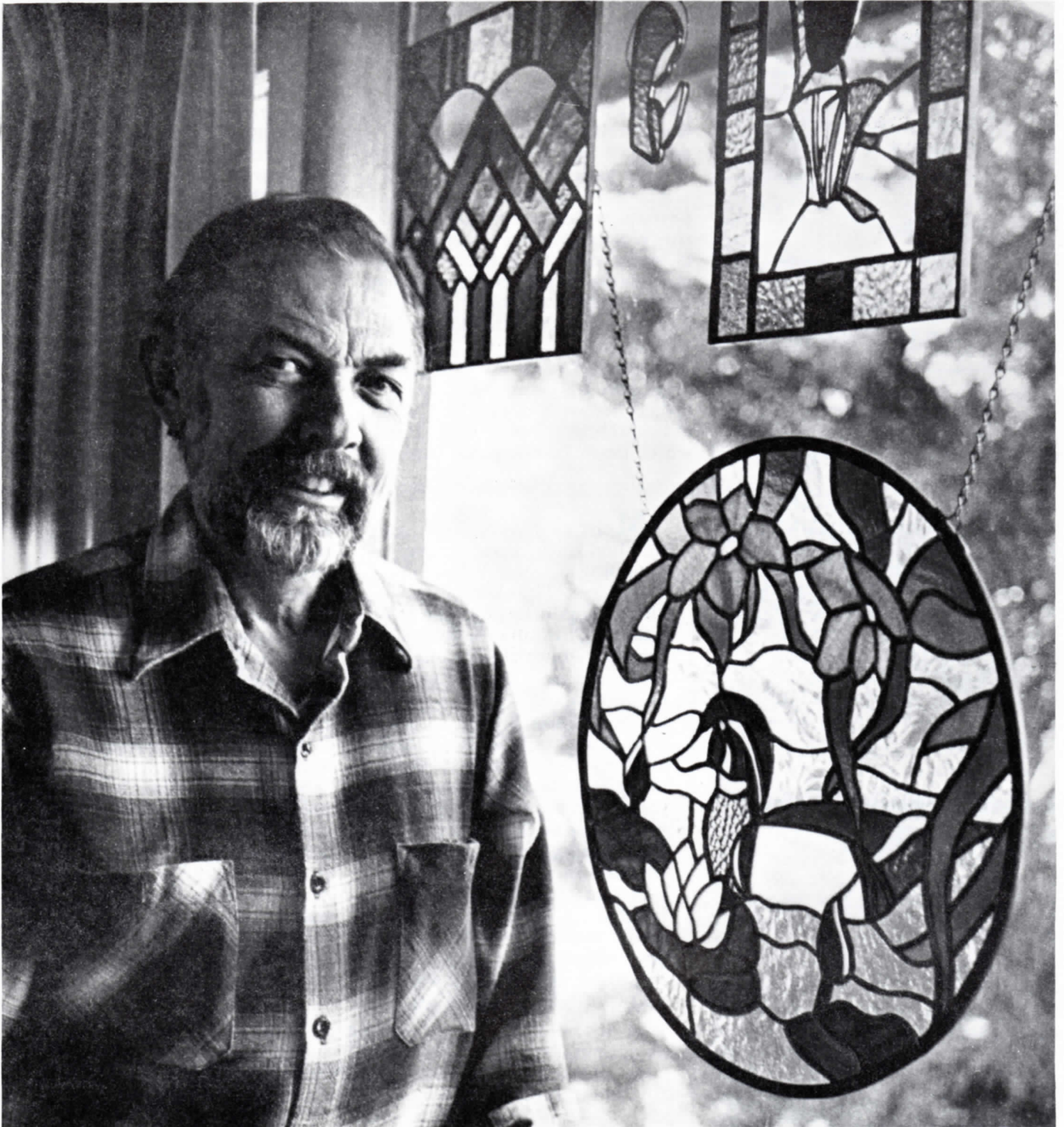


WESTERNER

Omaha Works
November/December 1982



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of hot water**

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make their goals**

On the cover

Even on a cloudy day, there's sunshine in Chris Christensen's living room. The stained glass artwork he makes seems to brighten up the room. Chris is one of the Cornhusker Chapter Pioneers who participated in the group's annual craft and hobby display earlier this month in the Works auditorium. He tells about his hobby in an article on Page 6.

WESTERNER

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Western Electric

Process water regains its cool

Nobody likes to be in hot water.

If it weren't for a newly expanded process water system at the Omaha Works, we'd be in plenty of hot water — about 10 million gallons of it daily.

About 10 million gallons of process water is circulated in the Works' system each day. It is water used in manufacturing operations to prevent machinery from overheating, much like a car's radiator water keeps the engine cool.

The water used for this purpose gets hot, and must be cooled before it is recycled into manufacturing operations. Used water flows to hot wells through

gravity drain systems beneath the shop floors.

Pumps at the hot wells, located in the mall between Buildings 30 and 50, send the water to the cooling tower to the rear of the boiler house. There the water is cooled 10 to 15 degrees before it is pumped back to the shops.

Construction to expand the Works' water system was done during the summer months last year and this year, said John Peterson, a Dept. 743 senior engineer overseeing the project.

In addition to refinements to the system, an expansion was necessary because more process water was being used in the

Many of you may not have finished all of your holiday shopping. I know I haven't.

And yet, Thanksgiving is already upon us and the traditional Christmas holidays are little more than a month away. It surely doesn't seem to be four months since I came to the Omaha Works.

During this brief time, however, I feel fortunate to have made friends with many of you. I have come to admire your genuine warmth and your willingness to go the extra mile in performing your jobs and accepting responsibilities.

Our monthly results show your efforts have been a key to the successful year we've had in 1982. We have an

excellent standing in the Cable and Wire Products Division, and it couldn't have been done without your help for which I thank you.

The year ahead — like the last few years — will not be easy, especially since we still are in the grip of a depressed economy, with its grim ramifications on our business and our jobs.

So, as we approach the holidays and time away from our jobs here, I hope you will take the opportunity to truly relax and savor the closeness of your families and friends. And in so doing, may you experience the peace of the season and renewed hope for the future.

General manager

manufacturing operations of Building 30, largely due to new molding presses that had been installed.

"This put a strain on the system," Peterson said, explaining that water was backing up because the demand for cooling water exceeded pipe capacity.

The gravity drain system from Building 30 was enlarged, and a new hot well concrete basin was poured adjacent to the ex-

isting basin. Two hot well return pumps were installed and new pipes to the cooling tower and from the tower to Building 30 were laid.

The improvements also provided for a "two-system" method whereby all water used by Building 30 is returned to Building 30, and water used by Building 50 is cooled and returned to the cable shop. The buildings do not share their water.

The expanded process water system also allows for more efficient cooling of water used in the air conditioning system during warm weather months, Peterson noted, in addition to doubling the process water capacity for Building 30.

So now there's really no reason to be in hot water at the Works — unless, of course, you're talking figuratively.



KEEP IT FLOWING . . . Pete Larson, a boiler operator in Dept. 744, monitors the operation of pumps used to send process water to the cooling tower. (One such pump is pictured.) He is standing in the new hot well addition. Warm water to be cooled collects beneath the floor.

The second time around

It's been said one picture is worth a thousand words.

The same may be true of captions to go with those pictures. While one caption may tell who's pictured and what they're actually doing and saying, there may be other captions left unsaid and unprinted — total deviations from reality — like the photos and captions on these pages.

Photos shown here were taken for old issues of the Westerner — only the captions have been changed (and not necessarily to protect the innocent).

It just goes to show, a picture may have only one real caption, but sometimes it's better . . . the second time around.



(Man at center, rear) "This part always scares me although I've seen this safety flick a hundred times!"



(Child, far left) "Next time leave me with a baby sitter!"

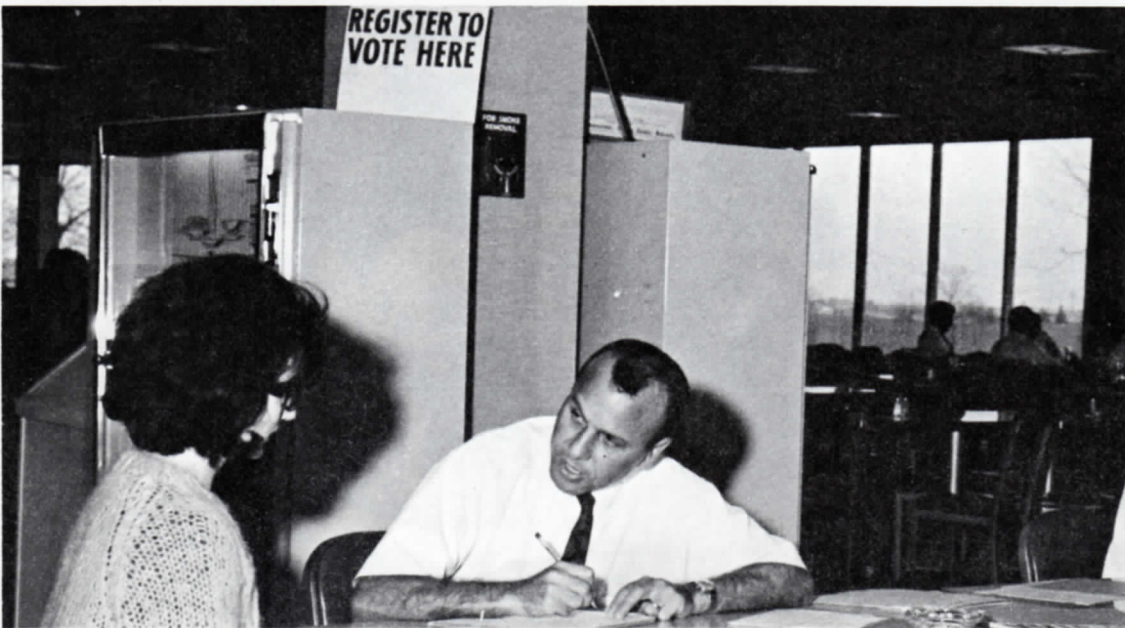


"Phew! This is the last time we give double coupons on Pioneer candy."



(Man, left) "I'm leaving — I don't have time to mess around waiting for a sales clerk!"

(Man, right) "There. Your new ears fit perfectly."



"Will you make up your mind? Are you a Democrat or a Republican?"

Hobbyists show fruits of labor

CIRCUS IN TOWN . . . Jean Shane's favorite characters in the Shane miniature circus are the clowns — "they make people happy." Prior to the Pioneer show, she set up some of the carved figures on a desk top near her work area.

Craft and hobby shows at this time of the year always seem to do a good job of putting people into a holiday mood.

Maybe it's because the sight of all of those handmade craft items and collectibles conjure thoughts of gifts that are unique and special.

The annual Cornhusker Chapter Pioneer craft and hobby show held earlier in November at the Works was no exception. More than 30 exhibits were displayed Nov. 4 and 5 in the auditorium by Pioneers and their spouses. Items ranged from paintings and pottery to needlework.

Several employees who had exhibits in the show talk about their crafts and hobbies here.

Miniature big top

The clowns and elephants and tigers and wagons of Chuck



and Jean Shane's miniature circus represent more than just 30 years of exacting work in wood carving: It represents a labor of love.

Their replica of an old-fashioned circus — from its sideshow to its menagerie to its big top — is a favorite of young and old anywhere the circus is shown. The chance to give children an enjoyable history lesson and to spark happy memories in adults makes this hobby worthwhile for the Shanes.

Jan, an inspector in Dept. 713, said the circus was really the idea of her husband (an inspector for the state). He designs his own patterns and carves each figure to scale. Jean helps paint the figures, make the tents and tapes music and sound effects for showings.

The Shanes have taken their 20 boxes of carvings and accessories to shopping malls in seven states. It takes them at least seven hours to set up the circus scene in an area approximately 12 by 24 feet.

The first piece Chuck carved was a baggage wagon, Jean said, using a pattern he had found. He made horses to go with it, and from then on he was hooked.

The Shanes developed a library of reference material to help them stay true to detail, Jean said. They've included a peg-legged man in the set-up because circus tradition holds that such a character brings good luck to the company. Several characters, like the snake charmer and sword swallower, are animated. The display is so realistic that if you look closely at the straw-covered ground by the animals, you will see . . . coffee beans.

Jan said she enjoys helping Chuck with the circus and traveling to shows with him. Given that her husband is such a fan of circuses and that "in any marriage you have to give and take," his hobby became hers, too.

Jean admits she "never was too crazy about circuses — but I sure like them now."

FOB WATCHER . . . Bill Pokorny would like to meet other watch fob collectors. Maybe they can help him learn more about the background of his collection.



Valuable "gimmicks"

Years ago they were advertising gimmicks that were practical, too. Today Bill Pokorny, a plater in Dept. 435, considers watch fobs collector's items.

Before wristwatches became popular, the fobs were ornaments attached to straps or chains holding pocket watches. A man kept the watch in his pocket with the chain and fob left to hang on the outside.

Bill has been collecting fobs for at least 15 years, ever since his uncle gave him one. It was an advertising "giveaway" for a business, and it got Bill thinking about other such fobs.

He decided to keep his eyes open for a fob advertising the John Deere Co. — "I had some of their tractors and thought it would be nice," he said. When his brother and sister-in-law presented him with such a fob as a gift — a very rare find, he said — Bill began collecting fobs as a hobby.

Since then, with the help of his family and a friend, he has collected fobs bearing names

which include Future Farmers of America, Studebaker and even Western Electric. That fob features a candlestick-style telephone and the caption "Save time and freight — telephone our nearest house."

Bill's still trying to track down its origin and thinks it dates back to the early 1920s. "I feel lucky to have it," he said.

Tracing the history of the fobs is very difficult. Most antique dealers and collectors know little of their background, he said.

Bill's found another minor problem with his hobby, too. It's not easy to wear one of his watch fobs whenever he wants: "They don't make pants with watch pockets anymore."

Strictly clean cut

Chris Christensen is a perfectionist, and his stained glass artwork shows it.

The colors have to be right and the leading well-fitted — no messy solder points, either.

That's pretty good for someone who began the craft only three

(Continued on Page 8)

Pioneer hobbyists put on show

(Continued from Page 7)
years ago and taught himself the technique of stained glass work.

His first attempt wasn't so successful, however. He took a shortcut and didn't stretch the lead he used. When the glass pieces all were in place, "the whole thing just sort of drooped," he said.

Now he pays attention to textbook instructions, and the windows of his home show off the many pieces he has completed. His favorite is a colorful wood duck design hanging in his living room picture window.

Another of his proud accomplishments is a red, white and blue elephant designed for the local Republican party. He has designed parrots perched in hoops and radiant rainbows. Recently he began to make Tiffany-style lampshades, and he also has fitted designs into window frames.

His is a difficult hobby. For one thing, cutting the glass is an art in itself. "At first, you're afraid of it," Chris said. Even buying sheets of glass can be time-consuming as well as expensive. Chris vacations in Colorado and buys from a wholesaler there. That way he saves on shipping charges and selects exactly what he wants.

Chris said he's still learning about his craft the more involved he becomes. He thinks his designs show more style now (he thought his previous designs used too many straight lines). And he's learning more about the equipment he needs to make a better finished product.

But one thing he learned very early: "Always keep a box of Band-Aids handy."

Baker by the dozens

Some folks decorate their walls with family photos, wall hangings and other ornamenta-

ARTIST AT WORK
... With a little practice, anyone who has a decorating tips kit can turn out fancy cakes, said Shirley Arp.



tion, but Shirley Arp has something different. Her spare bedroom's walls are lined with an assortment of cake baking pans in all shapes and sizes.

Shirley, a winder in Dept. 282, is an artist whose canvas is baked cake mixes (they taste better than "scratch" cakes, she said) and whose paints are fluffy frostings in every color imagined.

Using her special cake pan molds, Shirley has made cakes that look like turkeys in tuxedos, football helmets and oversized hamburgers. She's even used fruit juice cans to bake cake shapes she's needed.

Two years ago, Shirley took cake decorating classes and her electric mixer hasn't rested since. After she gets off from her third-shift job, she often spends the day baking and experimenting with new designs.

She's learned a number of baker's secrets along the way, too. For example, she bakes and freezes cakes in advance, then decorates them — still

frozen — on the day needed. "No crumbs," she said.

Shirley also beats the batter longer than instructions indicate "to give it more volume." She then bakes a cake at a little over 325 degrees for 10 or 12 minutes longer, insisting the result is a moister cake.

Her family, friends and co-workers are the recipients of Shirley's baked goods. She's made elaborate, tiered wedding and anniversary cakes and specialty cakes that reflect Shirley's sense of humor.

Once a co-worker who was celebrating a birthday complained that he was feeling old. Shirley baked him a cake in the shape of an open book. A rocking chair was etched in frosting on one page and nursing homes listed on the other.

The irony in Shirley's hobby is that "I don't even like cake," she said. Instead, she enjoys the creative baking it affords — and surprising her co-workers with a fancy cake. "I think they enjoy it, too."

etc.

1 million safe hours

The people in Dept. 435 really do like big numbers.

They're the folks who manufacture 710 connectors by the thousands.

As of Oct. 13, 1982, they're the people who most recently have accumulated 1 million man-hours without a disabling injury. With 264 employees working on three shifts, manufacturing operations include the use of punch presses and other equipment calling for constant attention to safe working practices.

This is the first time Dept. 435 has reached the million man-hour safety milestone. The last significant milestone in safe working hours was attained on Oct. 19, 1981 by Dept. 361, which achieved 5 million man-hours without a serious injury.

Party time

The Omaha Works has

planned a couple of parties next month for adults as well as the kiddies.

The annual Christmas party luncheon for Works retirees will be held Dec. 8 in the main cafeteria. Retirees may come at 11 a.m. and socialize in the auditorium, with lunch served at 12:45 p.m.

On Dec. 11, Santa will pay a visit to the Works during the annual WEOMA Club Christmas party for employees and their families. Included in the day's events will be refreshments, gifts, cartoon shows and entertainment by WE Corny Clowns and area choirs.

Employees should park in the east office parking lot and enter through the lobby. The party runs from 1 to 5 p.m., but to avoid overcrowding at any one time, employees are asked to attend at times according to their organizations: 1 to 2:30 p.m., employees from Organizations 200 and 300; 2:30 to 3:30 p.m., Organizations 500 and 700; 3:30 to 5 p.m., Organization 400.

National Pioneer award

Western Electric's Old North State Chapter of the Telephone Pioneers has been awarded the People Who Care Award by

the national Telephone Pioneer Association. The chapter, whose membership is made up of employees from Greensboro, Burlington and Winston-Salem locations, was honored for refurbishing a boys' dormitory at the Junior Order Children's Home near Lexington, N.C. Their work saved it from possible closing by the state.

The chapter is the first Western Electric Pioneer group to receive the association's most prestigious national honor.

BSSP/SSP results

The following are the August unit values for both the Bell System Savings Plan (BSSP) and the Savings and Security Plan (SSP) for non-salaried employees:

	<u>BSSP</u>	<u>Units Credited Per Dollar</u>
AT&T	<u>Units Value</u>	<u>Units Credited Per Dollar</u>
Government	2.8414	.3519
Obligations	2.8582	.3498
Equity Portfolio	1.8462	.5416
Guaranteed		
Interest Fund	1.3340	.7495

	<u>SSP</u>	<u>Units Credited Per Dollar</u>
AT&T	<u>Units Value</u>	<u>Units Credited Per Dollar</u>
Guaranteed	1.3280	.7529
Interest Fund	1.4321	.6982

Smokeless day slated for Nov. 18

Nov. 18 is D day for smokers — the Great American Smokeout.

People from all over the nation have pledged to take a day off from smoking, part of an annual campaign conducted by the American Cancer Society. It is hoped that smokers who kick the habit successfully for one day will go on to abandon smoking permanently.

Omaha Works employees already have been asked to participate in the smokeout, having received copies of a pledge in their October pay details. If you smoke, you're asked to quit

for a day. If you don't smoke, you pledge to help someone who wants to quit.

The smokeout has been incorporated in the third phase of the Wellness Program the medical department is conducting at the Works. The third phase will emphasize the benefits and "how tos" of quitting smoking.

Similar to the first two phases of the program (nutrition and exercise), posters and employee newsletters will be used to spread the message.

Various forms of help will be available to those serious about giving up smoking, said Dr. Lee Grant, Works medical director. This includes a "Why Quit Quiz" on film and self-help kits distributed to those who attend. If enough interest is shown, group sessions directed by employees formerly smokers will be formed, using the American

Cancer Society's "The Fresh Start Program."

The main message the third phase seeks to get across to people is that smoking causes life-threatening diseases over a period of years — for example, emphysema and lung cancer.

Once they develop, treatment can do little to slow their fatal progression, Dr. Grant said. However, if a longtime smoker quits before he develops these diseases, within five years his chances of developing them are the same as that of a non-smoker. Similarly, a smoker's increased risk of heart attack disappears soon after he quits smoking.

The third phase of the Wellness Program will continue through the first of the new year before a fourth phase on handling stress begins.

Some like to bike, some run

About the time Denny Horner was getting ready to tie the laces of his running shoes, Charles Petersen was untying his.

Denny was preparing for the Omaha Corporate Cup Run held Sept. 19 in the Downtown area, a race in which he was the first to cross the finish line of Omaha Works employees entered.

Charles, meanwhile, had just finished a bike trip across the state, starting from Julesburg, Colo., just three miles from the Nebraska border.

Both, coincidentally, work in the same department (743), where Charles is an engineer and Denny is an engineering associate. Both like physical activity outdoors and the sense of accomplishment it can give. One just prefers to "hoof it" while the other pedals.

The Corporate Cup Run was sort of a "comeback" run for Denny, who began to do serious running about four years ago. He developed knee problems and had surgery last year, but still had trouble with his right leg.

He took up bicycling — "it made my legs feel good," he said — and a specialist prescribed specific exercises to strengthen his leg. In April of this year he began running again, very gradually increasing his speed and total time spent running.

Now he runs daily early in the morning before work, averaging 42 miles a week this past summer. He's back to running a mile in six minutes (in a six-mile run), the same time before his knee injury.

Placing 26th in the Corporate Cup "was a documented personal best" for him, Denny said. But he quickly added that everyone who ran — or jogged — in the race and finished regardless of their time achieved a "personal best."

For Charles, biking across Nebraska was not so much for achieving his personal best as it was "for bragging rights," he quipped. His wife, Ginger, drove him and a friend to the starting point.

The two bikers rode on the shoulders of old Highways 30 and 34, covering 373 miles in about 5½ days. They rode for about seven hours a day, staying in small-town motels at night.

The trip generally went without incident, "except one day a dog followed us for about 10 miles," Charles said. And because the weather turned cooler

than expected, he wore the long corduroy slacks he had brought for nighttime wear.

Charles, who has been bike-riding "for 10 years or so — ever since it became fashionable again," said they weren't trying for a speed record, just the right to say they did it. In fact, when they rode into Omaha and onto L Street at noon, Charles waved toward the Works buildings, thinking a co-worker might notice him.

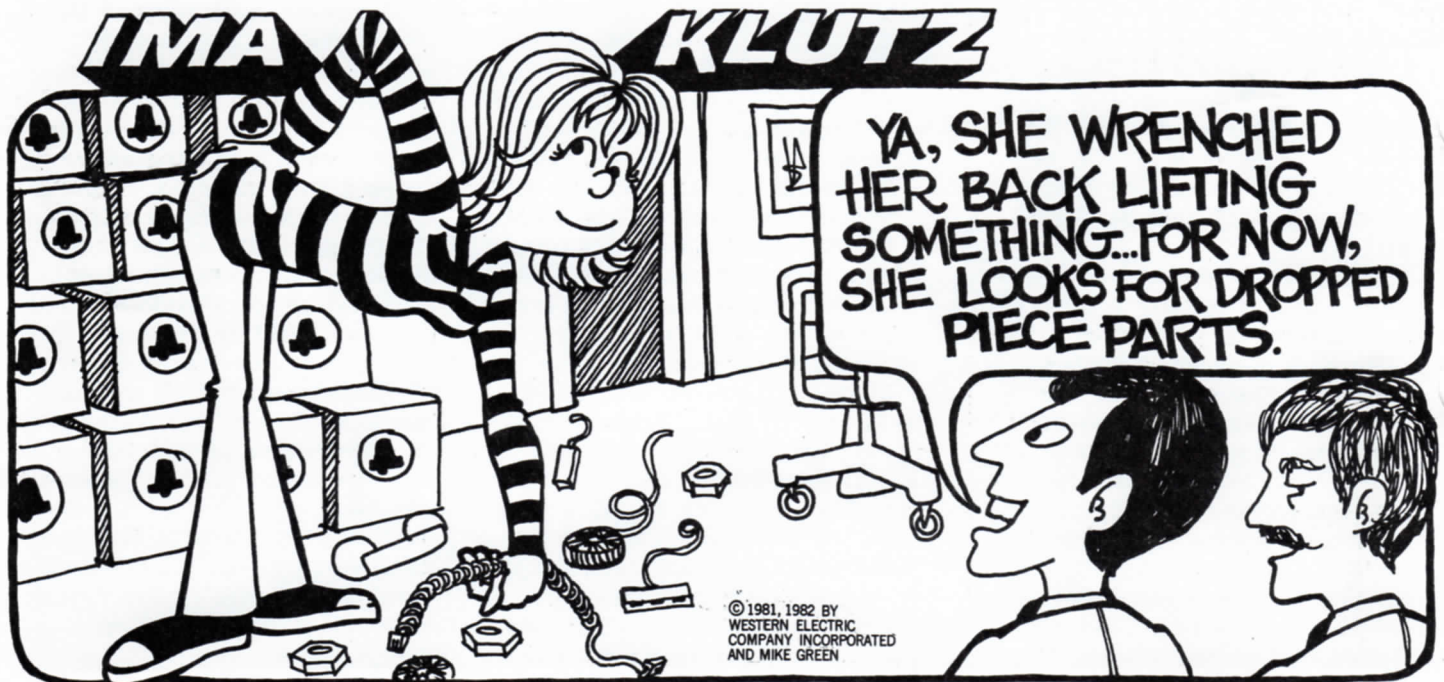
At lunchtime — is he kidding?

Cup finishers

Omaha Works employees were among more than 2,000 people who participated in the second annual Omaha Corporate Cup Run Sept. 19. The event is a fund raiser for the American Lung Association of Nebraska.

The first five male employees from the Works to cross the finish line (in order) and their times were Denny Horner (26th overall at 36:28), Del Wilke (38:37), Al Weaver (39:15), Ken Deman (40:29) and Carlos Chavez (40:32).

The first five women from the Works were Skip Vencil (58:46), Yvette Yates (59:14), Judy Tyler (102:28), Judy Stroy (105:17) and Doria Preston (108:1).



Service anniversaries

35 years

S. C. Falcone 253 11/11

30 years

R. H. Gulliksen 441 11/24
H. L. Woellner 271 11/19
E. G. Herzog 431 12/25
W. T. Joyce Jr. 282 12/26

25 years

V. A. Ahrens 810 11/5
E. L. Drvol 741 11/18
W. R. Gewinner 313 11/4
D. M. Matthes 439 11/24
O. G. Morrissey 714 11/7
V. V. Orso 745 11/20
W. E. Parks 445 11/29
J. W. Peterson 743 11/25
A. C. Burkman 311 12/2
L. J. Gurbacki 253 12/27
L. W. Hunt 745 12/30
R. E. Krupicka 745 12/2
R. D. Lamb 431 12/5
P. E. Lawler 271 12/23
C. C. Syslo 741 12/9
M. M. Theede 713 12/4

20 years

M. M. Kennedy 435 11/15
P. W. Peitzmeier 441 11/17
S. H. Schultz 445 11/29
L. R. Bluhm 3443 12/11
R. W. Dye 252 12/13
D. E. Hamilton 251 12/3
R. O. Hart 312 12/17
T. L. Latimer 253 12/31
M. L. McKnight 445 12/3
S. H. Mertz 511 12/19
E. A. Petricek 447 12/3
J. J. Scott 439 12/13
B. W. Spencer 437 12/14
J. H. Stanfield 313 12/4
D. S. Stuart 435 12/10
J. A. Willis 287 12/5

15 years

M. N. Adamiak 435 11/3
W. H. Bader 252 11/6
V. G. Barker 435 11/8
R. I. Browns 312 11/1
E. M. Flott 287 11/28
G. H. Friesell 312 11/14
H. H. Holck 439 11/6

P. P. Kight 431 11/1
R. L. Ludlow 445 11/27
G. A. Mulder 283 11/28
J. C. Stroy 439 11/8
B. Stuto 431 11/6
D. O. Trost 435 11/13
T. M. Vacanti 313 11/13
D. L. Wineinger Jr. 252 11/6
J. R. Chambers 439 12/14
C. R. Dixon 447 12/22
V. K. Gundlach 439 12/11
C. C. Hendricks 749 12/12
D. M. Lynch 476 12/26
M. M. Malone 447 12/3
J. D. Proksel 445 12/26
W. Rokus 445 12/18
R. C. Schaaf 282 12/4
D. L. Stastny 313 12/11
J. K. Witte 439 12/26
M. Z. Wortman 445 12/17

Affirmative Action supported

The Omaha Works invites all employees and applicants who believe themselves to be handicapped, special disabled veterans or veterans of the Vietnam era to identify themselves to the personnel organization, if they wish to be considered under the Affirmative Action Program.

The identification is sought on a voluntary basis only. Refusal to provide the company with the information in no way will subject the employees or applicants to any kind of adverse treatment.

This invitation is communicated to all employees and applicants as a reaffirmation of our commitment to equal oppor-

tunity. Information submitted to the company will be kept confidential and used only for Affirmative Action purposes.

The management of the Omaha Works firmly supports the company's commitment to full compliance under the Affirmative Action Program for the Handicapped and Disabled and Vietnam Era Veterans (AAP-H/V).

L. B. (Timm) Timmerman, department chief of human resources, has been delegated the responsibility to administer the program. He is the appointed head of equal opportunity programs at the Omaha Works.

When needs of the business permit an expansion of or advancements within our work force, he will monitor the Affirmative Action Program to ensure that, where feasible, we have met our commitment to increase job opportunities for the qualified handicapped individu-

als and covered veterans. Assisting him is Works equal opportunity investigator, Gail Bailey (Ext. 3597).

Updated copies of the AAP-H/V have been distributed to all supervisors and also are on file in the personnel office, available for employee inspection.

All persons who believe themselves covered by this program (that is, the provisions of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and/or the revised Vietnam Era Veterans Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974) and who believe that an alleged violation of these acts occurred, are asked to contact Gail Bailey. She will provide counseling, assistance or information related to filing a complaint.

Employees and applicants are protected from coercion, intimidation, interference or discrimination for filing a complaint or assisting in an investigation under these acts.



Last frame

Give Jan Menks a crochet hook, some yarn and a doll and she'll put together an outfit you're unlikely to match in even the most fashionable of doll clothing lines.

Jan, an assembler in Dept. 435, is chairman of the annual "Dress-a-doll" project this year at the Omaha Works. The Salvation Army provides dolls to be dressed by employees or

family members. Then the dolls are distributed to needy children at Christmas.

"The response this year was tremendous," Jan said. Works employees signed up to dress a total of 348 dolls. Employees would have dressed even more dolls, had there been more to distribute, she said.

The outfitted dolls were displayed in the Employee Activities Mall and in Building 20 until mid-November. Their clothes ranged from handsewn baby layettes to elaborate gowns.

Jan prefers to crochet instead of sew the clothes, a hobby

she developed as her young daughter was growing up. She makes ruffled gowns complete with parasols, reminiscent of the antebellum era.

A doll she dressed last year, "Little Red Riding Hood," won an honorable mention from judges who viewed dolls from all over the city displayed at the Crossroads.

"I was so surprised," Jan said. However, she added that the best part of the project was making a costume, thinking about how happy it would make a little girl on Christmas morning.



Western Electric

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