

# NEWSLETTER

Vol. 6 March, 1974

Published by MUELLER CO., Decatur, Illinois

Don Bathe, Coordinator

## TWO MEMBERS ADDED TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mueller Co. Board of Directors, elected at the annual shareholders meeting in Decatur on Thursday, February 14, 1974, were as follows:

Dudley J. Godfrey, Jr.	Philip M. Mueller
Robert V. Krikorian	William E. Murphy
Adolph Mueller II	John A. Schluter
Mrs. Bessie I. Mueller	Mrs. Lenore M. Schmick
Frank H. Mueller	A.E. Staley III
	Harlan A. White

Mr. Godfrey and Mr. Staley were elected to fill vacancies on the board.

Mr. Godfrey graduated from the University of Michigan Law School in 1952 and was associated with the Tax Division of the Department of Justice until 1955. He became a member of the firm of Godfrey & Kahn, S.C. in Milwaukee, Wisconsin in 1955. He serves on the board of directors of a number of firms including the Parker Pen Company. Godfrey and his wife have three sons living at their home in Milwaukee.

Mr. Staley attended Northwestern University and was Advertising Director of the A.E. Staley Manufacturing Company until 1958. At that time he joined an advertising firm in Chicago. He is now President of Advertising Contractors, Inc., which has offices in Chicago, New York, Los Angeles, and Dallas.

The following Mueller Co. officers were reelected by the Board of Directors at the Board meeting immediately following the shareholders meeting:

Chairman of the Board - Frank H. Mueller
President - Harlan A. White
Executive Vice President - William E. Murphy
Vice President - Engineering - W. R. Leopold
Vice President - Manufacturing - Charles W. Moore
Vice President and Secretary-Treasurer - Lyle R. Huff
Assistant Secretary - Robert W. Mallow

The following Mueller, Limited Board of Directors were reelected at the Shareholders' annual meeting in Sarnia, Ontario, Canada, on Friday, February 15, 1974.

C. S. Browett	George McAvity
Harry J. Dowding	Frank H. Mueller
Lyle R. Huff	R. M. Nicolson
	Harlan A. White

All Mueller, Limited officers were reelected at the Board of Directors meeting immediately following the shareholders meeting.

Chairman of the Board - Harlan A. White
President and Chief Executive Officer - George McAvity
Vice President - R. M. Nicolson
Manufacturing Manager - Harry J. Dowding
Secretary-Treasurer and Controller - C. S. Browett

## #1 MAN ON SENIORITY LIST RETIRES



Robert W. Hill receives \$1000 check from Harlan A. White upon his retirement after more than 48 years of service.

Robert W. Hill, machine operator in Dept. 70 was #1 man on Decatur's seniority list, having started work at Mueller Co. in March 1925. Upon his retirement on March 16, he worked for the company 48 years, 11 months and 29 days.

During his many years of service Bob has a most outstanding attendance record with very few days away from his job.

He is looking forward to having time to do some work around his home, put out a garden, and visit with his children.

## STILL A GOOD QUESTION

A little over a year ago, in an article discussing the need for a national energy policy, the Chamber of Commerce of the United States asked: "Isn't it time we devoted more energy to solving our national energy problem?"

The article added: "Coordination and harmony are the keys to the development of a national energy policy, since the many facets of the energy problem are now treated in an uncoordinated and often conflicting manner.

"A national policy requires consolidation of energy-related functions of the Executive branch. At least nine of the 11 Cabinet departments are exercising varying degrees of regulation over the energy industries."

Except for a super-agency with emergency powers to deal with the immediate shortages, not much has changed to coordinate long-range research and development of conventional and new energy resources. The Chamber of Commerce believes now also is the time to tackle the long-range problem. It still asks the same question: "Isn't it time we devote more energy to solving our (long-range) energy problems?"

## NEWS FROM BREA (Mary Lou Bellante)

John Hale, Brea's Purchasing Agent, won the Metal Casters' Golf Tournament held recently. He picked up a beautiful trophy and told all his golfing buddies he did it with a score of 77 (did that 17 hdcp. help, John? He also won \$30.00 for being closest to the pin for the "Pot of Gold". ....Talent that pays off.....

• • • • •

There may be snow in the Dakotas, but it's spring in Brea. The hummingbirds nesting in the pine trees in front of the offices prove it. Those fortunate enough to view the trees (and the process from nest building to hatching of the egg) say their nest is too small for one baby (it hangs over both ends). Wonder how two would manage?

• • • • •

The gasoline shortage has prompted at least one brave female office employee to buy and try - a motor scooter to ride to work. Wonder if this will start a new trend?

• • • • •

"Cheerful people, the doctors say, resist disease better than the glum ones. In other words, it's the surly bird who catches the germ."

## OUR MEN IN THE FIELD



Forrest Baum covers most of the State of Ohio (territory #15) and lives in Columbus.

In an effort to better acquaint our employees with our representatives in Outside Sales, we have asked for a few comments from our men in the field.

"Mueller Co. has pretty much been my life, since both my parents worked for the company most of their working days. I began a couple of days after graduating from high school in 1953, in the Shipping Department and later worked in the Production Control office in Dept. 70.

"It was about this time that Shirley convinced me that two could really live as cheaply as one (from this it's easy to see who the salesman of this family is)," Forrest relates. Shirley is the daughter of Warren Hall, a Mueller Co. retiree.

"On February 12, 1957, I was sworn into Uncle Sam's Army, beginning my career at Ft. Leonard Wood, Mo. and concluding at Darmstadt, Germany. I spent my first wedding anniversary pulling K.P. duty with grease laden pots and pans to snuggle up to. We later made up for this as Shirley spent 11 months with me in Germany. While there we toured Germany, Austria, Italy, Switzerland and France.

"Returning to Mueller Co. in 1962, I started Sales Training for an Outside Sales territory. After 6 months, Mr. Baker had had all he could stand of me and had me deported to Lubbock, Texas. I traveled West Texas and New Mexico for about five years and that was all Dick Kitchen could stand so, he had me transferred to Mississippi. Bot Ott made a great effort to get me straightened out, but after about 5½ years he gave up and had me shipped up to Ohio for Cliff Auer to have a go at me. Well, ole Cliff just couldn't bear up under it all and asked to be transferred, and away he went to California. Now I have Dave Resler to work on. He's younger and stronger--maybe he might be able to take it for a few years."

Forrest had some fine things to say about the company, ending with: "No one division of the company has made it what it is today, it has taken a team effort from all concerned and if you don't think we are the best, ask our competitors and our customers."

# Retirements

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

## Decatur

**Robert W. Hill**, machine operator in Dept. 70, 48 years, 11 months and 29 days, March 16.

**Arthur R. Kay**, industrial shop truck operator in the Brass Foundry, 30 years and 21 days, March 29.

## Brea

**Thomas M. Stephens**, meter yoke solderer, 19 years, 2 months and 11 days, March 28.

**George C. Cornell**, casting grinder, 10 years, 7 months and 20 days, March 20.

## Chattanooga

**Charlie Martin**, tool crib attendant in the Machine Shop, 27 years, 10 months, and 19 days, Feb. 28.

**Leroy Spence**, plant office janitor, 17 years, 11 months and 17 days, March 13.

**Romus Rutland**, index table helper in the Iron Foundry, 25 years, 7 months and 29 days, March 25.

## SIX YEAR OLD FIGHTING TO SAVE SIGHT

Six year old Loraine Wells has been hospitalized five weeks undergoing eye treatment in Wylers Children's Hospital of the University of Chicago. She is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gene R. Wells, West Center Street Road, granddaughter of Mueller Retiree, Charlie Monroe and Niece of Chuck Monroe in Dept. 80.

Lori has lost the sight in one eye and doctors are trying to save the remaining sight in the other eye. She is presently undergoing cobalt treatments for a glandular tumor on the optic nerve. The total treatment will be very long and extensive. Side effects to the medication are many, including permanent hair loss and some hearing loss, but the treatment is vital.

A medical fund has been established to help defray expenses connected with her treatments that are not covered by hospitalization. The fund is sponsored by Mr. and Mrs. Chris Stump, former neighbors of the child's grandparents, and Jack and Betty Grinstaff, neighbors of the Monroe family.

"Loraine May Wells Medical Fund"

Millikin National Bank

Account No. 084923-2

Decatur, Illinois

## FAMILIAR FACES IN NEW PLACES

**Leonard W. Bishop** formerly tool room clerk has been promoted to the position of cleaning room shift foreman, at Chattanooga.

## RETIREES' LUNCHEONS

The women retirees met March 6, with Mr. White and Mr. Moore as guests. The next meeting is scheduled for April 3, at 12:00 at the Elks Club.

The retired men met for lunch March 14 with 54 present. George Deffenbaugh and Hartford Lewis were guests.

The next meeting will be a luncheon including the wives, and reservations are requested. Russ Armstrong or Leo Siloski will take reservations for the April 11 meeting in the upstairs dining room at Swartz's Restaurant.

## HUGH L. BAKER NAMED PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

Hugh L. Baker has been promoted to a newly-created position in Sales Headquarters of Product Development Manager. Mr. Baker has held the position of Manager of Marketing Services since 1967 and has extensive background in both our products and markets.

The planning of our new products plus updating present lines will be of key importance in assuring fullest and best utilization of new plant expenditures now being made by Mueller Co., and of maintaining Mueller Co.'s position in the industries which we serve.

# Service Awards

The following Mueller employees received service awards during March.

### Mueller, Limited

20 Years: Bertram Walker

#### Brea

10 Years: Harry Buffum

#### Decatur

10 Years: Ronald C. Clendenen, Malvin C. West, William D. Sebok

20 Years: Herbert P. Lewis

30 Years: Aurth R. Kay

40 Years: Edwin H. Jeschawitz

#### Chattanooga

10 Years: Simmy Dunn, William F. Blake, Walter Kilgore, Larry H. Hineman, Arlon E. Wells

20 Years: Tommy Ramsey, Donald K. McCurry, Herbert L. Adams, James E. Acklin, Clarence W. Carter

**NEWS FROM CHATTANOOGA**  
(Jack Malone)

Mueller Co. was highly spotlighted during National Manufacturers Week by local newspapers for its contribution to the nation's growth and economy. A large color photograph depicting part of our modern melting system was featured on page one of the business section which was devoted to local manufacturing firms. The lengthy article describing the manufacturing scene in Chattanooga stated that Mueller Co. had become an integral part in helping Chattanooga to achieve its ninth ranking in the number of manufacturing workers as a per cent of non-agricultural employment. More than two hundred cities in the United States depend on boilers constructed in the immediate area. There are more western-style saddles manufactured than anywhere else in the world. As for automobile wreckers, Chattanooga has the lead since nine out of ten automobile wreckers on the Nation's highways are built locally. One of the major strengths of the Chattanooga area in terms of manufacturing is the "diversity of its industrial base as evidenced by the wide variety of industry products."

• • • • •

Curtis Jackson of the Assembly Department, who is also coach of the basketball team, presented a large trophy to the company which the team had been awarded for winning the Early Bird Winter Basketball League Championship.

The team emerged from regular season play with eleven wins and no losses. We offer our heartiest congratulations to Captain Eddie Woods and his stalwart lads which include Robert Harris, Jimmy Watson, Gregory Hudson, Tressie Rivers, Claude Rhodes, Jarvis Strickland, William Holloway, John Ford, William Sively, Hollis Acklin, Robert Jordan and Samuel Coleman.

Coach Jackson gives all the credit to team effort.

• • • • •

Since many of our employees participate in several sports activities sponsored by the company, Rufus Yates, Tool Methods Engineer, has requested permission to formulate and direct the "Streaking" team which appears to be quite popular today.

As you are well aware, "Streaking" is the latest collegiate craze which features naked sprinters who race across open stretches of land.

Rufus pointed out that the uniforms were most inexpensive since they included only tennis shoes and face masks.

• • • • •

**OUCH!**

Monday morning after the postage increase went into effect, this office received a billing from one of our vendors showing a balance due of \$.00; fine--but it came with 2¢ postage due.

**JO ANN DEFRIESE  
ANNOUNCES CANDIDACY**



Jo Ann Defriese, from Production and Inventory Control, tossed her hat into the vast realm of politics when she announced her candidacy for the position of Criminal Court Clerk of Hamilton County, Tennessee.

While not totally new to this new venture, Mrs. Defriese states that she has long advocated that women should be constructively involved in political and governmental functions. She adds further that women are under-represented in such offices.

Jo Ann, the wife of former State Representative, Leban DeFriese, plans to pursue her campaign with diligence.



**BOB NELSON COMPLETES  
ELECTRONICS COURSE**

Bob Nelson, Mueller electrician in Decatur has completed a three year correspondence course in Electronics. The course is through Bell and Howell and the Institute of Technology in Chicago. It consists of an intensive study of electronics and a related course in computer controls. The final examination was given in St. Louis and Bob passed the exam with excellent ratings.

With additional study and research Bob passed the Decatur City Electricians examination.

Bob began as a blacksmith in Dept. 70 and has been with Mueller Co. 21 years.