

# THE HEADLINER

Lucent Technologies  
Bell Labs Innovations



Connectivity Solutions, Omaha Works

June - August 1998

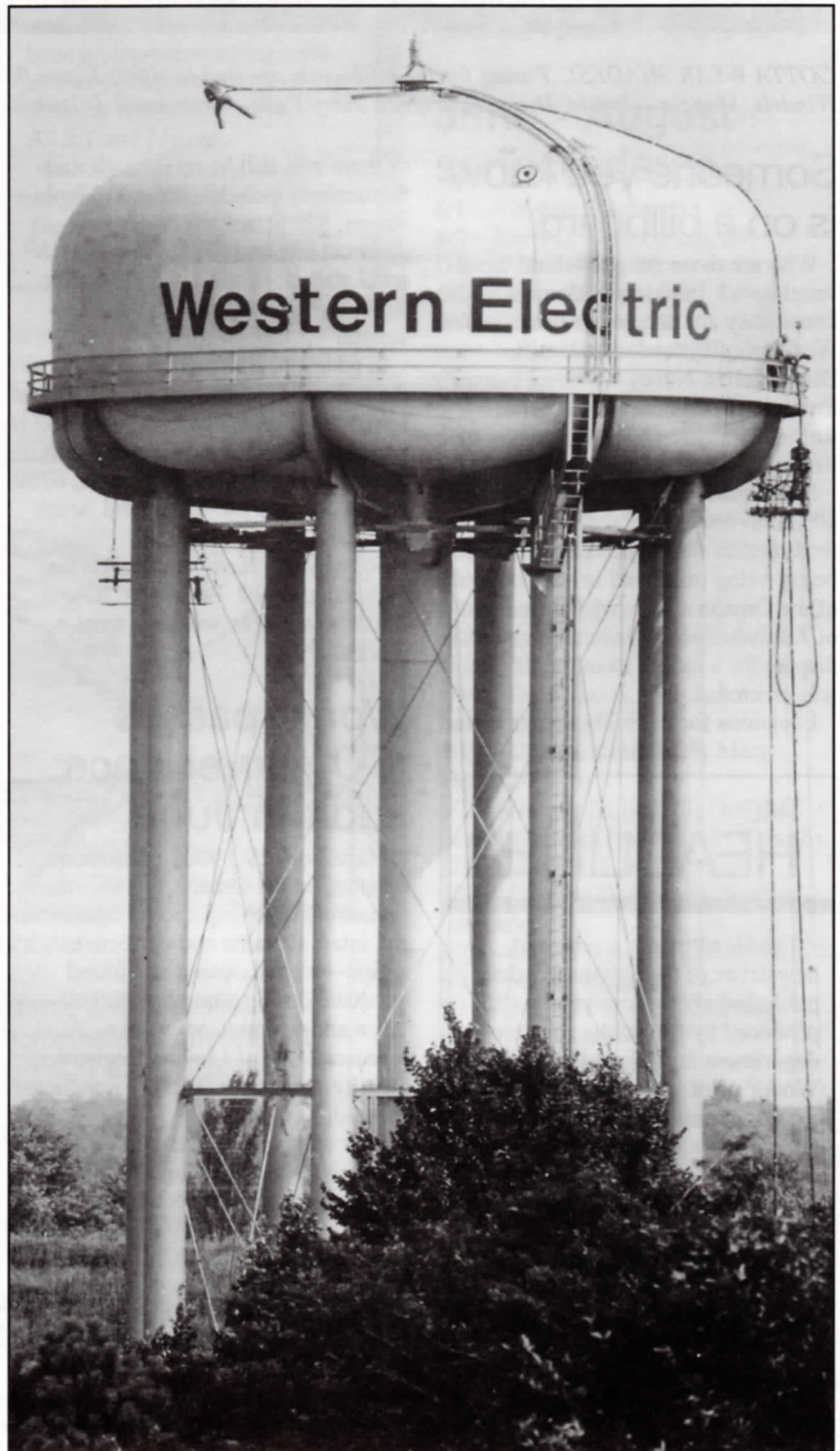
*40th Anniversary  
Special Edition*

The last time anyone at the Omaha Works saw our water tower boldly displaying "Western Electric" lettering was back in August 1984, just before workers sandblasted off the letters. The name was removed as the result of Divestiture: AT&T spun off its Bell Telephone companies and Western Electric employees took the name of their parent company, AT&T. Western Electric was no longer the name of a company—it was a brand of product.

It was a big change back then, but no one could know it would lead to an even bigger "breakup" in October 1996. That's when AT&T officially spun off the manufacturing portion of its business—the former Western Electric—and we took on yet another name: Lucent Technologies.

Ironically, if there is one thing that hasn't changed in the 40-year history of the Omaha Works, it is our capacity *to* change and build for the future. Change is as big a part of who we are within Lucent as is making cable and associated network products all these years.

For a glimpse of our ever-changing past and a feature on "family ties" at the Omaha Works, turn to the special 40th Anniversary supplement inside. ■



## NEWS IN BRIEF



Photos by Steve Miller

**GOTTA WEAR SHADES!...**Posing for the billboards are (left to right) James Banks, Rollie Miller, Diane Keller, Lu Windels, Maggie Johnson, Henry Rodriguez, Jerry Faller, Emmanuel Ankrah and Nancy Kinney.

### Someone you know is on a billboard

Who are those people behind those sunglasses? In case you don't already know, they are none other than Omaha Works employees James Banks, Diane Keller, Nancy Kinney, Emmanuel Ankrah, Lu Windels, Rollie Miller, Jerry Faller, Henry Rodriguez and Maggie Johnson.

In celebration of the Omaha Works' 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary, their bespectacled faces are on six large billboards that began being displayed in various areas of the Omaha area since the first part of August. Each billboard remains on display for a month from the day it was erected.

Locations for the billboards (several

of them will still be up through mid-September) include: 90<sup>th</sup> and Maple streets; 57<sup>th</sup> Street and Military Avenue; 80<sup>th</sup> and Dodge streets; 118<sup>th</sup> and I streets; Harvell and Ft. Crook Road in Bellevue; and 78<sup>th</sup> and L streets.

In addition, six smaller versions of the billboards also were placed around town: 87<sup>th</sup> and F streets; 1505 S. Saddlecreek; 42<sup>nd</sup> and Leavenworth Streets; 24<sup>th</sup> and Douglas streets; 6700 N. 90<sup>th</sup> St.; and 60<sup>th</sup> Street and Ames Avenue.

So, why are these people wearing dark sunglasses? Because... "Our future's so bright, we gotta wear shades!"

### Works passes ISO surveillance audit in June

Mandatory ISO 9001 registration elements at the Omaha Works—those pertaining to management responsibility, internal audits and corrective action—were assessed and found adequate during a one-day surveillance audit conducted in June. A representative of Lloyd's Register Quality Assurance (LRQA) conducted the audit.

Four outstanding non-conformance notes (NCNs) involving cabinet fabrication and the product and export center (PEC) were closed in this audit. However, two more NCNs were given, involving the piece parts and plating shop and the central office connectors shop. Both NCNs were classified as "on-going" improvements.

The next LRQA audit will be an ISO 9001 triennial assessment to be held Dec. 7 through 11. Such an audit is conducted every three years after ISO registration is granted initially. The December assessment will be the second such audit conducted at the Works since ISO registration was granted in 1992. In addition to an audit of Omaha Works shops, the triennial assessment will include an audit of associated facilities and job responsibilities in Atlanta and Indianapolis.

### SYSTIMAX® gets press coverage

This summer our SYSTIMAX® products have been making a splash in a number of trade publication articles.

Articles appeared in June in *Fiber Optic Product News* and *Today's Facility Manager*, and in July in *American School & University*.

Other publications with articles about SYSTIMAX include *Business Facilities*, *Consulting Specifying Engineer* and *Facilities Engineering Journal*.

### Environmental initiatives rate 1<sup>st</sup>

The Omaha Works has been awarded first place in the 1998 Keep Nebraska Beautiful environmental initiatives category for local business and industry.

The award is given to businesses that have demonstrated substantial

Continued on next page)

### THE HEADLINER

The Headliner is an internal newsletter of the Omaha Works, published eight times yearly. It is produced by the public relations department and printed by the Works' print shop.

Your comments and suggestions are welcome. Direct them to:

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## NEWS IN BRIEF

(Continued from previous page) efforts to enhance the environment by reducing, reusing and recycling its resources as well as beautification within the business, industry and the community.

Judges for the competition lauded the Omaha Works' commitment to continual environmental improvement by adhering to ISO 14001 objectives, as well as the Works' recent efforts to increase the reuse of molding and cable scrap plastic and to increase the rate of recycling cardboard and paper.

Bob Dennelly of the environmental health and safety organization accepted the award in behalf of the Omaha Works at the annual meeting of Keep Nebraska Beautiful, which was held in Kearney, Nebr., in June.

### Summertime retirements

Congratulations are in order for those Omaha Works employees who recently retired. Their names are listed below, with the month in which

they retired and their years of service given after their names:

**May**—Dorothy Aguilera, 39 years; Geraldine Agee, 30.

**June**—James Ellis, 36; Ginette Carpenter, 30; Michael Miller, 39; Peter Snawerdt Jr., 39; Donald Kramer, 38; Ann Nicholson, 32; Geraldine Rewolinski, 39; Janet Sharples, 15.

**July**—Charles Sipe, 39; Rita Gourlay, 18; Tom Gourlay, 29; Gary Dyke, 30.

### Trip to Paradise winners named

Putting in overtime hours really paid off for nine Works employees. They are the winners of all-expenses-paid vacation trips to Hawaii and the Caribbean. The trips were awarded as part of a "Trip to Paradise" promo-



Gary Dyke

tional campaign in which employees qualified for weekly prize drawings by working overtime hours when asked.

The winners are as follows:

**Trip to Hawaii**—Tom Risinger, Linda Lloyd, Gary Bird, Lois Vachal, LaVonne Waters, Charles Whitlock, Ronald E. Nelson and Glenn Sievers.

**Caribbean cruise**—Herbert Woicke.

### Toll reimbursement will end soon

Active U.S.-based management and occupational employees of Lucent Technologies will continue to be reimbursed for eligible telephone calls and charges through Sept. 30, 1998. Effective Oct. 1, 1998, the program will be discontinued.

Employees must submit their final eligible calls and charges by Dec. 15, 1998, to be reimbursed for those calls.

However, for those who retired on or after Jan. 1, 1984, the toll reimbursement program will be extended

(Continued on Page 6)

## Five staff promotions announced

Recent organizational changes at the Omaha Works have included the promotions of five members of the Works team. The promotions are as follows:

**Steve Condra** has been promoted to manager, PLM, electronic cabinets, and will be based at the Atlanta Works. Formerly, he was engineering manager for electronic cabinets, new product introductions, at the Omaha Works.

**Steve Schafer** is now demand

planning and SIPP process manager, a new position at the Omaha Works. His responsibilities include supporting the SIPP planning process for the Omaha Global Provisioning Center (GPC). Schafer formerly was a systems administrator in customer service.

**Nancy Kemp** was promoted to 700 series and wire mill operations manager for electronic wire and cable (EW&C) in June. Formerly a supervisor with the Works' human

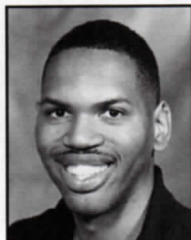
resources organization, Kemp recently was appointed human relations business partner manager for Connectivity Solutions.

**Andre Gilmore**, formerly a member of the SAP team, has been promoted to manufacturing excellence manager in EW&C.

**Brent Timko** has been promoted from supervisor on EW&C's manufacturing excellence team to jacketing, packaging and testing operations manager in EW&C.



Steve Condra



Andre Gilmore



Nancy Kemp



Steve Schafer



Brent Timko

Photos by Steve Miller



# Lucent funds local SOS program

Without seeing her face, you could tell that the caller was one pleased and happy parent. She had phoned to talk about a new program that was being offered to Lucent's Omaha Works employees and their children this summer.

Called 4-H Summer of Service—or SOS—the program provides young people in grades six through nine the opportunity to learn and have fun while participating in guided community service projects. This summer the program began June 8 and ended July 31, consisting of four two-week sessions.

Administered by the Nebraska Cooperative Extension Service in Douglas County, funding came through the American Business Collaboration for Quality Dependent Care (ABC), a coalition of 22 corporations. Lucent Technologies being a coalition member, the Lucent Family Care Development Fund allocated \$82,000 to the Extension Service program, half to be used this summer, half next summer.

(The Family Care Development Fund is part of a contract agreement between the company and the IBEW and CWA unions, who administer the program jointly. Its purpose is to provide financial support via grants to improve the quality and overall supply of community-based child and elder care services that Lucent employees may use.)

## Fills a gap

Children targeted for the program may be too old for summer camp and too young for full-time jobs, said Cindy Hendricks, project coordinator for the 4-H Summer of Service. SOS helps meet the needs of working parents by providing safe and supervised activities for these youths, including environmental service, helping others and beautifying Omaha.

This past summer, participants helped clean and maintain the Open Door Mission, spruced up Laurel Hill

Cemetery and participated in various child day care and senior citizen center activities, among other things. They even painted over graffiti.

"We counted 87 children in the program this summer and they contributed about 784 hours of community service," Hendricks said.

A participant pays \$60 per session, but receives a \$10 stipend at the end of each if it is successfully completed. Transportation to and from the Extension Service office and to project sites is provided. Also, Friday of each week is reserved for leisure-time activities for participants (all expenses included in fees)—such as trips to recreational parks, museums and ball games.

## New experiences

The program affords many opportunities for participants to make new friends and learn about leadership roles, Hendricks noted. In addition, it allows them to "make a positive contribution to their community and learn to accept and value human diversity."

Which brings us back to the parent

who called in her praises of the program: Lynn Nelson who works in the DSX area and whose 12-year-old son, A.J., participated this first year of the local SOS.

"I think the program is wonderful," she said. "A.J. had a good time and he got to go places and do things that he would not have been able to experience otherwise. He says he wants to do this again every year as long as he's eligible." ■

## SOS participants

The following children of OmahaWorks employees participated in the Summer of Service program:

Keith McDonald, son of Ken McDonald; Greg Washington, son of Eddie and Connie Jones; Evelyn and Victor Akpan, children of David Akpan; Kristin Becker, daughter of Jerry Becker; Holly Boardman, daughter of Connie Boardman; Melanie Sharpnack, daughter of John Sharpnack; Corey Winters, son of Mickey Holtzclaw; A.J. Nelson, son of Lynn Nelson.



Douglas County Extension Photo  
A LITTLE HORSEPLAY...Melanie Sharpnack (left) and A.J. Nelson played with youngsters at Prairie Lane Day Care Center as part of their Summer of Service responsibilities. Their parents are John Sharpnack and Lynn Nelson, respectively.



# In the beginning we were **WE**



**W**E people. Western Electric people. In the beginning, that was our name, and it served us well. The celebration of the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Omaha Works wouldn't be complete without a nostalgic look back on its successful history, beginning with its Western Electric days. If you have worked here since the early years, you should know the history of the Works by heart. But if you're a newcomer (and even if you're not), it's a story that's worth repeating.



The Evening World-Herald reported March 1, 1956, that Western Electric would build a \$50 million "giant manufacturing plant southwest of the city" to manufacture "dial equipment and telephone cable." It would employ as many as 4,000 people—10 times the 1950 population of nearby Millard.

Company officials gave an overview of plans at a groundbreaking ceremony June 28, 1956, at the site of what was to be the Omaha Works: One modern factory building for cable products, another for crossbar equipment, and an administration building.

Meanwhile, pilot manufacturing operations began in April 1956 with just 13 people at two Downtown Omaha buildings—the "A" and "B" Buildings—which the

company had purchased. While the buildings were renovated for factory work, employees began learning the jobs and skills that would be the foundation of the new Omaha Works.

By July 1958, about 1,200 people worked at the Downtown locations. Some of them transferred from other Western Electric manufacturing locations, including plants formerly in Lincoln, Neb., and Duluth, Minn.

By mid-summer, construction was nearly complete at the new plant. Although it wouldn't officially be completed until Nov. 15, 1958, employees were being transferred to the facility from the Downtown buildings as early as January. Some of the earliest recollections of those days still bring smiles.

(Continued on next page)



File photo

**GROUNDBREAKING DAY...** Ground was broken on June 28, 1956, for what would become Western Electric's Omaha Works.



# In the beginning we were **WE**

One is how the first two 35-grade inspectors assigned to the plant almost brought construction to a standstill. LeRoy Stamp and Bob Oslin were transferred from the "A" Building to work in the cable shop in January of 1958, where the only manufacturing equipment was a single exchange cable insulating line.

Ropes separated that area—officially Western Electric property—from the rest of the shop, where contractors still worked.

While waiting for the insulating line to be proven in, Stamp and Oslin picked up a couple of brooms and began sweeping up debris. They hadn't noticed that they had wandered off company property until a department chief hurriedly approached them exclaiming, "Put down those brooms!" Apparently, their digression had caused the contractors to stop work and walk out.

Another reminiscence indicates how intimidating working at the new plant could be. The western boundary of the city of Omaha back then was 72<sup>nd</sup> Street. Anything beyond was in the "outer limits." Some of the roads—including L Street—weren't even paved.

So, in anticipation of working at the new plant, some employees used to make "practice runs," sometimes getting stuck in mud when they dared to take an alternate route.



File photo

*PRECISION ADJUSTMENT...This photo was taken in the "relay adjust" area of Building 30 in the late 1950s or early 1960s.*



File photo

*INDUSTRY AND AGRICULTURE SHARE THE LAND...When the Omaha Works (visible in background) began manufacturing operations in 1958, alfalfa was still being grown on its front grounds. Boys Town workers continued to harvest and bale the crop for a few more years. The modern plant posed a sharp contrast against its rural environment. Its nearest neighbors consisted of just a few farm houses and the small community of Millard to its southwest.*



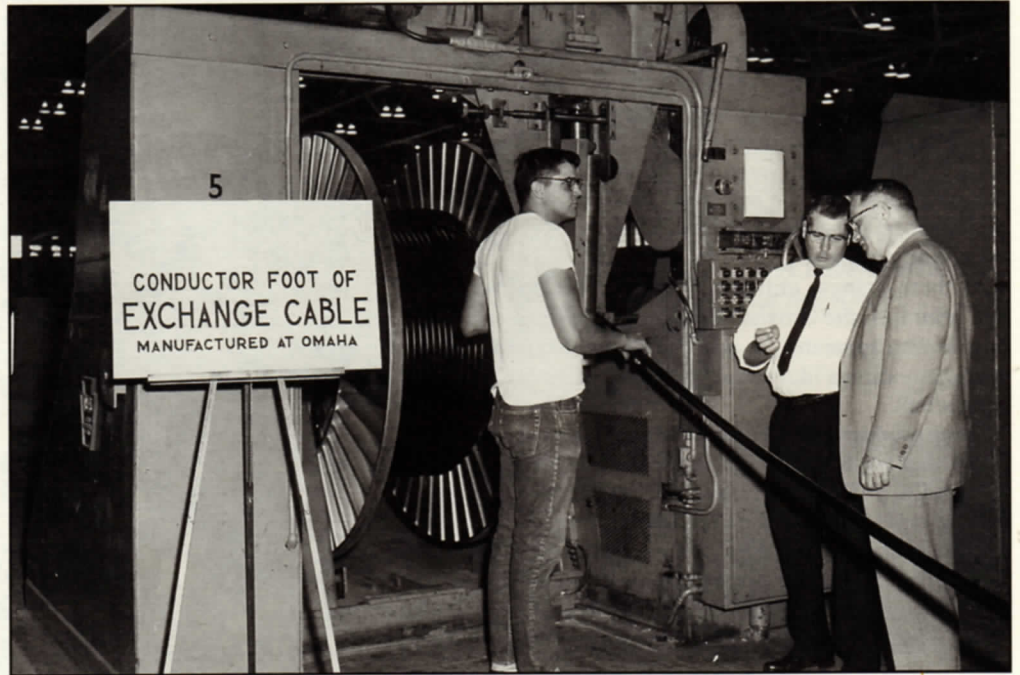
Still another recalls how the pilot of a small plane couldn't resist the vast expanse of the plant's property. Then, again, he had no choice. That summer of '58, he ran out of gas and made an emergency landing on what is now our front lawn. Departure, however, was much tougher: For safety reasons, the craft was dismantled and removed.

Once full operations began, the Omaha Works quickly established a reputation for being a top-quality provider of

exchange cable, crossbar and PBX equipment for the Bell System. In fact, by the late 1960s it had become the No. 1 producer of crossbar equipment in the nation. Employment peaked at 7,700 early in 1971.

But changes were in the wind by the mid-1970s. Western Electric, the manufacturing arm of parent AT&T, began to centralize operations. The Works' PBX opera-  
(Continued on next page)

**MEASURED BY  
CONDUCTOR FOOT...**  
*Judging by the narrow  
tie, this photo of  
exchange cable  
operations in Building  
50 was taken probably in  
the early to mid-1960s.*



File photo



File photo

**CHARTER MEMBERS...**  
*Among the first to work  
at the new Omaha plant  
were these employees:  
(from left) Gene Saab,  
Lela Brown, Rolland  
Cooper, Delores  
Martin, Patricia  
Klippert and Paul  
Elvers. They are  
pictured in front of a  
crossbar frame.*



# In the beginning we were **WE**

tions were moved to the Denver Works; crossbar equipment went to the Columbus (Ohio) Works. In the early 1980s, exchange cable operations went to the Phoenix and Atlanta Works locations.

The telecommunications industry itself was in a state of flux. The company felt the brunt of this change with the Consent Decree of 1984 (Divestiture), when the Bell operating telephone companies were spun off from AT&T. The Western Electric portion of the business stayed with AT&T, but the doors were now wide open to fierce competition within the industry. Western Electric would no longer be the sole provider of equipment to the Bell telephone companies.

As these changes unfolded and to replace operations that had been lost, the Omaha Works began making network distribution apparatus, in addition to its remaining cable products—things like closures and phone cords and connectors.

Some products, as well as personnel, came from other plants that were closed. From the Buffalo (N.Y.) Works that closed in 1977 came the cable shop's central tin plating operations. In the early 1980s, more personnel and operations came from the Baltimore Works, the Hawthorne Works (in Cicero, Ill.) and the Kearny (N.J.) Works, including metal fabricated product lines.

In conjunction with the rapid-fire advancements in communications technology in the late 1980s and the early 1990s, the Omaha Works began making electronic wire and cable for data and audio transmissions as well as for telecommunications. Our cabinet line was expanded to accommodate wireless applications and the "Information Superhighway."

The Omaha Works again absorbed personnel from other locations in the aftermath of more consolidations, closings and downsizing—among them the Kansas City Works, the Phoenix Works and the Denver Works.

And then, perhaps the biggest change of all. The manufacturing branch of AT&T, formerly known as Western Electric and including the Omaha Works, was spun off in 1996.

Lucent Technologies—and a bright, new future for the Omaha Works—was born. ■



File photo

*WHERE'S EVERYBODY GOING?...It's not a fire drill or a tornado drill, but quittin' time! This photograph was taken in Building 30 in April 1959.*





Gary Kahler



Dennis Weaver



Mary Ann Bennett



Penney Marshall



Steve Miller



Billy Crystal

Photos from The Westerner archives



Photo from The Westerner archives

WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS...Look who won the WEOMA Club Basketball League tournament in the Spring of 1978. From left are (front row) Sam Davis, Dennis Karloff, Ed Reed; (middle row) Don Schaaf, Alex Quintana, Roger Newmann, Larry Cherry; (back row) Dan Pfeifer, Paul Bendig, Larry Bailey, Bob Jones and Bob Keller.

CELEBRITY LOOK-ALIKES...The three Works employees pictured at left (Gary Kahler, Mary Ann Bennett and Steve Miller) could pass as twins for some pretty famous people (pictured below their respective photos) back in August 1980. They were part of a celebrity look-alike photo feature in the Works' employee publication, The Westerner (predecessor to The Headliner). Even the Works' general manager, Chuck Meetsma, donned a tuxedo for the feature. (He looked just like Steve Allen.)



Photo from The Westerner archives

EVEN THE MAYOR...The Works has attracted many visitors in its 40-year history, including former Omaha Mayor Ed Zorinsky, seen here with Eddie Adams in the 710 connector shop in March 1982.



for families

# "A good place to work"

Dee Hurt remembers taking dictation concerning plans for the groundbreaking ceremony for Western Electric's newest manufacturing facility, what is now the Omaha Works. Dee was one of the plant's earliest employees, starting in 1956 at "the 'B' building," a temporary manufacturing location in Downtown Omaha.

Long before word processors would make carbon paper obsolete, Dee took "pages and pages of dictation—all in shorthand—not only about the groundbreaking plans but also concerning procedures for hiring new employees.

*Dee Hurt took "pages and pages of dictation" as the new Omaha plant developed.*

"I was working six days a week when we began hiring," she said. "We were bringing in something like 200 employees a week."

Dee stayed at the "B" Building, even after the new facility opened its doors, helping phase out the temporary quarters. Then, instead of

coming to the new plant, she and her family moved to Wyoming.

Several years later when her family moved back to Omaha, Dee still didn't apply at the Omaha plant. Instead, she took a job with another company.

"At the time that job seemed pretty good," said Dee, now retired. "I wish I'd had the sense to reapply" with Western Electric.

But although Dee didn't hire back at the Works, she later encouraged her daughter to get a job here. Daughter Judy Coffey currently works in the connector shop. And Dee's grandson (Judy Coffey's son), Scott, recently began working in the patch panel shop.

"She (Dee) told me it was a good place to work and more opportunity," Scott Coffey said.

Was she right? "I like working here," he replied.

## All those tiles

If Dee Hurt was one of the first employees at the Works, Lynn Nelson was one of the first youngsters to tour the factory at an open house held shortly after the plant opened. A decade later, she became an employee—she'll have 29 years of service here next February.

Lynn remembers that she attended that early open house with her grandparents, she said, so she could see where her parents—John and Ethel Maw—worked.

"And I remember a lot of green tile and that the place was so huge."

Lynn's parents originally worked at a Western Electric plant in Lincoln, Neb., which closed when the Omaha Works opened. They both transferred here in April 1959—her father was a cable former and her mother, a wirer, helped train employees how to wire at the newly opened Works. They commuted back and forth from Lincoln until their new home in Gretna was built, said Lynn, who works in the DSX shop. John Maw retired after 32-plus years; Ethel Maw retired after almost 26 years of service.



Photo by Linda Ryan

*FAMILY BY NIGHT, WORK TEAM BY DAY...At left are John Stroy (Judy Stroy's son) and Judy. At right are Rosetta Stroy (John's wife) and Jim Hoover (Rosetta's father).*

## Like mother, like daughter

Like Lynn Nelson, Barb Gray followed in her own mother's footsteps and took a job at the Works.



"My mother, Stella Wiegert, started here in '59 as a production associate" and stayed 10 years before leaving the company, Barb said. "I started in November 1970 as a shipping clerk in high bay."

Barb then worked as a secretary for 20-plus years, mostly in engineering departments, and currently works in the health and environmental safety department. Barb's husband, Lloyd, also works here. Since 1965, he's worked in the cable shop (reel yard and twisters), in production control, and now in the global provisioning center (GPC) warehouse.

And there's more family ties: Barb's uncle, Lee Wiegert, retired from the Works sometime in the 1980s as an electrical supervisor. Just recently, his grandson (and Barb's second cousin) Derek was hired here, assigned to premise distribution products (PDP).

Meanwhile, working on a family work tradition of their own are the relatives of Marlene Majeski, who works in the DSX department. Husband Bob works in the cable shop; brother Terry Latimer works in machine maintenance; sister-in-law (and Terry's wife) Helen T. Latimer works in PDP operations.

At one time, brothers Bob and Jerry Latimer worked here, as did sisters-in-law Helen Z. and Sharon Latimer. The Majeskis' daughter, Diana West, was once on the payroll; so were nieces Jackie Altic and Kathy Swim.

"Coming to work in those days was like visiting your family," said Marlene. "And you never had to worry about a ride. Someone was always going to work."

### Ready-made carpool

Judy Stroy, who works in the accounting department, recalled how she and her husband Phil and mother-



Photo by Linda Ryan

*LIKE VISITING YOUR FAMILY...Marlene Majeski (right), husband Bob (seated), her brother Terry Latimer and Terry's wife, Helen, all work here.*

in-law Lorna used to carpool to work together for many years. Phil Stroy was a cable former and chalked up 21 years of service before leaving for another job. Lorna Stroy retired after more than 20 years working in surface wiring and closures operations.

"She's the one who started the Stroy family connection to the company," said Judy. "She started here to support a college fund for two kids—farming just didn't cover it."

And what a connection it turned out to be. At one time Phil's sister, Marilyn Kerans, worked in connector cable; her husband, Danny, worked in big switches. Judy's sister-in-law, Peggy Stroy, worked in surface wiring one summer before returning to school full time.

***"You never had to worry about a ride. Someone was always going to work."***

Then there's Donna Kerans (Dan's mother) who retired from the Works; Leon Kerans (Dan's brother) who currently works in the cable shop; and Earl Barkhurst (Dan and Marilyn's son-in-law) who recently was hired here.

Even Judy's mother, Ellen, retired from the Works after more than 20 years of service. "She came to work here because she didn't drive and figured she'd be able to carpool from Louisville to work," said Judy.

Phil and Judy's son, John, works here, too. He started out in the cable shop and is now a machinist. His wife, Rosetta, is a secretary here.

But wait, there's more: Rosetta's father, Jim Hoover, works in the cable shop and has 36 years of service; her brother, Mike Hoover, recently was hired here. Rosetta's mother, Marilyn Hoover, used to work here, too (in fact, Jim and

(Continued on next page)



# "A good place <sup>for families</sup> to work"

(Continued from previous page)

Marilyn first met here then married).

What draws people here is the "good job, pay, benefits and the stability," Judy said. "The feeling is that if you can get in five years, you're here forever."

Even if employees are laid off, the company offers many opportunities for free job training so that they would qualify for jobs outside of the Works, she commented.

## Opportunity knocks

For some families working at the Omaha plant, opportunity has been in the form of a "second chance." Ann Drebot, who works in the cable shop's central office jacketing area, recalled how her family moved to Omaha in July 1977 with husband, Frank, when the Buffalo (N.Y.) Works was closed.

*Whether you came from Buffalo or from Shreveport, the Works offered a "second chance."*

"He had 24 years of service (in Buffalo) and was only 48 years old," Ann said. Recently, he retired from the Omaha Works with 37 years of service.

Ann, who has 17 years of service, worked for the Works' cafeteria food service vendor before she was hired here. The Drebot's daughter, Sherri McLain, began working in the cabinet shop three

years ago and is now a production planner. Last June their son, Chris, was hired and now works in the cable shop.

Barbara Aldrich and her family are "transplants" from Shreveport, La., moving to Omaha in mid-'80s with her now former husband, Ron (who works in the cable shop), when the company closed its Shreveport operations.

Before Shreveport closed, Barbara and her mother, Linne Noakes, and brother-in-law, Ricky Madere, were laid off. Barbara wasn't hired at the Omaha Works, however, until about a year ago.

Now all three of Barbara's children work at the Omaha Works: Peggy (in cabinet assembly), Daniel (premise distribution products) and Jay (cable shop cool room) Pinkerton.



Photo by Linda Ryan

*ALL MY CHILDREN...Barbara Aldrich (standing) and her children say there's an added bonus to their working for the same company: Taking company classes and studying together. From left are Jay, Daniel and Peggy Pinkerton.*

## Made an impression

"It's a great corporation, they do a lot for their employees," Barbara commented. That's the impression that son, Daniel, had when he attended a financial investment seminar at the Works with his mother: "He got one look at the place and wanted to work here."

When possible, mom and her offspring try to carpool together to work. But there's another work-related activity they regularly share: All four are taking Works-sponsored classes to qualify for material planners assignments. They study together and help each other keep their class notes in order.

Ever since a family friend spoke so highly of Western Electric years ago, which prompted Barbara to take a job at the Shreveport plant, "I've always loved working for this company," she said.

"Today, especially with the free education as well as the pay and benefits, this is the best job I've ever had." ■



Cabinet team responds in flood crisis

# Works helps Ohio get back on line

**R**ush orders? They're a fact of factory life. We can and do fill rush orders on time while our normal production hardly skips a beat.

But there's something about natural disasters—when they wreak havoc on communications equipment and people's lives—that really gets the adrenaline pumping and inspires record turnaround times.

"No one had to ask, no one had to be told. They just saw those 'flood cabinet' kit sheets and knew it was a job that had to move fast," said Jo Anne Dye, a production technician responsible for layout operations in the electronic cabinets shop.

## Cut off by flood

She was referring to an emergency order for GTE Northeast, placed when eastern Ohio suffered devastating floods just before the Fourth of July earlier this summer. The floods left more than 650 GTE customers without phone service, and GTE

desperately needed five 51A cabinets to restore it.

An order for three of the cabinets came in late in the day of June 30—the second shift had already started work—and orders for two more came in the next day, Dye recalled.

The second-shift cabinet team immediately began wiring for the cabinets. The next day on first shift, operations expanded to cord bench, DSX

wiring, pre-assembly, final assembly, testing, process checking and packing.

The three cabinets were shipped by air freight that night (July 1) to Morrow, Ga., site of a Lucent service center, where additional equipment was added according to customer specifications before being shipped to Ohio.

On July 2—the day before the Omaha Works was to shut down for a

three-day July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday weekend—the assembly process was repeated to produce two more cabinets, sent by air that night to Morrow for modifications.

The production team was so concerned about whether the cabinets would reach their destination on time

that one team member, Emma Epperson, called for someone from the GPC (Global Provisioning Center)

*"Responsiveness like this is truly appreciated and greatly respected."*

warehouse to personally escort the last cabinet from shop to warehouse, ensuring that it would be shipped by the appropriate overnight air carrier.

On the morning of July 3, the completed cabinets began arriving at the Ohio flood site, just 2 ½ days from when the rush order was received. Normal turnaround would have been four to six weeks.

"And we still got our (regular) schedule out both days," Dye said proudly.

## Making a difference

The record response did not go unnoticed by the customer. William Griswold, region president for GTE Northeast, sent a letter of thanks to Lucent's Thomas Madder, vice-president of the GTE customer sales team. In it he praised the efforts of everyone involved, from sales to engineering and production to shipping.

"Your responsiveness gave some very hard-working GTE employees the tools to quickly restore telephone service from a flood that literally covered entire communities," he wrote. "Vendor responsiveness like this is truly appreciated and greatly respected by GTE employees.

"Adversity tests the 'true' ability of a company. You made a difference and we appreciate being able to count on you." ■



Photo by Linda Ryan

**READY TO HELP...**  
Mary Griff (standing), and Doris Little work in the final assembly area of the electronic cabinet shop and Ted Baker works in the pre- and sub-assembly area. All three are members of the cabinet team that was able to make and ship five 51A cabinets in record time in order to restore phone service to some 650 Ohio flood victims.



# Academic Awards announced

**F**ive children of Omaha Works employees have been named recipients of the 1998 U.S. Academic Awards Program college scholarships. The scholarships, awarded annually to children of Lucent Technologies and AT&T employees, each are worth up to \$6,500 a year. They may be renewed for up to three years if recipients maintain a 2.75 grade point average and meet other program requirements.

A total of 140 scholarships were awarded this year, 70 to children of employees represented by the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) and the Communications Workers of America (CWA) and 70 to children of non-represented occupational and management employees.

The local recipients and their parents are:

- ♦ **Kelly Herek**, daughter of **Ray Herek**. Kelly plans to attend Creighton University to major in pre-dentistry.
- ♦ **Lindsey Johnson**, daughter of **Greg and Lauri Johnson**. Lindsey will attend the University of Nebraska

at Lincoln where she plans to major in biochemistry in preparation for medical school.

- ♦ **Laura Keller**, daughter of **Robert Keller**. Laura plans to major in public relations at Northwest Missouri State University.

- ♦ **Amanda Mack**, daughter of **Jerry Mack**. Amanda will attend Michlet Esther in Israel for her freshman year, returning as a sophomore to Stern College for Women in Manhattan, N.Y., to major in psychology.

- ♦ **Sarah Wustrack**, daughter of **Bob Wustrack**. Sarah will major in aerospace engineering at the University of Illinois.

Scholarships are awarded on the basis of academic achievement; community and school volunteer service activities and leadership roles; academic awards; and a statement of education and career paths.

Information and application forms for 1999 scholarships should be ready for distribution later this fall. Watch for announcements in newsletters and on TV news monitors. ■



*Kelly Herek*



*Lindsey Johnson*



*Laura Keller*



*Amanda Mack*



*Sarah Wustrack*

# Business partners groups name scholars

## Hispa

**T**he Omaha Chapter of Hispa (Hispanic Association of Lucent Employees) has awarded 10 one-year college scholarships for 1998 to students in the Omaha community. The scholarships were awarded on the basis of academics and service to the community.

The recipients are listed below, including the amounts of their scholarships and where they will be or are attending college. Also, those winners' parents or relatives who work here at the Omaha Works are named:

- ♦ **Tina Flores**, \$1,000, University of

Nebraska at Lincoln (UNL).

- ♦ **Mark Mora**, \$1,000, University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO). Mark is the nephew of **Vicki Velez-Fitzgerald**.

- ♦ **Gina Guerrero**, \$900, Northwest Missouri University. Gina is the daughter of **Sally Swoboda**.

- ♦ **Monica Mora**, \$900, UNO. Monica is the niece of **Vicki Velez-Fitzgerald**.

- ♦ **Maria Mayorga**, \$600, UNO.
- ♦ **Steven Schultz**, \$600, Rockhurst College. **Chuck Schultz** is Steven's father.

- ♦ **Lisa Gonzalez**, \$300, Nebraska Methodist College.

- ♦ **Jamie Toledo**, \$300, UNO. **Vince Toledo** is Jamie's great-uncle.

- ♦ **Brad Burke**, \$200, UNL.
- ♦ **Daniella Remijio**, \$200, UNO. ■

## ABLE

**F**our \$1,000 college scholarships have been awarded to Omaha area graduating high school seniors by the Omaha Chapter of the Alliance of Black Lucent Employees (ABLE).

The students and the schools they will attend are:

- ♦ **Freddie Brown**, Creighton University.

- ♦ **Aaron Bonner**, University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO).

- ♦ **Rachel Gildon**, University of Nebraska at Lincoln (UNL).

- ♦ **Allison Green**, Southeast Community College in Milford, Nebr. ■



## NEWS IN BRIEF

(Continued from Page 3) through Dec. 31, 1998. Those who retired prior to Jan. 1, 1984, are not affected.

The toll reimbursement program was carried over to Lucent when the company spun off from AT&T. The announcement that the company would not continue the program was made in October 1996, because Lucent is not in the telecommunications service provider business.

### Nature Conservancy gets matching gifts

Thanks to the generosity of 416 Lucent employees and retirees, the Nature Conservancy will receive \$66,987 in matching funds from the Lucent Foundation.

The Nature Conservancy Special Matching Opportunity, which ran

### A note of thanks

My thanks to all of the people who made my recent retirement very special! It has been a pleasure working with so many people throughout my years at Western Electric, AT&T and Lucent.

I really miss seeing all of you, but I will never forget you. Thanks and God bless.

Gerry Agee

from April 1 through May 31 earlier this year, represents the Lucent Foundation's first "Special Window of Opportunity" for organizations that

fall outside of Lucent's regular matching gift program guidelines. The Foundation plans to designate other charities and nonprofit organizations for special matching opportunities.

The Nature Conservancy's mission is to preserve plants, animals and natural communities by protecting the lands and waters they need to survive.

### June - August service dates

- 6/1—Virginia Fischer, 5.
- 6/2—Barbara Getzschman, 20; George Stoneberg, 20.
- 6/4—Donald Taylor, 30.
- 6/5—Homero Vela, 20.
- 6/6—Jeffrey Achenbach, 10; Arnel Citurs, 10.
- 6/7—Barbara Cremeens, 25.
- 6/10—George Schabloske Jr., 30.
- 6/11—Robert Carter, 35; Joseph Williams, 30; Bruce Lesiewicz, 25.
- 6/12—Eberto Leal, 30.
- 6/15—Gus Checketts, 10; Cheryl Cincetti, 10.
- 6/16—Gary Kahler, 40.
- 6/17—Kenneth Leach, 30; Merle Nootz, 30.
- 6/18—Dean Davis, 40; Gary Brummett, 30.
- 6/19—Charles Coufal, 20; Mary Terry, 20.
- 6/20—Jimmie Miller, 25; Douglas Brake, 10; John Hazuka, 10; Timothy Miller, 10.
- 6/25—Clarion Zoucha, 40; Sharon Carpenter, 35.
- 6/28—Gerald Kalina, 15; Kar Kam, 5.
- 6/30—Randy Pegg, 15.
- 7/1—Thomas Furst, 30; Thomas James, 30; Clara Moody, 25.
- 7/2—David Mraz, 30.
- 7/5—Harold Hampton, 30.
- 7/6—Cynthia Jack, 15; Margaret Lockett, 15.
- 7/10—Sandra Schropp, 30; Shirley Martin, 25.
- 7/11—Gerald Kerans, 25; Andrew Lucas, 10; Kathy Clements, 5.
- 7/14—Melinda Lucas, 20.
- 7/15—Esther Wegner, 35.
- 7/16—Deborah Czaplowski, 25.

## A word to the wise...

Take advantage of your Lucent employee discount to order Lucent & Philips Consumer Communications (PCC) telephone products and other Philips/Magnavox products via the Internet or by phone!

To order phones, answering systems & accessories:\*

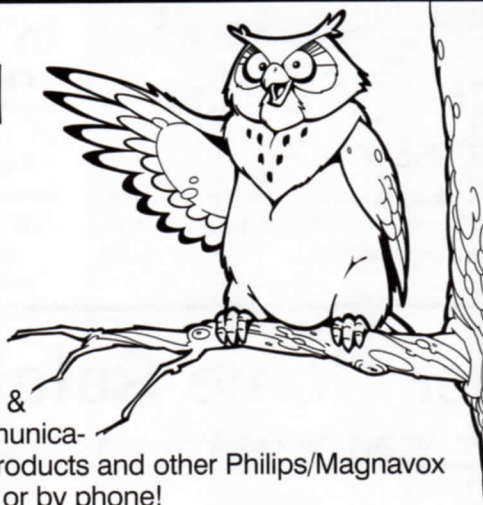
- ♦Shop by Internet at <http://home.lucent.com/cpstore>
- ♦Call 1-888-708-0874, Mon. - Fri., 7 a.m. - 7 p.m. CST

To order TVs, VCRs & audio equipment:\*

- ♦Call 1-800-354-6756, Mon. - Fri., 7 a.m. - 4 p.m. CST

*\*Identify yourself as a Lucent employee. Payment by MasterCard, Visa, American Express or Discover credit cards only.)*

**Giant phone sale coming to the Works auditorium this Fall! Watch for details.**



(Continued on next page)



## NEWS IN BRIEF

(Continued from previous page)

7/17—Raymond Myers, 20.  
7/18—Sharon Miller, 35.  
7/23—Loretta Thimgan, 35.  
7/24—Louise Carlson, 25; Susan Bernady, 20.  
7/25—Linda Minarik, 30.  
7/28—Wilson Dunlap, 20.  
7/29—Danny Allen, 35; Michael Boruff, 30; Gary Dyke, 30; Harry Findeis, 30; Mickey Holtzclaw, 30; Maurice Jensen, 30.  
7/30—Constance Schmidt, 25; Rebecca Hughes, 15.  
8/1—James Pabian, 30.  
8/3—Sharon Baumgard, 30.  
8/4—Larry Duros, 40; Eugene Wolski, 40.  
8/5—Jerald Mallory, 40; Julia Wacker, 35; James Allen, 30; Bob Andersen, 30.  
8/6—Loren Simonson, 35; Erlene Hert, 20.  
8/8—Richard Scott, 40; Mary Sanchez, 15; Frank Smith, 15; Don Carlos Trapp, 15.  
8/9—Rhonda Freeman, 5.  
8/10—Elaine Koch, 25.  
8/11—Douglas Study, 40.  
8/12—Ernest Belik Jr., 35; Robert Madison, 35; Thomas Crabtree Jr., 30; Richard Krambeck, 30; Edwin Palensky, 30.  
8/13—Harold Dickman Jr., 35;

Beverly Opfer, 30; Geneva Stewart, 30; William Clark, 25.  
8/14—Raymond Mason, 30.  
8/15—Jeanette Elliott, 35.  
8/17—Virginia Campos, 25.  
8/18—Keith Ostrand, 40; Helen Mc Ghee, 30.  
8/19—Daniel Hegarty, 40; George Cobasky, 30.  
8/20—Leslie Wigg, 35; Masako Scharton, 30; Diane Bonacci, 15; Marvel Thiel, 15.  
8/21—Scott Blackwell, 25.  
8/22—Willie Williams, 35; Marion Doane, 20.  
8/23—James Nuels, 25.  
8/24—Tony Coffman, 20.  
8/25—Diane George, 15.  
8/26—Dennis Sage, 30; Joseph Sharpnack Jr., 30; Gary Siebe, 30; Daniel Rogers, 20.  
8/27—Cynthia Chladek, 25; Cynthia Chladek, 25; Donald Klein, 25.  
8/28—David Newcomer, 30; Diane Keller, 15.  
8/29—Casia Perry, 30; Karolyn Allen, 10.

the August 1998 rating period:

**IBU ACC**—DSX.

**IBU AC2**—Plug-in electrical protector units; plug-in mechanical protector units.

**IBU AC4**—300-type central office connectors; 78, 89, 112 connector blocks; packing, IPG.

**IBU AC7**—Injection molded products.

**IBU AG1**—108 and 110 connecting blocks; 110 patch panel assembly; 110 wiring blocks; modules, face plates and adapters.

**IBU AG0**—Packing, distribution products.

**IBU AD7**—Broadband cabinets; feeder distribution products.

**IBU AD3**—Metal fabrication.

**IBU 200**—Miscellaneous products.

**IBU F22**—Central pack.

**IBU F26**—Packing, domestic.

**EW&C**—Switchboard/spec cable; coaxial cable; inside wire cable.

### Product quality rates an 'A'

Quality Assurance has awarded the following IBUs the grade of "A" for their product quality achievements for

### In memoriam

**Charles Pridgeon**, senior production specialist in IBU AG190, May 27, 1998.

**Robert Wegener**, composite master toolmaker in IBU A1140, July 31, 1998. ■



## Elder Home Safety Kit

*Available through the Family Resource Program*

This kit helps families deal with the special safety needs of older adults and includes:

- ◆ Nightlight
- ◆ Flashlight
- ◆ Cord shorteners
- ◆ Non-slip bath strips
- ◆ 7-day pillbox organizer
- ◆ Safety guide & more!

To order the kit or speak with a consultant, call:

**1-800-635-0606**

Weekdays, 6 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Saturdays, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

