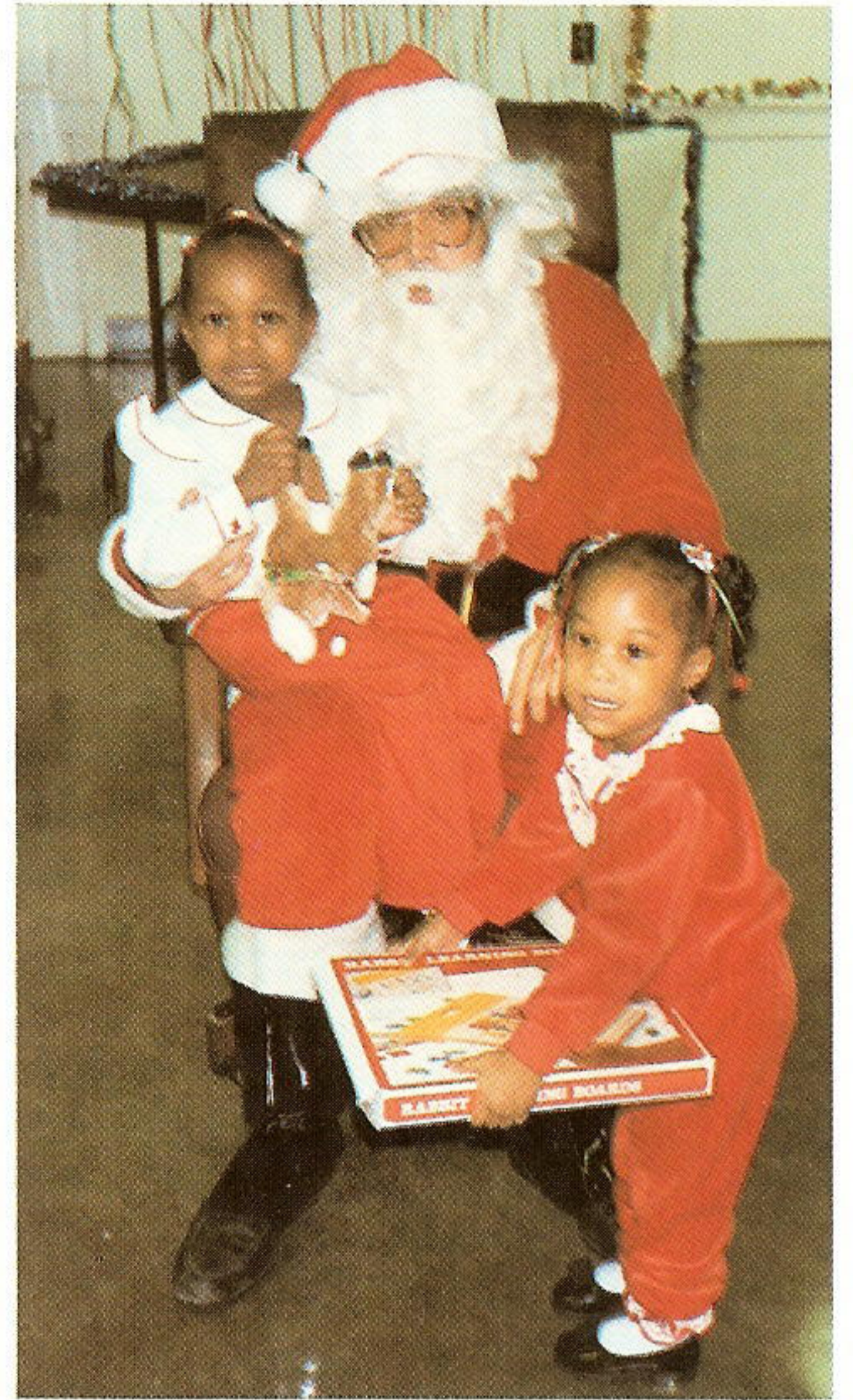


Port Arthur

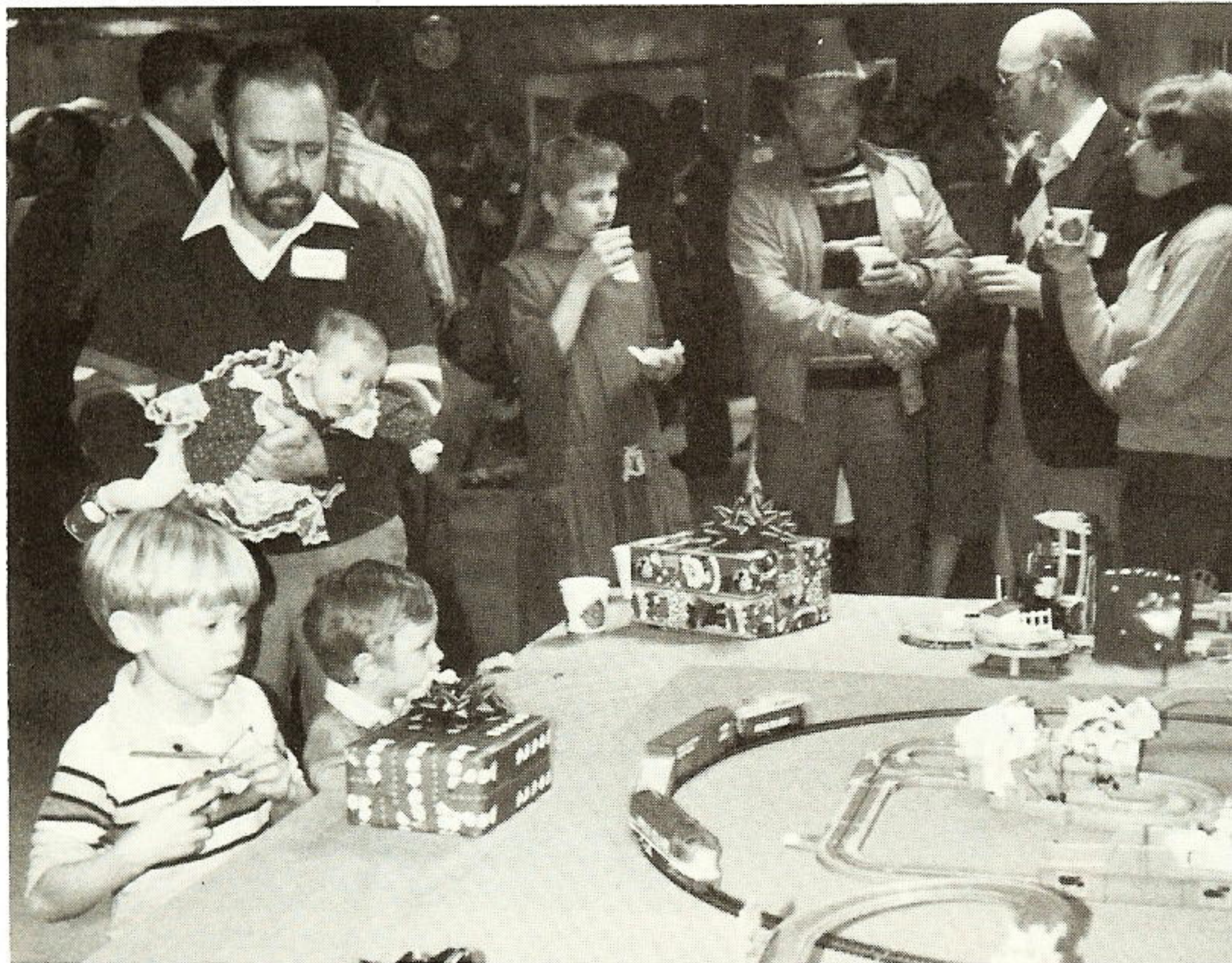


Neches Station

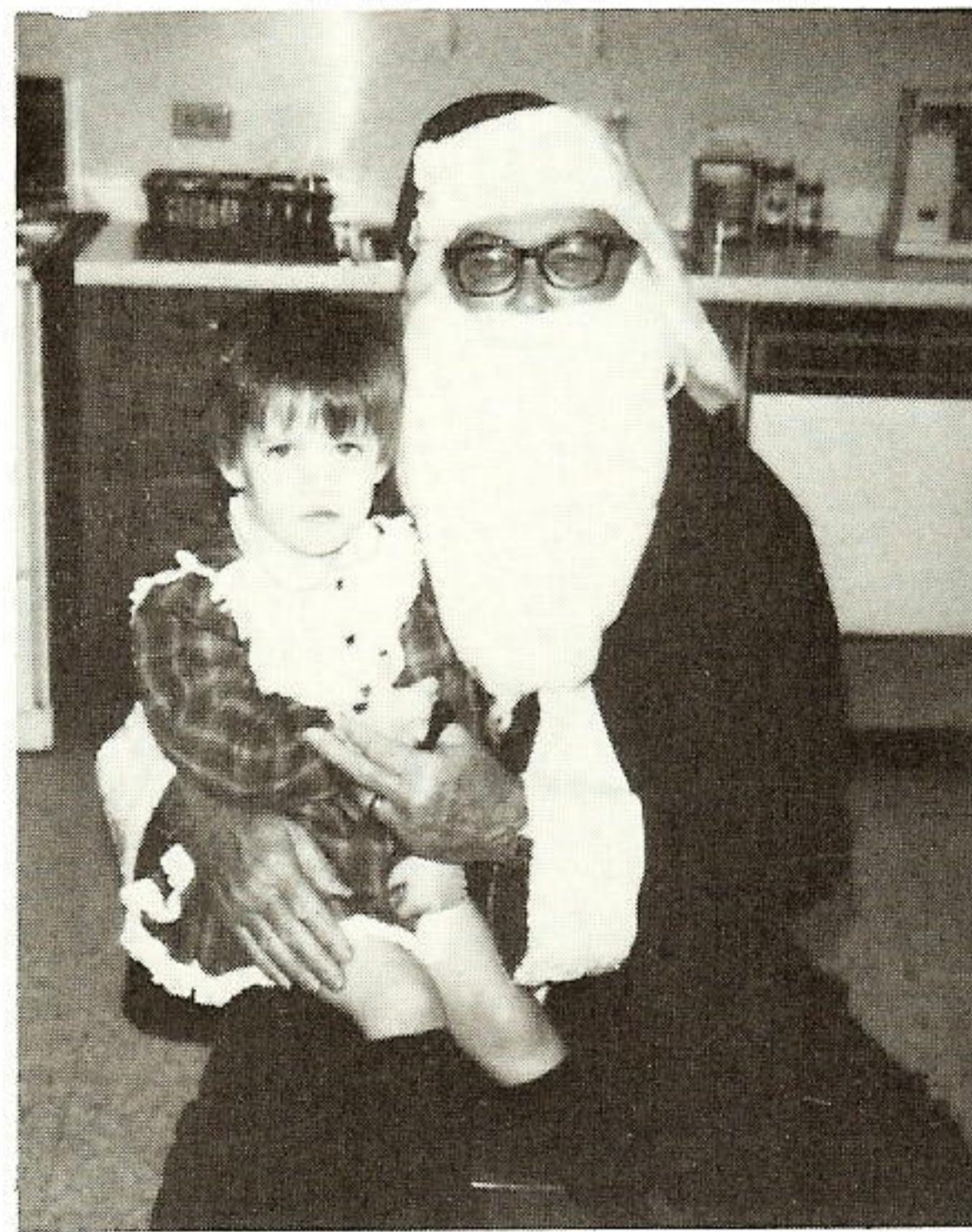
Neches Station



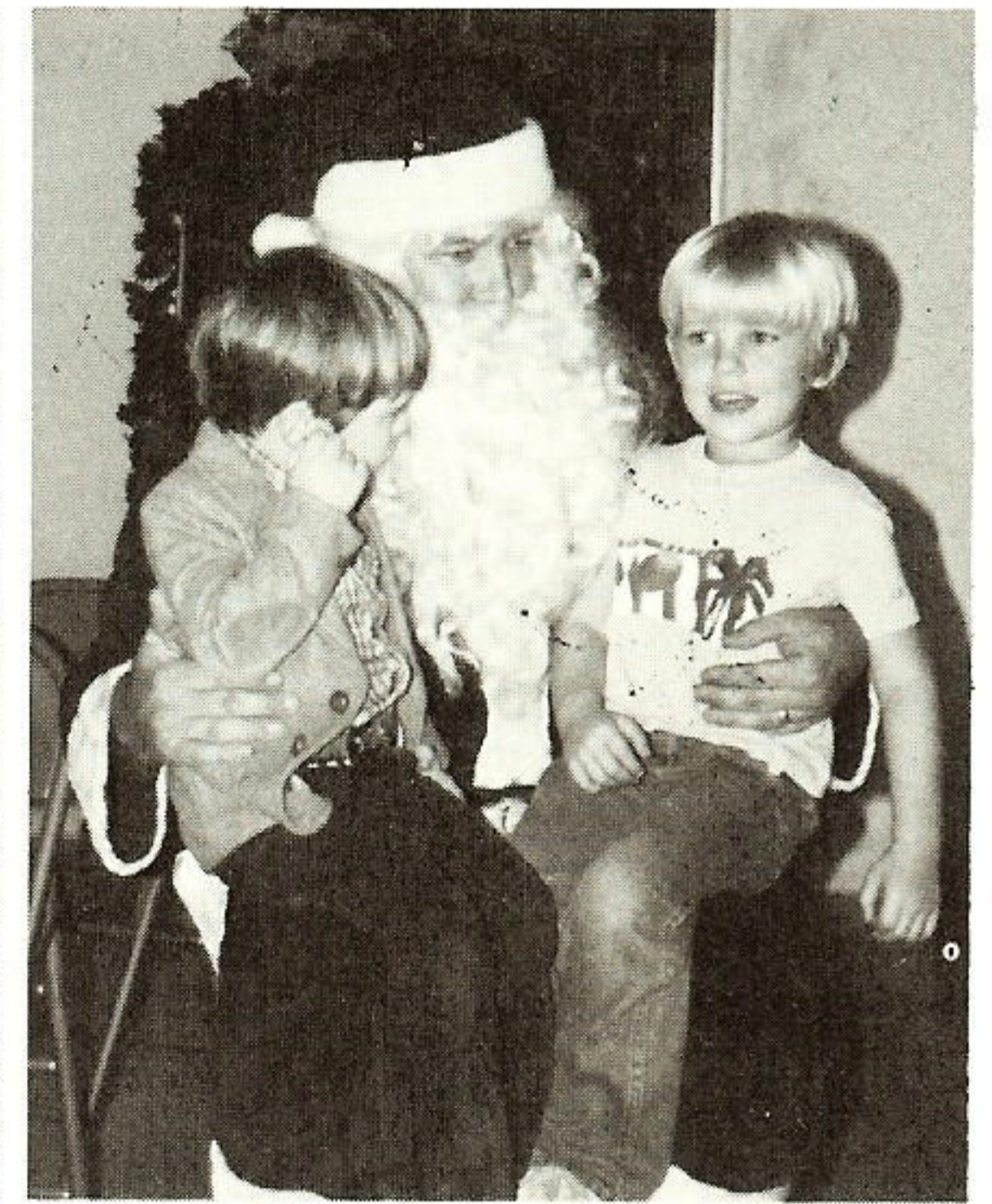
Sabine Station



Cleveland



Jennings



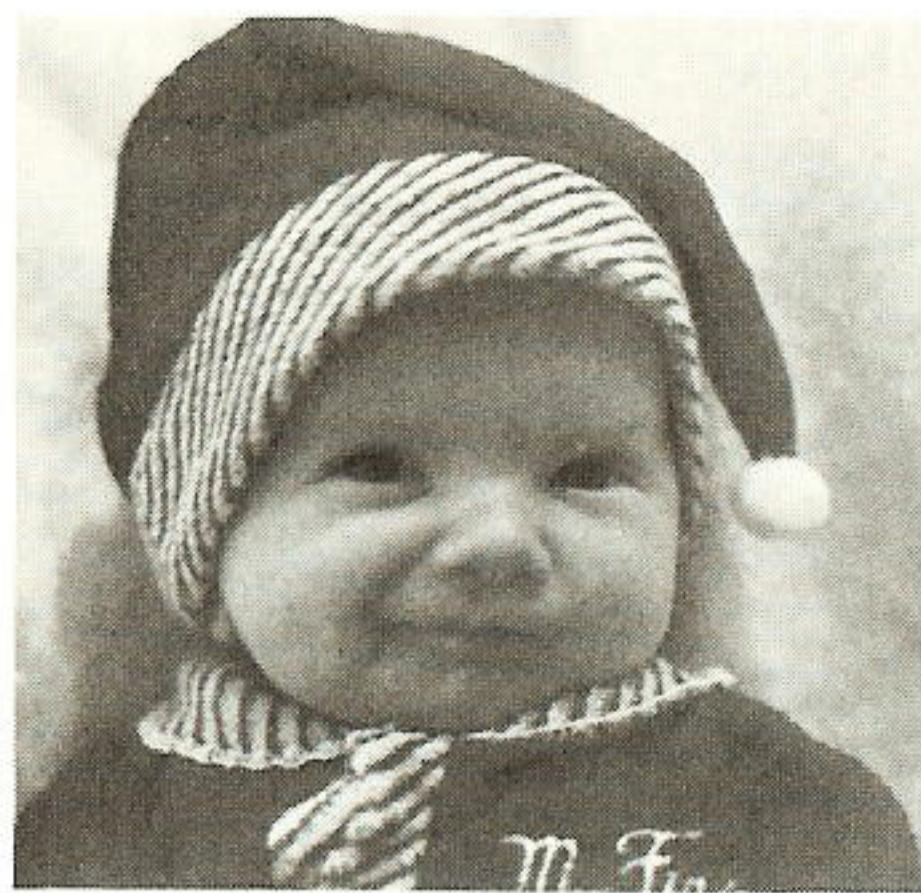
Calvert



Gonzales



Orange



Stephen Mark Wilson

Life Flight ride follows birth

Stephen Mark Wilson may not have arrived in the proverbial stork's beak, but he did take to the air within hours of his birth.

The baby son of Mark and Pam Wilson experienced complications at birth, requiring him to be transferred to a Houston hospital in the Life Flight helicopter.

But the infant's proud dad, a staff accountant I at Neches Station, reports that his son is now at home in good health. The youngster weighed 8 pounds, 12 ounces and measured 22 inches at birth. He is the couple's first child.



Gin Peters

Wreath heralds 40th birthday

A funeral wreath announced the 40th birthday of Virginia "Gin" Peters on Sept. 23, 1984.

Co-workers in Accounts Payable, Edison Plaza, where Peters is a section head, jokingly presented the arrangement to the "mournful" woman.

Cole begins career moves

Ronnie Cole is going places — first to River Bend and then to Beaumont — so his former co-workers in Baton Rouge celebrated his leave-taking.

Cole, who formerly served as industrial services engineer in Baton Rouge, moved to River Bend Nov. 1 as a start-up engineer. After six months there, he will transfer to Beaumont as a transmission and substation design engineer.



Wayne Hiter (right), superintendent-Marketing & Consumer Services in Baton Rouge, congratulates Ronnie Cole on his job moves.

GSUer wins Canadian trip

A GSU lineman won a free trip to Canada when he became the 2 millionth visitor to the Canadian Pavilion at the Louisiana World's Fair.

Cliff Johnson, a 25-year-old lineman-4th class from Gonzales, was in a long line of visitors heading into the Canadian exhibit last Nov. 10 when he and his friend were selected for the award.

Johnson recalls that he and Charla Buford almost stepped out of the long line. It was their first trip to the fair and the Canadian Pavilion was one of the first pavilions they visited. After a VIP tour, they were given tickets for the trip by Air Canada. The

couple also received a boxed copy of "Between Friends," a commemorative book published in observance of the United States Bicentennial.



Charla Buford and Cliff Johnson exult over their free Canadian trip.

Flag given to university

When American Legion Post No. 1 in Lake Charles gave a 12-foot by 18-foot American flag to McNeese State University stadium, a Gulf States employee made the official presentation.

Emery J. Fruge, inspector-contract crews in Lake Charles, handed the oversized flag to Joey Granger, captain of the McNeese Cowboys football team, and Renee Fruge, 1984 McNeese homecoming queen.

GSU's Fruge is the post commander.



Emery Fruge (left) hands over an American flag to McNeese homecoming queen Renee Fruge and football captain Joey Granger.

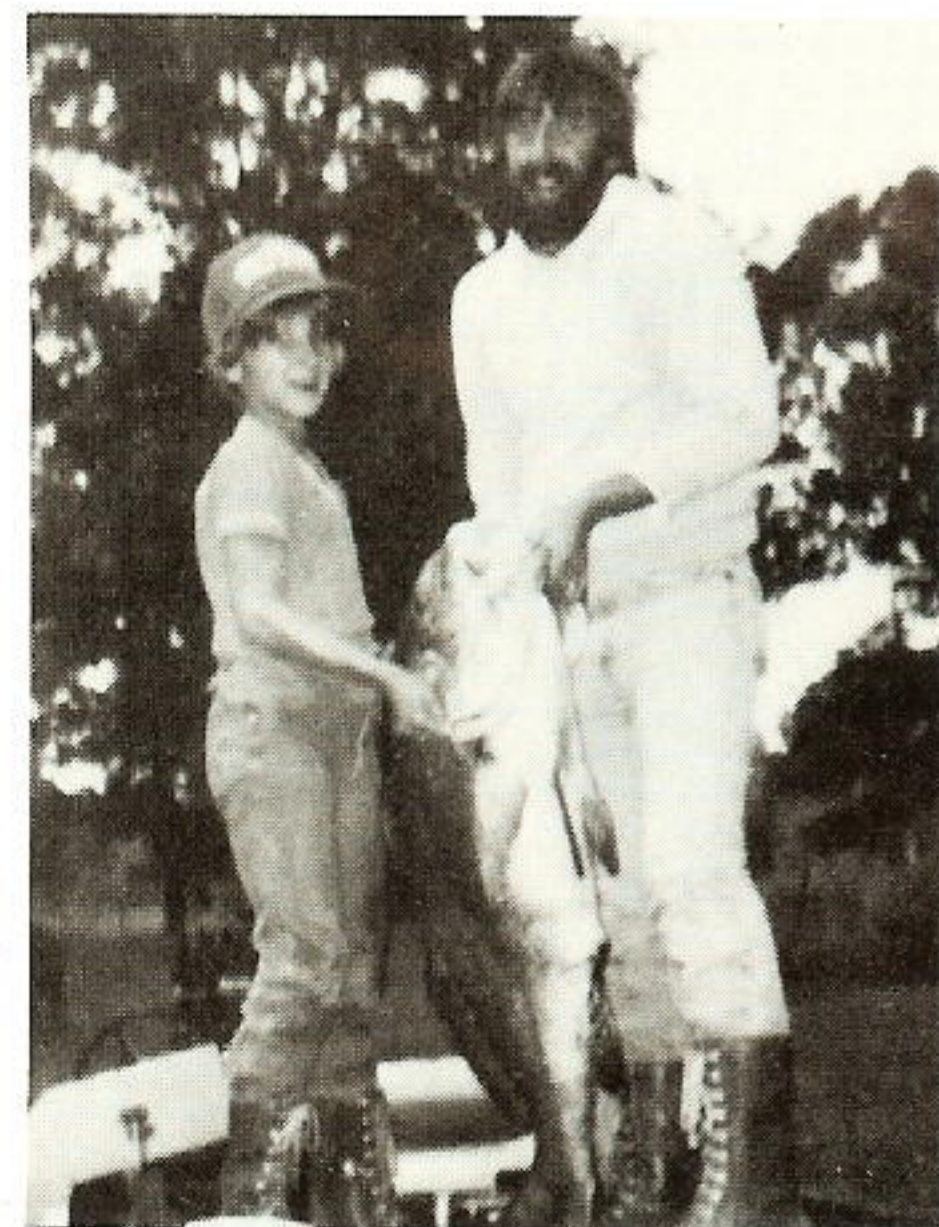
Hinton transfers to Salvage Center

Co-workers in Edison Plaza threw a going-away party for Celia Hinton in early November when the Materials Management clerk transferred to the Salvage Center.

Hinton, who has been with GSU for 5 years, had worked at the Salvage Center earlier in her company career.



Cheryl Smith (left) presents a cake to Celia Hinton.



Clancy (left) and Chris Joubert

Joubert hooks 45-pound fish

Clancy Joubert, 12, hooked a 45-pound drum fish on Nov. 23, 1984, reports Charlotte Gautreau, *Plain Talks'* correspondent.

Clancy is the son of Sandy and Chris Joubert and his dad is a lineman-1st class in Gonzales.

The youth reportedly caught the big fish with a sparkle beetle lure and reeled it in with a Zebco 20/30 on a 14-pound test line.



Kourtney Ann Thompson

Thompsons add Kourtney Ann

Kourtney Ann Thompson was born Nov. 1, 1984, to George and Phyllis Thompson of Lumberton.

The little girl weighed 6 pounds, 9 ounces and measured 19 inches. Her dad is a lineman-1st class in Silsbee.

Family reports new arrival

Justin O'Neil Singleton joined the Warren "Danny" and Jaqutta Singleton family on June 27, 1984.

The proud father is an apprentice lineman for The Woodlands and has been with GSU for 1 year.



Justin O'Neil Singleton

Second son joins family

A second little boy has joined the Mark and D'Edra Fruge family of Conroe.

Sept. 23, 1984, marked the arrival of Daniel Robert, who is the grandson of Sheldon Fruge, general maintenance supervisor at Nelson Station. The infant's father is an engineering helper in Conroe.

Welcoming the youngster was his big brother, 2-year-old Wesley Paul.



Wesley Paul Fruge cuddles his little brother, Daniel Robert.



Audrey Joe Dawson

Infant joins Nederland family

Audrey Joe Dawson joined the Lloyd and Katy Dawson family on Nov. 30, 1984.

The infant weighed 6 pounds, 14 ounces and measured 23 inches at birth.

Audrey is at home in Nederland with her parents.

Her father is an equipment operator at Sabine Station.



Cindy LeNormand (standing) reviews her former job duties with newcomer Carolyn LaChapelle.

Dayton employees observe changes

Dayton employees welcomed a new employee and said goodbye to another one Oct. 5, 1984.

The date marked Cindy LeNormand's last day in the district office before transferring to the Liberty-Pearl Building in downtown Beaumont as a clerk.

Her vacancy was filled by Carolyn LaChapelle.

Dayton employees presented a balloon bouquet, a basket of flowers and a cake to LeNormand. They also welcomed Mrs. LaChapelle, who lives in Raywood with her husband and their eight children.



Ina Smiley celebrated her birthday with friends from work.

Co-workers host surprise party

Employees in Gonzales surprised Ina Smiley on her 33rd birthday with an after-hours celebration at an area restaurant.

Smiley, a local office clerk whose birthday was Oct. 1, was treated to dinner and champagne. She also received a balloon bouquet at work.



Ben King

Baby wins Mr. Baby title

Ben King, 2, was named "Mr. Baby" in the Tiny Tots Pageant held during Bridge City Bayou Bash Days in September 1984.

The child is the son of Randy and Priscilla King. His dad is a staff accountant I at Sabine Station.

Children win costume contests

Three children were the winners in a Halloween costume contest sponsored by the Live Wires Club, reports Micky Wilson, club spokesman.

The winners were Shauntel Stelly, daughter of Trudie Galloway of Materials Management, Best Girls' Costume; Shawn Griffin, son of Bill Griffin of the Beaumont Relay Department, Most Original Costume; and



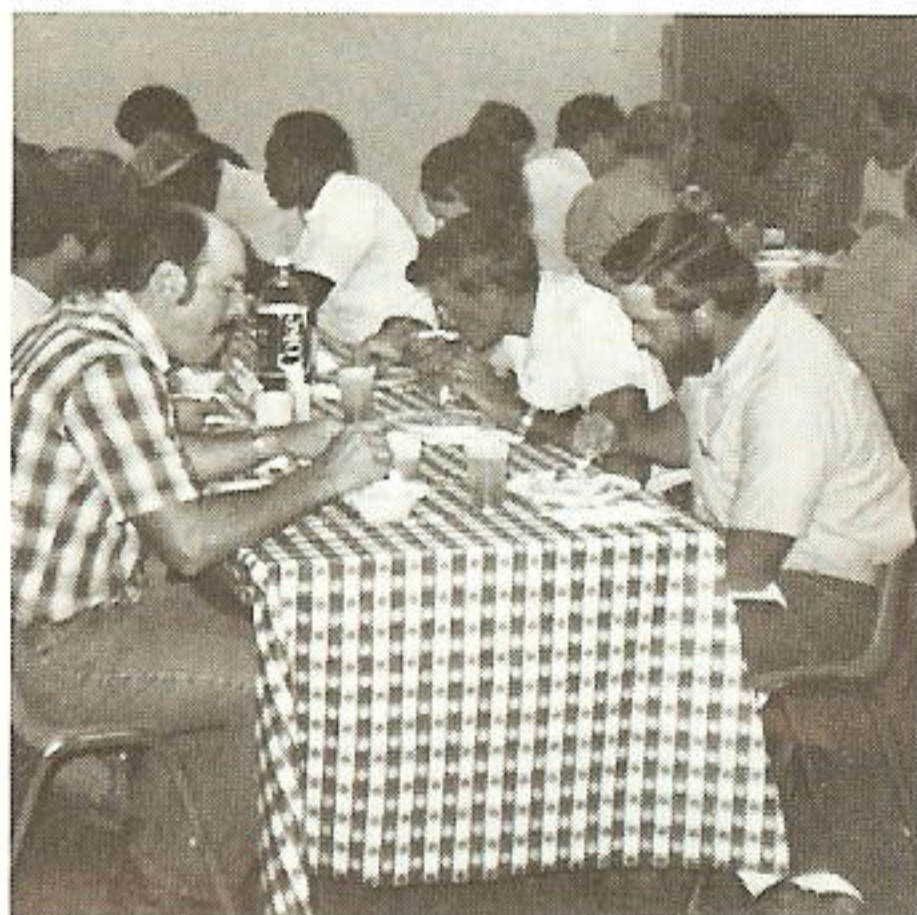
From left, Shauntel Stelly, Shawn Griffin and Will Gilley show off their winning costumes.

Will Gilley, son of Susan Gilley of Human Resources, Best Boys' Costume.

Employees give 'Fair Share'

All employees of the Western District of the Baton Rouge Division pledged a "Fair Share" contribution to the United Way campaign, reports Ella Brown, *Plain Talks* correspondent.

Their generosity was recognized during a spaghetti luncheon in the Port Allen office.



English marks 40th birthday

John D. English, senior purchasing agent in Lake Charles, celebrated his 40th birthday on Aug. 31. He was given a surprise party featuring a meal of fried shrimp and crawfish etouffe. Prior to the meal, there was a funeral procession, complete with mourners and a coffin to bury English's last days as 39.

Co-workers in the new T&D building who hosted the party also presented English with gifts — a black balloon bouquet, a door wreath and a walking cane. English's wife, Debbie, gave him a big chocolate chip cookie.



John English

GSU family reports birth

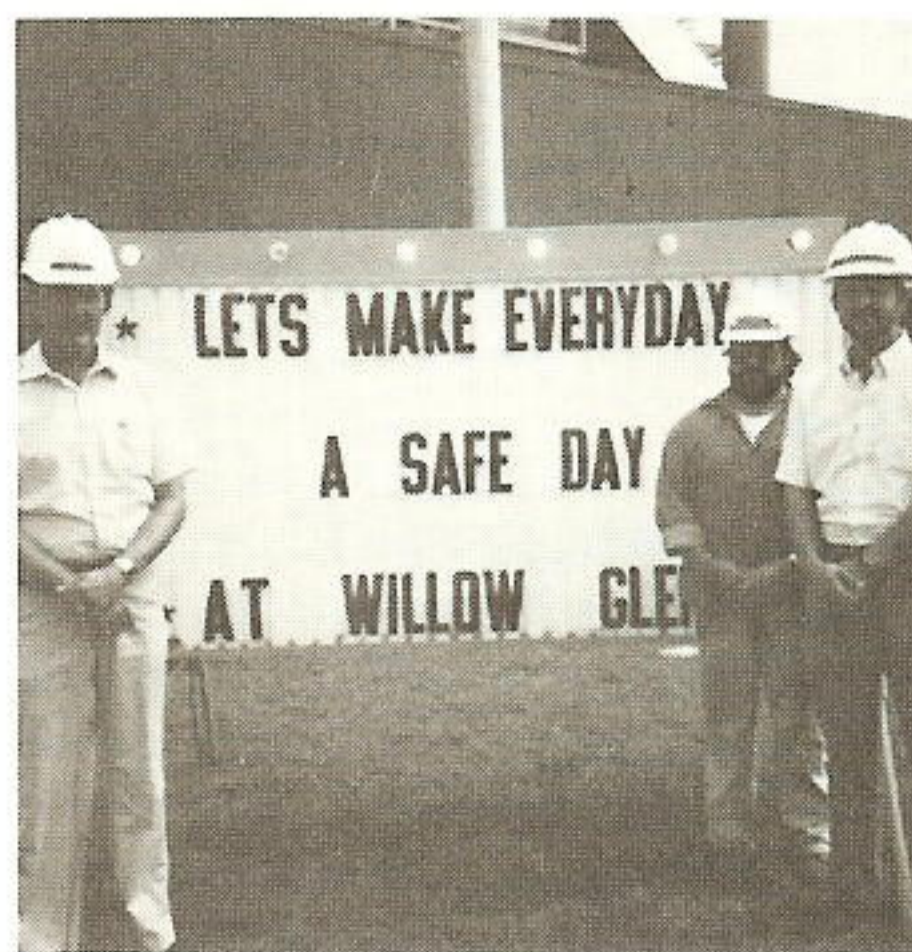
Two generations of GSUers are bragging about the birth of Alexis Nicole Saunders last Aug. 24.

The infant is the daughter of Raymond and Julie Saunders of Vidor and the granddaughter of Charles I. Saunders. Her dad is a truckdriver in the Orange line department, while her grandfather is supervisor-System Meter Group in Edison Plaza.

The little girl weighed 7 pounds, 5 ounces and measured 19 inches at birth.



Alexis Nicole Saunders



Showing off the September safety slogan are (from left) Sam Raney, safety and health representative-production, Chuck Schaffield and Sam Richardson.

Plant holds slogan contest

Willow Glen Station hosts a monthly safety slogan contest, reports *Plain Talks* correspondent Greg Russell.

Winners receive a free meal at a local restaurant. Employees submitting winning slogans last August and September were Charles "Chuck" Schaffield and Sam Richardson. Schaffield, a repairman-1st class and the August winner, submitted, "Safety and you are No. 1 at GSU." Richardson, an electrician-1st class, won in September with the phrase, "Let's make everyday a safe day at Willow Glen."



Family reunites for holidays

Lafayette employees helped reunite an area family for the holidays, reports *Plain Talks* correspondent Helen Kennedy.

Harold Beagh, GSU's municipal affairs administrator in Lafayette, has a grandson who suffers from a rare blood disease. Little Jacque Richard, son of Mr. and Mrs. Reynold Richard, has been hospitalized in New Orleans for five months.

Lafayette employees raised money so the Richards' other two children and the grandparents could join the rest of the family in New Orleans for Christmas. They rented a 15-passenger van and outfitted it with gifts for the children, fruit baskets and other goodies and beverages. Although the employees reserved three rooms at a New Orleans Howard Johnson's motel, the hotel management provided the rooms free of charge after hearing the family's story. The motel also provided Christmas dinner. According to Kennedy, the family visited a New Orleans zoo the day after Christmas.

Extra money raised by the employees was donated to the "Jacque Richard Fund" to help offset about \$100,000 in accumulated medical bills.



Kasey Lyn joins family

Kasey Lyn Barnes joined the John and Debbie Barnes family in Baton Rouge last Aug. 3.

The infant weighed 7 pounds, 4½ ounces and measured 21 inches. According to the proud father, a repairman-1st class at Willow Glen Station, little Kasey has one brother, 5-year-old John Jr.

A

Adams, Dwight D., River Bend Station, to nuclear control operator, Plant Production.

Albert, Joseph E., River Bend Station, to master repairman-nuclear, Plant Production.

Alcorn, Bruce A., River Bend Station, to nuclear control operator, Plant Production.

Alford, Nobie T., formerly of Daisetta, to supervisor-customer accounts, Division Accounting, Beaumont.

Alt, William P., Beaumont, to area planning engineer, Engineering Services.

Amerine, Katharine S., Beaumont, to director-computer operations, Computer Applications.

Anderson, Wade A., Nelson Station, to electrician-1st class, Plant Production.

B

Bagley, Charles J., Lake Charles, to substation mechanic-2nd class, Electric T&D.

Bailey, Mark A., Baton Rouge, to substation mechanic-3rd class, Electric T&D.

Barber, George, Baton Rouge, to meterman-1st class, Gas Department.

Beattie, Robert E., Beaumont, to staff accountant I, Rates and Regulatory Affairs.

Bellue, Prentiss L. Jr., River Bend Station, to storekeeper, Plant Production.

Benge, Larry D., formerly of Sabine Station, to training coordinator, System Production, Nelson Station.

Benson, Michael A., Beaumont, to standards engineer, Engineering.

Bolyard, Penny M., Port Arthur, to senior clerk, Division Accounting.

Boyer, Howard A., Lafayette, to senior engineering assistant, Electric T&D.

Bruington, John R., Conroe, to materials coordinator, Engineering Services.

C

Caddy, James D., Baton Rouge, to relayman-2nd class, Electric T&D.

Clark, Julius M. III, River Bend Station, to control operating foreman, River Bend Nuclear Group.

Clopton, Patrick M., Sabine Station, to test technician-1st class, Plant Production.

Coffaro, Mary J., Beaumont, to electrical engineer, River Bend Nuclear Group.

Cole, Ronald E., formerly of Baton Rouge, to design engineer, Engineering, Beaumont.

Curtis, David W., Dayton, to serviceman-2nd class, Electric T&D.

D

Daniels, Ricky E., Port Arthur, to lineman-3rd class, Electric T&D.

Darensbourg, Jeffrey G., Willow Glen Station, to repairman-3rd class, Plant Production.

Davey, Raymond T., Beaumont, to lead production engineer, System Production.

Dawsey, Dennis P., Beaumont, to relay engineer, Engineering.

Dobbs, Joseph W., New Caney, to storekeeper, Electric T&D.

Doyle, Michael D., Beaumont, to industrial engineer, Division Marketing & Consumer Services.

Driscoll, Steven L., River Bend Station, to radiological engineering supervisor, River Bend Nuclear Group.

Drude, Charles D., formerly of Louisiana Station, to mechanic helper, Plant Production, Willow Glen Station.

Duffel, Albert J., Beaumont, to staff accountant II, Accounting Services.

Dugas, Violet M., Beaumont, to senior engineering assistant, Engineering.

Dunn, Dennis C., Winnie, to lineman-4th class, Electric T&D.

E

Evans, Malcolm, formerly of Huntsville, to senior engineering assistant, Electric T&D Engineering, Conroe.

F

Falls, Robert G., River Bend Station, to nuclear control operator, Plant Production.

Font, Kenneth R., Baton Rouge, to apprentice, Gas Department.

Foster, Jack M., Baton Rouge, to relayman-1st class, Electric T&D.

Frayer, Richard W., River Bend Station, to supervisor-construction methods & expediting, River Bend Nuclear Group.

Fruge, Clifton J., Lake Charles, to garage mechanic-2nd class, Electric T&D.

G

Gahn, Alfred H., formerly of Willow Glen Station, to controls engineer, System Production, Beaumont.

Galloway, James Jr., River Bend Station, to instrument control technician-1st class, Plant Production.

Gentry, Danny H., Nelson Coal Station, to test technician-1st class, Plant Production.

Gibbins, Carl D. Jr., Beaumont, to substation mechanic-2nd class, Electric T&D.

Gonzales, Ricky, Orange, to lineman-2nd class, Electric T&D.

Granata, Anthony S., Nelson Station, to project maintenance supervisor, Plant Production.

Greene, Craig H., River Bend Station, to senior start up engineer, River Bend Nuclear Group.

Griffiths, Thomas E., formerly of Willow Glen Station, to power plant planning engineer, Engineering Services, Beaumont.

Guilbeau, David W., Port Arthur, to substation mechanic-4th class, Electric T&D.

H

Hamilton, Susan K., Lake Charles, to senior engineering assistant, Electric T&D.

Hammons, Joe G., Conroe, to garage mechanic-3rd class, Electric T&D.

Hancock, Molly W., Beaumont, to stenographer, Rates and Regulatory Affairs.

Hara, Kevin G., formerly of Neches Station, to power plant planning engineer, Engineering Services, Beaumont.

Hardy, Thomas J., Beaumont, to supervisor-power plant standards, Engineering.

Harrell, Peggy M., Conroe, to storeroom assistant, Electric T&D.

Harrington, Michael A., River Bend Station, to senior environmental analyst, River Bend Nuclear Group.

Hebert, Martin C., Baton Rouge, to utility foreman, T&D Line.

Hickman, James R., Beaumont, to supervisor-distribution standards and applications, Engineering.

Hitefield, Thomas L., Lake Charles, to garage mechanic-2nd class, Electric T&D.

Hodge, Tracy L., Beaumont, to stenographer-senior, Engineering Services.

Hopkins, Joe A., Beaumont, to director-technical systems, Computer Applications.

Hutchins, Edward, formerly of Mid-County, to superintendent-Orange District, Division Operations, Orange.

I

Imlay, David M., River Bend Station, to nuclear control operator, Plant Production.

Ivy, Ted S., formerly of Willow Glen Station, to production engineer, Plant Production, Sabine Station.

J

James, Clinton D., Sabine Station, to electrician-1st class, Plant Production.

Jennings, Mark O., Orange, to lineman-2nd class, Electric T&D.

Jiongo, Michael J., Beaumont, to staff accountant I, Accounting Services.

Johnson, Ardes E., River Bend Station, to nuclear control operator, Plant Production.

Johnson, Charles L., Conroe, to relayman-2nd class, Electric T&D.

Johnson, Theodore B., Beaumont, to supervisor-project systems, Computer Applications.

Jones, Myra N., River Bend Station, to nuclear control operator, Plant Production.

Jordan, Norma H., Conroe, to customer contact clerk, Division Accounting.

K

Kelly, Michael D., River Bend Station, to nuclear control operator, Plant Production.

Ketterer, Michael A., Beaumont, to staff engineer, Executive Management.

Khan, Abdul J., formerly of Port Arthur, to design engineer, Engineering, Beaumont.

Khosravian, Khodaram R., Beaumont, to engineer, System Marketing & Consumer Services.

King, Mark B., Beaumont, to power plant planning engineer, Engineering Services.

King, Randall D., Sabine Station, to staff accountant II, Plant Production.

Knowles, Lewis D., Beaumont, to chief area planning engineer, Engineering Services.

Kolbus, Michael W., Nelson Coal Station, to general operation supervisor, Plant Production.

Kunkel, Chris A., Beaumont, to substation mechanic-2nd class, Electric T&D.

L

Landry, Roy J., formerly of Baton Rouge, to consumer affairs specialist, System Marketing & Consumer Services, Beaumont.

Lantz, Bobby L., River Bend Station, to nuclear control operator, Plant Production.

Lawson, Donald B., Huntsville, to storekeeper, Electric T&D.

Leavins, Kenneth D., Beaumont, to relay engineer, Engineering.

LeBlanc, Tommy C., Sabine Station, to meterman-1st class, Plant Production.

M

McClain, Mark F., Sabine Station, to mechanic helper, Plant Production.

McGee, Jimmy L., River Bend Station, to nuclear control operator, Plant Production.

Melancon, Rocky L., Baton Rouge, to apprentice, Gas Department.

Morrison, Debra B., Orange, to supervisor-Marketing & Consumer Services, Division Marketing & Consumer Services.

Morykin, John, River Bend Station, to nuclear control operator, Plant Production.

Murray, David T., Beaumont, to mechanical engineer, Engineering.

N

Nelson, Daniel M., Baton Rouge, to helper, Gas Department.

O

Oaks, Lewis M. III, Dayton, to lineman-3rd class, Electric T&D.

Owens, Keith A., Nelson Coal Station, to repairman-1st class, Plant Production.

P

Parrish, Deanna P., Neches Station, to turbine operator, Plant Production.

Penick, Sherrie M., Beaumont, to staff accountant II, Accounting Services.

Powell, Gary D., Conroe, to lineman-2nd class, Electric T&D.

Powell, Raymon D., Beaumont, to supervisor-relay design & coordination, Engineering.

Prince, Mark A., Sabine Station, to test technician-3rd class, Plant Production.

R

Raleigh, James L., Beaumont, to staff engineer, System Operations.

Ray, Thomas J., Beaumont, to lineman-3rd class, Electric T&D.

Robinson, Robert M., Willow Glen Station, to unit supervisor, Plant Production.

Rogers, Wayne J., Willow Glen Station, to repairman-2nd class, Plant Production.

Rotolo, Mark E., Willow Glen Station, to production engineer, Plant Production.

S

Sandberg, Kenneth R., Beaumont, to chief power plant planning engineer, Engineering Services.

Sanderson, Robbie J., Beaumont, to customer contact clerk, Division Accounting.

Sandifer, Daniel K., Willow Glen Station, to mechanic helper, Plant Production.

Schauerman, Gary L., Beaumont, to power plant standards engineer, Engineering.

Schell, Laurentius, Beaumont, to senior electrical engineer, River Bend Nuclear Group.

Sells, John D. Jr., Beaumont, to utility worker II, Office Services.

Settle, Celia M., Beaumont, to customer contact clerk, Division Accounting.

Simmons, Mark C., formerly of Beaumont, to helper, Electric T&D, Orange.

Simmons, Russell B., Beaumont, to engineer, Engineering Services.

Smith, Derrick D., Nelson Coal Station, to general maintenance supervisor, Plant Production.

Smith, Edward J., Beaumont, to supervisor-computer center, Computer Applications.

Smith, Leon, Baton Rouge, to garage mechanic-1st class, Electric T&D.

Smith, Thad R., Baton Rouge, to assistant general substation supervisor, T&D Substation.

Spivey, John W., formerly of Beaumont, to division engineer, T&D Engineering, Baton Rouge.

Sport, Harry C., Port Arthur, to utility foreman, T&D Line.

Starkey, Robert D., River Bend Station, to nuclear control operator, Plant Production.

Steele, Kenneth E., River Bend Station, to radiation protection specialist, River Bend Nuclear Group.

Stewart, Alexander T., Beaumont, to distribution planning engineer, Engineering Services.

Stotz, Bradley J., formerly of Nelson Coal Station, to production engineer, Plant Production, Nelson Station.

Suddath, Paul R., Beaumont, to director-maintenance support, System Production.

Summers, Craig J., formerly of Orange, to staff accountant I, Accounting Services, Beaumont.

Swanson, Thomas R., River Bend Station, to nuclear control operator, Plant Production.

Swinea, Charles L., Conroe, to garage mechanic-2nd class, Electric T&D.

T

Tharpe, Dallas W., formerly of Beaumont, to production engineer, Plant Production, Nelson Coal Station.

Thomas, Brian E., Sabine Station, to repairman-2nd class, Plant Production.

Todd, Kyle E., formerly of Baton Rouge, to chief distribution planning engineer, Engineering Services, Beaumont.

Trahan, Howard J., Beaumont, to staff accountant II, T&D Operations.

Troxclair, Douglas G., Baton Rouge, to industrial engineer, Division Marketing & Consumer Services.

Trump, Edward C., Beaumont, to electrical engineer, Engineering.

U

Utle, Durlan G., formerly of Beaumont, to production engineer, Plant Production, Neches Station.

V

Vance, Robert D., Sabine Station, to repairman-1st class, Plant Production.

Virva, Frank W., formerly of Sabine Station, to turbine maintenance engineer, System Production, Beaumont.

Votaw, Richard W., Dayton, to apprentice, Electric T&D.

W

Waldrep, Darrel E., Woodville, to lineman-4th class, Electric T&D.

Walker, James E., Conroe, to storekeeper, Electric T&D.

Walton, Carrol W., Silsbee, to district accounting supervisor, Division Accounting.

Walton Russell Jr., River Bend Station, to nuclear control operator, Plant Production.

Waters, Cynthia M., formerly of Beaumont, to staff accountant II, Plant Production, Nelson Coal Station.

Weir, Donald L., Baton Rouge, to substation mechanic-4th class, Electric T&D.

West, Russell G., River Bend Station, to PGCC supervisor, River Bend Nuclear Group.

Williamson, Danny H., River Bend Station, to nuclear control operator, Plant Production.

Wisser, Charles E., Beaumont, to area planning engineer, Engineering Services.

Woods, Leonard W. Jr., River Bend Station, to nuclear control operator, Plant Production.

Woods, Morris J., Lake Charles, to lineman-3rd class, Electric T&D.

Z

Zierold, Donald M., formerly of Nelson Coal Station, to production engineer, System Production, Beaumont.



Graduation picture deadline nears

High school and college graduates whose parents or grandparents are GSU employees or retirees will be featured in a special picture section of a summer issue of *Plain Talks*.

The section will also include photographs of GSUers who complete a college degree.

Pictures — preferably head-to-shoulder shots — should be submitted no later than Friday, May 31, says Betty Gavora, supervisor-employee communications. Color photographs may be submitted if no others are available.

Each picture should be labeled with the graduate's name, school and relationship to a GSU employee. Pictures will be returned after publication upon the request of the sender.

Pictures of graduates should be sent to *Plain Talks*, Edison Plaza-9th floor, Beaumont.

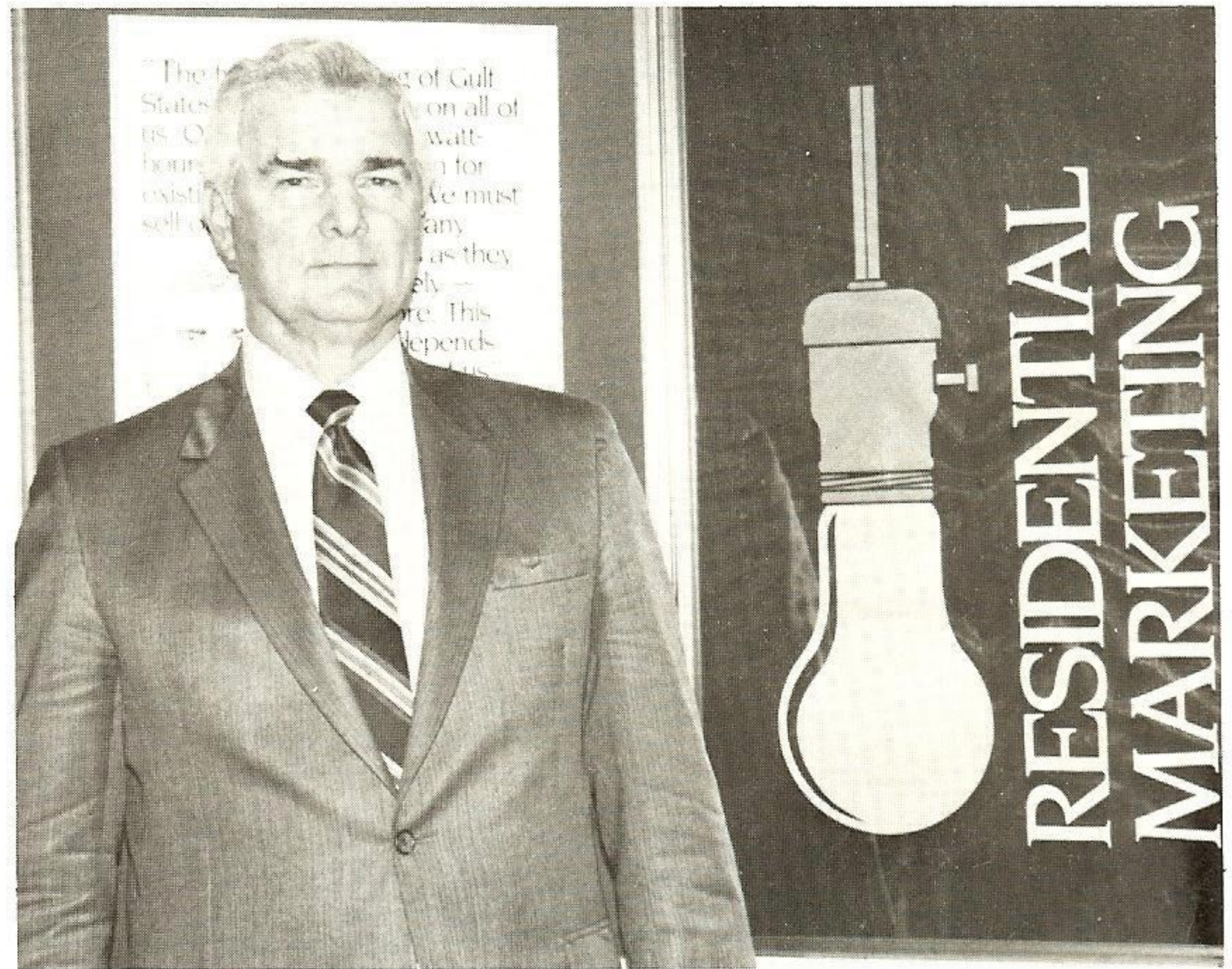
PLAIN TALKS

P. O. Box 2951
Beaumont, Texas 77704

Address Correction Requ

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Beaumont, Texas
Permit No. 11

New times, new strategies



*Our fuel mix has changed.
River Bend has changed.
Our service area has changed.
And our marketing program has changed.*

In 1985 our fuel mix is 55 percent gas, compared with 85 percent gas four years ago. River Bend is over 95 percent complete, with the emphasis shifting from construction to startup. And the economic situation continues to take its toll on much of our service area. Companies are looking at ways to generate their own electricity and save energy dollars.

In the midst of these changes, we must shift to a marketing program which emphasizes the sale

of kilowatthours of electricity. We can't sit around and wait. The time for action is now.

This was the message stressed by visiting speakers like David Pearce Snyder, editor of *The Futurist* magazine (left), and company speakers like Ed Loggins, executive vice president-operations (right), at the 1985 Management Conference.

From the conference it was clear that three of our top goals for 1985 must be:

- Finish River Bend on schedule.
- Get River Bend into our rates.
- Sell kilowatthours.