

NSW's Men Of The Month

BOB PARROTT AND MARION YOUNG

This month, the Lightning Bolt salutes two long-time, dedicated employees as our Men of the Month: Bob Parrott and Marion Young.

Bob is a 26½-year veteran of Northwestern and is presently working as a Shearman in the 14-Inch Mill. As a Shearman, he ensures that the steel flats are cut to the proper length requested by our customers.

He started in the 12-Inch Mill as a Cradle Tender and worked in that Mill for 26 years. He came to the 14-Inch Mill in August.

Bob and his wife, Kathryn, have three children, Brenda, who is married and has a child of her own; Robert, who just finished a hitch in the Air Force and is now living in Spokane, Washington, and Curt, who is now serving in the Air

Force. Bob also owns a 10-acre farmette and raises both corn and hogs.

"Northwestern has been good to me," Bob said. "I earned a good living and bought a home and raised three kids."

Marion is another 26-year veteran. He started as a Scrap Baler in the 12-Inch Mill, went to the 20-Inch Mill for awhile and then returned to the 12-Inch Mill before moving to his current job as Assistant Roller in the 14-Inch Mill. As Assistant Roller, Marion sets the mill and maintains his section. His son, Steve, also works in the 14-Inch Mill. Both Marion and his wife, Helen, enjoy fishing and boating.

"I enjoy working here," Marion said, "it's a good place to work."



Bob Parrott (left) and Marion Young.

Best Retirement Wishes

Our best wishes for a long and happy retirement go to the following Northwestern Steel and Wire Company personnel who closed out their careers of service on January 1, 1979.

Orville J. Bradley, Plant 1 Machine Shop, 42 years.

Norval M. Gillman, Drawing Room, 41 yrs.

William R. Tarner, 46-Inch Mill, 41 yrs.

Lupe Martinez, Cleaning House, 41 yrs.

Lucian Vittori, Bale Tie, 41 yrs.

Gale H. Miller, Drawing Room, 36 yrs.

Raymond L. Link, Plant 1 Shipping, 32 yrs.

Joseph A. Doppler, 20-Inch Mill, 30 yrs.

David A. Whittington, 10-Inch Electrical Dept., 30 yrs.

William E. Benton, Plant 4 Electro Weld, 27 yrs.

Lawrence M. Cain, General Millwright, 26 yrs.

Coy W. Foshee, 46-Inch Mill, 26 yrs.

Braulio Sotelo, Furnace Department, 26 yrs.

Rodolfo Saldivar, Nail Dept., 24 yrs.

Henry F. Smoot, Nail Dept., 23 yrs.

Joseph J. Armoska, 24-Inch Mill, 22 yrs.

Lester L. Hathaway, Plant 4 Tractor, 19 yrs.

MEET OUR NEWEST SALES CORRESPONDENT

PAT McCRYSTAL

Meet Pat McCrystal, Northwestern's newest Inside Sales Correspondent, who started December 4, 1978.

Pat spent his first month with the Company getting a good understanding of our business and rolling schedules. His responsibilities will include handling orders and shipping or billing problems and helping to upgrade the business of our customers.

Before joining NSW, Pat worked for E.F. Hutton in Dixon. He also taught biology at Sterling High School for five years. He and his wife, Patricia, are the proud pa-

rents of two-year old identical twins, Erin and Kathleen.

A native of Sterling, Pat has several hobbies. He likes cross country skiing, water sports, sailing, camping and is a bike enthusiast, often riding 50 to 60 miles per week.

"I didn't feel that I had a great future in the investment business, so I looked for a place where advancement was possible and my future looked good. I wanted to be part of major industry in Sterling, so here I am. I feel comfortable in sales and I really enjoy my job," Pat said.

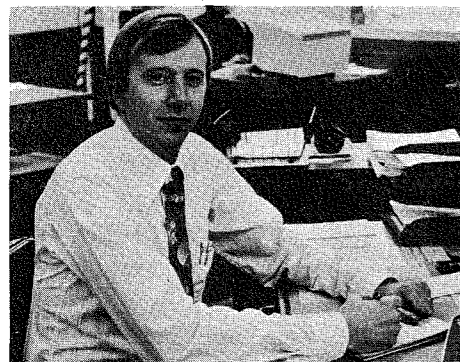
SAFE BOATING COURSE SET

The United States Power Squadron will be offering a Safe Boating Course at Sterling High School beginning Wednesday, February 7, at 7:30 p.m. For more information, contact Jim Parks, Electric Furnace Department, or call him at 625-5930.

MEDICARE FOR OLDER EMPLOYEES

Are you over 65? If you answer that question with a yes, you should sign up for Part B of Medicare, the supplemental medical portion because company insurance pays only what Medicare does not pay—whether you are an employee or a pensioner.

You can sign up for Medicare from now through March 31 at the Sterling Social Security Office. For further information, call 625-7300.



Our new Sales Correspondent Pat McCrystal.



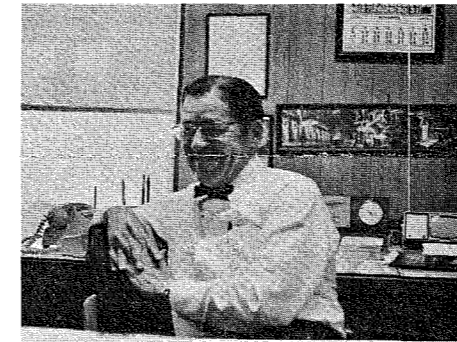
The Lightning Bolt

NORTHWESTERN STEEL AND WIRE COMPANY · STERLING, ILLINOIS 61081

JANUARY, 1979

The President's Corner

WE'RE ALMOST 100 YEARS OLD



I'm sure that everyone knows by now that 1979 marks the 100th anniversary of Northwestern Steel and Wire Company. Of course, the official centennial date is February 28, 1979, so I won't delve into our Company history too deeply in this issue. Next month, The Lightning Bolt will feature a special anniversary issue.

But I do want to bring out a few facts this month that otherwise might get overwhelmed in our next issue.

Northwestern is an unusual company. After all, just how many companies have been in business for 100 years under the same family's leadership. But our Company's success is due to other factors as well. The cooperation of many families—not

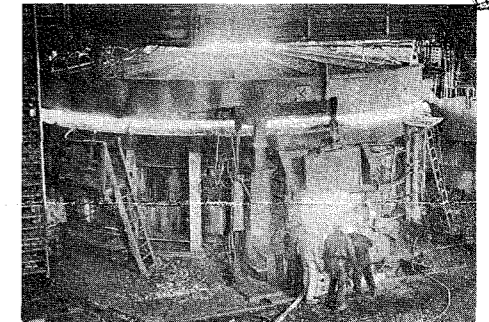


This photo, taken between 1890 and 1900, shows 14 employees of the Northwestern Barb Wire Company—our early Company name. We started with only 10 employees in 1879.

just the Dillon family—is what helped make us a success.

Another factor in our success is a philosophy of never saying that we cannot do something because someone else could not do it. Northwestern Steel and Wire Company will tackle anything. That philosophy is the reason for our success with the electric furnace, for just one example.

Our Company future is a bright one. We have so much

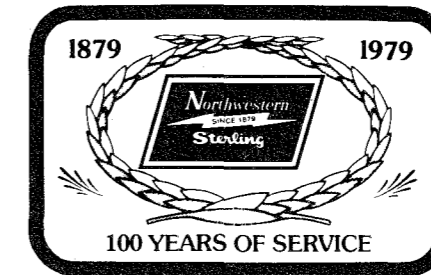


The number 8 electric furnace (shown above), one of the world's largest electric furnaces, is just one of our Company's many success stories.

momentum that it cannot help but be good, what with all the new construction scheduled for completion this year.

In closing, I'd just like to say that NSW is part of a growing community—and we take great pride in that community and the people who have helped make it grow and prosper.

W.M. Dillon



NSW's corporate symbol for our centennial year is shown above.

Paul Lund Named Assistant Sales Manager For Hot Rolled Products

Paul Lund, a 28-year NSW veteran, has been named Assistant to the Manager of Sales for Hot Rolled Products. His new position becomes official on February 1, 1979.

Paul is thoroughly familiar with all aspects of our Hot Rolled Sales Department. For the past 10 years, he covered northwestern Ohio and the lower peninsula of Michigan as an Outside Salesman. He also served as an Inside Correspondent for two years before that.

Besides his sales experience for NSW, Paul also worked in the Wire Drawing Room and the Industrial Relations Department.

A graduate of Murray State College, Paul and his wife, Demetra (Mechi), are now in the

process of moving back to Sterling from Dearborn, Michigan, their home for the past few years. Both are natives of Sterling. The couple has two daughters, DeAnne and Lynette.



Paul Lund, who will take over new duties as Assistant to the Manager of Sales, Hot Rolled Products on February 1.

Transportation Services:

**WATCHING FREIGHT RATES,
GETTING TRUCKS AND CARS TO SHIP OUR GOODS**

The Transportation Services Department is one of NSW's smaller departments, but they've got a big job: obtaining reasonable freight rates for the Company's incoming goods and outgoing products and getting the trucks and railroad cars for shipping our products.

But that, too, is only part of their responsibility. Transportation Services also traces and expedites both inbound and outbound loads, maintains good relations with the railroads and truck lines serving our Company, makes sure the freight charges billed to the Company are correct, keeps up with national transportation trends and changes and maintains a tariff file so they can quote freight rates to and from Sterling, our suppliers and competitors.

All those duties are important, especially watching the freight rates because Northwestern's freight bill runs into millions of dollars per year.

And all those duties are done by the six Transportation Services personnel headed up by Manager Larry D. Mangan.

"This department is fighting a constant battle to keep freight rates in line so we can keep NSW's products competitive. After all, high freight rates increase the cost of our products," Larry said.

Transportation Services does their part to help keep those costs



From the left: Ken Weissenburger, Lyn Quinnan, Hermina Kelly and Sandra Miller.

down. They represented the Company before the Interstate Commerce Commission recently to have a proposed 5% rail freight increase trimmed down to a more reasonable 3%. They also represent the company before state regulatory bodies on all transportation matters.

Besides supervising the department personnel, Larry is involved with the procurement of cars and trucks and aids new freight companies to get rights in our area. Lanny Munz, Assistant Manager, helps with rates and trucking schedules while Rate Analyst Ken Weissenburger handles rate quota-

tions and checks to see that NSW is assessed the correct rates.

Rate Clerk Lyn Quinnan quotes freight rates to the Sales Department, coordinates rates and equalization and handles all changes to the Data Processing Dept. Secretary Hermina Kelly traces outbound shipments and checks on demurrage—holding cars only for the allowed period of 24 hours for ourbound loads and 48 hours for inbound loads. Sandra Miller, Steno-Clerk, also handles truck detention and checks the inbound cars and trucks, along with secretarial work for our leased fleet operations.

NSW Families

BOB AND RUSSELL LOVELL

Our Northwestern Steel and Wire Company family in the spotlight for this issue is a father and son team: Bob and Russell Lovell, two hard-working, dedicated individuals.

Bob Lovell is a 23-year Company veteran. He started as a Clerk in the Electrical Department and rose to Administrative Assistant to the Vice President of Operations. He also served our Company as a Wire Mill Turn Foreman and a Buyer before assuming his current job—Assistant Purchasing Agent. Bob is responsible for buying electrical equipment, castings, chemicals and many other items.

"I've enjoyed watching the Company's tremendous growth—it gives you a feeling of accomplishment to know you're part of it," Bob said. His favorite hobby is gardening.

His son, Russell, has been with Northwestern for nine years and is

working as a Loader in the 20 and 24-Inch Shipping Department where he makes sure the proper products get into the right cars and fills out the paperwork.

Russel is also the Grievance Committeeman for Local 63 where he is responsible for investigating employee complaints.

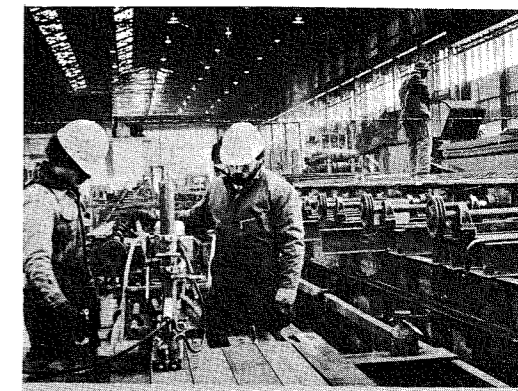
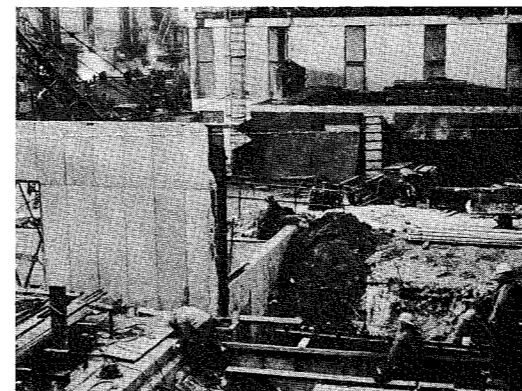
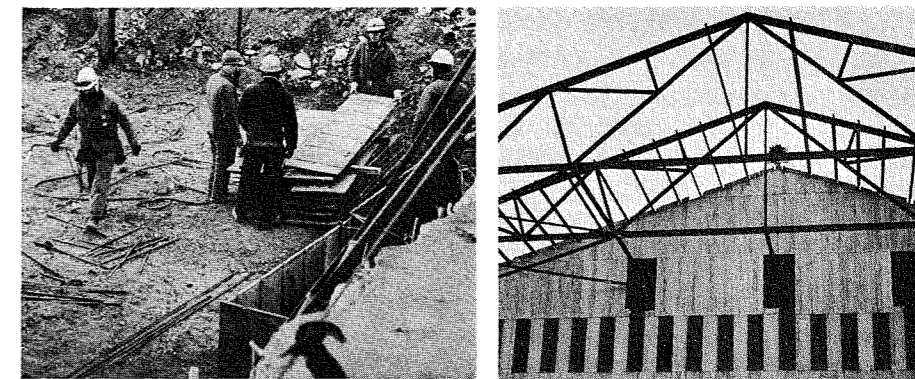
"I like my job here," Russell said. "I keep remembering my dad saying that this was THE place to work ever since I was small. He was right."



Bob Lovell (left) and his son, Russell.

14-INCH MILL CONSTRUCTION CONTINUES

Workmen from the Bob Propheeter Construction Company are preparing the oil lubrication basement for the 4-stand rougher and vertical edger inside the 14-Inch Mill in the lower left photo. The bottom center photo shows Chief Engineer Keith Kimball (standing) and Project Engineer Don Morgan. Bottom right: Propheeter Construction Millwrights are working on the run-out roll line and transfer mechanism for the new cooling bed. The top center photo shows Propheeter's people beginning foundation work on the breakdown straightener and the finish straightener. Far right top: the first two trusses for the roof of the 500 foot addition to the 14-Inch Mill have been installed as of early January by the Austin Company.



Three Suggestions Help Company Save \$7,000

Two NSW Electrical Department employees—Ken Hait and Everett Poff—are \$250 richer. A third employee, West Plant Machinist Olli Ikonen, is richer by \$200.

They didn't win this money in a lottery. They earned it by being observant and thinking about their jobs. And—at the same time—they helped Northwestern Steel and Wire Company become more competitive.

How did all this happen? Through NSW's Suggestion Award System, of course.

Everett Poff suggested that Maintenance Men (and others who work on and with the cranes and their operators) carry small, two-channel CB radios. With the mobile radios, communication is immediate and no time is wasted while one person walks down to the nearest radio to make the call.

Everett's idea helps increase production and improve service by cutting wasted downtime. It helps reduce costs. In this case, the Company is expected to save \$2,500 in one year.

Ken Hait's suggestion to install reverse polarity protection for our locomotive radio equipment is also

expected to save the Company \$2,500. This idea has eliminated a loss of communications when radio equipment is transferred on locomotives by switch crews who don't have the means to check dynamo polarity.

Ken's idea reduces costs, improves service and may help prevent accidents.

Olli suggested that templates for Electric Furnace Buss Clamps be made to help Welders when they build up the clamps. Using the templates as Olli suggested should eliminate trial and error and a great deal of re-work. His idea improves methods, helps prevent waste and reduces cost. It earned him \$200 because NSW estimates it will save \$2,000 over a one-year period.

These three ideas and the suggestions of six other Northwestern people helped save the Company an estimated \$16,500 in the first six months of 1978. And they were all ideas which could occur to anyone who knows his job and thinks of ways the job could be done better and save the Company money at the same time.

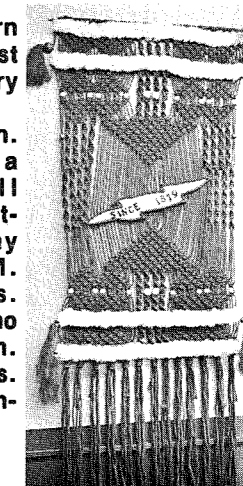
Congratulations to Everett, Ken,

Olli and the other six who had an idea. They thought about their jobs and made themselves some extra money in the process.

If you have a suggestion which may help improve safety, improve methods or cut production costs, Suggestion Award System ideas may be submitted to Jim Hale or put into Suggestion System boxes located throughout NSW's plants.

OUR FIRST COMMEMORATIVE

Northwestern received its first 100th anniversary commemorative gift this month. At the right is a macrame wall hanging presented to Company President W.M. Dillon by Mrs. Tim Allen, who made the item. Thank you, Mrs. Allen, it's wonderful.



NEW ASSIGNMENTS FOR THREE

Robert McKenna was appointed Shipping Foreman in the 12-Inch Mill.

Harold Monroe has been named Roller Foreman in the 12-Inch Mill.

David A. Jones was appointed Electrical Turn Foreman and assigned to Plant 3.



Larry Mangan (left) and Lanny Munz.