



***Dr. Mel Cole***

**The Company Has A Doctor!**

1974 is here; and the New Year came in quite differently from 1973. It brought with it new challenges and problems with which the American people are unaccustomed.

This year may go down in history as "the year of the shortage." We are in the midst of a serious energy shortage, as well as having a hard time finding items such as toilet paper, beef, blue jeans and many petroleum-derived products. Not to mention a shortage of money, which seems to be a constant, not monthly trend.

Admittedly, the outlook for 1974 seems rather bleak at present. No one is sure what the next few months hold. But, in the past, our nation has always been able to overcome the hard times and forge ahead to even greater heights. And it will most likely be the case this time, too.

At the tender age of 25, I can't say that I've ever been through a depression, or even rough times. And I'm not the only one alive today that hasn't really seen hard times. But if everyone is willing to make sacrifices, including me, those like me and those that have sacrificed before, I'm highly optimistic that the present problems and shortages will be overcome.

Maybe it's a blessing in disguise for those who have never faced gas rationing stamps and walking instead of driving. Blessings often come in strange ways; but they come.

Especially to the optimistic.

M.S.

# 1974: A Time For Optimism



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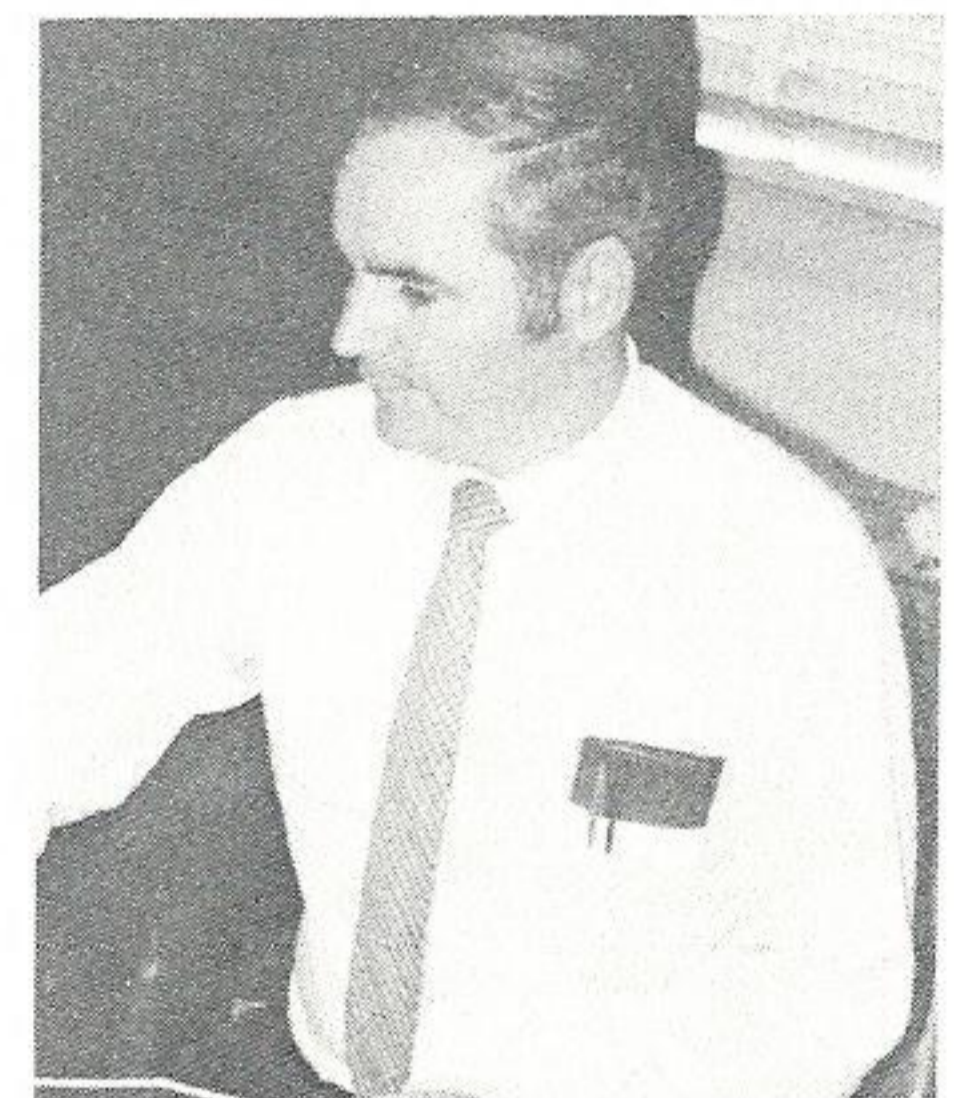
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*The Cover:*  
*When Mel Cole, operating supervisor for the Beaumont Transmission and Distribution Department, received his doctorate's degree in engineering from Lamar University recently, he became a man of several "firsts." He is the first active employee to obtain this high academic level, the first doctoral degree of any kind to be awarded by Lamar University in Beaumont, and the first man in Texas to successfully complete this newly initiated course of study.*  
*Mel Cole, DEgr., is shown in cap and gown on the cover through an artist's rendering by Ken Haynie.*

# Mel Cole Receives Doctor of Engineering

(Degree Is The First  
In State of Texas)



Dr. Melvin S. Cole - operating supervisor at the Beaumont Service Center - recipient of the first doctoral degree given by Lamar University and recipient of the first Doctor of Engineering degree ever awarded in the State of Texas.

The Beaumont Service Center has a position called operating supervisor. It's a demanding job, including responsibility for the Line, Substation, Relay and Communications, and Service and Appliance Repair Departments. And the man that handles all those responsibilities is quite unique. His name: Dr. Melvin S. Cole.

On Saturday, December 22, 1973, Mel was recognized by Beaumont's Lamar University as the first graduate to receive the Doctor of Engineering degree awarded by the university. In addition, this degree was the first of its type ever awarded in the state of Texas, as well as the first doctorate given by Lamar. Obviously this had to be quite a Christmas present for the Mel Cole family.

Mel graduated from Louisiana's Merryville High School in 1948, received a B.S. degree in Civil Engineering from Louisiana State University in 1952 and a Master of Engineering Science degree from Lamar University in 1965. He has three children: Anita, a sophomore at Lamar; Mel, Jr., a freshman at Lamar; and Rhonda, a junior at French High School. Mel's wife, Betty, plans to enter Lamar and work for an Elementary Education degree.

Mel entered the Air Force in 1952, being stationed in Missouri, Montana, Morocco and California. He left active duty in 1956 and is presently a member of the Air Force Reserves with a rank of Lt. Colonel.

An impressive list of associations completes Mel's background. It includes Registered Professional Engineer in Texas and Louisiana, Registered Land Surveyor in Louisiana, West Beaumont Rotary Club, Young Men's Business League, French High Booster Club, Beaumont Utility Coordinating Council and the Cardinal Club. He and his family are members of the Parkdale Assembly of God Church, where Mel is on the Board of Trustees. He has also written three articles, published in *Electrical World*, *Electric Light and Power* and *Hydrocarbon Processing*.

Mel started his doctoral work in January, 1971. His reason for starting: it was a challenge. "The doctoral program was initiated at Lamar in late 1970," he said. "And I wanted to be one of the first to graduate under the new program."

Mel studied continuously, spending nights over the books either in the classroom or at home. In this manner he accumulated 45 hours of course work and 60 hours of thesis work. Obviously there was very little time for things like television, fishing, mowing the yard or having friends over. There was also very little time to spend with the family, but they were behind him 100%. "I owe my wife and children a lot," Mel smiled. "They wanted to see me finish the doctoral, and made many adjustments and sacrifices for me."



Mel was honored at a dinner by his fellow West End Rotarians. Also in attendance (l. to r.) were Floyd Smith-Company board chairman, Mel, his wife Betty, son Mel, Jr. and Company President Norman Lee.

Mel's thesis, entitled "A Method For Including All Four Rates - Interest, Taxes, Productivity and Inflation - In Engineering Economy," deals more in practical application than in theory. Productivity gain rate and inflation had not previously been included in a realistic comparison for the economy of engineering alternatives. Mel's study included these two additional factors, adding a valuable service in expanding the scope of comparing the alternatives.

The actual writing of the thesis took some six months to complete. Again, the family entered the picture with a helping hand, as Mel's wife, Betty, spent many an hour on the typewriter. In fact, she completely typed the thesis some five times before the finished product was obtained.

There were a few anxious moments in Mel's quest for the degree. In March, 1973, his doctoral committee (the five men with doctor's degrees from Lamar who judged his thesis and gave him his oral examination) sent a proposal of the thesis to outside consultants. This was done to assure that the subject matter was adequate doctoral material. Naturally Mel was quite elated when an affirmative reply was received. Then, after a rough draft of the thesis was completed, it was again sent to outside consultants for evaluation. After two weeks, another favorable reply was returned. At this point, Mel could finally see the end of that long road.

True, it was a long, hard road. But on December 22, 1973, Lamar President John Gray presented Mel with his Doctor of Engineering degree. It was one moment in a lifetime that the Cole family will always remember.

What plans does Mel have for the future? He has kiddingly and seriously been asked if he plans to change jobs. But his reply has always been an emphatic "no." He has already put a part of his thesis to work in the Company and undoubtedly his future contributions will be of increasing importance to GSU. Leisure time, almost a forgotten phrase in Mel's vocabulary, will definitely include some fishing and watching his children and wife work toward their degrees at Lamar. There might even be some post-doctorate work in the future, too.

It was another first for the Company, and a very special one, at that. And it couldn't have happened to a nicer guy.

Even though Mel Cole is the only Doctor at GSU, he certainly doesn't act like it.



Mel was given a surprise party at the Beaumont Service Center by fellow employees. Presenting a present to Mel was A. W. Baird - operating superintendent.

# GSU NEWS

DISCUSSION ON FUEL AND CUSTOMERS

## Briefing Session Held At Willow Glen Station

-- Newsgatherers from throughout the westernmost sector of the service area Company recently gathered at the Company's Lewis Creek Station to be briefed by Company officials on the electric utility's plan of action to meet its customers' rapidly growing demands for electricity while coping with a worsening fuel situation and continuing inflation.

Floyd Smith, chairman and principal executive officer, S. L. Adams, senior vice president of engineering and construction, Robert Jackson, secretary of the Company, and Roger Moore, director of nuclear services, spoke to about 40 newsmen and were available for questions at the news conference. William E. Richard, Western Division manager, welcomed the group.

In his opening remarks, Smith described our service area and gave background material on the Company. He said that the Company's customers include some of the world's leading petroleum and petrochemical companies. From a customer standpoint, the Montgomery County area is the fastest-growing section in the Company's system.

Smith indicated that we will have to invest approximately \$1½ billion in the next seven years, which will about double the present total plant investment.

With continued inflation, increasing cost of capital, equipment, labor, fuel and all other costs of doing business, the price of a unit of electricity must increase, Smith said. But he added that electric ser-

vice will continue to be one of the best bargains available.

Adams explained that maintaining adequate supplies of fuel needed for the Company's six electric generating stations is presently one of the chief concerns of Gulf States. Until late 1970, natural gas was the only fuel utilized to fire the boilers of the steam generators, but dwindling supplies and severe gas curtailment affecting two Louisiana power plants have resulted in modifying several large units so that heavy oil can be burned as well as gas. Extensive docking and a one million barrel oil storage tank facility have been completed and are in operation at the Company's Willow Glen Station near Lake Charles, and the Company is carrying forward extensive gas and oil acquisition and exploration programs to maintain sufficient fuel to keep electric power flowing to all customers, he said.

Adams pointed out that coal and nuclear power would be primary fuel sources for the next several decades. The Company recently purchased a 20-year supply of low-sulphur Wyoming coal with delivery to begin in 1977 for plants on which construction will soon begin. Two nuclear plants are scheduled, River Bend Station, 20 miles northwest of Baton Rouge on the Mississippi River and Blue Hills Station, about seven miles southwest of Toledo Bend Lake in Newton County, Texas.

The first four units of the two nuclear plants are expected to begin operating

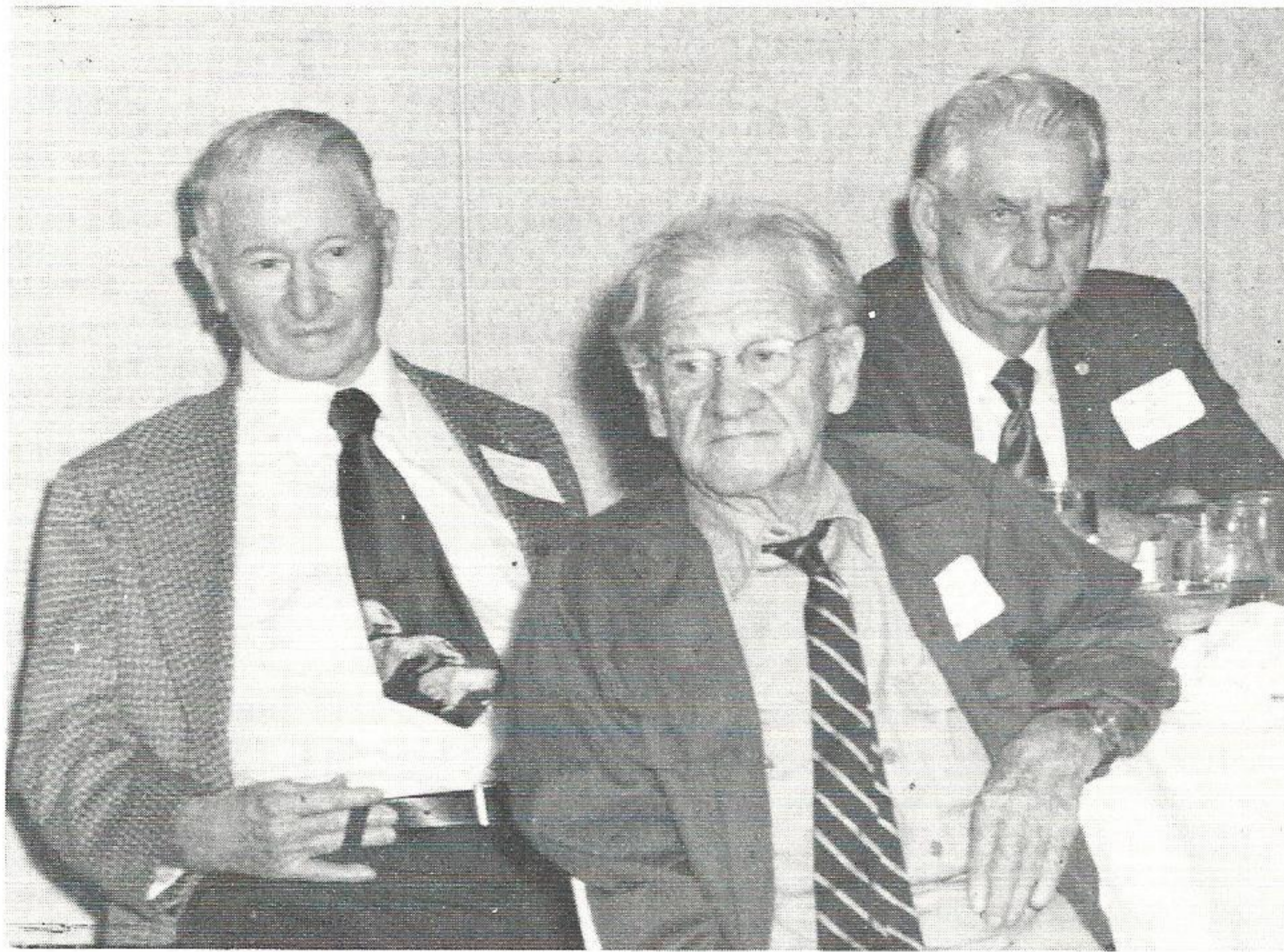
between 1980-1983 and will have a combined generating capability of nearly 4,000,000 kilowatts, almost matching the Company's present generating capability, Adams said.

Moore, whose nuclear power career includes experience with the N. S. Savannah, described the licensing procedures for nuclear power plants, the excellent safety record of the nuclear industry over more than 30 years, and the careful attention to detail involved in building and operating these plants.

Jackson described the challenge of raising the very large amounts of money required to finance the construction of facilities necessary to meet the area's electricity needs.

Due to the fuel shortage, increased environmental concern on the part of the public, the need for electric-powered mass transportation facilities, and the soaring demand for electricity, most of the nation's electric utilities will be undertaking massive construction programs similar to Gulf States; and all will need to raise capital in the money market. Other industries will also be expanding, and with the federal government borrowing over 40% of available money, competition for financing will be keen, Jackson said.

Following the talks, Smith directed a question and answer period. After lunch, Richard and the staff of Lewis Creek Station escorted the newspeople through the plant.



J. H. "Pat" Connelly, center, the oldest living retiree in the Gulf States system, was among some 31 guests honored at the Company's annuitants luncheon held recently at the Pioneer Club in Lake Charles. Mr. Connelly, 88-years young, was employed back in 1916, and retired in 1952. All five divisions hosted similar affairs to re-acquaint the annuitants of their benefits.

## Thrift Plan

Purchases of Gulf States Utilities Company stock made by the Trustee during December, 1973 covering employee deductions and Company contributions through November, 1973 were as follows:

6,817 shares of common stock at a total cost of \$94,755.03, for an average cost per share of \$13.900.

105 shares of \$4.40 Preferred stock at a total cost of \$5,970.00, for an average cost per share of \$56.857.

The Trustee deposited \$56,296.00 with the Savings Department of the First Security National Bank.

## Company Is Conserving To Fight Energy Crisis

Our Company, in view of President Nixon's November 7 speech, feels that it is our responsibility to do everything possible to use energy wisely. Many steps have been taken to conserve; carpooling was even initiated as far back as June 1 when the possibility of a gasoline shortage arose. We will continue our policy of wise use, and will further support the President in any future energy saving steps.

Our efforts directed toward Company transportation include air travel as well as automobiles. Employees have been asked to travel in a carpool when at all possible, reduce unnecessary motor idling and report poorly tuned engines, keep tires properly inflated, and practice wise use of air conditioning. All Company vehicles now observe a 50

m.p.h. maximum. The use of public transportation has also been encouraged, including air, bus and train travel.

The consumption of electricity has been reduced in all Company buildings. This has been done by turning off all lights not in use, using natural lighting where adequate, using no decorative lighting during the day and only security lighting at night, and the lowering of thermostats to 68 degrees during the winter.

We feel that a continued wise use will help to save our energy resources, and we urge that all employees make a concerted effort to conserve, both on and off the job. Unified national support of these policies will hopefully be instrumental in preventing the energy crisis from worsening.

## Love Is The Answer

This is a reprint from the 1973 Annual Industrial Newsletter . . .

Evidence has turned up which indicates that employees with a happy love life are less likely to have accidents on the job. The finding is reported from a study of 52 sales clerks, evenly divided between "accident repeaters." They were given extensive psychiatric interviews and psychological tests in hopes of turning up a pattern of traits associated with repeated accidents. It was found that nearly all the clerks in the high-accident group were inhibited, guilty, and fearful about sex, and most were dominated by their spouses. Other common traits of this group were disorderliness, disorganization, passivity, and poor attendance. The opposite traits characterized the group that had avoided accidents. ---- Air Transportation Section, March

# Conference Board Analyzes The Energy Shortage

New York, January 3 . . . The domestic oil shortage, while substantial, may be less severe during the critical Winter months than the Federal Government is currently predicting, The Conference Board, an independent business and economic research institution, stated today.

In an analysis of petroleum supply-demand data coupled with forecasts of U.S. economic activity, The Conference Board's newly-established Energy Information Center arrives at oil shortfall estimates which are better than one million barrels a day below the daily shortage forecast in the President's November 25 energy message.

Specifically, the government predicted an oil shortfall of 3.5 million barrels a day during the first quarter of 1974 (January through March). The Conference Board Energy Information Center estimates that if the economy is "strong" the shortage will be 2.4 million barrels daily, and if the economy is "weak" it will be 2.2 million.

The analysis notes that all forecasters are handicapped by the inadequacy of current energy data, and that Arab oil producers are capable of taking further steps which might result in a worse petroleum shortage than either the Administration or The Conference Board now anticipate.

In commenting on the Energy Information Center analysis, Conference Board President Alexander B. Trowbridge, a former Secretary of Commerce, emphasized that despite differences of opinion on the magnitude of the problem, there is no question about the reality of the shortage. "No one should turn their thermostat back up after reading our report," he said. "The energy conservation measures already set in motion are desperately needed no matter whose forecast turns out to be correct."

The Conference Board undertook its analysis not to challenge government, Trowbridge said, but to enhance its per-

spective. "There are a number of ways in which to calculate the energy shortfall over the next six months. Because all of the data needed to make precise forecasts simply are not available, responsible estimates can differ by substantial amounts.

"What makes the situation especially difficult as the Administration formulates its policy is that either underestimates or overestimates can produce reactions which themselves might compound our problems," Trowbridge continued. "Anticipating the worst could set off hoarding or lead to more stringent rationing than the situation requires, which in turn might unleash recessionary forces. On the other hand, an overly optimistic forecast could impede effective oil conservation and turn a difficult period into one which might indeed be unmanageable."

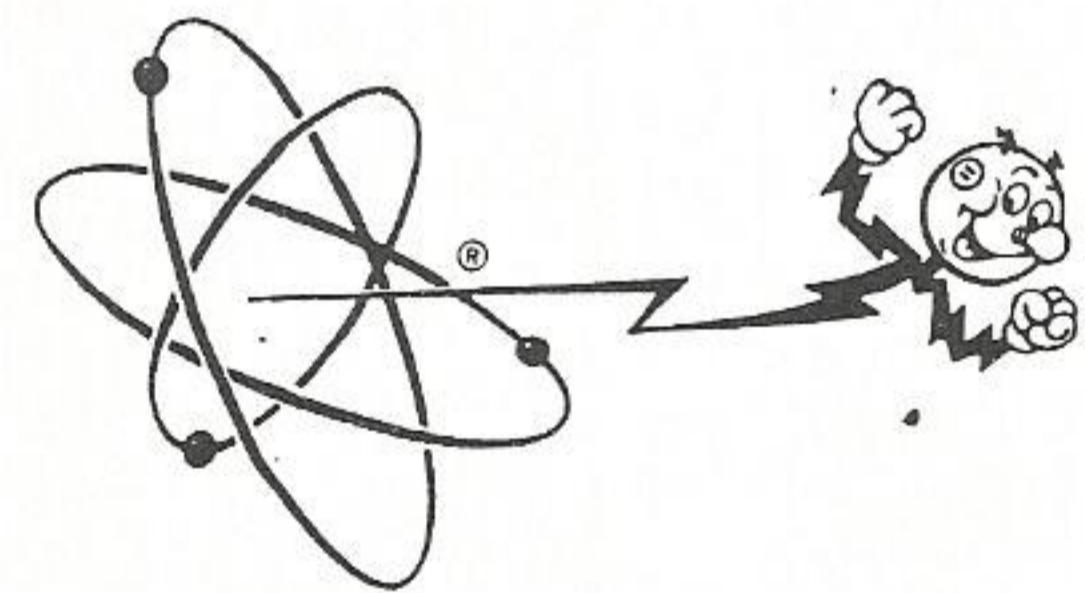
Trowbridge said the Board's analysis and oil shortfall forecast were made available to the Federal Energy Office staff on December 10.

Both The Conference Board and the Administration arrived at their oil shortfall forecasts by estimating the supply of oil which will be available from all sources and the amounts which will be required to meet the demands of U.S. oil consumers. The Conference Board constructed its estimates of domestic oil demand by relating barrels consumed to gross national product, in constant dollars, quarterly over a five-year period. Trends were then projected for the fourth quarter of 1973 and the first two quarters of 1974, using GNP forecasts for both "strong" and "weak" economies.

To verify the accuracy of this technique, the methodology was extended back to 1967 to check the forecast against actual petroleum demand in 1972-73. In a second test, petroleum products were broken into eight groups and the GNP-demand ratio was applied to each group individually. A final check was made by simple trend extrapolation of total barrels consumed in each of the eight product groups, omitting GNP.

The analysis notes that a secondary effect of the Arab oil boycott could conceivably intensify the U.S. shortage. Inevitably, economic pressures will arise to divert supplies of non-Arab oil headed for the U.S. to Europe and Japan, where they are more dependent on imported oil than we are and thus are willing to pay higher prices. Should this happen, the U.S. shortfall may be much greater than The Conference Board's forecast, and could even exceed the Administration's estimate.

The Conference Board's analysis, and shortfall forecasts were compiled by Dr. John G. Myers, research director of the Energy Information Center, and Leonard I. Nakamura, staff economist. The report appears in the January issue of the Board's monthly magazine, The Conference Board RECORD.



#### DID YOU KNOW?

. . . . . that an atomic reactor in a nuclear power plant is simply a device for "burning" atomic fuel. Its principal parts are: a core of atomic fuel, usually a moderator, a cooling system and a system for controlling the rate of fission.



## Deaths



**Roy S. Nelson**

**Roy S. Nelson**, former Company president and board chairman, died unexpectedly December 26 at his home. He was 79 years old.

Nelson came to the Company in 1942 as president, guiding GSU through a period of remarkable growth and progress. He was previously chief engineer of the Eastern Texas Electric Company in Port Arthur, and also had served as chief engineer of two other power generating companies and president of El Paso Electric Company.

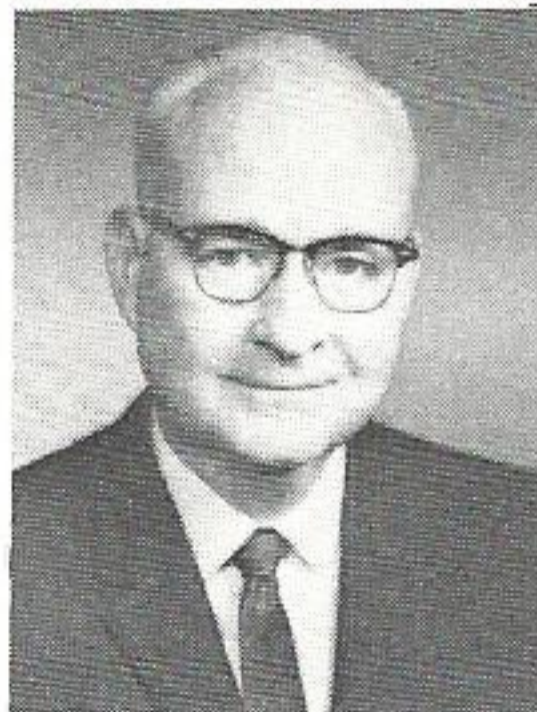
Nelson was named chairman of the board in 1959, served as president until 1961 and continued as director until 1970 when he was named director emeritus.

A native of Lancaster County, Pa., Nelson had lived in Beaumont for 31 years. He took the lead in the first, highly successful United Appeals campaign, serving as drive president twice. He also led Baptist Hospital campaigns and was named head of the steering committee that led to the passage of a \$9.5 million bond issue for downtown renovation.

Survivors include his wife; a daughter, Mrs. Mark Steinhagen; two grandchildren and a sister, Mrs. Clarence Ressel of Quarryville, Pa.



Just a friendly reminder to turn off those lights when not in your office. The wise use of electric energy should be everyone's concern. Dude Johnson, Beaumont Division Sales, forgot, and found that someone had left him a "friendly little reminder," upon his return.



**William T. Ricks**

**William T. Ricks** - Beaumont purchasing agent in System Purchasing - retired January 1. He has been with the Company since 1927.

Ricks started with GSU in Beaumont as a relief cashier. He served in various positions in the Treasury Department until promoted to storeroom supervisor in 1941. He was promoted to stores supervisor in 1952 and again promoted in October, 1962 to the position of purchasing agent.

A native of Throckmorton County, Texas, Ricks was raised in Fort Worth, where he attended school.

Ricks is married to the former Letha Holland of Silsbee. They have two sons, Jimmy and Remmert.

## Retirements



**Martin J. Wagon**

**Martin J. Wagon**, residential sales representative in Jennings, retired January 1 after serving the Company for 29 years.

Wagon was employed in September, 1944 in Jennings as a customer contact representative. He was transferred to meter reader in May, 1949 and then became a residential sales representative in October, 1953, the position held at retirement.

Wagon is a native of Jennings, where he attended school.



**George E. Anderson**

**George E. Anderson**, turbine maintenance technician at Baton Rouge's Louisiana Station, retired January 1, after some 35 years with the Company.

Anderson was employed by the Company in 1938, spending all of his time at Louisiana Station. He was promoted to mechanical maintenance foreman in 1959, and again promoted to turbine maintenance technician in the System Production Department in July, 1972.

He is married to the former Audrie Barnes of McComb, Mississippi and they have two children, Mrs. Raymon E. Y'darraga of Baton Rouge and Mrs. John W. Lewis of Shreveport.

Anderson is a member of the Istrouma Lodge No. 414 F&AM. The Andersons attend the Istrouma United Methodist Church.



## HOW'S YOUR FIRST AID IQ?

By The American National Red Cross

1. If someone stops breathing, you should first wipe visible materials from his mouth then tilt his head so his chin juts upward. True  False
2. To control severe bleeding you should use a clean cloth and place pressure directly on the wound. True  False
3. If a person has swallowed a poisonous substance, you should *first* cause that person to vomit. True  False
4. To prevent or reduce traumatic shock, place the victim in a comfortable position, usually lying down, and maintain normal body temperature. True  False
5. If you suspect a person has a broken back and he must be moved because of immediate danger, you should pull him from the side. True  False
6. The application of a burn ointment is the proper first aid care for severe burns. True  False
7. The primary care for suspected broken bones is to keep the bone ends and the adjacent joints quiet and to treat for shock. True  False
8. If you suspect someone is having a heart attack, you should have him lie down in a comfortable position and assist him to take his prescribed medicine. True  False
9. If someone suffers what appears to be a head injury, you should have him lie down with his feet elevated. True  False
10. If a victim is unconscious, he should be turned to his side so secretions can drool from his mouth. True  False

### ANSWERS

1. True This clears the airway. Many times these actions will be sufficient to restore breathing. If not, then you should give mouth-to-mouth artificial respiration.
2. True This procedure normally controls bleeding. If the bleeding is from an arm or leg, the extremity should be elevated. Sometimes pressure on the supplying blood vessel is also necessary. The first step is to dilute the poison with water or milk. Do not induce vomiting when the poison is an acid, an alkali, or a petroleum product, and the victim is conscious.
3. False This action should be taken when a victim has any serious injuries.
5. False If he must be pulled, it should be in the direction of the long axis of the body. It is best, however, to wait until trained help arrives if the victim is not in immediate danger.
6. False A severe burn should be covered with several thicknesses of dry, sterile dressings. Seek immediate medical attention.

### SCORING

7. True This care prevents further damage from the jagged bone ends and helps to keep a relatively minor injury from becoming a more serious one.
  8. True Place the victim in the most comfortable position, which usually is lying down with the head and shoulders raised. Do not give medicine if he is unconscious.
  9. False Do not place the feet higher than the head. Do elevate the head.
  10. True However, if there is a suspected neck or back injury, extreme care should be taken to turn his body as a unit.
- If you answered 0-4 correct, you are poorly prepared to offer effective help if something happens to you or your family.
- If you answered 5-7 correct, you're average, but you could use additional knowledge in first aid.
- If you answered 8-10 correct, pat yourself on the back. No matter what your score, Red Cross urges you to sign up for the next first aid course offered in your community. It could save your life or that of someone you love.

## Want people to listen to you? Here's how.

Most people go out of their way to listen hard if offered a chance to hear something "confidential" or "secret." But the fact of the matter is that really valuable information is right out in the open, ready for the taking, and most of us don't even bother picking it up.

It has been scientifically documented that during half of your waking hours somebody is talking to you, offering information free-of-charge. Some of it is casual, but much of it often is extremely valuable in terms of your own life, your job, your personal interests. And, believe it or not, most of this information is lost beyond recovery, because few of us ever really *listen*.

It is a fact of life that, if you don't listen, you won't be listened to. The reasons are obvious: bad listening is really a vice that offends other people. Why? Because the bad listener:

- Seems uninterested in other people, who soon lose interest in him.
- Never catches on the first time, and so is a dull learner.
- Can't keep up with what's happening because he shuts out a lot of information that could help him adapt to changing situations.

On the other hand, careful listening is like smart investing—you can sit back and the profits roll in. Benefits include:

- You avoid the frequent misunderstandings and mistakes caused by inattentiveness.
- You have the benefit of everyone else's opinions and ideas before you give your own.
- You're first to be told of any new development, because "everyone loves a good listener."
- When you do speak, others re-

turn the favor and pay strict attention to what you have to say.

It's easy to think, at this point, that "I, at least, do listen" and let it go at that. But do you really? Sure you hear many of the words of whoever is speaking to you, but how often do you miss the really important ones? And how often do you reject what is said without giving it a fair hearing? This happens when a person is so impressed with his own ideas that he refuses to consider the possibility that someone else may have better ones. Or, he may be so negative about the subject, some characteristic of the person speaking, or the form of presentation that he prejudices and refuses to open his mind to new evidence.

Also, to be really listening, you have to exercise some kind of selection over what you hear. You have to filter out the useful from the useless and make the really significant a permanent part of your store of knowledge.

Good listening, like every other skill, can be improved with practice, but it requires the exercise of some "muscles"—of the mind, the memory, and even of the body itself.

For example, you have to listen to others with your entire body. Your posture gives away lack of interest. And listening is the supreme courtesy, in every business and social situation. "The man who actually listens and pays attention to what others are saying generally stands out like a beacon of courtesy and fine manners in a sea of what appears to be compulsive talkers," says one behavioral expert.

So, one of the most important rules of listening is:

Be an Active Listener. Show by



your entire appearance that the speaker is making an impression on you. Don't just perk up your ears—sit alertly. Don't stretch or slouch, or remain without expression. React to things that are amusing, surprising, and so forth. In informal situations, respond and comment to help draw out the best in the speaker.

There are many other ways to listen well. All are intended to help the speaker get his point across and to help you yourself organize in your own mind what is being said.

The number of "listening tricks" is limitless. Some of the best are:

- Inform yourself ahead of time, if possible, about the topic to be discussed.

- Make notes—mentally or on paper—on the speaker's key words and phrases.

- Listen for meaning—individual facts are not as important as what the speaker is getting at.

- Summarize the main theme or principal points in your mind.

- Be a critical listener—gather ideas, opinions, and information accurately. Then, evaluate them against what you already know.

Remember, listening and inducing others to listen—two abilities important to you—are bound together. You cannot achieve the second without the first. Someone who has lost the ability to listen, or has never developed it, is one day certain to find that he is talking only to himself. □

# People On The Move



**Jimmie Smith**

**Jimmie Smith**, mechanical maintenance supervisor at Louisiana Station in Baton Rouge, has been transferred to Neches Station power plant in Beaumont and promoted to general maintenance supervisor.

Smith is a 25-year veteran of GSU. He is a native of Dallas and was educated in Baton Rouge, where he attended Louisiana State University and the Baton Rouge Trade School.

Smith is married to the former Agnes Babin of Port Allen, and they have two children, Richard and Cheryl. He is a veteran of the Navy, having served in World War II as a demobilization specialist.

Active in outside interests, Smith has served with the Baton Rouge United Givers' Fund where he was elected to the board of directors for three terms and served on the executive committee. He is also interested in private flying and worked for the LSU Department of Aeronautical Research prior to joining GSU. Smith is a member of the American Legion and the Kilowatt Club.



**James D. Watkins**

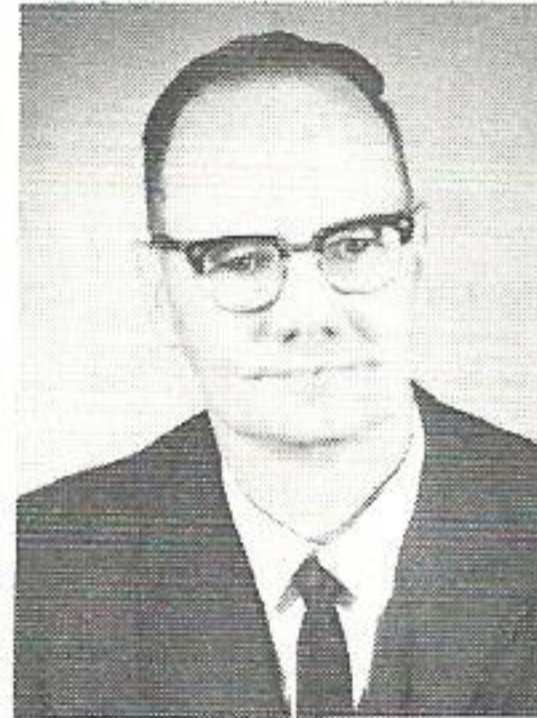
**James D. Watkins**, general maintenance supervisor at Neches Station, has been promoted to superintendent of Louisiana Station in Baton Rouge.

Watkins came to the Company in 1958 after obtaining a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from Louisiana

State University. He was named division engineer in Port Arthur in 1966, and became general maintenance supervisor at Neches Station in 1970.

A native of Hatchechubbee, Ala., he is married to the former Wanda Menetee of Covington, La. The couple has two children, Jamie Ann and James, Jr.

Watkins is a registered professional engineer in Texas and Louisiana, and a member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (Sabine Chapter).



**Roy J. West**

**Roy J. West**, plant superintendent at Louisiana Station in Baton Rouge, has been transferred to Beaumont and promoted to director of quality assurance.

West, a 15-year veteran of the Company, is a native of Childress, Texas. He holds a mechanical engineering degree from Texas A&M University. Since his employment he has gained experience in various engineering positions in Beaumont and Baton Rouge. He was named plant superintendent in 1970.

West is a six-year veteran of the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers and has been active in the Army Reserve, where he held the rank of lieutenant colonel. He is a registered engineer in Louisiana and Texas, is a member of the Louisiana Engineering Society, the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and the Baton Rouge Aggie Club.

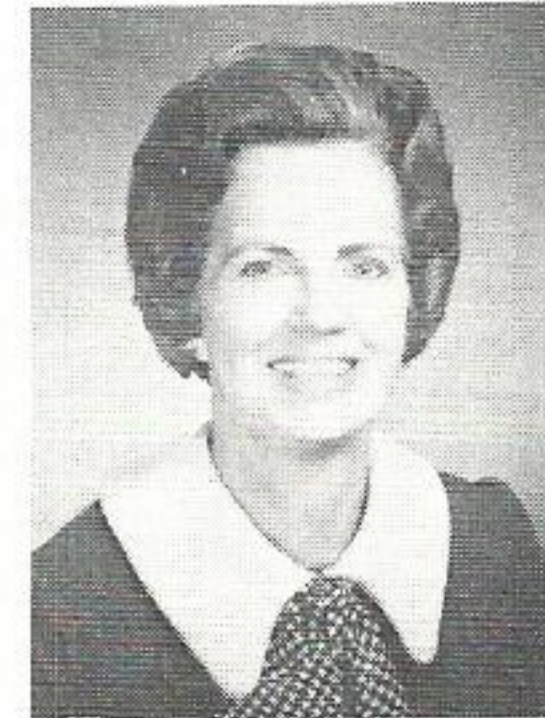
West is married to the former Martha Zimmerman of Atlanta, Georgia, and the couple has two children, Dennis and David.

**William D. Boyd**, former lineman in the T&D Department in Baton Rouge, has been promoted to utility foreman.

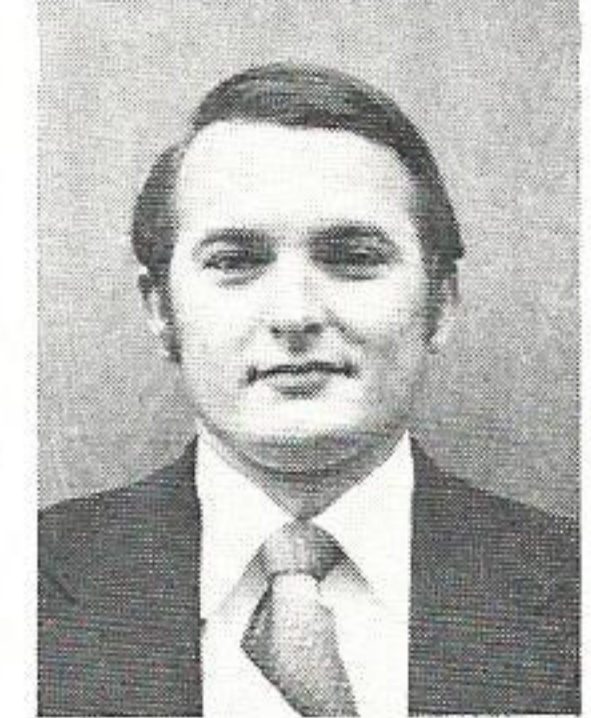
Boyd, an eight-year veteran of the Company, was employed in 1965 as a

helper in Baton Rouge. He progressed through various T&D classifications and was named lineman-first class in 1970.

He is a native of Natchitoches, La., and attended Baton Rouge Vocational Tech.



**Helen W. Head**



**Bennie D. Hickman**

**Mrs. Helen W. Head and Bennie D. Hickman** have received promotions within the general offices in Beaumont.

Mrs. Head, former PBX operator, has been named chief operator-PBX in the Information and Data Services Department, while Hickman has been promoted to civil design engineer in the Power Plant Construction Department.

A native of Brookeland, Mrs. Head came to Gulf States in 1950. She attended Brookeland High School and is a graduate of Chenier Business School of Beaumont.

Married to Tom Head, the couple has two sons, Capt. Don R. Head of the Marine Corps and Larry Head of Humble.

Hickman is a two year veteran of the Company, having been employed in 1971 as a civil engineer in the System Engineering Department. He is a native of Alexandria, La. and a 1966 graduate of McNeese State University with a degree in mechanical engineering. Hickman obtained his master's degree in civil engineering from Louisiana State University in 1971 after being discharged from the Army with the rank of Captain in the Army Corps of Engineers.

Hickman is married to the former Matilda Coffey of Lake Charles, and the couple has one son, Robert.

Active in professional life, Hickman is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers, and serves as Southeast Branch secretary of the organization. He is also a member of the American Concrete Institute.

# SERVICE AWARDS

## 20 YEAR AWARD



**Nicholas Parrino**  
Production  
Baton Rouge

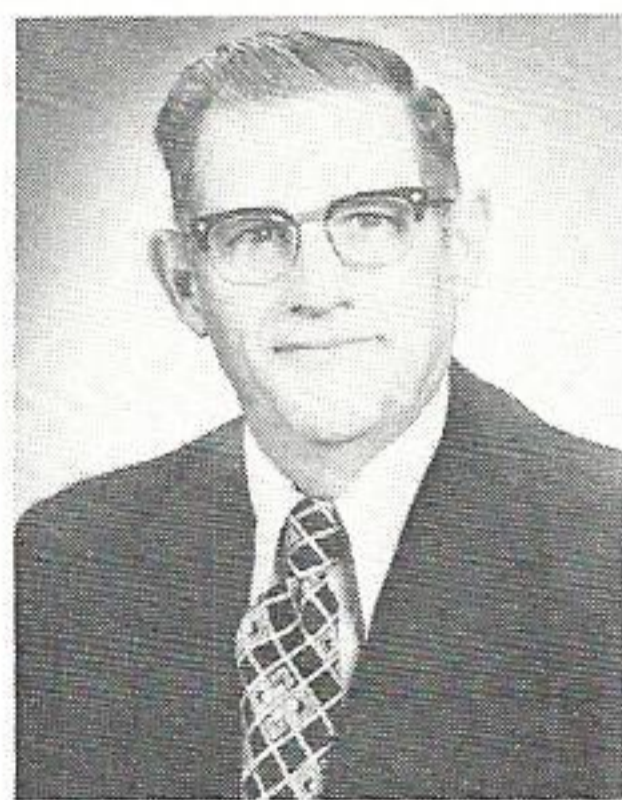


**Andrew J. Triplett**  
Distribution  
Baton Rouge

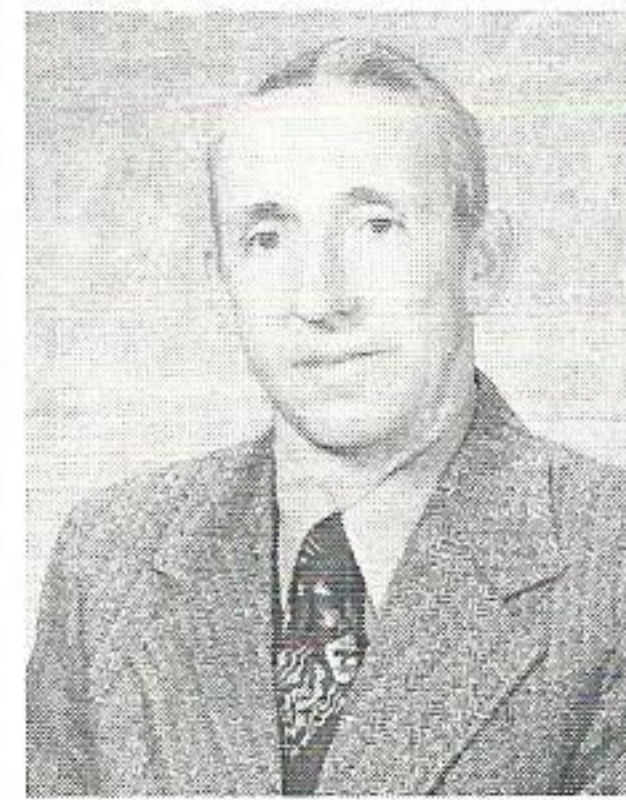


**Marie Adele Vavasseur**  
Treasury  
Port Allen

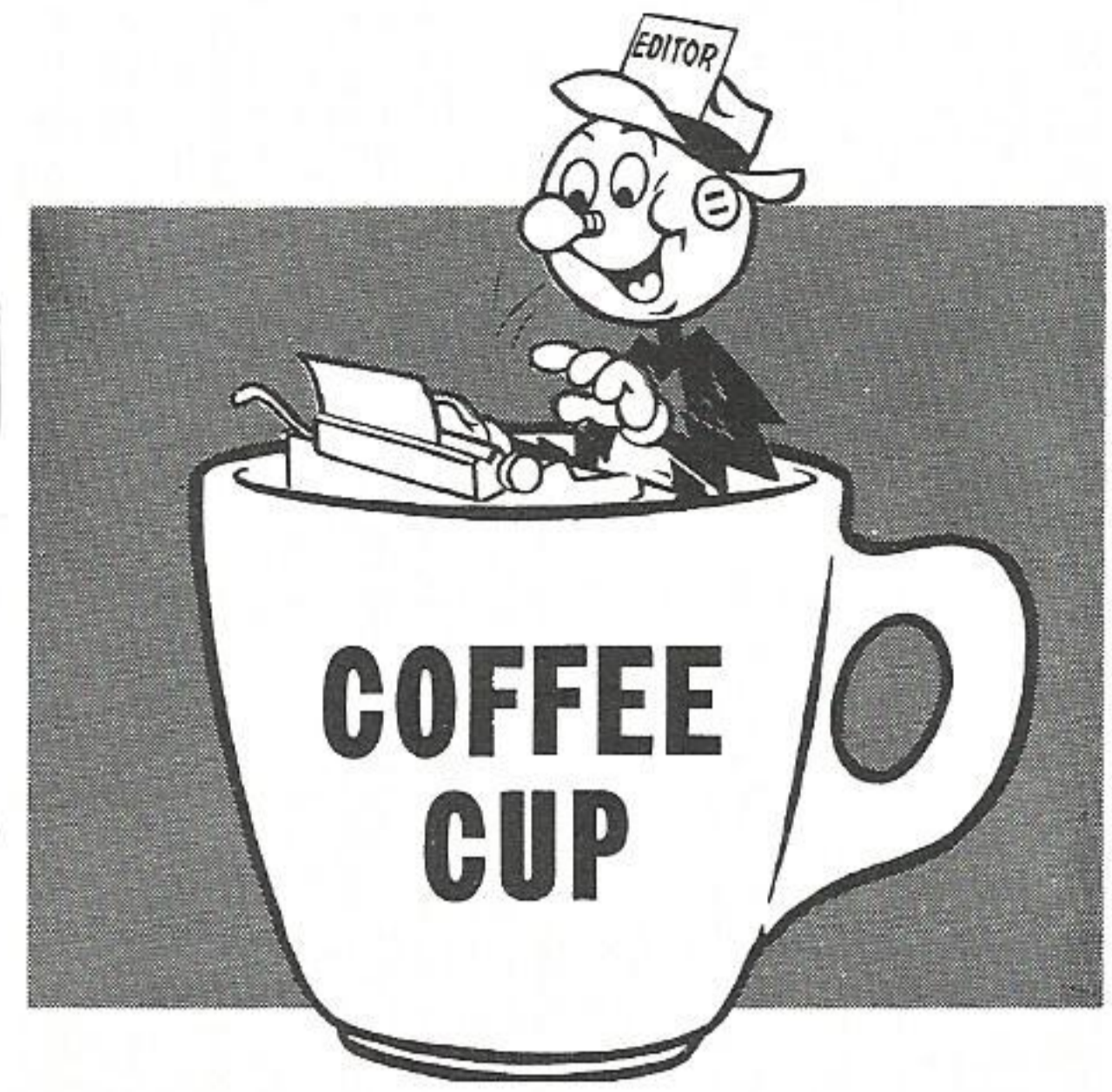
## 30 YEAR AWARD



**Edward Bello**  
Production  
Baton Rouge



**Herman Dupuy**  
Production  
Baton Rouge



If you have any story you think is interesting and would like to see in PLAIN TALKS, just contact the reporter nearest you, and he (or she) will see that it gets to the editor. A complete list of the reporters and their location can be found on the first page of each Coffee Cup section.

### REPORTERS

If you have any news for "Plain Talks," simply send the information to one of the following local reporters. They will be happy to assist you in getting the material to the editor.

**BATON ROUGE:** Margie Force (T&D), T. Boone Chaney (T&D), Melanie Hima (T&D), Jack Gautreaux (T&D), James W. Bello (T&D), Beverly Hull (Gas), Opal Temple (Acct.), Robert Graves (T&D), Susan Wilks.

**BEAUMONT:** Bill Toups (S.C.), Barbara Lindsey, Carolyn Motl (T&D), Ann Ogden, Edy Mathews, Linda Marks.

**CLEVELAND:** Pat Jones, Edd Mitchell.

**CONROE:** Frances Elliot, Bobbie Burke.

**DENHAM SPRINGS:** Lenelle Juban.

**GONZALES:** Billie Fortenberry.

**HUNTSVILLE:** Karen Morley.

**JENNINGS:** Earl Mayfield.

**LAFAYETTE:** Bobbie Denais.

**LAKE CHARLES:** Johnnie Harris (T&D), Janet Followay.

**LA. STATION:** Leslie Jeansonne.

**MADISONVILLE:** Wanda H. Tinsley.

**NAVASOTA:** Betty Dickschat.

**NECHES STATION:** Gene Russell, Hazel Higginbotham.

**NELSON STATION:** Martha Caldwell.

**ORANGE:** Doris Womack.

**PORT ALLEN:** Adele Vavasseur.

**PORT ARTHUR:** Sue Williams, Lorraine Dunham (S.C.)

**SABINE STATION:** Kathleen Fuller.

**SILSBEE:** Maxine Bell.

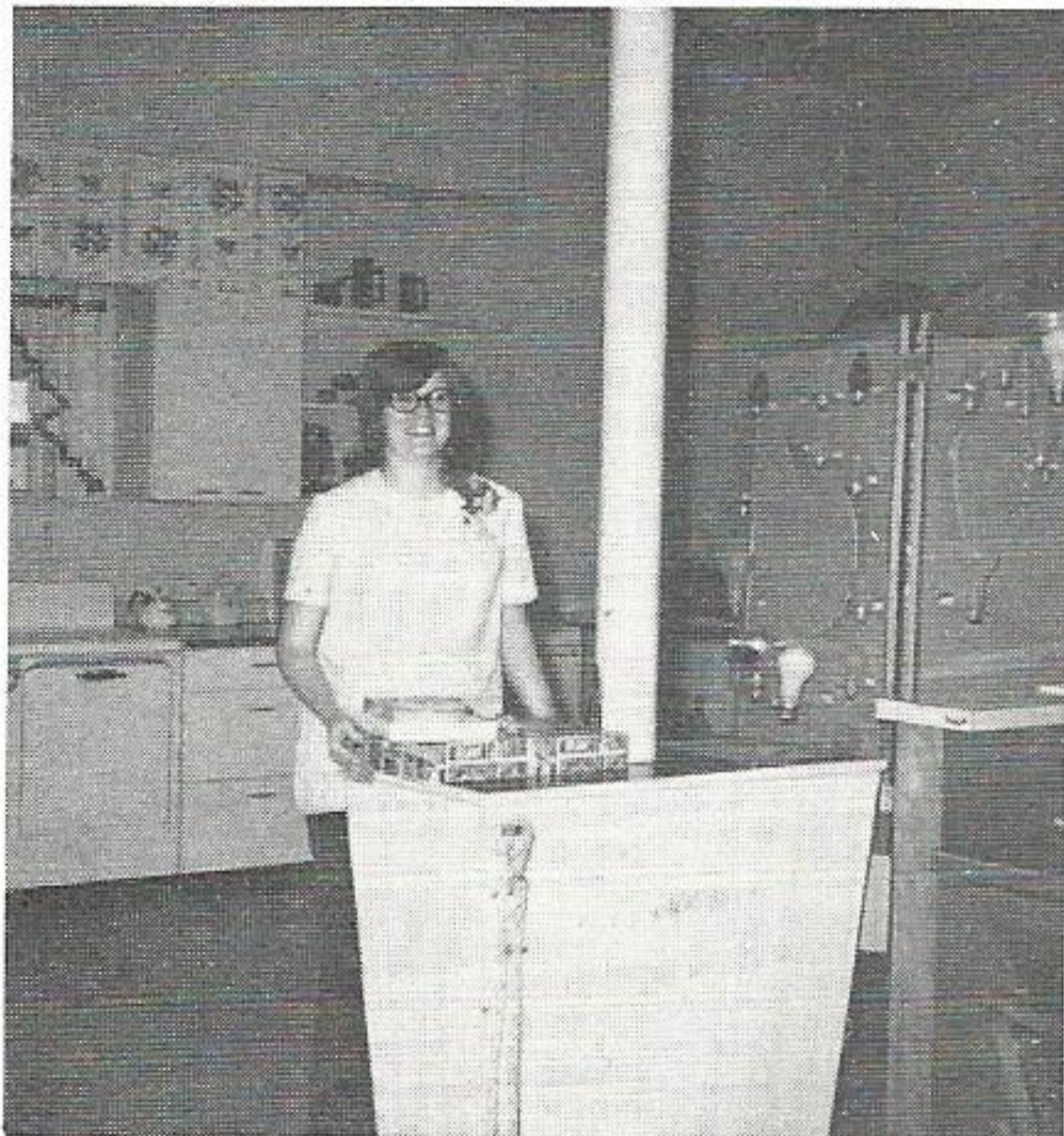
**SULPHUR:** Pearl Burnett.

**WILLOW GLEN:** Dora Landaiche, James Veatch.

**WOODVILLE:** Alene Cole.

**ZACHARY:** Myra Kirby.

*(Editor's Note: If any of the above reporters are no longer reporting or with the company, we would appreciate knowing about it. This holds true also if any reporter's name has been omitted.)*



Ginger Henderson - departmental clerk in the Baton Rouge Electric Department - became the proud mother of a girl born December 3. Named Tammy Lynn, she weighed 6 lbs. 15 ozs. (from Jack Gautreaux)



Safety is always Number 1 in Huntsville, especially during the Christmas season. In an effort to impress the importance of safety, Commercial Sales Representative Joe Bailey dressed Sam the Safety Owl as Santa. Sam was with Huntsville last year, as 1973 was safe and prosperous. (from Karen Morley)



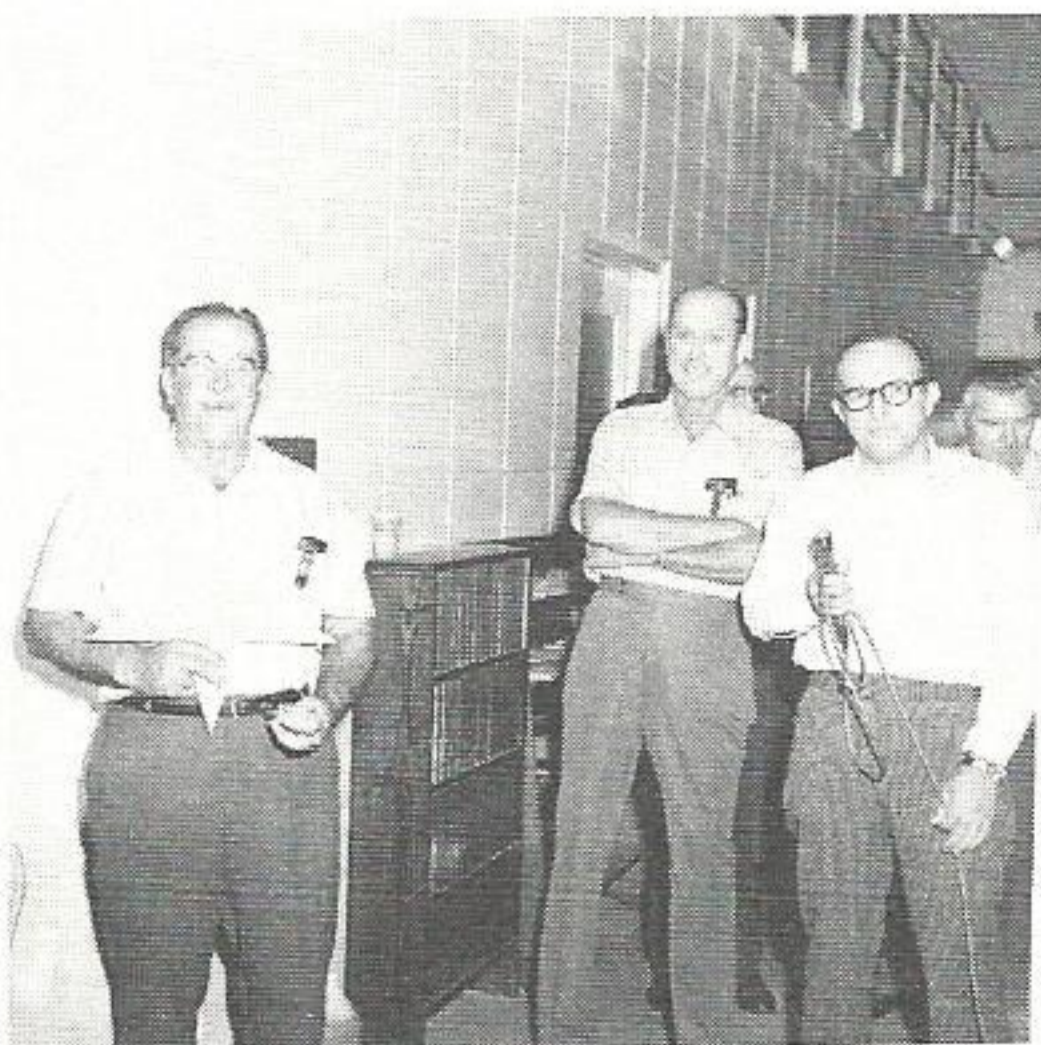
This deer was killed in upper "North Hardin Game and Varment Club" by C. P. Jordan (right) and J. T. Williams - Beaumont Division. The deer dressed out at 228 pounds! (from Jo Anne Landry)



December 14 marked the last day for Loraine Girouard-stenographer in the Beaumont office System Marketing Department. Fellow employees gathered to wish her farewell and the best in her new profession as "full time mother". (from the Editor)



Albert Buller (left in center photo) was honored with a Barbeque Retirement Party October 26, 1973, at the Lake Charles Service Center. Mr. Buller retired as an appliance repairman-1st class, after putting in 45 years of service for G.S.U. Over a hundred fellow employees and friends turned out to help Mr. Buller celebrate. Mr. Buller is pictured after being presented a



"Bronze Star" (with a fat roll of cash attached to the back), for a particular incident displaying courage. Pictured are twenty-three Retirees who were present at the party. They are: Back row-Left to Right, R. E. (Dude) Compton, Ernest Little, Albert Buller, Phil Allen, Lee Henry, C. W. Dobbertine, Henry Levois, Fred Johnson, George West, Walter House; Middle



Row-Left to Right, Leo Castete, C. W. (Dad) Weems, L. A. (Pat) Sullivan, A. E. Hine, Joseph L. Broussard, Jack Killough, Bill Boutte, Ed Farlow, A. J. (Frenchy) Verret, D. I. Norwood; Front Row-Left to Right, Houston (Blackie) J. Bourque, Joseph (Pat) Connelly, Sherman ((Brother-in-Law) Dieson, Lewis (Skinner) Rochon. (from **Johnnie Harris**)



These two beauties are getting ready for a dance review of the Recreation and Park Com. at Baton Rouge's City Park in May. On the left is Angela Lindsly, granddaughter of Calvin Oubre - Louisiana Station master repairman, and on the right is Tammie Oubre, Calvin's daughter. (from **Leslie Jeansonne**)

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Rod Hicks - Beaumont residential sales representative - received his B.B.A. degree in Marketing from Lamar University on December 22, 1973. Congratulations from Plain Talks. (from **Ward McCurtain**)



"The Line Is Busy" aptly titles this picture of a fallen 69 Kv line near the Gulf Refinery in Port Arthur. (from **Lorraine Dunham**)



The Purchasing Department in the Beaumont Main Office held a retirement lunch for Bill Ricks (center), purchasing agent. Bill retired January 1. From left to right are Cheryl Cunningham, Ann Ogden, Bill, Doug Thomas and Glenda Vanover, a former employee. (from **the Editor**)



Friday, November 30 was an exciting day for Melanie Hima - Baton Rouge Substation Department and Plain Talks reporter. She was selected as "Secretary For The Day" by Baton Rouge radio station WJBO. Besides receiving a lovely orchid and a book on flowers, Melanie's name was announced on the radio throughout the day. (from **the Editor**)

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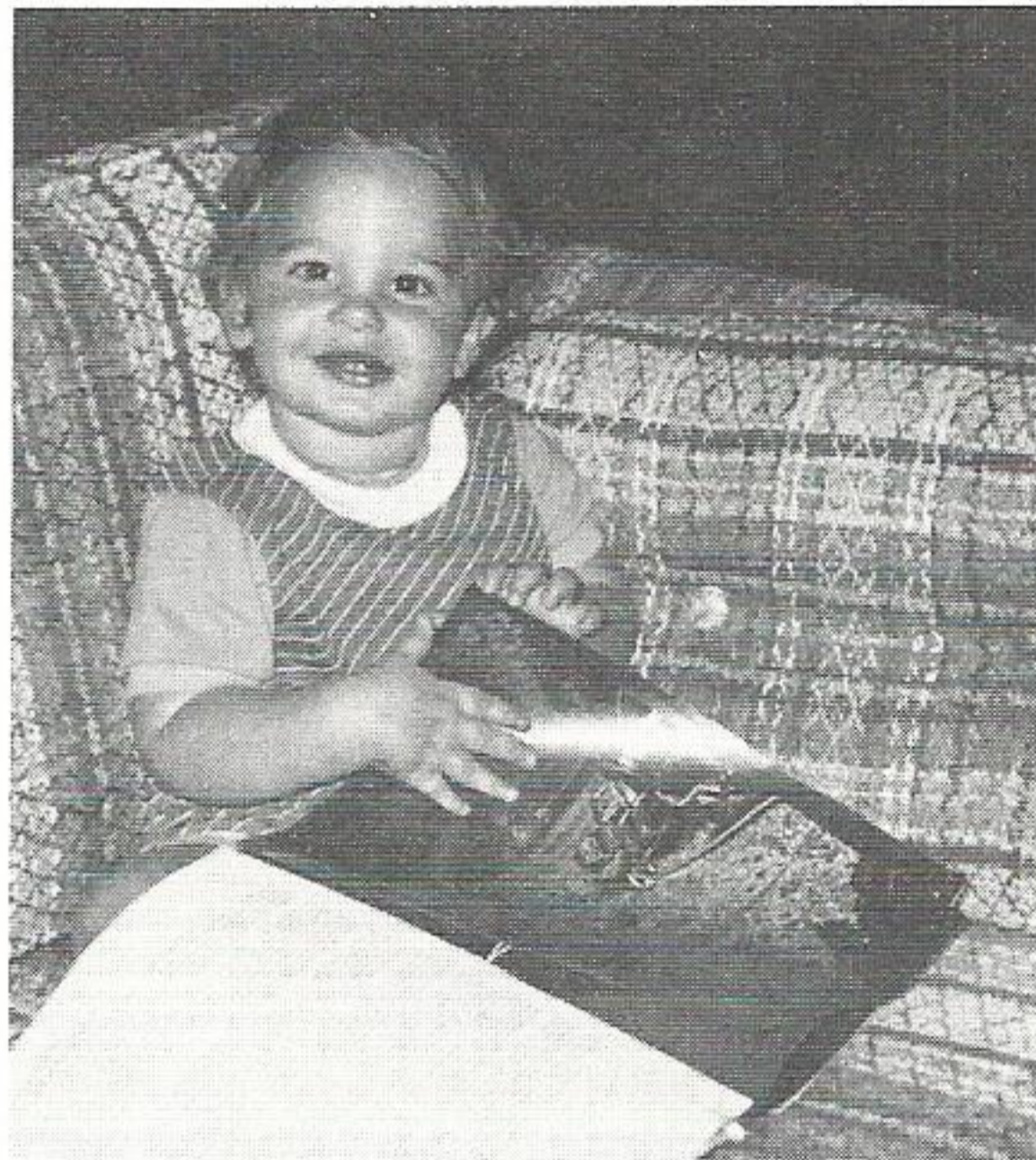
Sharon Broussard - Port Allen local office clerk - "retired" to add to her family. December 4 was her last day with the Company. Sharon has a son, three year-old Michael. Her new replacement is Joy Hatter. Welcome to GSU, Joy! (from **Del Vavasseur**)



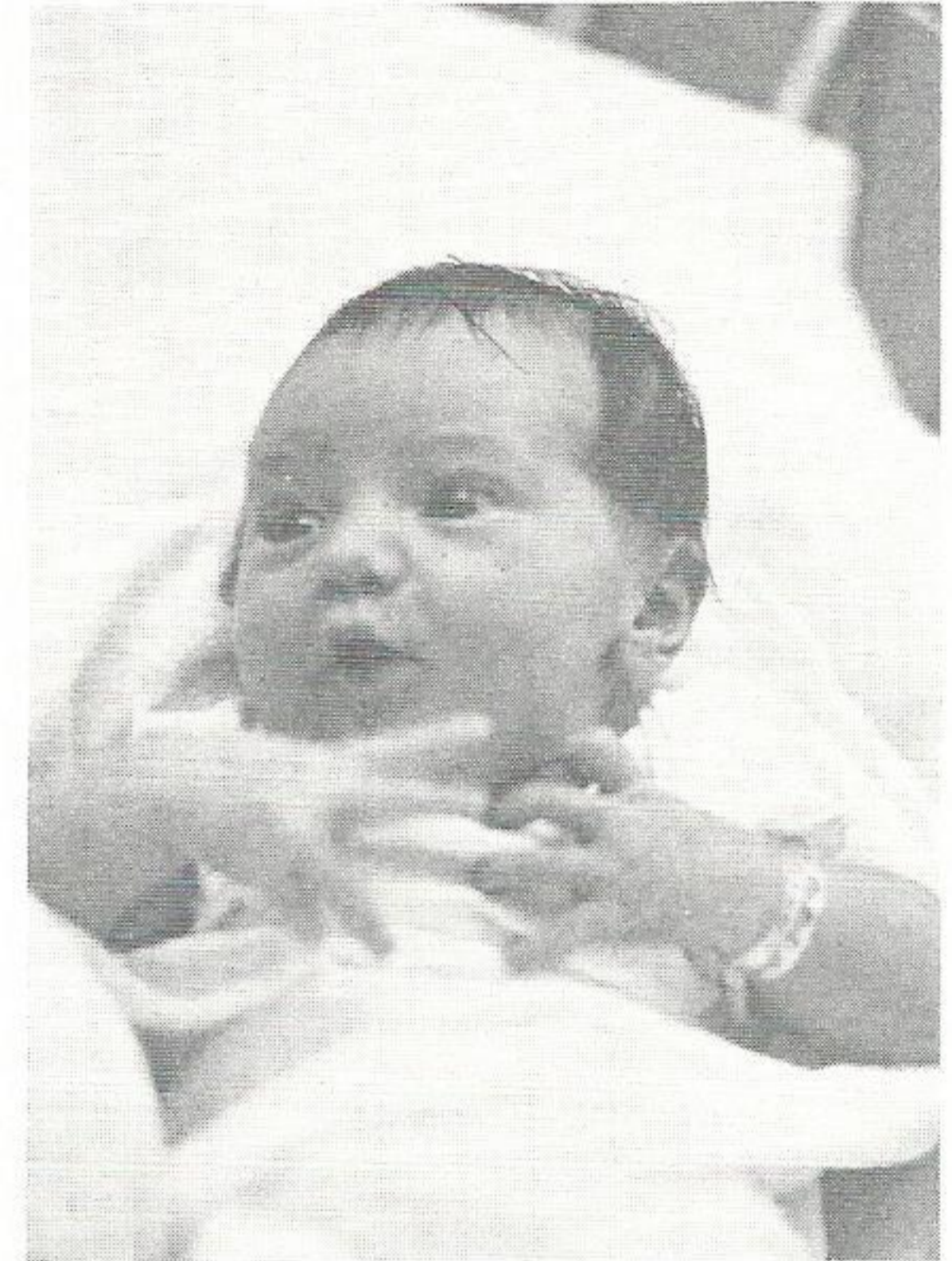
The Huntsville employees are doing their best to comply with President Nixon's request for fuel conservation, as demonstrated in the photo. With Line Foreman Melvin Shelly (left) overseeing the work, T&D Helper Pete Smith (center) and Second Class Lineman Wayne Pool set out for a job site. With tools piled high in a wheel barrow and Larry holding a red flag to direct traffic, the crew set off afoot. Only one question - their sign says 30 miles per gallon. Per gallon of what? (from Karen Morley)



A retirement party was held for Bill Ricks - Beaumont purchasing agent (far right in left photo) on December 18th. The party was held in the second floor auditorium of the Beaumont office and was attended by many fellow employees and friends. Bill retired on January 1st, and joining him at the party were his wife, Letha, and his sister and brother-in-law. (from the Editor)



This is Kevin Lionel Bailey, one-year old grandson of E. L. Bailey, retired Company treasurer. (from the Editor)



This alert young lady, only four days old at the time of the photo, is Jeanette Maureen McMeel, daughter of Pat and Barbara McMeel of Beaumont. Dad works in the Consumer Communication Department and is quick to admit that his daughter, born on Sept. 19, is already better looking than he is. (from The Editor)

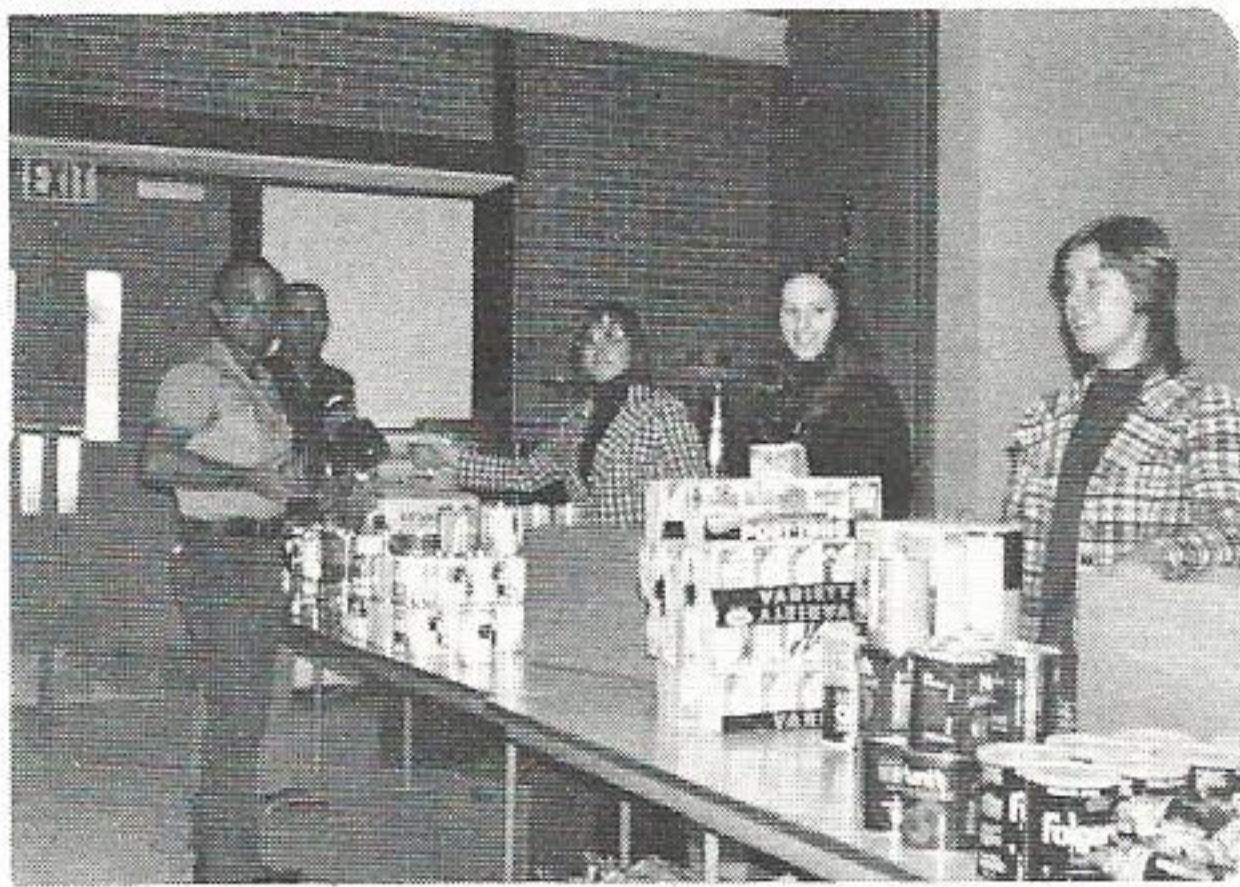


Wilbur J. Mack-helper in the Baton Rouge Substation Department-received more than just a good turkey dinner last Thanksgiving. He was blessed with the arrival of his second girl, Jametta Lynn Mack, weighing 7 lbs. 4 ozs. at birth on November 22, 1973. Congratulations. (from Melanie Hima)

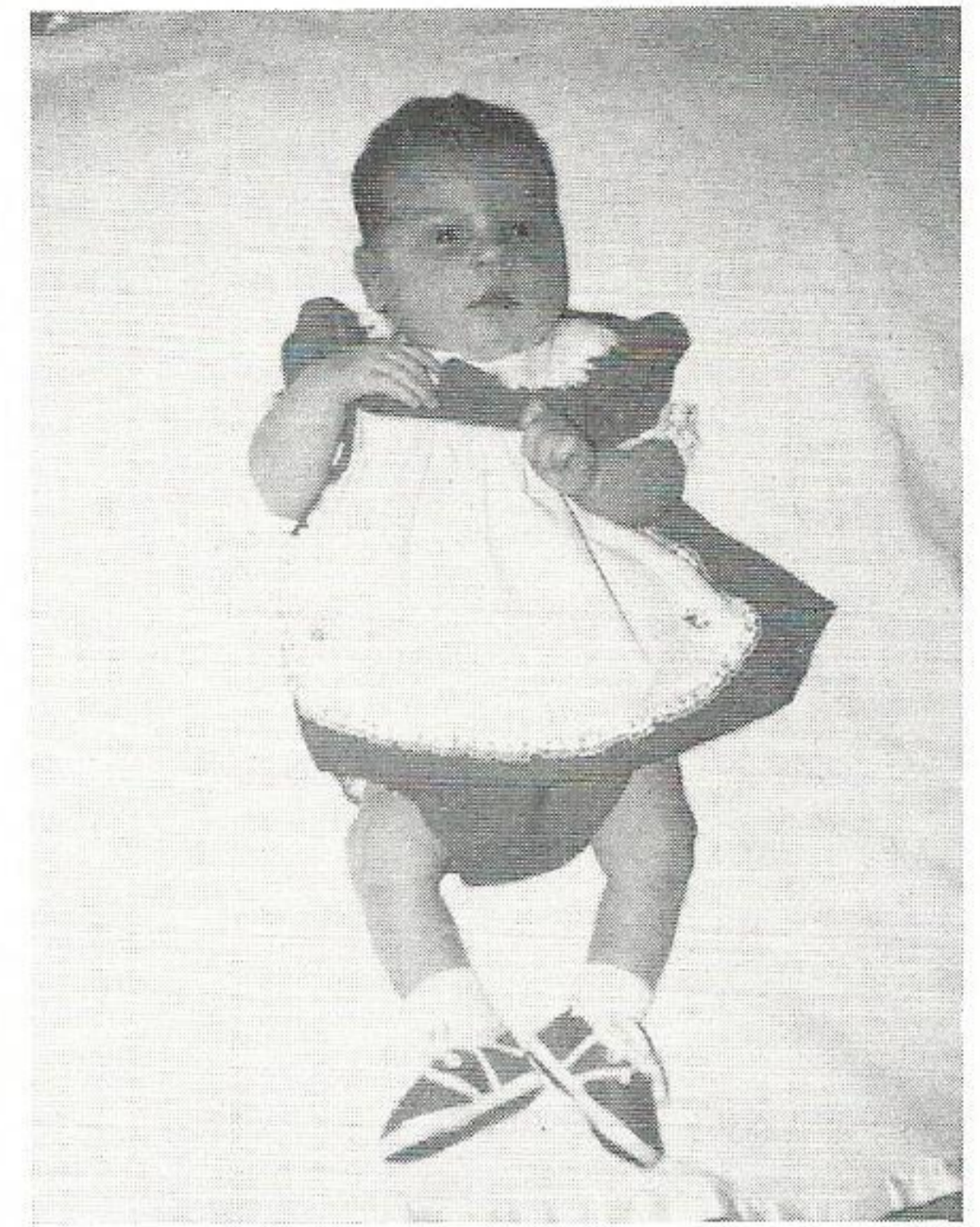
There was a special feature at the Beaumont Service Center Christmas Party on December 20th. It was a puppet show starring Raggedy Ann and Andy in "Friendship at Christmas Time," and special guests were the French High School Choralleers. A special solo was sung by Pat Wakefield of the Beaumont Substation Department, and she also led the group in singing. The Christmas Party committee consisted of Chairman June Jones, Co-Chairmen Carolyn Motl, Committeeman Marshall Hawkes, and Hostesses Pat Wakefield, Jo Anne Landry, Rose Ann Johnson, Jerry Terry and Linda and Rene' Martin. (from Carolyn Motl)

Gene Mullin, newly elected president of the West Calcasieu Association of Commerce, was installed during the 24th annual membership meeting and banquet November 6, 1973, at W. W. Lewis Junior High School in Sulphur. Mr. Mullin is district superintendent in the Sulphur District. (from Johnnie Harris)





Orange District employees made contributions throughout the year toward the purchase of food for the needy. Twelve baskets of food, including a ten-pound turkey, were delivered to families in Orange County. From left to right are Floyd Hebert, Gene Salonek, Patsy Guillot, Jean Quibodeaux and Donna Derise. (from the Editor)



This is Stephanie Michelle Freeman, born on September 15. She is the daughter of Michael Freeman - meter reader in Vidor. (from the Editor)



The Cub Scouts of Den 2, Pack 112 of Bayou District recently toured the Lake Charles Service Center. Boys pictured are: left to right-back, Scott Turnbull, Jeffrey Mack, James Lynch, Bennett Woolman; front, Kevin Harger. Howard Mack, Jeffrey's father, is operating superintendent in Lake Charles. Mrs. Mack & Mrs. Woolman are Den Mothers for the group. (from Johnnie Harris)

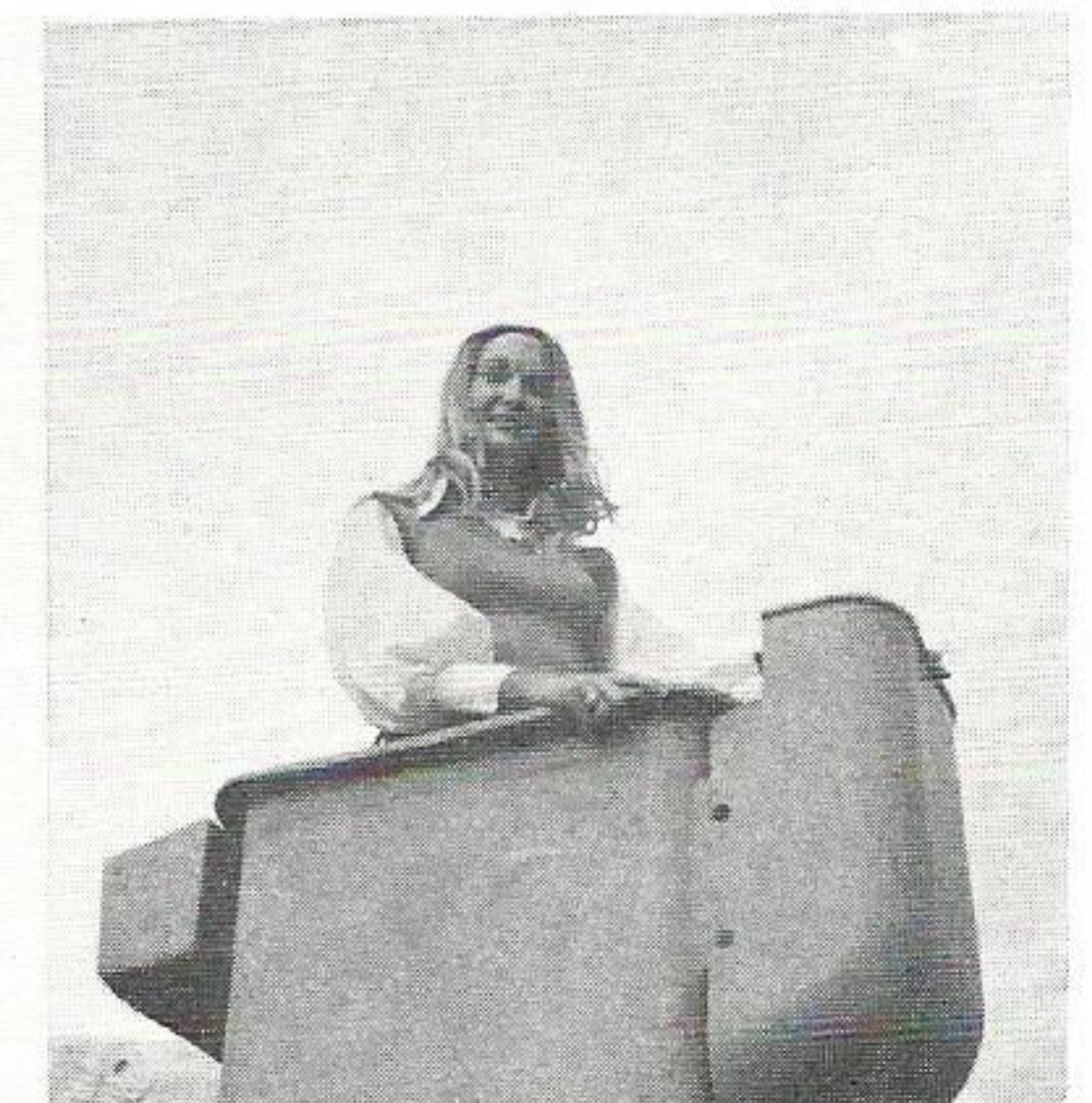


Helen Head (seated center-wearing hat), newly promoted Beaumont chief operator-PBX, had planned a Christmas dinner for fellow employees. As it turned out, the dinner was in honor of her promotion. The celebration was held at Beaumont's Steak and Ale, and in addition, a birthday cake was presented to Virginia Barefield - switchboard operator - even though it wasn't even her birthday! (from the Editor)

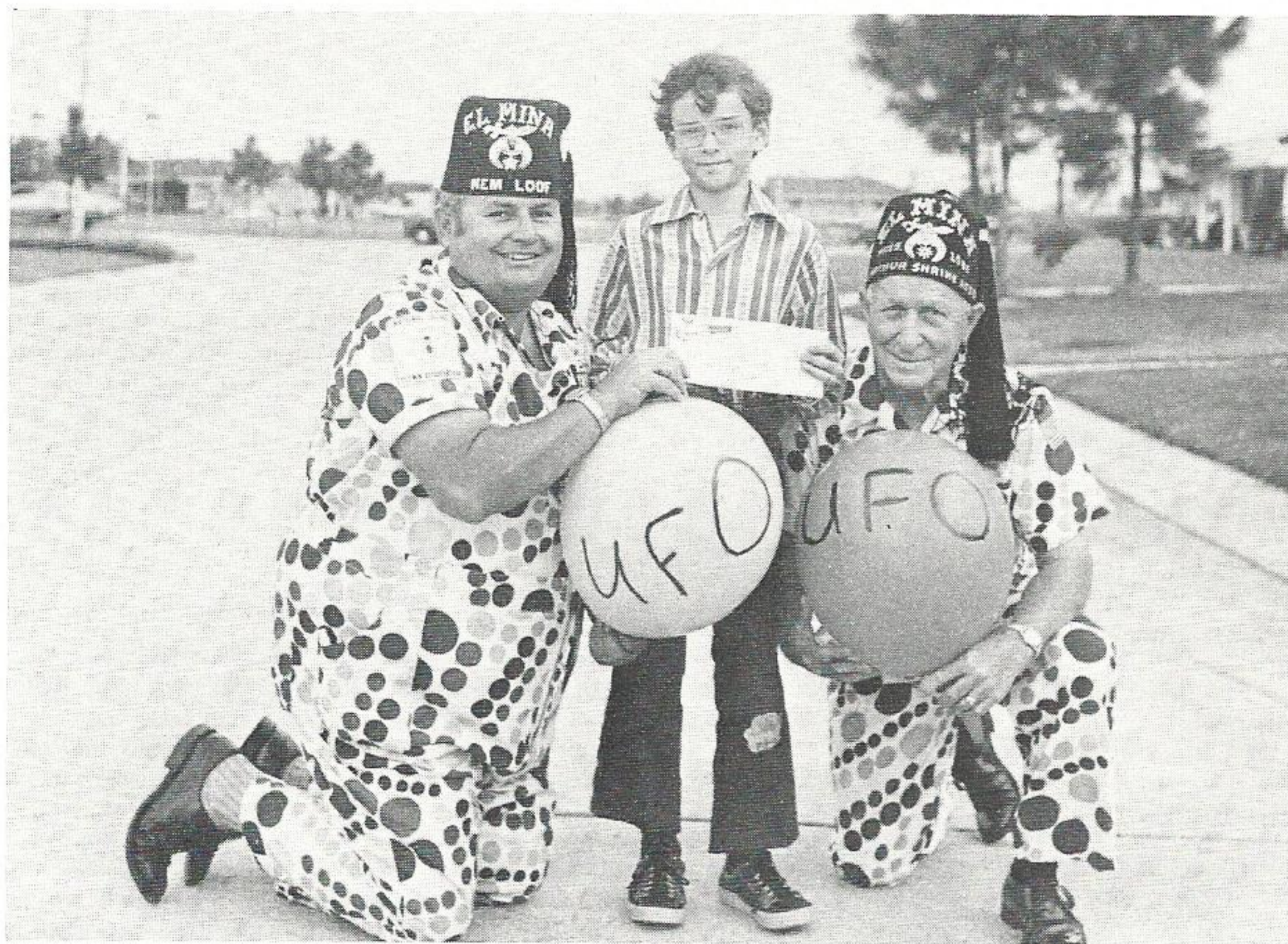
Sammy Bono was recently elected Chairman of the Public Service Committee of the Calcasieu Catholic Council 1207. This committee was developed to select a "Public Servant of the Year" from among those public servants both elected and appointed, residing in Lake Charles, who serve full or part time government at the city, parish, state or federal level. This award, by emphasizing integrity, honesty, and devotion to duty, is planned to revive the image of the public servant. Mr. Bono is service supervisor in Lake Charles. (from Johnnie Harris)



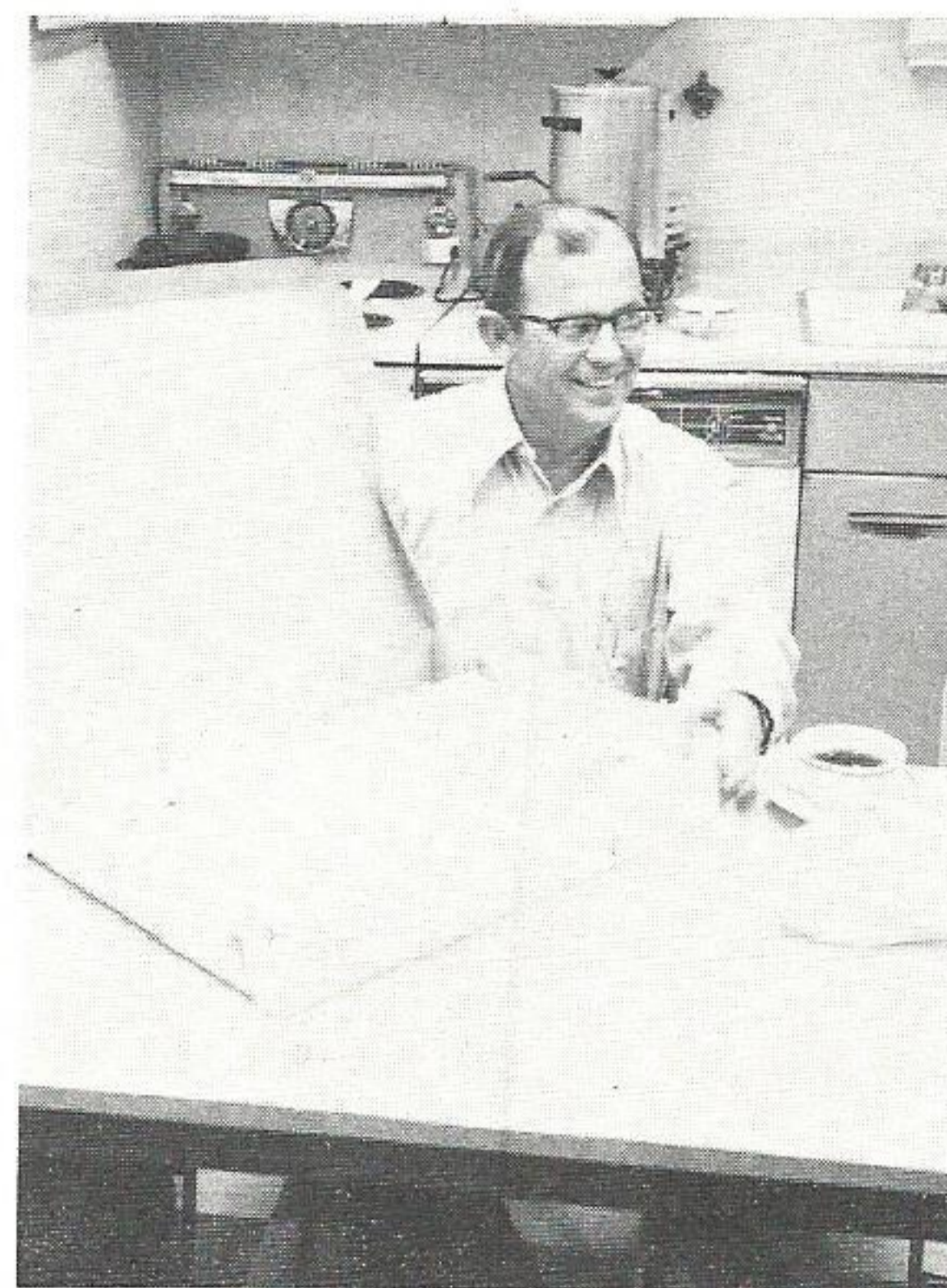
Opening of deer season saw two 8-point bucks killed by Western Division employees. They were taken by Clara Wellmann-Navasota local office clerk and Buster DuBose-New Caney utility foreman. (from Betty Dickschat)



Women's Lib is in action at the Beaumont Service Center! Susan Tucker (left) and Nancy Mathews are shown taking a ride atop a bucket truck, some 45 feet above ground. After trying their skills at the controls, General Line Foreman John Williams came to their rescue and lowered them to the ground. At present, both have decided to keep their present jobs. (from Bill Toups)



Recent CavOilCade festivities included a UFO, which was in reality a balloon with a phone number written on it. The balloon was found by Cary Clark, son of Tom Clark - Port Arthur residential sales supervisor, while they were fishing in Sabine Lake. Cary called the attached number and received reserved seat passes to the 1974 Beaumont Shrine Circus. (from Sue Williams)



J. D. (Doug) Watkins, former Neches Station general maintenance supervisor, was honored with a farewell party by Neches employees. He was presented several gifts and a cake. Doug has been transferred to Louisiana Station as plant superintendent. (from Hazel Higginbotham)



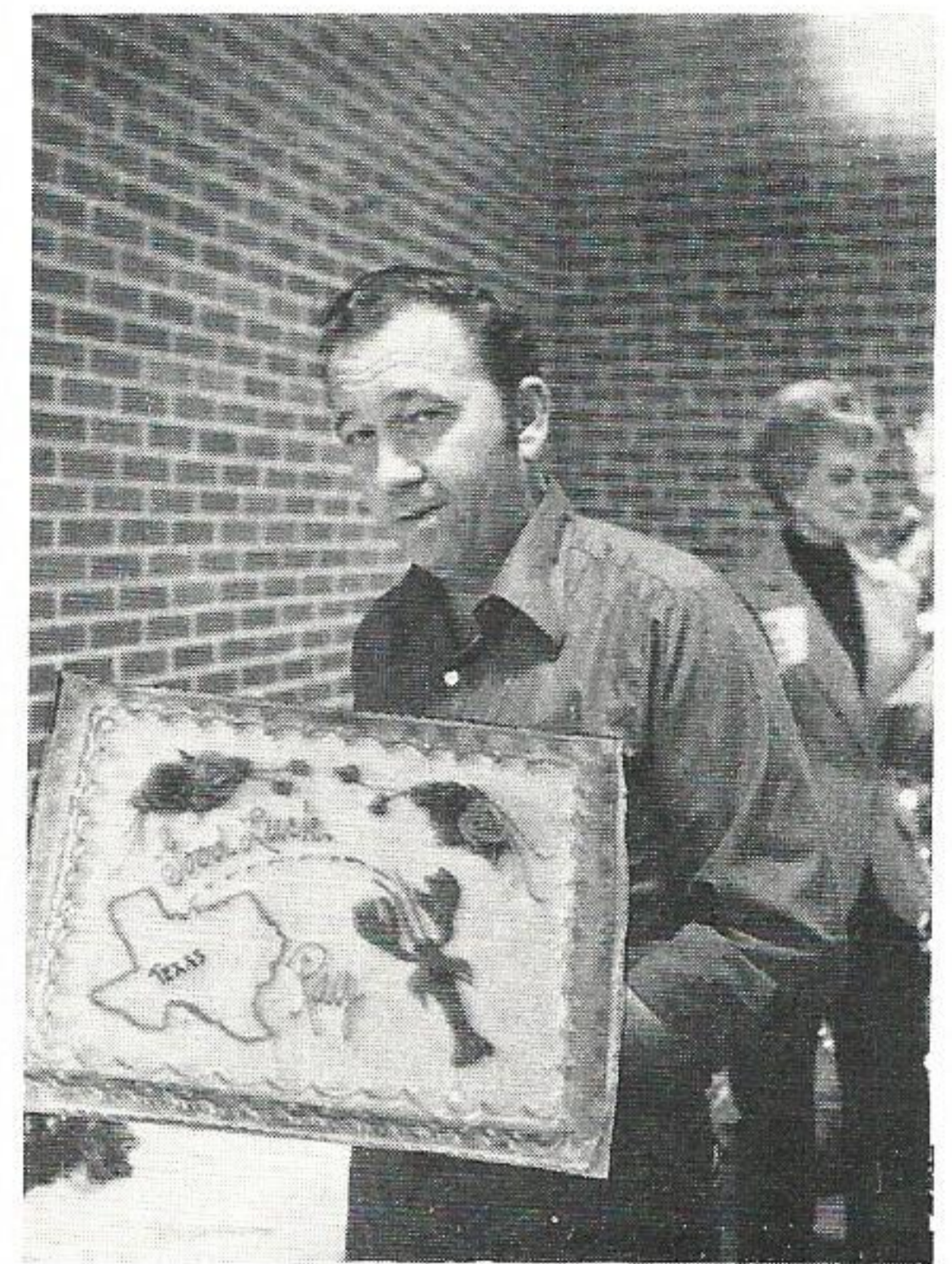
Chris Michael Newman, 4½ years of age, is pictured in the "Uncle Sam" attire he wore for the Veterans Day Parade in Lake Charles November 10, 1973. Chris, in his first parade, rode on a float with approximately 40 children from Poison Ivy Day School. Chris is the son of Mr. and Mrs. H. W. (Mike) Newman. Mike is an engineer at Lake Charles T&D. (from Johnnie Harris)



This is the Sacred Heart Termite football team - members of the Baton Rouge Catholic School Football League. Number 74 is Ronnie Amoroso, grandson of Carl Courtney, lab assistant at Louisiana Station. (from Leslie Jeansonne)



Kathleen Peters - Port Arthur home service advisor - recently left the Company to have her first child. Fellow employees honored her with a farewell party, presenting her gifts of a baby book and silver wine cooler. A cake was placed in the coffee shop, saying "May all your troubles be little ones." From left to right are Jim Stelly - sales superintendent, Tom Clark - sales supervisor and Kathleen. (from Sue Williams)



"From Texas to Crayfish Country" goes Ray Cormier-former Port Arthur Service Center appliance repairman-1st class. Ray has been transferred to Sulphur in the same position, and everyone in Port Arthur wishes him well. (from Loraine Dunham)



Scouts highest award, the Eagle rank, was bestowed on Jerry K. Hutson, Jr., son of Jerry K. Hutson, Sr., of Sabine Station. Jerry is 14, is an 8th grade student at Bridge City Jr. High School, and has been a scout for 3 years. He is a member of The Order of the Arrow and has been a recipient of the Firestone Merit Certificate for two years. He has attended three summer sessions at Camp Bill Stark and in July will spend two weeks at Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico. (from Kathleen Fuller)



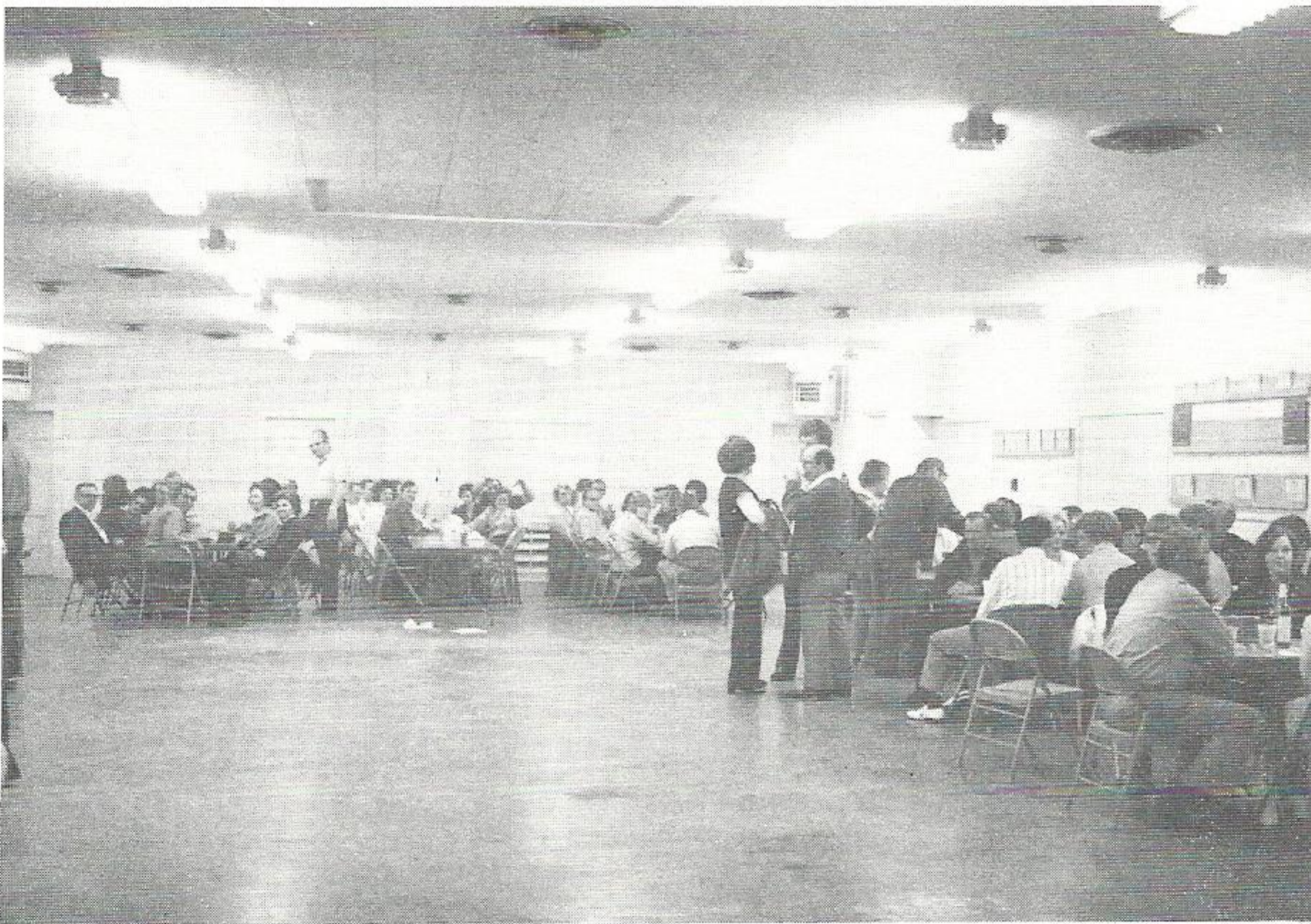
The Beaumont Service Center family Christmas party chairman June Jones and co-chairman Carolyn Motl received much needed help in wrapping gifts for the party. Giving a helping hand (l. to r.) are Mrs. Terry Weaver (Judy), Carolyn Motl, Marshall Hawkes, Mrs. Marshall Hawkes (Barbara), Mrs. Kent Kirt (Meredith), Mrs. Sy Krebbs (Dot), June Jones and Leslie Jones. (from Carolyn Motl)



Jack Hamilton, III, son of Beaumont Division's Jack Hamilton (Building Services), was among the outstanding student leaders in Vidor to be honored by the Vidor Optimist Club during Youth Appreciation Week. Young Jack, in center of photo, is a member of the Vidor Pirate Band, a member of the wind ensemble, the stage band and the marching band. He is activities editor of the Vidor High annual, is a youth department officer of the First United Methodist Church of Vidor, a member of the literary club, and a band lieutenant. Jack's sister, Billie, is also employed by the Company in System Treasury. (from Pat McMeel)



A going away party was held in the Beaumont office by fellow employees for Betty Raines - departmental clerk in IDS - Records Department. Betty left on a flight to Viet Nam to see her husband, who works there for the U. S. government. (from the Editor)



The Engineering Department in the main office and their guests enjoyed a dinner-dance at the Neches Station Assembly Hall on December 1st. A very special occasion it was, as Calvin Comeaux, T&D section head, Baton Rouge, came over to prepare the feast. Calvin is known throughout Louisiana and now East Texas for his expertise in the preparation of Creole Chicken and Sausage Jambalaya. A hearty thanks to Calvin goes out from all those who attended for sacrificing his time to prepare the best part of the evening. Partying and dancing capped off a perfect evening. Everyone is now looking forward to the next party. (from Edy Mathews)



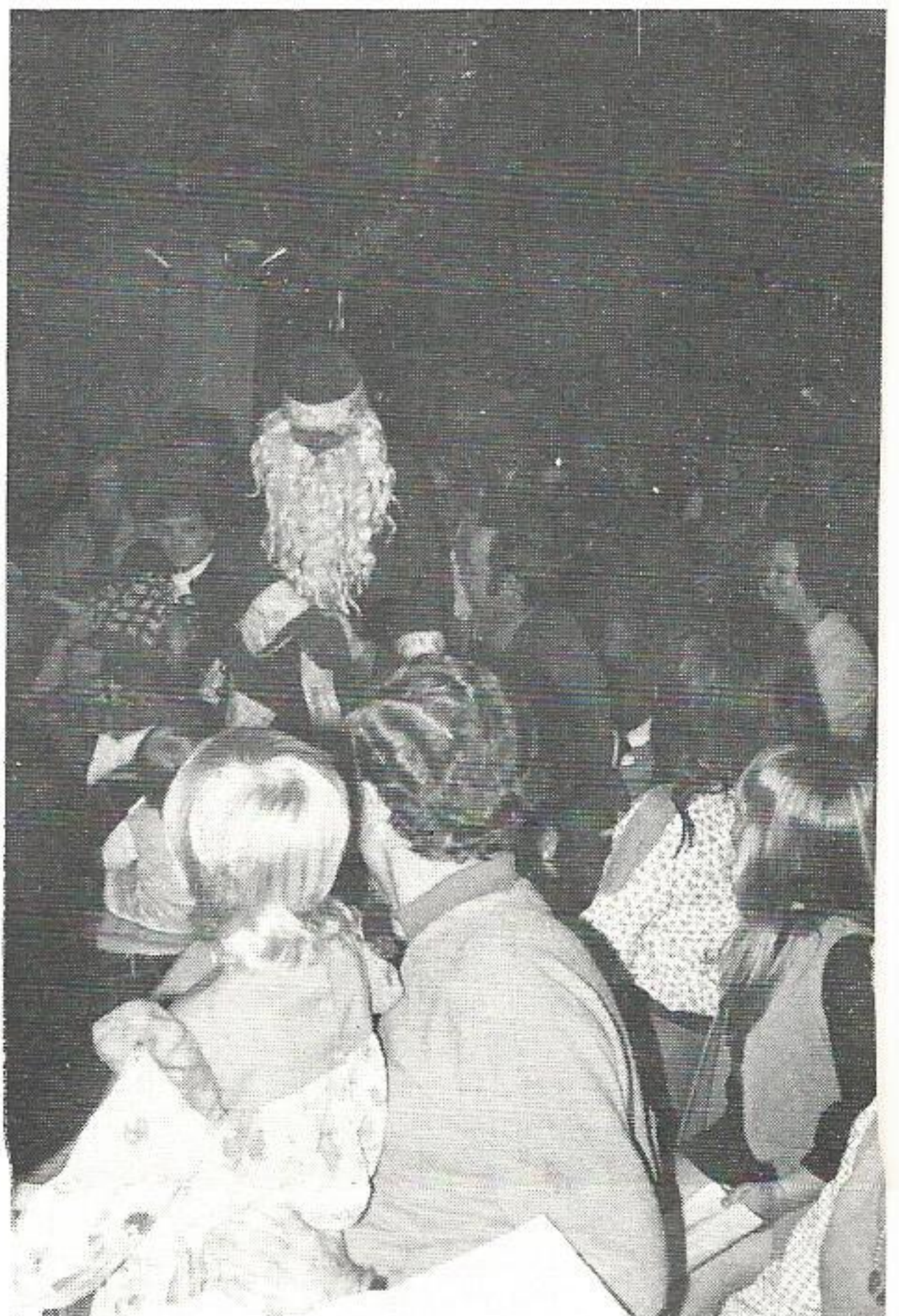
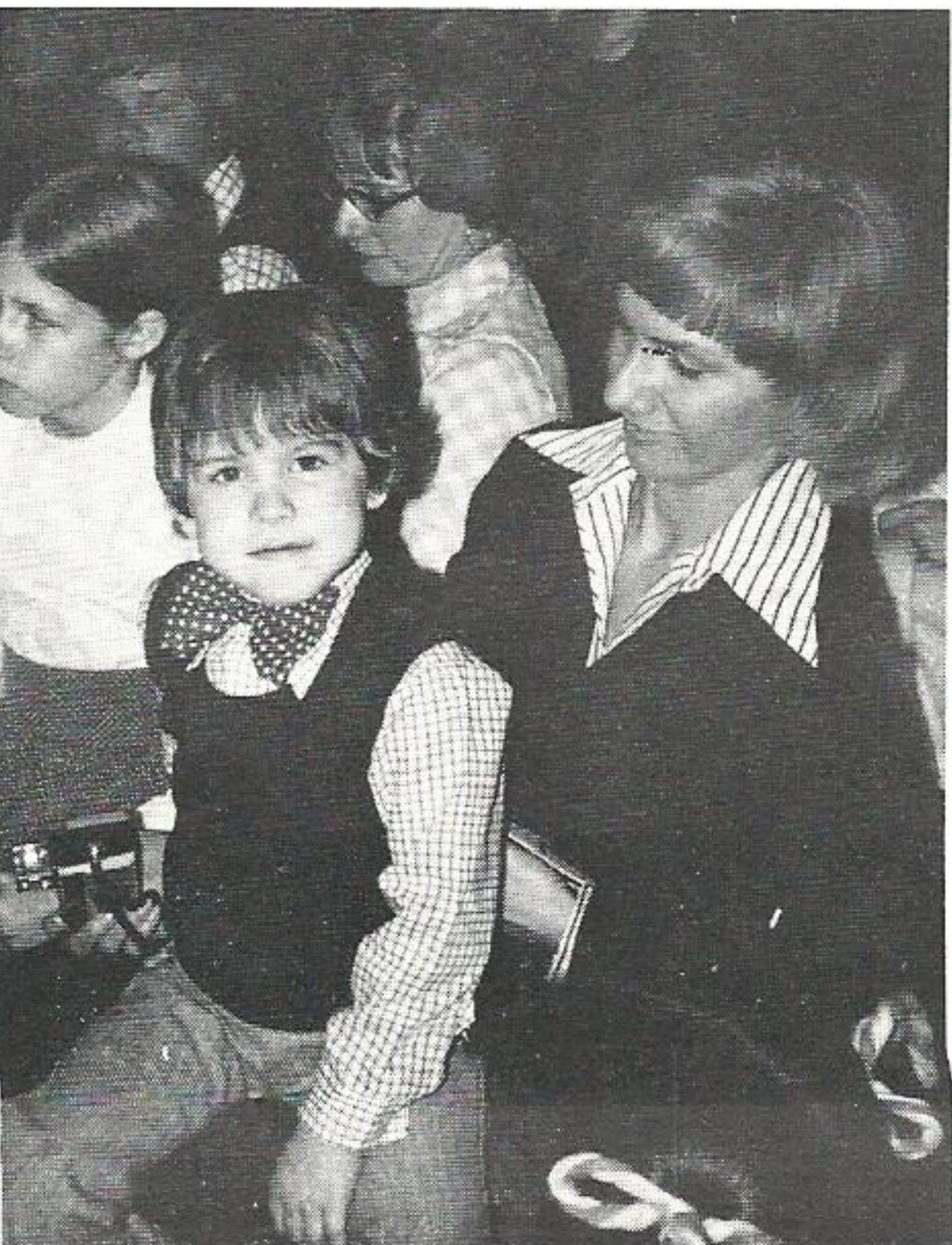
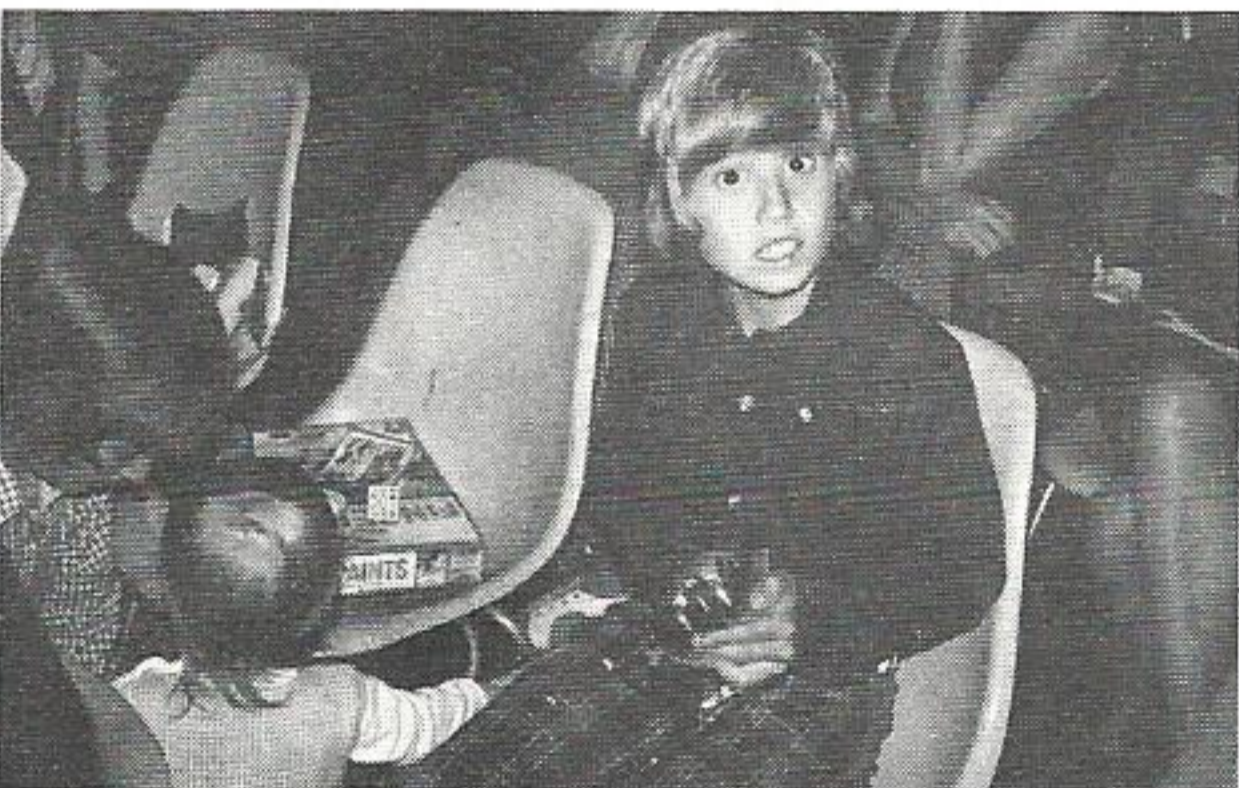
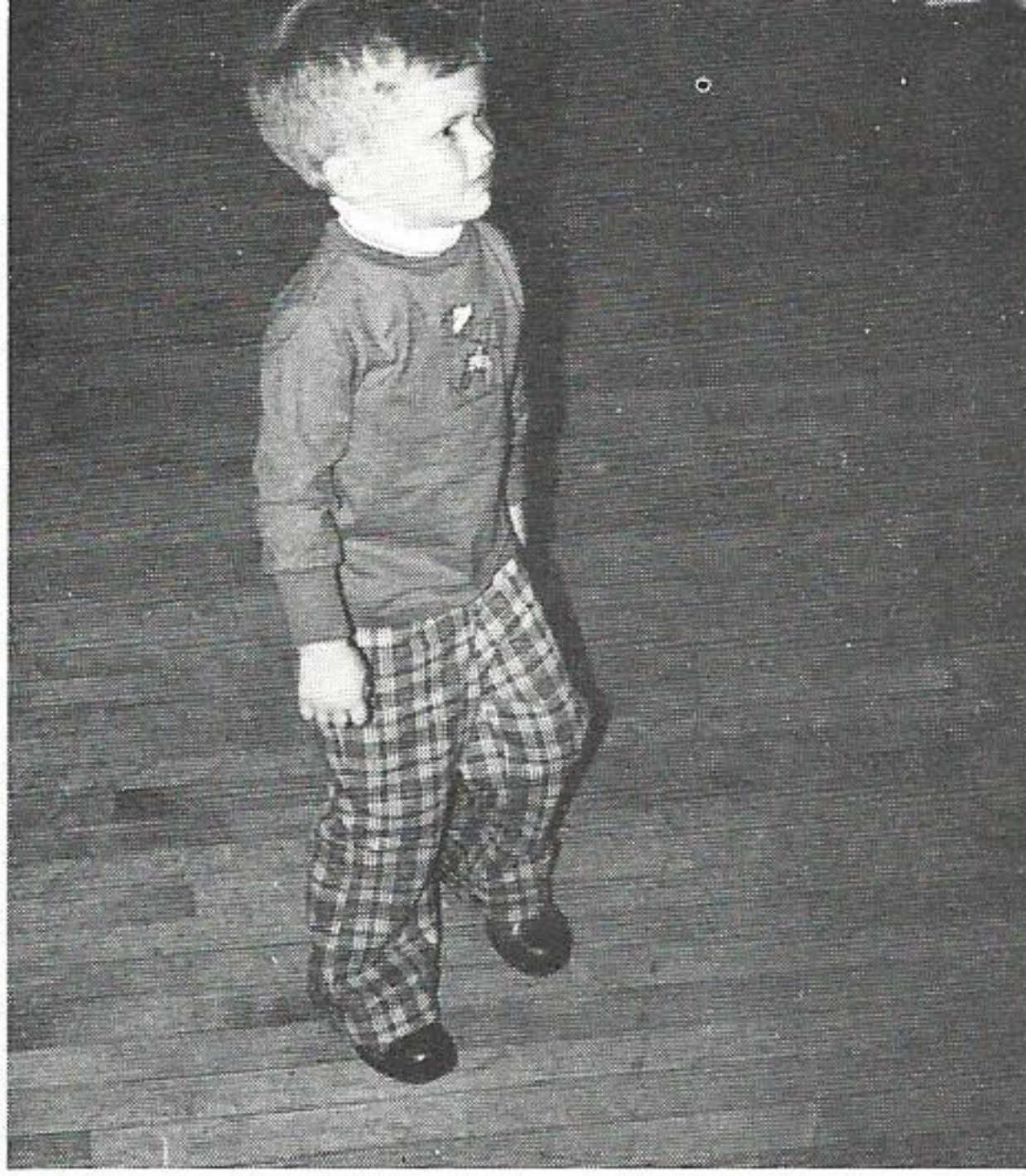
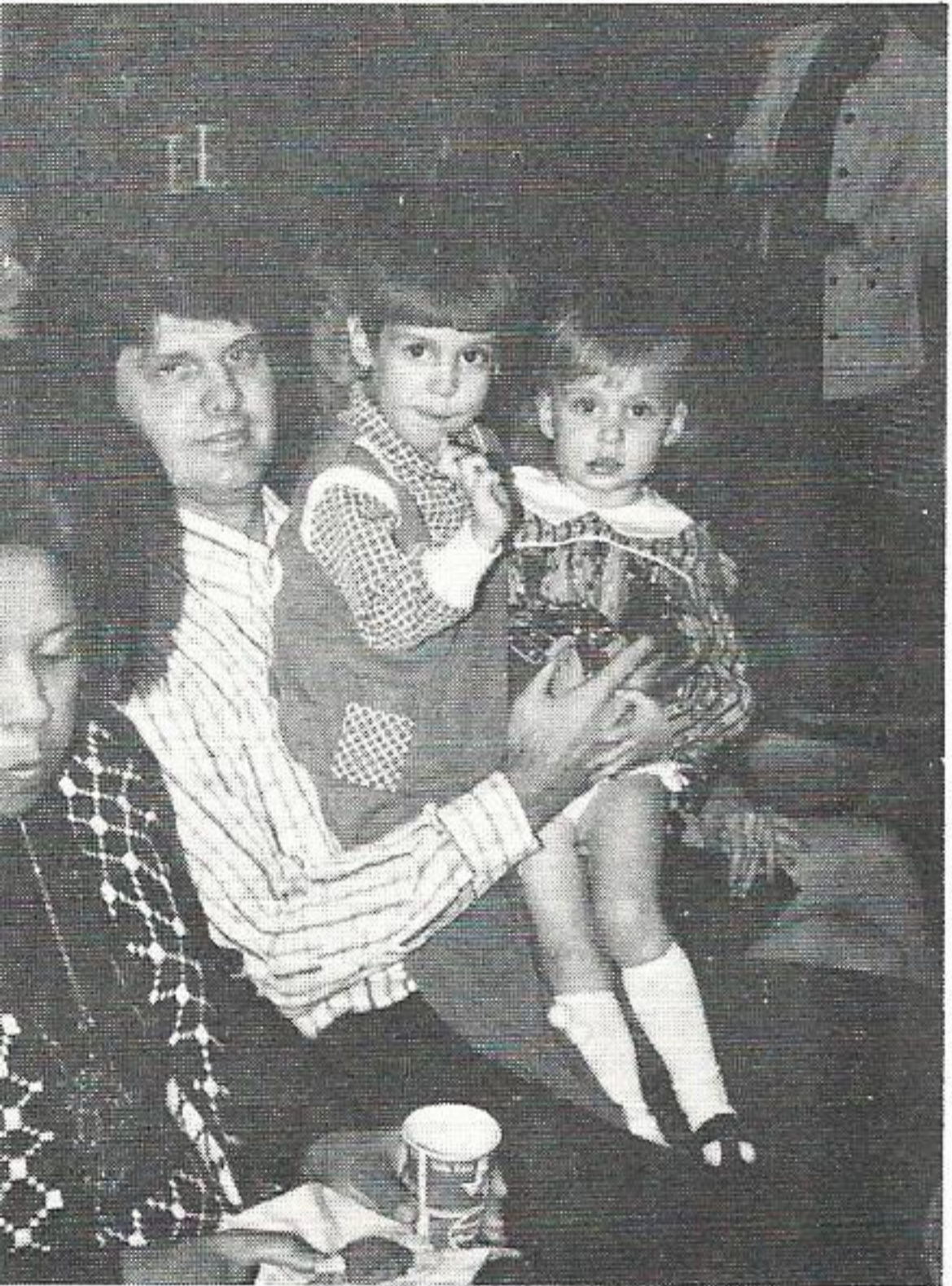
The mechanics at the Baton Rouge Choctaw Garage got together and decided to make their own "Christmas tree" for the past holiday season. The tree was composed of scrap parts that normally would have been discarded, and the designers considered it their contribution to "pop art" in reclaiming discarded articles for a purpose. The tree was praised by many - it consisted of an old wheel, tail pipe, shock spring, throttle cable, exhaust pipe crossover, hub cap, spark plugs, tinsil, a 360° red light for a star, and numerous other articles. (from T. Boone Chaney)



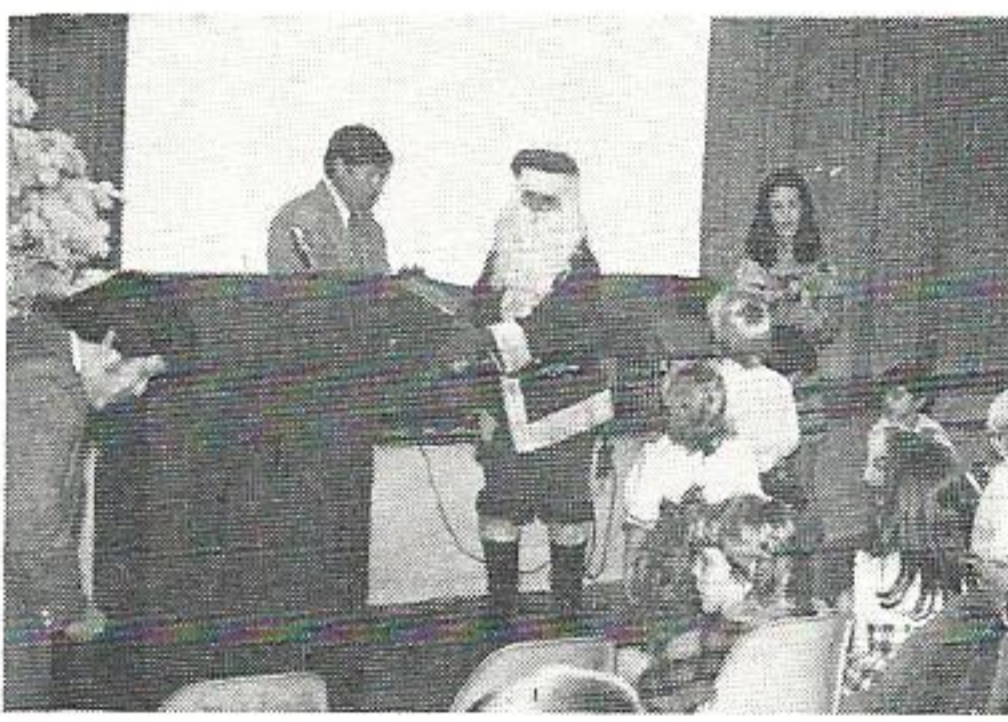
# Christmas Photo Album



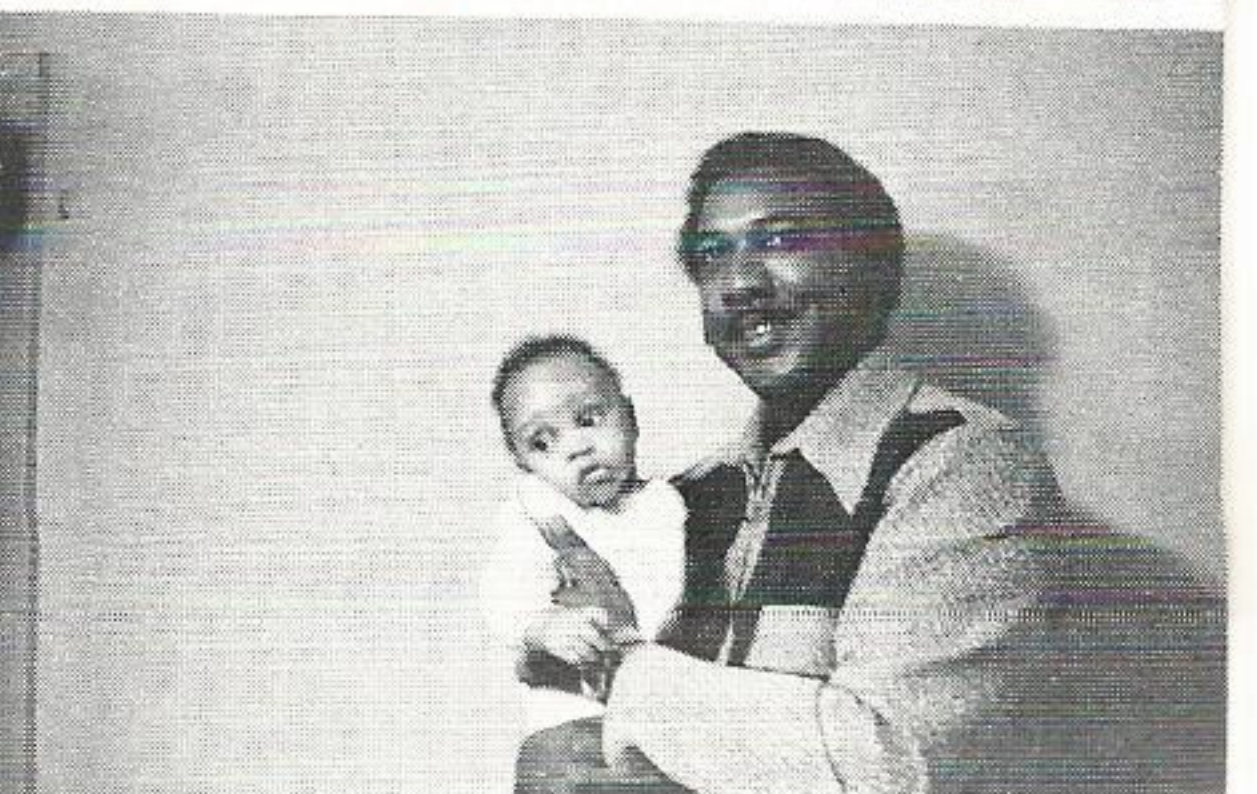
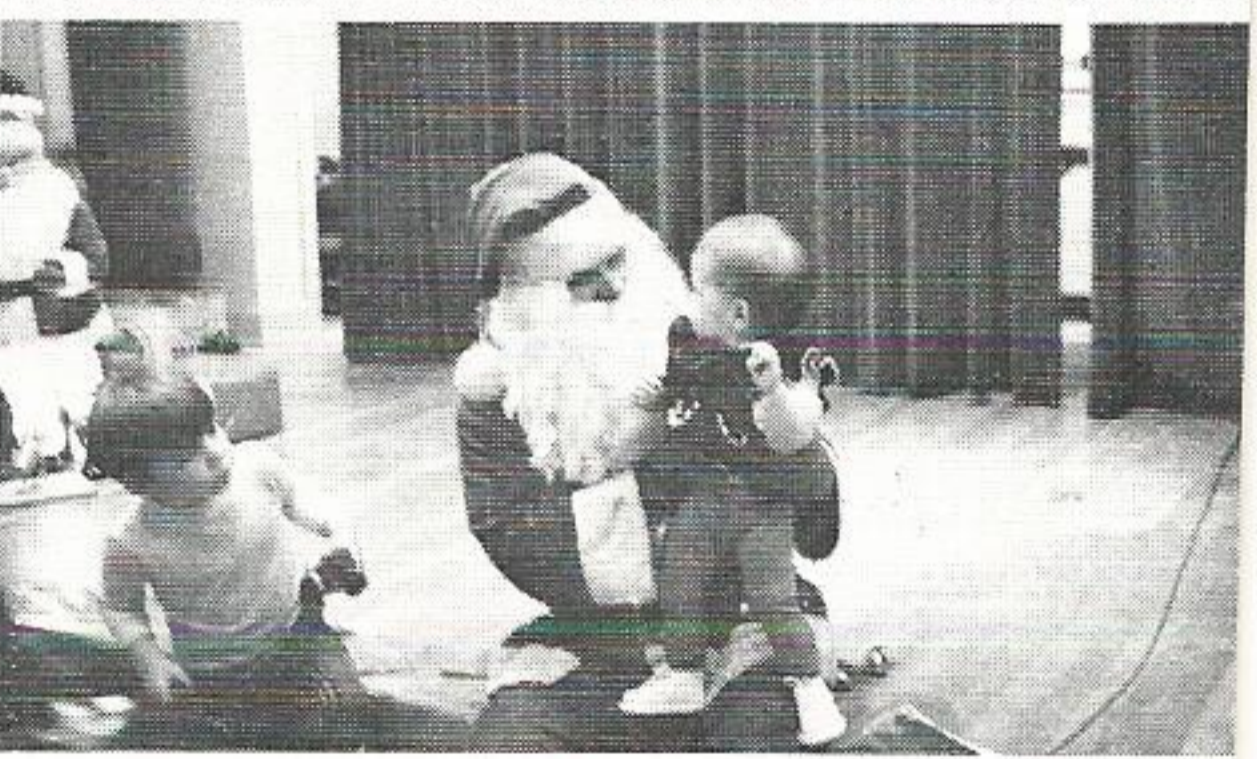
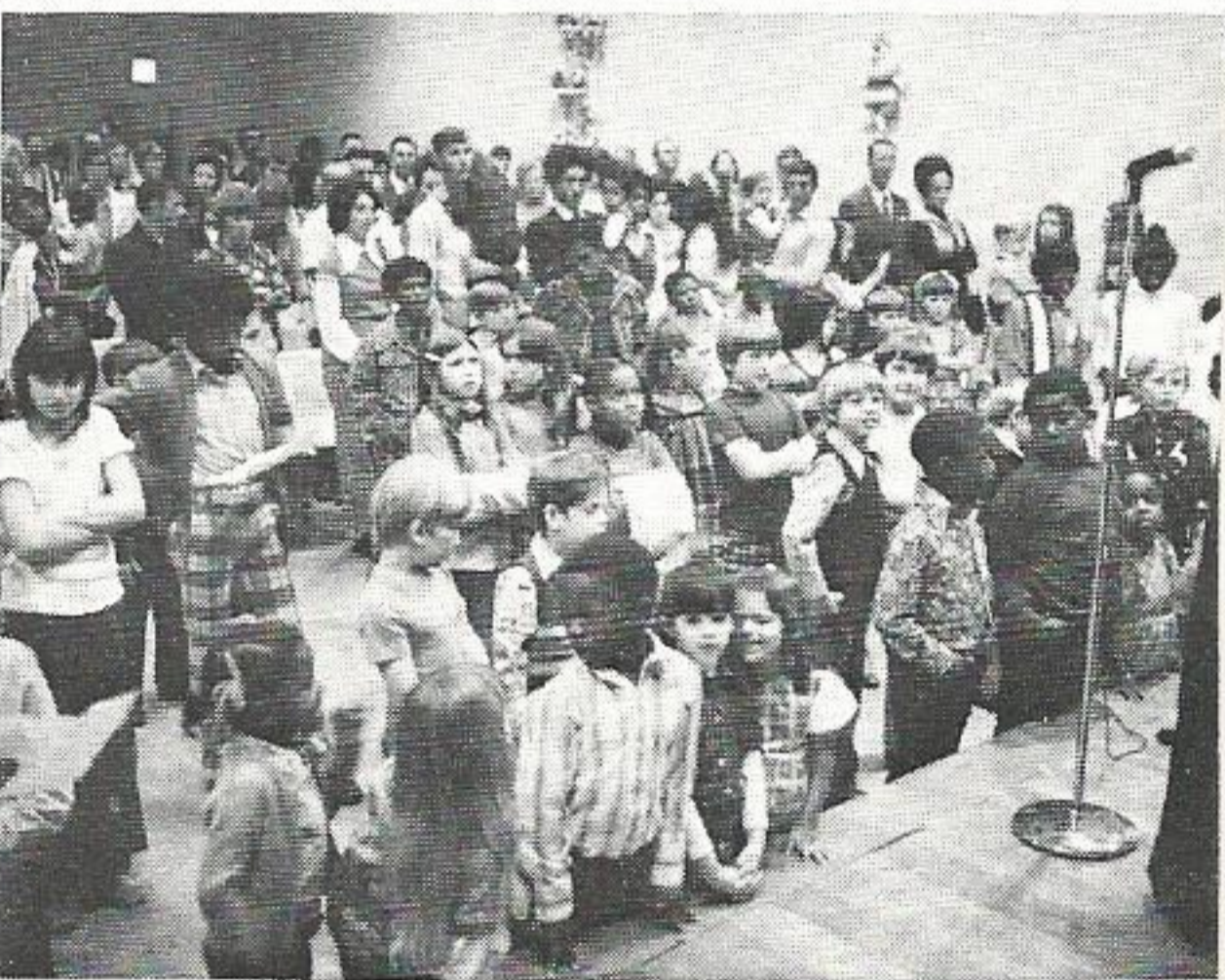
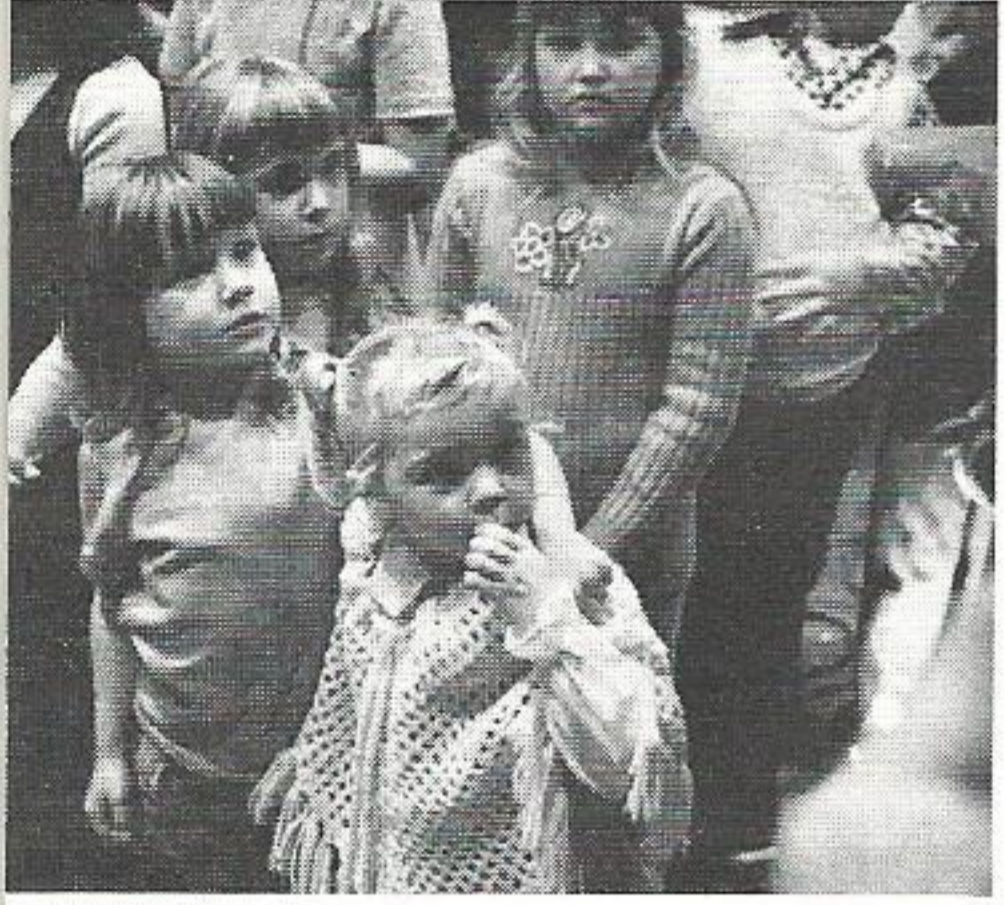
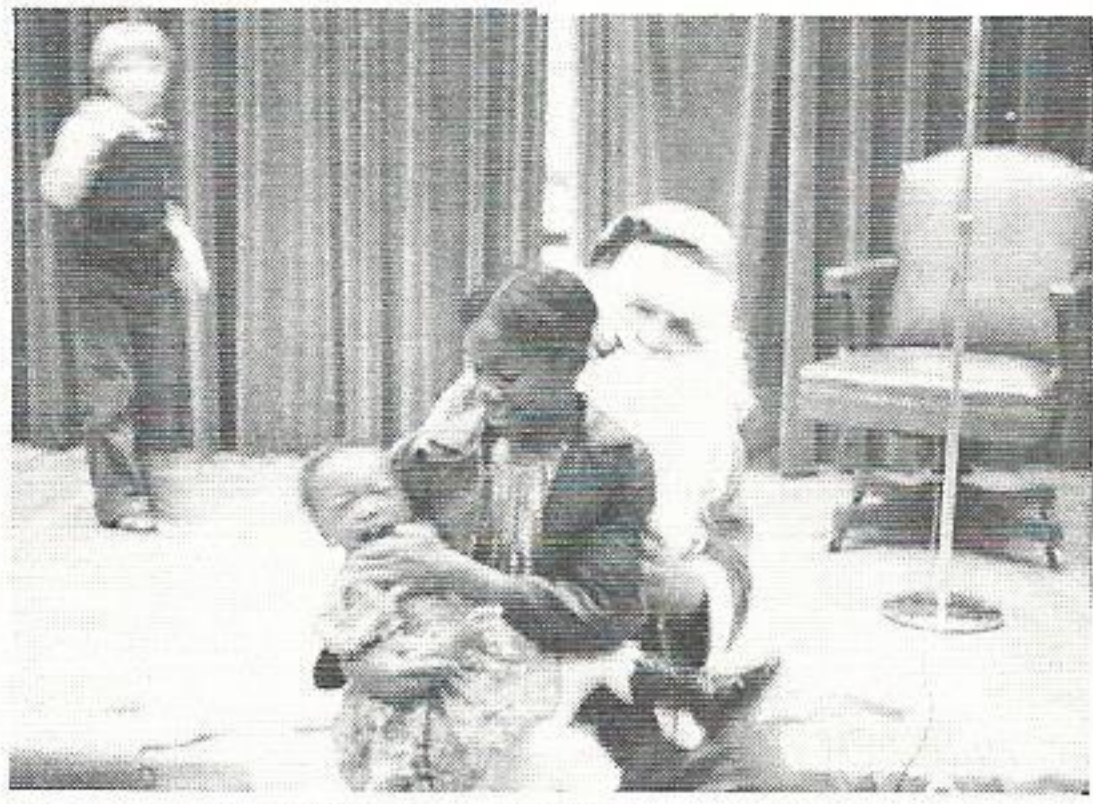
# BEAUMONT DIVISION



BEAUMONT  
**ENGINEERING  
DEPARTMENT**



BEAUMONT  
**SERVICE CENTER**







# ORANGE



# SILSBEE



# NECHES STATION



# DAYTON



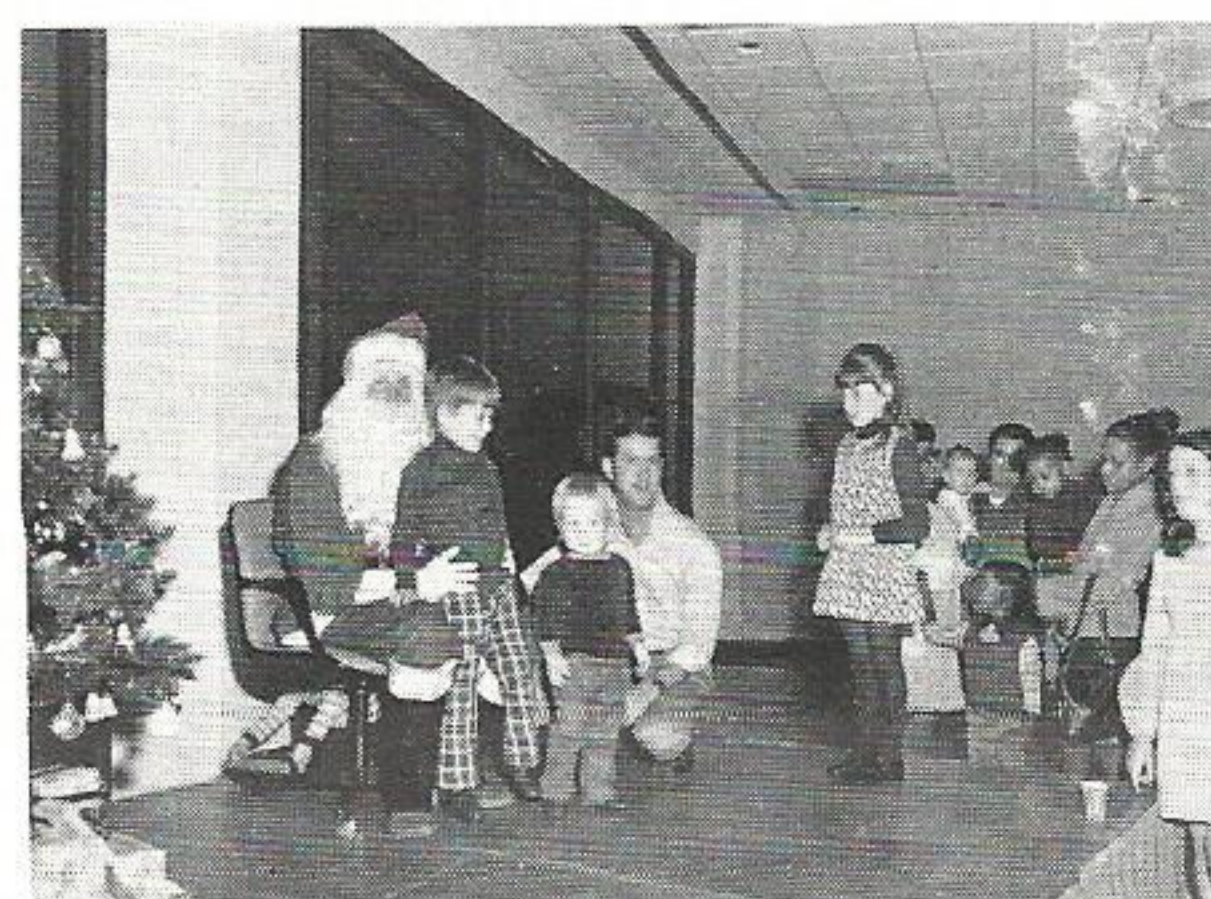
# PORT ARTHUR



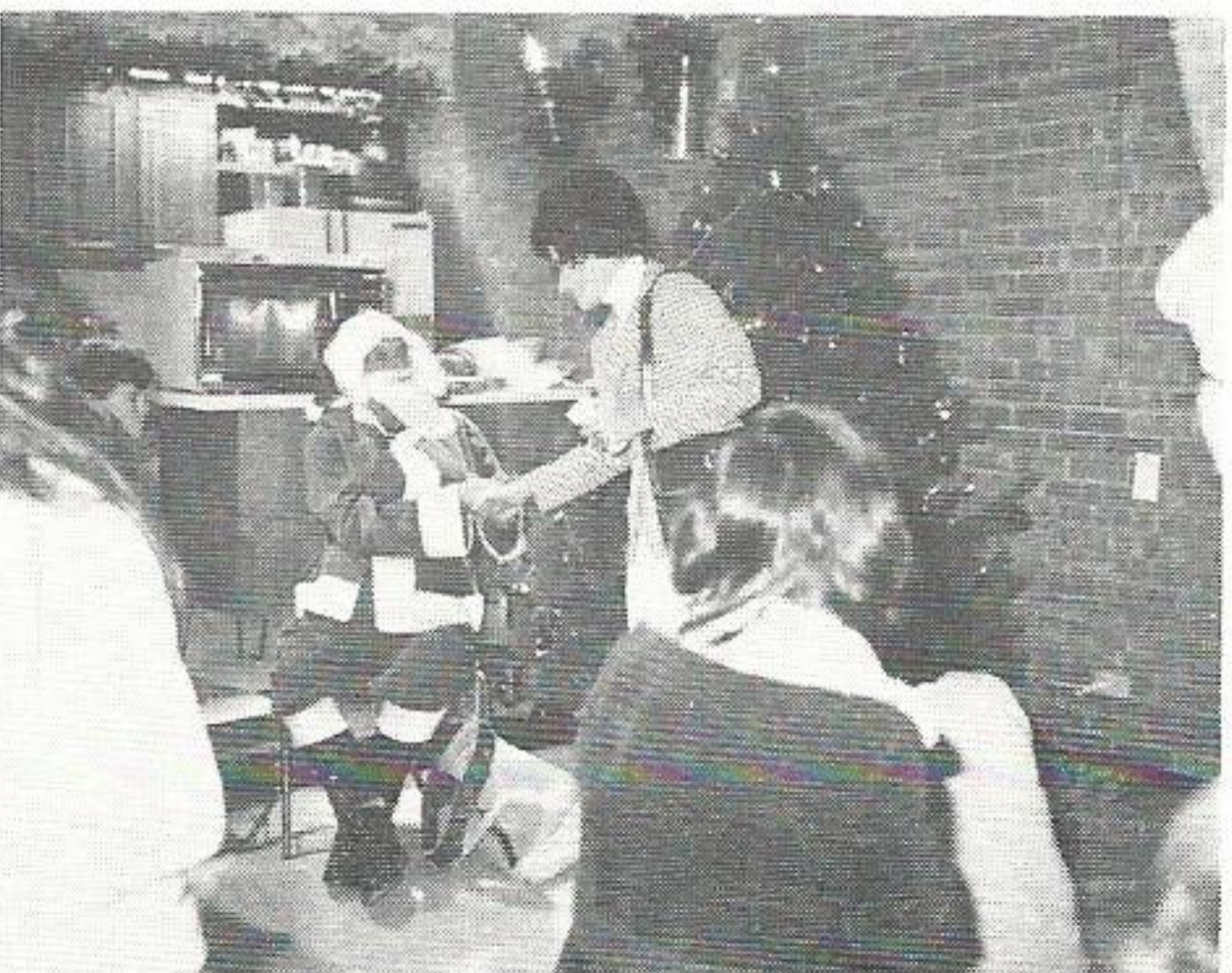
# LAFAYETTE



# LAKE CHARLES

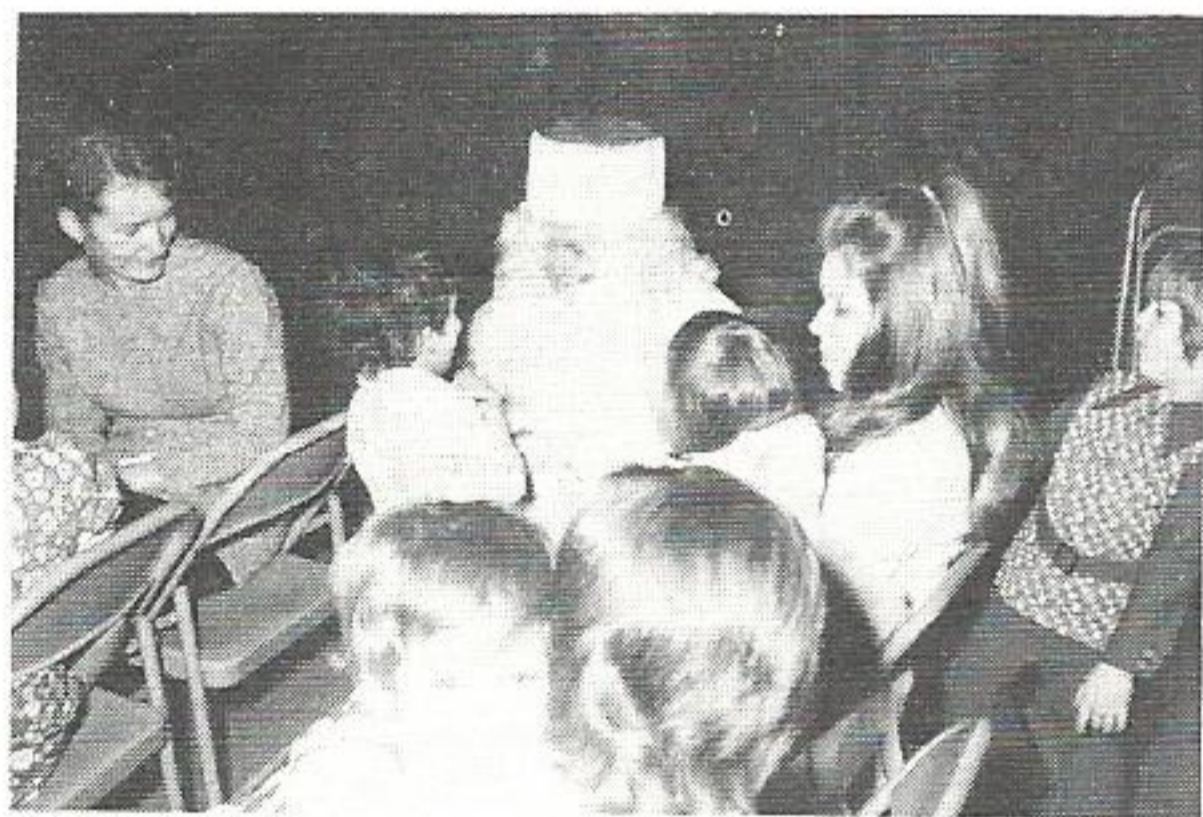


# JENNINGS





# DENHAM SPRINGS



# ZACHARY

# BATON ROUGE



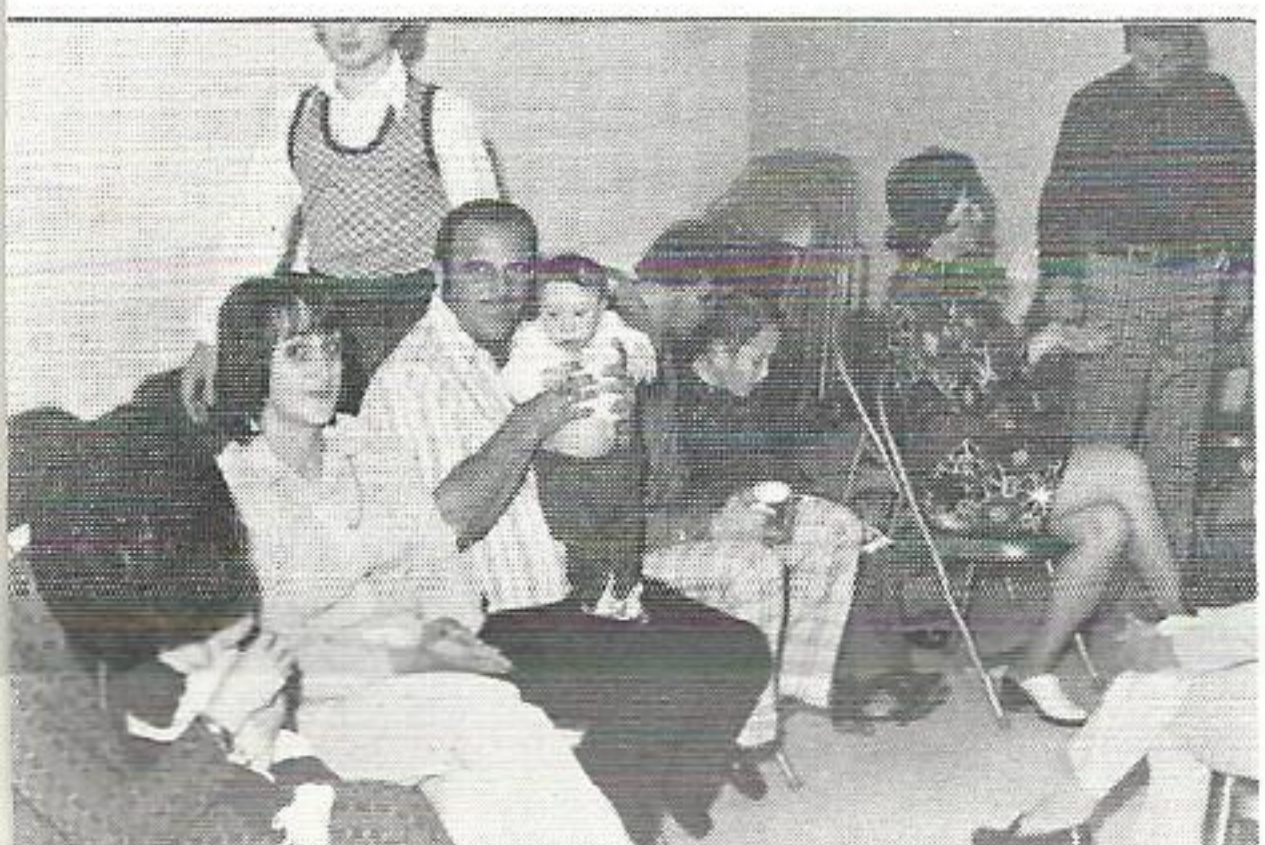
# LEWIS CREEK



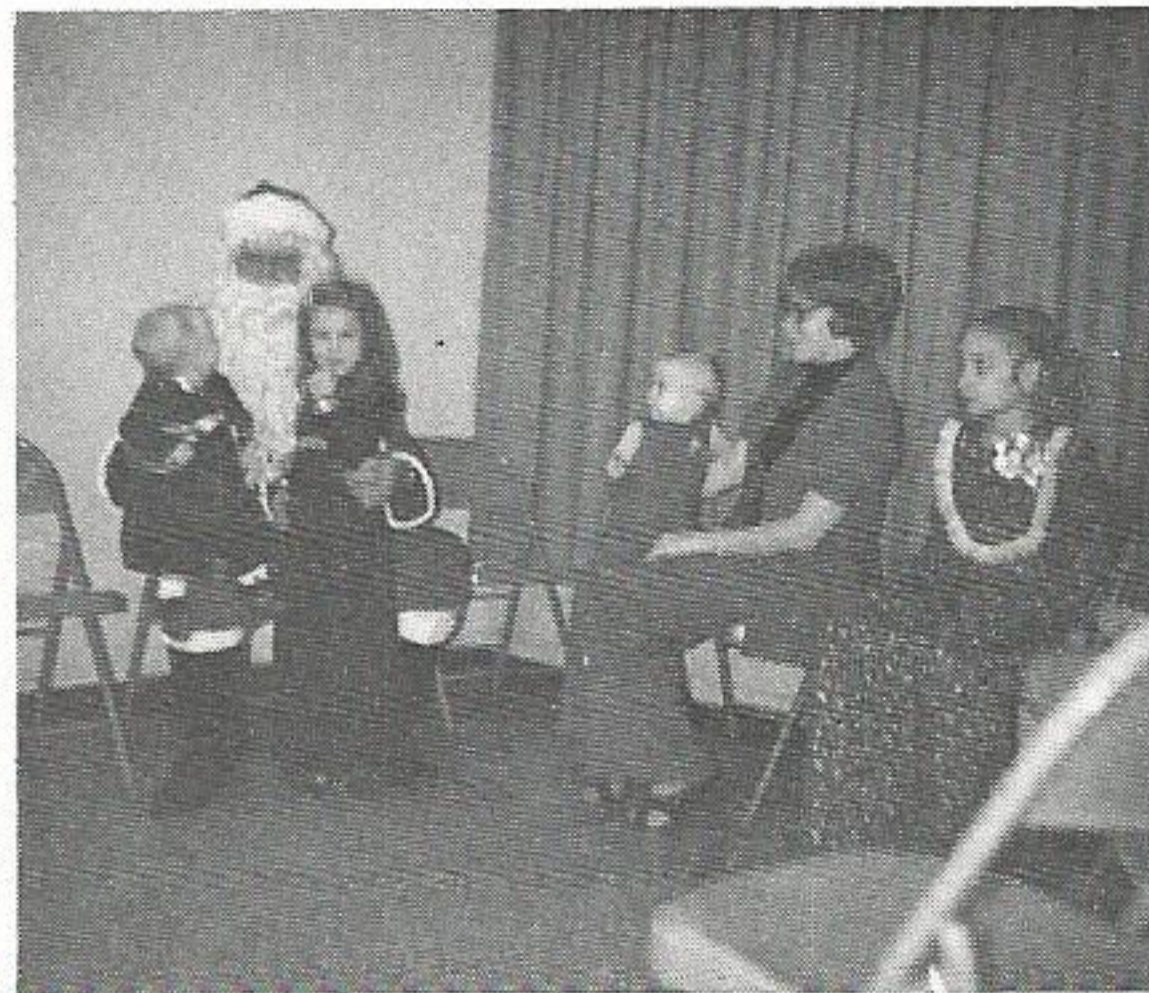
# NEW CANEY



# GONZALES



# CLEVELAND



# SULPHUR



# NAVASOTA

# CONROE



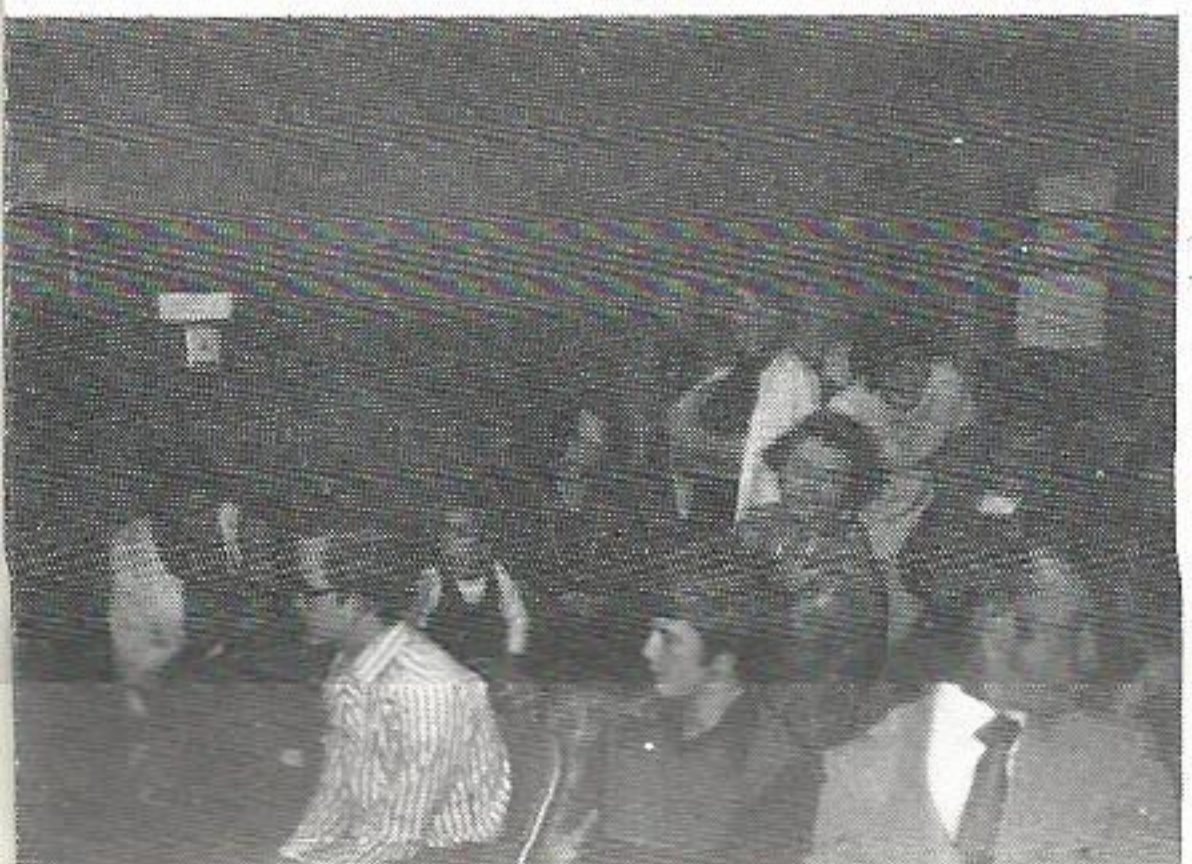




# WOODVILLE



# HUNTSVILLE





**Welcome  
Aboard!**

## SYSTEM DEPARTMENTS

### Information and Data Services

Tanner, Miriam C., Bmt., Dept. Clerk - IDS/Recds-Dupl

### BEAUMONT DIVISION

#### Production

Gibbins, Carl D., Jr., Bmt. Laborer I - Neches Sta.

Simon, David R., Bmt. Laborer I - Neches Sta.

#### Distribution

Jones, Michael L., Bmt., Laborer I - T&D (S/Sta)

Posey, Rodney W., Bmt., Laborer I - T&D (Garage)

Greer, George, Jr., Bmt., Laborer I - T&D (Line)

### PORT ARTHUR DIVISION

#### Production

Thomas, Allen, Jr., Br. City, Equipment Operator-Sabine Sta.

Giffin, John M., Br. City, Laborer I - Sabine Sta.

### WESTERN DIVISION

#### Production

Burwick, Edgar L., Conroe, Equipment Operator -  
Lewis Creek Sta.

#### Distribution

Watson, Warren W., Conroe, Helper-T&D Dept (Line))

Brown, Armour R., Conroe, Laborer I - T&D (Line)

Wellborn, William D., Clevel., Helper-T&D Dept (Line)

#### Treasury

Roberson, Mellie L., Conroe, Meter Reader

### BATON ROUGE DIVISION

#### Production

Thibodeaux, Robert L., B. Rouge, Equipment Operator-  
W/Glen Sta.

Miceli, Angelo J., B. Rouge, Mechanic Helper (Elec) La. Sta.

Metz, Richard L., B. Rouge, Laborer I-La. Sta.

Brewer, Ricky L., B. Rouge, Laborer I-La. Sta.

Alexander, Dan W., B. Rouge, Laborer I-La. Sta.

Albert, Joseph E., B. Rouge, Laborer I-La. Sta.

Smiles, Raymond, Jr., B. Rouge, Laborer I-La. Sta.

Cangelosi, Joseph C., B. Rouge, Laborer I-La. Sta.

Portier, Robert J., B. Rouge, Laborer I-La. Sta.

#### Gas Department

Cormier, Michael W., B. Rouge, Laborer I-Gas Dept.

Mahfouz, John, B. Rouge, Laborer I-Gas Dept.

#### Distribution

Sterba, George M., B. Rouge, Helper-T&D Dept (Line)

Hebert, Darrell J., B. Rouge, Helper-T&D Dept. (S/Sta)

Cosper, Patrick, B. Rouge, Helper-T&D Dept. (S/Sta)

Nettles, Barry L., B. Rouge, Helper-T&D Dept. (Line)

Addison, Van A., B. Rouge, Helper-T&D Dept (Serv)

Bordelon, Louis E., B. Rouge, Shop & Field Tester-T&D

Lynn, Deborah S., B. Rouge, Dept Clerk-T&D (Eng)

#### Treasury

Bedell, David P., B. Rouge, Laborer I-Div Treas/Stores

Hatter, Joy W., Pt Allen, Local Office Clerk

### LAKE CHARLES DIVISION

#### Production

Welch, Henry C., Jr., L Chas., Laborer I - Nelson Sta.

Wattly, Elisha A., L Chas., Laborer I - Nelson Sta.

#### Distribution

Moore, Virgil R., L Chas. Laborer I-T&D (Line)

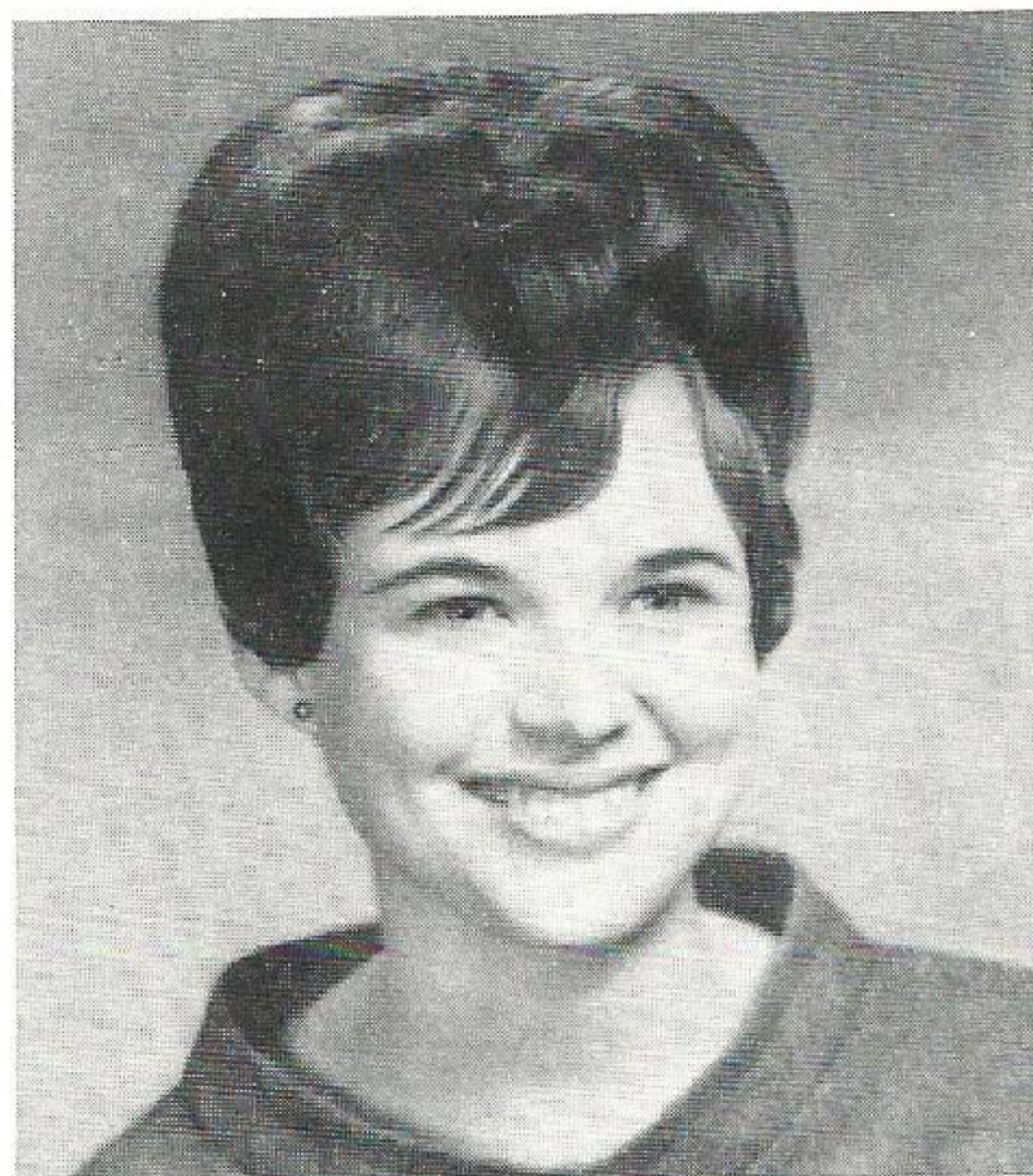
Davis, Kay A., L Chas., Laborer I-T&D (B&G)

Faulk, Francis L., Lafay., Laborer I-T&D (Garage)

### PART-TIME AND/OR TEMPORARY EMPLOYEES

Dorrell, Larry D., Bmt., Laborer I-IDS/Recds

# Electrinomical Dishes



Ms. Patsy Cook, Lake Charles home service supervisor, gives us some insight into "Electrinomical Dishes." Patsy graduated from Louisiana Tech University with a B.S. degree in Home Economics. She taught home economics at Marion (La.) High School before joining the Company in 1967. Her outside interests include reading, bicycle riding and painting. Patsy's "Electrinomical Dishes" show that tasty dishes can be prepared with economy in mind.

*Cooking once in large quantities and reheating frozen portions is an economical way to use time and energy.*

## CHICKEN SPAGHETTI

One 5 lb. chicken  
5 cups water  
3 bay leaves  
Salt & pepper to taste  
½ cup chicken fat  
1 large chopped onion  
1 clove garlic, chopped  
1 green pepper, chopped  
1 cup chopped celery  
1 lb. spaghetti  
One 1 lb. 1 oz. can green peas, drained, (optional)  
1 Tbsp. Worcestershire sauce  
1 cup canned tomatoes  
1/3 cup ripe olives, chopped (optional)  
One 4 oz. can mushrooms, stems & pieces  
1 cup grated cheese

Simmer chicken in water with bay leaves, salt and pepper until tender. Pull meat off bone and dice. Save broth (skim off fat). Melt fat in skillet and add onion, garlic, green pepper and celery. Cook until tender. Add chicken and cook 10 minutes. Drop spaghetti into boiling water and cook 8 minutes. Drain and rinse. Place all ingredients into a large casserole or an electric roaster. Add enough broth to make mixture moist. Cook at 350 degrees 30 minutes. Top with cheese when served. Serve with toasted French loaf or garlic bread. Serves 10 to 12.

*This dish can be prepared in an electric pot, saucepan or skillet which use approximately 1,400 watts at highest setting.*

## OVEN MEAL

375 degrees

45 minutes

Tuna Casserole  
Broccoli with Lemon Butter  
Southern Spoon Bread  
Hasty Cobbler

## TUNA CASSEROLE

One 10 ¾ oz. can cream of mushroom soup  
½ cup milk  
1/8 tsp. pepper  
½ tsp. dried minced onion  
One 7 oz. can tuna (chunk style)  
One 3 oz. can chow mein noodles  
or one 1 ½ oz. pkg. potato chips, crushed

Grease a 1 quart baking dish with butter or margarine. Empty soup into a bowl, then add milk, pepper and onion and stir until well blended. Empty tuna into a strainer, drain and rinse slightly with cool water to remove salt. Place in baking dish and break tuna into bite size pieces with a fork. Add ½ can chow mein noodles. Pour diluted mushroom soup over tuna and noodles. Top with remaining noodles. (If potato chips are used, scatter crushed chips over top of mixture). Bake uncovered final 30 minutes with oven meal and serve piping hot. Add a sprig of parsley, a sliver of pimiento or a slice or two of stuffed olive for garnish and added flavor. Serves 4 to 5.

## BROCCOLI WITH LEMON BUTTER

2 Tbsps. water  
Two 10 oz. pkgs. frozen broccoli  
½ tsp. salt  
¼ cup melted butter or margarine  
2 tsps. lemon juice

Place ingredients into a 2½ to 3 quart casserole. Cover and bake 45 minutes with oven meal.

## SOUTHERN SPOON BREAD

2 cups boiling water  
1 cup corn meal  
¼ cup butter or margarine  
2 cups milk  
1 tsp. salt  
3 eggs, separated  
2 tsps. baking powder

Pour boiling water over corn meal. Boil slowly about 3 minutes, stirring constantly. Add butter and cool. Stir in milk, salt and beaten egg yolks. Fold in beaten egg whites, then add baking powder. Pour into a well greased casserole. Bake 45 minutes with oven meal. Serve hot with butter.

## HASTY COBBLER

1 Tbsp. butter or margarine  
½ cup sugar  
½ cup flour  
1 tsp. baking powder  
½ cup milk  
2 cups drained fruit (canned or cooked apples, sliced peaches, apricots, berries)  
½ cup juice from fruit or water  
¼ cup butter or margarine  
2 Tbsps. sugar

Grease 9 inch shallow baking dish (for cakes) with 1 Tbsp. butter. In a small mixing bowl, combine ½ cup sugar, flour and baking powder; add milk to make batter. Do not overmix. Pour batter into dish. Add fruit and juice, then dot with butter. Sprinkle with 2 Tbsps. sugar. Bake uncovered final 30 minutes with oven meal. Serve warm or cold, plain or with cream.

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## Consumer Scene



### How To Avoid The Appliance Serviceman

A few simple checks might save you the cost of a service call on your non-operating appliance.

Believe it or not, more than one homemaker is daily embarrassed when the serviceman deduces the cause of her problem as an unplugged electrical cord or a blown fuse. And it is even more embarrassing when he presents his minimum charge for the service call.

Quality appliance service is not inexpensive since the service technician must bring his "shop on wheels" to your door. General Electric Company, for example, estimates even its most proficient service technicians, operating out of radio-dispatch "stockrooms on wheels," can manage only about eight service calls a day.

To help you avoid the expense of calling a serviceman to fix an appliance that is performing perfectly, GE suggests you first check your instruction book for possible reasons, as most carry basic troubleshooting information.

If you've misplaced it, here's a quick checklist of common problems worth saving and following:

✓ If the appliance operates on electricity, make certain it is plugged in. If it runs on gas, check to see that the pilot is lit.

✓ Check for blown fuses or tripped circuit breakers, which can result from overloads on the electrical system.

✓ Are doors securely closed? Most washers and dryers, for example, have

electrical interlocks which prevent operation if doors are not fully closed.

✓ Examine the controls to see if they are set properly. A refrigerator won't refrigerate if the temperature control dial has been inadvertently turned to OFF.

✓ If a dishwasher or automatic washer will not fill with water, see if the main water supply has been turned off in the home or by the water company for repairs.

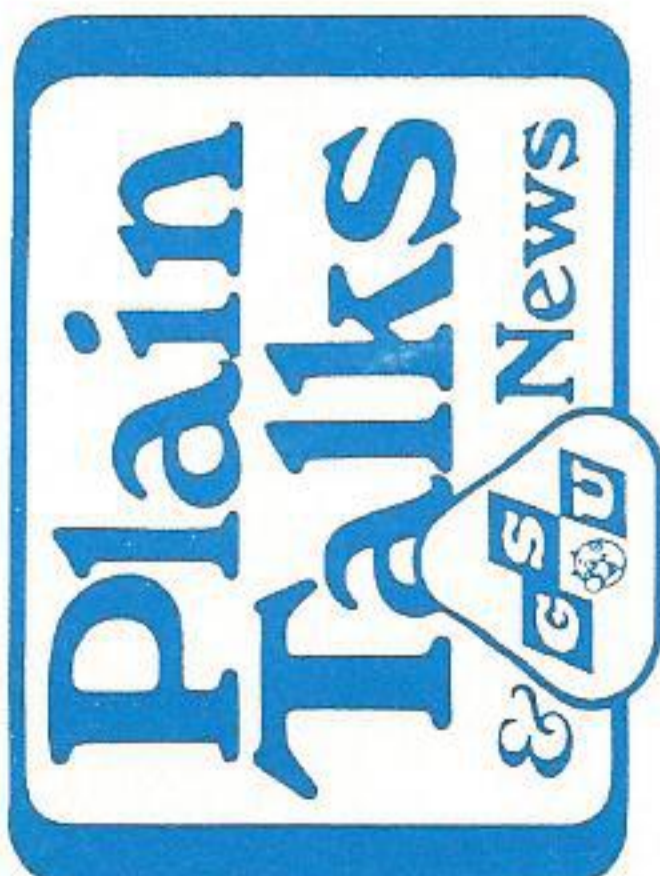
If, after all these checks, the appliance is still on the blink, then it is time to get professional help. Having the model number of the appliance available when you call is a good idea.

How long will you have to wait for service? That can vary greatly — from a few hours to several days — depending on the proximity of the servicer and how well he is staffed.

General Electric, the nation's largest appliance maker, presently has a "Customer Care Service Everywhere" network consisting of factory service centers in more than 100 major markets, complemented by 5,000 factory trained servicing dealers and independent servicing agencies.

All service calls by factory technicians are "by appointment" with the customer — within a promised four-hour time span — and the GE standard is to complete 80% either on the day they are received or the following day.

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