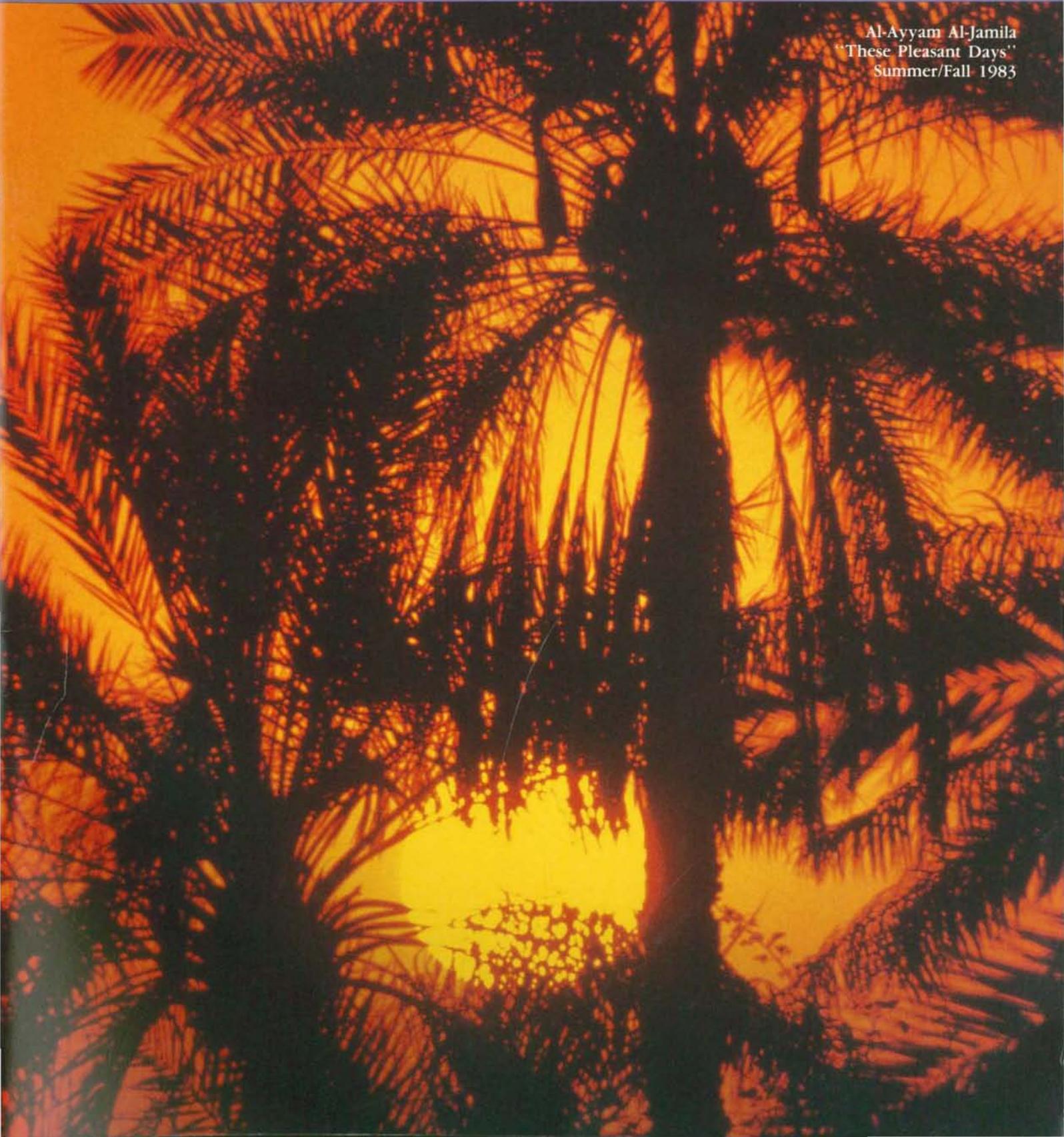


Al-Ayyam Al-Jamila

Al-Ayyam Al-Jamila
"These Pleasant Days"
Summer/Fall 1983



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

"In the Name of God, Most Gracious, Most Merciful."
Holy Quran

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On the cover:

Al-Hasa's date palms are inextricably linked with the life of Saudi Arabia. A cultivated plant for at least 5,000 years, *Phoenix dactylifera* provided the columns and beams of the Prophet's Mosque in Medina about AD 630 and appears on the Kingdom's national emblem. Photograph by 'Ali 'Abd Allah Al-Mubarak.

Please forward address changes to:

Aramco Services Company
Public Affairs Department
1800 Augusta Drive Suite 300
Houston, TX 77057

Attention: Pat Dougherty

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*.

Letters

Hello Annuitants!
We have a winner!
The 14th Annuitants' Reunion will be held at the Hotel del Coronado, Coronado, CA, October 5, 6 and 7, 1984.

The response to the polling was great and certainly indicated everyone's enthusiasm, interest and anticipation.

Of the 2300 ballots mailed out, 842 were returned by the voting deadline and 965 persons indicated they would attend.

The Hotel del Coronado had the most first place votes with 154. If the ballots were tallied by a weighted average method giving three points for first place, two points for second and one for third, Coronado was still in first place with 760 points.

Something of interest regarding the Hotel del Coronado: It opened for business in February 1888. With its intriguing turrets, cupolas, hand-carved pillars and magnificent Victorian gingerbread, it is generally considered to be the last of the extravagantly conceived seaside resort hotels of the Gay Nineties, although every room has been renovated with a modern, private bathroom, etc., and the facilities have been greatly expanded.

More on the hotel, the progress regarding the reunion, and how to make your reservations in forthcoming issues of *AAAJ*.

If you have questions, suggestions regarding events, activities or entertainment, drop me a letter or give me a call.

Thanks for all your personal notes and offers of help.

Sincerely,
Ruth Lantz McClain
Chairperson

P.O. Box 967
Sapulpa, OK 74066
(918) 224-6894



Ruth Lantz McClain



The Hotel del Coronado



The Hotel del Coronado (aerial view)

The Woodlands, Texas

We enjoyed reading about the 13th Annuitants' Reunion and looking at the many pictures in the last two issues of *Al-Ayyam Al-Jamila*. Unfortunately I was in Qatar at the time and was unable to attend. Really hated to miss this one, as 13 is my lucky number!

Would like to hear from anyone who knows the whereabouts and full name of "Ilo the Pirate," who was famous for his black-and-white photographs of Saudi Arabia back in 1950-52. Would also like to hear from anyone who has a collection of his pictures.

We made it to China again as planned; it was last year about this time. The group included several Aramcons or former Aramcons:

- Bill, Juliette & Jennifer Bartlett
- Bonnie App
- Jo Ann Bartel Storm
- Bonnie Cornell
- John & Midge Harbert
- Doris Smith
- Eleanor Goellner

While in Guilin we ran into one of John Bowler's groups from Saudi Arabia.

In 1984 we plan to head for the Tyrol in Austria for a little skiing during January, and then later in the year it's off to Tibet!

If anyone is interested, they can contact me at the telephone number or address listed below.

Best wishes,

Bill & Juliette Bartlett

11102 Ellwood
The Woodlands, TX 77380
(713)363-4036



(From left) Jo Ann Bartel Storm, Bonnie Cornell, Julie Bartlett and Ruth Speers. (photo by Bonnie App)



Bill Bartlett and new-found friends. (photo by Bonnie App)

Vancouver, Washington

Since we retired last year in April we have enjoyed receiving copies of *Aramco World*, *The Arabian Sun* and *Al-Ayyam Al-Jamila*. The issue covering the reunion was particularly enjoyable.

Jack and I continue to live in Vancouver, WA. We are building a home to be completed in August. It has been hard for me to adjust to the rain, but the greenery everywhere is beautiful. Jack has been back in Saudi Arabia three times this year and enjoyed seeing everyone there. Our son Scott continues to work for a Saudi contractor there.

Retirement has been great in that we can do what we want whenever. This has included a trip to Hawaii, the beach and driving to Montana. Also, we have enjoyed seeing visitors from Saudi Arabia during the year. We hope people will make this a stop when visiting the northwest.

Thank you for keeping us up on the news with *Al-Ayyam Al-Jamila* and the other publications.

Sincerely,
Sylvia & Jack Egan

Santa Barbara, California

We enjoy reading and look forward to receiving *Al-Ayyam Al-Jamila*.

Bernice and I thought that the special edition covering the 13th Annuitants' Reunion was put together in an exceptional manner. We thoroughly enjoyed the pictures of the old friends we had in Saudi Arabia.

Best regards,
Howard & Bernice Polster

Austin, Texas

We just received a copy of *Al-Ayyam Al-Jamila* that we read from cover to cover. We were so happy to find that you have available an updated slide kit on Saudi Arabia including cassette tape. We would love to have this set to compare with the one we have and to bring us up to date on the changes since we left Dhahran in May 1979.

Also our community has a newly formed retirement group who most certainly would enjoy knowing the progress that has been made.

Many thanks for the digital clock that we were fortunate to receive on request.

Thanks to your efforts and great work in *Al-Ayyam Al-Jamila*, we are able to keep up with the wonderful friends we made in Saudi Arabia.

Sincerely,
Mr. & Mrs. A. G. Huddleston

Fayetteville, Arkansas

Just a note to say hi and to let you know Norma and I are fine. Been doing a little traveling—mostly local and as far away as St. Louis, also to Tulsa/Oklahoma City, Washington—no big deal. Just moving about and not in any hurry to rush through the museums and zoos. For so many years the time allotted to such activities was always much too short and had to be on a schedule. Always promised myself that at some future date I would take all the time I wanted. I now do that very thing — most enjoyable.

Best regards to all,
Milo Cumpston

Vida, Oregon

Fern and I were privileged to attend a dinner given by the company on May 19 to celebrate Aramco's 50th year. On that occasion I commented on the physical changes that have taken place in the Kingdom since I first arrived in Dhahran in 1938. However, I felt the greatest change had taken place in the Saudi employees.

In 1938 I supervised 100 Saudi employees building tank grades in Ras Tanura. Last May, one only needed to look around that room in San Francisco to see how far the Saudi employees had come. I further commented that it should be a mark of pride to both Aramco and the Saudi Arab Government that the Saudis holding high-level positions in Aramco had reached their positions through training, experience and ability and *not* by being appointed as figureheads. I was pleased to extend my congratulations to the Saudi employees.

In closing, I want to express our sincere appreciation for being included in some Aramco activities. This is always a pleasure.

Sincerely,
Liston F. Hills

Sparks, Nevada

We've renovated the house in Sparks, NV, and now we have it sold. We're moving to an old house in Reno. A nice, solid house, with more yard than I need to take care of. See how concrete goes with rose bushes later.

Reno surprised us with the number of cold days in the winter, but the natives say this

has been an unusual one. Anyway, we like the living here. Sort of like a small Las Vegas, without the enervating hot weather.

We're both in RSVP, the volunteer program for retired folk. And as usual, Ruth plays bridge and wins.

We appreciated going to the reunion and seeing so many of the old friends. Somebody has to do a lot of work to make it possible for the rest of us to have a real enjoyable time.

Regards,
Al and Ruth Christman

Newfoundland, Pennsylvania

Since our retirement from Aramco in early 1981, we have become active in the farming of our 90 acres of forest in the Pocono Mountains of Northeastern Pennsylvania. We are concentrating on our forest hardwoods, but also have 4000 Christmas tree seedlings which we planted a year ago. All of this keeps us busy, but we still find time to do a bit of traveling; last year we fulfilled a long-held desire to visit China. It was a demanding trip, but we thoroughly enjoyed it.

We hope present and former Aramcons who find themselves in our area will come and visit—we're only a bit over two hours from New York City. We do enjoy having visitors.

Sincerely,
Sally & Art Taylor

San Rafael, California

I lived in Dhahran in 1958-59 at ages 10-12 with my father Jim Kerr, of the Engineering Department. Later, during school breaks in '63, '64 and '65, I returned for glorious poolside summers.

I suppose much has changed since then, but not in my memories. I would like nothing more than to return and work in Saudi Arabia, after I have upgraded my job skills. However, I would like to find a few old friends. Is there anybody with any information on where the families of all my old friends have moved? Without getting out my *Scimitar* and looking at all the faces, I know I would like addresses for such names as McIntosh, Armstrong, Handzus, Slack, Tietjen, and Galliazi, whose children, my friends, were Debbie, Charlie, Tom, Diane, Lynn and Johnny, respectively.

If you can refer me to the proper person with the archives, if there be any, you would do me an immense favor. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,
Craig Kerr

180 Whittier Avenue
San Rafael, CA 94903

Fort Wayne, Indiana

We just received the Special Issue of *Al-Ayyam Al-Jamila* covering the recent 13th Annuitants' Reunion which we held near Afton, OK.

It is beautiful: It shows off Shangri-la, as well as the varied program, planned and carried out by Milo Cumpston and his talented committee.

Thanks also for including the poem, "Home Again," by William Tracy. It says so well just how many of us feel about our Aramco adventure.

There is one minor error which I reluctantly call to your attention. In photo 21C I am incorrectly identified as Hal Heinz. Now I do not object to this one bit, but our good friend Hal might not reciprocate this feeling.

Agnes joins me in saying thanks also for the publication.

Sincerely,
R. P. Lightle

Oops! We sincerely regret the error and thank R.P. and the others who pointed it out to us.

Editor

Sun City, Arizona

In the Spring 1983 issue of *Al-Ayyam Al-Jamila* you answered a letter from Charles E. Miller and indicated that an updated version of the slide kit "The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia" is available. The slides and tape sent to me in 1980 have been put to good use, as there is interest in foreign areas among the active retirement community. If the updated version of "The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia" is a revision of the kit supplied in 1980, I would appreciate a copy so that I can bring up to date my presentation for future showings.

Thank you for your help in this and in any other data you could supply to bring me up to date in presenting Saudi Arabia and Aramco to the folks here.

Yours very truly,
Prentiss C. Nelson

Harlingen, Texas

With great pleasure we read the Spring issue of *Al-Ayyam Al-Jamila*. In response to Charlie Miller's inquiry, we were glad to note that there is an updated version of the slide kit with audio-cassette available, "The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia." We have several groups in mind who would be most interested to see them.

Some of our friends wondered why we did not attend the last reunion, which was so close to home. Charlotte had the misfortune of breaking her right hip October 24, on the way home after dancing all night at the local charity ball.

It meant three months of moving around with the help of a walker after being released from the hospital. She is getting better now, still has pains and is limping through the grapefruit garden.

We are grateful for *Al-Ayyam Al-Jamila* and send best wishes to all. We are looking forward to the next reunion.

Sincerely,
Charlotte and Werner Ehrhardt

El Paso, Texas

I do want to thank you for sending a copy of the Special Issue of *Al-Ayyam Al-Jamila* to Tom as I requested. He was so happy to receive it (as Sally and I also were) and to recall his days in Dhahran. Again, many thanks for your kindness.

From time to time we find an occasion to show off the slide kit we purchased at the Dhahran commissary before our retirement. And I must add I feel it is one of the best P.R. 'pitches' for Aramco. I noted in the Spring 1983 issue of "These Pleasant Days" that an updated version of the slide kit is now available.

If at all possible, I would appreciate receipt of the updated version of the slide kit with the tape and booklet.

Again, many thanks for your kind attention to us retirees.

Regards,
Ed Masso

"The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia," is available free of charge upon request. It contains 80 slides along with an audio-cassette tape and accompanying booklet.

Editor

Dhahran, Saudi Arabia

I enjoyed the Spring 1983 issue, with photos of the Islamic garden quilt Ruth Meyers made for me. Ruth, incidentally, was incorrectly named an annuitant in the *Arabian Sun* article. She is actually the wife of pilot Bob Meyers who transferred to ASC for an 18-month assignment.

As I perused your "Letters" column, I noted many annuitants seem to want to tell what they have been up to—that leads to the notion that some of them may be doing some spectacular things—like Nita Rosemeyer, at 70, writing a novel. Maybe a "Where Are They Now" column would be fun, with emphasis on second, successful, unusual careers explored (or unusual volunteer work).

Sincerely,
Mary Norton
PR Department

How about it? We're willing if you are. Send us your "update" information, and we'll share your news with your fellow Aramcons.

Editor

Retirements

Edited from *The Arabian Sun*

Harry and Virginia Brown

For lack of a water witch in the west, Harry Milford Brown came east—to Saudi Arabia. He has never regretted the decision, made more than 30 years ago, nor has he ever lacked for anything since.

It seemed like a small thing—and so important to the productivity of the well—to the young petroleum engineer who had just graduated from the University of California at Berkeley. In the early 1950s, the \$500 cost of a water witch, a device for locating water entry into an oil well, was, however, a bit more than his first employer cared to spend. The incident convinced Harry to steer clear of those who think small.

He joined Socal in July 1951, transferred to Aramco's New York office in August 1954 and arrived in Dhahran in May 1955. Assigned to reservoir work with the General Organization's four-man Petroleum Engineering Group, Harry soon found out what the professional challenge of thinking big was all about.

Within three years he was named senior reservoir engineer. Shortly thereafter he was assigned to Abqaiq as senior petroleum engineer—Producing Reservoirs, returning to Dhahran in 1959 as coordinator of Producing, Planning and Research. Harry was named senior reservoir research engineer in 1962 and senior reservoir engineering associate in 1968 when the Petroleum Engineering Department was



created. From 1970 to 1972, on assignment in Houston, he coordinated reservoir studies with Chevron Research and Esso Production Research. Subsequent positions included supervisory posts with Simulator and Special Studies and Reservoir Simulation. Harry became a petroleum engineering consultant with Reservoir Simulation in 1979, transferring in 1981 to the Reservoir Development Planning Division, the position from which he recently retired.

A specialist in reservoir engineering "by choice, training and experience," he supplied the engineering design and wrote part of the code for the company's new Reserve Calculation and Reporting Program.

Harry will continue his major leisure time pursuits: the avid reading of military history, a lifelong interest, and the art of being a farrier, a skill he developed

over the past 20 years as the owner, with his wife Virginia, of eight Arabian horses.

When Virginia and their son Allen joined him in Saudi Arabia in November 1955, they found Dhahran's climate quite compatible with their California lifestyle and love for the outdoors. Although Allen left to enter high school a few months later, Virginia soon discovered the Dhahran Horse Association. She has been an active member ever since.

Always interested in working with children, she was in-

strumental in founding the Dhahran Pony Club, a group dedicated to teaching horsemanship to children, in 1969. Virginia added drill teams for youngsters in 1971 and, with Ruth and Dick Kerin, established the Frosty Memorial Award in 1974. In commemoration of Frosty, her horse who was a gymkhana and equitation champion for 14 years, the award is presented annually to a child recognized for "most improved horsemanship."

Now that their mare Amira and her foal Romira have new owners, the Browns will even-

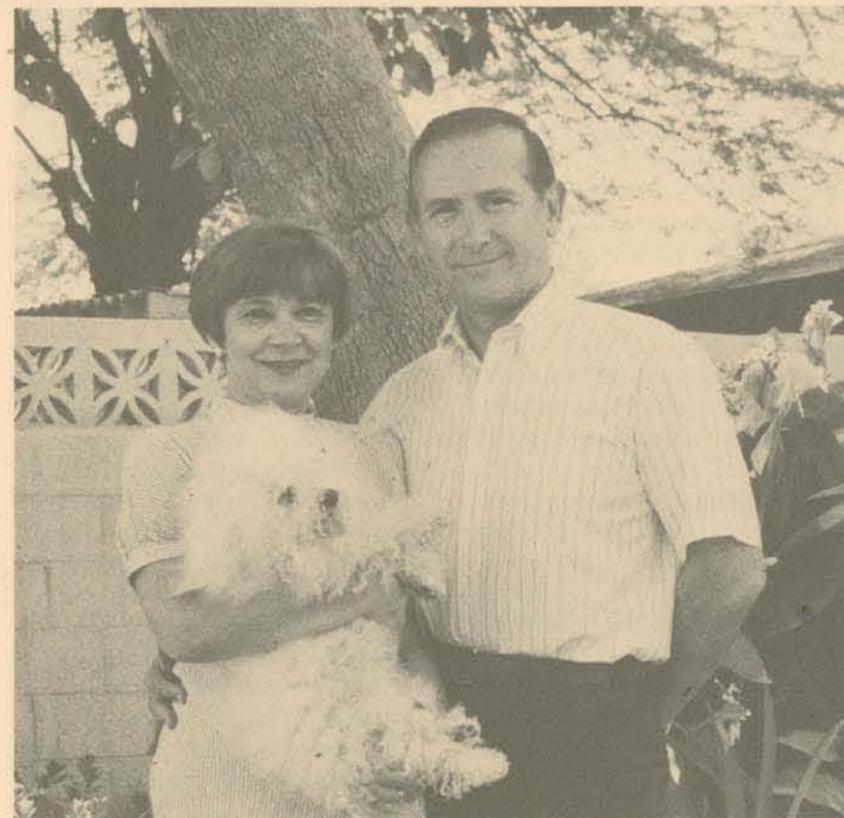
tually acquire two new horses for their planned spread in the quarter horse country of Nevada's Palomino Valley, about 30 miles northeast of Reno. Virginia already has a child-sized western saddle on hand for her namesake, an 18-month-old granddaughter. Grandchildren Shurolin & Charles and their parents Allen & Patty, of San Mateo, are also looking forward to visiting the Brown ranch.

Until their ranch is completed, the Brown address will be c/o Helen J. Lee, 1541 47th Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94122.

Walt and Joan Curtis

Walt & Joan Curtis and their Maltese terrier Charlie exchanged one of the prettiest gardens in Dhahran for a house and garden in Southbay, FL, when they left for early retirement on June 7, following 27 years with Aramco.

Walt joined the Finance Organization in 1956 and over the years filled a number of positions, including that of manager, SCECO Finance Department, the post from which he retired. Following stops in Amsterdam and Linden, NJ, the Curtises journeyed to their soon-to-be completed home in Florida, where, as soon as possible, they planned to see daughter Laura and her husband, John Fosholt, of Denver, CO; daughter Carol, a junior at Babson College in Wellesley, MA; and son Eric & wife Cyndi of Sarasota, FL. The Curtises' new address is 1491 Seafarer Drive, Southbay, Osprey, FL 33559.



Chuck Matthews

When Charles Matthews left the Dhahran Airport, his thoughts were 23 years and 65 miles away, back to the point where his Aramco career began—'Ain Dar, 20 miles west of Abqaiq. Chuck joined Aramco in 1960 as an electrician with the Maintenance Department, and his first assignment was at the 'Ain Dar Gas Injection Plant. "'Ain Dar was the crowning effort at that time and for those of us involved in its birthing and growing pains, it represents a mark of achievement," he says.

In 1962 he transferred to Dhahran as a relay technician responsible for the maintenance of protective relays for the transmission and distribution system from Safaniya to 'Udhailiyah. In 1972 Chuck was named electrical craft supervisor of electrical maintenance for all of the GOSPs, pump stations, powerhouses and substations in the Northern Area. "In 1970 the total generation capability was 200 megawatts," he says. "Today, one rotor at the Ghazlan Power Plant, the backbone of industrial electrification, provides generation capability of 400 megawatts. That's progress."

Chuck joined the Inspection Department in 1975 and was transferred to Aramco Services Company in Houston as lead electrical inspector. He returned to the Inspection Department in Dhahran in 1979 and shortly afterwards was named electrical inspection supervisor, the post he retired from.



An active, if not professional, golfer, Chuck recalls his first singular achievement as a member of the Rolling Hills Golf Club. "In 1966 I entered my first golf competition and placed first in the sixth flight of a six-flight tournament," he laughs. Competition the following year was not as stiff in the romance department, however. In 1967 Chuck married Nora Paredes, "the girl next door," in San Diego.

With a predilection for water sports, he became an active member of the Half Moon Yacht Association and enjoyed boating, water skiing and scuba diving while in Saudi Arabia. He was reared near the coastal port of San Diego and spent most of his youth in the U.S. Navy. "Ten days after Pearl Harbor I enlisted in the Navy and was sent to Pearl Harbor to help re-float the war-damaged *USS California*. The

California was brought for reconstruction to the naval shipyard at Bremerton, (WA)," he recalls, adding, "I never chipped so much paint before in my life or since."

It wasn't until 1944 that Chuck witnessed war, when the carrier he was aboard was attacked near Saipan Island in the West Pacific. "My whole afternoon was ruined," he says wryly, referring to extensive limb injuries he suffered. "My next stint was as a patient in a naval hospital for six months." As the former seaman and Nora bid bon voyage en route to retirement in San Diego, they embarked on a Rhine River cruise.

The Matthews port-of-call is 3436 Hill St., San Diego, CA 92106.

John and Ann Huish

John and Ann Huish left Ras Tanura for retirement in Casselberry, FL, following 10 years of service with Aramco.

Assigned to the South Refinery Maintenance Division, John worked as a maintenance electrician until his promotion in 1975 to foreman of the Electrical and Instrument Unit. In 1979 he was named multicraft foreman with responsibility expanded to include all electrical gas turbines in the Northern Area. One of John's most challenging assignments was last year when he and a crew of five rewired all of the residential and industrial buildings in the community of Mubarratz. The job took almost six months to complete.

Ann has been with Ras Tanura's Preventive Medicine Unit as an administrative aide for the past nine years.

Married in 1948 in John's hometown of Douglas, AZ, the Huishes began their first overseas venture when they moved to South America in 1961. They spent 10 years in South America, seven with Southern Peru Copper Corporation in Tocopala, Peru, and three with Reynolds International in Porto Ordaz, Venezuela.



The Huishes have three children: Janet Tucker, Deland, FL; Jesse, San Francisco, CA; James, Casselberry, FL. They also have four grandchildren: Jared; Justin, Jason and Tanya. All of the children and grandchildren, as well as Ann's mother, Dorothy Posey, have visited the Huishes in Ras Tanura.

Veteran travelers, the Huishes planned no side trips en route to

Florida (except for a quick glimpse of Amsterdam), as their pet dogs, Kookie and Cindy, are too old to travel.

Retirement plans include hobbies the Huishes have enjoyed during their stay in Saudi Arabia, boating, fishing, golf and bridge.

The Huishes' contact address is 1408 Fairway Oaks, Casselberry, FL 32707.

Ken and Ruth Cumings

Ken Cumings of the Planning and Technical Services Department, Manufacturing Supply and Transportation, departed with wife Ruth for retirement in Texas

after 20 years with the company. Cumings, a 1949 BSME graduate of Louisiana Tech University, held a variety of operations and engineering positions in Abqaiq and Dhahran.

The Cumings children, Lydia, Matthew and Elizabeth, all of

whom grew up in Saudi Arabia, are now Texans. Cumings' family address: 2305 Quail Hollow, Bryan, TX 77801

Paul and Colleen Nance

As symbols of where Paul Nance is coming from and where he is going, his three retirement parties may prove instructive. They were held in a Bedouin tent on his lawn, for fathers and sons, for mothers and daughters and for neighbors. Cardamom coffee, sweet dates and a traditional Arab meal were accompanied by a striking exhibit of Saudi handicrafts and a slide show featuring Saudi Arabia's holy places, antiquities, architecture, marine life and artifacts.

This salute betokens the affection with which Paul and Colleen Nance regard their more than 30 years in Saudi Arabia, and it foreshadows a new career for Paul where exhibits and slide shows may be the stuff of everyday life.

After years of study and active involvement with the world museum community, after visiting archaeological finds from East and West in situ or in some 300 museums, Paul will break ground this summer at the family farm in Kingsville, MO, for the Nance Museum and Library of Antiquity.

The mental ground-breaking goes back a dozen years to participation in an Advanced Management course at Massachusetts Institute of Technology. There, Paul encountered other successful managers sharing corporate skills for community enrichment, with no loss to professional commitment or growth. Until then he had believed that job achieve-



ment meant hard work, long hours, a singleminded purpose. The rule had propelled him through college in two-and-a-half years and through course work for a master's in Psychology in just over a year. His steady rise within Aramco, from job analyst in 1952 to manager of Organization and Industrial Engineering Department by 1968, appeared to confirm it. Yet the concept affected him profoundly and turned him, with characteristic thoroughness, to a dormant interest—the early civilizations of the region.

By rising early, Paul was able to devote two hours a day to the study of archaeology and anthropology. He formed a discussion group from among Saudi and expatriate friends who explored in depth these and other themes, including management principles,

educational psychology and existentialism.

In tandem with his philosophical interests, his career burgeoned: he served four years as company appointee on the School Board, one as chairman; in 1976, as director of Employee Relations Policy and Planning, he became responsible for all company personnel programs. In 1980 he was named director—Compensation, Policy and Planning and in 1981, director—Employee Relations and Training Administration, the position from which he retired.

On May 29, the Nances departed for Houston to visit their son Mark, of ASC, and his wife Judy. Waiting for them at home will be second son, James,

a sophomore at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth, TX. In June they were off to San Diego for the annual conference of American Association of Museums and, in July, to London for meetings of the International Council of Museums. Then, at the Nance Museum over the next two years, objectives, scope of projects and priorities will be defined.

Scheduled for formal opening in August 1985, the museum has a library of over 2,000 books on antiquity (expected to grow to 10,000 by 1985), many replicas of archaeological finds, vignette collections of coins, maps and jewelry linked to Paul's selected time frame, the first and second millennia.

Through a study of world mythology and of the

monuments and other art forms in antiquity, Paul hopes to pinpoint the ideas and beliefs of peoples to show what life was like in early civilizations at a given moment in time and to illustrate the similarities across cultural lines.

He hopes the museum will develop into a resource and study center where people, mainly from the rural areas of the midwest and southwest, can access the resources of world-class museums through videodiscs and other communicators.

Long-range plans include travels in Central and South America between 1985 and 1992 to study the early civilizations and compare findings with what is already at hand. And in the year 2000, Paul hopes to hold a four-millennia retrospect, comparing

the two millennia B.C. with the last two millennia to highlight the persisting themes and similarities across cultures.

Presently, Saudi Arabian archaeology is represented by the Nabataean, but Paul believes that by the dawn of the new millennium, a new Saudi history will have been written by Saudi scholars now in the field of archaeology which will alter interpretations of the body of knowledge now extant, a prospect he finds tantalizing.

Meanwhile, the Bedouin tent and its trove will be on display, to enchant visitors, a symbol for the Nances of what may lie ahead and of their own recent, happy past.

Contact address: Mr. and Mrs. P. J. Nance, Box 313, Route 1, Kingsville, MO 64061.

Jim and Norma Tracy

James W. Tracy left Aramco for retirement on April 26, 1983. He joined his wife Norma, who preceded him to their canal-front home in Nokomis, FL, where they expect to do a lot of sailing.

Jim graduated from Union College in Schenectady, NY. He served in the U.S. Army in World War II, and he will retire as a lieutenant commander in the Naval Reserve in October. He started his oil career as a junior engineer with Carter Oil (EXXON) in Billings, MT. Ten years later he joined Mobil Research and Development in New York. In October 1972, 16 years later,

he transferred to Aramco. He retired as a cost specialist in the Resources Planning Department.

Jim's primary community activity was Boy Scouting. He was Unit Commissioner for the Eastern Province, reporting directly to the Direct Service Council in Dallas. With 33 years in scouting, he has been involved in Arabia with both Cubs and Scouts, mostly conducting unit leader training in Udhailiyah, Jubail, Ras Tanura and Dhahran. He has also organized and conducted camporees and other scouting activities. In addition to the previously awarded Three Beads for Wood Badge, he was presented the coveted Silver Beaver Award in 1982.

Norma's spare time activities included a term as President of the Dhahran Women's Group. She also served on the AEA board and is noted in the community for her many beginner and advanced classes in needlepoint and as an avid bridge player.

In retirement, Norma and Jim expect to travel throughout the States and visit frequently with their six children and seven grandchildren. Their new address is 432 Bellini Circle, Nokomis, FL 33555.

John Meredith Wilson

John Meredith Wilson, organization consultant—Organization and Industrial Engineering Department, left Dhahran on May 25 for retirement in Houston, TX, concluding 31 years of Aramco service.

When Jack joined Aramco in New York on February 1, 1952, he immediately put into effect a technique he had perfected several years earlier. The result of that initial application enabled him to learn the basics of the Arabic language from a book as he rode the New York subway to and from work each day.

Jack mastered the technique of successfully managing concurrent activity during his years at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology where he earned degrees in Chemical Engineering, Engineering and Business Administration—simultaneously. During his time with Aramco, Jack applied his technique regularly, holding a parallel career as an Air Force Reserve Officer for more than 30 years. He attained the rank of colonel in 1973 and is now on the Retired Reserve Officers' list.

Though assigned to the New York office from 1952 to 1956, much of that time involved field trips, as senior engineer, to Saudi Arabia. Jack recalls the challenge of installing an improvised tilted drum at the Abqaiq stabilizer plant in 1954 prior to his transfer to the General Organization in Dhahran, as senior engineer—Process and Refinery in 1956.



A decade of varied technical assignments followed in Ras Tanura and Dhahran with Ras Tanura Oil Operations Engineering, Arab Development Department Technical Assistance, Operations and Ras Tanura District Engineering.

Jack continued his study of the Arabic language, first at Samha Villa, Hofuf, and later at the Middle Eastern Center for Arabic Studies, Shemlan, Lebanon, where he graduated in 1968 "with the highest mark on record, save one."

On his return to Dhahran, Jack transferred to the Training Department as an Industrial Relations staff analyst. At about that time he also decided to share his long-time interest in philately by joining the Dhahran Stamp Club. He proved to be one of the group's most active members, serving several terms as president and writing his book, *The Hejaz—A History in Stamps*, which was published in 1982.

Following two years as superintendent of the Advanced Training Division, which included responsibility for Management Training, Jack became a corporate job evaluation adviser with Organization and Industrial Engineering. He was named organization consultant in 1978 and resumed that post in 1980 following a one-year special assignment with Aramco Services

Company in Houston as administrator—Administrative Services.

Jack, who introduced international travel to the Dhahran Outing Group with a trip to Petra in the late 1950s, made only one stop on his way home. He arrived in New London, CT, in time to see his son Edward graduate with a degree in Chinese Language from Connecticut Col-

lege. Edward, 21, was born in Dhahran, attended Aramco schools and graduated from Choate Rosemary Hall.

When settled in the Alief area of Houston, Jack plans to write at least two more books on stamps, to open a stamp business and to be active as a consultant—concurrently. Jack's address: c/o Robert G. Wilson, 2513 Maconda Lane, Houston, TX 77027.

Muhammad Ashgar Fazli

It was spring, 1955, when Muhammad Ashgar Fazli, a stenographer in Abqaiq Oil Operations, and Jack Hitchcock, a department superintendent, met. Muhammad was homesick for family and friends in Pakistan, so his supervisor arranged for him to meet Hitchcock. Young Muhammad, fully expecting to be told how he could relieve his homesickness, was surprised to hear Hitchcock say, "You have to have goals, and no matter where those goals take you that is your destiny, and it is your obligation to make the most of it." Hitchcock had understood. After all, he had spent many years overseas during his long career in the U.S. Army.

Twenty-eight years since that spring afternoon, Muhammad Ashgar Fazli retired to Karachi, Pakistan, to a family that had burgeoned to include a wife, five children and one grandchild.

Muhammad went on to stay in Abqaiq for 13 years, seven of which he spent as an administrative aide in the Abqaiq



Plants Division. He realized one of his goals when, in 1968, he moved to Dhahran to set up and supervise the Administrative Services Unit for the then Northern Area Producing Department.

In 1973 he transferred to the Producing and Water Injection Planning and Technical Staff as staff analyst. After four years he was named housing coordinator with the Contractor Community Services Department, responsible for the needs of 6,000 men at Aramco's 'Uthmaniyah Construction Camp. The following year he became staff adviser for the Camp Services Unit in Dhahran.

In 1980 Muhammad moved to

the Gas Projects Organization as a scheduling analyst. His new position involved planning and programs activities in the Gas Projects Business Group, and in 1981 he assumed the added responsibility of computer security liaison for Gas Projects.

Muhammad will rejoin his wife Shamsunnisa, who preceded him home from Saudi Arabia. Their eldest daughter, Naheed, a graduate of the University of Karachi, is married to Amanullah Tamimy and they have a one-year-old son, Osman. Son Fouad is in his final year of studies in Mechanical Engineering at the University of Engineering and

Technology in Lahore. Daughter Sumaiyah is a third-year student at Dow Medical College in Karachi. Their only child born in Dhahran, Omar, is now a first-year Pre-Engineering student at the National College in Karachi. The Fazlis' fifth child is eight-year-old Sa'ad Ashgar.

"I would like to bid a fond farewell to all of the many friends I have made since coming to Saudi Arabia in 1955," Muhammad says. He even admits that, once back in Pakistan, he'll probably feel a little homesick.

The Fazlis' contact address is E-9/2 Block No. 4, Gulsen-e-Iqbal, Karachi 47, Pakistan.

Mohamed Ali Khan

Mohamed Ali Khan has retired to Bombay, India. He joined Aramco in January 1952 and was assigned to Abqaiq's Materials Supply and Community Services Department.

Throughout the years, Mohamed held various positions within the Residential Services Division in Abqaiq and served as acting Housing and Personal Services supervisor. In 1962 he joined the Medical Department. His last position there was medical secretary to the Abqaiq medical director.

Following 14 years of service with the Medical Department, Mohamed transferred to the Materials Distribution Department in 1976. He was placed on special assignment where he helped organize the newly form-



ed Administrative Services Unit in Dhahran. Mohamed's responsibilities also included establishing 'Udhailiyah's Personal Effects office.

In January 1978 Mohamed was promoted to senior liaisonman, Personal Effects. In September 1981 he was again upgraded with supervisory responsibility of Abqaiq's Personal Effects office.

Mohamed's immediate retirement plans were to join his wife,

Zaitoon, five children and two grandsons in Bombay. Their oldest daughter, Rukhsana, is married to Zafar Sarguroh of the Materials Distribution Department; they have two children, Masood and Abdul Hameed. The older sons, Ayub and Faisal, were born in Saudi Arabia. Ayub is a first-year university student, and Faisal is completing his senior year of high school. Anwar is in junior high school, and the

youngest, Fawzia, is in the fourth grade.

"I have made many friends throughout the Kingdom since I first came to Saudi Arabia more than 30 years ago," Khan says. "I may not be able to personally say farewell but I shall always remember them."

The Khans' contact address: Green Lawns, Flat 202, Mahim Kapad Bazar Road, Mahim, Bombay 400 016.

A. D. Qureshi

A. D. Qureshi of the Inspection Department retired from Aramco recently after 29 years of service.

A. D. began his Aramco career in 1954 in the Products Distribution Department. Following several administrative assignments, he transferred to the Inspection Department where he was promoted to assistant engineer and later to the position of assistant inspector.

In 1978 he assumed the post of inspection engineer with responsibility for the coordination, implementation and administration of the computerized relief valve program which involved the tracking of some 21,000 valves.

He returned to Lahore, Pakistan, where he joined his wife Shamshad. Their immediate plans are to trade tracking valves for the full-time tracking of grandchildren.

The Qureshis have six children, three of whom live in Saudi Arabia. Tariq graduated from Scotland's Dundee College of Technology with a degree in



Mechanical Engineering and is with Northern Area Projects; Tauqir, a Chemical Engineering graduate of Aston University in Birmingham, England, is with Petroleum Engineering; and Tahir, a graduate of the University of Punjab in Pakistan is with Purchasing Inventory and Con-

trol. The other offsprings, Firasat, Tazeen and Noweed graduated from the University of Punjab and make their home in Pakistan.

The Qureshis contact address is 338 Shad Bagh, Lahore, Pakistan.

Paul and Francisca Clark

"All the world's a stage,
And all the men and women
merely players.

They have their exits and
entrances"

Shakespeare
As You Like It
Act II, SC. 7

This familiar quote sounds an appropriate parting note for Paul R. Clark, vice-president—Mechanical Services, who not only has played a leading role in the real-life drama of Aramco's petroleum development, but also has delighted Dhahran theatergoers in recent years with his acting and directing talent. Paul and his wife Francisca departed Saudi Arabia for retirement on June 25.

Paul's 31-year Aramco career had many dramatic moments. In 1952, two months after earning a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from Northeastern University in Boston, Paul accepted a job as an assistant project engineer in Aramco's New York Office. A year later, he was sent to the Training Center in Sidon, Lebanon, for an intensive two-week course in Arabic language and culture. "I very nearly didn't make it to Saudi Arabia," says Paul. "Near the end of my training I took a bad fall and fractured my skull. I spent about two months in the Tapline hospital under treatment and another month recuperating back at Sidon. By then the instructors were hard pressed to come up with new course ideas."



Finally mended, Paul journeyed on to Saudi Arabia where he assumed a job with District Engineering in Ras Tanura. In 1956 he was transferred to Aramco Overseas Company (AOC) in The Hague as a project engineer involved in the design of what was then the world's first refrigerated liquefied petroleum gas plant, slated for construction at Ras Tanura. The work, though decidedly absorbing, did not prevent Paul from noticing Francisca Karels, a materials clerk working in a nearby division. They were married a year later in The Hague. During the next five years the Clarks had two children: Anne Marie and Paul. The family returned to

Saudi Arabia in 1962. A third child, Nicole, was born in Dhahran the following year.

Saudi Arabia's burgeoning oil-producing network provided the major focus for Paul's career over the next eight years, a period which brought him increasing responsibility. After assignments in Facilities Planning and the Abqaiq Construction Division, he was named supervisor of the Refinery Design Unit in Dhahran in 1968. In 1970 he returned to The Hague as a project manager. Three years later he returned to Dhahran to assume the position of projects director—Project Management.

In June 1975 Paul was named manager of the newly created Gas

Projects Department and given the responsibility of expediting the design and construction of the Master Gas System. "This was a very large program and it had to be completed in the shortest possible time. We had to devise an entirely new methodology for handling it. In addition to the engineering and construction problems, the logistics of organizing materials acquisition and food, housing and medical arrangements for the 35,000 workers assigned to the project presented some very interesting challenges," says Paul.

In 1978 he was appointed general manager—Gas Project Management and, in 1979, elected vice-president—Gas and Refinery Project Management. In 1982 he was appointed vice-president—Mechanical Services, the post from which he retired.

Despite his demanding schedule, Paul found time to indulge a life-long interest in theater in May 1978, when he took to the stage as a defending attorney, Mr. Mayhew, in Agatha Christie's *Witness for the Prosecution*. Over the next five years, Clark appeared in a wide variety of roles, the most memorable of

which was Sir Thomas More in Robert Bolt's *A Man for All Seasons*. His greatest accolades, however, were received for his skill as a director. In 1980 his direction of Arthur Miller's *Death of a Salesman* earned him the following review in *The Arabian Sun*: "Paul Clark, as director and actor, proved masterly in drawing forth from the Dhahran Theater Group (DTG) a performance which is the best yet seen...it is a play which will not easily be forgotten." Paul also served as DTG president from 1980-1982.

Francisca Clark has pursued her own miscellany of demanding interests. A tennis enthusiast, she served as president and secretary of the Abqaiq Tennis Group from 1966-1968. Through the years she has also participated in the Dhahran Women's Group and the Dhahran Art Group. Since 1970 her prime avocation has been the art of brass rubbing. A native of Holland, Francisca has produced the bulk of her brass rubbings from the cathedrals of Holland, Belgium and England. Perhaps the most personally meaningful rubbing, however, is one she recently obtained of the

commemorative plaque adorning the discovery well, Dammam No. 7.

Retirement will afford the Clarks a long-awaited opportunity to visit more regularly with their children. Current plans are to establish temporary residence in San Diego, CA, where Ann Marie, their eldest daughter, is studying criminology at Grossmont College. In nearby Los Angeles will be Nicole, who is finishing up her sophomore year at Occidental College. Paul, majoring in Biochemistry at the University of Arizona in Tucson, presents the family with the greatest distance obstacle.

In his free time, Paul intends to continue his involvement with community theater, as well as brush up on his golf skills. He may also venture into some sort of business. As time permits, he and Francisca plan to travel extensively, both in the U.S. and abroad. After brief stops in The Hague, London and Massachusetts, the Clarks may be contacted in care of Anne Marie Clark, 3007 Loma Riviera Drive, San Diego, CA 92110.

John and Virginia Onnen

John H. Onnen, manager of Oil Supply Planning and Scheduling, departed recently with wife Virginia for retirement in Texas

after 32 years with the company. The Onnens may be contacted at 1400 Thaddeus Cove, Austin, TX 78746.

A. R. and Fatimeh Abdul-Rahman

When auditing specialist Abdul-Rahman Ragheb Abdul-Rahman and wife Fatimeh speak of the retirement that began recently, they stress that their new home in Amman, Jordan, is not really very far away and surely will be a stopping-off place for many Dhahran travelers. "Fatimeh and I both hope very much that when our friends are in Amman they will stop and call us," says Abdul-Rahman, who, after 33 years with the company, has found he values two things above all else—the many friendships he and Fatimeh have formed in Dhahran and the work he was involved in during his long career with Aramco Finance.

"If I had to do it all over again, I would certainly go back to Internal Auditing," said Abdul-Rahman, who, as with everything, has logical reasons to back up his opinion.

He dislikes routine and, "in my case, every assignment was something new." He got along well with his fellow auditors, whom he said he found to be highly educated and very reasonable people. Most of all, he enjoyed the challenge of meeting new people and helping them to establish financial systems and solve financial problems.

With degrees both in Cost Accounting and Higher Accounting from LaSalle College in Philadelphia, as well as the prestigious Certificate of Internal Auditor (not to be abbreviated



CIA, Abdul-Rahman says with a twinkle in his eye), Abdul-Rahman certainly has the background to offer advice on how to establish and maintain financial systems. But not all of his Aramco career has been in Auditing. When he joined the company in 1950, with nine years of government accounting already behind him, Abdul-Rahman was assigned to Cost Accounting, Ledger and Receivables. But when his supervisor moved to Auditing, he insisted Abdul-Rahman follow. And so in 1956 began a career that would eventually see Abdul-Rahman fill such positions as traveling auditor, senior auditor, principal

auditor—acting and, most recently, auditing specialist.

In Abdul-Rahman's view, all of the positions have been good ones, though his most vivid memories, perhaps, are of the days when, as a young traveling auditor, he regularly visited Riyadh and Jiddah, as well as the then-new communities of al-Kharj, Haradh, 'Udhailiyah, Safaniya and the Tapline communities. "Of course there were hardships but, honestly, I loved every minute of it," says Abdul-Rahman, who says he also enjoyed his assignments in the

1960s to Cairo, Beirut, The Hague, and New York. In more recent years, Abdul-Rahman has undertaken positions enabling him to help monitor company growth and develop younger auditors to do the work he always enjoyed so much.

Not that Abdul-Rahman's only interest is auditing. Of late, he enjoys reading Middle Eastern history, playing chess with his friends or, when possible, visiting with his six children and 11

grandchildren, something Abdul-Rahman and Fatimeh certainly plan to continue in Amman.

Daughter Usra and son Nazih, who each have five children, are close enough for regular visits. Further away are son Samir, his wife and baby daughter, who live in Dammam. Daughter Sabah, works for Aramco in Abqaiq; son Sa'id works in Shedgum; and youngest son Jamal received his degree in Mechanical Engineering this spring from Tulsa

University—the fifth Abdul-Rahman offspring to graduate from a U.S. university.

In between the children's visits, Abdul-Rahman will be landscaping his new home, continuing his auditing work on a self-employed basis and, with Fatimeh, looking forward to calls and letters from Aramco friends. The Abdul-Rahmans may be contacted at Sports City District, P. O. Box 960375, Amman, Jordan.

Thorn Snyder

Ask Thorn Snyder about his 28 years with Aramco, and he may pause for a minute to decide just what to tell about—his activities as one of Aramco's most compelling speakers, his 15 years as Aramco chief economist, or, perhaps, the game he used in his petroleum economics seminars called "the oil game."

All were contributing factors to a highly original oil company career that came to a close early on the morning of May 1, when Thorn departed Dhahran to start a new life based in Mt. Charleston, NV.

"I don't have any definite plans yet, but I do think over the years I've gained many insights and much wisdom, and I would like to use these in some productive way," says Thorn, who may continue his career in economics, may write a book, or may go back to teaching—a fitting conclusion to a career that began when Thorn juggled doctoral work in Industrial Psychology and Labor Economics with a full-



time career teaching Economics at Purdue University.

"I enjoyed college teaching very much," says Thorn, who, unfortunately, found the main problem with an academic life

was that it conflicted with his desire for economic solvency. Accordingly, in 1955, Thorn left the university to join Aramco,

becoming the company's chief economist in 1965.

"It would take more words than you're allowed here to tell what the Economics Department did," says Thorn. "But basically, we offered another point of view, a way of looking at decisions and problems that would help management choose rationally among alternatives, for example, among competing capital programs and projects. Engineers have one kind of training, but economists have another, so that they tend to frame their questions in a different way," says Thorn. "If you don't ask the right questions in the right way, you can't find out what the real problems are."

One reason that Thorn's way of looking at problems seemed so pertinent was that he invariably presented his point of view so well. Early on it was seen that Thorn was an exceptionally compelling speaker and, before too long, public speaking became a real part of his career. It was Thorn who was designated as company spokesman at three Arab Petroleum Conferences in the late 1960s, at numerous briefings for journalists, bankers, diplomats and oil men at the Middle East Seminar for Arabic

studies in Shemlan in Lebanon, and at the annuitants' reunions where he gave the update speeches in 1974, 1978 and 1980.

His public speaking ability was also helpful in the Aramco seminars on the international oil and gas industry he led in the 1960s and 1970s—seminars that normally concluded with a game he applied called, "the oil game," which, imitating the business world, "offered a potential for hitting it big, or going broke. The emotional stresses inherent in this game stimulated more learning about investment risk and uncertainty than millions of words," says Thorn.

Of all his speaking assignments, however, his most famous was the 60-minute speech he gave at numerous orientation programs for new employees. It was often called "the bottle of oil speech," as it began with Thorn holding up a small bottle of crude oil and stating, "For most of you, this is all the oil you will ever see while you are in Saudi Arabia . . ." It was a wonderful opening to a vivid description of oil and energy economics.

Notable as it has been, public speaking has been but one facet of Thorn's career. Over the years he has also been very active in training members of the

Economics Department, as well as contributing to The Grid and other management training programs. At the same time, he developed a managerial style that does not rely on fear and intimidation, an accomplishment of which he is especially proud. He has done some creative writing, including an original script based on *Camelot* and filled with characters resembling well-known Aramco executives of the day. And, in leisure hours, he found time to host the sun-up week-end tennis doubles, to participate in the Society of Simulated Sports and to collect oriental rugs.

Some of these activities will no doubt be continued in the U.S., but before he undertakes anything very arduous, Thorn first plans to take a break. A stopover for spring in Paris was followed by visits to his three sons in the U.S.: Neal, father of Thorn's grandchild Calina and a financial executive in Las Vegas; Dana, an entrepreneur in San Francisco; and Wayne, vice-president of planning for an energy company in Houston.

Thorn's contact address in the U.S. is 228 Rainbow Canyon Blvd., Mt. Charleston, NV 89124.

Directors hold anniversary dinner in San Francisco



(From left) Mr. and Mrs. J.J. Kelberer and Mr. and Mrs. F. Jungers.

The Aramco Board of Directors opened its annual meeting with a special, commemorative dinner to mark the 50th anniversary of the company's beginnings on May 29, 1933. Attending as special guests were many Aramco pioneers from those early years, residents of the bay area and the Pacific coast.

A 50th anniversary audio-visual show had its American premiere at the event, covering the entire half-century of achievement in a dramatic and colorful 10 minutes, with nearly 1000 slides.

It was on May 29, 1933, in Jiddah, Saudi Arabia, that the original concession agreement was signed by Lloyd Hamilton, representing Standard Oil Company of California, and Shaykh 'Abd Allah al-Sulayman, representing King 'Abd al-Aziz.

John Kelberer was master of ceremonies for the dinner, a night of emotion, reminiscence and memorial, as speaker after speaker came forward to recount what it was like then, back in the early 1940s—and even before, when Aramco was just beginning.

Kelberer extended a special thanks to the Government representatives present at the celebra-



W.R. Chandler (left) and W.J. McQuinn (right).

tion, saying, "I want to give recognition to the country that made it all possible. We all found ourselves going to Saudi Arabia, most of us when we were quite young. The Government made us feel comfortable there, made us feel like we were accomplishing things. Without the hospitality of the Saudi Arabian Government, none of this would have been possible."



G.A. Covey (left) and N. Jaggard (right).

BOOKS

Edited from *The Arabian Sun*

The Wildlife of Saudi Arabia. Foreword by Sir Peter Scott (London, Stacey International, 1982).

Books of animal photographs are always irresistible, and *The Wildlife of Saudi Arabia* has a particularly attractive collection, especially for anyone who is or has been in Saudi Arabia. The photographs, by a number of different photographers, range from good but standard portraits to studies of particular charm, such as the Spiny Mouse or the incredible squid, and indeed a number of the marine life photographs are especially memorable. There are also fascinating bits of information (one really wishes the text was of greater length), for example, on the "cleaner fish," who act

as "doctors" and "dentists" of the reef, or on the instant crustacean, *Triops granarius*, which "lies dormant for years until the arrival of a rainstorm when it moults from its cyst and grows to its full size."

The Wildlife of Saudi Arabia begins with a useful introduction, "How Arabia's Animals Came To Be There," by Professor Wilhelm Buttiker, and continues with sections on mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians, insects and arachnids and marine life, written by Professor Abdul Mon'im S. Talhouk, Professor Wilhelm Buttiker, John Gasperetti, Patricia R. Gasperetti and Dick Massey. Each section consists of an introductory part, followed by a series of photographs, each with a brief description.

The book makes no pretense of being an academic work—and is not aimed at the specialist—although there is a useful index

of Latin names.

The book is an excellent introduction to the subject, a pleasure for adults and instructive for children. And by making its readers more aware of the world around them, it is likely to contribute to the efforts now being made throughout the peninsula to preserve its wildlife. As Sir Peter Scott says in his foreword: "... And as is the case everywhere in the world, there is always a need for more education and greater public awareness of what will be lost if practical conservation is not more widely supported." And greater awareness of what is at risk this book certainly provides.

The Wildlife of Saudi Arabia is admirably presented with a useful map of the habitats of Arabia's wildlife, index and bibliography.

'Shai': from currency to popular beverage

Edited from *The Arabian Sun*

In the West, coffee is generally thought to be a more traditionally Muslim drink than tea, but actually this is not the case. There are large areas—for example Central Asia, Pakistan and Iran—where tea is drunk much more often than coffee, and others, such as North Africa, where both are popular. There, as in Saudi Arabia and other regions, it is the custom on formal occasions to offer tea and then coffee.

The word tea—in Arabic, *shai*—seems to derive in all languages from the Chinese, either in the Cantonese pronunciation *chay*, or the Amoy *tay*—the latter was, in fact, the original pronunciation in England and America. The earliest reliable mention is in a Chinese dictionary of 350 B.C., and it is generally thought that the plant was first cultivated in Szechuan and then spread along the Yangtze valley to the sea.

A handbook on tea, written in China around 780 A.D., described the usual form as a type of cake made from leaves that had been steamed, crushed and molded. The cake was fired and toasted or shredded in salted boiling water. This is still the way tea is made by the largely Muslim nomads of Tibet, Mongolia and Central Asia. The handsome tea-

blocks, often molded with interesting designs and calligraphy, can sometimes be bought in the West, although apparently they are no longer used as currency, as they were for centuries along the caravan routes.

The introduction of tea was later than that of coffee, and the precise date at which it began to be used in the Muslim world is uncertain. Legend has it, however, that the earliest place to adopt it was North Africa and that it was introduced there by an English merchant at the beginning of the 18th century. The first mention in European literature is 1559, when it is referred to as *chay catai*—Chinese tea, so it may be presumed it was coming directly from the Far East and not via Turkey or the Levant.

In 1666 tea was sold in London for 60 shillings a pound, equivalent to a month's salary for a working man. Until the turn of this century, it was the custom to reuse tea leaves several times, and the wealthier people in a town or village would often give their once-used leaves to their poorer neighbors.

Oddly enough, England was the greatest coffee-drinking country in the world when tea was first sold publicly in London at Garway's Coffee House in 1657. It soon became available at the some 2,000 coffee houses in the city. At this time, tea was the monopoly of the East India Company. This led to the Tea Act of

1773, which in turn precipitated the Boston Tea Party.

All countries have their own very well defined preferences where tea is concerned, probably linked to the country from which they originally imported it. India, where tea cultivation was not introduced until 1834, is producing roughly one-third of the world's tea crop, part of it exported to the Arab world in general and to the Gulf and the Levant in particular. These teas are black (fermented), as are those of Ceylon, which go particularly to Egypt and Iraq. The light, scented Chinese teas are not usually much appreciated in the Muslim world, where the stronger types are preferred, but the so-called "red" Foochow tea is popular in Egypt and Tunisia. In the latter country, tea is often made very strong, with or without mint, and may be boiled for as much as an hour before serving.

In most of these areas, tea is drunk plain or sweetened, in any case without milk, except where there has been strong European influence. Around the Black Sea, it is sometimes served Russian-style: sweetened with jam instead of sugar. And in Central Asia, where green tea is drunk as well as other kinds, there is considerable connoisseurship, and even rather simple markets may offer a dozen different kinds.

Falkenhagen returns to Aramco for second look

Edited from *The Arabian Sun*

As far as Bob Falkenhagen is concerned, there's a certain nostalgia connected with the company's earliest facilities. In the early 1940s, Robert Falkenhagen signed on with Cosac to help construct some of the company's first major facilities in Ras Tanura and Abqaiq. Recently, after an absence of 37 years, Falkenhagen returned to Aramco to take a second look at those facilities.

According to Falkenhagen, working in Saudi Arabia during Aramco's first major period of expansion was nothing less than high adventure.

"I'd been turned down by the armed services because of an eye problem, and I thought the best way I could contribute to the war effort was to sign on with Aramco in Saudi Arabia," Falkenhagen recalls. "Oil was needed for the war, and the company was desperate for engineers," he adds. So, soon after his interview, he found himself bound for Ras Tanura and a two-year assignment in Saudi Arabia.

"Plans were already under way to build the refinery and there was tremendous pressure to get a lot of things done," says Falkenhagen. "We had to get into production fast and get things rolling."

Making the plans was one thing. But implementing them, it turned out, was quite another. To



Mr. and Mrs. Robert Falkenhagen

begin with, there was practically no available work force. At the same time, there was a terrific shortage of materials. Yet even with these difficulties, there was one thing the men did have in good measure—a willingness to get the job done, and that included some jobs they never thought they would be doing.

"There was so much to do and so few of us to do it that I found myself doing all sorts of things I'd never done before," says Falkenhagen.

For instance, when the company was short of production

men, Falkenhagen found himself helping to test wells in the Dammam field. When they needed someone to perform a hydrographic survey of the Gulf so they could begin the Bahrain pipeline, Falkenhagen found himself in a specially equipped dhow on the Gulf. And when they needed someone to do some welding, he found himself doing that. Amazingly, Falkenhagen even managed, part of the time, to do the job he was brought out to do in

the first place—construction engineering.

"I did some preliminary surveying having to do with the refinery and was involved with the construction of a number of residential buildings," says Falkenhagen. He adds that while Ras Tanura already existed as a community at the time he arrived, things were different in Abqaiq.

"That was what I really liked. We were really pioneering out there," says Falkenhagen. During just one year in Abqaiq, he was involved in the construction of the mess hall, the clubhouse, the cooling towers and sanitary facilities, working... "all day long out in the sun, summer and winter."

In addition to learning new jobs, Falkenhagen spent a certain amount of his time learning Arabic. "I think the reason we learned it so well is the way we learned it—on the job," says Falkenhagen, who still remembers the language and enjoys speaking it.

The chance to do new things and meet new people was interesting to Falkenhagen. But in 1946, with the war over, Falkenhagen decided to return to



A photo from the 1940s shows Bob Falkenhagen (left) with Pete Pederson, a veteran Aramcon who retired as area engineer in 1954 after 18 years in Saudi Arabia.

school in the U.S. He left good friends and happy memories behind, but took with him a souvenir bottle of smooth white Arabian sand.

"I really started something with that," says Falkenhagen, who in subsequent years traveled the world as a manufacturing representative, collecting sand—which normally differed markedly from the Saudi Arabian

variety—from every place he visited.

During those years Falkenhagen never returned to that part of the Middle East, but he often thought of Saudi Arabia. And following his retirement last year, he decided to make the trip with wife Bette and see again the things he had helped to build nearly 40 years before.

As it turned out, the only thing he could find that he remembered in Dhahran was a section of Easter Egg Row (behind Steineke Hall). He did find several landmarks in Abqaiq though, including a now-renovated "sheepshed" he helped to construct. And he was very glad he had a chance to see the progress that had been made in the area. He was also pleased to meet so many new Aramcons, to have a chance to speak Arabic again, and to once again view Umm ar-Rus, the jabal overlooking Dhahran.

"It's the one thing I saw that hasn't changed a bit," says Falkenhagen, who will probably most often remember Saudi Arabia not as it is now, but the way it was when he first arrived, almost 40 years ago.

Huna-Wa-Hunak

Translated literally from Arabic, huna-wa-hunak means "here and there." In everyday usage, it's a term for items gathered from here and there; things that might have been temporarily set aside or forgotten, now regrouped; a hodgepodge.

Send your contributions to:

Huna-wa-Hunak
ASC Public Affairs
1800 Augusta Drive, Suite 300
Houston, TX 77057

Annuitant Joy Cove, who retired in 1982 as supervisor—US/Canadian Dollar Payroll, became the bride of annuitant Harry Mohlmann, who had retired five years earlier as inspector—US/Canadian Dollar Personnel, in a January 12 ceremony in Las Vegas, NV. The evening wedding, which took place on the bride's birthday, was performed at the Chapel of the Fountain and was attended by several members of the bride's family. The newly married couple will spend time in Australia, California and Nevada. Their permanent address is 25912 Dana Bluffs W., Capistrano Beach, CA 92624.



Gertrude & Hal Elton have been keeping busy on the golf course since their 1978 retirement. In addition, Hal serves as Assistant Fire Chief for the Sun City Center, FL, Volunteer Fire Department.

We have been contacted by someone trying to locate a Dr. Esther Ames, who brought an Arabian mare back to the States from Saudi Arabia "some time back." It seems the mare, Mahraa, has a "grandson" living in British Columbia, and the owner of that horse wishes to trace the horse's ancestry further.

If you have any information about the whereabouts of Dr. Ames, please let us know so we can try to put her in touch with the horse's owner.

Sonia Orseth is now working on her master's degree at North Dakota State College—Bismarck.

Sonia is an active public speaker, talking on her 18-year residence in Saudi Arabia. She has a great loyalty to Aramco and wants to share her good memories with fellow Americans. She has given talks to local service clubs in the last few months.

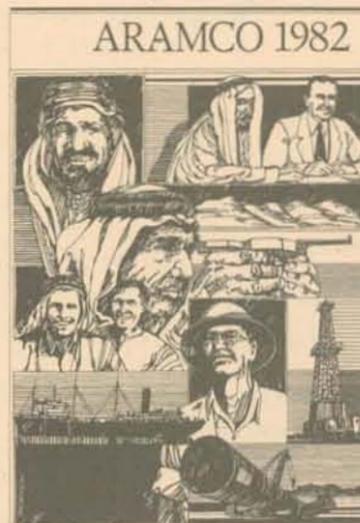
Next month she will be giving a talk to more than 100 students at the college. Most of her addresses have been to business and service club groups.

The ASC Public Affairs Department will soon be preparing the *Annuitants' Annual Address List*, published each fall. This year we're also including the phone numbers of those annuitants who want their phone numbers published. So if you haven't yet sent us your phone number or address change, now is the time to do so. Our deadline is October 15. Direct your letters to: Annuitants' Address List, ASC Public Affairs Dept., 1800 Augusta Drive, Suite 300, Houston, TX 77057.

Aramco's 1982 Review of Operations is now available for distribution in both Arabic and English versions. In keeping with the spirit of the company's golden anniversary, the publication's covers depict Aramco today—a leader in production and hydrocarbon technology—as well as scenes from the past. *Aramco 1982* highlights the company's 6.3 million barrels a day of 1982 crude oil production,

discovery of new oil accumulations and the training and achievements of the more than 33,000 Saudis in its work force. It outlines the company's goal of combining modern scientific facilities and a pool of highly trained Saudi employees to enable the Kingdom to fully manage and operate its vast hydrocarbon resources.

Write the ASC Public Affairs Department for your copy.



On the occasion of 'Id al Fitr in 1945, these men were guests of the Saudi Government.

Front row, from left: (), Phil McConnel, Floyd Meeker, Merle Moore, Warren Johnson and Glen Sheets (?)

Back row, from left: (), Dick Kerr, Andy Anderson, Bill Squires, Al Singelyn, Tom Barger, J. MacPherson, Harry Flachmeier (?), Bill Burleigh, Joe Howley and Floyd Ohliger.

Can anyone fill in the blanks?

(photo submitted by Warren Hodges)

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(Continued on next page)

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Houston, TX 77088

In Memoriam

Robert I. Brougham—June 8, 1983
survived by Hazel Brougham
2707 Costa Bella Drive, La Jolla, CA 92037

Frank R. Connors—May 1, 1983
survived by Margaret Connors
5926 Pinewood Springs Drive, Houston, TX 77066

Margaret (Peggy) Dovey—April 27, 1983
Whiting, Indiana

Ellis D. Hill—June 5, 1983
survived by Clare Elizabeth Hill
8 Lebanon Arc, Las Cruces, NM 88001

George Howard—April 15, 1983
survived by Carolyn Howard
153 Temelec Circle, Sonoma, CA 95476

William C. Johnson—March 25, 1983
survived by Catherine Johnson
4095 Fruit Street, Sp. 863, La Verne, CA 91750

Arthur G. Kessinger—July 7, 1983
survived by Beatrice F. Kessinger
1629 Sunset Point Road, Clearwater, FL 33515

Mrs. George (Heather) Khoury—April 4, 1983
Mitcham, Victoria, Australia

Newton M. Layne—July 13, 1983
survived by Inge M. Layne
228 15th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90402

Carl A. Renfer—July 2, 1983
survived by Ruth V. Renfer
1065 S. Lakemont Circle, #105, Winter Park, FL 32792

(Continued on next page)

In Memoriam

J. Homer Ruhwedel—July 4, 1983

*survived by Mary G. Ruhwedel
3517 Century Drive, Bakersfield, CA 93306*

Gary W. Russell—February 18, 1983

*survived by Fred W. Russell (father)
137 Ardith Drive, Orinda, CA 94563*

David W. Schaefer—June 29, 1983

*survived by Nancy E. Schaefer
1719 Lakeview Road, Clearwater, FL 33516*

Olive Snyder—March 8, 1983

*survived by Harry Snyder
La Serena 150 Vista Grande, Tucson, AZ 85704*

William D. Walker—April 1, 1983

*survived by Helen Walker
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Company and Tapline, their families
and friends.

Pat Dougherty, *Editor*
Donna Drake, *Assistant Editor*