

NEWSLETTER

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Christy Klinger holds a poster promoting the use of payroll deductions as the easiest way to make United Way contributions. Christy is one of the two high school seniors working half-days at Mueller Co. in Decatur under the Office Occupations program. The United Way campaign in Decatur begins the week of Oct. 18 and "a buck a pay-the easy way" (\$26) is the theme of this year's drive.

OCTOBER IS UNITED WAY TIME

October is generally recognized as United Way campaign time and during this period throughout the country and Canada people have the opportunity to help others who are less fortunate.

Slogans, names and campaigns vary from area-to-area, and the needs often differ, but the one thing in common involves people helping people.

Last year 35 million people helped by contributing to the United Fund, United Way, United Appeal, or Community Chest campaigns around the country and supported the efforts of some 31,500 local, state and national, health, welfare and recreation agencies.

This year some 2,260 United drives will seek to raise more than \$900 million to meet the needs of more than 31 million families.

How you give and what you give will vary. In Decatur at Mueller Co. the slogan for the hourly employees is "A buck a pay, the easy way," or a dollar every two weeks for a total of \$26 dollars a year. Through payroll deductions that 50¢ a week or the cost of a

cup of coffee a day won't be felt and you can feel you are doing your Fair Share.

Rise to the occasion, stand a little taller and be a Fair Share giver when your co-worker calls on you to sign that payroll deduction card.

THIS ISSUE PRINTED ON RECLAIMED WASTE

The very sheet of paper you are holding right now was once somebody's gum wrapper, drinking cup and milk carton.

Recycling and re-use are more than words mouthed by ecologists--things are being done. To prove this point, this issue of the MUELLER NEWSLETTER was printed on paper made from 100% reclaimed waste. It comes from milk cartons, paper cups, food packages and other paper products that were wax and film coated.

Paper fibers have been re-used for years, and part of the solid waste disposal program has included a new emphasis on recycling, but the coated waste paper products were not usable until the Riverside Paper Corp. Appleton, Wis., introduced a new process.

According to the manufacturer of this paper, three-fourths of one wood pulp tree would be needed to produce the paper used in this total NEWSLETTER run. Instead about 90 pounds of solid paper waste were used and kept out of landfill sites and incinerators.

RECYCLING IS OLD PRACTICE IN FOUNDRIES

Recycling, the recovery and re-use of "discarded" material for further production and consumption, is a popular word today with the conservationists and environmentalists.

Beverage bottles, metal cans, waste paper, scrap autos, water and even garbage are being used over again in various forms as we discover new ways to keep from burying ourselves in junk and litter and to conserve our natural resources.

For the foundry industry, recycling has been a common practice for years because it was a sound way to keep the cost of material down.

At Mueller Co. in Decatur about half of the furnace charge in the Iron Foundry is of steel scrap, consisting of cut structural steel, ends from steel bars and scrap from the steel mills. Nodular iron scrap from jobbing foundries makes up another 15% and the re-

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mainder of the charge is made up of our own scrap castings, sprues, gates and risers. (Castings which must be rejected and scrapped are mighty costly but at least the material is salvagable.)

In the Brass Foundry, most of the charge is made up of brass ingot containing copper, tin, lead and zinc (85-5-5-5). The ingot is certified by the smelters to be of proper quality. Occasionally virgin tin, lead, zinc or copper metals are added to our charge to adjust to the proper analysis. The rest of the furnace charge is made up of our own scrap from molding, poor castings and borings from the machine shop that are salvaged and remelted.

Most of the Mueller foundries follow similar patterns in charging and reclamation. Some certified pig iron is substituted for some of the steel scrap occasionally to adjust the iron mixture to rigid specifications.

The high cost of brass ingot makes it worthwhile to reclaim and re-use brass chips while the relatively low cost of scrap steel and iron, plus certain chemical reasons and melting methods, make it impractical to recycle our own iron chips and borings. These are sold, however, and eventually refined by ferrous smelters, and used by someone else.

The value of brass particles is emphasized by a cleaning process used in Decatur and Sarnia. Skimmings and slag from the furnaces and ladles, foundry sand, grinding dust and spillage are collected and run through a mill where the large particles and chunks are broken up. From there this "waste" is washed and most of the heavier metal particles are separated from the sand and dirt. The metal is remelted by the company and the remaining mud and sand hauled to the company landfill.

Recently, however, a firm has contacted the company and will take this heretofore waste material, run it through a special process that will separate the residue from the remaining microscopic particles of brass, and sell the metal to smelters. These smelters, who could be suppliers of Mueller, will refine and sell these particles, completing the cycle.

We used to talk about the meat packer using everything but the squeal of the pig, but total use and then re-use are necessary today to conserve, save and solve.

NO JOHN Q. PUBLIC HERE, BUT MANY NAMED SMITH, JONES

We often hear people complaining about the cold impersonal world of today where names are forgotten and we become mere numbers to accommodate the alphabet of the computer.

At Mueller Co. we each have a clock and badge number, a social security number and various other combinations of digits that mean something--but we aren't nameless and even the computer remembers our names.

Early in September the employee mailing list was

being checked and, by plant and alphabetically, the computer neatly spewed out the 2,113 names of active Mueller employees at the three U.S. plants. There were 953 for Chattanooga, 890 for Decatur and 270 for Brea, ranging in the alphabet from Abel to Zingale.

The name of Jones is most popular at Mueller where 25 employees have this family name, but the Smiths are only two behind. The next most common surnames, in order, are, Williams (18), Johnson (16), Taylor (14) and Brown (12). The name McCoy is popular in Decatur where it appears seven times, but neither Brea nor Chattanooga has a McCoy listed.

Walter Sy, who works in Brea, appears to have the shortest surname and Hollingsworth seems to be the longest. There are five from Chattanooga who have to sign this long name when they endorse their paychecks plus Frank Killingsworth (Chattanooga) who has the same number of letters.

There is one Mueller still on the active employee list--Bill Mueller, cost accounting supervisor in Decatur, but he is not related to the founding family.

There is no particular significance to the names Hackman, Heckman, Heitman, Hickman, Hoffman and Hockman, but if you read them quickly aloud they have a nice ring and they all work at Mueller.

There's not a Nixon on the list, but we come close with Chattanooga's Hixon and Hixson. Naturally there isn't an Agnew, since there is only one of him.

And what about good old whatshisname? I remember him well!

Retirements

The following list gives the retiree's job at time of retirement, years of service and date of retirement.

Decatur

Erma F. Barth, bookkeeper, 45 years, 9 months and 21 days, Sept. 7.

Coy M. Butler, Iron Machine Shop foreman, 44 years, 3 months and 21 days, Sept. 9.

Ernst D. Hetzler, Pattern Shop clerk, 40 years, 7 months and 2 days, Sept. 19.

Chattanooga

Edwin Price, Iron Foundry employee, 16 years, 6 months and 7 days, August 31, (Disability Plan).

Brea

Hazel P. Rice, Assembly Dept., 28 years, 4 months and 23 days, Sept. 10.

Norval A. Heldebrant, Shipping Dept., 16 years, 3 months and 23 days, Sept. 10.

Mueller, Limited

Percy Knight, general assembler, 44 years, 1 month, 28 days, Aug. 4.

COUNTRY'S BIGGEST INDUSTRY, AND MUELLER IS PART OF IT

Did you ever consider that those brass parts for corporation stops that you machined all day or those iron castings for fire hydrants that you handled all week will wind up as part of the country's biggest, most important industry?

Some may dispute the claim that the water industry of the United States is our biggest, most important industry but it is impossible to live without pure water. Consider further that in just nine days of normal operations, water utilities treat and transport a quantity of water equal to the yearly tonnage output of the steel, coal and oil industries.

The dollar value of water is open to debate, but wars have been fought over it and its availability has been looked as a gift from God.

There generally isn't a shortage of water, but getting it to where it is needed in a pure form is the big effort, and this is where the employees of Mueller Co. and the products they manufacture play an important part.

Mueller Co. started in 1857, but in the 1870's founder Hieronymus Mueller was named city plumber for Decatur and a short time later he invented a better way to make a connection on a water main for a home service line. This was the beginning of Mueller Co.'s long association with the water industry. Today much of our business and many of the thousands of products produced by Mueller Co. and Mueller, Limited employees are used to get pure water to where it is needed, or found in systems used to purify water.

There are more than 23,000 water utilities in the U.S. and Canada serving more than 180 million people. These water systems, found in the smallest villages and in the largest cities, are either our customers or potential buyers of the products manufactured by the people at Mueller.

Just as the thousands of individual systems make up the total water supply network, the thousands of individual jobs at Mueller combine to produce the corporation stops, drilling machines, gate valves, fire hydrants, curb valves, meter setting equipment, check valves, repair clamps and many more "products from Mueller" that make up a broad product line used in almost every water system.

Compared with space flights, atomic energy, automobiles, steel making and transportation, this industry we serve may seem relatively unexciting, but every one of these must have water to operate and Mueller products are involved.

Consider that it takes 600,000 gallons to produce a ton of synthetic rubber; 140,000 gallons to process a ton of wool; 70,000 gallons for a ton of steel; and a gallon of beer needs 16 gallons of water in its process.

W.R. Leopold, vice president-engineering, uses some figures in a talk he gives to college engineering students which point out the vastness of the industry

we serve.

He says that the water industry employs more people than the Chrysler Corporation. The industry's \$50 billion investment is more than four times the capital invested by General Motors. Its investment per employee is seven times that invested by GM and Ford.

We serve a big industry and it has to get bigger. Our population is rising, more sophisticated production processes require more water, greater emphasis is placed on water reclamation and pollution control. Over 50 per cent of the world's population lives in cities which still don't have running water in their homes.

About 25 billion gallons of water are supplied every day in the United States by public or private systems to commercial, industrial and domestic users. The average American uses 60 gallons of water daily in his home and so it goes on-and-on and up-and-up. Billions of additional gallons are used daily for irrigation and other uses.

We too often take for granted the availability of pure water and sometimes we don't give enough consideration to the important functions that our jobs play in this industry.

Each molder, machinist, assembler, maintenance man, clerk or supervisor at Mueller should stop to think that his efforts and our products are part of the biggest and most important single industry in the country--water supply.

(A future issue will carry a story about the other important industry that we serve--natural gas.)

JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT BEGINS IN DECATUR

Mueller Co. again this year is one of the major firms in Decatur sponsoring a Junior Achievement company, supporting the program financially and providing advisers who will guide the young people in the operation of their company.

Advisers this year are: Sales Trainee Gary L. Evans, Sales Training Coordinator William R. Knorr, Programmer Trainee William K. Lindgren, Industrial Engineer William D. Sebok, and Quality Control Technician David D. Vanskike.

In "JA", advisers work with high school students, showing them how to form a miniature company, to elect officers, to sell stock, produce goods, sell the finished product, keep the books and generally learn about business and free enterprise through the operation of the firm.

Last year more than 200 young adults from Decatur and 140,000 more from around the country participated in Junior Achievement's realistic experiences.

FAMILIAR FACES IN NEW PLACES

Tommie A. Bridges, formerly catalog draftsman, has been promoted to catalog compiler, effective Sept. 1.

News Briefs

Twenty-one of the women retirees from Mueller Co. in Decatur held a cookout at Helen O'Dell's home in Elwin. Assisting Helen with the arrangements were Helen Wall and Margaret Carter. The women usually meet at the Elks Club for lunch at 12:30 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month and any woman retired from Mueller Co. is invited.

Next season's new officers for the Mueller Golf League in Decatur were recently elected at the annual awards dinner at the Mueller Lodge. Succeeding Al Seitz as president will be Dick Ferrill. The new treasurer is Bill Leake and Joe Penne is the new league secretary.

The men retirees from Decatur continue their monthly meetings at the House of Plenty on the second Thursday of the month at 11:30 a.m. About 45 attended the September meeting and a similar number is expected for the October meeting on the 14th. A smorgasbord is now available, making service quicker and the menu broader.

A total of 348 pints of blood was donated recently during the 17th annual Allied Industrial Workers blood bank program conducted in August at the AIW Hall. The blood bank was sponsored by the Industrial Workers Builders Association and locals of the AIW, including #838 which represents plant workers of Mueller Co. in Decatur. Martin (Sport) Riewski, Dept. 70, was one of the chairmen for the drive.

Eleven foundry and maintenance men in Decatur recently completed a training program covering the processing of iron and the utilization of the induction method of metal melting. The program began in the spring and included daily classes, plus outside work. The course, designed by Advance Achievement Systems, Inc., employed a technique of audio and visual instruction and covered material from attitude to metallurgy, safety, electricity and operations. On the first day of the course, every man took a long written test to determine his knowledge of induction melting and related subjects. At the end of the course, the same test was taken and the class score average was improved by 50 points. Completing the course were: Bud Berner, Maurey Sefton, Darrel Church, Bob Blake-man, Chuck Schroeder, Jack Parsons, Carl Schuman, Bill Kaigley, Dale Spires, Tony Schultz and Marvin Spitzer. Tony Schultz and Carl Schuman each received \$25 checks from Advance Achievement for showing the greatest improvement.

Jim Hosto, Chattanooga plant engineer, has been appointed delegate-director of the American Institute of Plant Engineers-Chattanooga Chapter.

83 DECATUR SUPERVISORS IN TRAINING PROGRAM

Eighty-three supervisors from the Decatur Manufacturing Division will begin a 20-week training and education program on Nov. 1.

One group of about 40 will attend the morning session and a similar number will go to class in the afternoon, providing an opportunity for everyone to attend while still maintaining half of the supervisors and salaried staff in the departments.

The program, conducted by the Tampa Industrial Institute, Tampa, Fla., concentrates on shop and manufacturing management. Each weekly session will last about three hours and be conducted by E.B. Watmough, founder and director of the institute.

Mr. Watmough started work as a radial drill operator for General Electric in Philadelphia and worked as a machine operator for Westinghouse while he attended college. After receiving his B.S. degree in industrial engineering from Penn State in 1938 he did time study and industrial engineering work. In 1946 he joined the Penn State I.E. faculty and received his M.S. in I.E. in 1951. He has served in various industrial engineering, industrial relations and management positions, prepared training films, worked as a consultant and published a number of articles in management journals.

In 1969, he resigned from the Western Michigan University's staff, moved to Florida, and changed the name of his film distributing and consulting firm from the Labor-Management Training Service to the Tampa Industrial Institute.

Service Awards

The following Mueller employees received service awards during September.

Outside Sales

20 Years: Kenneth F. Tohill

Decatur

10 Years: Laura-Nell Sims

30 Years: Max L. Dukeman, Helen L. Campbell, Roy F. Harrison

Chattanooga

10 Years: Thomas Wilkerson

20 Years: Warren Moncier, Joseph H. Moses, Richard Waller, Leroy Thurmond, Carroll R. Moore, William L. Simpson

Mueller, Limited

20 Years: Walter Arrowsmith, Clayton Nesbitt, John Lapiar