

Energy Systems at Portsmouth

A Monthly Newspaper for Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant Employees of Martin Marietta Energy Systems, Inc.

Volume 2

Piketon, Ohio

January-February 1988

Number 10

Neighbor training upcoming

Warning siren system installation complete

The safety of neighbors near the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant is a major concern of the Department of Energy and Martin Marietta Energy Systems.

A new system of five public warning sirens will help assure their prompt notification in the event of serious plant emergency involving hazardous materials.

The newly installed area-wide public warning system was developed by International Energy Associates Limited (IEAL), a design consultant, and will provide for systematic notification of the community within a two-mile radius of the plant.

In designing the system, a task force reviewed all potentially hazardous materials processed, used or stored at the Portsmouth plant that could have health or safety impact on residents of the area.

This study provided a background anal-

ysis of the potential of accidents involving hazardous chemicals — their probability and their possible consequences.

The installed public warning system consists of five Whelen model WS-3000 sirens. Each siren contains seven tone/voice capabilities, with voice projection exceeding one mile.

The sirens can be activated by the Pike County Sheriff's Office or the Portsmouth plant's emergency operations center. Activation is accomplished by a digital encoder/radio-controlled processor in order to reduce a "false-alarm" potential.

Upon activation, these electronic sirens rotate 360 degrees and cycle two rotations per minute. The horns are of fiberglass and aluminum construction and designed to pass wind tunnel testing of 145 miles per hour. All features of the sirens are directed

toward optimum sound projection.

In December, the warning system passed acceptance tests conducted by the design consultant and the installing contractor, West End Electric Company.

Preventative maintenance testing of the warning system will be conducted on a monthly basis at a frequency above that of human hearing. This will enable the system to be kept in top operating condition without alarming the public.

In conjunction with these efforts and in cooperation with the Pike County Disaster Services Agency, training for area residents on the use of these sirens will be conducted in a series of "town meetings" during April and May. Training sessions will also address steps the public should take in the unlikely event of a serious emergency condition at the plant.

John Shoemaker now Director, Site Operations

John R. Shoemaker became Director, Site Operations, at the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant effective Feb. 15. He reports to Ralph Donnelly, plant manager.

Shoemaker has responsibility for the Maintenance, Production and Quality and Technical Services divisions.

Shoemaker began his career at ORGDP in 1969 as a Development Engineer. He became a Production Engineer in 1970 and was promoted to Cascade Area Supervisor in 1974. In 1978, he became Superintendent of the Operations Planning depart-

ment, holding that position until 1983 when he was named Superintendent of the Cascade Operations Department. He became Manager of the ORGDP Production Division in 1984.

Shoemaker assumed responsibility in 1986 for Environmental, Health Physics/Industrial Hygiene, Medical Safety, Criticality Safety and Uranium Accounting functions at the Oak Ridge plant.

Shoemaker received a B.S. degree in chemical engineering from the University of Tennessee in 1967 and completed the

Executive Development Program at Cornell University in 1984. In 1985, he received a Martin Marietta Energy Systems Operational Performance Award for his contributions to the ORGDP enriched uranium production improvements program.

Shoemaker is a member of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers and the honorary engineering fraternity, Tau Beta Pi.

He and his wife, Fran, and son, Chris, 17, are relocating to Ohio.

Operation satisfactory for evaluation period

Martin Marietta Energy Systems has received a rating of "Satisfactory" from the U.S. Department of Energy for the operation of the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant for the evaluation period April 1 through Sept. 30, 1987, and award fee of \$1,411,300 for the period.

For the first six months of fiscal 1987, Energy Systems had received a rating of "Excellent" and a higher award fee for the Portsmouth operation.

For the overall four-plant Oak Ridge and Paducah contract, administered separately

from Portsmouth, Energy Systems received a rating of "Excellent" and award fee of \$7,184,375 for the six-month period. This was an increase over that received for the first six months of the fiscal year.

In its findings, DOE noted several areas for increased attention at the Portsmouth plant. These included personnel compliance with plant procedures; protective force readiness, training, and materials control and accountability; and the height of lifting uranium hexafluoride cylinders.

Particularly noteworthy strengths and accomplishments identified for Portsmouth included close coordination with ORO regarding generation of various budgets and cost controls throughout the year, the lithium repacking effort continuing on schedule with a favorable cost history, plant appearance improvements, improved relations with environmental regulators, participation in promoting the government's Small/Disadvantaged Business Program, and efforts in the industrial relations area.



Shoemaker

APPROVED FOR RELEASE BY:
M. M. Baraković

Postma replaces Hopkins as Senior Vice President

Herman Postma has been named Senior Vice President by Martin Marietta Energy Systems, Inc. He reports to Clyde C. Hopkins, President. The appointment was effective Feb. 1.

Postma has been a Vice President of Martin Marietta Energy Systems and Director of the Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) since 1974. He succeeds Hopkins, now President of the Energy Systems company.

As Senior Vice President, Postma will have oversight responsibilities for the company's energy research and development, Y-12 Plant operations, uranium enrichment, and technology application functions.

Postma's association with the Laboratory began as a summer student from 1954 to 1957. In 1959, he joined ORNL's Thermonuclear (now Fusion Energy) Division as a physicist. After serving as Assistant Director and then Associate Director of the Division, he was appointed Director in 1967, a post he held until being named Laboratory Director. He was made a Vice President of Martin Marietta Energy Systems in April 1984.

Postma has served on committees for

the National Academy of Sciences, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Atomic Energy Commission, the Energy Research and Development Administration, and the Department of Energy.

He holds a B.S. degree (summa cum laude) in physics from Duke University and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from Harvard University. In addition, he has done work toward an M.B.A. degree at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, and is a professional engineer. He is a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Sciences, the American Physical Society and the American Nuclear Society.



Postma

Philip G. Sewell named to DOE enrichment post

Philip G. Sewell has been named new Deputy Assistant Secretary for Uranium Enrichment for the U.S. Department of Energy. He replaces John R. Longenecker, who left DOE in August.

Sewell has more than 20 years of federal service, including 10 years in the uranium enrichment enterprise in production operations, marketing, and most recently, as Director of the office of Technology Deployment and Strategic Planning.

Sewell attended the University of Maryland, where he was graduated with a

bachelor of science degree in aerospace engineering in 1968. He received a master's degree in business administration from George Washington University in 1976.

Sewell worked for the Department of Defense from 1968 until he joined the Department of Energy in 1975.



Sewell

New Arrivals

Daughter, Cassidy Mae, Nov. 13, to Thomas J. (D-729) and Martha J. Rase.

Daughter, Kathryn Elizabeth, Dec. 13, to Harlan F. "Phil" (D-822) and Kimberly E. (D-451) Hawkins.

Son, Lane Corbett, Feb. 5, to Lanny W. (D-822) and Jill Smith.

Daughter, Stephanie Michelle, Feb. 4, to Robert M. (D-102) and Angela F. (D-332) Litten.

★Perfect Attendance★

Abbey Little
Production Division



Record set at more than 33 years

Abbey "on the job" every day

Being in control of your life, viewing unexpected events as challenges, and committing yourself to what you do are keys to success.

When Abbey Little began his employment at the Portsmouth plant on September 13, 1954, he was determined to achieve a goal of perfect attendance. Abbey had excellent health, perfect attendance during all his school years, and confidence that he could continue this outstanding record.

This positive attitude helped mark 33 consecutive years of attendance for Little.

"If you have a job, you need to be there," said Abbey, "your company and co-workers depend on you."

Abbey is dedicated to his position as a production process operator and reports for work one-half hour before his scheduled shift. Little's dependability assures not only his department but the plant of continuous operation.

"Abbey has always been punctual," states Charles Wakefield, Cascade Coordinator, "even during the heavy snows when people couldn't make it to work, Abbey was on his job."

Little's only absences have occurred for minimal funeral leaves, which is not a factor in determining attendance records.

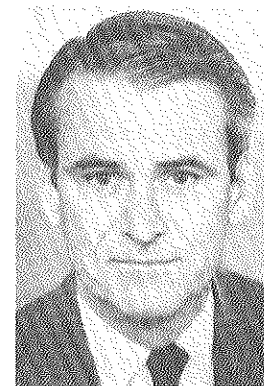
Attendance is necessary to maintain good working relationships, and I enjoy being with my co-workers, Little remarked.

Little's co-workers and supervision agree that Abbey is a cheerful employee and they've grown accustomed to his kind of reliability.

New Employees

Donald L. Gulley, Benny M. King, Victoria L. Frazier, Keith Caudill, Thomas J. Curtis, Clifford G. Kouns Jr., Jeffrey A. Jarrells and Ronald E. Knauff, Security Inspectors (D-911), Dec. 14.

Abbey looks forward to retirement. Although he will miss his job and friends at the Portsmouth plant, his next assignment is one of "full-time" enjoyment of travel and fishing with his family and eight-year-old grandson, Ricky.



Hurtt

Hurtt now chairman of Energy Systems

Caleb B. Hurtt has been elected Chairman of the Board of Martin Marietta Energy Systems, Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of Martin Marietta Corporation.

Hurtt, who recently was elected President and Chief Operating Officer of Martin Marietta Corporation, succeeds Norman R. Augustine, who relinquished the chairmanship of the Energy Systems subsidiary following his recent election as Vice Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the parent company.

Martin Marietta Energy Systems operates five U.S. Department of Energy facilities in or near Oak Ridge, Tennessee; Paducah, Kentucky; and Portsmouth, Ohio, three of which are the DOE's gaseous diffusion uranium enrichment plants.

State karate championship goes to Ken Captain

Kenneth M. Captain won the Grand Championship trophy at the Buckeye State Karate Grand Championship at Miami Trace High School, near Washington, C.H. Earlier in the evening, Captain had taken first place in fighting in his weight class (light heavyweight), Black Belt Division. Also in November, Captain placed fifth out of 15 competitors from five states (Michigan Indiana, Ohio, Wisconsin and Kentucky) in Region 7 Nationals in the light heavyweight division.



General Promotions

James A. Young Jr. has been promoted to Assistant Cascade Coordinator (D-817). He reports to Jules E. Ratliff, Supervisor, Cascade Coordination, X-300 Plant Control Facility.

Bryan E. Miller, Cherry A. Howard and Randy D. Cooper have been promoted to Foreman, Process Area (D-812). They report to Grover F. Jones Jr., General Foreman.

Doris C. Valentine has been promoted to Foreman, Process Area (D-823). She reports to John M. Milam, Supervisor.

Kenneth M. Captain, Charles H. Walker, David W. Vallance and Tony L. Jones

have been promoted to Police Sergeant (D-911). They report to Daniel A. Hupp, Supervisor, Plant Protection.

John A. Oppy has been promoted to General Foreman, Process Area (D-951). He reports to James B. Morgan, GCEP Coordinator.

Ronald C. LeBrun has been promoted to General Foreman, Maintenance (D-951). He reports to James B. Morgan, GCEP Coordinator.

James D. Hoover has been promoted to Foreman, Uranium Materials Handling (D-829). He reports to E.V. Clarke, Supervisor.



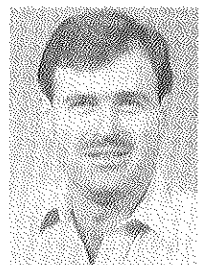
Young



Miller



Howard



Cooper



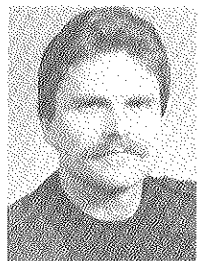
Valentine



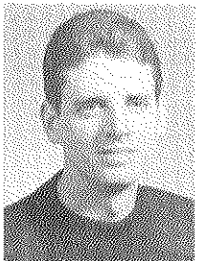
Captain



Walker



Vallance



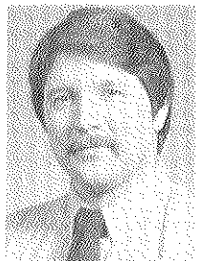
Jones



Oppy



LeBrun



Hoover

**Officer administrates program
Management Systems Effectiveness
encompasses ethics, risks and PIP**

Working to assure the development and implementation of effective plant programs geared toward general operational improvement, the identification of risk areas and employee adherence to ethical standards is the responsibility of the Management Systems Effectiveness office.

The office was established at the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant in January 1987 under the direction of Alvin D. Officer, Administrator.

Objectives of the overall Management Systems Effectiveness program are to provide a central source of information about procedures, policies, regulations, audits and training; determining ways to enhance effectiveness of policies and procedures; helping to eliminate duplication of efforts; and providing for an organized approach to departmental interaction.

Areas of specific responsibility include administration of plant Performance Improvement Process (PIP) activities, the Vulnerability and Risk (V&R) identification program, efforts geared toward assurance of provisions of the Corporate Ethics & Standards of Conduct policies, and the organized distribution of U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Orders required to perform tasks at the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant.

One of the first requirements of the MSE program was identification of various plant committees, DOE orders and initiatives, and plant management systems. By doing this, Management Systems Effectiveness will be able to maintain coordination of efforts and to help provide management with guidance, information on activities and new ideas.

One area of Management Systems Effectiveness responsibility is the Performance Improvement Process (PIP) program which emphasizes individual responsibility for continuing to seek ways to improve the various types of work done at the Portsmouth plant.

Through the PIP approach, when problem areas with plant procedures or processes are identified, a problem-solving team is assigned by management to determine appropriate ways to make that process more effective in terms of efficiency and economy.

A PIP project idea can be introduced by any employee to his or her Division Manager for review.

Areas of concern or weaknesses in operations at the Portsmouth plant that could result in or lead to an adverse consequence if not improved or controlled are considered to be a Vulnerability and Risk (V&R).

Each division has a V&R coordinator and assessment team which use brain-

storming techniques to identify vulnerabilities and risks within their own facilities.

Classes on brainstorming and methodologies to be used in the vulnerability and risk process were conducted in May 1987 for members of V&R teams.

The V&R process identifies and records areas of concern by performing



Officer

assessments every two months. These assessments provide an internal check for assuring managers, evaluators, auditors, reviewers, etc., that the Portsmouth facility has taken a systematic approach for assuring that corrective action has been taken and provide a process by which all plant employees have an opportunity to be involved in the V&R process.

Vulnerabilities and Risks are categorized in five groups, ("A" being the most significant and "E" the most insignificant) requiring different levels of attention. Risks are reviewed on a monthly basis to determine if the vulnerabilities can be eliminated, reduced, or maintained at an acceptable level.

Ethics and Standards of Conduct is another part of the Management Systems Effectiveness sphere of responsibility and carries a strong commitment for employees of Martin Marietta. Sessions have been conducted at the Portsmouth plant to provide personnel with information on corporate policy. Discussions of ethics program directives also has been incorporated into the orientation process for employees returning to work or newly hired.

Officer noted that a general objective of the plant's management Systems Effectiveness program is to help enhance ways in which each employee of the Portsmouth plant can participate as a vital member of the operation "team."

New plant department oversees waste disposition

To increase attention toward current waste disposal problems and practices, to improve compliance with waste disposal regulations, and to provide plans for future waste disposal, the Waste Management Department was established at the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant in June 1987.

In most industrial processes, potentially harmful waste can result from the manufacturing of useful products. This requires varying forms of management control.

At the Portsmouth site, the process of enriching uranium is accompanied by the production of radioactive waste, hazardous waste, and sanitary waste (ordinary trash). Because many of the wastes contain radioactive and/or hazardous substances, they must be safely handled, contained, and disposed of properly to ensure protection of the environment, employees and the public.

The department is responsible for assuring the proper handling and disposal of ordinary trash, radioactive waste, hazardous waste as identified by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and mixed waste (a combination of radioactive and hazardous properties).

Members are Dick Blake, Bill Wiehle, Gary Timmons and Mike Hawk.

Progress Made

Since its inception, the Waste Management Department has made considerable progress in disposing of waste materials currently being stored at the Portsmouth facility.

During December, two shipments containing a total of 65,000 pounds of water contaminated with chlorinated solvents

were shipped to a disposal site in Louisiana. This material will be incinerated to eliminate hazardous components.

Two other accumulations of waste from the Portsmouth plant are now being offered for commercial disposal. These include 10,000 gallons of waste oil and other solutions which are contaminated with polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and approximately 1,000 various expired laboratory chemicals.

During 1986, soil which had been contaminated with PCBs in the past was excavated and placed in drums. Approximately 5,000 drums of this material are currently in storage at the Portsmouth facility and are scheduled for rail shipment during 1988 to Oak Ridge, Tennessee. While there, the soils will be incinerated to destroy the PCBs. The incinerated soils will then be returned to Ohio for disposal.

Commercial waste disposal sites which are interested in contracting for disposal of site wastes are reviewed by an Energy Systems team to determine whether they are properly managed. Standards for acceptability include compliance with all federal and state regulations, appropriate licenses for the waste to be disposed, excellent housekeeping and facilities and no outstanding records of violations. This inspection helps to assure that all site wastes will be disposed of in a safe, effective manner. Disposal sites for particular wastes are then selected on a "competitive bid" basis from the list of those approved by Energy Systems.

To assure that no radioactive contamination is present in waste material, all material at the Portsmouth plant is surveyed prior to off-site shipment to disposal facilities.

To increase employee awareness of dis-

positional regulations and to help assure compliance, all Portsmouth plant employees were trained in proper disposal methods. These sessions were conducted in conjunction with the plant's first Performance Improvement Process (PIP) project.

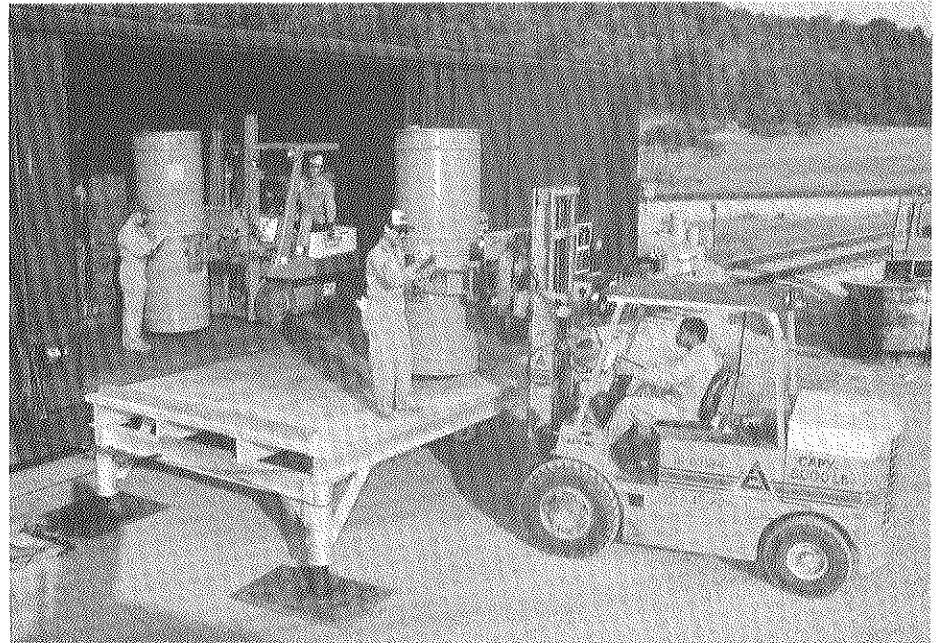
Unacceptable Items

Waste from plant areas where uranium contamination could occur is sorted and monitored prior to disposal in the sanitary landfill. Items unacceptable at the sanitary landfill include metals (excluding pop cans and aluminum foil) shoe covers, contamination or radiation boundary tapes, gloves, cloth and paper coveralls, absorbent material, step-off pads from contamination zones, red-color-coded con-

taminated trash bags, contamination tags, shoes or rags. Other materials which are suspected of containing radioactivity are monitored and removed, if necessary.

"Successful waste management at the site depends upon the support of all the employees," states Blake. "Every employee generates waste, and the most effective method of its management is proper disposal methods."

"In turn, the best way to reduce waste management costs and improve regulatory compliance is to minimize waste. This can be accomplished by conserving materials, re-using materials, changing processes to those which produce less waste, and increasing the use of non-hazardous materials."



Prior to rail shipment to Oak Ridge, Chemical Operations personnel load 110-gallon drums of PCB-contaminated soil which was excavated from a site drainage ditch. During 1988, approximately 90 boxcar loads of this contaminated soil will be shipped to Oak Ridge for incinerator destruction.

Blake supervises department

Richard E. Blake now has responsibility for activities geared toward compliance with waste disposal regulations and planning for future Portsmouth plant waste disposal measures as Supervisor, Waste

Management (D-104). He reports to C. K. Stalnaker, Manager, Environment, Safety and Health.

Blake joined the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant in July 1973 as an Engineer, Process Engineering. Following various assignments in Process Engineering and Process Technical Services, he became Section Head, GCEP Technical Support, in May 1979. From August 1985 through October 1987, Blake was assigned to the Planning & Methods group.

Blake was graduated cum laude from The Ohio State University in 1973 with a B.S. degree in chemical engineering. He is a member of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers.

He and his wife, Paula, have three children and live in Pike County.



Blake



Weber

Weber appointed X-333 supervisor

Joseph A. Weber has been promoted to Supervisor, Process Area (D-811) of the X-333 Process Building, reporting to William E. Landrum, Superintendent, Cascade Operations (D-810).

Weber came to work at the Portsmouth plant in June 1953 as a Production Process Operator. He became Foreman, Process Area, in June 1966; General Foreman, Process Area, in August 1978; Operations Systems Technologist, Sr., in January 1981; and Cascade Coordinator in April 1984.

A U.S. Army veteran, Weber has studied business administration at Ohio University.

He and his wife, Norma, have four grown children and live in West Portsmouth.

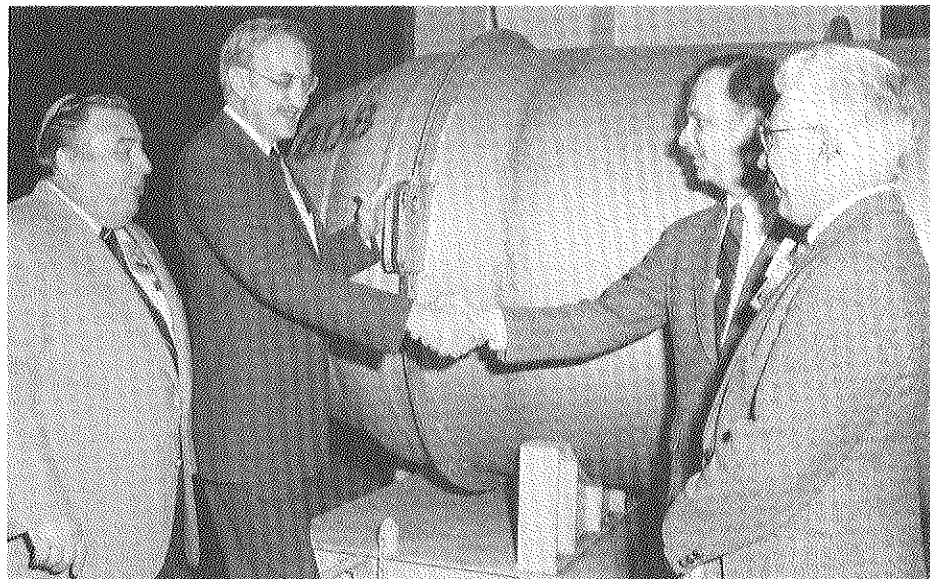
Progressions and Promotions

Atlas M. Jones Sr., from Foreman, Process Area (D-814) to Operations Systems Technologist Sr. (D-810).

Gerald L. Cornwell, from Engineering Technologist Staff to Engineering Technologist Sr. (D-741).

Russell Yates Jr., from Accountant II to Accountant, Staff (D-477).

Jerry Blankenship, from Engineer II to Engineer, Staff (D-803).



Complex produces 400 millionth SWU

On Dec. 17, a total of 400 million Separative Work Units (SWUs) had been produced by the United States gaseous diffusion uranium enrichment complex dating to the start-up of the Oak Ridge facility in 1947. Present that day in the X-333 Building Low Assay Withdrawal (LAW) station were Vince DeVito; Ralph Donnelly; Joe Parks, Deputy Assistant Manager for Enriching Operations, DOE Oak Ridge; and Jim Behrend, Office of Operations and Facility Reliability, DOE Washington. In fiscal 1987, the Portsmouth plant shipped a total of 10 million SWUs.

Obituaries

Wayne E. Gervais, 46, Groveland, Massachusetts, Nov. 9. Brother of C. A. Eckhart (D-010).

Blanche Dikeman, 85, Somerset, Ky., Dec. 26. Mother of John C. Dikeman (D-532).

Margaret Alice Gemperline, 94, Portsmouth, Jan. 3. Mother of John Gemperline (D-513).

Charles E. Woodrum, 85, Portsmouth, Jan. 13. Father of Charles D. Woodrum (D-505).

James Musen, 72, Versailles, Ky., Jan. 13. Brother-in-law of Robert G. Tufts (D-505).

Esther Throckmorton, 79, Jan. 16. Mother of James W. Mossbarger (D-470).

Plant Appearance

The chairmen of the Plant Appearance Program's "Zone B" — Vince DeVito and Bob Bush — have retained the Ace "Number 1" Award for having the zone most in compliance with the criteria established for the program.

The award was presented in January following the second set of program inspections, which were conducted Dec. 9 and 10.

Bush and DeVito have taken the top award following the first set of inspections, which were conducted in September.

The "WOZOPS" award, for having the zone least in compliance with program criteria, went this time to Zone D chairman Bill Lemmon and Keith Stalnaker.

A new "Most Improved" Zone Award went to Roger McDermott and Glenn Russell, chairman of Zone C.

Program directors Wayne McLaughlin and Jim Harshman noted substantial improvements in several buildings, including X-324, X-344, X-700, X-705, the Stores area of X-720, the X-108 portal and the X-102 cafeteria.

The next set of inspections was conducted March 8 and 9. Results will be announced later.

Charles H. Skaggs, 62, Jackson, Jan. 19. Skaggs was a Technical Assistant III (D-552) at the time of his retirement in November 1981. Survivors include his son, Charles W. Skaggs (D-452).

Theodore Gregory, 80, Jan. 19. Survivors include his son, Keith Gregory (D-711).

Bansi C. Mehta, 45, Chillicothe, Jan. 30. Mehta was an Engineer, Sr. (D-104). He came to work at the Portsmouth plant in September 1979. Surviving are his wife, Daxa, and two children.

Charles M. Moore, 69, South Shore, Kentucky, Feb. 5. Moore was a Maintenance Mechanic at the time of his retirement in December 1978. He came to work in November 1953. Survivors include two sons.

Mark E. Hagen, 31, South Websters, Feb. 7. Hagen was a Chemical Operator (D-823) with a continuous service date of March 1975.

Floyd Al Chancey, 49, Piketon, Feb. 9. A Security Inspector (D-911), Chancey had retired from the plant effective Feb. 1. He came to work in December 1977. Survivors include his wife, Sheila, and four children.

Improvement process expanding; existing teams carry on efforts

Both cost savings and improvements in plant procedures continue to be realized through the Performance Improvement Process (PIP) Program.

PIP Project No. 5 (Out of Stock/Free Issue Items) was formed because items in free issue stores are often "out of stock" for long periods of time. When supplies are unavailable, job delays, increased costs, and irritation to personnel who make frequent trips to pick up needed supplies are the results.

Team members are Glenn McNamer, chairman; Chuck Dixon; Keith Vanderpool; Dave Stitt; Jerry Wessel; and John Warner.

To determine the extent of this problem, the team conducted a survey with all maintenance foreman at the Portsmouth plant. Their response revealed a negative attitude toward the free issue system process, which includes Class 40 items (fasteners) and Class 42 items (pipe fittings).

The team developed a procedure to monitor various phases of the restocking cycle as well as the frequency of the out-of-stock occurrences, through inventories on free issues classes 40 and 42 on alternative weeks.

The results of these inventories are forwarded to the Materials Control Department, which has assumed responsibility for preparing a weekly requisition to replace those items found to be out-of-stock.

One advantage of a weekly requisition process simplifies the ordering procedure because smaller transactions flow more easily through the purchasing, receiving, restocking, and inventory cycle to eliminate delays in job completion.

To help the effectiveness of this performance improvement process, users of free issue stores are encouraged to take only quantities of items needed for the completion of current projects.

To improve the on-stream efficiency of operating equipment at the Portsmouth plant, PIP Project No. 6 was assigned the

task of attaining a higher assurance of meeting production schedules and lowering the risks of unplanned equipment failures.

Team members are Cecil Broughton, chairman; E. V. Clarke, Jr.; Jules Ratliff, Jay Bednarczyk; Doy McCrary; Jim Anzelmo; and Omar Johnson.

The committee conducted brainstorming sessions with the Production and Maintenance divisions, and found six potential problems areas that have been encountered by both divisions. Some areas of concern are the availability of spare parts, coordination and scheduling of work assignments, training, and communication.

These problems are common to all areas as they relate to operating equipment but will first be addressed in the 340 building complex to provide an organized approach to implementing the committee's recommendations.

To accomplish one of the project's objectives, weekly communications meetings include the two divisions. This exchange of information allows each group to become familiar with items such as failure rates of equipment, projected customer needs, and the work schedules of each.

Daily communications with plant groups such as Industrial Hygiene and Health Physics and Chemical Operations give each area an opportunity to better utilize assigned personnel.

Another area of concern was in ordering compatible parts for equipment that is no longer available from the original vendor. The plant's Purchasing Department prepared a training session to aid personnel when processing a purchase requisition.

While this PIP project will not be officially complete for several months, positive measures incorporated within the Maintenance and Production divisions show that communication is a necessary function in order to anticipate problems before problems have the chance to become a reality.



First supervisory nuclear criticality course

Nuclear Criticality Safety instruction for plant supervisory personnel is now more formal and extensive, focusing on both theoretical and general plantsite applications, and geared toward managers, supervisors, trainers and others who have employees that work in areas where fissile material is stored, handled, or processed. Extensive examination is included, and a passing level of 70 percent is required; failure requires re-training. The course is offered by

the Training Department. Members of the first class were (front row) Omar Johnson (710), Don Barnett (711), Sid Secrest (720), Bill Masters (701), Randy Cooper (812), Everett Stausbaugh (752), Jerry Blankenship (803), Norm Kruckenberg (803), (back row) Dave Nickel (instructor, D-221), Bill Childers (713), Jim Anzelmo (710), Bob Firestone (811), Don Barnett (711), Charlie Frazier (726), Ralph Poetker (722), Bob Casey (711) and Jules Ratliff (817).

Retirees

Raymond E. Grigsby, Lucasville, Uranium Materials Handler, effective Jan. 1 after more than 28 years of service.

Mary E. Auton, Piketon, Materials, effective Feb. 1 after more than 12 years of service.

William T. Balzer, Beaver, Production Process Operator, effective Feb. 1 after nearly 34 years of service.

Robert P. Bauer, Portsmouth, Materials, effective Feb. 1 after more than 11 years of service.

Jesse E. Belford, Otway, Maintenance Mechanic 1/C, effective Feb. 1 after nearly 27 years of service.

Edward W. Huels, Portsmouth, Electrician 1/C, effective Feb. 1 after nearly 34 years of service.

Claude E. Montgomery, Jackson, Chemical Operator, effective Feb. 1 after nearly 21 years of service.

James P. Samples, Oak Hill, Production Process Operator (D-812), effective Feb. 1 after more than 31 years of service.

Thurlston C. Moreland, Portsmouth, Uranium Material Handler (D-214), Feb. 1 after more than 17 years of service.

Reva M. Sagraves, Beaver, Janitor (D-214), Feb. 1 after more than 12 years of service.

Elmo E. Flinders, Sciotoville, Safety Code Inspector II (D-101), March 1 after more than 34 years of service.

Charles B. McCann, Piketon, Maintenance Mechanic 1/C (D-214), March 1 after more than 33 years of service.

Charles O. Shoemaker, Chillicothe, Foreman, Process Area (D-823), March 1 after more than 33 years of service.

Pearl E. Barch, Boiler Operator (D-832), April 1 after nearly 12 years of service.

Robert R. Cooley, New Boston, Painter 1/C (D-729), April 1 after more than 13 years of service.

William F. Potts, Portsmouth, Shift Superintendent (D-902), April 1 after nearly 34 years of service.

Harold F. Spradlin, McDermott, Foreman, Maintenance (D-724), April 1 after more than 34 years of service.

Preston M. Steiner, Lucasville, Electrician 1/C (D-711), April 1 after more than 13 years of service.

Donald E. Tolbert, Wellston, Laborer (D-951), April 1 after nearly 26 years of service.

Lon C. James, Chillicothe, Materials, effective April 1 after more than 34 years of service.



Foremen Attend off-site retreat

Plant foremen participated in off-site retreat activities for the first time Feb. 20 and 27. Discussion topics included accountability on the job, knowledge versus emotions, working as a team, Production training and Energy Systems values. Off-site retreats have been instrumental in resolving issues by opening and maintaining uniform lines of communications and understanding. There were six management/union retreats in 1987 and in early December, supervisors and general foreman that work with hourly employees participated in special retreats to continue and improve communications and labor relations.

Cost reduction program improved

The cost savings program has made some changes.

Fingernail clippers are now being given to each employee who submits an "I"dea. When an employee submits more than three "I"deas in a calendar year, the gift is changed to a thermometer. These token gifts are additional ways in which each employee who submits an "I"dea can be recognized. They are also another way of saying "Thank You" for participating in the Cost Savings Program. It is very important that employees feel encouraged to submit "I"deas. Members of the Cost Savings Committee feel that employees who are alert to problems in their daily work and concerned about costs can be an invaluable source of new "I"deas.

The need for reducing uranium enrichment costs today is great. World competition makes it necessary that we fully utilize all of our resources. An excellent way of tapping the human resources at the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant is through the "I"dea Program. Employees are invited to fill out form A-1699, Cost Reduction "I"dea Form, conveniently located throughout plantsite, and submit them for evaluation.

As an added incentive to employees who

have their first "I"dea accepted for implementation, the company is now recognizing these individuals by presenting each of them with a \$50 maturity value Series EE U.S. Savings Bond. Erk Picciano, Chairman of the Cost Savings Committee, added that many employees have turned in accepted "I"deas through the years, but there are still lots of employees who could qualify for a \$50 Bond.

If you have any questions about the "I"dea Program or Cost Savings in general, give your division representative on the Cost Savings Committee a call.

SERVICE MILESTONES

February

Virgil L. Holsinger reached the 25-year service milestone in February.

Arthur R. Denny now has 20 years of service.

Four employees hit the 15-year mark. They are John C. Dikeman, Richard L. Grant, John D. Smith and Carol Snively.

Seven employees reaching the 10-year milestone were Norma M. Smith, Penny S. Will, Dale R. Shepherd, Cherry A. Howard, Mark W. Scott, Teresa K. Piatt and Ricky D. Miller.

March

Wilma M. Redden, Reed H. Walters, Charles D. Sainopoulos and David A. Sherwood reach the 20-year service milestone in March.

There are 11 employees reaching the 15-year service mark. They are James S. Cisco, Johnny W. Duke, Robert R. Gatrell, Samuel M. McGraw, Earl J. Elliott, Richard O. Grose, Herman H. Porginski, Thomas G. Simon, Charlotte A. Days, Robert H. Sears and John D. Jordan.

Mark F. Rupp, Leann McWhorter, Lynn A. Bunch, Meleisa J. Clark and Norman J. Boesch reach the 10-year service milestone.

RECREATION CORNER

★ *The Employee Activities Committee (EAC) has elected officers for 1988: Greg Barch, Designer (D-612), president; Mike Corbin, Maintenance Mechanic 1/C (D-714), vice president; Judy Curry, Production Process Operator, (D-810), treasurer; and Christy Burkitt, Secretary I (D-817), secretary.*

Committee representatives elected to three-year terms beginning Jan. 1 are Curry, Rusty Cosby (D-721), Ron Mount (D-911), Shirley Walter (D-310), Jerri McKibben (D-812) and Steve Wamsley (D-532).

Barch noted his satisfaction with the interest employees have continued to display toward the EAC and its activities. Considerable planning and effort are required before, during and after major events such as the 5K Run, summer outing, recognition banquet and Christmas party.

★ *The EAC is now planning for its second 5K run, to be conducted April 30. Chairperson again is Connie Eckhart. Other committee members are Shirley Walter, Ron Mount and Barry Carlson. Volunteers are needed to help with the activity. If you are interested, contact John Gedeon, EAC Coordinator, at extension 2457.*

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