

SPARKS

Published Monthly
By

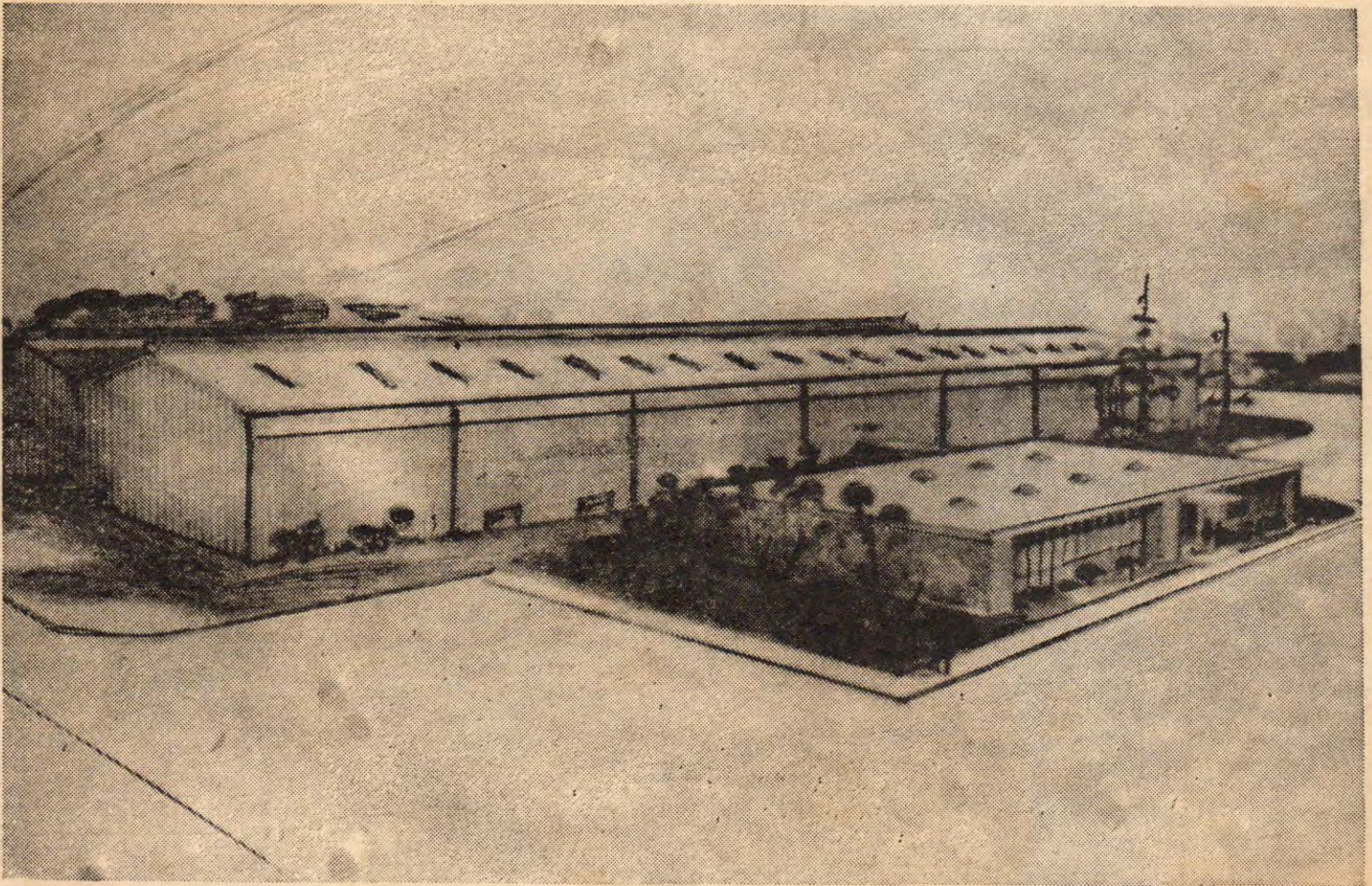
SPARKLER MANUFACTURING COMPANY

Conroe, Texas

VOL. 1

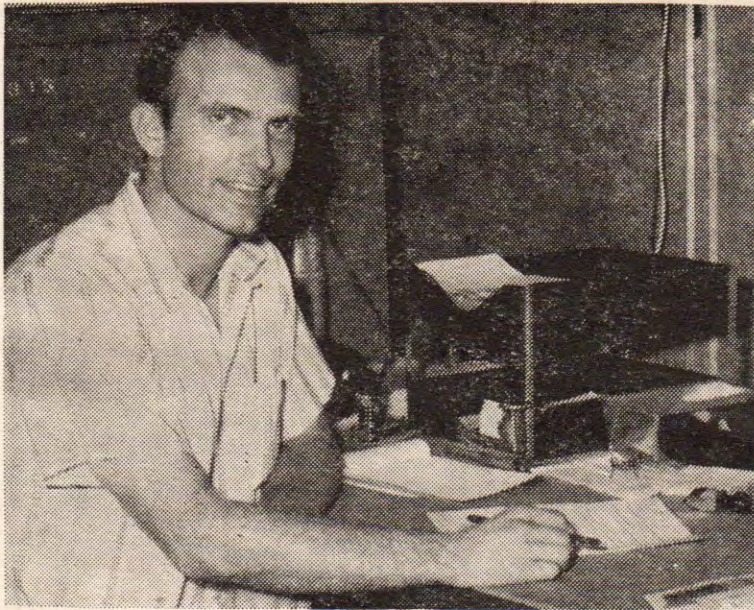
OCTOBER 6, 1960

CONROE, TEXAS



**FIRST
CONROE
EDITION**

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- *"It's Good to Be in America," By D. L. Paisley Page 6*



JAMES DUNKLIN

... Industrial Worker Of The Month

The "Left - Overs"

General Department News

Frank Passalaqua and Fred Kracklauer have both been away this past month on business trips. Frank was in Chicago, and Fred in the New York area.

News from "old Chicago". . . Fran W. is still holding down the fort, along with Eric Pederson and Jim Farmer. Eric has been on vacation the last couple of weeks. . . Fran and Jim decided not to take their vacations - Fran says she'll just take off one day a week for the next several weeks.

Frances Malak (Personnel) and her husband, along with three other couples are going deep sea fishing and will spend a gay week end in Galveston. . . Frances is sure she will be seasick, but that the fun in Galveston later will make up for it. . . see the next issue for full details!

Nellie Allen and her husband have been vacationing in Miami, Florida, but in her card she's convinced there's no place like Conroe.

Mrs. Westbrook took a trip last Saturday to see her first field of cotton. She went beyond Navasota

to Farm road No. 159, and down to the Brazos River bottom. She said it was really a beautiful sight, green fields of cotton as far as one could see, with the white blossoms on top of the plants. She also saw her first armadillo.

OVERHEARD:

One employee to another: "Do you have any news for the newspaper?"

"No," said the other. "I've been too busy."

"Well," said the first one,

"Something different must have happened,"

"Oh yes," said the other
"B. F. smiled yesterday."

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

James Reneau and John Pemberton started back to school at Sam Houston State. They enrolled on September 13, and started classes on the 20th. They will be going to classes on Tuesday and Thursday of each week.

BELIEVE IT OR NOT

Kellow I hear your bowling average is 200. How about that?

SHIPPING & RECEIVING

Sorry to hear Bill Pfannenstill wrecked his car on his vacation, but glad to hear no one was hurt.

A JOB WELL DONE

James Dunklin Named "Employee Of Month"

By SPARKY

It takes a lot of push to make the 'Man of the Month' at Sparkler, but James Dunklin, 27-year-old member of the Shipping and Receiving Department, did it and he deserves the honor.

Dunklin is married and is the proud papa of a 14-month-old son and he, with his lovely wife make their home at 100 South 7th Street here in the Miracle City.

James was really put through the 'mill' during the three weeks that Bill Phannenstill was on vacation. Although at times the bosses didn't think he would make it, he came through with flying colors and was chosen as "Man of the Month" at Sparkler for his fete.

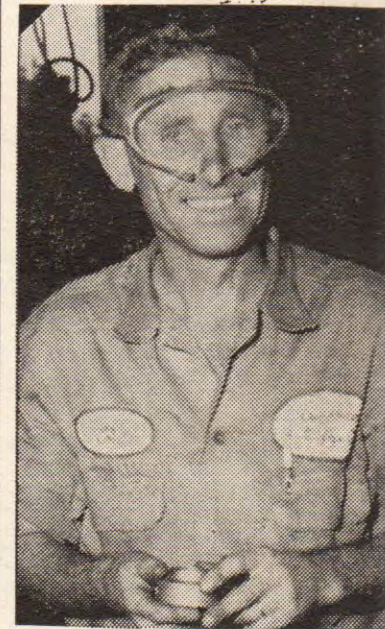
Dunklin attended Sam Houston State Teachers College and majored in government and sociology and minored in history and education. And, from this writers birds-

eye-viewpoint, he received more than an education to be chosen the first "Man of the Month" here at Sparkler.

John's hobby is fishing and hunting and he seems to find time to do a bit of this throughout the year.

Sparks is proud to honor this industrial worker in this manner.

Next month we will choose another fine worker and his picture and story will be published in this magazine.



Maintenance Control Department

MATERIAL CONTROL DEPARTMENT

Norma Brannon

Marion Whiteside enjoyed himself very much at a wedding he attended in Kentucky. He came back full of Red Eye Gravy and Beaten Biscuits. Are you sure, Marion, there wasn't some Moonshine too?

Don't let anyone tell you different. Harold Loefer didn't go home to see any of his old girl friends. He was homesick to see his collie dog.

EMBARASSING MOMENTS:

Norma Brannon had a little trouble understanding this Texas drawl. She called the train depot to see about some luggage when she first came down here. The deep slow Texas drawl confused her so, she had to hang up and have the Personnel Secretary call back and find out what it was all about.

NOT A SKIN DIVER — No, Sir, Julius D. Pate had just been grinding away in his department when the photographer caught this pleasing, but natural pose.

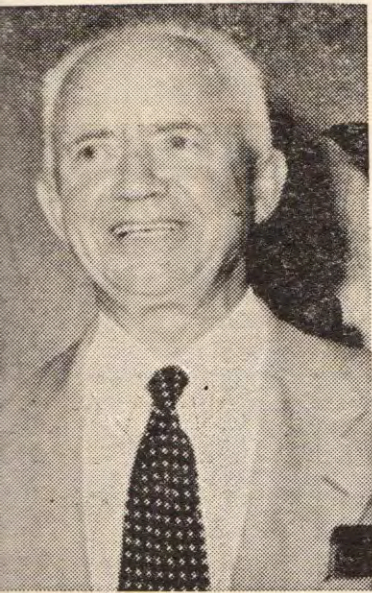
FOR SALE

1958 Chevrolet ¾ ton pick-up. Good condition, with heater. Price \$950.00 Contact A. B. Parker.

2-½ Horse Wizard outboard motor. Price \$25.00. Contact Otis Robertson.

1952 ¾ ton pick-up truck. Price \$250.00. Contact Lloyd Allen.

The President Reports



Dear Sparkies:

It is indeed very gratifying for me that we again are publishing our "Sparks". Those of us who remember "Sparks" of days gone by vividly recall the keen interest with which we always awaited the next issue. And, for the information of all you newcomers, please remember that everybody contributes to "Sparks". Here's your chance to brag about the "big one" you caught, or about that best looking baby in the world that your wife just delivered, or your million dollar winnings last night with that royal flush. Of course, it's also your chance to rib the guy working next to you a little bit if he shoots a 98 on the golf course or if he feeds the baby the wrong bottle.

I'd like to take this occasion to

congratulate our Texas Sparkler family on the fine team work that they are displaying.

First of all, winning the Championship of the Soft Ball League certainly shows that we have ability and that we do work together.

Second, having the greatest number of blood donors of any group in Montgomery County surely is very concrete evidence of the appreciation and consideration of our brothers that we have in our hearts. It makes you proud to be associated with men and women like that.

Third, our production records and the quality workmanship indicates a definitely genuine spirit of cooperation in our organization.

I just want to assure all of you that these things do not go un-

noticed; and I know I speak for all of management. Moving a big plant like ours was no small task. I need hardly tell you that it set us back in production and, consequently, financially terrifically. But with such a spirit of cooperation, we're bound to succeed - in fact, we're on the road.

One more personal note - I want you all to know, that even though I may appear to be rather busy at times, please remember that I am never too busy to talk to any one of my employees. As I'm walking through the shop, don't hesitate to stop and chat. If the "Old Lady" is giving you trouble at-home, I can't guarantee you the solution - but I can sympathize with you.

Be seeing you!

A. C. Kracklauer
President

THE COVER

The cover on the First Edition of "Sparks" is a view of the magnificent new Sparkler Manufacturing Company plant and office. Located in beautiful and wooded Conroe, Texas, less than an hours drive to Houston, Texas.

The buildings, on a plot of 16 acres, were completed in April of 1960, at a cost of over \$350,000.00. Total area of plant is 49,440 square feet and office is 9,800 square feet.

Management has spared no expense to provide the best facilities and equipment to manufacture the highest quality Filters at the most economical price.

Officers Of SPARKLER

The well planned Sparkler Manufacturing Company's plant was erected by a Business Trust established through the Industrial Committee of the Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce. This Business Trust, who put up the money to erect the \$350,000 building, is made up of businessmen of Conroe and Montgomery County.

The officers of Sparkler Manufacturing Company are: A. C. Kracklauer, president; Frank Passalacqua, executive vice-president and Thomas B. Downes, vice-president and treasurer.



PRESIDENT KRACKLAUER SNIPS RIBBON — On Friday, August 12, the Conroe Sparkler plant was officially opened at an elaborate ceremony with the president of the Company 'snipping' the ribbon to officially open the beautiful building. Pictured with Mr. Kracklauer at this momentous occasion are the Honorable Robert W. Calvert, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of Texas, Mrs. Kracklauer and daughter, Mary Rose.

For Those Who Have Asked Bloodmobile Facts And Figures

There is never any charge for the Blood in Montgomery County Hospitals. Any charges made are strictly professional hospital administrative charges, which the Bloodmobile has no control over. The blood is absolutely free. If the blood had to be bought it would cost about \$40.00 per pint as this is the average cost across the United States.

Montgomery County Citizens are eligible for free blood — proof of residence is all that is required. Should they enter an out of county hospital, and require blood, they should immediately notify the Hospital Authorities that Montgomery

County Bloodmobile will replace the blood. Then contact the Red Cross in Montgomery County. Under no circumstances should they get friends and relatives to replace blood direct to the out-of-county hospital blood bank. We have agreements with most of them to replace on a pint for pint basis. They require the patient to replace on a 2 for 1, or a 3 for 1 basis.

The fees listed below are the only charges for blood in the hospital. This is strictly a hospital administrative charge for the transfusion, and not for the blood itself. As stated above an additional \$40.00 would be added to this for

each pint used if they did charge for the blood, which they do not.

Montgomery County Hospital
Hospital charge for Blood Transfusion of blood from Bloodmobile.

1ST PINT:
Typing of blood \$ 5.00
Cross matching 5.00
Transfusion 8.00

Total \$18.00

EACH SUCCEEDING PINT:
Cross matching \$ 5.00
Transfusion 8.00

Total \$13.00

Hospital charge for direct transfusion from Walk-In Donors.

1ST PINT:

Typing (both donor and recipient) \$10.00
Cross matching 5.00
Seriology (test for communicable diseases) 5.00
Transfusion 7.50

Total \$27.50

EACH SUCCEEDING PINT:

Typing (new donor only — patient already typed) \$ 5.00
Cross matching 5.00
Seriology 5.00
Transfusion 7.50

Total \$22.50



DEPARTMENT OF THE MONTH — The above ten members of the machinist section of Sparkler were chosen by the photographer to pose for the above picture. After looking at the heavy machinery and the skillful work these men perform in the 'back-shop' it is only right that this department be the first

"DEPARTMENT OF THE MONTH" in Sparks. Keep up the good work, men. Front row, left to right: Percy Cornish, Bobby Hickman, Charles Walker, Charles Freida, Lester Duval and Norman Akins, foreman. Back row, left to right, Lawrence Schuenemann, Carl Cude, Brownie Fenley and Tommy Tidwell.

Industrial Sales Department

our friend with a thousand decided to carry her Sparkler home. We will all miss her but since we feel her cause is a worthy one, we'll just try to go along on our own humor.

Our newest addition to the office staff comes in the form of Mary Cox who will soon be assuming the duties of secretary to Mr. Cooper. We know she is a real asset to the Industrial Sales Department in particular and to Sparkler in general.

After a week of lounging around the house with a typhus or typhoid fever as his honor guest, Mr. Cooper decided to join the ranks. Welcome back and we hope the law of averages goes back to effect soon before you decide it is not safe for you.

News From The Accounting Department

The accounting department is a little short of news this month. Seems we all lead a pretty dull life.

G. R. Grisham and his Father-in-law (so he says) went to the University of Houston and Old 36 game Saturday night. G. R. seems a little too pleased with the 42 to 0 score.

George Jones was very fortunate this week-end. He had his in-laws here all week-end. Not only that, but he beat his father-in-law pretty good playing golf. This is not only the accepted procedure for friendly relations with your father-in-law.

Mary Jo and Wade Adams spent the day in Houston looking at the homes. They are hoping to buy one before long.

NOTE FROM GEORGE:

Ma Williams is still eating anything in sight. She has been eliminated by Shipley's Donut as the Tapeworm of 1960.

OCTOBER 6, 1960



Some of Sparkler's "Look To The Future" employees have organized a Flying Club for their off time enjoyment. And it looks as if this is something that could start as a hobby and turn into a really valuable personal asset. Some of the members already have their Private License and have been flying for some time. While others like myself have always been too lazy to even fly a kite.

Plans have been made to buy a small plane in which they will take their initial training and add hours to the already licensed pilots log. These members who have already obtained their license are going to assist in training the

fledglings. This is a real opportunity for any one, who has an interest in flying along these lines, to learn to fly and associate with some good people very inexpensively.

After the club has been set up on an operating basis new members, both pilots and people interested in learning, are going to be considered. Any one who has an interest in learning to fly and getting their license should contact this writer. The Original Charter has been made up on the basis of fifteen members and new memberships are to be considered and accepted on the "Democratic System".

Joe Clifton



NOT RIDING A BRONC—Itoliver Kellow is not riding a 'bronc' at the Huntsville Prison Rodeo, but is sitting astride one of the large filters made here at Sparkler. It looks like Kellow has the job well in hand.

SPARKS

Congratulation Department

STOCK NO. 1

Norman Crow is the father of a 5 lb. 10 oz. baby boy. They named him Norman Allen Crow, Jr. The baby is 18" long.

Art William Sanders is expecting a new addition to the family any day now. They are hoping for a girl, but I'll bet it is a boy.

The way things look, Sparkler won't have to worry about its future employees, with all the new babies born to the employees. That's Texas though, every thing is done in a big way.

The Lathe and Welding Departments would like to see Delbert L. Giddens, and Roy G. Cook return to work. They like to wish them a speedy recovery, because there is a lot of filters to be built.

I hear Roger Shandley and some of his friends came home with eighteen flounders this week-end.

Now here's something. Bob Anderson took his 2 month old baby for a plane ride September 11. The rest of the family (his wife, and his two children, one 6 years old and one 4 years old) were in on it too.

Some people only take a baby for an auto ride, or just a plain old rocking chair - but not Bob. What's next — A ride on the Hook & Ladder fire truck?



Materiel

If everybody would look at Pete Hill's arm, they would think twice before smoking in bed. Just ask Pete what he thinks about the idea.



ASSEMBLY DEPARTMENT:

J. D. Pate you better watch those grinding wheels. I hear they are pretty hard on the head. (Plate Dept.)

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Departments In Action Personnel

A salute to all that joined in to lead Sparkler to another Victory in the recent "Industries Blood donor drive."

Sparkler had a total of 46 pints donated with 8 employee's rejected making a total of 54 employees attempting to donate blood to this worthy cause.

Some of you might have read in the Conroe Courier about the final outcome, but if you didn't the next industry closest to Sparkler was the Conroe Creosoting Plant.

They had a total of 41 pints given with 13 rejections making a grand total of 54 of their employee's attempting to donate blood.

They tied Sparkler on the number attempting, but we won on actual pints given. This must mean that our employees are healthier, which in itself is another Moral Victory at least.

It seems as though ole Bill Pfannenstill's coming to Texas proved to be very successful in the way of being a bachelor.

He had been in Conroe for only a short while until he caught himself a fine lassie.

Bill's honeymoon was a very happy one, however, it almost ended in a tragedy. Just on the other side of Memphis he had to take a 20 ft. ditch in order to avoid a head on collision, but luckily neither he nor his bride were injured. He managed to get a windshield for his badly beaten 1956 chevrolet station wagon, and then headed back toward Conroe to begin their happy life. There was only one thing broken and it was a dust mop handle. Bill said he thought a piece of luggage fell on it, but actually I think his wife hit him over the head with it.

Well Bill that's only the beginning of a happy marriage. Good Luck.

General News

Everybody wants to know what terrible shock Anna Barton had over the week-end a while back - turned her hair completely gray! Maybe it was because she found out Tommy was taking Joan B. bowling.

Donna Mizell has been in several times since she "retired" - bet she'd like to go back to work. We were all glad to see Sue Nichols in last week - and looking like a million. Glad she's feeling better.



"Boss, would you mind repeating the paragraph that comes right after 'Dear Sir, and just before 'Sincerely yours'?"

FAR EAST EXPERIENCE ... By Douglas A. Paisley

"It's Good To Be In America"

EXPORT DEPARTMENT
HONG KONG
By DOUGLAS A. PAISLEY

I have been asked to make some contribution to this publication, the reason being that some of you might be interested in some of my experiences while living in the Far East. It is true that both my family and I did have some interesting experiences and I might add a few anxious moments during the ever changing political situation in that part of the world. However, I think of most interest to you might be the reactions which we shared after being away for three years and returning to the United States.

First of all, let me say that although I traveled the Far East extensively during this period, my wife and three children remained in Hong Kong during the entire time. Hong Kong has only a total area of 351 square miles and about 25 percent of this area is surrounding islands and water, therefore, for some one living there continuously over a period of time, it would not be too uncommon to adopt somewhat of a Lilliputian attitude.

In Hong Kong, we could drive the approximate perimeter of the colony in about two and one-half hours. Of course, we always found this very confining, to say the least. With this in mind, then you would not be too surprised to learn that we were somewhat amazed and awed at the wide expansive highways, countless cars traveling at what to us was very high speed.

Our first night in the U. S. was spent in Seattle, Washington. On checking into the hotel there, the first question the children asked was whether or not it was alright to drink the water straight from the tap. In Hong Kong, all water had to be boiled. My son, Skipper, entertained himself very nicely for the first half hour by doing nothing but watching the water run from the tap and remarking from time to time, "Look at all that water". Here again, let me explain that for about eleven months of the year we were on a very strict water rationing program, sometimes only having water for two hours a day.

Our next stop was Los Angeles which I believe was about five

hours flying time from Seattle. During this flight and about every half hour, our five year old, Jackie, would continually ask if we were still in America. It seemed incomprehensible to her that America could be so large after living most of her life in the confines of Hong Kong.

Once again, for lunch that day we had no difficulty at all in deciding what our menu would be, you might have guessed it, we had hot dogs with plenty of mustard and relish.

My wife and Kathy, our sixteen year old, made their first visit to a super market in three years while in L. A. I have it on good authority that they acted like a couple of "hicks" on their first visit to the big city. I am still suffering with indigestion as a result of that first visit hey made.

We have all learned a very important lesson from our sojourn overseas. One which I am sure will remain with us for all of our lives. I think Skipper summed it up very nicely for all of the Paisley family, shortly after our arrival, "It sure is good to live in America". AMEN

BOWLING

The Bowlers at Sparkler Manufacturing Company are off and running and here is a run-down on the teams.

Sparkler Team No. 1 and No. 2 bowl in the Classic League each Thursday night.

The League rules allow for the winning of a maximum of three points; one point to the winner of each of the three games.

Sparkler No. 2 team is spilling out the pins in good fashion, according to the latest dope from the beautiful new Edgewood Bowl Center.

Team No. 1 of Sparkler is starting out a bit slow, but they are expected to pick up the pace before long. They have won three games while losing six.

We feel sure that the teams and bowlers from Sparkler will help decorate the reception room here with a trophy or two before the season ends.

A new bowling broadcast program has been set up by Radio Station KMCO of Conroe and the games will be aired each first and fourth Sundays from 3:30 to 4 p.m.

Featured on the program will be the top ten bowlers in Conroe. Grossinger of Sparkler is currently leading the group with a healthy 193 average.

So, the bowling picture looks rather bright for Sparkler and they hope to make big news before the seasons gets much further along.

Here are the players; Girls team from Sparkler: Mary Cox, Luella Benson, Mary Carrol, Jo Ann Burkhart and Martha Baines; Team No. 1 - office men - Charles Space, John Gilson, Joe Clifton, Fred Kracklauer, Lou Grossinger and Clyde Letbetter. Team No. 2-shop men - Earl Roder, Cliff Faulkner, Stan Degner, Lloyd Allen and Art Sanders.

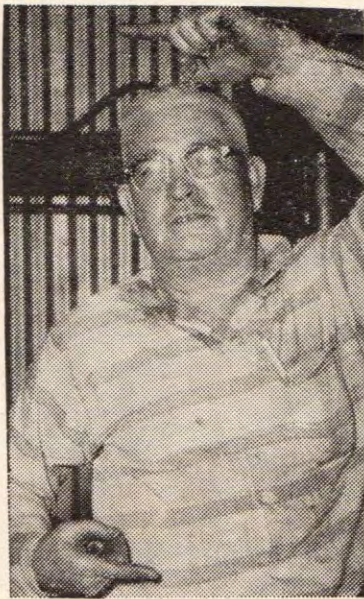
JERRY HATTOX RETURNS FROM CALIFORNIA ADMINISTRATIVE SALES

Jerry Hattox of the Administrative Sales Department had just returned from 2 weeks training with the 6th Infantry Battalion US-MCR, of Houston, Texas at Camp Pendleton, California. Jerry who is Drum Major and NCO in charge of the band for the 6th spent his two weeks marching and playing in the band. While in California, he made a weekend trip up to the coast sightseeing with a side trip to Disneyland.

SPORTS

CHECK WITH 'OLE DINK'

Best Fish Catch Of The Month



WELL, IT WAS ABOUT THIS BIG—Johnny (Dink) Johnson, who is known hereabouts as a great angler, is shown measuring out the fish (or should we say, his version) he reportedly nabbed recently.

BEST CATCH OF THE MONTH

Any fisherman needing to know where the fish are biting, should check with "Dink" Johnson in the Testing Department.

"Dink" and his wife spent a day at Lake Houston reeling in the fish. They caught about 20 Bass and white Perch, all ranging from 1 lb. to 2½-lbs.

Mrs. Johnson ended up with a pretty good Sun Tan that might indicate that she did most of the fishing and old "Dink" is trying to take the credit for them.

On the second thought the fisherman might check with Mrs. Johnson instead of "Dink" for these fishing Tips because after analyzing the facts—Old "Dink's" story does sound a little fishy.

SPORTS

Cliff Faulkner better get going on his bowling - been costing him money - consequently everyone in assembly has to keep him supplied with cigarettes, pop and etc. Hope he gets a good nite one of these times.

For Sale, Trade, Maybe Buy

1 Acre of land in or out of City Limits. Howard Duffy. WOULD LIKE TO TRADE

Small wheel boat trailer for Utility Trailer. Contact Jimmy Reneau (Tool & Die Dept.)

BELIEVE IT OR NOT

Lloyd Allen sent his son out to feed the hogs. His son comes running back in crying that he had killed a Rattle Snake. Lloyd picks up his knife, and goes out to cut the Rattles off the snake. But the next morning he goes back out to the hog pen, and finds the dead snake his son had killed with its Rattles still on the snake. The question is where did he get the rattles?

FOR SALE

30-30 Winchester - Mod. 94, almost new \$40.00 - Contact T. R. Tidwell (Lathe Dept.) 705 S. 1st. Street.

For those of you who are interested or taking an interest in Coon Dogs. Every month, the last Sunday Field trials and tournaments are held 2 miles North of Spring on Hwy. 75. Advertised by Kastro Dog Food - No Admission.

Contests consists of "Coon on a log" - "Coon in a Hole" and racing. See George May in Assembly for more information.

1955 Farmall - B Tractor. Contact Cliff Faulkner.

SOFTBALL N-O-T-E-S

THE "SPARKLER" SOFTBALL TEAM

The Sparkler softball team was honored with a Bar-B-Que after their Victory in winning the Indian Reservation invitational tournament.

The Bar-B-Que was held at the picnic grounds at Spring Lake. Bar-B-Que chicken, ribs, and sausage along with all the trimmings and refreshments were served.

This marked the end of the 1960 softball season at Sparkler and everyone joins in to congratulate the team on a successful season especially since this was their first season to work together.

The trophy that was captured by the team in the Tournament is now on display in the reception room and I might say that it is quite decorative to all concerned.

PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT

Dinner For The Dogs, Says Akin

Norman Akins was telling me he went over to Al Jacobs house Saturday, and Al was preparing two Armadillos he had killed for dinner. Al, very proud and locking forward to an Armadillo dinner cut into one of them and could hardly get his knife to scar the Armadillo, findly after sawing and hacking awhile he threw them out to the dogs. I guess you could say that was one dinner for the dogs.

Green Thumb Department

After seeing the colored slides of the flowers and lawn of Harold Loefer's home in Illinois, it's quite apparent Harold has a green thumb.

Hey, don't be alarmed, that's not the air conditioner burning up. It's only the (fragrant aroma?) of Lou Grossinger and Hubert Boulware's cigars.

After an exhausting, thorough inventory, Jackie Brannon has discovered that there is only one nut left in Stock 1. Maybe you'd better varify this, John B.

The Road Of Progress Is Always Open

"MAYBE - I'M WRONG?"

For Conroe, it was a bitter cold, rainy night. He was working in the yard trying to complete a roadway so trucks could deliver the material being moved from the old plant to the new plant. His boss was mad as a wet hen because the rain kept washing out the roadway.

He was new on the job . . . anxious to get ahead. He kept thinking about the washed out roadway. Then an idea came to him. He would cut drains to eliminate the free water and then run a roller over the roadway to press out as much water as possible.

It was a mean job, but he stuck to it. The rain came down hard and soon he was soaking wet. It was cold, there was a biting wind and it took most of the night to get the job done.

The boss was so surprised and pleased that he began to take a real interest in him. Anybody who was willing enough to stick to the job half-frozen had the right stuff in him. So he promoted him to a much better job in the plant.

That young man had stepped

forward. . . had picked up his feet and put them on the long road to success. He had done a fine job. . . but only because he had been a

willing person. He was to be promoted even higher at a later date.

Willingness gives you ideas for success and success never hit

anybody all at once. It starts with being willing in small things. Willing to take responsibility — willing to do our share and more. . . without looking for immediate rewards.

"The aim of everyone should be to do something beyond his regular duties" said Andrew Carnegie. Being willing always opens up more things to do. . . more ways of attracting success.

The road of progress is always open. . . but some people are just not ready to take a few extra steps to get up on to it.

There's plenty of room on the one way road to success. . . and willingness marks it all along the way.

If you don't believe this, you're looking in the wrong direction! This willing young man is making a success of his position at Sparkler.

—Bernie Johnson



BERNIE JOHNSON
 . . . General Manager Of Sparkler

Water Department Notes

Ellis Udwin Has Very Interesting Background

We in Water Department are very proud of our editorial for the first edition of the Sparkler paper. We are very fortunate in having a new addition to our department, Mr. Ellis Udwin of Johannesburg, South Africa, who has a very interesting background and we would like to give you a brief outline of his life and activities before moving to the United States.

Ellis was born in Johannesburg, South Africa and attended all his school years there also. In 1942, he joined the Union Defense Force and served with the 6th S. A. Armored Division in Italy; first under the British 8th Army and later with the American 5th Army. After the war, he returned to South Africa and attended Witwatersrand University.

He has always worked in the Waterworks field. First with Rand Water Board in Johannesburg, then moving to London for further experience with Candy Filter

Company which is a major British water treatment firm. Later, was employed with a Turbine Manufacture in Bedford, England for two years. For some years, Ellis and family lived on a Mushroom Farm just outside Johannesburg where he was Engineer and Manager and later joined the Water Department of Dowson and Dobson Ltd. For three years he handled most of Sparkler's contracts and plants in South Africa as well as handling waterworks' contracts for other principles.

Ellis had very interesting hobbies, among those being camping, swimming and shooting. His main hobby being flying and gliding, having success in team events in National Gliding Competitions two years running.

The Udwin family spent most of their vacations swimming at the seaside at Durban or visiting the Game Preserves throughout the country.

Sailing for the United States on July 15th, 1960 was a new adventure for the Udwin family but they enjoyed every minute of it. They arrived in Conroe on August 9th and it had been a wonderful trip for all. Of course some of our modern things were new to them such as our TV's but they took to them immediately especially the children.

He and his wife, Gene, also from Johannesburg, make their home in the Masdon Apartments, corner of 3rd and Pauline streets here in Conroe. They have two children, the oldest Victor who is 7 years old being born in England, and Alan who is 6 years old being born in South Africa. They are both attending Hulon N. Anderson Grade School here in Conroe.

We are very proud to have the Udwin family join us and wish them the best of luck in their new home here in Conroe, Texas.

Melba Chestnut and JoAnn Burkhardt Reporters

Tom Buttera In L.A. Showing New Sparkler Filter

Water Department

A familiar face has been missing around the Water Department and we have discovered that it is Mr. Tom Buttera, who has taken a business trip to Los Angeles, California to attend the A. I. P. E. Convention.

This convention was held September 11th through September 15th in the Lafayette Hotel in Long Beach. Tom exhibited the New VV Model Sparkler Filter in the show which proved very successful, as well as distributed literature on our other models. We wish him much success in this trip and are happy to have him back in the office after a two weeks absence.