

# the Westerner

OMAHA WORKS      OCTOBER 11, 1974

## Employee Awarded \$2,915

Eileen Stock, a wireman in Department 422, is the recipient of the sixth largest suggestion award made to an Omaha Works employee.

Eileen stood practically speechless as General Manager Frank Lefebvre informed her that her idea had earned her \$2,915.

Eileen had proposed the elimination of wires that have little or no use

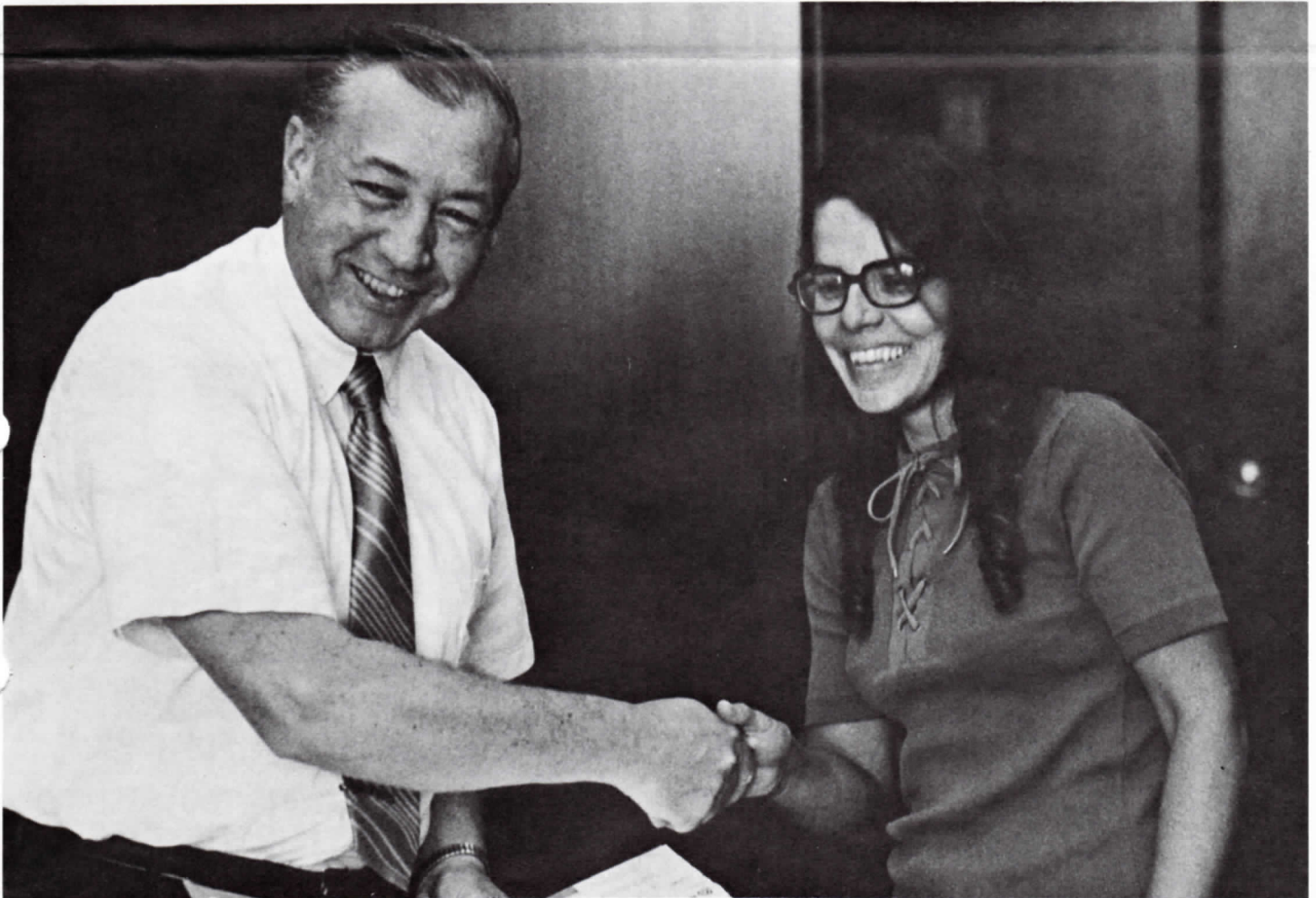
in the current #4 crossbar frame units. These seldom-used wires will now be added only when ordered. A number of wires in the unit are now manufacture discontinued.

Eileen's idea has also been implemented at the Columbia River and Oklahoma City plants. Her \$2,915 award reflects the savings at all three locations.

"I wouldn't have believed it was worth that much," a startled Eileen exclaimed.

Mr. Lefebvre noted, "It's obviously worth a lot to Western Electric, too."

With the presentation of this award, Eileen also became the recipient of the largest suggestion award for a female employee at the Works.



# For Your Information...

... Industrial Heritage U.S.A., an historical traveling exhibition, will be at the Westroads Shopping Center, October 9-13. This major national exhibit was created to celebrate the Nation's Bicentennial and includes 27 displays from leading industrial organizations, including Western Electric. Industrial Heritage U.S.A. traces the progress of products and industries from their early beginnings to the present time. The Bell System is represented by Western Electric's exhibit of antique and contemporary telephones ...

... a total of 485 pints of blood were donated during the final 1974 Red Cross Bloodmobile visit to the Omaha Works, September 19 and 20. Works employees donated 1,716 pints of blood during the three Bloodmobile visits this year. A big thanks to all employees who continue to support this very important Weoma Club-sponsored activity ...

... voters across the country will cast their ballots in the General Election, November 5. Voting is a privilege and an obligation. If you've changed your name or address since last voting or wish to change your party affiliation, don't forget to reregister. Voters in Nebraska must be registered by October 25 in order to vote in the November election. In Iowa, the registration deadline is October 26 ...



**VALUABLE IDEA:** Phil Davis, a toolmaker in Department 241, received a \$200 suggestion award for his development of a molded plastic gauge. Phil designed the gauge for use on the small switch assembly in Department 132. The plastic gauge replaces an aluminum one and, in addition to costing less, is expected to have a longer life span. Phil is pictured above, left, with Vince Kieffer, section chief, Department 241-6.



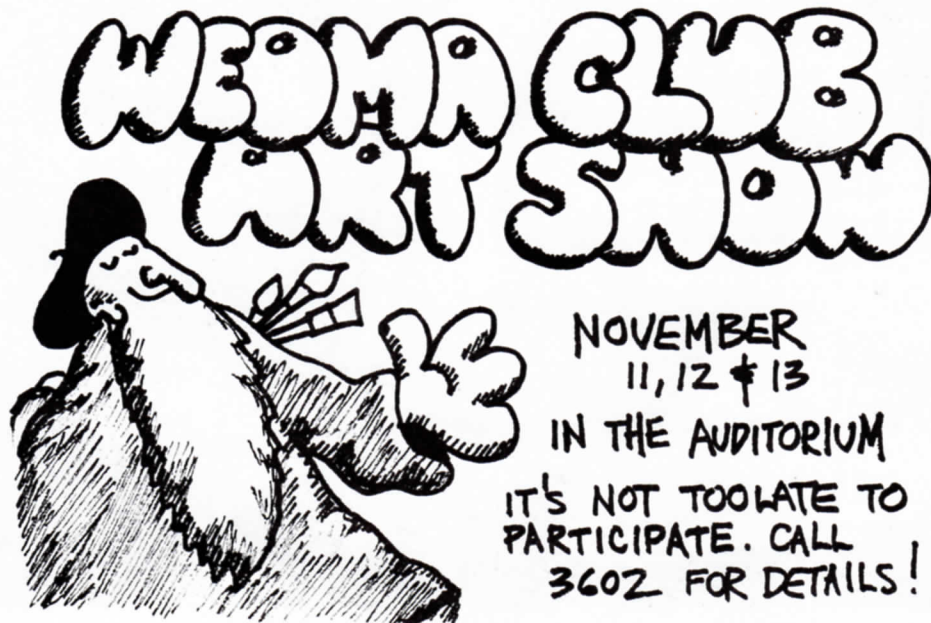
**SAFETY RECOGNITION:** Employees in Department 423 have been cited for their achievement of 1,000,000 man-hours on the job without a disabling injury. Pictured above during the presentation of a commemorative plaque are, from left, Employee Representative Margaret Johnson, General Manager Frank Lefebvre, Department Chief Pete Prest and Union Representative Don Morris.

**the  
Westerner**  
VOLUME 18 NUMBER 8

**Frank J. Lefebvre**  
General Manager  
Western Electric - Omaha Works

**Nancy Emshwiller**  
Editor

Published for employees of the Omaha Works.  
For information write: Editor, *The Westerner*,  
P. O. Box 14000, West Omaha Station, Omaha,  
Nebraska, 68114; or telephone 334-4132.  
Member  
Nebraska Association of Business Communicators  
International Association of Business Communicators  
Printed in the U.S.A.



## Service Anniversaries



**Richard M. Baker**  
344  
9/18/44



**Rose A. Kirkland**  
422  
10/02/44



**Thomas D. Crow**  
246  
10/03/44



**Elaine B. Anderson**  
331  
9/07/49

### 15 Years

Bernice R. Leslie	134	9-01-59
Kenneth L. Withem	146	9-01-59
Alta W. Boldan	861	0-02-59
Paul C. Shomshor	253	9-03-59
Don W. Teague	246	9-03-59
Walter E. Kassube Jr.	244	9-04-59
Esther A. Lopez	423	9-06-59
Hubert L. Cappen	422	9-08-59
Gary L. Hall	432	9-08-59
Betty B. Kennedy	662	9-08-59
Jack E. Perfect	422	9-08-59
Catherine B. Welch	134	9-08-59
Kenneth H. Paulison	251	9-09-59
William Nussrallah	242	9-11-59
Gerald T. Callahan	422	9-14-59
Wanda R. Gouldsmith	663	9-14-59
Daniel R. Hayden	241	9-14-59
Frances F. Minor	333	9-14-59
Melvin E. Wilson	253	9-14-59
Doris N. Ettlin	134	9-15-59
Neal E. Walter	9962	9-15-59
Joan F. Durbin	144	9-16-59
Louise M. Galata	134	9-16-59
Virginia S. Hurlbut	332	9-16-59
Dolores F. Becerra	144	9-17-59
Merle G. Mock	412	9-17-59
Earl T. Pollard	432	9-18-59
Daniel B. Chambers	253	9-21-59
Melvin D. Weaver	422	9-21-59
Leona M. Aschenbrener	431	9-22-59
Duane L. Poppe	137	9-23-59
Donald L. Severa	432	9-24-59
Jackson G. Boeder	246	9-28-59
Virginia M. Heitman	861	9-28-59
Herman C. Junge Jr.	421	9-28-59
Juris Klavins	434	9-29-59
Frank J. Markesi	864	9-29-59
Ivan C. Cheers	431	9-30-59
Leonard E. Kovar	250A	9-30-59
Larry A. Vandeman	344	9-30-59
Gary A. Kushinsky	143	10-01-59
Ruth R. Lake	9961	10-01-59
R. Graham Seiter	130	10-01-59
Paul D. Kennedy	244	10-02-59
La Vearle H. Baker	253	10-05-59
Richard I. Chard	141	10-05-59
Charles O. Gallup	244	10-05-59
Douglas D. Haase	143	10-05-59

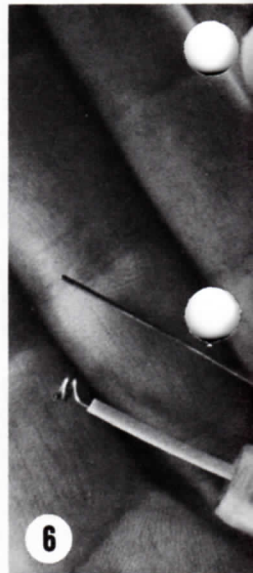
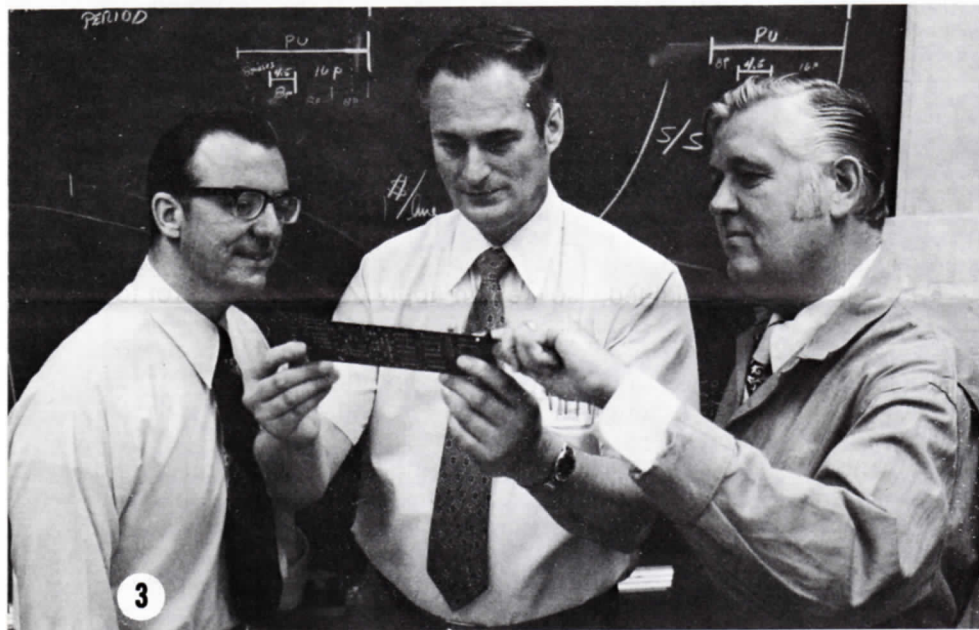
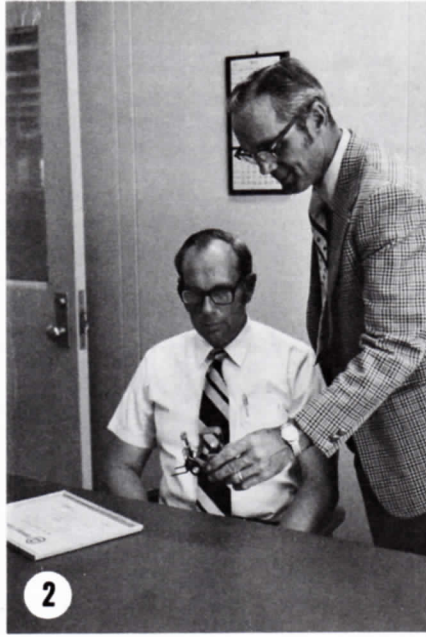
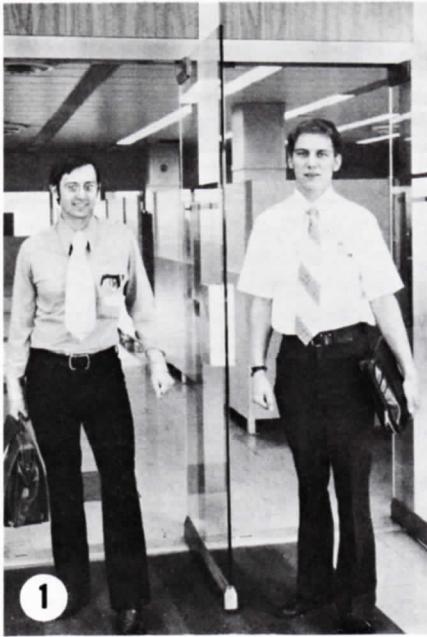
John L. Gilbert Jr.	253	10-06-59
Kenneth R. Harshbarger	143	10-06-59
Franklin L. Core	146	10-07-59
Jack B. Fay	245	10-07-59
Ardath C. Foust	432	10-07-59
Charles L. Krajicek	242	10-07-59
Donald F. Kuta	252	10-07-59
Lorraine P. Borman	9961	10-08-59
Lucille M. Christiansen	433	10-12-59
Ralph H. Ellingson	141	10-12-59
Kenneth E. Martin	341	10-12-59
Dale E. Meisinger	432	10-12-59
Mauricette B. Prettyman	433	10-12-59
Jerry J. Sempeck	246	10-12-59
Alma H. Straka	423	10-12-59
Hortencia Toledo	142	10-12-59
Marvin F. Willenborg	421	10-12-59
Ronald G. Halvorson	137	10-13-59
James L. Johnson	432	10-14-59
Carl D. Nelson	433	10-14-59
Claude W. Jatou	253	10-16-59
June S. Billy	333	10-19-59
Robert G. Walters	434	10-19-59
James J. Hollst	245	10-20-59
Darrell J. Seaton	252	10-20-59
Marvin G. Seaton	421	10-20-59
William D. Loring	434	10-21-59
Donald L. Moore	434	10-21-59
James P. Morris	253	10-21-59
Ronald L. Welsh	251	10-21-59
Leon F. Hunt	250A	10-23-59
Marvin S. Abramson	257	10-26-59
Frances M. Barnhart	257	10-26-59
Norman A. Eickhoff	432	10-26-59
Rose T. Kurtzuba	431	10-26-59
Marion S. Mihaly	862	10-26-59
John P. Phalen	241	10-26-59
Lona S. Schulz	862	10-26-59
James J. Silknitter	245	10-28-59
Ellen N. Dobbs	432	10-29-59
Doris N. Anderson	432	11-02-59
Hazel R. Carlson	431	11-02-59
Ignatius P. Cianciolo	341	11-02-59
Wayne L. Harris	137	11-02-59
Charlotta P. Hopkins	252	11-02-59
Delmer J. Kyles	433	11-02-59
Betty M. Murray	134	11-02-59
Nellie T. Preston	257	11-02-59
Robert W. Reed	432	11-02-59
Raymond V. Schwartz	433	11-02-59
Jo Ann N. Clarke	142	11-03-59
Mary S. Arends	257	11-05-59

Berry D. Kroll	432	11-05-59
Judy S. Thoms	6351	11-05-59
Lauren J. Throener	253	11-06-59
Floyd E. Morlan	235	11-07-59
Rodney A. Conser	271	11-09-59
Edwin J. Cooperrider	341	11-09-59
Beverly P. Donovan	431	11-09-59
Dorothy V. Doty	135	11-09-59
John G. Lynch	472	11-09-59
Keith M. Nieman	241	11-09-59
Richard L. Rall	432	11-09-59
Jean L. Shane	433	11-09-59

### 10 Years

Robert J. Smyser	431	11-09-59
William F. Sucha	431	11-09-59
Peter A. Broderick	241	11-10-59
Michaline M. Lough	132	11-11-59
Blance M. New	431	11-11-59
Robert R. Russell	241	11-11-59
John P. Giachino	333	11-12-59
Norman K. Anderson	432	11-16-59
Anthony D. Budell	411	11-16-59
Henrich A. Fast	861	11-16-59
Vinona P. McGarrity	134	11-16-59
Walter E. Mueller	146	11-16-59
Dale J. Snyder	241	11-16-59
Paul D. Warren	244	11-16-59
Darwin H. Fager	241	11-17-59
Robert C. Gates	246	11-17-59
Ethel L. Kushinsky	9961	11-17-59
Leslie B. Domina	254	11-18-59
Jack Reed	257	11-20-59
Mary Ann M. Simons	422	11-21-59
Frank M. Stilmock	311	11-23-59
Gene C. Utterback	241	11-23-59
Anna G. Zavodny	242	11-23-59
Eugene H. La Chapelle	434	11-25-59
Ronald V. Machacek	343	11-25-59
Margaret S. Beasley	132	11-30-59
Jerome A. Green	245	11-30-59
Grace H. Hike	422	11-30-59
Barbara P. Mihelic	133	11-30-59
Joan S. Powers	137	11-30-59

(continued on page 6)



1. College-bound engineers — James McClatchey, left, and Terry Fuller. 2. Cost Reduction Certificate — Bill Feddersen, seated, and Joe Moss, senior engineer, Department 233. 3. Electronic timer — Gary Baltzer, left, George Pappas and Duane Desler. 4. E-Week Committee — clockwise from left, Jerry Wessling, Tim Huth, Paul Bendig, Karen Farrow, Gerhart Wehrbein, Bill Baldwin, Larry Moody and Joe Swenson. 5. New design — Hank Vetter, seated, Steve Zerbs and Dick Hyde. 6. Before and after — pictured at right is a network before the sleeving and pigtailing process. At left is the network as it appears after the process has been completed.

# Engineering Update

Over nine months ago, the Engineering Organization announced a \$5 million goal in engineering cost reduction savings for 1974.

Dubbed the \$5 million Derby, the cost reduction program includes contenders from five Works sub-branches. Through September, two of these sub-branches have already met their established goals.

The first across the finish line was the 230 sub-branch represented by *The Ros-Ness Monster* (Assistant Manager George Rosness). Next under the wire was *Wengel, Place and Show* (Assistant Manager Lou Wengel).

The Accounting Organization has verified that through September, a total of \$3,767,000 has been credited to this year's cost reduction program.

While the Engineering Organization prepares to wrap-up this year's cost reduction program as well as formulate plans for the 1975 goal, the *Westerner* would like to take the opportunity to update the various engineering activities which have taken place in recent months throughout the Works.

An Engineering Cost Reduction Certificate has been presented by the Engineering Organization to Bill Feddersen, assistant buyer, 664-2.

Bill proposed that in lieu of renting four electric warehouse trucks, the Works purchase these trucks. The estimated annual savings on this cost reduction case is \$22,700.

Meanwhile, engineering associates Dick Hyde, Department 472, and Steve Zerbs, Department 473, have designed a machine which will sleeve and pre-form "pigtail" apparatus. The sleeving, which had previously been cut, then manually placed on the wire leads, is now automatically cut by the machine. The operator funnels leads into the precut sleeving, then advances the leads into a curling machine. A foot switch enables the operator to maintain control of the machine while performing the sleeving and pigtailing operations.

Due to the new machine design, the amount of floor space required for this operation has been reduced while providing a centralized portable job bench with more than enough capacity to handle all networks pigtailed and sleeved at Omaha.

A good proportion of the miscellaneous apparatus such as resistors, diodes, capacitors, etc., can be pigtailed and sleeved with this machine.

In addition, a physical handicap will not restrict a person from operating the machine. Although blind, machine operator Hank Vetter, Department 423, has adapted well to the new machine and now produces about 400% over the former manual rate.

And due to Dick's and Steve's efforts, \$16,000 in cost reduction savings will now be credited towards the Works' 1974 cost reduction goal.

Recently, the Omaha Works shipped an initial order of 1F timers, new electronic timers designed to replace the electro-mechanical 1B timer. These new timers will be utilized in timing calls placed from coin phones through No. 1 Crossbar Central Offices.

These electronic timers were designed and developed at Omaha. Members of the Engineering Organization who were instrumental in the design of this timer were senior engineers Duane Desler, Department 176, and Gary Baltzer, Department 474; planning engineers George Pappas and Nat Adamonis and draftsman Fred Cormaci, all in Department 176; and draftsman Jim Peterson, Department 474.

Earlier this year, planning engineers Terry Fuller, Department 474, and James McClatchey, Department 524, were selected to participate in Western Electric's Engineering and Science Fellowship Program.

Both men are now pursuing advanced degrees at the University of Nebraska in Lincoln with all expenses paid by Western Electric. They're studying under a Western Electric program which has been designed to meet the existing and growing technical needs at local WE locations.

While Terry pursues a masters degree in electrical engineering, James is working towards a masters of science in industrial engineering.

Terry's on-the-job application of his schooling will be in the area of mini-computers and machine control.

"I'm studying digital control techniques," he explained, "so we can apply computer control to a number of our manufacturing processes."

Terry's studies at UNL will be concentrated in the areas of modern control techniques, switching circuit theory and computer architecture.

James' studies will be concentrated in the areas of biomechanical engineering, industrial hygiene and toxicology. He is currently studying what effect heat and humidity have on how hard an individual has to work.

James is also conducting a preliminary study on the amount of peripheral vision an individual loses while wearing safety glasses with the new OSHA-required side shields.

He noted, "In pursuit of my masters degree, I am put in contact with professors at the university who are able to guide me to solutions while I use their labs for experimentation."

And, as a final note to this engineering update, plans are now being formulated for next year's observance of Engineers Week.

Jerry Wessling, Department 235, will chair the Works' 1975 Engineers Week Committee. Working with Jerry will be Joe Swenson, Department 176; Larry Moody, Department 271; Gerhart Wehrbein, Department 313; Paul Bendig, Department 472; Karen Farrow, Department 524; Bill Baldwin, Department 6351; and Tim Huth, Department 9452.

The committee is currently making plans for the local celebration of Engineers Week, scheduled for February 17-23. The national theme for the 1975 observance is "Engineering — Exploring New Energy Frontiers."



## Service Anniversaries

(continued from p. 3)

Connie W. Garretson	432	9-01-64	Steven P. Griffith	434	9-17-64	Emma P. Grooms	134	10-20-64
James W. Wais	411	9-01-64	Connie A. Gunther	433	9-21-64	Ramute S. Mitchell	134	10-20-64
John E. Moore	434	9-02-64	Opal K. Merriweather	253	9-21-64	Patricia J. Mickells	257	10-21-64
Stephen N. Merrill	254	9-03-64	Karen K. Oldfield	421	9-21-64	Alice M. Lucas	431	10-25-64
Arline L. Boyd	432	9-06-64	Wilma B. Condon	144	9-22-64	Nadean V. Samuels	9961	10-25-64
June I. Christensen	132	9-08-64	Marie K. Biga	146	9-23-64	Robert J. Barnes	422	10-26-64
Everett H. Peterson	434	9-08-64	John R. Rothanzl	341	9-24-64	Robert A. Krokaugger	434	10-26-64
Joseph G. Sopcich	434	9-08-64	Bernice B. Hooper	432	9-28-64	Paulette T. McGaugh	134	10-26-64
Joseph S. Baker Jr.	412	9-10-64	Cassie J. Jackson	142	9-28-64	Jean B. Salvatore	251	10-26-64
Queenie Y. Lieth	433	9-12-64	Opal C. Jarrett	134	9-28-64	Shirley S. Timm	257	10-26-64
Daniel L. Grace	411	9-14-64	Theodore W. Frye	412	9-29-64	Nancy W. Carbonell	134	10-28-64
Richard W. Miller	434	9-14-64	Robert A. Taylor	431	10-01-64	Wilma W. Combs	133	10-31-64
Darlene E. Payne	432	9-14-64	Donald L. Ambrose	6354	10-05-64	Beverly T. Eyestone	432	11-01-64
Thomas G. Welchert	332	9-14-64	Delores C. Hartfield	134	10-05-64	Norman H. Honaker	253	11-02-64
Lora B. Hibbeler	253	9-15-64	John C. Mabry	253	10-05-64	Sharon M. Anderson	142	11-05-64
Raoma H. Spicer	431	9-15-64	Nathaniel Shaw	135	10-05-64	Alta B. Amos	142	11-09-64
Allen K. Nelson	432	9-16-64	Joan L. Anthony	142	10-06-64	Betty H. Iddings	132	11-09-64
			Ruth O. Fuksa	432	10-06-64	Alice O. Jones	432	11-09-64
			Nancy L. Beasley	432	10-07-64	Kenneth E. Mass	244	11-09-64
			William D. Echtenkamp	861	10-07-64	Fay W. Allen	422	11-10-64
			Rosemary K. Jans	431	10-07-64	William J. Campbell	132	11-10-64
			Judith T. Nelson	132	10-08-64	Richard R. Melton	257	11-11-64
			Jessie M. Goldie	432	10-12-64	Virginia H. Koziol	257	11-18-64
			Douglas E. LeGrande	253	10-12-64	Glenn E. Sievers	141	11-18-64
			Lloyd W. Warren	6354	10-12-64	Gracie W. Thompson	253	11-18-64
			Barbara H. Wilson	422	10-12-64	Susan P. Dellinger	146	11-19-64
			Carol K. Maly	333	10-14-64	Helena W. Rhode	142	11-19-64
			Richard R. Miller	432	10-14-64	James L. Schlautman	253	11-19-64
			Frank E. Hoepfer	344	10-15-64	Evelyn P. Winters	423	11-23-64
			Gloria F. Hester	660	10-19-64	Karen M. Moore	431	11-24-64
			Neil W. Smith	253	10-19-64	Lorna S. Stroy	422	11-24-64
			Mary P. Belmudez	431	10-20-64	Linda K. Giebler	242	11-30-64

## Moves

### J. C. Stewart

from Manager, Switching Equipment Product Control Center, Warrenville Data Center, Warrenville, Ill., to Manager, Engineering and Manufacturing, Crossbar Equipment, Omaha Works



### Warren Bailey

from Manager, Engineering and Manufacturing, Crossbar Equipment, Omaha Works, to Manager, Switching Equipment Product Control Center, Warrenville Data Center, Warrenville, Ill.

### Jack McKinnon

from Assistant Manager, Industrial Engineering, Wage Practices, to Assistant Manager, Personnel, Labor Relations and Human Resources Development and Administration

### Graham Seiter

from Assistant Manager, Personnel, Labor Relations and Human Resources Development and Administration, to Assistant Manager, Crossbar Switch Shop

### Gene Tingwald

from Assistant Manager, Crossbar Switch Shop, to Assistant Manager, Industrial Engineering, Wage Practices

## Retirements



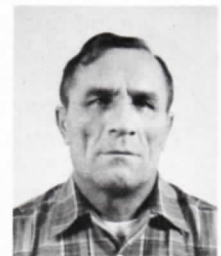
**Elmer Brickman**  
170C  
34 Years



**Dwight Catlett**  
472  
30 Years



**Loretta Hein**  
331  
30 Years



**Peter Zuk**  
253  
17 Years



### IT WORKS FOR HIM ...

When both of your parents have to work and you're an only child, life can be pretty lonely. And if you're just a little kid, life can be pretty frightening. But when you have a place to go, like a day care center, and people to play with, like adult supervisors and other little kids, then you aren't likely to be as lonely or as frightened.

Photo taken at a day care center run by Family Service of Omaha-Council Bluffs, a UCS agency.



### IT WORKS FOR THEM ...

When you suffer, really suffer, from arthritis, it hurts to move around a lot. So it's awfully nice when you can depend on someone else to do the walking for you. The brother and sister in the photo both suffer from arthritis. But five days a week a Mobile Meal volunteer delivers a hot, nutritious meal to this home. And when you don't have to move around to fix a meal, you don't have as much pain.

The Mobile Meals program is run by the Visiting Nurse Association, a UCS agency.



### IT WORKS FOR HIM ...

He's very special and he needs some very special attention. He gets that special attention, that special love from people who are trained to work with handicapped youngsters. Isn't it nice that for people who need this special kind of love, there are people who can give it?

Photo taken at the Dr. Lee A. Martin Therapy Center, a UCS agency.



### AND IT WORKS FOR YOU ...

One out of every three people in the metropolitan community is helped by a United Appeal agency. But even if you don't receive direct assistance, you benefit indirectly. No one knows what's going to happen tomorrow. Hopefully, you and your family will be as healthy as you are today. But someone will be there to help if tomorrow isn't as bright as today. And that's something nice to know, isn't it? So the next time the Red Cross asks you for a pint of blood or you bundle up a bag of clothes for the Goodwill or the Boy Scouts take your son on the

best camping trip he has ever had, thank yourself. Because only you can make it work. And we'd like you to remember that when it comes time to pledge your fair share.

Fair Share '75  
Omaha Works  
October 21-31, 1974

It works for you.  
But only you can make it work.



Sylvia Olmstead Bishop, Department 9961, has worked at Western Electric for a year and a half. Twenty-one-year-old Sylvia is a newly-wed who now lists homemaking at the top of her list of outside activities.



Judy Hill has four and one-half years of service at the Omaha Works and is currently employed in Department 434. This 24-year-old lists all outdoor sports and church activities among her outside interests. Two young daughters also occupy a good share of Judy's time.



Sharon Redlinger, 26, has been at Western Electric for five years. Employed in Department 421, she lists volunteer work and the Weoma Tennis League among her outside activities. Sharon is married and has a small daughter.

One of the three women pictured above will be crowned Miss Weoma XVII during the annual Fall Coronation Dance, October 12.

The dance is scheduled to begin at 9 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Annex, 72nd and Grover. Music will be provided by the Eddy Haddad Band and the rock group "Eclipse."

And some lucky person will win a Fall Holiday Weekend at Omaha's Hilton Hotel. Be sure to hold onto your ticket stub for the drawing which will be conducted during the evening.

And if you plan on bringing any last-minute guests, the \$2 tickets will be available at the door.

Hope to see you there!