

NEWSLETTER

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Don Bothe, Coordinator

NEW MEMBER ADDED TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

At the annual meeting of the shareholders of Mueller Co. Mr. John S. Mueller, business consultant, was elected to fill a vacancy which existed on the Board of Directors. Others reelected to the board were Dudley J. Godfrey, Jr., Robert V. Krikorian, Adolph Mueller II, Mrs. Bessie I. Mueller, Frank H. Mueller, Philip M. Mueller, William E. Murphy, John A. Schluter, Mrs. Lenore M. Schmick, A.E. Staley III, and Harlan A. White.

John S. Mueller is a graduate of Michigan State University and attended law school at Hastings in San Francisco. His business consulting firm is located in Tiburon, California.

The following Mueller Co. officers were elected at the Board of Directors meeting which immediately followed the annual meeting of shareholders:

Frank H. Mueller - Chairman of the Board
Harlan A. White - President and Chief Executive Officer
William E. Murphy - Executive Vice President
W. R. Leopold - Vice President - Operations
Charles W. Moore - Vice President - Manufacturing
Robert W. Mallow - Secretary-Treasurer
Dan L. Carlson - Assistant Secretary and General Controller

MUELLER, LIMITED ELECTS OFFICERS

Harlan A. White, president of Mueller Co., was re-elected chairman of the board of Mueller, Limited, Sarnia, Ontario.

Mueller, Limited board of directors elected at the shareholders' annual meeting were C.S. Browett, Harry J. Dowding, W.R. Leopold, George McAvity, Frank H. Mueller, R.M. Nicolson, and Harlan A. White. W. R. Leopold, vice president-operations, for the parent Mueller Co., was elected to fill the vacancy created by the retirement of L. R. Huff.

The following officers were elected following the shareholders' meeting:

Harlan A. White, chairman of the board; George McAvity, president and chief executive officer; R. M. Nicolson, vice president; Harry J. Dowding, manufacturing manager; C.S. Browett, secretary-treasurer; Kenneth Romphf, assistant secretary-treasurer.

NEW OFFICER ELECTED

W.R. Leopold was elected to the newly created officer position of Vice President-Operations by the Mueller Co. Board of Directors at the company's annual meeting held in Decatur on February 13. Leopold previously held the position of Vice President-Engineering.

In his new position as Vice President-Operations, Mr. Leopold will have overall responsibility for all engineering and manufacturing operations of the U.S. plants. In addition, he will exercise general supervision over the company's Canadian subsidiary, Mueller, Limited.

Leopold joined Mueller Co. in 1956, coming to Decatur from Stratford, Conn. where he was senior engineer-special projects for Lycoming Division of AVCO.

He is originally from Newark, N.J. and received his Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from the Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago, and a Master of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from Stevens Institute of Technology, Hoboken, N.J. He was named a Fellow by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers in 1972, and received the Edwin Church award in 1973 for his work in engineering education. Also in 1973, he was made an honorary member of Pi Tau Sigma, a national engineering honorary fraternity at the University of Illinois, and an Eminent Member of Tau Beta Pi, a national honorary science fraternity at Rose Institute.

He and his family live at 29 N. Country Club Road.

AMERICAN GAS ASSOCIATION REPORTS

If 1000 homes were to upgrade ceiling insulation from zero to six inches, install storm windows and doors, caulk and weather-strip -- the annual energy saved in heating alone could meet the national average gas energy requirement (for heating, cooking, water heating and clothes drying) of an additional 593 homes.

To insure you are getting the most return for your energy dollar, check with the gas company for advice on additional energy saving ideas in your home.

Setting the thermostat back from 75° to 70° would reduce fuel consumption by 17.1% annually. A "night set-back" to 65° would save an additional 8.5% while set-back to 60° would save 12.1% annually.

NEWS FROM CHATTANOOGA
(Jack Malone)



Lyle Huff, vice-president and secretary-treasurer, is preparing to cut the cake with Harlan A. White, president, looking on. The ladies in headquarters office, left to right, Vivian Doolen, Evelyn Cox, Janice Glick and Shirley Cotron join to give moral support in the cake cutting ceremonies. Mr. Huff is planning a trip to Mexico and other parts of the country. He feels that he can really enjoy his travels as he will not have to hurry home to return to work.



Lois Trotter, order dispatcher, was honored with a retirement luncheon in the company conference room on Friday, January 31.

Lois, who retired after more than thirty-seven (37) years of service will be truly remembered for her many kindnesses to others and her real devotion to Mueller Co.

Among the many gifts received from office employees and friends was a fishing rod, reel, and a gorgeous fishing hat. We are sure that Lois will enjoy her well-earned retirement.

Pictured, left to right, Stanley Kuhne, George Piper, the honoree, Ralph Shafer and Earl Bright.

TAX TIPS

You may benefit from itemizing deductions if you:

1. Are a homeowner paying interest and taxes.
2. Paid child care expenses for children under 15, or for disabled dependents.
3. Had unusually large uninsured medical and dental expenses during the year not reimbursed by insurance.
4. Made large contributions to qualified organizations and charities.
5. Paid alimony or separate maintenance under a court decree, or
6. Suffered a major uninsured casualty loss.

Itemized deductions include: certain legal expenses; child care and disabled dependent care (provided certain provisions are met); taxes (real estate, state and local gasoline, general sales, state and local income, and personal property); union dues, safety equipment, tools and supplies used in your job; political contributions; finance charges; educational expense; out-of-pocket expenses to do volunteer work; and medical care insurance (you may deduct disregarding the 3% limitation, one-half the amount you paid for medical insurance. This deduction may not exceed \$150. The balance is added to your other medical expenses and is subject to the 3% limitation).

If you decide to itemize, be sure to keep all cancelled checks, receipts and other evidence to prove the amounts claimed.

**IN TWO MINUTES*
YOU CAN BE
SAVING MORE**

**ON THE PAYROLL
SAVINGS PLAN FOR
U. S. SAVINGS BONDS**

*

**The time it takes to complete an authorization form*



Leonard Wampler, finished stores receiving clerk, is receiving his retirement gift from Tom Branson, LubOseal assembler and spokesman for the group, with Bill Baney Dept. 80 foreman.

Leonard was joined by his fellow workers for the happy occasion. He said that he had not planned anything as yet, just wants to take it easy until spring.

NOON LUNCHEON

Mueller retirees will host their ladies at Schwartz Restaurant in April. Send reservations to Russell Armstrong, 1152 North Warren, Decatur 62521 or Leo Siloski, 1904 East Clay Street, Decatur, Ill. 62521.

Retirements

Decatur

Virginia A. Benton, stenographer in general accounting, 29 years, 1 month and 11 days, February 21.

Chattanooga

James Zellander, finished product assembler, 21 years, 9 months and 16 days, January 31 (disability)

Milton Miller, finished product assembler, 24 years, 7 months and 16 days, January 15 (80 plan)

Hershel E. Deems, machine operator, 29 years, 6 months and 26 days, January 24 (80 plan)

Lois D. Trotter, order dispatcher, 31 years, 10 months and 29 days, January 31 (80 plan)

ENERGY SAVING FACTS

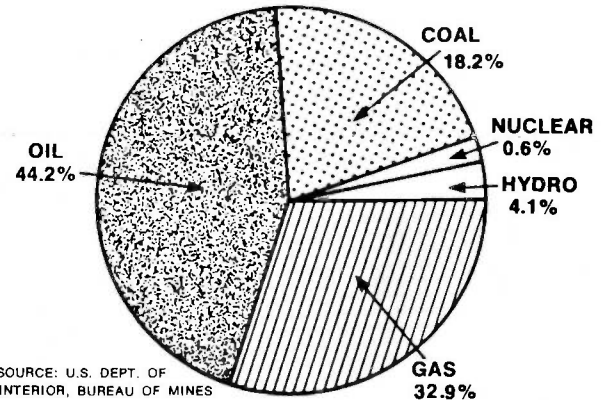
Gas will cook 2 meals with the same amount of primary energy it takes to cook 1 meal electrically.

Gas will dry 3-1/3 loads of clothes with the same amount of primary energy it takes to dry 1 load electrically.

Gas will heat almost 2-1/2 gallons of water with the same amount of primary energy it takes to heat 1 gallon electrically.

Gas will heat 2-1/3 homes with the same amount of primary energy it takes to heat 1 home electrically.

SOURCES OF U.S. ENERGY



SOURCE: U.S. DEPT. OF INTERIOR, BUREAU OF MINES

Service Awards

Chattanooga

10 Years: James Frederick, Lewis T. Buchanan.

20 Years: Frank Ransom, Glenn F. Cribbs, Willie D. McBee, Thomas S. Mize, Thomas Ragland, Johnnie McClain, James Burkes, Charles L. Currington, Frank C. Evans, Thomas E. Paris, Quincy C. Flanagan.

Decatur

20 Years: Thelma L. Endsley

30 Years: Leslie E. Gambee

WIND SPEED ESTIMATION GUIDE (MPH)

25-31 Large branches moving. Whistling heard in overhead wires.

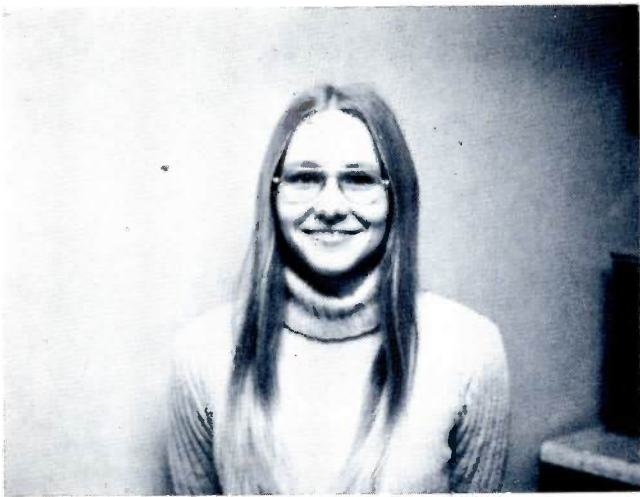
32-38 Whole trees moving. Inconvenience in walking against wind.

39-46 Small branches break (twigs). Impedes walking.

47-54 Slight structural damage. Larger branches and weak limbs may break.

55-63 Moderate structural and tree damage.

64 & above Heavy to severe structural and tree damage.



STUDENT WINS AWARDS

Alicia Moma has been named Blue Mound High School 1974-75 Betty Crocker Family Leader of Tomorrow. Alicia won the honor by competing with other seniors in the written examination on December 3. She is now eligible for State and National honors and will receive a specially designed award from General Mills, Inc., sponsor of the annual educational scholarship program.

Alicia's second award came when she was chosen to receive the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) citizenship award from the Stephen Decatur Chapter of the DAR.

She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Moma of Blue Mound. John is engineering records supervisor.

KNOW THE LANGUAGE

Energy has a peculiar language of its own. To understand it, you'll need to know the terminology. Here are definitions of the basic terms:

BTU (BRITISH THERMAL UNIT) -- The amount of heat needed to raise the temperature of one pound of water one degree Fahrenheit.

BTUH (BTU PER HOUR) -- Refers to the number of Btu's that will flow through a building material in one hour's time. The output capacity of heating and cooling equipment is also expressed in Btuh.

THERM -- An amount of heat equal to 100,000 Btu's. Therm is most often used in the measurement of natural or coal gas.

KILOWATT -- A unit of power equal to 1000 watts.

DEGREE DAY -- Measurement used to express the severity of the climate in a given locale. There are heating degree days and cooling degree days. A degree day is measured against the standard of 65 degrees (F). For example, if the average temperature for a given 24-hour period (taken by averaging the high and low temperature for the day) is 50, then the heating degree days would be 15. The degree day number for each day during a heating or cooling season is added to get the total number of degree days for that climate.

HOUSING STARTS FELL 35% IN '74

The nation's home builders last year started the fewest housing units since 1967. And housing economists say the annual rate of starts, which in December fell to an eight-year low for any month, will get worse before getting better.

Housing starts last month were at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 868,000 units, down 12% from November's 990,000, the Commerce Department said.

Actual housing starts for all last year fell 35% to 1,340,000 units from 2,050,000 units in 1973. It was the steepest year-to-year percentage drop since 1943, when production fell 39% from 1942.

Building permits, usually an indicator of future housing starts, increased in December for the first month since March. The issuance of permits by the 14,000 localities that require them rose 9.9% last month to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 802,000 units from 730,000 in November, the lowest on record, the Commerce Department said.

Home builders, who have had to get used to bad news in the past year, weren't very discouraged by the December drop in housing starts, according to Michael Sumichrast, chief economist for the National Association of Home Builders. "We expected it," Mr. Sumichrast said. The "bottom hasn't been reached" and the rate of starts "very likely is going to hit an all-time low" in the next month or two, he added.

By spring, however, Mr. Sumichrast and other housing economists expect starts to rise again. Mortgage money is starting to become available again, mortgage rates have begun declining somewhat and "people are starting to come looking at houses again," Mr. Sumichrast said.



Henry W. Stratman received a \$1,000 check from Harlan A. White upon his retirement after more than 46 years of service.

Retirees, Brother Martin Stratman, Carl Hill, Anthony (Buddy) Grossman, Leo Siloski, Ray Larus, Jack Bain, Eric Blankenburg, Norman Poole, Athie (Hap) Thompson, Bob Hill and Matt Like joined in to make Henry's retirement a day to remember.

He plans on resting up for a while before starting any new ventures.