

85-39

Friday

August 30, 1985

## Employees have good impressions of Dialogue Meeting



Dan Suci, general manager, listens at one end of the table while Val Lulis poses a question at the other. Seated left to right around the table are Andy Andrews, sr. tech.-electronic; Richard Eastep, accounts payable clerk; John Frank, maintenance serv. coordinator; Doris Gilbert, prod. control expediter; Val Lulis, sr. tech.-electromechanical; Betty Smith, Laboratory support aide; Vivian Reed, secretary; JoAnn Roberson, design control aide; Kelley Wiseman, data proc. computer operator; and Nat Payton, sr. tech.-electronic. In attendance but not shown was Terry Cunningham, technician-polymer chem.

Little did JoAnn Roberson, design control aide, know when she asked about benches for employees to use during lunch and breaks that general manager Dan Suci not only agreed with the idea but that he would take it one step further.

JoAnn was one of eleven nonexempt employees who attended Dr. Suci's fifth Dialogue meeting.

As a result of JoAnn's comments at the Tuesday morning meeting, employees will be able to enjoy 10 new concrete and redwood benches facing the retention ponds on the south side of the plant property. In addition, five decorative trash containers will be placed near the benches to help employees keep the grounds looking attractive. The benches and containers will be in place next month. With fall approaching, NDD employees will now have a place to enjoy a little sunshine during their lunch break.

### Insurance claims

Several attendees expressed concern over problems with insurance claims. Complaints included lost claim forms and discourteous service as well as delays in payments. Suci noted that others have had similar difficulties and that efforts were being made to improve the service. It's a big job and will take some time before it is fully effective but the consolidation at Valley Forge is necessary to control 'runaway' health care costs. Insurance claims for 1984 at NDD averaged \$2300 per employee and totaled almost \$5 million dollars.

In a recent HEADLINER interview, Mike Hulser, manager of accounting operations, made the following recommendations to help expedite insurance claims:

- . Document all actions relating to insurance claims
- . Refer all specific problems in writing to Hulser for investigation
- . Double check all claim forms for correct, complete information, and signature

See DIALOGUE page two

## Retirees cash in on updated GE Pension Plan

Shirley Carlson, support operator, and her husband, Don, tool-maker, sure liked the looks of General Electric's pension plan



changes as announced in the company's new job package in July. In fact, the Carlsons like the changes so much, they both decided to retire effective today. While Shirley and Don are traveling through North Carolina in their new travel trailer in the coming weeks, they'll be thinking about that opportunity afforded them



through GE's new pension benefits including the retirement-incentive supplement and the improved regular supplement as explained in the HEADLINER 85-38 dated August 23.

Another NDDer taking advantage of the new job package benefits is Ellis Lipsey, maintenance electrician, who



with 28 years of service will be retiring today. Ellis will be moving to Blountstown, FL, soon and

commented about his reason for retiring, 'The new contract with the extra bonus made me decide to go ahead and retire.' With this extra money, Ellis is planning on doing some fishing and camping as well as making another trip out west in the near future.

See RETIREE page three

## IALOGUE *Continued from page one*

### Reducing costs

In related discussions at the Dialogue meeting, Suci confirmed that the processing of data supporting payroll and all of accounts payable activities are planned to be relocated to Valley Forge within the next two years as part of a number of efforts to reduce operating costs around the company. Costs are also being scrutinized around the weapon's complex and NDD's general manager explained the President's task group Blue Ribbon report on Nuclear Weapons management to the Dialogue meeting participants. Among a number of findings in the report are that Department of Energy should continue to manage nuclear weapons programs independent of Department of Defense but there should be better coordination between the two government agencies. The challenge to employees at NDD will be to keep the quality and reliability of our products up while driving costs down, Suci reminded the group.

### Shutdown '86

Asked about shutdown for next year, Suci confirmed plans for a summer shutdown the first two weeks in July, citing maintenance activities and impact on production as reasons. 'There is simply no efficient way to meet the needs of our business and satisfy everyone's vacation preferences at the same time,' he said.

### Automation projects

Other discussions centered around some of NDD's automation projects. 'As you know, these projects are all part of an effort to increase the efficiency of our plant,' Suci explained to the group, citing the 'flexible machine shop' as one example. These are really large programs that are going to require special emphasis.' Asked specifically about the MRP system, he remarked that while 'it's progressing a little slower than expected, it is going well and producing what we expected - things like distributing information to people that need it, much quicker than could be done before.' In describing our automation projects, Suci used the metaphor of automobile traffic - that everything must move together. An individual can't go just anywhere they want at any speed or you'll have a traffic jam. And, so it is with our automation projects, there has to be a high level of coordination with these various projects in order to realize their full value.

### Improved communications

Also discussed at the meeting were the new job package and retirement benefits. Employees will be receiving more detailed information on the new benefits package in the next several weeks.

All nonexempt employees attending the meeting appeared to enjoy this session with the general manager. As Terry Cunningham, process control engineering aide, puts it, 'Communication is something we all do, and something we all need to improve. I'm glad to see the Dialogue meetings - it's definitely a step in the right direction.'

## Need help on how to fill out insurance forms?

If so, Eileen Buser, supervisor, personnel accounting, will be hosting an informal 'brown bag' meeting next week. No advance registration is required for this session which will be held on **Wednesday, September 4**, from 7 am to 7:30 am for third shift, 11 am to 12:30 pm for first shift, and 3 pm to 3:30 pm for third shift.

Eileen will be in the new east break room in area 350 to answer your questions about filling out insurance forms completely and correctly. Eileen is anxious to help you with this procedure and comments, 'If closer attention is given to filling out claim forms properly, the result will be faster claim processing and payment which will please us both!'

## Service Anniversaries

Congratulations to the following employees on their September service anniversaries.

**30 Years**  
Arthur W. Pearson

**25 Years**  
James T. Prince  
Leo P. Benson Jr.  
Edmond E. LaFave Jr.

**20 Years**  
Valdis Lusia

**15 Years**  
Carlotta A. Macon  
Margarite James  
Raymond W. Williams  
Henry Woods Jr.  
Lee A. Patterson Jr.  
Richard Stevens

**5 Years**  
Ernest G. Figueredo  
James A. Bush  
Kay L. Favell  
Richard L. Jones  
Albert B. Letts Jr.  
Billy R. McKeever  
William A. Thomas

## Meet NDD's new MMPs



Pictured left to right are NDD's latest group of Manufacturing Management Program (MMP) members: Jeff Bush, foreman-final test and product certification; Jim Zyck, foreman-parts fabrication; Terry Oliver-process control engineer; Stan Gallagher, specialist-adv. material; Lynn Mayberry, mfg. operations engineer; and Dave Hall, industrial engineer. They are enrolled in a two-year program that requires each member to spend one year at a particular facility and perform two different six-month assignments at each location.

## PC Orientation Notice

An orientation meeting aimed at new or prospective users of IBM PC's will be held Friday, September 6 in General Conference Facility Room AB starting at 9:30 a.m. The first hour will consist of several short presentations covering hardware and software configurations and acquisition procedures, security, maintenance, training and PC support. At 10:30 a.m. there will be hands-on demonstrations of several software packages.

Anyone who has recently acquired an IBM PC or has started to use a new software package, or who is considering an IBM PC is urged to attend. PC consultants will be on hand to answer your questions.

## RETIREE *Continued from page one*

One of employee and community relation's own, Joe Yurchisin, will be leaving NDD for the last time today along with Shirley, Don, and Ellis. Joe is retiring from his position as manager - personnel relations after 17 years at NDD. Joe, who started his GE career in 1958, plans to make good use of the future with fishing, home repair, and adding to his history of World War II library. Also, Joe and his wife Alice are planning to travel in the near and far future to Ohio, Kentucky, Minnesota, Utah, England, Western Europe, and maybe Ireland in 1987.



Before Joe started packing his traveling suitcases, he did have this to say about GE benefits, 'I believe GE has an excellent retirement package especially for those who retire between 60 - 65. Changes in health care benefits in January, 1986, should further improve retirement benefits. Personally, the savings and security program will be a major source of my retirement income.'

## Holiday time card procedure

As mentioned in last week's HEADLINER and due to the holiday on September 2, 1985, cards should be turned in to the Personnel Accounting office by 10 a.m. on Friday, August 30, with an estimation of the employee's punch out time for Friday. In the event of an emergency, if the employee needs to leave the plant earlier or work overtime that Friday, managers/supervisors are requested to notify Personnel Accounting before noon on Tuesday, September 3, of any time card adjustments to facilitate payment and to assure adherence to Company Policy 20.10.

## People on the Move

### New hires to NDD:

Carolyn Bortler  
Maint./Cleaner

Security Inspectors:  
Staretha Canty  
Joe Nicolosi  
Joe Gannon  
Joe Hernandez  
Mike Mitcham

Mark Watson  
Spec.-Software & Techniques

Patricia Taylor  
Tech. Aide - Electronics

### NDDers accepting new positions:

Janet Ahearn  
Programmer Analyst

Robert Trepany  
Security Comp. System Manager

Gerry Krause  
Program Manager  
Neutron Gen. Component

JoAnn Skrupski  
Specialist - Computer Protection

Harry Silcox  
Specialist - Equipment Sftwre Design

Teryle Dunham  
Assembler/Chem. Cleaner

Arthur Clark  
Process Control Operator

Allen Flexon  
Maint./General (Elect.)

Irl Crook  
Maint./General (Elect.)

Ellen Borders  
R.C. Machine Operator

Richard Phaneuf  
Mech./Calibration Insp.

Calvin Bruce  
Support Operator

## Safety targets changes for NDD parking lots

In response to suggestions from employees, Paul Larmon, specialist - health and safety education, and Jim Wellman, specialist - employee and plant safety, took to the NDD parking lots recently to make observations concerning potential safety problems. Stricter adherence to the 15 mph speed limit, pedestrian safety, clearer marking of intersections, and better general traffic flow were cited as areas needing improvement. In an effort to reduce these potential safety problems, several actions will be taken over the coming weeks.

### Speed limit regulation - Speed humps

First, to keep vehicle speed down in the parking lots at critical points such as the

west lot and the front lobby area speed 'humps' will be installed. These are not the speed 'bumps' that most of us dislike. These 'humps' are engineered speed control devices that don't hinder the flow of traffic until the posted speed limit is exceeded, according to Paul.

Humps are essentially a long, low ramp 3 or 4 inches high originally designed and tested in California, which prove to be non-offensive to drivers as long as the speed of the vehicle does not exceed the speed limit, and are specially engineered for bicycles and motorcycles to pass over. Similar to the ones located on 102nd Street in Pinellas Park, results of using these according to Paul have been 'excellent and far better than expected say city officials.'

### Pedestrian safety

Pedestrian safety is also getting closer examination and several actions are being taken concerning this aspect of safety. Specifically, cross walks will be installed in the north parking lot in two locations between traffic lanes closest to the building and in the west lot as well. Dropping off or picking up people at the lobby door will be prohibited to eliminate traffic blockage. Designated pick up and loading zones in the north parking lot and near the lobby will be indicated by signs.

### Intersection markings

Intersections not clearly marked will soon have signs. Stop signs are scheduled to be erected at three locations around the parking lot at intersections turning from one lot to the other; such as from the north lot to the east lot and from the east lot into the front of the building.

### Traffic flow improvement

Finally, it was noted that the general traffic flow could be improved. In an effort to do this, there are two areas which will have a change. In the north lot, a left turn lane will facilitate movement to the pistol range area. Also, in the west lot signs will be



posted to establish the proper traffic flow in and from that lot.

Summing up Paul remarked 'In addition to adhering to these new

safety measures as they are implemented, an important thing to remember is to use common courtesy and exercise caution in NDD's parking lots, being particularly aware of pedestrians. It just makes good sense to use the same guidelines as you do in your daily travels to and from the plant.'

## GEEAA News

### Suitcase Party - Sept. 13

A chance for an exciting **ALL EXPENSE PAID** weekend for two in Las Vegas is near! This event proved to be very popular last year, particularly to the winning couple! This year's event will take place on Friday, September 13, at the Rusty Pelican, a short distance from the Tampa International Airport. Tickets for members and one guest will be \$8 each and go on sale, starting today and continuing September 3 and 6. Details of this event will be posted on GEEAA bulletin boards.

## GEEAA Board Nominations

The nominating committee of GEEAA is announcing that between now and October 22, interested persons may be recommended to the committee for consideration as a nominee for the Board of Directors. Three positions on the board will be filled during the election to be held November 18 - 22. If you have good ideas that you would like to see implemented through GEEAA, now is the time to get involved. Send the coupon below to Bill Waters.

**TO: Bill Waters, 023**

Please submit my name for GEEAA board nomination.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Badge No. \_\_\_\_\_

Ext. \_\_\_\_\_

## Personal Note

Sincere condolences to Lou Reinhardt upon the death of his wife, Marian. She perished in a plane crash in Alaska on Sunday, August 25. Arrangements are pending.

## GE SUMMER MIXED BOWLING LEAGUE

High scores for Tuesday, August 27, 1985.

### Men

Dave Ulm 679-255-233, Ray Ste. Marie 571-212, Herb Gregory 568, Richard Thompson 566, Nelson Caswell 555, Bill Williams 545, Dan Grimins 544, Pete Bortolin 542-209, Jim Wiley 531, Garlan Martz 514

### Women

Debbie Ulm 565-204-193, Joanne Westphal 490-176, Gert Hay 486-199, Jear Bower 455, Laura Puccinelli 454, Mary Harkins 451, Jean Joynes 179.

## Quarter Century Club Fall Event Reminder

Today is the last day to sign up for this club's Calypso Holiday scheduled for September 7 at the Isla Del Sol Island Club. If you've forgotten to turn in your coupon, call Bunny Trundley on extension 8079.

### SOMEONE'S IN THE KITCHEN AT MORRISONS

**MONDAY:** Labor Day - Closed -- Enjoy the long weekend;**TUESDAY:** Cream of potato soup, Breaded pork cutlet, Baked Macaroni & meat sauce, Grilled cheese, Whipped potatoes, Macaroni & cheese, French fried onion rings, Peas & carrots;**WEDNESDAY:** Chicken gumbo soup, Beef stroganoff w/buttered noodles, Baked fish w/lemon; Meatball sub, Whipped potatoes, Macaroni & cheese, Mixed vegetables, Field peas w/snaps;**THURSDAY:** Cream of broccoli soup, Swiss steak w/yellow rice, Baked chicken, Grilled Reuben, Whipped potatoes, Macaroni & cheese, Okra & tomatoes, Broccoli & cheese sauce;**FRIDAY:** Clam chowder, Fried fish fingers, Sweet & sour pork w/rice, Cheeseburger deluxe, French fries, Macaroni & cheese, Great northern beans, Sliced carrots.

1-Blueberry pancake w/syrup, 2-slices bacon, coffee.

ads

Ads to be submitted to communications programs by Monday at noon for publication that week.

### WANTED

WOODWORKING TOOLS; BAND SAW; JOINTER--786-3690.

BIRD CAGES--Cheap, Tampa 251-8311.

ROOMMATE--Near GE, \$225 plus 1/2 utilities, 391-8120.

WEEDEATER; HEDGE CLIPPERS--Cheap, 541-8021.

### FOR RENT

MADEIRA BEACH--2 Bdrm/1 bath, fireplace, washer/dryer, AC, 3 doors to beach, \$500/mo., 393-3731.

HOUSE--3 Bdrm/1-1/2 bath, w/atrium, fenced yard, \$550, 586-2022.

2 BDRM DUPLEX APT.--Largo, on lake, Palm Drive, 461-3076.

### FOR SALE

'72 VW--Ex. cond., \$1200, 576-3209.

8MM PROJECTOR--Needs bulb, make offer 526-9747.

4 UNIT APARTMENT--2 Bdrm/1 bath each, Largo, \$145,000, 581-5139.

RADIO SHACK POCKET COMPUTER--PC2, new, \$90, 595-0125.

FOOTBALL TICKETS--2 each, Florida vs. Rutgers, 9/14, 30 yard line, \$14 each, 392-2165.

2 BDRM/2-STORY TOWNHOUSE--\$4500 down, will finance, 530-1821.

SOFABED--\$100; BAR & STOOLS--\$150; GE WASHER--\$95; 536-4158.

'83 CHEVY--Silverado, w/fiberglass cap, 584-4335.

SEARS BUG LIGHT--50 watt, \$50, 535-7702.

DRUM SET--Tom snare, 2 toms, \$125; TROMBONE--\$95; 536-3394.

SINGER 920 SEWING MACHINE--Free arm, button holer, \$250, 392-1656.

'77 HONDA ACCORD--New paint, tires, \$1300, 578-1845.

BOAT ANCHORS--Assorted sizes, \$10 - \$12 each, 522-1829.

CHANDELIER--5 lamp, swag, 536-8502 after 4.

KINGSIZE WATERBED--Heater, headboard, storage, \$200, 546-3681.

BEDROOM SET--6 pieces, double, new, 321-9267.

GOLF BALLS--Slightly used, \$4/dozen, \$10/3 dozen, 585-1856.

MEN'S GOLF CLUBS--Woods, irons, wedge cover, bag, 384-4150.

5 ACRES--Citrus County, 360-8172.

APPLE MACINTOSH 512K--Printer, software, \$1950, 581-5940.

SCHWINN AIR PUMP--W/pressure gauge, \$16, 581-6812.

25 PC. METRIC INCH ALLEN WRENCH SET--New, \$6, 391-6537.

DROPLEAF HARVEST TABLE--Walnut finish, \$75, 796-3710.

21 FT PATHFINDER--Self-contained, sleeps 4, \$2000/OBO, 535-8020.

'77 SUBARU DL--1980 engine, 2 dr, 4 spd, \$1195/OBO, 586-2022.

MOTORCYCLE BATTERY--12N14-3A, new, \$10, 391-2949.

FREEZER--Upright, works good, \$100/OBO, 443-1808.

'83 ESCORT--Must sell, make offer, 581-3610.

10 FT ALUM. JON BOAT--\$100, 581-0123.

58 GAL. WATER HEATER--Cover and timer, all new, \$200, 884-5719.

'78 PLYMOUTH HORIZON--4 spd, AC, hatchback, gd cond., \$1150/OBO, 726-9221.

AQUARIUM AIR PUMPS--2, valves, stones, heater, \$35, 535-9028.

TIRE--155SR-13, never used, 786-3690.

SUPER SINGLE WATERBED--6-drawer pedestal, \$50, 576-3209.

2 BDRM/2 BATH HOUSE--Corner lot, new paint and roof, high asm. \$3000 down, 525-3747.

RUG--8 x 12', thick, sand color, \$125, 584-3052.