# NEWSLETTER ©

Vol. 10, No. 4 A Western Electric Publication April 1977



## MV Woman Honored By American Red Cross



Lorraine Collins, Engineering Systems Standards Department, accepts certificate of appreciation from William J. Sullivan, Chairman, Haverhill Chapter, American Red Cross, for eight years' service as coordinator of the Merrimack Valley Works Blood Bank.

## Ode to the Complexities Of the English Language

I'd like to live my whole life through
And have my troubles be but fough.
I'd like to have a lot of dough.
And never have to lift a hough.
I'd like to sit beneath a bough
And be as lazy as a cough.
Of rough and tough, I've had enough!
I'd like to write more simple stough.
I've got a cold, I've got a cough I'd better take a few days ough.
Through, dough, bough, enough,
And cough ought to rhyme.
Perhaps they will some other thyme.

-Arthur Sherrill

#### -THE COVER -

Terry Casey, D4 Channel Unit Department, is thinking spring as she admires a bouquet of jonquils grown right here at the Merrimack Valley Works.

#### May Anniversaries

THIRTY YEARS				
Name	Dept.	May		
Gerald P. Guilfoyle	89453	5		
Albert W. Eason	84522	7		
James J. Gardella	89857	20		
TWENTY-FIVE	YEARS			
Ramond R. Arsenault	81193	5		
Robert E. Carleton	84944	5		
James T. Casserly	84947	5		
Robert V. Cote	84976	5		
Robert P. Drouin	84947	5		
Stephen T. Dulgarian	80461	5		
Bernard T. Gaudreau	84921	5		
Theresa M. Goshdigian	81182	5		
Jeannette M. Lanouette	89842	5		
Bernard A. Mooers	02042	5		
John J. Procopio, Jr.	89244	5		
Robert E. Skinner	81972	5		
Lucy M. Sparks	81131	5		
Glenn D. Degryse	89210	7		
Willard P. Farrell	81195	7		
John F. Gearin	84531	7		
Evelyn J. Giard	89853	9		
Raymond O. Anderson	03572	12		
Robert L. Baillargeon	81927	12		

## In Memoriam

Continued on next page

John J. Gillon, Hourly and Salary Job Evaluation Department, March 28.

Charles H. Sullivan, retired, 30 Seed Street, Salem Depot, N.H., April 4.

Robert Davidson, retired, The Birches, Lake Attitash, Amesbury, April 9.

## NEWSLETTER

Published By

Western Electric

For the information of employees of the MERRIMACK VALLEY WORKS North Andover, Massachusetts Dept. 02040 Area Code 617-681-2303

> BERNIE MOOERS Editor



Printed on Recycled Paper

#### ANNIVERSARIES (continued)

Name	Dept.	May
Mary E. King	89853	12
Kenneth A. Lewis	89845	12
Marie G. Manion	84921	12
Cleo M. Wilder	89856	12
Rita B. Felteau	81941	14
Daniel L. Comeau	89276	16
Raymond N. Goudreau	89311	16
George A. Marquis	81118	16
Eunice J. Angelone	81942	19
John L. Brain	27480	19
Olga S. Brown	89834	19
Robert T. Demarco	11221	19
Katherine <b>T</b> . Fiore	81181	19
Henry J. Keaveny	51422	19
Wanda B. Wilson	81182	19
Sadie S. McGrail	8961C	20
Donald J. Wildman	81231	20
Robert L. Dierauer	89668	21
William A. Ingalls, Jr.	89457	21
Russell G. McGrath, Jr.	89278	21
Natalie S. Hastings	27463	22
George F. Lane, Jr.	80470	22
Irene T. Cahill	89642	26
Fred J. Champy	89853	26
Frank R. Curtin	80463	26
Sophie S. Klug	81972	26
Joseph A. Marcinonis	80420	26
Irene A. Maslowski	81181	26
Carmen D. Perzechino	81134	26
Alice Chalko	03572	27
Mae M. Judge	27660	27
Lionel E. Maurier	89212	28
Loretta W. Ross	81942	29

#### TWENTY YEARS

TWENTY YEARS				
Name	Dept.	May		
Alfred E. Thomson	89245	2		
Jacqueline D. Berube	03775	5		
Mary J. Pike	89338	5		
William A. Eldredge	21965	6		
Melvin J. Huberdeau	21944	6		
William T. Hurrell	84925	6		
Harold E. Lloyd	27240	6		
Doris G. Welch	81964	6		
Elsie Allen	89441	7		
Margaret A. Cassano	81921	11		
Rita S. Wardrop	80463	11		
Henry J. Corcoran, Jr.	27610	13		
Frank N. Daneau	21942	13		
Charles J. Budrevich	84932	14		
Thomas A. Rumore	84932	14		
Sarkey Tarlian	80470	14		
Arthur Robichaud	80461	15		
Stanley S. Armstrong	27421	20		
Earl S. Dean	89272	20		
Leo J. Dubois	21941	20		
Gene P. Grillo	27400	20		
George H. Ricard	80422	20		
Richard J. Watson	27480	20		
Rose M. Basile	89851	21		
Elizabeth M. Courtney	89822	21		

Continued on page 5

## TAKE THE NATIONAL DISASTER SURVIVAL TEST

Would you know what to do if you were stranded on a country road in the middle of a snowstorm? What if you were caught in a flash flood or lost in the desert?

Knowing the answers could one day save your life. And you'll get the answers when you participate at home in "The National Disaster Survival Test," to be broadcast Sunday, May 1 at 8 p.m. on the NBC television network.

Using the form below, you can mark your answers as the questions are asked, then learn what experts from the National Safety Council and others say are the right answers to raise your "survival quotient."

Dick Smith, Department Chief, Safety Engineering, urges all employees to tune in their TV sets on May 1 and take the test.

"The program is important to every one of us. It can give us a better understanding of disasters and how to limit or entirely prevent the tragedies associated with them," he said.

The 90-minute program will use re-enactments, actual film footage of disasters, and interviews with survivors and survival experts to emphasize disaster survival and prevention.

The test will be divided into segments relating to disasters caused by fire, water, ice or sun, tornadoes, hurricanes and earthquakes. Another part will deal with first aid procedures. Questions will test judgment, knowledge, alertness, stress and leadership.

#### THE NATIONAL DISASTER SURVIVAL TEST

A Warren V. Bush Production in cooperation with the National Safety Council NBC Television 8:00 p.m, Eastern Time, Sunday, May 1, 1977

				OFFI	CIAL	TEST FORM
I. JUD	GMEN	NT.				II. KNOWLEDGE
1.	a	b	С	d		1. TF 5. TF 8. TF
2.	a ·	b	С	d		2. TF 6. TF 9. TF
3.	а	b	С	d		3. TF 7. TF 10. TF
			Sco	re		4. T F
III. AL	EDTN	E66				Score
	Yes	LSS No	0			
2.	List t	he nu	mber	of pote	ential da	angers: Score
IV. ST	RESS					V. LEADERSHIP
1.	Yes	No	9.	Yes	No	1. a b c d
2.	Yes	No	10.	Yes	No	2. a b c d
3.	Yes	No	11.	Yes	No	Score
4.	Yes	No	12.	Yes	No	PRELIMINARY SCORE
5.	Yes	No	13.	Yes	No	
6.	Yes	No	14.	Yes	No	V4 0050/41 0000/110
7.	Yes	No	15.	Yes	No	VI. SPECIAL SCORING
8.	Yes	No				
0.	. 50					YOUR FINAL SCORE
			Scor	re		TOON FINAL SCORE
			0001		-	

Use this test form to indicate your answers, to total your score, and to compare your score with your family, friends, and other groups.

Members of the National Safety Council may obtain additional information on disaster survival by confacting Council headquarters, 444 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, Illinois 60611.





## The Bell System Is Going Metric — Eventually

So the United States is going metric. Hold on, there's no need to panic. Whether we realize it or not, we're already leading partly metric lives. We light up 100 millimeter cigarettes, shift metric-designed foreign cars, and shiver when the Celsius reading dips into the minus degrees.

In December, 1975, President Ford signed into law the Metric Conversion Act, establishing for the first time a national policy in support of metric measurement. The catch is that it's a voluntary law with no firm deadlines.

The metric system was developed in France in the late 1700's, based on the decimal system and using multiples of ten. The basic units are the meter, a measure of length; the gram, for mass; and the liter, for volume.

Why is the U.S. going metric after living with its comfortable, but confusing, system of foot, pound, and cup for more than 200 years? The answer is simple: the country can't afford not to.

All major trading countries have either gone metric or are converting. The U.S. is in a tiny minority, with Brunei, Burma, Liberia, and Yemen - which are hardly industrial giants.

Owen Gibson of AT & T, Doug Burke of Bell Labs, and Bill Ruck of Western Electric are participating in a tri-company steering committee coordinating the Bell System's role in the country's metric conversion.

All three stress caution and economy in the change to metrication, and are mindful of the influential position the Bell System holds in American industry.

Says Ruck, assistant manager engineering standards and planning: "Western will play the biggest role in the Bell System's metrication because of our manufacturing and purchasing. And we must be careful, because we'll have impact on about 40,000 different suppliers."

Western's conversion timetable depends on those suppliers. "When they begin to manufacture steel, copper, wire and cable in metric lines instead of customary sizes," he explains, "then we'll get into metric fast because it'll be cheaper for the Bell System."

Ruck says Western will go metric when opportunity knocks.

"Many people don't realize," adds Burke, head of Bell Labs standards and materials - engineering, "that metrics have been used for years at Bell Labs. This has been dictated largely by general industry practice in research, in defining materials characteristics and testing procedures, and in process control. Some electrical and electronic designs also use metrics. Our newest application will be in the design of submarine telephone cable."

So, the metric education of Bell System employees will be a lot simpler than it seems. "There's no need for a crash program," observes Gibson, engineering manager - international systems. "Employees will learn only what they need to continue doing their jobs well."

Will metrics have an effect on customers? Not likely, say the planners.

"For example," says Burke, "the telephone is based on human engineering

- the distance from the mouth to the handset, the position of numbers on a Touch-Tone pad or rotary dial. These dimensions are not dependent on a specific system of measurements; they're responsive solely to human sizes."

When metrication is done, Gibson speculates, we won't quite know it. "We can't identify when we started, and there's no way of knowing when we'll complete it. The conversion will happen so gradually that there will be no bell ringing."

It's happening now. Going metric is a quiet and deliberate revolution: faster than its seemingly glacial speed, but just as methodical. One day, metrics will be as American as a quart (about a liter) of peach ice cream.

## PIONEER CORNER

Our chapter is now 3,672 members strong, including 722 Life Members. To maintain effective channels of communications, we are developing a program of Pioneer Representatives. They will soon be available on all shifts, in all areas, including the Lawrence Plant and BTL.

Pioneer Representatives will maintain the "personal touch" in Pioneering, providing rapid two-way communication between members and the Executive Board. The activities of each group of representatives will be coordinated by a Group Leader.

Among the most important responsibilities of the Pioneer Representatives will be:

- 1. To keep members and other volunteers informed of Pioneer activities, and to encourage participation in them.
- 2. To forward ideas, problems, and suggestions from members through the lines of organization to the Executive Board.
- 3. To keep the Community Service and other committees informed of pertinent interests of members.
  - 4. To encourage and recommend likely appointees to various committees.

A listing of representatives will be published in the next Pioneer Corner. Meanwhile, here are the Group Leaders:

Name	Area	Shift	Tel. Ext.
Bill Nutter	Bldg. 20-south	1	4025
Matty Janos	Bldg. 20-north	1	5216
Millie Gattinella	BTL Building	1	6573
Helen Rydecki	Bldg. 31-1 south	1	3925
Dot Carrier	Bldg. 30-1 north	1	3849
Joyce Burden	Bldg. 30-2 south	1	3778
Rita Tarlian	Bldg. 30-2 north	1	3664
Len White	Bldg. 34,37,40,41,70	All	2816
Franny Breen	Lawrence Plant	All	* 3762
Fran Lefebvre	Bldg. 30-2	2&3	3729
Carol Trihias	Bldg. 30-1	2&3	3832

KEEP IN TOUCH - THROUGH YOUR GROUP REPRESENTATIVE PROGRAM!

#### METRIC TALK FOR EVERDAY USE

handle. Most employees will have little to 1000 m) - about six-tenths of a mile. do with meters, grams and Celsius.

impact of metrication. It's still awhile coming, but:

Will your favorite fast food hamburger still be a "152-grammer with cheese?" A gallon of gas at 62 cents is bad enough, but is almost four liters at the same price any better? And, will the urge to diet be weaker when that odious bathroom scale hollers only 90 kilograms instead of 200 pounds?

New terminology, awkward conversions and an overall air of uncertainty will greet us as buyers in a metric marketplace. Pocket calculators might be useful, but exact measurements will be uncommon in most everyday household

To help you out of the metric woods, here's a brief description and conversion list of common metric factors that one day may stare down at us from store shelves:

LENGTH. Meter (m) - a little longer than a yard (about 1.1 yds); centimeter (cm - .01 m) - about the width of a paper clip (almost fourtenths of an inch); millimeter (mm - .001 m) - the diameter

Metric on the job will be easy to of paper clip wire; and kilometer (km -

To convert from customary to metric It's as consumers that we'll feel the measures, multiply: number of inches times 2.5 to find centimeters; feet times 30 to get centimeters; yards times 0.9 to find meters; and miles times 1.6 for kilometers.

> WEIGHT. Gram (g) - about the weight of a paper clip; kilogram (kg -1000 g) - about 2.2 pounds; metric ton (t - 1000 kg) - about one ton.

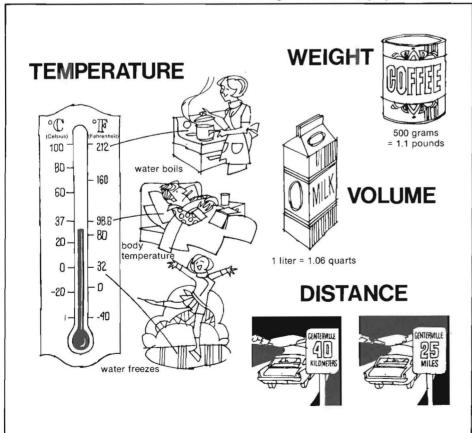
> To convert, multiply: number of ounces times 28 to find grams; pounds times 0.45 for kilograms; and tons times 0.9 to get metric tons.

> VOLUME - Liter (1) - little more than a quart (about 1.06 qts.); and milliliter (ml - .001 liter) - five of them make a teaspoon.

> To convert, multiply: number of teaspoons times five, number of tablespoons times 15, and number of fluid ounces times 30 to find millileters; and, cups times 0.24, pints times 0.47, quarts times 0.95 and gallons times 3.8 to find

TEMPERATURE. Celsius (formerly called Centrigrade) - 100 degrees is boiling; zero degrees is freezing.

To convert from Fahrenheit, subtract 32 degrees and multiply by five-ninths.



#### ANNIVERSARIES (continued)

Name	Dept.	May
Nei,I C. Patnaude	81153	21
Delphine M. Nichypor	81931	25
Donald W. Gavin, Jr.	89235	27
Joseph A. Messina	27420	27
Angelo P. Piazza	89244	27
Harold M. Wilson	89231	27
Rosalie M. Croteau	81122	29

#### FIFTEEN YEARS

James W. Christopher Kathleen M. Daley Phyllis W. Crowell Mary Waranuk Pauline M. Arcari George D. Baker, Jr. Thomas M. Bergeron Victor J. Duphily, Jr. Carl J. Finley Charlotte F. Lovett Joseph H. Moore William G. Gibeau Claire T. Migliori Marie S. White John N. Murphy Edward Wunderlich Richard C. Evans Shirley F. McCann Eleanor B. Gallant Anthony J. Siwacki Norman H. Heinze Lionel A. Dichard George W. Francis Reina L. Gelineau Walter M. Haley, Jr. Marie F. Labatte Walter A. Laskewicz Genevieve B. Kus Genevieve B. Kus Donald T. Mellor Robert A. Menard Charles B. Ogden	03520 89822 89614 81181 81121 27463 89235 89235 03572 81194 27620 81145 81935 81122 03744 03575 89216 02211 89335 89442 27480 89422 27570 27590 81922 81145 89212 89339 02321 84932 27420 81144	1 1 2 3 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 8 8 14 15 15 16 16 18 20 21 21 21 21 26 28 28 28 28 28 28 28 28 28 28 28 28 28
Douglas W. Winslade	89216	29

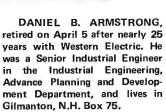
#### A REMINDER

Our Equal Employment Opportunity coordinator, Helen Lang, is available to discuss the EEO policy with any interested employee. For an appointment, call ext. 2330.

### Retirements



DORIS V. BEALS, RFD #2, Haverhill Road, Amesbury, retired on February 22 with more than 19 years service. She was a bench hand in the R/C Hybrid Circuit & 170A HIC Department.





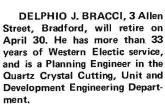
CLARENCE E. COTTER, 118
School Street, Salem, N.H.,
retired on April 6. He had more
than 21 years of service, and was
a bench hand in the Multiple
Wound & Spool Coil, C56 Depart-







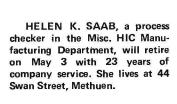
JOHN A. CRONIN, an assembler in the L-4 & L-5 Bay Department, 81940, retired on April 9 with more than 21 years of service. He lives at 35 Exeter Street, Lawrence.





ment.

BERTHA W. FORTIN, retired on April 18. She lives at 22 Linden Avenue, North Andover, and was a coil winder in the Toroidal Coil Department with more than 20 years of service.





WANSTALL.

**EMMA** 

G.

Edgemere Road, Middleton, will

retire on May 31. She is a bench

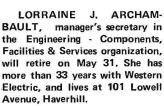
hand in the A-6 Monolithic

Crystal Filter Department, and

has more than 15 years service.



LOUIS C. THOMAS, will retire on May 25. He is a grinding machine operator in the Ferrite Department with more than 25 years service, and lives on Main Street, Plaistow, N.H., P.O. Box 515.







MARY T. PERREAULT will retire on May 31 with nearly 17 years service. She lives at 54% Ninth Avenue, Haverhill, and is a bench hand in the Multiple Wound and Spool Coil, C56 Department.





ROSE M. FILIELLA, 72
Myrtle Street, Methuen, retired
on March 17. She was a machine
operator in the Pierece Part
Department, and had more than
17 years service with the company.

MARIAM F, PINAUD retired on March 30 with more than 21 years service. She lives at 2200 Turnpike Street, North Andover, and was a wireman in the D3 & D4 Power Converter Unit Department.

CLARA T. BOMBA, 3 Cutler Street, Lawrence, retired on April 11. She was a bench hand in the T-1 Repeater, T4-M13-M34 Coaxdigital Line & Multiplex Department, and had more than 20 years of company service.

RALPH L. LAKIN, a machine operator in the Printed Wiring Board Department, retired on April 12 with more than 20 years service. He lives at 125 Salem Street, Bradford.

LILLIAN F. HOLBROOK retired on April 18. She lives at 30 Hawthorne Avenue, Methuen, and was an inspector in the D2, T2M12, VIF, DT, T4M, M13, 1ARDT Department, 81910. She had more than 24 years of service.

EVELYN R. SAWYER, RFD #2, Box 453, Plaistow, N.H., retired on April 18. She had more than 24 years with Western Electric, and was a tester in the Misc. Spool Coils, Filters, Networks and Equalizers, C62 Department.

EDMUND F. KASZETA, a tester in the D1 & D3 Integrated Bay Department, retired on April 26 with more than 20 years of company service. He lives at 169 Oak Street, Lawrence.

MARIE A. PURCHAS will retire on May 2 with more than 25 years service. She lives at Marcoux Grove, RFD #2, Plaistow, N.H., and is a layout operator in the A-6 Monolithic Crystal Filter Department.

RAYMOND L. BERUBE, 23 Topping Road, Andover, will retire on May 2. He is a layout operator in the D2, T2M12, VIF, DT, T4M, M13, 1ARDT Department, 81910, and has more than 25 years with the company.

MELBURN G. BROWN, a technical assistant in the Technical Service - E f M Control & BTL Service Department, will retire on May 6. He has more than 24 years of Western Electric service, and lives in Newton Junction, N.H., P.O. Box 12.

CLEMENT J. DUCHEMIN will retire on May 9. He lives at 2 Kimball Street, Haverhill, and has more than 15 years service. He is a packer in the Packing, Shipping and Warehousing Department.

DORIS C. CARRIER, 4 Lincoln Street, Haverhill, will retire on May 18 with more than 20 years service. She is a bench hand in the Duolateral Coil and Filter Department (C60).



MARION M. EVANS, a bench hand in the All Operations -2660A Trans. Department, will retire on May 6. She has more than 21 years of service, and lives at 23 South Cogswell Street, Bradford.

ROSE M. BASILE, 15 Josephine Avenue, Methuen, will retire on May 21. She is a process checker in the A-6 Monolithic Crystal Filter Department, and has twenty years of Western Electric service.

HUGO J. CONTE, a packer in the Packing, Shipping and Warehousing Department, will retire on May 29 with nearly 17 years of service. He lives at 30 Julian Street, Haverhill.

THOMAS E. PAULINCA, a production service clerk in the Apparatus, Equipment Order Input, Analysis & Keypunch Department, will retire on May 31. He lives at 15 Old Farm Road, Methuen, and has more than 21 years of service with Western Electric.

## **SUGGESTIONS**

#### Awards Paid In March

Carol J. Butler
Arlene Earnshaw
Frances Perrow
Robert Casey
Stephen O'Donnell
Daniel Greeley
Mark Kahigian
Bertrand Lacerte
Zeila Susi
Rose Alekel
Anthony Aksycn
Robert Barnaby
Eleanor Coburn
Leo Desando
Evelyn Desroche
Kay Faro
Dolores Farnsworth
Roger Girardi
Linda Innis
Anthony Maciejewsk
Alvin McArthur
Daniel O'Sullivan
Frank Rindone
Charles Sapienza
Eileen Currier
Leo Glynn
Doris Gurley
Anthony Rinaldo
Andrew Stout
Mary Zaremba
Doris Flynn
Robert George
Joseph Parker
Georgette Venne9.38
10 14 3 3 3 3 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5

## Kaleidoscope

#### A Bad Spell

Long Lines Magazine reports that an operator recently picked up a signal from a customer with a foreign accent. He asked for the telephone number of a company she had never heard of, so she asked, "How do you spell that, sir?" Came the reply: "Very, very badly."

#### It's In To Get Out

Police and firemen in a small British burg recently rushed to the aid of a man trapped in a phone booth. The rescue turned out to be rather elementary when a member of the rescue squad explained to the victim that the door opened inwards, not outwards.

#### And For My Next Trick . . .

Building maintenance workers in a downtown Cincinnati office building recently installed some new light fixtures. One man was near the top of a six-foot ladder attaching a fixture to the ceiling with lead-anchors and screws. Another man walked up and said in a serious and commanding tone: "George, get a good grip on that screwdriver. I need that ladder you're using."

#### Maybe They Ran

An independent telephone company in the midwest recently reported that more than three dozen 25-foot telephone poles were missing from its warehouse. A baffled police spokesman pinpointed the dilemma this way: "I just can't imagine anyone walking off with them." The company agreed.

#### **Briefly Speaking**

The Lord's Prayer contains 56 words. Lincoln's Gettysburg address contains 266 words. The Declaration of Independence contains 3,000 words. BUT . . . a government regulation on the sale of cabbages contains 26,911 words.

Paul E. Tsongas

#### Congressman Tsongas Backs Communications Act

Congressman Paul E. Tsongas has endorsed the Consumer Communications Reform Act with the introduction this month of a bill (HR 5707) in the House of Representatives.

House supporters now total 70 members: 40 Democrats and 30 Republicans. In the Senate, two bills have eight sponsors - four Democrats and four Republicans.

The Act would restrict the govern-

ment from instituting policies which would undermine the principle of universal service. Some of its effects would be a reaffirmation of the traditional telephone rate-making policies which guarantee high quality service for all customers, and the elimination of duplicate interstate carrier service which raises basic rates, impairs the telephone network, and wastes resources.