VOL. IX. NO. 7 **JULY, 1987**

P.O. BOX 3041

SARASOTA, FLORIDA 33578

LARGEST MONTH EVER

SYSTEMS INC. FAIRCHILD WESTON Schlumberger

TELEMETRY SETS NEW HIGH FOR ORDERS DURING JULY

July was a record orders month for Telemetry systems and products, with over \$9,000,000 in orders booked this month. The Telemetry product line's largest single order in July was for a Telemetry Data Handling System for White Sands Missile Range, valued at \$5.3 million.

Other significant orders included a \$1.2 million system for PRC Kentron, to be used on Kwajalein Atoll' a fourth system for Navy Dahlgren; three Model 8385 systems for Boeing in support of Air Force One; and a significant quantity of MUX/DEMUX products for Edwards Air Force Base.

JUNE TRIVIA GAME WINNER

JEAN MAZZA is our latest Trivia Korner winner. Jean correctly answered all the questions in our June Trivia quiz. For the answers to last month's quiz, please check the Trivia Korner insert enclosed with this issue of PULSE.

And don't forget to enter the July contest. You could be the next winner!



Jean Mazza (left) accepts her prize -- a \$50 U.S. Savings Bond - - from Dot Berner and Elaine Ellis. Dot and Elaine are members of the 30 Years in Sarasota Internal Committee, helping us celebrate 30 years of progress in Sarasota.

BULLETIN

MAJOR TELEMETRY SYSTEM ORDERED BY WHITE SANDS

An order was received on July 24 for a large telemetry system for White Sands Missile Range, N.M. The contract is valued at over \$5.3 million. Our proposal for this major system was submitted in May, 1986, and the definition and procurement phases of the job have been underway for six years.

This system, designated as a Telemetry Data Handling System (TDHS), is a large stand-alone system providing functions of data distribution, decommutation, processing and display of telemetry data received from the WSMR Telemetry Acquisition and Relay System. The TDHS includes the first order for the new EMR 8715 Telemetry Preprocessor, and is the first EMR system to be based around a Concurrent Computing Corporation computer (formerly Perkin Elmer). TDHS is expected to support a variety of military programs. The basic contract includes one complete system, with the possibility of adding a second complete system in the future.

CREDIT UNION ANNOUNCES 6% DIVIDEND ON SAVINGS

Credit Union savers received a 6% (Annual Percentage Rate) dividend for the second quarter of 1987. The Fairchild Sarasota Credit Union Board of Directors voted the dividend payable June 30, 1987, on members shares.

The total dividends paid this year so far is \$21,622. Stop in at the Credit Union office, or call Ext. 5535, if you would like more information about Credit Union membership.

SHARE YOUR VACATION FUN

Going on vacation? Share the fun with your fellow employees through PULSE! San Francisco, Napa Valley and visiting some of the wineries are "in" this season...and a number of employees have scheduled European trips. If you want to share your vacation news with us, just call Ext. 5401, or drop a note to PULSE, Mail Stop 11. We'd like to hear about it.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER M/F/H/V

A HUGE SUCCESS!

TWO CIRCLES COOPERATE IN A JOINT PROJECT

Members of two Employee Involvement Teams joined forces to tackle a growing problem in Manufacturing during the first half of 1987 and achieved a "huge success."

The two Circles approached the problem of rework. Members of the P.C. Chargers (Printed Wiring Assembly area) and Warehouse Wizzards (Stockroom, Receiving and Shipping) set their goal of reducing rework by 10% in six months.

Members from each Circle gathered data on the amount of rework and the causes for the rework. In Printed Wiring Assembly the rework was detected by the number of failures on the Marconi board tester. Rick Karow generated a weekly report explaining the failures and causes. In the Stockroom rework consists of the amount of parts returned to stock.

The two Teams exchanged roles. The P.C. Chargers were invited into the Stockroom and each member took a turn at picking parts for P.W. Assembly. The Warehouse Wizzards got a tour of the Wave Solder and post—wave areas, and they also participated in a Ragen machine demonstration.

Performing each other's job was an eye—opener. Each Team reported on the operation of the other and the difficulty of the tasks.

During data analysis, members of management were asked for input and suggestions. In some cases, specific rework problems were solved by very simple internal changes in work procedure.

Overall, the rework reports indicated 34% failures in January; 22% failures in February, and 18% failures in March. During April, May and June, the Marconi rework report shows fluctuation of 18% to 16% failures.

The Team members attribute much of the improvement to awareness and communication between the Departments. This project was called a huge success, thanks to the joint efforts of the P.C. Chargers, Warehouse Wizzards, and Operations management.

P.C. CHARGERS Circle members who were involved in this project are: Dorothy Berner, Marianna Campbell, Cheryl Carter, Evelyn Christian (Leader), Regina Devine, Beverly Gill, Elizabeth Horton, Pearl Jennings, Monica Laskowsky, Hillary Norfleet, and Josefina Nunez.

WAREHOUSE WIZZARD Team members are: Barbara Bailey, Bernie Cori (Leader), Alan Dyer, John Elliott (Co-Leader), Harriett Fincher, Mike Heaton, Gary Mills, and Mike Rosenthal.

Facilitator Phil Ingram helped the two Teams with this joint effort.



P.C. CHARGERS — seated, Marianna Campbell, Monica Laskowsky, Josefina Nunez. Second row: Dorothy Berner, Elizabeth Horton, Beverly Gill, Evelyn Christian, Regina Devine. Third row: Hillary Norfleet, Pearl Jennings, Cheryl Carter.



WAREHOUSE WIZZARDS——Bernie Cori, Mike Rosenthal, Barbara Bailey, Alan Dyer, John Elliott, Mike Heaton, Harriett Fincher, and Gary Mills.

DEBBIE GRAHAM ADDRESSES GROUP

Occupational Health Nurse Debbie Graham was guest speaker at the Sarasota Loss Control Forum on July 22. She spoke on Managing Worker's Compensation Claims and cost containment. The organization includes local business people who have responsibility for employee health and safety, and provides educational information for members.



Safety awareness and safe practices are your best bet to avoid painful injury. Accidents hurt. Be careful, and be safe!

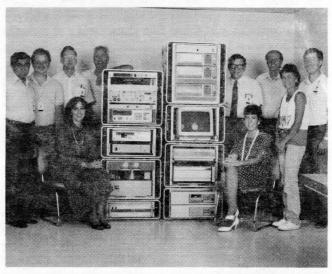
THREE T/C SYSTEMS DELIVERED TO NAVY; NEW SYSTEM ORDERED

Three telemetry–computer systems ordered by the Naval Surface Weapons Center, Dahlgren Labs, Va., have been delivered, and an order for a fourth similar T/C system has been received in July. The contract for the first three sytems was valued at \$1.6 million. The newest add—on order is valued at over \$600,000.

The Data Systems Division provided the Navy with these portable T/C systems for land-based and shipboard testing of the U.S. Navy's new standard missiles. Each system was constructed as 11 weatherproof packages, relatively small and light-weight. When used aboard ship, the Navy can latch them together to make two six-foot stacks, and interconnect them for operation.

Each system consists of some 8000—Series PCM equipment, a new unit called the EMR 725 PAM Synchronizer, and a MicroVAX II subsystem similar to the EMR 8385 Display Station, along with a Model 80 Tape Recorder, plus some purchased equipment. Program Manager for this contract was Bill Anderson, with Bharat Parkhani as Project Engineer, System Technician Gary Snyder, John Belt (R&D); Software Team members Kevin Lewis, Rhonda Payton and Mona Carter; in—house training by Vince Supple, Margarida Karahalios, and Roy Gibson; with Steve Vickers and Rhonda Payton conducting acceptance testing at the Navy sites. Rosemary Williams was Contract Administrator.

"As usual, there were many contributing employees and departments throughout the plant, and we owe them all a vote of thanks for their cooperation," Program Manager Bill Anderson said.



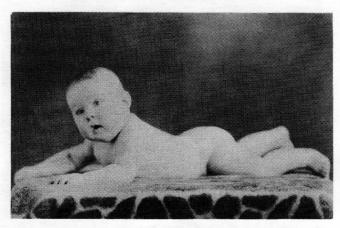
Pictured with one of three U.S. Navy—Dahlgren Labs systems shipped recently are some of the team members: Bharat Parkhani, Mark Hanigan, John Belt, Gary Snyder; seated, Sue Nurczyk, Rosemary Williams; standing at right, Jud Strock, Bill Anderson, B.J. Matthews, and Victor Powell.

YOU MUST HAVE BEEN A BEAUTIFUL BABY ...

And you can prove it by sending in your baby picture for our Baby Picture Contest by August 14. The contest is being organized by the Internal Committee of our 30 Years in Sarasota celebration. Here's how you can enter:

Employees may submit a baby picture (infant to 10 years of age). The photos will be displayed in the Cafeteria from August 24 through September 11.

To enter the contest, employees will match the baby photo to the correct employee badge picture. Employees with the greatest number of correct match—ups will be eligible for a first or second prize. In case of multiple winners, the tie will



be broken by drawing the two winning entries for the prizes.

Please submit your photo to Cindy Mathews, Personnel, Mail Stop 11, BY AUGUST 14. Be sure to write your name, cost center, and phone extension on the back of your baby picture.

If you have questions, please consult with one of the Committee members: Ron Basham, Dot Berner, Elaine Ellis, Freddie Masse, and Carol Waters.

MILEHAM PASSES EIT EXAM

Carlos Mileham, of Telemetry Product Development, has been notified that he has successfully passed the eight-hour Engineer in Training exam he took in Orlando this spring. This intensive exam is one step in the process leading to Licensed Professional Engineer status.

To attain the status of Licensed Professional Engineer, candidates must first pass the Engineer in Training exam, then must complete a specified number of years of practical experience in the Engineering field, and then must pass another eight—hour exam. Licensed Professional Engineers at Data Systems Division include Mike Eisenbise, Bill Hardman, Graham Hildebrand, Joe Lehmann, Richard Painter, Hal Roberts and Bill Waggener, Sr.

THREE EMPLOYEES HELP SKI-A-REES WIN FIRST PLACE

Beth Putnam, John Traxler and Chuck Warren are active members of the local water skiing group called the Ski–A–Rees. The Sarasota club took their new theme show (based on Gilligan's Island and Love Boat) to the Florida State Show Skiing Tournament at Orlando's Sonesta Village during June. They captured first place, with a remarkable 1800 points—the highest score achieved for any previous first place winners.



It takes grace, skill, and lots of practice for the Ski-A-Rees to achieve this level of ballet performance. Beth Putnam is fourth from right.

The three employees are long—time, experienced water skiers and have developed their own "specialties" in the Ski—A—Rees activities. Beth Putnam is an active skier in the shows, pyramids, ballet, and trick skiing. Chuck Warren is expert at maneuvering his boat which carefully pulls the skiers. His son Curt (14 years old) took first place in the Junior Barefoot Skiing tournament (under 17) in Orlando. John Traxler has elected to forego his tournament slalom skiing and show participation to become the Ski—A—Rees photographer. His skiing experience helps him to know just what to look for when he's behind the lens. Meanwhile his younger brother Chuck is skiing in the performances.

"The Ski-A-Rees is really a family-oriented club" John Traxler explains. "There are over 100 members, and about 40 participate in some aspect of the ski shows. Many members are involved in clubhouse maintenance, costumes, props, ropes, equipment, program, music, choreography, and so forth. The Club is 25 years old, and some families now have three generations participating."

The Ski-A-Rees give free performances at 2 o'clock every Sunday afternoon during January, February and March at the Island Park Sarasota bay front. Their club house is on City Island. Club members are also generous in giving community benefit performances, such as the free Fourth of July performance. They also gave a show in connection with the Offshore Racing weekend.

Beth has been water skiing since she was in 10th grade, and has been connected with the Ski-A-Rees for about ten years. At FSU she was on the water ski team and competed in three events — slalom, trick and jumping. They placed third in the Nationals. Beth has also been a water skiing



Chuck Warren (Quality), Beth Putnam (Telemetry Software) and John Traxler (Recorder Engineering) are enthusiastic members of Ski–A–Rees.

instructor for young children through the Sarasota YMCA for many years.

"Water skiers in these shows require great concentration, considerable strength and coordination," John Traxler explains. "Chuck Warren and the other boat drivers have a very responsible job which requires great care, precision and timing," John said.

It takes two boats in tandem — Chuck Warren's and another boat and driver—to pull the 18 skiers pyramid into position. Then, at just the right moment, they must disconnect the rope by which the two boats are joined and allow the one boat to pull the 18 skiers, maintaining speed, the right water wake, etc.

Chuck Warren and his wife Gayle work the shows in their 19—foot Barefoot Nautique with a 330 horsepower engine. The boat is especially designed for barefoot skiing, with special consideration to the design of the hull and kind of wake behind the boat. Gayle is Chuck's spotter, works the rope releases and is on the alert for any emergencies.

"We're proud of some of the World Class skiers produced by the Club," John noted. "Two of our skiers are now



This all-girl pyramid is another part of the Ski-A-Rees prize-winning show. Beth is at lower left.

FWSI SYSTEM DELIVERED TO WPPSS NUCLEAR PLANT

A new FWSI data acquisition system has been delivered and installed at the Washington Public Power Supply System's WNP–2 nuclear power plant near Richland, Washington. This is the second data acquisition system which Data Systems Division has shipped to the WNP–2 plant. The earlier system, shipped in 1983, was a Transient Data Acquisition System.

This latest system delivered to WPPSS is called Plant Process Computer Replacement System (PPCRS). It is an upgrade data acquisition and data reduction system, replacing the existing plant process computer system delivered by Honeywell. The PPCRS will monitor 1280 analog sensors and 1536 discrete digital points located throughout the plant.

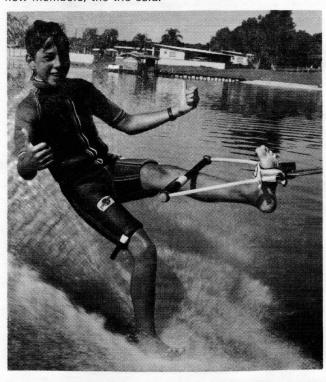
The PPCRS equipment was shipped in March of this year and was installed by WPPSS in April. The site acceptance testing was conducted by Data Systems Division and WPPSS personnel in May.

The new system has been designed to process data for extended periods of operation. Typical power plant production schedules require the plant to be operational continuously for periods of up to 18 months at a time.

The system equipment includes our 600 series analog front end, a special digital data acquisition box, an EMR 715 Multiplex Preprocessor, EMR buffered data channels, a DEC VAX 8200 computer system with digital magnetic tape

SKI-A-REES WIN (Cont'd from Page 4) professionals at Sea World."

Membership is open and the club would like to have more new members, the trio said.



Chuck Warren's son Curt makes barefoot skiing look easy.

and disk mass storage. The system is valued at just over \$1.5 million.

System features include real—time analysis and graphics displays, historical data files for post event analysis, and alarms reporting to operators. The system is located in the control room of the WNP—2 nuclear power plant, and will be utilized by the control room operators.

FWSI project personnel were: Mike Erdahl, System Project Engineer and Hardware Project Engineer; Bob Feather, Software Project Engineer; Tom Smeed, Project Technician; Jeff Kelley, Roger Mort and Adam Leonard, System Software.

TWO MORE EMPLOYEES JOIN GROWING LIST OF RETIREES

Two employees joined our growing list of retirees this month, as Marian Cook and Mary Peterson elected early retirement.





MARIAN COOK

MARY PETERSON

MARIAN COOK joined EMR back in February, 1962, and during her quarter of a century in Assembly made some close friends. "We raised our families together," Marian said, "and I'm going to miss my friends here."

Marian and her husband Bill (a former EMR employee) will be enjoying some trips in their travel trailer. They set out for the Smokies and the northeast for seven weeks on the day after Marian left Data Systems Division.

Besides travel, Marian hopes to do some handicrafts and plans to become more active in church work. And there will be more time to enjoy their family — two sons, three daughters and 13 grandchildren.

MARY PETERSON (Telemetry Assembly) is also planning to do some traveling, first in Florida, and then the Chicago area, where she plans to attend the Western Electric retirees reunion. Mary had 25 years with Western Electric, prior to joining our company in 1977.

There will also be some time for Mary to enjoy her plants and flowers, and her daughter, son and six grandchildren.

To Marian and Mary, best wishes for happy days ahead, from all your friends at Fairchild.

FWSI TELEMETRY SYSTEM WILL HELP IN ATMOSPHERE RESEARCH

Telemetry data reduction equipment from Data Systems Division will help support NASA's Upper Atmosphere Research Program through the ATMOS experiment being conducted by NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL). Our telemetry equipment was delivered to JPL in California in June, and training classes for JPL personnel were conducted in July. Total value of this contract is over \$600,000.

ATMOS stands for Atmospheric Trace Molecule Spectroscopy experiment — a scientific experiment designed to make measurements of the composition of the upper atmosphere.

The Data Systems Division equipments consist of two systems — one a "permanent" system, and the other a "portable" system — to be located at sites such as Kennedy Space Center, Houston and Pasadena, at the Table Mountain Observatory located in the San Gabriel Mountains, northeast of Los Angeles, Ca.

Our equipments include 8000—Series units, the EMR 8385 Display Station, and two Model 9 Instrumentation Data Recorders with EDCS. The ATMOS experiment package itself was designed to gather data from earth orbit aboard a future Space Shuttle, but it is also scheduled for ground—based operations into 1989, with funding extending several years into the future.

Dick Haase is Project Engineer for this contract, with Art Tackman as System Technician, and Sue Sutherland and Marvin Edgeworth on the Software Team. Beth Putnam and Roy Gibson conducted training in Sarasota and at Table Mountain during July, and Jim Apperson (Customer Support) is scheduled to provide telemetry hardware training. Sue



ATMOS/JPL system team included Ron Zoerner, Ray Nervina, Pat Horton; seated, Marvin Edgeworth, Linda Sittler and Sue Sutherland. Standing at right: Dick Haase, Art Tackman, Scott Havens and Mike Andreotta. These employees represent many other individuals who contribute to the successful delivery of a large system to the customer.

Sutherland and Dick Haase are scheduled to travel to Pasadena in August to serve as consultants to interface to JPL's PRIME computer.

"I'd like to express our appreciation to all the people who helped us during the course of the project, and special thanks to Jim White, George Bennett, and Jim Fulmele," Dick Haase said.

FWSI MEN'S SOFTBALL TEAMS PARTICIPATE IN TWO LEAGUES

Data Systems Division men have fielded two softball teams this summer — one White League team and one Blue League team, according to Manager Tom Greinke. That gives employees ample opportunity to go out to root for our players.

Our White League team plays on Monday and Wednesday nights at 7, 8:15 or 9:30, at Fruitville Park, according to Coach Mike Harris. The Blue League team, coached by Tom Greinke, is scheduled for Tuesday and Thursday evenings, at the same hours. To verify the times, please check the bulletin board listings.

WHITE LEAGUE

Bob Heaton Alex Hamilton

Mike Heaton Joe Yeager

Ken Coonce Rick Greenawalt

Ken Knicely Mario Rindone

Butch Branson Dave Heaton

Craig Bolger Ron Heaton
Bruce Templeton Tracey Alts
Phil Schram Mike Harris, Coach
Dan Cunningham Tom Greinke, Manager

At press time, the White League team has won two and lost three — — and things are getting better!

BLUE LEAGUE

Robin Speidel Jim Robinson
Rob McLendon Jim Hill
Dave Hart Lou Defilice
Mike Havrilla Don Minnicks
Bruce Biggs Doug Holcombe
Rob Ramey Duane Flagg
Maurice Gritzman John Findlay

Tom Greinke, Coach & Manager

The FWSI Blue League team has won four and lost one at press time.

REMEMBER WHEN ...

Celebrating 30 Years of Progress in Sarasota

JULY EVENTS OF THE PAST

- 1967 Work continues on PROJECT CELESCOPE here and at NASA Goddard, where the starmapping experiment is being tested in preparation for the Orbiting Astronomical Observatory launch.
- 1968 The new Model 4150 FM Discriminator was the first product to go completely through the new three—phase Product Engineering Project procedure... to get our products to the marketplace sooner. WYATT BISHOP had responsibility for the 4150 project.
- 1972 We measure anything! Four Model 660
 Process Variable Monitors were shipped to
 a customer to be used to weigh diapers at a
 packaging facility, to assure customers
 receive the proper count.
- 1974 HAL ROBERTS and JOE LEHMANN passed their exams for certification as Registered Professional Engineers in Florida. Two eighthour exams are required for certification as a P.E. by the Florida State Board of Engineer Examiners.
- 1974 TY RIGDON and BOB PETREY took first place in the 13—team EMR—T Summer Golf League.
- 1974 The "most complex DEC computer system we have yet delivered" described the Boeing T/C system which employed dual PDP 11/45 computers and dual banks of telemetry equipment. Participating in the installation were JACK CAIN, RANDY MITCHELL, JONALTENBERND, DICK CRETE, and PAUL WELLER.
- 1975 BUD STEINHOFF and PAUL SHETLER designed and built (for under \$200) a deburring machine which smooths the rough edges on aluminum and stainless steel parts. Besides saving time and money, the new machine gave better results.

(Items gleaned from past issues of PULSE by Dale Woodland, member of your 30 Years in Sarasota Committee)

EAP IN PLANT HAS NEW TIME, PLACE AND PHONE

Counselors for our Employee Assistance Program (EAP) are in plant on Tuesdays, for your convenience. As an additional service to employees — especially for second shift employees — the EAP Counselors will be on hand at a special time on the SECOND TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH.

Regular Tuesday hours in plant

8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Second Tuesday of each month

11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

To make an appointment to see EAP Counselors Ken Kinzie or Holly Burcenski, just call 953–1240 any time. The in plant telephone extension is being changed and will be announced via bulletin boards.

Also please remember that our EAP office has moved to a new location — in the Administration building, south hallway, near the lobby.

EAP offers confidential counseling for Data Systems Division employees and their families. Call Ken or Holly for more information if you have a personal problem you'd like to discuss. EAP is here to serve you—an employee benefit for your confidential use.

CONGRATULATIONS!

PAVLO BOBREK and MARGARIDA KARAHALIOS were married in a church wedding in Sarasota on July 5. Margarida is in Telemetry Software and Pavlo is in Telemetry Product Development.

TOM BRAY (Recorders Engineering) and Claire Caldwell were married on June 26 in Temple Terrace, Florida.

JIM HESS (Signal Processing) and his wife Kathleen welcomed their baby girl, Emily Christina, on June 6. Emily weighed 7 lb. 13 oz. at birth.

CHERRYL MNICK (PWA & Wave Solder) became Mrs. Ken Carter on July 1 in a Sarasota home wedding.

TOM HAYDEN (Customer Support, based in Lancaster, CA.) and his wife Ghrahm welcomed their new son Austin Marshall at home on July 18. Austin was brought into the world by his mother and dad at home, in a "textbook home delivery," according to Tom. Austin weighed 7 lb. 8 oz., and joins his sister Morgan (4) and brother Dylan (2) who were also born at home. In fact, young Dylan was born on the Hayden boat in Anna Maria, Fla. The Haydens now live in Tehachapi, CA.

TELEMETRY SALES FORCE LOGS \$1.9 MILLION IN NEW STANDARD PRODUCT ORDERS

Data Systems Division's Telemetry Sales Force captured over 1.9 million in orders for standard products during June -- a new record for monthly orders for our Telemetry standard products.

"This excellent performance by the Telemetry Sales Force in June means more work in Manufacturing operations. Standard products business helps the Division's backlog and general profitability," said Jerry Aldrich, Telemetry Product Line Organization Manager. "To the Sales Force in the Field and in Sarasota, I'd like to say good work, and let's do it again soon!"

WAY TO GO, TEAM!

Congratulations to all the members of the Telemetry Sales team -

CUPERTINO, CA. — Larry Edwards, Bud Hinkel, Jessie Riebeling.

LANCASTER, CA. — Chet Reynolds, Carl Steineckert, Rose Stroface.

WOODLAND HILLS, CA. - - Gary Martin

WHEATON, MD. - - Bob Sayre, Aileen Worrell

SARASOTA, FL. - - Wyatt Bishop, Dorothy Watson

HUNTSVILLE, ALA. - - Dana Brown

ALBUQERQUE, N.M. - - Paul Mears, Pat Williams

To all of our Sales personnel, and the many employees who support our Sales team, congratulations on a great month!

ANOTHER GRADUATE



ADRIENNE MONINGER, daughter of Mike Moninger of Fab Engineering, was among the sons and daughters of employees who were recent graduates. Adrienne was graduated from Bayshore High School, Bradenton, and plans to go into full—time volunteer ministry. We regret she was not included in the Graduates issue of PULSE in June.

ANNIVERSARY GREETINGS TO THIS GOOD GROUP!

Major service milestones are being celebrated this month by ten employees whose length of service ranges from five years to a quarter of a century. Paul Shetler, marking 25 years of service during July, heads the list. Congratulations and happy anniversary to you all!



Happy Anniversary, Folks — Paul Shetler (25 yrs.): Marie Valence, Phil Stockton, Joe Eaton, and Jim Graham (all with 15 years of service); Shirley Terry and Iva McKinney, both completing ten years of service in July. Missing from this photo is Janet Ellis who rounded out 15 years of service this month.





Dana Brown (Huntsville, Ala., Sales Office) observed her fifth service anniversary on July 12. Tom Tatman (of Customer Support, based in Merritt Island, Fla.) marked five years of service with our company on July 19.

PHOTOGENIC MUSHROOMS

Robert Williams (Telemetry Product Development) and his wife Rosemary (Contract Administration) usually attend regional forays of the North American Mycological Association — a group interested in studying and collecting mushrooms.

At the Mississippi mushroom get-together in early July, Robert's color close—up photos of different species of fungi won a third place and four honorable mentions. Robert has found new and rare species in his field mushroom hunting, and had a technical article published in a Mycological journal a few years back.

