

WESTERNER

Omaha Works
June/July 1988



Contents

June/July 1988

Vol. 32, No. 3

2 **Anniversary
in review**

16 **Weeks, Barry
dedicate center**

17 **Promotions**

18 **Service
anniversaries**

On the cover

Back in the '50s it was cool to share a soda with your steady. Joan and Ron Siwa still think it's a pretty good idea in the '80s. The Siwas donned their '50s attire for dress-up day and struck a nostalgic pose as part of the many festivities planned to commemorate the Omaha Works' 30th anniversary. In this commemorative issue of the *Westerner* are more photos and a wrapup of the week-long celebration held in June.

WESTERNER

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Now we're 30

"That was the week that was," to borrow the title from an old television program.

Throughout the week of June 13 through 17, Omaha Works employees observed the plant's 30th anniversary with a myriad of events. A calendar that included contests, entertainment and an open house made it a week to remember.

Planning for the celebration began early in the year when a committee, chaired by Carolyn Yates, was formed. Committee members were Bob Carlson, Richard Carmona, Arlene Delgado, Mike MacVittie, Frank Nagel, Betty Nath, Judy Nebe, Patricia Nicholson, Tom Olson, Butch Ott, Linda Ryan and Roy Seals.

But the successful execution of all planned events was made possible with the help of literally hundreds of Works employees, Telephone Pioneer Life Members

and Partners and support personnel.

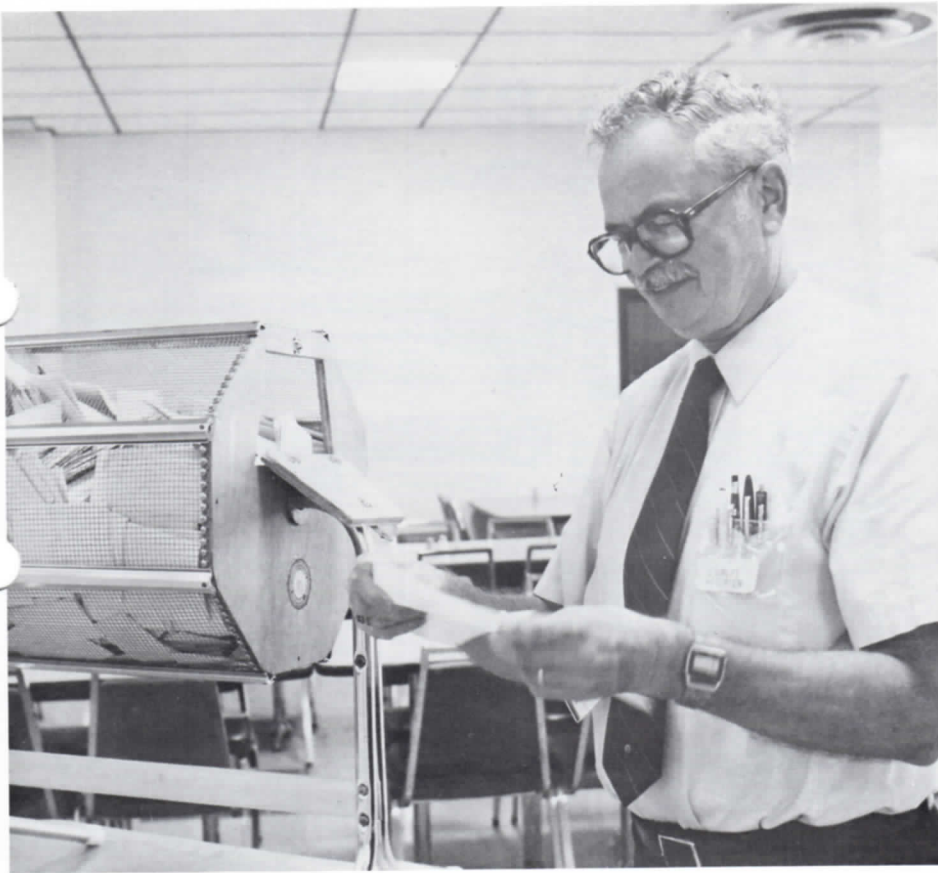
Many volunteered their assistance, whether it involved rounding up classic and antique cars for a display in the mall, serving as tour guides and helpers for the open house, or verifying correct answers on the thousand-plus crossword puzzle contest entries.

The official celebration may be over, but the jukebox that played '50s and '60s tunes was so popular among employees that it will remain in the cafeteria throughout the remainder of the summer. And the "Nostalgia Corner" photo display will be revamped to display black-and-white and color photos taken throughout the week-long celebration.

On these and the following pages are some of the photos to be displayed, as well as a recap of the week's events.



PRICE IS RIGHT . . . Jerry Fitzgerald selects a tune from the free-play jukebox in the main cafeteria.



AND THE WINNER IS . . . Charles Petersen (above), who helped devise the Works' crossword puzzle, pulls one of 30 winning names from a barrel. Below, one of the lucky winners claims her prize during the first-shift lunch period.



Monday

It's not easy carrying a cafeteria tray to a table while bebopping to the Big Bopper's "Chantilly Lace" or crooning to Frankie Laine's "Jezebel." But employees quickly got the hang of it as they selected '50s and '60s music from a free-play jukebox brought in to the main cafeteria for the week.

Elsewhere in the cafeteria employee groups gathered at the "Nostalgia Corner" photo display to view old pictures of themselves. Snapshots submitted by employees and photos from company and local IBEW files filled a 40-foot long display.

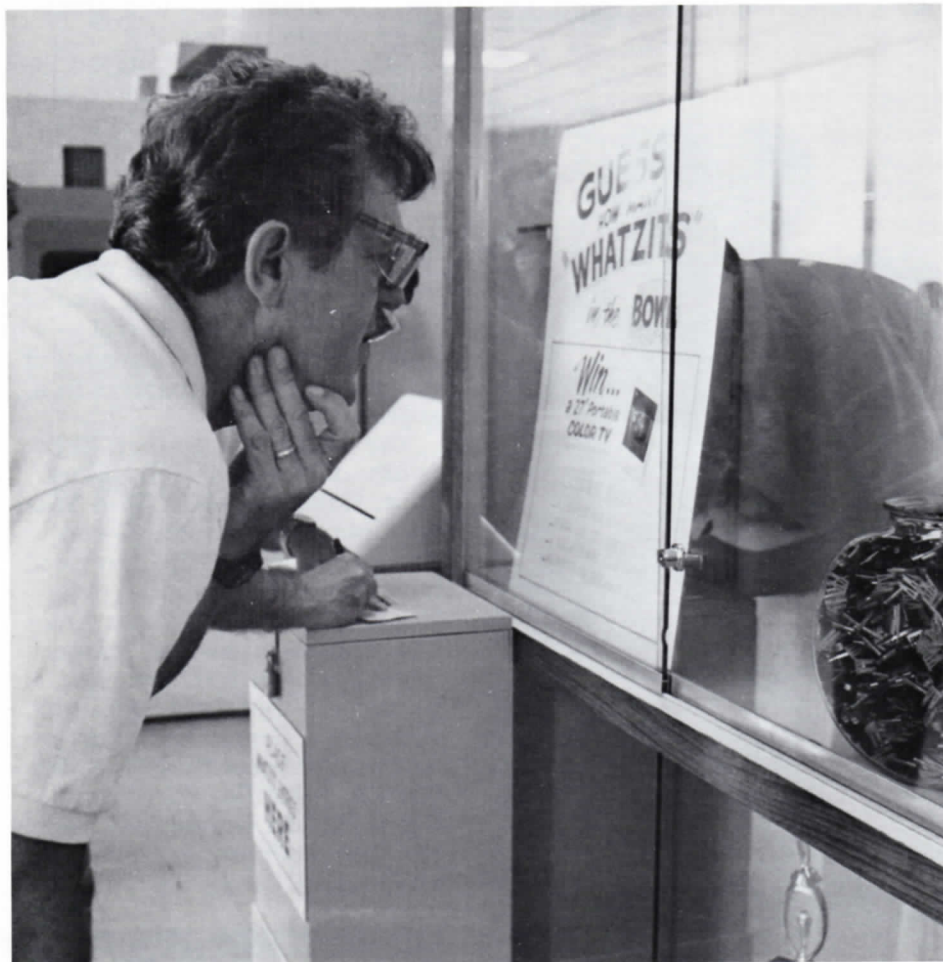
In the front of the cafeteria was a large fishbowl filled with assorted manufactured parts. Employees were urged to guess the number contained to win a prize.

Highlights of the day were entertainment by the band, "Grease," and the announcement of 30 winners in a crossword puzzle contest.

The six-piece band played '50s and '60s music almost non-stop throughout the first- and second-shift lunch periods in the main cafeteria.

A total of 954 employees correctly completed the crossword puzzle that pertained to Works "trivia." Thirty of their names were pulled out of a barrel to win a prize: a commemorative set of brass and leather coasters in a solid oak holder.

The winners: Elizabeth Beerbohm, James Pedersen, Janet Pope, Hank Davidson, Ron Yearley, Marie Sivertson, Gwen Kroeger, James Kelly, Jim Goodhard, Ronald Erickson, Luella Hendrix, Jim Kimble, Joe Alvarado, Bonnie Anderson, Marge Povondra, Frank Drebot, Al Kummer, Virgil Orso, Dennis Glesmann, Gerry Odell, Larry Kroeger, Roberta Endorf, Susie Purnell, John Bowen, Ernest Kubr, Martha Grzebielski, Henry Hill, Pat McPherson, Louis Pendrock and Charles Gerhard.



OLDIES BUT GOODIES . . . The Grease Band blasts and croons the hit songs of the '50s and '60s to the delight of dining employees, some of whom take a nostalgic "stroll" on the dance floor (below, right). On the opposite page, an employee sizes up the fishbowl of parts before making his guess. At right, employees find it is perfectly acceptable to point a finger at familiar faces on the Nostalgic Corner display.



Tuesday

People who wouldn't think of donning a Halloween costume came to work all decked out in styles popular in the '50s and '60s.

Poodle skirts puffed out by crinolines and greasy ducktail hairdos were everywhere. Gals wore rolled-up jeans, "doughnut" bobbysox, shirttail tops and ponytails — and those awful cat's-eye eyeglasses ("How did we ever see anything?"). There was even a prom dress or two.

Guys generally opted for low-slung jeans, white socks and white T-shirts with a cigarette pack rolled up in one sleeve. Some showed off tattoos — real or of the permanent marker variety. It was really cool, man, cool.

Lunch and dinner was on the house this day. Imagine more than 3,000 roast beef dinners served to employees on all three shifts with nary a hitch.

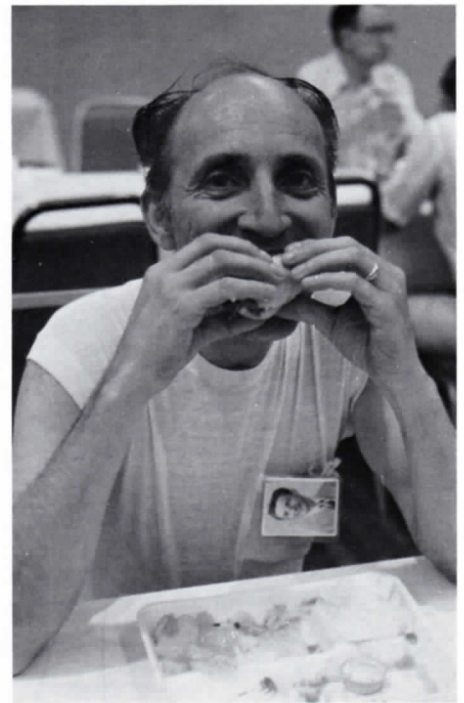
ARA cafeteria service provided extra staff to serve dining employees. The largest group was served during the first shift at four locations — the main cafeteria, the cable shop mezzanine, the auditorium and a cafeteria adjacent to Building 30.

The Cornhusker Pioneers' Corny Clowns helped maintain an even serving flow. When it was over, more than 1,900 pounds of roast beef had been consumed, along with 230 heads of salad lettuce and 375 gallons of coffee and tea.

Also during the lunch periods, each employee received a special gift to commemorate the anniversary — golden manicure implements in a travel case.

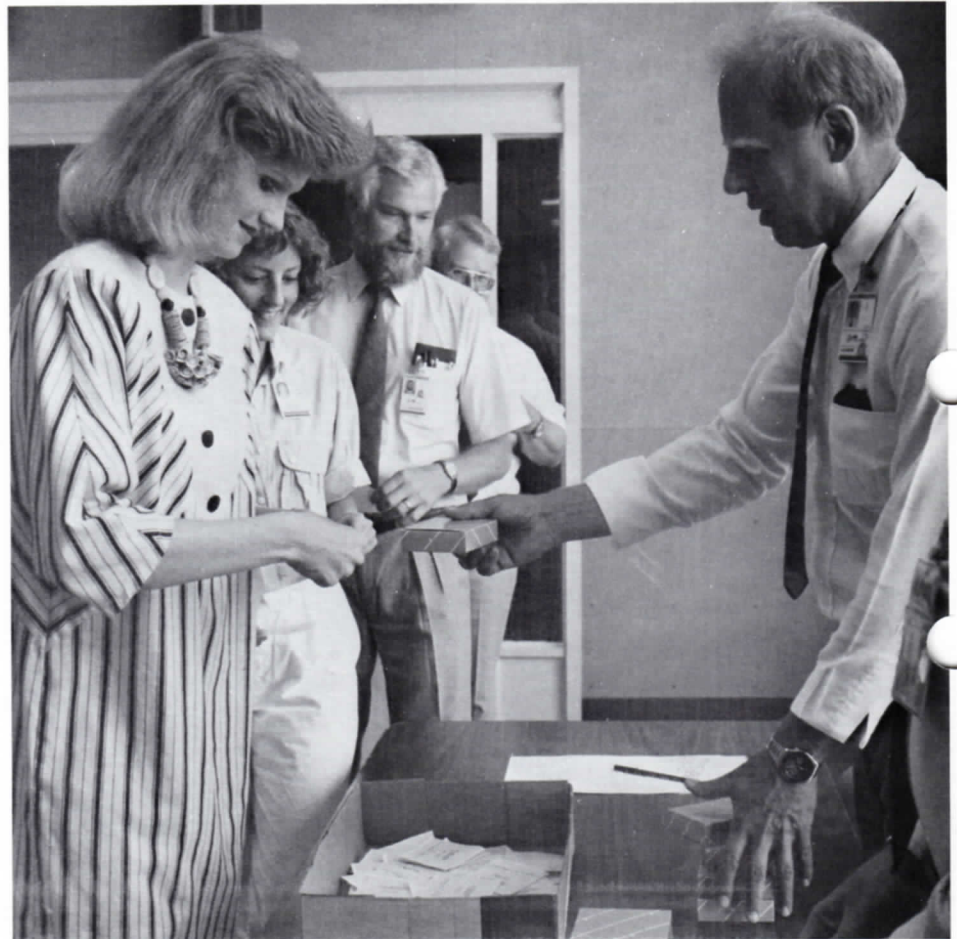


FASHION PARADE . . . Dave Hamlet (above) wears his best white socks with a prom tuxedo for '50s dressup day. With him are his wife Jerrie (left) and Mozella Grigsby. On the opposite page are more beboppers from the past and a group of employees sitting down to a roast beef dinner in the cafeteria near Building 30.





NO CHARGE TODAY . . . Employees work their way through the lunch lines in the main cafeteria and (right) pick up their commemorative gifts.



ALL IN FUN . . . Right, Terry Van Cleve, Ruth Lake, Nancy Griswold and Roger Nelson strike a "cool" pose. Below, Gary Reese gives us his '50s "tough guy" rendition and cable shop employees chow down in the mezzanine cafeteria (bottom photo).



Wednesday, Thursday

Wednesday's first-shift lunch period featured entertainment by "Music and More." The four-person troupe performed in song and skit, dinner-theater style.

By late afternoon, a collection of showroom-floor quality cars and trucks was being assembled in the Works' courtyard. They were antique and classic models owned by employees who volunteered to bring them to the plant for open house festivities.

The display, which proved to be a popular attraction during open house hours, included Model T's, street rods, pickups, nostalgia cars from the '50s and "muscle cars" from the '60s.

Participating car buffs were Bill Foxworthy, Ted White, John Mabry, Al Pegg, Butch Colanino, Richard Payne, Chester Sears, Steve Prerost, Jim Spudich, Doug Lowe, Dennis Behrens, Lou Carnazzo, Phil Warren, Jim Barrett, Wayne Hadfield, Joe Fiala, Ken Meisinger, Mike Fager, Gus Frics, Claude Welch, Charlie Williams, Chuck LeCrone, Chuck Masilko, Cathy Williamsen, George Sims, Greg Bubbert, Dan Moran and Al Kummer.

Open house hours were held on Wednesday night and again Thursday afternoon and Thursday night. An estimated 8,000 employees, retirees, their family members and guests toured the plant.

The tour route took visitors through the shops, office areas, the car display, a video production in the auditorium and Pioneer and WEOMA Club displays in the Employee Activities Mall.

Afterward, they could pause for cake and punch in the main cafeteria before receiving complimentary gifts — mini travel kits and beach balls — as they left the plant.



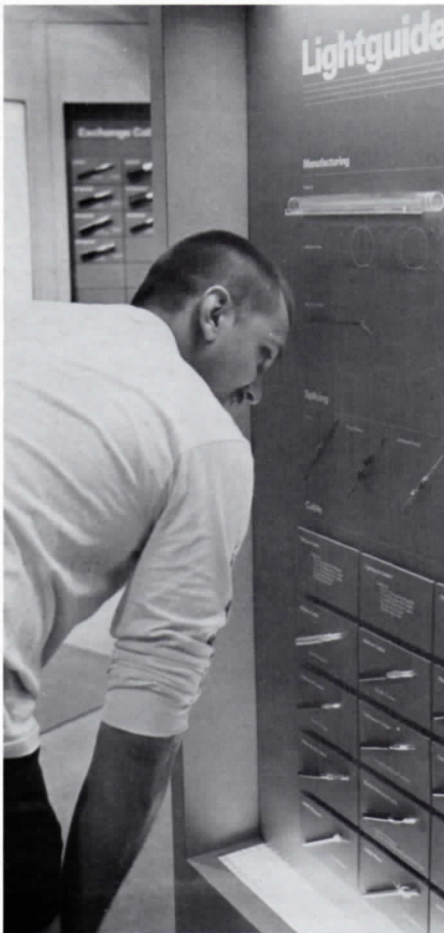


WELCOME . . . The line forms early for the first night of the open house (left). Willa Shelton (opposite page, below) greets employees and guests who visit the Works during daytime open house hours on Thursday. Below, Barbara and Ken Meisinger show off their '57 Chevy BelAir during open house. Earlier on Wednesday, a member of a song and dance troupe entertains main cafeteria diners.





SHOW AND TELL . . . For the first time at an open house, the boiler house is on the tour route (left). A visitor studies a display in the newly remodeled Product Display Center (lower left). Employee Don Wiczorek (below, right), who assembled the Nostalgic Corner photo display, takes Ben and Jean Garcia and wife Kathy through the cable shop. Formerly assigned to the cable shop, Wiczorek tells them, "I guess cable's still in my blood."





BACK IN TIME . . . Vintage vehicles commanded a steady stream of onlookers during the open house (top photo), while at least one toddler (above) relied on "wheels" of a different sort to tour facilities. And what's a celebration without the antics of the Pioneer Corny Clowns (right), who show off the Judge's Choice trophy they won in the recent Millard Days Parade.





***MORE VISITORS . . .** Manufacturing operations in the apparatus shop catch the eye of open house guests (top photo) while other visitors' eyes turn to cake and refreshments in the main cafeteria (right). Above: "Let's do this again real soon!"*



THE BEST GUESS . . . "Whatsits" contest winner Lillian Wyatt accepts a certificate of recognition from Jack McKinnon.

Friday

"She can't accept the prize," teased a co-worker who was eating lunch with Lillian Wyatt, "because she thinks the contest was rigged."

Manufacturing Vice-President Jack McKinnon had just announced that Wyatt had won the "Whatsits" guessing contest. During the day-shift lunch period in the main cafeteria, he presented her with a certificate which entitled her to pick up a 26-inch TV at a local furniture store — or to apply its value toward any other store purchase.

Well, the contest wasn't rigged — it just took a lucky guess. Wyatt's guess of 5,525 was merely two more than the number of pieces actually contained in the fishbowl — 5,223.



UNEXPECTEDLY EXPECTANT . . . This foursome missed Tuesday's dressup day, so they decided to dress up on Friday the way they generally dressed in the '50s and '60s — in maternity clothes. From left are Linda Johnson, Dee Kelly, Juanita Gilreath and Jean Belmudez.

ETOP center is dedicated

The ETOP (Enhanced Training Opportunities Program) Computer Training Center was officially dedicated in ceremonies held June 28.

AT&T Network Systems President Wayne Weeks and International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) President Jack Barry were on hand to cut the traditional ribbon.

The center is one of four located at AT&T manufacturing locations, the result of a collective bargaining agreement in 1986 between AT&T and IBEW. ETOP seeks to enhance occupational skills and offer career development opportunities for union-represented employees.

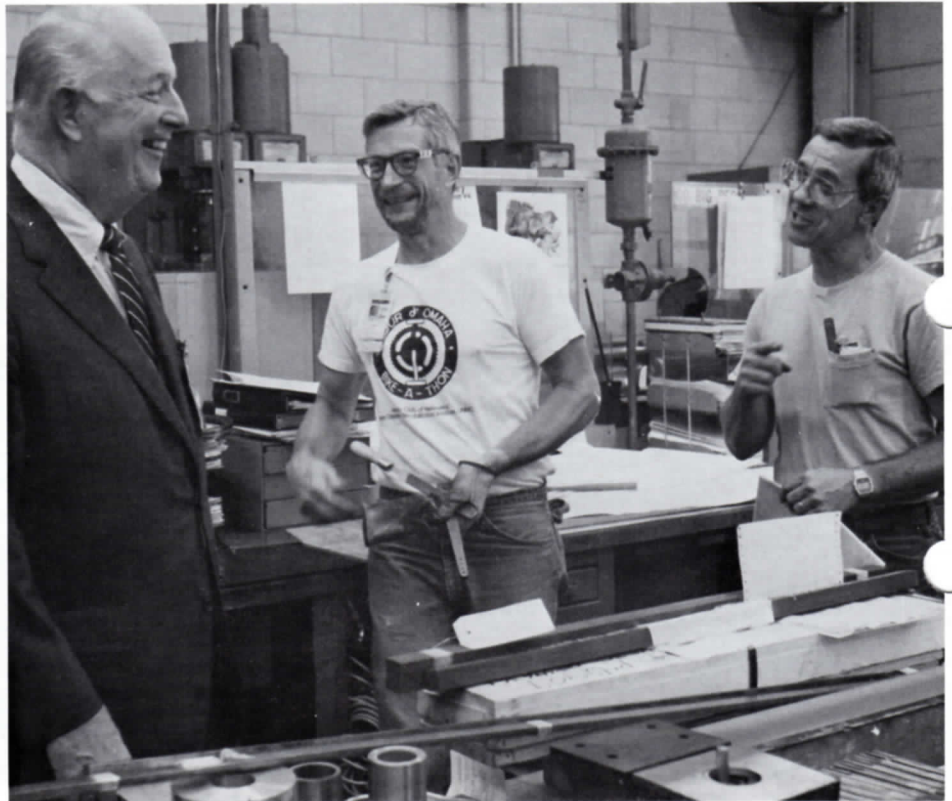
Currently 12 classes in computer awareness are under way, with a maximum of 20 employees in each class. The classes will run through August, and more classes will be scheduled for fall to accommodate additional employees interested in the course.



KEYS TO FUTURE . . . Weeks stresses the importance of the company working together with labor unions to ensure success in the marketplace.



IT'S OFFICIAL . . . IBEW President Jack Barry (left) and Network Systems President Wayne Weeks cut the ribbon to the new computer training center.



ON TOUR . . . Barry stops to talk with Ken Deman (left) and Larry Anderson in the machine construction shop before dedication ceremonies.

Retirements



Pat Nowak
18 years



Richard Christensen
32 years



Louis Novak
29 years



Robert White
32 years

Not pictured:

Howard Firebaugh — 41 years
Bernard Borg — 34 years
Fred Herre — 31 years
Rex Mallory — 31 years
Robert Houston — 30 years
Jillian LaRoche — 29 years
Hazel Rowe — 29 years
John Sutton — 29 years
Bonnie Cooper — 28 years
Marlin Johnson — 28 years
Marvin Opfer — 28 years
Kathryn Heitmeier — 25 years
Sue Tucker — 18 years



Glenn Lund
31 years



Charles Aufenkamp
31 years



Inez Dixon
20 years



Quinten Schiffer
18 years

Promotions announced at Works

The promotions of several Works employees have been announced.

Connie Schmidt has been named customer service, systems administration and new design support manager, Dept. 532.

Jim Morris was promoted to

supervisor, shielding and 700 cable products, Dept. 284.

Jack Spencer is now supervisor, tool room machine shop, Dept. 545.

Palmer Thomas, who was a senior engineer in Dept. 791, has been promoted to senior staff engineer, based in Atlanta.

Bob Burdett, formerly a planning engineer in Dept. 081, has been promoted to senior engineer.

Mike Commons, who was a planning engineer in Dept. 803, is now a senior engineer.

Mike MacVittie has been pro-

moted from planning engineer to senior engineer in Dept. 082.

Francis Scott has been promoted from planning engineer in Dept. 471 to senior engineer.



Connie Schmidt



Jack Spencer



Jim Morris



Mike Commons



Bob Burdett



Mike MacVittie



Francis Scott

Service anniversaries

40 years

R. J. Albers 7/23
D. L. Hanrahan 8/11

30 years

V. H. Brown 7/11
A. L. Johnson 7/31
D. K. Moore 7/21
I. L. Schroeder 7/14
T. S. Swierczek 7/19
K. E. Wild 7/7
J. D. Andrews 8/4
B. R. Bessey Jr. 8/4
G. J. Blohm 8/11
G. A. Colton 8/27
H. J. Cook 8/25
D. A. Desler 8/3
L. D. Duros 8/4
J. Egenberger 8/11
A. C. Fiala 8/5
C. H. Gerhard 8/25
M. L. Hansz 8/25
R. E. Head 8/6
D. J. Hegarty 8/19
R. L. Johnson 8/13
D. A. Krom 8/25
R. W. Latimer 8/11
W. S. Leander 8/27
M. L. Lewis 8/27
J. A. Mallory 8/5
I. J. Mascher 8/25
D. L. Neubaum 8/25
G. L. O'Connor 8/8
T. D. O'Neill 8/25
K. E. Ostrand 8/18
D. R. Reed 8/11
R. L. Scott 8/8
D. A. Study 8/11
R. E. Tjarks 8/5
T. L. White 8/20
J. B. Williams Jr. 8/4
E. R. Wolski 8/4

25 years

D. R. Allen 7/29
I. P. Flott 7/19
S. W. Miller 7/18
W. C. Tates 7/29
L. B. Thimman 7/23
E. K. Wegner 7/15
E. L. Whale 7/21
E. J. Belik Jr. 8/12
H. H. Dickman Jr. 8/13
J. S. Elliott 8/15
L. Felthausen 8/19
L. D. Griffen 8/12
J. V. Larocca 8/6
R. D. Madison 8/12
G. E. Reimers 8/28
L. B. Robinson 8/10
L. C. Simonson 8/6
O. W. Townsend 8/6
D. E. Trimble 8/19
D. S. Udron 8/19
J. A. Wacker 8/5
L. B. Wigg 8/20
W. M. Williams 8/22

20 years

L. J. Alexander 7/25
M. B. Anderson 7/20
B. C. Armendariz 7/18
M. E. Boruff 7/29
G. O. Dyke 7/29
H. R. Findeis 7/29
T. G. Furst 7/1
H. W. Hampton 7/5
T. T. James 7/1
M. L. Jensen 7/29
W. Levy 7/31
D. J. Mraz 7/2
C. L. Perryman 7/29
S. G. Schropp 7/10
J. H. Allen 8/5
B. L. Andersen 8/5
S. M. Baumgard 8/3
F. L. Cate 8/5
J. M. Chaloupka 8/29
T. I. Crabtree Jr. 8/12
B. K. Chrastil 8/26
A. F. Faltin 8/19
M. S. Holm Hansen 8/20
H. M. James 8/18
R. L. Krambeck 8/12
R. M. Mason 8/14
B. D. Opfer 8/13
J. J. Pabian 8/1
E. L. Palensky 8/12
C. M. Perry 8/29
B. H. Roberts 8/27
D. L. Sage 8/26

J. C. Sharpnack Jr. 8/26
G. F. Siebe 8/27
D. W. Stang 8/27
G. J. Stewart 8/13
P. F. Walters 8/27
S. H. Wilson 8/15

15 years

L. K. Carlson 7/24
D. H. Czaplewski 7/16
G. L. Kerans 7/16
S. H. Martin 7/16
G. E. Mock 7/18
C. S. Moody 7/1
E. M. Stoakes 7/23
J. L. Jones 8/29
E. P. Koch 8/10
L. L. Kosmicki 8/16
A. K. Novacek 8/21

10 years

S. H. Bernady 7/24
A. J. Delgado 7/5
T. W. Coffman 8/24
D. J. Rogers 8/26

5 years

R. C. Beaty 7/30
R. B. Allen 8/8
J. S. Badders 8/25
R. V. Barry 8/1
S. K. Beckwith 8/8
S. M. Bowman 8/25
F. E. Brown 8/8
S. B. Brzezinski 8/8
G. C. Bubbert 8/8
J. R. Call 8/2
C. G. Carlson 8/8
G. P. Carpenter 8/5
J. Z. Carstens 8/25
E. J. Casey 8/8
J. S. Cate 8/1
F. J. Centamore 8/29
M. W. Champion 8/11
P. A. Clark 8/8
L. M. Clements 8/9
D. A. Cohen 8/29
T. D. Connor 8/5
R. L. Cook 8/5
J. B. Cramer 8/25
J. H. Crawford 8/8
T. C. Cremeens 8/8
G. H. Danielsen 8/8
K. N. Danker 8/8
M. J. Doane 8/8
S. D. Dormer 8/2
A. D. Drebot 8/25
W. Dunlap 8/8

T. L. Dunn	8/29	D. F. McFadden	8/8
C. V. Eastberg	8/29	M. R. McMurtry	8/25
L. Ellis	8/8	A. N. Mehok	8/29
D. M. Ellsworth	8/25	E. A. Miles	8/29
J. S. Elvers	8/8	R. M. Mills	8/25
V. D. Embrey	8/11	R. D. Moberg	8/8
P. A. Filarecki	8/25	C. E. Morgan	8/8
R. J. Foster	8/8	B. B. Morley	8/8
R. M. Freiburg	8/26	D. M. Myers	8/8
M. C. French	8/1	R. A. Neiderheiser	8/16
D. R. Gantt	8/8	J. C. Norgard	8/25
J. J. Green	8/26	S. L. Ochampaugh	8/26
W. R. Grunke	8/8	S. R. Olsen	8/8
T. M. Gurney	8/1	M. D. O'Neill	8/25
A. W. Hansen	8/8	V. D. Palma	8/25
C. L. Harris	8/25	D. C. Parker	8/25
R. L. Harris	8/1	W. P. Placek	8/8
M. A. Hatcher	8/8	L. D. Polite	8/26
D. H. Hendren	8/8	M. B. Povondra	8/26
K. P. Hike	8/25	J. T. Prescher	8/8
R. M. Hill	8/2	W. L. Reppert	8/8
J. W. Hiykel	8/1	R. L. Richardson	8/8
J. S. Hoff	8/8	L. G. Ross	8/8
R. M. Hug	8/8	R. L. Saab	8/25
D. O. Hutzell	8/25	D. J. Salkeld	8/8
E. B. Iselin	8/8	C. S. Schaecher	8/25
C. W. Jarrett	8/8	L. O. Schott	8/1
S. K. Jay	8/25	B. E. Schuster	8/2
R. T. Jurgenson	8/8	B. T. Scott	8/8
A. B. Kasal	8/29	M. F. Sedlacek	8/8
J. L. Kirchhevel	8/25	J. H. Sharples	8/29
J. F. Kohout	8/8	F. W. Smith	8/8
C. H. Kreick	8/8	J. H. Spencer	8/8
G. M. Kroeger	8/2	G. L. Stockwell	8/8
D. L. Lair	8/25	F. W. Stubblefield	8/8
L. R. Landrum	8/29	J. M. Sutej	8/2
I. W. Lanham	8/8	S. B. Swoboda	8/8
A. B. Larsen	8/8	A. L. Thacker	8/2
K. L. Lathrop	8/25	M. L. Thomas	8/1
D. Leonard	8/29	D. C. Trapp	8/8
M. L. Liekhus	8/8	M. K. Udron	8/10
K. L. Marvin	8/9	K. K. Vachal	8/2
J. C. Mays	8/10	C. A. Velasquez	8/25
C. H. McCants	8/8	J. M. Visocky	8/15
		T. D. Voegeli	8/22
		L. R. Walker	8/25
		M. N. Walter	8/29
		R. G. Ward	8/29
		R. B. Welshinger	8/8
		D. L. West	8/8
		J. H. White	8/29
		M. J. White	8/8
		C. E. Wigginton	8/8
		C. K. Williams	8/25
		J. W. Wilson	8/1
		J. M. Winn	8/25
		B. S. Wischmann	8/8
		R. L. Wolverton	8/10
		R. J. Zagurski	8/25

Electronic timekeeping to begin

The manual clock-in cards hourly employees have been using soon will be a thing of the past.

On Aug. 8 the Omaha Works will cut over to the Electronic Timekeeping and Attendance System (ETAS). Hourly workers will clock in by using new identification passes that are magnetically encoded. Distribution of the passes began in early July.

Employees will insert their passes in new terminals that replace clock card machines. The system is expected to be a time-saver and has the capability to provide data instantly.

For example, ETAS will save employees time clocking in and supervisors will not have to sign and code each employee's card as the current system now requires.

Additional features of the system include the ability to review individual records and make changes, such as those pertaining to vacation days, absences and overtime hours.

Patent awarded

Bob Loesch has been awarded another U.S. patent.

The most recent patent, for electrical protective devices, is the sixth one Loesch has received.

Loesch is a senior engineer in Dept. 471.



Bob Loesch



Last frame

An idea that began in Dept. 266 is rapidly gaining momentum in the rest of the plant. By Christmastime, a number of needy children in the community will benefit.

Employees in Dept. 266 informally began collecting empty aluminum pop cans to bring to

the local recycling center. They earmarked the money received for their recycled cans to go toward projects to help needy children at Christmastime.

It wasn't long before employees in other departments wanted to contribute their empty cans, too — and Cans for Kids was born.

In about a month's time, almost \$130 has been raised and deposited into an account with the Bell Federal Credit Union. The recycling center pays 50 cents a pound for aluminum — about 22 cans.

Employees consume almost

17,000 cans of pop in one month, so the potential of raising money through recycling is a good one.

Fiber collection barrels have been placed in Buildings 30 and 50 and in the main cafeteria. Employees volunteer their time during breaks and lunch periods to collect the cans. They have taken turns hauling bags of collected cans to the center after work hours.

Above, Phyllis Depue (from left), Eileen Kojdecki, David Wells and Bev Opfer load cans to be taken to the recycling center.



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