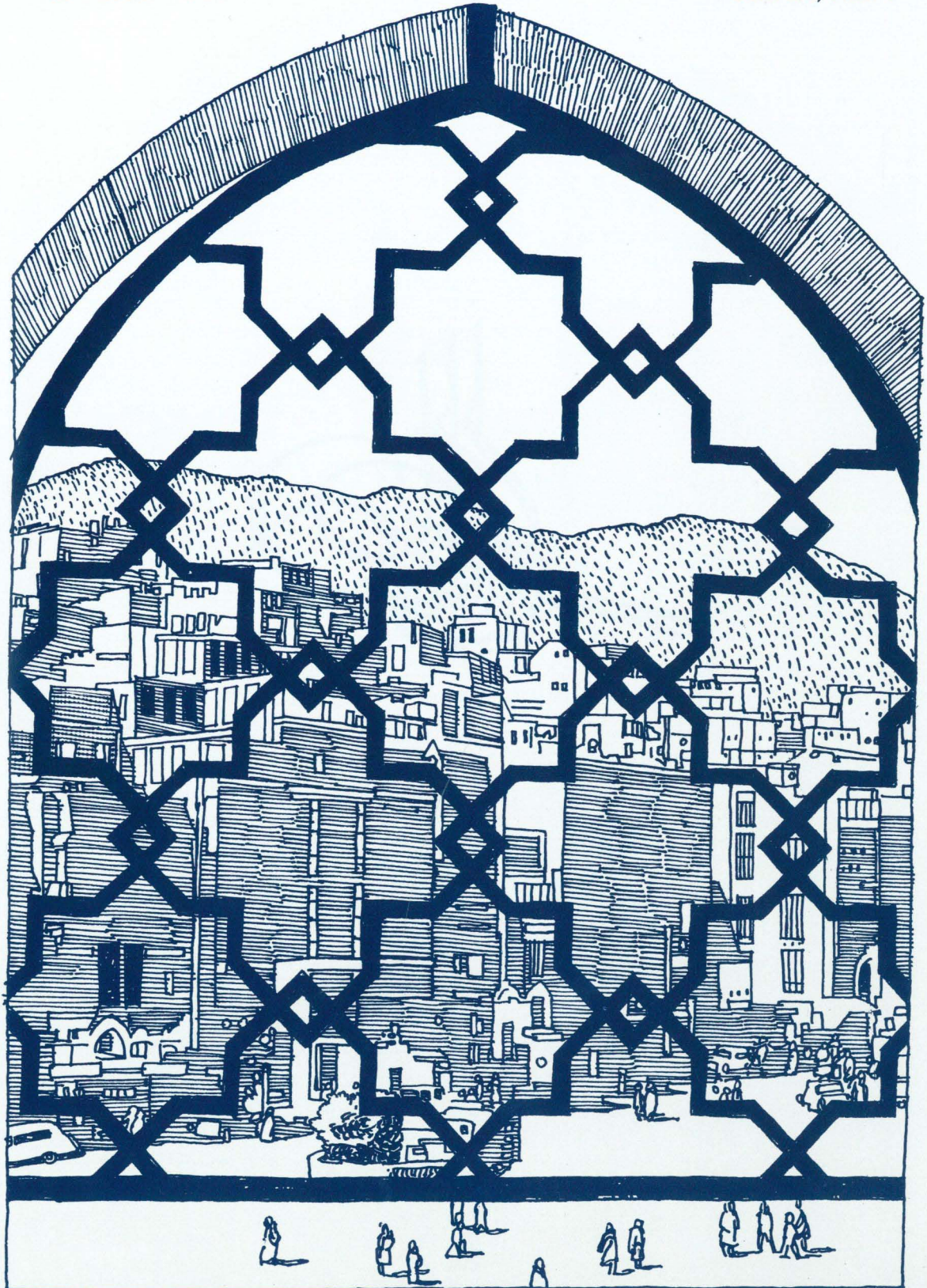


# *Al-Ayyam Al-Jamila*

*" These Pleasant Days "*

SPRING 1980

Vol. 24, No. 1







# Robertson Chooses Alabama Retirement



Ralph and Lois Robertson

Culminating a career with Aramco and Tapline that began over 25 years ago, EVERETT R. ROBERTSON departed Saudi Arabia March 1 with his wife, Lois, bound for retirement in Alabama.

Robertson's service dates from November 3, 1954, when he began work at Tapline's pump station at Turaif, initially as foreman, Motor Transport Projects. In the ensuing years he carried out a variety of duties at both the Badanah and Rafha pump stations of Tapline.

Following a series of loan assignments to Aramco, Robertson transferred to the company in April 1971 to take on the responsibilities of supervising marine mechanical repairman in the Marine Department. In mid-1977, he was promoted to foreman, Marine Maintenance Shop Unit — the post he relinquished upon his retirement.

During their years with Aramco and Tapline, the Robertsons developed a keen interest in golf, bridge and gardening while involving themselves in a wide variety of community activities, and they will most likely pursue their talents in those areas once they settle in the U.S. Ralph also intends to reexplore once-frequented streams and rivers to catch up on his fishing.

The Robertsons' plans for the immediate future include a tour of New Mexico for several months, which will be highlighted by a visit with their son, Ralph Jr., who is soon to receive his degree in cartography from the University of New Mexico. Their daughter, Mirion, is presently employed with Aramco as a teacher in the Abqaiq Elementary School.

The Robertsons have extended a warm welcome to all their friends here in Saudi Arabia who may wish to visit them. Their contact address is: 208 East Crawford Street, Dothan, Alabama 36301.

# Accounting Manager Heads for Nacogdoches



Irene and Leo Crocker

Irene and LEO CROCKER left Saudi Arabia in January for their retirement home at 3804 Buckingham Drive, Nacogdoches, Texas 75961.

Leo first arrived in the Middle East in the fall of 1942 as a member of the U. S. Army Signal Corps and was stationed in Egypt most of the time. He was loaned to the American Legation in Jiddah (when Colonel Eddy was the American Minister to Saudi Arabia) in early 1945, when Jiddah was still a picturesque walled city. In April 1945, he and Aramcon Warren L. Johnson were accidentally injured. Together they were flown to the Dhahran Hospital (now the Women's Exchange Building at King's Road and I Street), and that was Leo's introduction to Dhahran.

He returned to Dhahran as an Aramcon in March of 1948 and worked in the Comptroller's Organization for six years in Abqaiq, four years

in Ras Tanura and twenty-two years in Dhahran. His last permanent position was manager, Special Projects Accounting Department, which encompassed the functions of contract cost compliance, SCECO finance, and accounting for the Saudi Arab Government's Gas Program.

Irene, a pediatrics nurse in Chicago, Illinois, came to Saudi Arabia Aug. 21, 1951, as Leo's fiancée. Two days later she and Leo were married in Manama, Bahrain. In addition to raising five sons, three dogs, numerous cats, tropical fish, and a herd of turtles, she was a Cub Scout Den Mother and leader for eight years, a volunteer worker for seventeen years for the Dhahran Women's Exchange, a member of the Square Dancers, and a once-a-week bowler. To the Dhahran youngsters growing up in the '60s, she was known as "The Lollipop Lady." She will also be remembered for her pies and decorated

cakes. For the past six years she has worked in Clinic C as a general duty nurse.

Leo was also involved in numerous activities over the years: a Minor League baseball team manager, member of the Arabian Philatelic Society, officer of the Arabian Little League, Cub Scout committee chairman, officer of the Dhahran Art Group, officer of several bowling leagues, player/manager of the Old Timers men's slo-pitch baseball team, AEA representative, member of the Dhahran Square Dancers, manager of the 1974 women's slo-pitch baseball league champions — the Ms., official at swim meets and basketball and baseball games, and a charter member of the Dhahran Bowling Association, the Arabian Anglers (a long-defunct organization) and the 'Ain Nakhl Golf Club.

The five Crocker boys, Mike, Chris, Ken, K. C., and Kevin grew up in Saudi Arabia. Mike is presently managing an apartment complex in Texas; Chris is working for an oilwell servicing company in Louisiana; Ken and Kevin are attending college in Arizona. K. C. died in a traffic accident two years ago.

Once their home in Texas is furnished, they plan to do extensive traveling throughout North America, after which they expect to become involved in civic or charitable activities. Their friends will always be welcome at their home in Texas, or at their winter home at 1007 East Manhattan Drive, Tempe, Arizona 85282.

# Eyes Don't Get a Second Chance

The human eye is a wonderfully delicate organ that normally functions from the very day of birth until death. Just as the body grows and changes, however, the eyes change too. The usual periods of change occur between the ages of 3½ to 4½, 11 to 13, and 45 to 60.

At 3½ to 4½ years of age an eye examination may reveal an eye that needs muscle training. Amblyopia, or "lazy eye" as it is sometimes called, may require glasses or an eye patch to strengthen the weak eye muscles. Nearsightedness usually manifests itself between the ages of 11 and 13. This condition results from front to back, causing the images to be seen being focused in front of the retina. Corrective lenses will refocus the image upon the retina. Sometimes the glasses prescribed have to be strengthened yearly to accommodate the changing shape of the eye.

If glasses haven't been needed by the end of the teen years, usually none will be required until after age 45, when the lens of the eye begins to lose some of its ability to change shape and focus on close items. This condition usually progresses until about age 60. After 60, opacities, or an opaqueness of the lens sometimes develops; these are called cataracts.

One's sight over a lifetime is a relatively stable thing. Diseases and accidents can, however, upset that stability and rob a person of his sight. The four most common diseases are trachoma, glaucoma, retinal disorders and cataracts. Except for cataracts, eye diseases generally affect both eyes at once.

Trachoma affects the cornea and conjunctiva of the eye. It is experienced worldwide, but is widespread in parts of Asia, Africa and many parts of the Middle East. The disease is caused by a large virus. The viral infection causes a severe conjunctivitis that involves the cornea and usually leads to secondary infection if untreated. Trachoma virus is spread by the transference of

## GIRL SCOUT CALENDARS

### STILL AVAILABLE

We still have about 75 Girl Scout 1980 calendars available, free of charge, to anyone requesting a copy. Send your written request to:

Editor, Al-Ayyam Al-Jamila  
Aramco Services Company  
1100 Milam  
Houston, Texas 77002



conjunctival secretions usually on fingers, towels or by flies. Crowded environments where dirt abounds help trachoma spread. Severity of the disease can be increased when living in areas of little water, dry winds, dust and sand. Often antibiotic drugs will reduce the inflammation and prevent the secondary infection.

Glaucoma results from a build-up of pressure within the eye because of improper drainage of naturally produced eye fluids. The gradual loss of peripheral or side vision is usually not obvious to the person affected. Early diagnosis can be done with tonometry screening to measure the ocular tension. More sophisticated tests can provide the necessary diagnostic information to begin the proper corrective treatment. Drug therapy and surgical techniques are used to treat glaucoma. Glaucoma is a world-wide problem; no area is free of it.

There are a number of retinal diseases. The most serious is macular degeneration, in which the very center of the retina (the macula), which is capable of 20/20 vision, degenerates. The outer areas of the retina only provide an awareness of what is to be seen. The disease occurs mainly among the elderly.

Cataracts, also normally a condition of the elderly, can be treated quite effectively with drugs or surgery when diagnosed early.

Accidental injury can cause the loss of one or both eyes. Children frequently damage their eyes on pointed objects or with toys that shoot projectiles. Adult accidental eye loss ranges from such causes as on-the-job injuries with tools to auto accidents. Blindness due to industrial accidents is common even in countries where there are strict protective regulations. In the United States, for example, an eye accident occurs every 30 seconds of every working day.

Not all damage done to the eye is caused by physical trauma. Arc welders or helpers can suffer ultraviolet burns of the retina. Infrared radiation burns used to be very common in foundry workers, and now radar, microwave and laser workers need to be monitored and protected from possible damage to their eyes.

Eye protection can include several steps. Eyes should be examined, especially at the ages when most changes occur, or whenever a marked change in sight is noted. Protective equipment should be used whenever necessary, not only on the job, but also when performing any tasks

that could endanger the eyes. Finally, one should always remember to provide sufficient light for every activity to make his eyes' job as easy as possible, and to protect them from outdoor glare by wearing sunglasses.

— Health Education Division

*The above article was reprinted from the December 12, 1979 issue of The Arabian Sun.*

## Letter from the Editor

Throughout the years, Al-Ayyam Al-Jamila has proved a valuable way for the Aramco retirees to keep up and stay in touch with each other. The Aramco "family" is unique, in that, distance and time seem to only strengthen the desire to maintain the friendships made over the years. The popularity of the biennial reunions testify to that. The Al-Ayyam Al-Jamila will continue to play its role as a means of announcing retirements and keeping the address list up to date. The rest is up to you. Please continue to contribute your letters and articles since that is what really makes the magazine worthwhile.

We would like to thank Betty Flannery, who was responsible for making AAAJ so enjoyable and interesting for three and a half years. Her hard work and devotion to the magazine and the annuitants were very much appreciated by all of us. Thank you, Betty. We wish you a very happy and fulfilling retirement. You deserve it!

I look forward to being the editor of AAAJ and want to thank all of you for the encouragement and support I have received in the past few months. I hope to see all of you at the reunion in Florida.

Sincerely,

Eileen Jonsson

*Eileen Jonsson joined Aramco Services Company in October, 1976 and became editor of Al-Ayyam Al-Jamila on January 1, 1980. She graduated from the University of Texas-Austin in 1976 and holds a Bachelor of Journalism degree. Prior to becoming editor, she was responsible for the U.S. distribution of Aramco World Magazine.*

# Products of Damascus Renowned for Centuries

Damascus is one of the oldest continuously inhabited cities in the world. It is often mentioned in the Bible — in Genesis, Abraham's steward is from Damascus.

Since classical times, and perhaps beyond, Damascus has been an important manufacturing town. The famous gardens surrounding it produced the highly scented rose that we call damask and which contributed to the city's perfume, soap and cosmetic industry. These roses are thought to have been brought back to Europe by the Crusaders. The gardens around Damascus also produce splendid fruit. The apricots, mulberries and cherries in particular were used to make jams and syrups, while dried fruit and sweets were also produced, all for export as well as home consumption. This is still true to some extent today, with the dried fruit going to Europe and the fresh fruit to Arabia and elsewhere.

Metallurgy was another specialty, especially, of course, damascene work — gold or silver wire beaten into the design engraved on the background metal. This was originally used for decorating armor, where the delicate damascened patterns contrast with the solidness of the helmet or breastplate. It is now generally used for trays, boxes and such like. Damascus was also famous for its blades. Fine weapons were always in very great demand and there was much debate as to whether Frankish or Oriental blades were best. Damascus steel was worked by folding it over and over so that the finished blade was bluish with an appearance of waves within the metal. We tend to think of complicated manufacturing arrangements being very modern, but at times during the Middle Ages, iron was mixed in Africa, processed in India, worked in the Middle East, finished in Europe — and sold everywhere.

Glass, paper, ceramics and inlaid work were other local industries, but one of the most



Damascus sweets.

important products of Damascus since classical times has been textiles. China guarded the secrets of silk most jealously, with death as the penalty for spies or betrayers. According to legend, however, a Chinese princess, furious at being given as bride-hostage to one of the nomads of the steppes, hid the silk worms and mulberry seeds in her bridal headdress and so brought the secret West. The European story is that two wandering monks carried the silk worms from China to Byzantium hidden in their hollow staffs, and silk production then spread all over the Eastern Mediterranean, so that one vast area came to be known as the Morea, or land of mulberry trees. Whether these stories are true or not, silk was established early at Damascus and soon became an important industry.

The most famous material from Damascus is, of course, damask. The technique — and some of the original designs — came from China and Persia. The material was originally silk, but

the Crusaders, passing through Damascus, introduced the material into Europe in the 11th century and by the mid-13th, linen damask was being made in the flax-growing areas of France. In the 15th century, the Flemish city of Courtrai was famous for its damasked tablelinen, as was Haarlem in Holland a little later. At the end of the 17th century the technique was carried into Ireland — and hence most of our modern damask tablecloths.

Silk damask is of two kinds. Single damask has one set each of warps and wefts and can be made in one or two colors. Linen damask is normally single. Double damask can have anywhere from two to nine (or very occasionally more) wefts and it is this kind that the the elaborate effects of color which are so much admired, while the wrong side looks like a rainbow and is almost more beautiful. In the past, when damask was woven on a very narrow loom — 18 to 24 inches wide — and when the selection of threads for the design was done by hand, it was an extremely slow and extremely skillful business — even an experienced craftsman could not produce more than a few inches a day.

In the 18th century, however, looms were much improved in the West, and soon the Jacquard loom made it possible for the wefts to be selected automatically by means of perforated paper rolls or cards. This soon made it possible for a weaver to produce two or three yards a day instead of inches and further developments also allowed the use of a wider loom, so that Damascus damask today may be as much as 50 inches wide.



Rare spices standing in great burlap bags.



Copperware at its finest is made and sold.

So the new looms were a great improvement? Yes, in many ways, but there are disadvantages. The designs are no longer left to the craftsmen's imaginations, but are dictated by the punched cards available. This means that many weavers will only make a few designs — for example, paisley, boats or huntsmen taken from a Persian miniature, lovebirds — designed for the wedding of Elizabeth II of England, and so on. These are pleasant in themselves, but since so many shops have identical materials, they tend to become monotonous, and being so perfect do not have the charm and handmade-look of the older textiles. Fortunately, some craftsmen still weave damask according to their inspiration, while others make a very pleasant, soft, loosely woven material sometimes called "Bedouin silk," which is used for ghutrahs, for the dresses of the country women, and patterned in scarlet and black for weddings. This silk is technically much less remarkable than the damask — usually it has a simple stripe or check decoration — but it too has a very long tradition. Also, it is less expensive, although at \$10-\$40 a yard, Damascus silk is a bargain compared to the brocades for one length of which Zubaydah, the Caliph Harun al-Rashid's wife, is said to have spent 50,000 dinars!

— Caroline Stone

Photos courtesy of Aramco World Magazine.

# Letters from here, there and Everywhere

## Dear Readers:

### Palm Springs, California

My first thoughts are of many "thank yous" for all the cards, phone calls, and beautiful flowers from our Aramco friends.

The time gets away so fast. It seems only weeks ago that we were all together at Camelback. I am now looking forward to October in Florida to be together again.

I am living in our home where we retired in 1965. I hope to stay on here since our daughter, Madeline Brechlin, and her husband live in "The Springs". Also, our six grandchildren and five great-grandchildren live very near so I am surrounded with loving family, besides our many friends.

So far, I have been lucky with the flooding and earthquakes. Our area is doing well.

Sincerely,  
May (Mrs. Don E.) Richards

P.S. This photograph was taken in 1965 upon retirement and, since it was Don's favorite, I decided to send it.



Don and May Richards, 1965.

### Tulsa, Oklahoma

Our son, Dr. Don Crawley is in Houston doing a five year residency in O.R.L. at Baylor University. He was married in June to Karen Sue Plake and they seem to be doing fine there.

Sincerely,  
Nelda and Ed Crawley

### Denver, Colorado

I just had a visit from Dottie Morris and Betty Miller. I love keeping up with all our Aramco friends. Have a happy 1980!

Sincerely,  
Bess (Mrs. Sam) Zimmerman



Sequim, Washington

Just a word of greeting and a repeated thanks for the ever enjoyable publications we receive.

Since our last communication, we have yet one more offspring back in Arabia. Youngest daughter, Lohna, and her husband Tom O'Rourke went to Dhahran in October. So, with daughter Rise and husband Jim Hestand, plus older son, Jay, that puts three second generation Johansens back in their "old hometown". And, from their letters, they're all "happy as clams".

Incidentally, I think that silly expression would make more sense if it were amended to "happy as clams after a red tide". Red tides here this summer kept the clams safe from human predation for months!

Daughter Sidra is still with the Air Force on Guam. We're thinking about visiting her there which is fun to anticipate.

Sincerely,  
Lorraine (Mrs. G. S.) Johansen

Highland, California

The most exciting event of 1979, for us, was the arrival of an adorable, little granddaughter named Shara Michelle — our first! She was born on September 2nd, Labor Day weekend. I flew to Michigan for ten days to be with them in September. Clifford had surgery on August 15th and wasn't free to make the journey.

Sherrel returned to her position at Central Michigan University after six weeks maternity leave (with the help of a dependable baby sitter). It was a good year for Sherrel. She was upgraded from assistant professor to associate professor.

Sincerely,  
Clifford and Pearl Beasley

*Pearl also said that she and Clifford planned to go to Michigan for Christmas and that Clifford could "hardly wait" to see Shara Michelle. We hope you had a wonderful trip. Congratulations!*

Sacramento, California

I hope this short note finds you in good health and looking forward to the 1980's. We continue to enjoy our grandchildren and had a fine Christmas with them and their families. Jean is now busy with doll house construction and needle work and I am active in amateur radio and Red Cross work.

I would like a copy of the Girl Scout calendar. We enjoyed them in Dhahran and now our granddaughter, Kirsten, is a Scout. It would be nice if mother and daughter could compare scouting in Arabia and Sacramento.

The item on the mail service is right on target. We didn't get our copy of the Annual Address List. Hope you have a copy available.

Please pass our greeting and best wishes to Betty and our thanks for a job well done.

Sincerely,  
Charles and Jean Homewood

Tucson, Arizona

Please send one of your Girl Scout calendars. I want to send it to my daughter, Marilyn McCann Russell, who was one of the charter members when it was first organized in Dhahran. My other daughter Camille Kately was also a Girl Scout later on. Both were very grateful for the training and many happy times they had through the years. They appreciated everything Aramco did to make their trips comfortable and secure.

I enjoy your magazine and other news about Aramco persons. Three of my granddaughters were born in Saudi Arabia and, now that they are older, enjoy hearing about the land of their birth. They are the daughters of Beverly McCann Eilbacher and Robert.

Teri, the oldest, is just 25 years old and is married to an air force major who has trained some Saudi Arabian students in flying. Lisa is the second granddaughter and she is in the films as is Cindy, the third one.

Sincerely,  
Dorothy (Mrs. C. J.) McCann

Miami, Oklahoma

I had a New Year's call from Challie Gray and he lives in Electra, Texas. He asked if I got the Aramco publications and said he would like to receive them too. I offered to pass this information on to you with his address (see Mail Call). He is doing very well and it was good to hear his voice.

We are having such a mild winter thus far in eastern Oklahoma in comparison with the three previous winters. Still no major ice or snow storms.

I want to tell you how much I appreciate the Al-Ayyam Al-Jamila and all the hard work put into it.

Sincerely,  
Millie Shipp

Forked River, New Jersey

I can heartily recommend a "retirement". It's a whole new life. I have never been busier than the first two years — socializing and getting my house in order. Then I felt I had to do something a little more constructive. Astrology was my goal and still is but, with intensive study and reading, my eyes began to give out so I have had to cut down.

In December, 1978, I took a course in healthaide (homemaker) work which is taking care of the elderly and people just home from the hospital that need personal care. I like it very much. My first case was a dentist and his wife. He was 94 and she, 88. After six months, every day was too much for me so I cut it down to three times a week and three hours a day. You can name your hours and this federally funded organization is national. I have received my pin (500 hours) and can work anywhere in the U.S. should I wish to. These oldsters really dig astrology and tales of my days in Arabia and trips abroad really interest them.

My very best to your (Betty's) new life.

Sincerely,  
Kay Robinson

Lincolnton Beach, Maine

I wonder whether there are any 1980 Girl Scout calendars left? I would dearly love to have one. Unfortunately, I had thrown away the outer wrapper of Al-Ayyam Al-Jamila before I read the notice about the calendar. I'm sorry. Would it help atone for my negligence if I tell you how much my husband and I enjoy and anticipate each issue of AAAJ? That's for sure.

We like the format, the pictures, the paper it is printed on, the letters, and the articles from friends we knew while in Dhahran (1973-1977). It's fun to catch up on old friends and to make friends with people new to us just by reading about them.

We wish you all the best in your new venture as editor. That's a very attractive picture on page 22.

Thank you in advance for the calendar.

Sincerely,  
Martha (Mrs. B. F., Jr.) Mann

*I'll bet Martha's mother had a very tough time saying no to her. Thank you, Martha, for your encouragement and support. Ed.*



Kay Robinson

Winston-Salem, North Carolina

Ex-Aramcon Arthur (Pete) Ballard sent us some information on his latest project. Last year he created a museum exhibition titled, "Headlines — A Hundred Years of Hats". The exhibit consisted of over 100 hats ranging from the bonnet of the 1840s to the cloche of the 1920s and 30s and included everything imaginable in between. The exhibit toured museums across North Carolina from September, 1978 to September, 1979.

Pete, now a teacher at the North Carolina School of the Arts and costume curator at the Mint Museum in Charlotte, was an English teacher in the Aramco Industrial Training Center during the 1960's. Since leaving Aramco, Ballard has been involved in costume restoration (AAAJ, Winter 1977) at the Mint Museum and has acted as a consultant on the subject to many other organizations throughout the area.

Pete's exhibit chronicles the social and political changes affecting women during that hundred years and the corresponding changes in hat styles as women became more liberated. In the 1840's, women wore bonnets that tied beneath the chin and practically hid the face unless viewed directly on. Pete said "in the 1840s quietness and delicacy were qualities most



Pete Ballard with part of the collection.

## HEADLINES

### *A Hundred Years of Hats*

1840-1940



Exhibit program cover designed by Sir Cecil Beaton.

admired in women. A wife of the upper middle class had two things required of her: first she should be a model of domestic virtues and second, she should do nothing at all. Her complete idleness was the mark of her husband's social status. Work of any kind was looked down upon and the headgear which reflected this attitude was extremely restrictive."

The 1850s brought a new feeling of prosperity and with it new freedom for women. The bonnet became smaller to show more of the face, although many of them had a collapsible brim called an "ugly" that could be pulled over the face to protect the skin from the sun. "Paleness was perfection," Ballard said. "They drank vinegar to keep a palid complexion."

Later in the 1800s, the hat became increasingly popular. A hat differs from a bonnet in that it does not tie beneath the chin. By 1885, the bonnet had all but disappeared in favor of the hat.

The hat went through many changes through the next years. It was made larger and then smaller. It was widened, flattened, feathered, ribboned, veiled, and flowered. Hat ornamentation became so exotic that, as Pete described it, "trimming for hats had become a mausoleum of insects and birds". At the turn

of the century, the Audubon Society instituted a crusade against this practice. They estimated that "in the United States alone, five million birds were killed each year for the purpose of trimming women's hats". Soon, the public outcry caused milliners to seek out other forms of decoration.

In the early 1900s, hats reached such enormous proportions that some were the size of cartwheels and had to be secured with frighteningly large hatpins. After a few dangerous episodes with the hatpins and after having to watch a play or ballet from behind one of these monsters, the public and press campaigned for an end to the style.

As World War I began, women went to the



1912 Cartwheel Hat

other extreme and opted for the helmet-like cloche. Extravagance was out in war time. Women cut their hair, shortened their skirts, and tried to resemble men.

Every step of the way, through that hundred years, the hat changed to reflect women's newest freedom or privilege. As Pete said, hats were their "symbol of emancipation".

Most of the hats in the exhibit were loaned by individuals or borrowed from museum collections. Two highlights of the show are the hat worn by Marlene Dietrich in the 1934 movie, "Shanghai Express" and a hat from the Jane Wither's collection which was designed by Sir Cecil Beaton for the Ascot scene in "My Fair Lady". Sir Cecil Beaton also designed the program cover for the exhibit.

Pete has received much deserved recogni-



Marlene Dietrich's "Shanghai Express" hat.

tion for his work in costume restoration. He has received several grants for his museum work from the National Endowment for the Arts in Washington, D.C. and received the North Carolina Historical Preservation Society's highest "Award of Merit" in 1978. According to the Charlotte Observer, Pete is "the individual most responsible for making Charlotte's four year old, Mint Museum costume collection one of the best, most complete assemblages of antique clothing in the South."

We thank Pete for sharing this with us and wish him the best of luck in his "second" career.



"My Fair Lady" hat.



#### Fallbrook, California

I saw a notice in one of the Aramco publications recently that you had some extra copies of the Girl Scout calendar.

I would love to have one of these if they are still available and if they have pictures of Arabian scenes as the 1978 one did.

I recently had a large group of women here at my home who were very interested in Saudi Arabia. I showed them my collection of old pieces of bracelets, arrowheads, etc. and also the pictures from that calendar as well as ones I'd saved from the years we were in Arabia. Many thanks.

Sincerely,

Mary Kristofferson

#### Los Angeles, California

Both my wife Betty and I send you greetings and hope that your year of 1980 will be better than any ever. We want to tell you that we read each issue of the Al-Ayyam Al-Jamila when it comes out and enjoy hearing of happenings of old friends and acquaintances.

Concerning ourselves — we continue to enjoy living in Los Angeles and both of us are now working. Betty is the Los Angeles Reservations Director for the Twin Dolphin Hotel, a sportsman's hotel situated at the far tip of Baja, California. The hotel is owned by one of the Halliburton family (oil well supply people) and Betty pretty much has her hands full controlling all the bookings for the hotel out of their principal office, which is situated in Los Angeles.

For myself, I am into something quite a bit different from what Betty is doing. I am Business Manager for a small liberal arts college situated here in Los Angeles, up in the Hollywood hills which overlooks the city proper. Things are not faring well with small, private liberal arts colleges these days. Inflation, spiraling costs, and a decline in private fundings of such institutions are all taking their toll on our numbers — but such is the way that American education seems headed these days. In any case, we both keep busy with what we are doing and enjoy life as it comes along.

It might be of interest to you to learn that we have maintained contact throughout the year with Nancy Martin, Ed Martin's widow. We paid her a visit over the Christmas holidays and found her to be in very good spirits. She continues to live in her house in Meseria which is situated on a high bluff directly overlooking the Pacific Ocean with her cat and dog and, of course, she has quite a few fellow retired American friends who live nearby.

Betty joins me in sending you greetings and best wishes.

Sincerely,

Joseph W. Powell

#### San Diego, California

Greetings from Rancho Bernardo. Looks like all roads lead toward Tarpon Springs! It would appear there will be an invasion of Florida by the West if the ear to the ground reads the western report correctly. Hope to see you there.

Sincerely,

Warren and Myrl Hodges

#### Fullerton, California

Have returned from my assignment with King Faisal (Hospital). Really wanted to write you a nice letter of my experience and also that I had some really great times with Hugh and Mona Renfro who are also stationed there — but time has a way of catching up with me.

I'm now employed in the Industrial Relations Department of Union Oil and plan to stay here for a while.

Hope I will again be put on the list for publications at my new address, 2941 North Charles Avenue, Fullerton, California 92635.

Sincerely,

Violet L. Dodge



Our congratulations and best wishes go to Olive and Harry Snyder who celebrate their 52nd wedding anniversary in April. May you have many more.

#### Worland, Wyoming

I would appreciate one of the 1980 Girl Scout calendars if you still have any left.

We rarely see any Aramcons. Guess they don't get to Wyoming. Really, as a Californian, I can't say as I blame them — ha! But Wyoming does have its good parts. Never thought I would end up here myself — but here I am. We really appreciate all the publications so thank you alot.

Sincerely,

Genevieve and Morris Rush

#### Hemet, California

John Penn, who was responsible for the article in the last issue of AAAJ on the outdoor play "Ramona", wrote to let us know the dates of this year's play. They are April 19-20, April 26-27, and May 3-4. John went on to say: "We are having rain and more rain in our area as I write this. It is the worst rain in 40 years. Someone from our church just called to see if we could take in a party who had to evacuate because of the flooding. The tropical storms really blow in from the Pacific — one right after the other. The sun is out now but more rain is on the way." Not to worry though, John said that they are high and dry. We hope that all of our California and Arizona friends survived the rains without damage.

#### Sapulpa, Oklahoma

I am still working for Lantz and I like and find the job interesting. Many challenges for me, the funniest one being the day Lantz was out of the office and a client called and said, "I have borrowed a gun and if he comes in the house I am going to kill him. Is that OK?". I gulped, I am sure, and started trying to think of alternatives as I had visions of the disaster and her in court saying that Mrs. McClain said it was alright.

I see and talk to Millie Shipp every month or two. We keep each other going I guess. She came down last year and was to have gone home before New Year's but got snowed in so we had New Year's Eve together and enjoyed it. Our winter last year was unbelievable and this one seems to now be following in its footsteps. I have certainly been glad for the fur coat Paul bought me several years ago, which hung in a closet for so many years but is now being worn daily.

I am looking forward to the reunion in 1980. I am still grateful for all Aramco publications, etc. I look forward to seeing you in Florida.

Sincerely,

Ruth (Mrs. Paul L.) McClain

# REUNION 1980: UPDATE

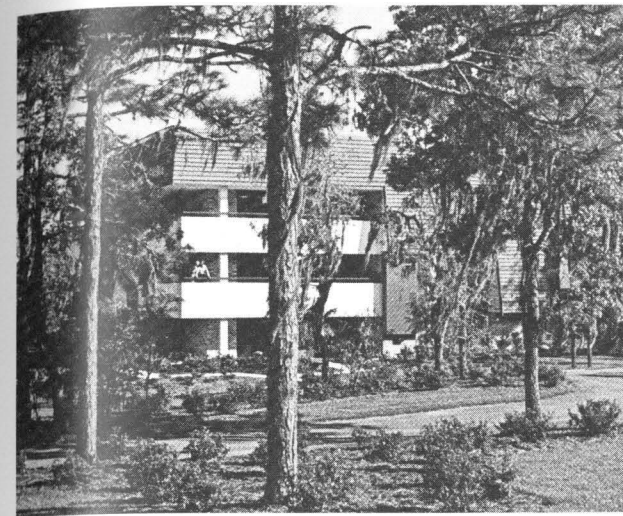
## Innisbrook - Tarpon Springs, Florida October 17, 18, 19



Three great golf courses.

Preparations for the 1980 reunion in Tarpon Springs, Florida are underway and we are all very excited about it. Many of you asked questions with your responses. I will attempt to answer as many as possible.

Those of you who wish to arrive earlier than Friday, October 17th and/or stay later than Sunday, October 19th must arrange this with Innisbrook on an individual basis. A reservation form will be included in the Summer, 1980 issue of *Al-Ayyam Al-Jamila*. Room reservations will be made directly with the resort and those of you wishing to extend your reservation may do so on that form. As stated earlier, the form provided in the Fall, 1979 issue of *AAAJ* was only a survey to determine how many would be interested in a reunion east of the Mississippi. Again, let me say thank you for your response. I was amazed at the number of interested people and I certainly hope to see all of you in Tarpon Springs in October.



Lodges overlook golf course fairways.

All commercial flights will arrive at Tampa International Airport. Clearwater Executive and St. Petersburg-Clearwater Airports are nearby for small planes. There will be pick up services at all three airports. Arrangements for pick up service can be made through the resort when you make your room reservations. If you have any questions about flights to and from Tampa, please contact your local travel agent.

With regard to campgrounds for recreational vehicles, there is a KOA of Clearwater-Tarpon Springs across the road and a little north of the Innisbrook entrance. You may contact KOA at 3906 U.S. Highway 19, Palm Harbor, Florida 33563 or call 813/937-8412. RVs are not allowed on Innisbrook property and must be parked at the main gate upon arrival. Tram service from



One of five swimming pools.

the main gate is provided.

The room prices given to you in the last issue of *AAAJ* are firm except for the addition of taxes and gratuities. The food and activities prices are still subject to change but here is a rough idea of the cost. Those staying at Innisbrook will be on a modified American plan and meals will be included. The meals include Friday dinner, Saturday breakfast, Saturday dinner, and Sunday brunch at a total cost of \$44.00 per person. For those not staying on the property but joining in the activities the charges will be:

- \$17.00 — Saturday dinner only
- 32.00 — Friday dinner and Saturday dinner
- 22.00 — Saturday dinner and Sunday brunch
- 38.00 — Friday dinner, Saturday dinner, and Sunday brunch.



Suite living room.

Golf charges will be \$16.00 green fee and \$15.00 cart fee. Tennis will be \$4.00 per person per hour. Arrangements for a trip to Busch Gardens and another point of interest are in the works and more details will be forthcoming in the summer registration article. All of these prices include tax and gratuity.

Please watch for the next issue of *AAAJ* for the reservation and registration forms.

Sincerely,  
*Lori Burmester*



# MAIL CALL

## ARAMCO-AOC-ASC-TAPLINE ANNUITANTS

Ed R. Arkin	2988 Bird Rock Road, Pebble Beach, CA 93953
Theodore Bajor	3709 Holiday Road, Lake Park, FL 33410
Allen L. Baker	428 Anacapa Terrace, Santa Paula, CA 93060
Sumner R. Baker	803 Cedar Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90813
J. Kenneth Brett	P. O. Box 2141, Albuquerque, NM 87110
Carl H. Burmester	P. O. Box 117, Guatay, CA 92031
Obert S. Colwell	5630 Dale Road, Route 2, West Sacramento, CA 95356
Leo F. Crocker	3804 Buckingham Drive, Nacogdoches, TX 75961
Kenneth E. Duell	10997 Marmot Circle, Smartville, CA 95977
Robert O. Evans	APDO Postales 1462, Petro Maya S.A., Guatemala City, Guatemala
I. S. Fladager	10 Royal Palm Circle, Port Orange, FL 32019
Elizabeth G. Flannery	5614 Spanish Oak, Houston, TX 77066
Daniel T. Gallagher	4765 Ringwood Meadow, The Meadows, Sarasota, FL 33580
Arthur L. Gasperetti	N. Brushcreek Hills, 68 Woodridge Hills, Rt. 4, Rogers, AR 72756
Challie A. Gray, Sr.	Box 306, Electra, TX 76360
William J. Hayes	2090 Broadway, Apt. 501, San Francisco, CA 94115
Fred F. Hilsz	29 Yacht Club Drive, #507D, N. Palm Beach, FL 33408
George S. Johansen	177 Hardwick Road, Sequim, WA 98382
Charles D. Johnson	c/o Aramco, Box 5360, Dhahran, Saudi Arabia
Walter E. Kelley	Route 4, Box 379, Lindale, TX 75771
W. H. Klarquist	2666 Vallejo Street, San Francisco, CA 94123
Robert J. MacAlvanah	1779 N.E. 39 Ct., #1104, Pompano Beach, FL 33064
Kenneth F. Maloney	433 Locust Street, Laguna Beach, CA 92651
Gordon L. Matthews	P. O. Box 481, Cottonwood, AZ 86326
John R. Montgomery	4111 Glenwood Drive, Brownwood, TX 76801
Josiah W. Mullikin	14504 S.W., 37th Ave. Road, Ocala, FL 32673
Orval A. Nixon	8409 Comanche Rd., NE, Albuquerque, NM 87111
William E. Pace	1095 South Park Drive, Magalia, CA 95954
Philip F. Peer	1281 Evergreen Lane, Cinnaminson, NJ 08077
Dorris G. Reno	RR #1, Jay, OK 74346
Mrs. Gertrude Roth	6039 68th Road, Ridgewood, NY 11385
John A. Sabini	37 Stanwick Mansions, Stanwick Road, London W14, England
Lawrence W. Schenewark	Route 1, Box 152, Cole Camp, MO 65325
Vincent B. Shaffer	726 Forsyth Street, Boca Raton, FL 33431
William G. Sickman	541 Navato Place, Pittsburgh, PA 15228
Roger L. Stauffer	127 Kristi Drive, Indian Harbour Beach, FL 32937

D. A. Stoltenberg  
Lloyd L. Straughan  
Ruth Sylvest  
Anne M. Tandlich  
Colette C. Thomas  
Jean Tulloch  
A. C. Vick  
Edwin J. Wright

Route #5, Box 262, Lindale, TX 75771  
8602 Morley Street, Houston, TX 77061  
7744 Northcross, Apt. 218, Austin, TX 78757  
5 Redwood Court, Selden, NY 11784  
5200 Brittany Drive South, #1204, St. Petersburg, FL 33715  
1001 Franklin Street, Apt. 13J, San Francisco, CA 94109  
P. O. Box 32, Humble, TX 77338  
Route 1, Box 141, Arp, TX 75750

## WIDOWS

Mrs. Lillian Badgley Dixon	Box 101, Equinunk, PA 18417
Muriel W. Davis	Valleyview Lodge 155, 1228 Rossmoor Pkwy., Walnut Creek, CA 94595
Mrs. Homer P. Jackson	461 Choctaw Trail, Shreveport, LA 71107
Mrs. William Lund	Rua Das Laranjeiras, Cascais 2750, Portugal
Mrs. Paul L. McClain	430 Security Building, Sapulpa, OK 74066
Mrs. Lloyd L. Moore	131 Irene Court, Apt. 8, Belmont, CA 94002
Mrs. Sidney H. Morgan	5038 E. Clarendon, Phoenix, AZ 85018
Mrs. Jesse C. O'Brien	1290 Skeel Drive, Camarillo, CA 93010
Mrs. Edward J. Osterhuber	71 9th Avenue, Apt. 7, San Mateo, CA 94401
Mrs. David C. Ozment	3690 Dodson, Medford, OR 97501
Mrs. Charlotte Pfefferkorn	915 E. Stella Lane, Apt. 45, Phoenix, AZ 85014
Mrs. Don E. Richards	432 Burton Way, Palm Springs, CA 92262
Mrs. George V. Simons	4537 Ventura Drive, Knoxville, TN 37918
Mrs. William E. Squires	432 Sand Hill Circle, Menlo Park, CA 94025

Use this section to update your October 1, 1979 Annuitants' Annual Address List.

# IN MEMORIAM

**Grace M. (Mrs. Virgil A.) Fawley** — December 5, 1979 — Kittanning, Pennsylvania

**Dorothy (Mrs. A. S.) Gennuso** — December, 1979 — Lake Charles, Louisiana

**Imo Alice (Mrs. Donald R.) Larkin** — January 30, 1980 — Sonoma, California

**David C. Ozment** — January 3, 1980 — Dhahran, Saudi Arabia

**Golde (Mrs. Larkin F.) Payne** — July 20, 1979 — Orangevale, California

**Don E. Richards** — November 11, 1979 — Palm Springs, California

**George V. Simons** — January 14, 1980 — Knoxville, Tennessee

**William E. Squires** — January 13, 1980 — Menlo Park, California

**Violet W. (Mrs. D. R.) Teague** — April 19, 1979 — Tulsa, Oklahoma

We record the passing of these old friends with great sadness  
and offer our deepest sympathy to their families.

Please forward address changes to:

ARAMCO SERVICES COMPANY  
Foreign Service Employment Dept.  
1100 Milam  
Houston, Texas 77002

Attention: EILEEN JONSSON

Attach old mailing label to your change  
of address notice. One notice will  
suffice for AL-AYYAM AL-JAMILA,  
THE ARABIAN SUN, and ARAMCO WORLD  
MAGAZINE



IN MEMORIAM



## *Al-Ayyam Al-Jamila*

Published by  
ARAMCO SERVICES COMPANY  
Foreign Service Employment Department  
1100 Milam, Houston, Texas 77002



Eileen Jonsson — Editor

For Annuitants of Aramco, A.O.C., A.S.C., and Tapline