

# the Westerner

Omaha Works

December 15, 1978





# for your information

The payroll and financial offices will be closed during the holiday period of Dec. 25 through Jan. 1. Wages for Dec. 25 through Dec. 31 will be advanced to hourly rated employees on Dec. 21. Included with that payment will be wages for the week of Dec. 11 through Dec. 17. Checks will be distributed in the normal manner. If an employee will be absent Dec. 21 and if he normally receives his check at work, he may request in advance that his check be mailed to reach

his home on payday. No checks will be distributed Dec. 28. On Jan. 4, hourly rated employees will be paid for the week of Dec. 18 through Dec. 24.

Salaried employees will receive their end-of-the-month payment on Dec. 22. Overtime for the week of Dec. 4 through Dec. 10 will be included on these checks. Any overtime for Dec. 11 through Dec. 31 will be included with the mid-month advance on Jan. 15 . . .

. . . Two new published authors are in our midst. Larry McKenna and Alex Quintana — senior engineer and occupational engineer, respectively, in Dept. 275 — co-authored an article recently published in Tin and Its Uses. The journal is a quarterly publication of the International Tin Research Institute, and its purpose is to promote the uses of tin. The two engineers wrote an article about the Works' central tin plater . . .

. . . Footnote on the Nov. 10 Westerner issue: Sorry, John Bowen, at 6 feet 8 you're not the tallest at the Works. At 6 feet 9, Dana Livingstone of Dept. 741 thinks he is. And remember the baby pictured at the ground-breaking ceremony? That "baby" is Karen Paustian Lafferiere of Omaha, who had come to the ceremony with her mother, Alice Paustian, a longtime Millard resident. Today, Karen herself has a baby — 1-year-old Jason.

## On the cover

Santa (Clarence Tompsett, Dept. 746) reads a Christmas story to Jennifer and Jeffrey Saltzman, 2-year-old twins of Pete and Helen Saltzman of Depts. 252 and 443, respectively.

## Dolls wear holiday best

Hardly a person walked by the glass-enclosed room on the first floor of the administration building without doing a double take or stopping to "ooh" and "ahhh." The object of their attention was row upon row of impeccably dressed dolls.

Annually at Christmas, Works employees or relatives and friends of employees dress dolls to be given to Omaha area needy children. This year the Works dressed about 300 dolls which the Salvation Army will distribute before Christmas. Private individuals and other firms participate in the dress-a-doll project, too.

Late last month, the dolls were packed in boxes and brought to the Salvation



Army. Two Works employees who helped dress the dolls almost got shipped in the shuffle. Pictured here are Gloria Coleman (left), Dept. 251, and Sandy Prue, Dept. 444.

This is the time of the year we all eagerly anticipate — a time for families to be reunited and friends to gather. And, for us at the Omaha Works, it's a chance to forget about work for a while and really savor our leisure time.

It also gives me the opportunity to thank you for the friendly spirit in which you have welcomed me to the Works and have made me feel at home. I'm looking forward to meeting personally with more of you this coming year.

As you celebrate the season this vacation period, please keep safety in mind so that happy occasions will be just that. May your holidays be filled with joy and may the new year be one of good health and peace.

General Manager

**the  
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**Western Electric**



# service anniversaries december



Walter Baumgart  
40 years  
12/2/38



Harold Walker  
35 years  
12/23/43



Grace Jones  
25 years  
12/30/53

20 years

R. R. Attebery  
J. M. Baker  
R. E. Bartunek  
W. T. Beebee  
K. L. Bernhardt  
R. G. Brockman  
G. C. Coakley  
R. P. Cronin  
A. F. Czerwinski  
R. O. Dekker  
D. H. Dolezal  
A. K. Dusek  
J. E. Fletcher  
R. D. Fugger  
J. L. Fuller  
K. E. Gamlin  
C. J. Gardner  
D. S. Geary  
R. O. Gillies Jr.  
J. C. Grzywa  
B. S. Heavican  
D. T. Hegarty

R. D. Holling  
W. H. Jensen  
J. T. Jerstin  
H. L. Jones  
W. E. Kasal  
T. R. Kramar  
L. C. Kramer  
W. E. Lamb  
D. V. Leadholm  
D. E. Lieber  
D. A. Lowe  
E. W. Petersen  
M. C. Rankin  
R. W. Rinne  
R. D. Seals  
E. L. Shobe  
R. L. Simons  
R. D. Smith  
R. J. Stevens  
J. E. Sutton  
E. S. Wagner

15 years

P. L. Lueders  
M. A. Macvittie  
C. B. Murphy  
L. B. Perryman  
M. K. Pope  
E. L. Rodriguez



Donald McCall  
25 years  
12/12/53



Frank Zajac  
25 years  
12/12/53

10 years

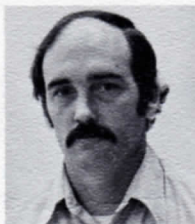
L. T. Johnson  
W. L. Masek  
V. L. Morris  
K. D. Olson  
E. H. Priborsky

D. G. Ramsey  
L. H. Randle  
E. W. Ries  
M. H. Simons

## suggestion box

More than one person has been wearing a thinking cap these days, judging from the number of suggestion awards recently presented. The awards represent a total yearly savings to the Omaha Works of almost \$24,000.

Stephen  
Merrill



The largest of the suggestion awards, \$1,350, went to **Stephen Merrill** of Dept. 438. He suggested that two extra load sheets be supplied to the cable shop — one to the coiling operator, another to the packing op-

erator. His idea permits a more efficient use of packing drums.

Other recipients of awards and their ideas are as follows:

**Barbara Morehouse**, Dept. 435, \$470. Heating distorted dielectric liners can minimize distortion so that the liners can be used.

**William McCormick**, Dept. 741, \$360. Modification of the binding post coin and trim machine would allow for horizontal tool removal, an improvement in manufacturing operations.

**Gordon Kollscheen**, Dept. 439, \$305. His suggestion calls for omitting the self-clinching "PEM-Nuts" from the top support assembly used in "E" size 40-type cabinets.

**Fred Holz**, Dept. 439, \$290. Repairs can be made to 76 binding post terminal blocks with a clearance problem by inserting a steel bar between the terminal blocks and reheating the as-

sembly in the curing oven.

**Ronald Hanner**, Dept. 746, \$260. The steering mechanism on empty reel carts can be changed to incorporate a grease seal at both ends of the spindle column, thus cutting maintenance costs.

**Ronald Neneman**, Dept. 438, \$230. A two-bladed cutter can be used to prepare plastic cable stubs for the 53A4-50-P cable terminal.

**Ed Golda**, Dept. 435, \$210. The supplier's carton which normally is scrapped on the "closure" job can be reused for intra-departmental handling of covers, index strips, connectors and other plastic parts.

**Phillip Stroy**, Dept. 745, \$115. By making the heat block of the 710 connector assembly machine out of steel rather than aluminum, stripping of threads when the heat bars are changed is eliminated.



# A precious gift he gave

There's a gift missing under Ella Stief's Christmas tree. She "opened" it early — Jan. 8 of this year, to be exact. The gift she received was her life; the giver was her son-in-law, Fred Ellerbusch of Dept. 744.

What happened that winter's day in January was that Fred performed cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) on Ella when she suffered an apparent heart attack. Twice he administered CPR until his mother-in-law could receive treatment in a hospital.

An attending physician verified that if Fred had not come to Ella's rescue by using CPR, she most likely would have died before help could reach her. For the action he took, Fred has been awarded the Western Electric Presidential Citation as well as the Red Cross Certificate of Merit and accompanying pin.

The citation was signed by the president of Western Electric, Donald E. Procknow. The Certificate of Merit, the highest award bestowed by the Red Cross for such a lifesaving deed, bears the original signature of President Jimmy Carter. The awards were presented Dec. 5 during a luncheon meeting of the large staff. General Manager Warren G. Corgan made the presentation.

Fred, who was certified to use CPR through a training program at the Works two years ago, recounted the day he came to the aid of his mother-in-law. He and his family were visiting Ella at her farm home in Aurelia, Iowa, when she went into the kitchen to check on Sunday dinner.

**FRED HEARD** a "thud," he said, and immediately going into the kitchen he found Ella on the floor "stiff as a board and turning blue." He placed a blanket under her shoulders, tilting her head and clearing her air passageway. He discovered she was not breathing and she had no carotid pulse. He began to administer CPR, which alternates artificial respiration and artificial circulation techniques, the latter done via chest compressions. Because Ella's body was rigid, Fred had to pry her jaw open to breathe air into her lungs.

She began breathing on her own within two or three minutes, although remaining unconscious. When the rescue squad arrived about 20 minutes later, the squad attendant told Fred he didn't know CPR, so Fred rode in the squad with Ella for the 40-mile trip to the hospital. "I rode

the whole way with my ear to her mouth," he said, to detect a change in her breathing.

A few miles from the hospital, Ella quit breathing and had no pulse, so Fred administered CPR once more until she began breathing on her own. Doctors told Fred that Ella suffered heart failure, causing her to have seizures.

Today Ella is on medication and her life is nearly back to normal. "She's enjoying life — she's driving her car all over," Fred said. This past year she celebrated her 77th birthday and became a great-grandmother to twin girls.

**FRIENDS TELL** Ella how glad they are that Fred knew CPR and saved her life. Ella always relays such comments to Fred along with her own thanks, "and that's kind of touching," he said.

As for being labeled a hero, Fred doesn't consider what he did as being so out of the ordinary. "I think it's in the

same class as knowing how to swim," he said. "If you're standing by watching somebody drown, what good are you?"

What happened with Ella makes Fred an even bigger believer in the advantages of knowing how to give CPR. Every so often he reviews the CPR technique, printed in abbreviated form on the back of his certification card. "What's the use of having the training if you don't remember it?" Fred asked.

Someday he would like to receive instruction from the Nebraska Heart Association to become an instructor in CPR. But most of all, "I've been pluggin' the heck out of it," he said, trying to convince people to sign up for CPR courses offered in the community.

In his mind, as many people as possible should be prepared to perform CPR and give a gift of life. It's one gift nobody's going to exchange the day after Christmas.



**FRED  
ELLERBUSCH . . .**  
His lifesaving action has sparked interest in CPR in the community of Aurelia, Iowa, where classes are now being offered, he said.





**PART OF PROCEDURE . . .** John Tompkins demonstrates on a training manikin several of the steps in CPR. From left (1), he listens for breathing; (2) if victim is not breathing, artificial respiration is begun; (3) after mouth-to-mouth breathing, he checks for a carotid or neck pulse; (4) if pulse is absent, chest compression is begun. Artificial breathing and chest compressions are administered alternately.

## *CPR classes offered after first of year*

The Omaha Works began conducting classes in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) in 1975, and electrician Fred Ellerbusch was one of the first employees enrolled. Training specialist John Tompkins, of Dept. 514, said the goal of the CPR program here is "to provide life-saving training to Works employees who most likely would be called upon to give assistance in an emergency situation."

Persons who fall into those categories are supervisors, electricians and guards. Since CPR classes have been offered at the Works, more than 70 employees have received certification through the American Heart Association. A certificate signifies that a person successfully has

completed written and performance examinations in accordance with the Heart Association's standards of being able to provide basic life support.

Tompkins said plans are being made to expand the CPR training program after the first of the year. More employees will be trained in the CPR technique, and employees whose certificates will expire soon (certificates are good for three years) will have the opportunity for recertification.

In addition, the WEOMA Club has set CPR classes as one of its goals in the first quarter of 1979. Plans are under way to offer classes at the Works to interested employees and their spouses during off-work hours.

**CPR IS A** combination of artificial respiration and artificial circulation. Works medical director Dr. Lee Grant said, "CPR is a lifesaving procedure between the time a person's heart stops and the time he reaches a medical facility. Time is of the essence.

"It not only saves life," he continued, "but prevents brain damage that would result from undue delay in reaching a medical facility."

Only recently — in 1973 — was the CPR technique standardized in this country and supported as a lifesaving technique. Its value is apparent when

one considers that an estimated 1 million persons in the United States suffer heart attacks each year. A total of 650,000 of the victims die from the attacks, 350,000 of them dying outside a medical facility within two hours after the onset of symptoms. Many other people die of accidental causes, such as drowning or electrocution.

"It's difficult to determine how many of these people could have been saved," Tompkins said. However, "emergency cardiac care could help prevent many of the deaths," and CPR is an important step in such care.

CPR isn't difficult to learn, he said, figuring that training time adds up to less than a working day. Students learn to administer CPR alone as well as with a partner. They study the theory behind CPR and cultivate a basic understanding of the respiratory and circulatory systems.

The method can be physically demanding to administer, Tompkins said, depending on the individual performing it. Mouth-to-mouth respiration and chest compressions are given on an alternating basis, and "if two people do this, it's not as physically demanding."

Tompkins said that anyone interested in finding out more about CPR and classes conducted elsewhere in the city should contact the American Heart Association.



# Safety contest winners named

Mark a date to remember, or remember how to be safe. It's easy just by using a 1979 safety calendar all Omaha Works employees are to receive. The calendar features the 12 winning safety posters chosen in a contest sponsored by the safety department. Each delivers its own safety message, from "Keep steps clean" to "Playing it safe is the best game around."

The posters are the work of employees' children or grandchildren, from preschool age through 12th grade. Entrants' posters were to depict safety practices at home, work or play, with two winners selected from each of six age groups. In all, 82 posters were entered in the contest.

Winning posters were chosen by three judges: Jerry Pabst, who heads the Omaha Public Schools art department; Laverne Mitchell, art teacher in District 66 Schools; and Patricia Gruzd, art teacher at Millard High.

Winners each received one share of AT&T stock and are pictured with parents or grandparents in the calendar. The winners and their sponsors are:

**Group I** — Julie Eisenhauer, daughter of Joe Eisenhauer, Dept. 725; Tegwin Ann Eliuk, daughter of Howard Eliuk, Dept. 731.

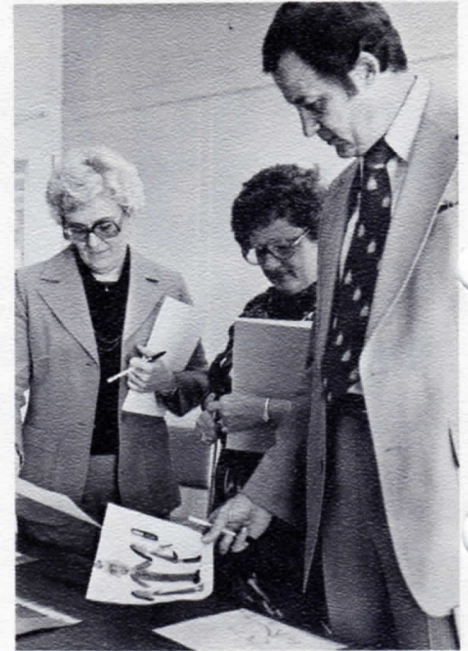
**Group II** — Jeff Rehberg, grandson of Charles Rehberg, Dept. 741; Bobbi Peterson, daughter of Robert Peterson, Dept. 251

**Group III** — Barb Bucknam, daughter of Don Bucknam, Dept. 333; Jo Dee Kessler, daughter of Joseph Kessler, Dept. 741.

**Group IV** — George Cochrane, son of Robert Cochrane, Dept. 1231; Patty Bizal, daughter of Michael Bizal, Dept. 446.

**Group V** — Vickie Lee, granddaughter of Eileen Lee, Dept. 437; Irene Cernius, daughter of Ann Cernius, Dept. 724.

**Group VI** — Cheryl Smith, daughter of



JUDGMENT DAY . . . Laverne Mitchell (left), Patricia Gruzd and Jerry Pabst choose the winning posters.

Donna Stratbucker, Dept. 361; John Reiss, son of Elizabeth Reiss, Dept. 438.

## promotions



**Robert McKulsky**  
From machine setter (Dept. 437) to section chief (Dept. 441-6), molding, non-wire and wire products, weld and form, heat treat and grinding.

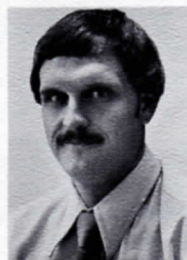
**Joe Grzywa**  
From engineering associate (Dept. 275) to section chief (Dept. 251-7), cable plant—die lab.



**Betty Brown**  
From staff nurse (Dept. 141-1) to section chief (Dept. 438-8), 10-type cable.



**Larry Blanke**  
From accounting specialist (Dept. 333) to section chief (Dept. 439-1), wiring block/stubs.



### WHAT'S INSIDE?

. . . Jody Faltys (right), granddaughter of Jeane Bischof (Dept. 541), isn't clowning around as she helps Santa distribute gifts to Jennifer and Jeffrey Saltzman, 2-year-old twins of Pete and Helen Saltzman (Dept. 252 and 443, respectively).



## Santa visits 8th annual party

He makes a special appearance at the Omaha Works every year, and each time he receives a warm welcome from the children of employees. He is Santa Claus, of course, who paid his visit this year on Dec. 9.

The WEOMA Club sponsored Santa's visit at its eighth annual Christmas party. Employees' youngsters had a chance to visit with Santa in the auditorium and receive a gift, then stop by the cafeteria for refreshments and entertainment. Choirs sang Christmas carols while

clowns provoked many a smile from children and parents alike. There even was time to take in a special movie.

The party wasn't the only evidence of the holiday spirit at the Works, however. Employees have been donating all kinds of new toys to a toy distribution program coordinated by the Salvation Army. The Works participates in the program every year — providing more toys than any other local company has in the past — to brighten the holidays for needy Omaha children.



# CB'ers get a handle on friendship

Believe it or not, Columbo — minus the trench coat — tests straight cords in Dept. 725. And see that guy over there in Dept. 444 wiring load coil cases? That's Tom Terrific.

But don't get out the autograph books yet. Columbo isn't TV's police lieutenant nor is Tom Terrific the cartoon character. Columbo is the handle (nickname) for Rich Miller; Tom Terrific is really Tom Murray. They use those handles to identify themselves when they use their citizens band (CB) radios.

The two men belong to the CB Radio Club, the newest WEOMA-associated group. With nearly 40 members, the year-old club replaces what used to be a ham radio group. It is an outgrowth of one of the biggest movements in the nation.

CB's popularity lies in being able to make friends with strangers over long distances via one's car CB or home base station, Rich and Tom said. It is somewhat of a godsend in a time when people don't talk even to their next door neighbors, noted another club member, Doug Brown of Dept. 725. "It's amazing how so many people who can't talk face to face can do so on CB," he said.

Club president Gene Bowman of Dept. 361 said that some hospitals use CBs to help speech therapy patients — particularly children — make contact with the outside world.

**ONE REASON** it may be easier to communicate over a CB radio is because one's true identity need not be given. Instead, handles are used which usually are of significance to the operators. Doug's handle is C.C., a shortened version of Copper Chrysler, relating to the days when he drove a copper-colored car. Gene goes by Red Rooster, because . . . well, that's another story, he said.

There is more to using a CB radio than choosing a handle, however, and that's where the CB club comes in. The club seeks to promote the proper installation and use of CB equipment, and an understanding of regulations all operators must follow. Members help each other use equipment that ensures a CB is re-

ceiving and transmitting properly.

Each member is kept up to date on FCC (Federal Communications Commission) rules, Gene said. Because of the great numbers of people using CB radios today, the rules are being rewritten to cover situations which didn't exist before. Operators like the WEOMA CB'ers provide input to the FCC regarding their needs, he added.

The group also gives members a chance to swap favorite stories or share practical hints one acquires only by using a CB radio. For example, should a CB'er stop his car to help a stranded motorist, he always should radio his name, location and license number of the person he is assisting, then promise to broadcast again in two minutes. Should he not broadcast in two minutes, other CB'ers would radio for help from law enforcement officials. The same procedure should be followed by a stranded CB'er who is about to be assisted, Doug said.

**BRING UP** the most obvious reason to become a CB operator — that is, to avoid speed traps — and club members are quick to point out the good deeds CB'ers do.

For each questionable use of a CB radio, "I can give you 100 more good situations," Doug said. "There's no way of knowing how many lives have been saved because a CB was used to get out word for help."

Studies have shown that arrival time of emergency assistance crews on the highway has been cut by 17 minutes, thanks to the help of CB'ers, Gene said. Tom mentioned that the National Safety Council is considering supporting a move that would require all new autos be equipped with a communications system for use in emergencies.

Such a device would be invaluable in situations the CB club members recounted. One night, a trucker spotted two elderly women whose car was stalled beside the highway. He saw them too late to stop, but radioed for someone else to be prepared to give assistance. Rich heard the call and took the women

(Continued on Page 8)





# CB'ers get a handle on friendship

(Continued from Page 7)  
to safety.

Another time, a severe snowstorm had delayed the arrival of a driver whose family asked CB'ers to help find him. When the man learned of the search some distance from home, he telephoned a base station which, in turn, passed word of his safety via CB radio to his family.

The list of good deeds is endless, whether it be alerting officials about a drunk driver on the road, or assisting a motorist with an empty gas tank. Also, a CB radio can be company on long, lonely trips or some evening when a person

wants to engage in friendly chatter. "I used to go out at 1:30 in the morning just to listen to the CB in my car," Tom admitted.

**BUT WHAT** about avoiding those speed traps? Gene pointed out that widespread use of CBs actually might help enforce speed limits. If a CB'er sights a "smokey" (CB jargon for highway patrol), speed trap or not the word is broadcast for miles around, and drivers watch their speeds, he reasoned.

That's not to say that the temptation to exceed a speed limit doesn't exist, Doug said with a sheepish grin. Sometimes the

temptation takes an ironic twist:

Doug had left Sioux City and was in a bit of a hurry to return to Omaha. He made contact via CB with someone at his "back door" (behind him), who agreed to watch for smokeys from that direction. He talked to a CB'er at his "front door" who agreed to watch for smokeys ahead.

"That put me in the 'rocking chair,'" Doug said, a comfortable situation in which all he had to do was drive. The irony is that Padre and Blue Bear were the lookouts. Those are handles for a man of the cloth and a policeman who was off duty.

## Nilson, Sumner visit Works

Employees, their families and friends weren't the only ones to tour the Omaha Works lately. Recently the Works was host to a number of other guests, one of whom particularly may have looked familiar to employees.

Howard Nilson, a former general manager of the Omaha Works, took a tour of the plant while in town last month. He was general manager of the Works from May 1966 to May 1970, until he became general manager of the Southwestern Region, his current assignment.

Earlier, three visitors from Bell Labs toured the plant: Eric Sumner, executive director, Loop Transmission; Hutch Looney, director, Loop Plant Construction and Protection Laboratories; and Art Vedejs, department head, Cable Joining. They were accompanied by John Stallknecht, director of Cable, Wire and Associated Apparatus, PECC, and Howard Wells, manager, Product Line Planning — Loop Transmission Apparatus. The purpose of their visit was to exchange ideas concerning Omaha Works products. Sumner addressed the large staff and engineering department chiefs.

### *Nobel winners*

Dr. Arno A. Penzias and Dr. Robert W. Wilson of Bell Laboratories are two of three recipients of the 1978 Nobel Prize for Physics. They have been awarded the prize for their work in radio astronomy, a scientific discipline that originated at Bell Labs.

### WELCOME BACK . . .

Pictured at right, Michel Nemeč (left) of Dept. 443 chats with former General Manager Howard Nilson (center) and Tom Bowman of Dept. 401. Below, John Stallknecht (from left), Art Vedejs and Eric Sumner listen as Manager Richard Iaffaldano explains the work of Freda Cate in Dept. 443.

