

GasNews

AIDS: Education replaces the fears with facts

"I'm just taking a nap," he said, as he embarrassingly rose from the office floor, where sleep had become his lunch. "I've been tired a lot lately."

Operating at an efficient, yet slower pace, this SoCal Gas Co. employee was not aware of the seriousness of his illness, nor was the co-worker who awakened him. He had battled viruses before, yet the fight was always quick and he always won. This round, however, during the summer of 1985, seemed to be taking its toll.

He had said that he'd been away the past few days, trying to shake off another virus. He returned to work, convinced that he was better.

He died a few months later.

The virus that changed the habits of this strong, virile gas company employee was AIDS.

The outbreak of AIDS (Acquired Immune

Deficiency Syndrome), has manufactured a state of panic and fear across the U.S. and in the workplace. Its impact on society is and will continue to be devastating. Within four years, an estimated 270,000 cases of AIDS will have occurred, resulting in 179,000 deaths, according to the Center for Disease Control.

The U.S. Department of Health, U.S. Surgeon General, and the Center for Disease

The U.S. Surgeon General has issued an eight-page report on AIDS. An edited version appears on pages 4 and 5.

Control in Atlanta all agree that AIDS is not casually transmitted.

"SoCal Gas Co.'s policy is to treat employees with AIDS as we would employees with any other illness," said **Debbie Reed**, manager of personnel relations and planning. "If the medical or physical condition of an

AIDS victim affects his or her ability to perform the job duties, then that employee is treated as we would an employee with any other type of disability."

The personnel relations section of human resources developed an AIDS education program late last year to explain the causes of the disease, help employees deal with any emotional issues and replace fears with facts. To date, roughly 1,200 employees have attended the two-hour program, which is available to employee groups at the request of their manager or supervisor.

The goal, according to Reed, is to share the most current, accurate and dependable information available.

Education, not trepidation, should definitely be the rallying force, experts agree. Information and education can change individual behavior, they argue, and this is the weapon powerful enough to stop the epidemic.



Inland division ASR Jerry Bandick has discovered one of the many truths about reading meters during wintertime: gas meters aren't always easily accessible.

HIGH-BILL COMPLAINTS LOWER THAN PROJECTED

'Stay warm efficiently' message gets through

By **Debra Washington**

Jerry Bandick's closely cropped beard is in trouble.

The reddish-brown strands of hair that mask his face from the mountaintop chill, will need some defense of their own today. The picturesque scene of his Rim Forest neighborhood buried beneath blankets of

white powder tells only part of the story. The knock at the door, orchestrated by the howling, dry wind, tells the rest. It's cold.

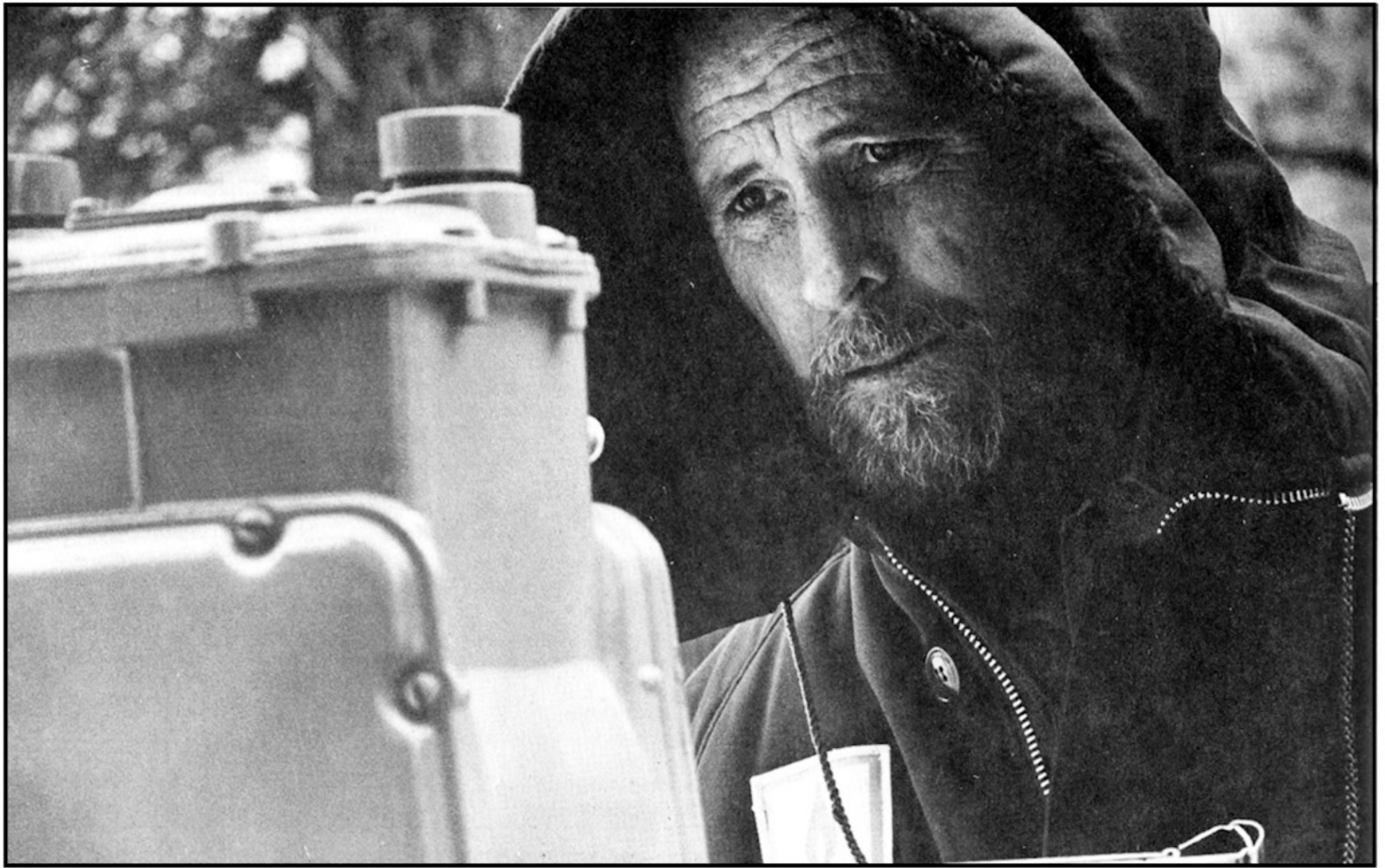
The mercury may climb as high as 28 degrees. Weather forecasts are on target today: snow, and lots of it.

Over a cup of hot coffee, Bandick, an Inland division appliance service representative with

30 years of service, ponders the day that may find him shoveling several feet of snow to get his truck out of the driveway or to read a meter.

Yet, the scene from his kitchen window, with gentle, falling flakes that may later give way to snowballs, snowmen and snow barriers,

(Please see WINTER, page 2)



A hooded Jerry Bandick takes a reading in the icy mountains of Lake Arrowhead.

WINTER: Customers heed efficiency message

(continued from page 1)

is a welcomed sight. "I'm a cold weather freak," he says. "I enjoy it, even when the house seems like an igloo."

The warm substance down and his body temperature up, Bandick heads for the door and his "kind of weather." A moment's pause gives way to reality: "I'm going to need this

Gas sendout on Jan. 16 was a record 5.03 billion cubic feet, the highest of the winter.

today," Bandick says to himself as he reaches for his heavy, parka-type jacket provided by the gas company. "It is cold."

Down below, in the basin often referred to as "sunny" California, the Southland is coming to grips with a cold wave of its own. Day after day during the month of January, freeze warnings are being issued.

In fact, on Jan. 16, gas company customers set an all-time record by burning 5.03 billion cubic feet of natural gas — the highest consumption of the winter.

From the gas company's winter campaign to prepare customers for the impact of cold weather on gas bills — in the form of radio ads, news reports and customer contact with field representatives and service bureau people — one message is being heralded in unison: colder weather means more gas consumption and that translates into higher gas bills.

That end, in gas company lingo, typically spells out H-I-G-H B-I-L-L C-O-M-P-L-A-I-N-T-S.

"I've located the report of our service representative going out to your home, and he verified that the meter reading was correct," Carol Larson begins with a distraught customer. "Your water heater was set at 140 degrees. That's going to use a lot of gas."

Within minutes Larson, a customer service representative on the four-person high-bill team in Inland division, is off the phone with that customer and on with the next. The voices change. So do their tones, and sometimes, their persistence. But the concerns are the same:

My gas bill is too high.

Unfortunately, many customers don't think about how much gas they're using until they have to pay for it, is the theory being passed out these days by Louella Holmes, staff services coordinator in customer services. "Customers will make their over-the-fence comparisons by looking at their neighbor's gas bill against their own, and suggest that since they have similar homes and the same number of people living there that their gas bills should be the same," she explains.

"What they fail to consider, sometimes, is that while they cook meals everyday, their neighbor eats out," Holmes adds. "While they take 15 minute showers every morning, their neighbor doesn't. While one has drapes and carpets, the other doesn't."

"We try to alert them to the little things that can add up, like checking to see if the dampers on their fireplaces are closed and that the vents on heaters are closed to those rooms that are not being used," Larson points out. "We also remind them of the level pay plan that allows customers to pay a fixed bill every month."

High-bill complaints during January should have topped 50,000.

"You wish you could do more, especially when an elderly person calls, or someone on a fixed income," she says. "During this time of year, it gets very depressing, but we're doing our best to educate our customers."

The message is getting through. More than 32,000 high-bill complaints were received during the month, roughly 3,800 more than a year ago. Based on the number of degree days experienced in the past and the number of high-bill complaints these degree days generate, SoCal Gas should have received from 50,000 to 75,000 high-bill complaints during the month, according to consumer services estimates.

"The number of high bill complaints we received during January shows that the companywide effort to get the message out is getting through to customers," said Mike Neiggemann, vice president, consumer

(Please see TASK FORCE, page 3)

Photos by Alan Braus



Above, Jerry Bandick maneuvers through deep powder to complete a service order. Below, he appreciates the result of his "kind of weather."

TASK FORCE: Campaign takes on added dimensions

(continued from page 2) services. "Reducing high-bill complaints saves the company time and money, and makes everyone's life a lot easier."

Because of the extremely cold weather in January, the Winter High-Bill Task Team, which is conducted by public affairs and



coordinated closely with consumer services, has added some new dimensions to the campaign:

- A cold-weather reminder message is being printed on all residential gas bills. It says, "Remember, we've had the coldest winter in years and colder weather means high heating bills."

- Winter high-bill advertising will be concentrated in the geographic areas where high-bill complaints have been the highest — primarily in the foothills of Inland, Eastern San Fernando Valley, Northern and San Joaquin Valley divisions.

- A close watch will be maintained on high-bill complaints. If they rise significantly, further action will be considered.

Back at Rim Forest, Bandick's work day is about to end. Along the route, he has shared "how-to-keep-warm" tips with newcomers to his mountain neighborhood.

"Whether here or down below, people are worrying about how to keep warm," he says, driving by storefronts, dressed in icicles and sporting "firewood for sale" signs. "We want everyone to stay warm, too. Our job is to show them how to do that efficiently."

139,000 customers spread out payments with Level Pay Plan

More than 139,000 customers, or 3.5% of those eligible, are taking the "peaks and valleys" out of their gas bills by participating in the Level Pay Plan.

The billing system, which enables residential customers to lessen the impact of high winter bills by paying a predetermined amount throughout the year, was considered a novel approach when introduced in 1981. In fact, SoCal Gas Co. was the first utility in California to voluntarily offer the plan on a systemwide basis.

Other major utilities established similar payment plans after they were mandated by the California Public Utilities Commission, according to **Don Bigler**, staff services supervisor-office, consumer services.

"We started the program as a collection tool to help customers having trouble paying their bills and to resolve high-bill complaints," Bigler explains.

"Over the years, the program has evolved into a unique customer benefit that...can help you when you need it — when the weather gets cold," interjects **Louella Holmes**, staff services coordinator and one of 14 members on Bigler's staff. "The plan is especially good for customers who are on a fixed income and can appreciate not receiving large bills," she adds.

Interest in the Level Pay Plan

increases during high-bill season, Holmes asserts. "Customers use more gas and their bills are higher so they are more receptive to spreading them over 12 months."

How does the Level Pay Plan work? A residential customer's total gas bill for the next 12 months is calculated by computer, based on the history of gas use in the customer's home and current gas rates. This amount is then divided into 12 equal payments to obtain the level pay amount.

Customers who choose the plan receive a gas bill which shows the amount that they would normally pay, based on actual usage, and the level pay amount. In the 12th month, or settlement period, the customer's bill is adjusted to cover any underpayments or overpayments.

In addition, whenever a customer's average usage increases or decreases substantially (their meters are still read and their bills reviewed on a monthly basis), or when rate changes cause a 10% fluctuation, the level pay amount is adjusted.

"We don't want customers to underpay or overpay," says Holmes. "That's why the computer constantly monitors the meter readings and the bills. At the end of the settlement period, we want their balance to come as close to zero as possible."

Lincoln National mail won't be forwarded

Beginning May 1, the U.S. Post Office will no longer forward claim forms or any other mail addressed to Lincoln National's Santa Ana office.

"When the insurance adjuster moved to Orange in late 1985, the post office agreed to forward the company's mail for 18 months," explained **John Pennino**, benefits and compensation manager in human resources. "That grace period is up, and if employees

continue to use the old forms, their claims could wind up in the post office's dead letter section."

Employees are encouraged to inform their doctors and dentists of the address change and only to use claim forms with the Orange address, Pennino said. The correct mailing address is: Lincoln National Life Insurance Co., 625 The City Drive South, Orange, Ca. 92668.

Obituaries

Charles Beal, 70 (retired)
District Storeroom Keeper
Orange County

Joseph Dimeglio, 71 (retired)
Leadman
Western

Merlyn Grecian, 76 (retired)
Field Service Representative
Inland

William Henry, 71 (retired)
Buyer
Headquarters

Bill Hlubik, 72 (retired)
Service Technician
Inland

Leonard Hubbell, 72 (retired)
Fitter
Metropolitan

How Disease Starts

AIDS Caused by Virus

The letters A-I-D-S stand for Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome. When a person is sick with AIDS, he/she is in the final stages of a series of health problems caused by a virus (germ) that can be passed from one person to another, chiefly during sexual contact or through the sharing of intravenous drug needles and syringes used for "shooting" drugs. Scientists have named the AIDS virus "HIV or HTLV-III or LAV".

No Known Cure

There is presently no cure for AIDS and no vaccine to prevent the disease.

Virus Invades Blood Stream

When the AIDS virus enters the blood stream, it begins to attack certain white blood cells (T-Lymphocytes). Substances called antibodies are produced by the body. These antibodies can be detected in the blood by a simple test, usually two weeks to three months after infection. Even before the antibody test is positive, the victim can pass the virus to others.

Once an individual is infected, there are several possibilities. Some people may remain well but even so they are able to infect others. Others may develop a disease that is less serious — and not necessarily fatal — than AIDS, referred to as AIDS Related Complex (ARC).

Signs and Symptoms

Only a qualified health professional should be called on to diagnose AIDS, which is the result of a natural progress of infection by the AIDS virus. AIDS destroys the body's immune (defense) system and allows otherwise controllable infections to invade the body and cause additional diseases. These opportunistic diseases may eventually cause death.

Some symptoms and signs of AIDS and the "opportunistic infections" may include a persistent cough and fever associated with shortness of breath or difficult breathing and may be the symptoms of *Pneumocystis carinii* pneumonia. Multiple purplish blotches and bumps on the skin may be a sign of Kaposi's sarcoma. The AIDS virus in all infected people is essentially the same; the reactions of individuals may differ.

The Present Situation

The number of people infected with the AIDS virus in the United States is estimated to be about 1.5 million. All of these individuals are assumed to be capable of spreading the virus sexually (heterosexually or homosexually) or by sharing needles and syringes or other implements for intravenous drug use. Of these individuals, an estimated 100,000 to 200,000 will come down with AIDS Related Complex (ARC). It is difficult to predict the number who will develop ARC or AIDS because symptoms sometimes take as long as nine years to show up. With our present knowledge, scientists predict that 20 to 30% of those infected with the AIDS virus will develop an illness that fits an accepted definition of AIDS within five years. The number of persons known to have AIDS in the United States to date is over 25,000; of these, about half have died of the disease. Since there is no cure, the others are expected to also eventually die from their disease.

The majority of the individuals who carry the AIDS virus show no disease symptoms and may not come down with the disease for many years, if ever.

No Risk from Casual Contact

There is no known risk of non-sexual infection in most of the situations we encounter in our daily lives. We know that family members living with individuals who have the AIDS virus do not become infected except through sexual contact. There is no evidence of transmission (spread) of AIDS virus by everyday contact even though these family members shared food, towels, cups, razors, even toothbrushes, and kissed each other.

Health Workers

We know even more about health care workers exposed to AIDS patients. About 2,500 health workers who were caring for AIDS patients when they were sickest have been carefully studied and tested for infection with the AIDS virus. These doctors, nurses and other health care givers have been exposed to the AIDS patients' blood, stool and other body fluids. Approximately 750 of these health workers reported possible additional exposure by direct contact with a patient's body fluid through spills or being accidentally stuck with a needle. Upon testing these 750, only 3 — who had accidentally stuck themselves with a needle — had a positive antibody test for exposure to the AIDS virus. Because health workers had much more contact with patients and their body fluids than would be expected from common everyday contact, it is clear that the AIDS virus is not transmitted by casual contact.

Control of Certain Behaviors Can Stop Further Spread of AIDS

Knowing the facts about AIDS can prevent the spread of the disease. Education of those who risk infecting themselves or infecting other people is the only way we can stop the spread of AIDS. People must be responsible about their sexual behavior and must avoid the use of illicit intravenous drugs and needle sharing. We will describe the types of behavior that lead to infection by the AIDS virus and the personal measures that must be taken for effective protection. If we are to stop the AIDS epidemic, we all must understand the disease — its cause, its nature, and its prevention. *Precautions must be taken.* The AIDS virus infects persons who expose themselves to known risk behavior, such as certain types of homosexual and heterosexual activities or sharing intravenous drug equipment.

Risks

Although the initial discovery was in the homosexual community, AIDS is not a disease only of homosexuals. AIDS is found in heterosexual people as well. AIDS is not a black or white disease. AIDS is not just a male disease. AIDS is found in women; it is found in children. In the future AIDS will probably increase and spread among people who are not homosexual or intravenous drug abusers in the same manner as other sexually transmitted diseases like syphilis and gonorrhea.

You Can Protect Yourself from Infection

Some personal measures are adequate to safely protect yourself and others from infection by the AIDS virus and its complications. Among these are:

- If you have been involved in any of the high risk sexual activities or have injected illicit intravenous drugs into your body, you should have a blood test to see if you have been infected with the AIDS virus.

- If your test is positive or if you engage in high risk activities and choose not to have a test, you should tell your sexual partner. If you jointly decide to have sex, you must protect your partner by always using a rubber

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Surgeon General's report on panic and misinformation touched many.

Copies of the report can be obtained from employee communications ext. 252-7372.

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(condom) during (start to finish) sexual intercourse (vagina or rectum).

- If your partner has a positive blood test showing that he/she has been infected with the AIDS virus or you suspect that he/she has been exposed by previous heterosexual or homosexual behavior or use of intravenous drugs with shared needles and syringes, a rubber (condom) should always be used during (start to finish) sexual intercourse (vagina or rectum).

- If you or your partner is at high risk, avoid mouth contact with the penis, vagina or rectum.

- Avoid all sexual activities which could cause cuts or tears in the linings of the rectum, vagina or penis.

- Single teen-age girls have been warned that pregnancy and contracting sexually transmitted diseases can be the result of only one act of sexual intercourse. They have been taught to say NO to sex! They have been taught to say NO to drugs! By saying NO to sex and drugs, they can avoid AIDS which can *kill* them! The same is true for teen-age boys, who should also not have rectal intercourse with other males. It may result in AIDS.

- Do not have sex with prostitutes. Infected male and female prostitutes are frequently also intravenous drug abusers; therefore, they may infect clients by sexual intercourse and other intravenous drug abusers by sharing their intravenous drug equipment. Female prostitutes also can infect their unborn babies.

What is Safe

Most Behavior is Safe

Everyday living does not present any risk of infection. You *cannot* get AIDS from casual social contact. Casual social contact should not be confused with casual sexual contact, which is a major cause of the spread of the AIDS virus. Casual social contact such as shaking hands, hugging, social kissing, crying, coughing or sneezing, will not transmit the AIDS virus. Nor has AIDS been contracted from swimming in pools or bathing in hot tubs or from eating in restaurants (even if a restaurant worker has AIDS or carries the AIDS virus.) AIDS is not contracted from sharing bed linens, towels, cups, straws, dishes or any other eating utensils. You cannot get AIDS from toilets, doorknobs, telephones, office machinery or household furniture. You cannot get AIDS from body massages, masturbation or any non-sexual contact.

Donating Blood

Donating blood is *not* risky at all. You *cannot* get AIDS by donating blood.

Receiving Blood

In the U.S. every blood donor is screened to exclude high risk persons and every blood donation is now tested for the presence of antibodies to the AIDS virus. Blood that shows exposure to the AIDS virus by the presence of antibodies is not used either for transfusion or for the manufacture of blood products. Blood banks are as safe as current technology can make them. Because antibodies do not form immediately after exposure to the virus, a newly infected person may unknowingly donate blood after becoming infected but before his/her antibody test becomes positive. It is estimated that this might occur less than once in 100,000 donations.

There is no danger of AIDS virus infection from visiting a doctor, dentist, hospital, hairdresser or beautician. AIDS cannot be transmitted non-sexually from an infected person through a health or service provider to another person. Ordinary methods of disinfection for urine, stool and vomitus which are used for non-infected people are adequate for people who have AIDS or are carrying the AIDS virus. You may have wondered why your dentist wears gloves and perhaps a mask when treating you. This does not mean that he has AIDS or that he thinks you do. He is protecting you and himself from hepatitis, common colds or flu.

There is no danger in visiting a patient with AIDS or

caring for him or her. Normal hygienic practices, like wiping of body fluid spills with a solution of water and household bleach (1 part household bleach to 10 parts water), will provide full protection.

Children in School

None of the identified cases of AIDS in the United States are known or are suspected to have been transmitted from one child to another in school, day care or foster care settings. Transmission would necessitate exposure of open cuts to the blood or other body fluids of the infected child, a highly unlikely occurrence. Even then routine safety procedures for handling blood or other body fluids (which should be standard for all children in the school or day care setting) would be effective in preventing transmission from children with AIDS to other children in school.

What is Currently Understood

Although AIDS is still a mysterious disease in many ways, our scientists have learned a great deal about it. In five years we know more about AIDS than many diseases that we have studied for even longer periods. While there is no vaccine or cure, the results from the health and behavioral research community can only add to our knowledge and increase our understanding of the disease and ways to prevent and treat it.

In spite of all that is known about transmission of the AIDS virus, scientists will learn more. One possibility is the potential discovery of factors that may better explain the mechanism of AIDS infection.

Why are the antibodies produced by the body to fight the AIDS virus not able to destroy that virus?

The antibodies detected in the blood of carriers of the AIDS virus are ineffective, at least when classic AIDS is actually triggered. They cannot check the damage caused by the virus, which is by then present in large numbers in the body. Researchers cannot explain this important observation.

Summary

AIDS no longer is the concern of any one segment of society; it is a concern to us all. No American's life is in danger if he/she or his/her partners do not engage in high-risk sexual behavior or use shared needles or syringes to inject illicit drugs into the body.

People who engage in high risk sexual behavior or who shoot drugs are risking infection with the AIDS virus and are risking their lives and the lives of others, including their unborn children.

Look To The Future

The Challenge of the Future

An enormous challenge to public health lies ahead of us and we would do well to take a look at the future. We must be prepared to manage those things we can predict, as well as those we cannot.

At the present time there is no vaccine to prevent AIDS. There is no cure. AIDS, which can be transmitted sexually and by sharing needles and syringes among illicit intravenous drug users, is bound to produce profound changes in our society — changes that will affect us all.

Information and Education Only

Weapons Against AIDS

It is estimated that in 1991 some 54,000 people will die from AIDS. At this moment, many of them are not infected with the AIDS virus. With proper information and education, as many as 12,000 to 14,000 people could be saved in 1991 from death by AIDS.

Employee classified ads

Next ad deadline: 10 a.m., Tues., March 3.
Limit: 25 words. Mail to m.l. 111K

Classified ads are published as a service to employees. Gas News is not responsible for the quality of services or products advertised.

AUTOS FOR SALE

'84 Corvette, medium blue, auto, glass top, all options, 22,000 mi, orig owner, warranty, new cond, \$18,500. Mike Walker, (714) 738-0392.

'78 Fiat, 131SL, 2-dr, very gd running cond, nds body work, \$800. Peggy Loneske, (213) 370-5095.

'81 Toyota, Corolla, air, am-fm stereo, cassette player, 4-sp, 80,000 mi, gd tires, \$2,995. Joel Davis, (714) 635-7995.

'82 Dodge, Aries, special edition, air, cruise control, tilt wheel, am-fm stereo, 2.6 liter eng, excel cond, \$2,950. Ellis Snyder, (714) 591-5416.

'67 Porsche, 911, mint cond, must see, \$7,500. Loretta Bowden, (818) 303-2297.

'74 Chevrolet, pick up short bed, includes 2 yr old camper shell, rebuilt trans, \$2,350. Steve Delgado, (213) 949-1249.

'78 Ford, Fairmont, gd cond, 2-dr, air, am-fm radio, power steering, \$900 or offer. Nancy Farnsworth, (213) 618-8497.

'82 Ford, Mustang, like new, low mileage, am-fm, air, adjustable tilt wheel, \$3,950. Pete or Aida Segura, (818) 289-5857.

'80 Volvo, GLE, power windows-locks, sun roof, am-fm cassette, leather interior, highway miles, \$6,500. Regina Jenkins, (213) 971-6010.

'79 MGB, convertible, yellow, lo mileage, new convertible top, am-fm cassette, great cond, \$3,000 or offer. Mary Warren, (714) 861-3048.

'86 Chevrolet, S10, Blazer, 2-wheel drive, 5-seat, air, V6, trailer hitch and more, \$10,500 or offer. Ed Foss, (805) 268-1637.

'80 Van, 1-ton, 12,000 mi on new GM target eng, plush interior w/10 reclining high back seats, air, tilt steering, stereo, \$5,950. Chris Dalton, (714) 750-1321 eves.

'80 Cadillac, El Dorado, fully equipped, 62,000 mi, newly painted, black w/grey interior, am-fm cassette stereo, \$6,800 or offer. Ernie Camargo, (818) 919-2714.

'83 Subaru, GL, black, auto, air, am-fm cassette, luggage rack, new trans, 59,000 mi, excel cond, \$3,600. Sandra Jean, (213) 664-2785.

MOTORCYCLES FOR SALE

'86 Suzuki, Samurai, 4x4, 5-sp, am-fm cassette, air, 12,000 mi, excel cond, \$7,000. Mark Navarro, (213) 864-1868.

'81 Yamaha, XV920, RH model, low mi, new tires, excel cond, runs very well, nds one muffler, \$1,500 or offer. Tom Bartiromo, (805) 482-3530.

'81 Kawasaki, KE100, excel cond, \$250. Rich Nichols, (818) 401-2451.

'81 Honda, 750 custom, new paint, excel cond, \$900 or offer. Mare, 8 yr old registered Pinto, trail wise, \$600 or offer. Mary Easter, (818) 280-8400.

FOR SALE

Trailer, Sunland, 22 ft, park model, excel park, double bed, full bath-shower, gd cond, patio area, \$2,900. Bill Newman, (818) 352-4315.

Sofa beds, 2, used, w/inner spring mattresses, one queen, one double, \$49 each or offer. Linda Smith-Gaston, (213) 273-8693.

Bicycle, 21" Raleigh Technium 440, lightweight, aluminum 12-sp, w/kryptonite lock, rack, paid \$360, bargain at \$225. Jeff Chin, (213) 698-7044.

Bicycle, Nishiki Rally 10-sp mens, black, 4 mos. old, excel cond, all accessories included, \$110. Theodore or Sandie Valentine, (818) 964-4153.

Videotape, Jane Fonda's Low-Impact aerobic workout videotape, VHS, only used once, \$20. Michelle Hopkins, (818) 784-0353.

Mower, Sears power, 18", reel type with Ketcher also power edger, both for \$125. Jim Miller, (818) 445-6619.

Computer, standard IBM compatible XT-turbos, 640k, disk drive, enhanced keyboard, graphics, warranty, \$695. Robson Longwell, (213) 456-6357 or (213) 456-8557.

Boat, '83 Bayliner, 22', "Trophy," cuddy cabin, w-hardtop, 120hp Volvo, depth sounder, bait tanks, trailrite trailer, \$18,000. Mel Whiteaker, (818) 840-0753.

HOMES FOR SALE

Home, Downey, must sell, 3-bdrm, 1 1/2 bath, huge den, custom drapes, carpets, Italian tile and stucco all 2 yrs old, \$135,000. Maricela Ribadeneira, (213) 803-4772.

'83 Southwind, motorhome, 33 ft long, 454 eng, 6.5 KW generator, dual roof air conditioners, TV, antenna, microwave oven, sleeps 6, \$30,000. Joe Zaabadick, (213) 693-5335.

Home, Palmdale, 3-bdrm, 1 1/2 ba, new carpets-drapes, new doughboy pool, washer-dryer, near school, move-in cond, \$73,500. Jim McNabb, (805) 273-6279.

Condo, Garden Grove, near Garden Grove Blvd and Euclid, new furnished model, 2 master bedrooms, 2 bath, fireplace pool-jacuzzi-patio-air, 2-car garage, \$130,000. Mark Serrano, (213) 391-5736.

Home, Diamond Bar, 4-bdrm, or 3 plus den, exotic blackbottom pool and spa, family room, triple fireplace, bright airy-private, \$182,500. Jeff Hartman, (714) 860-0813.

Home, Wilmington, spacious Victorian 2-bdrm, 2-ba, sun room and den, 2,328 sq. ft, immaculate, \$172,000. Chelia Bailey, (213) 636-4118.

CAMPERS & TRAILERS

Travel trailer, '78, 18', like new, self contained, \$2,950. '74 Chevrolet, pickup short bed, \$2,350. Steve Delgado, (213) 949-1249.

CAR POOL

West San Fernando Valley to Flower Street, forming car/van pool, 7am to 3:30pm. Barry Rozzen, ext. 251-2881.

San Fernando Valley to Flower Street, 7am to 3:30pm, van pool. Neil Altman, ext. 251-2536.

FOR RENT

Room and bath, Santa Barbara, 2 people maximum, non-smokers, very comfortable, secluded, excel views, \$35 night. Phyllis Stovall, (805) 969-1433.

Condo, Maui, Hawaii, 1-bdrm, facing ocean on beach at Kahana, sleeps 4, \$84-day, higher in winter, pics avail. Bill Ford, (818) 964-2578.

Beach house, Ensenada, new 2-bdrm, 2-bath, beautifully furnished, w/washer, dryer, \$40 day, \$200-wk, adults only, deposit non-refundable. Mary or George Hendrick, (818) 919-2125.

Cabin, Big Bear Lake, wooded area, near Snow Forest ski area, completely furnished/equipped, color TV, fireplace, sleeps 4-6, \$65-\$75 nitely. Marguerite Nilsson, (714) 866-5375 or (714) 585-5768.

Personal problems? Try the Employee Assistance Program, confidential counseling, 24-hour hotline, (800) 321-2843.

Cabin, Big Bear City, 2-bdrm, furnished, color TV, fireplace, sleeps 6-7, fireplace, \$75 nitely, wkly rates avail. Nayra Villate, (213) 875-1082.

Apartments, for vacations, with kitchens on Bourbon St., New Orleans, from \$38.50 to \$60 per night. William Steller, (805) 643-5998.

Home, Palm Springs, private, pool, fenced yard, barbeque, TV, fully equipped, sleeps 6, \$250-wkend, \$400-wk. Jean Baughman, (714) 849-4916 eves.

Condo, Kauai, Hawaii, next to Makai golf course in Princeville, lg luxury 2-bdrm, 2-bath, sleeps 6, \$85-day, wkly rates and pics avail. Shinji Hosokawa, (818) 284-2729.

Condo, San Felipe, Baja, 1-bdrm, facing ocean on beach, sleeps 6, completely equipped, \$60 day, \$350-wk, pictures avail. Miriam Gonzalez, (818) 249-4375 eves.

Home, Palm Springs, 4-bdrm, 3 1/2 bath, fully furnished, extra large spa, pictures avail, \$250-wkend, \$500-wk. Bill or Ginny Hannan, (818) 445-5150.

Cabin, Sugarloaf, fully furnished fireplace, color TV, sleeps 6, \$35 up per night. Bob Gonzales, (213) 697-0708 eves.

Cabin, Lake Tahoe, beautiful, furnished, sleeps 6, lake view, 17 miles to South Shore, \$120-wkend, \$350-wk. Shahed Meshkati, (213) 477-9797.

Townhouse, West LA, 2-bdrms, 2 1/2 bath, fireplace, \$1,200 mo. Corinne Perez, (213) 253-2476.

Vacation apartment, Cambria, only 10 min. south of Hearst Castle, 2 night min, 2 persons, \$85, family plan avail. Norm Fetscher, (818) 248-4947.

Condo, Mammoth, 1-bdrm, sleeps 4-6, \$75-night wkends, \$65 night mid week less 10% for 5 nights. Alan Winter, (213) 430-0838.

Cabin, Big Bear Lake, great location, between Snow Summit ski resort and village, near lake, 2-bdrm, fully furnished, fireplace, color TV, \$130-wkend. Gwoon Tom, (818) 791-4654.

WANTED

Usable clothing, toys-beds-bicycles for distribution to needy families in Mexico. Toys given at Christmas. Doug Stickney, (714) 599-0469.

Aluminum dish mags, 16.5x9.75, 8 hole for 3/4 ton Ford, good, used. Robert Gutierrez, (213) 423-2180.

RETIREMENT EVENTS

Retirement party, for Jim Fulwider and Ed Patenaude, Feb. 27, \$5 for Santa Ana employees, \$7 for outside base employees, \$4 for gift only, 5-11pm. Make checks payable to Santa Ana Employee Committee, ml 8362 or call (714) 546-3402. RSVP by Feb. 20.

Retirement party for Henry Ward, Friday, Feb. 27, 1:30-3:30, Auditorium, Monterey Park, 1801 S. Atlantic Blvd. For details, contact Maria Zuniga, ext. 251-3738.

Retirement party for Warren Huncovsky, Wednesday, March 11, T&J Restaurant, 8526 Valley Blvd, Rosemead, 5:30pm, hor d'oeuvres, no host bar, \$8 per person. Send reservations before March 4 to Al Garver ml 720A, ext. 222-2425 or (213) 806-4425.

Retirement party for Bob Peterson, Friday, Feb. 27, T&J Restaurant, 8526 E. Valley Blvd., Rosemead, 5pm, hors d'oeuvres, no-host bar, \$7 per person. Send reservations before Feb. 23 to Susan Meikle, ml 732B, ext. 238-6533 or (818) 307-6533.

Retirement party for Henry Ward, Friday, Feb. 27, 1:30-3:30pm, auditorium, Monterey Park, 1801 S. Atlantic Blvd. Maria Zuniga, ext. 251-3738.

Retirement party for Norma Pappé, Wednesday, April 1, Hyatt downtown LA, Broadway room, 4:30-7pm, \$16.50 includes hors d'oeuvres and gift, no host bar, gift only \$3. Please respond by March 18, Sandra Jean, ext. 251-2017, ml 301R.

Retirement reception for Marie Stockstill, Friday, February 27, 5:30 to 8:00 p.m., Hyatt Regency LA, La Plaza Room, \$13 person payable to Dale Franklin, ml 403M or call Elaine Mangold, ext. 3806.

MISCELLANEOUS

Diamonds, precious stones and 18k gold jewelry, lowest prices, high quality, satisfaction guaranteed. Sanjay Pandya, (213) 622-0894 days, (714) 592-2585 eves.

Reunion, 10 yr. class of '77, Mt. View High School, El Monte, if you are a graduate or know a graduate, we need addresses. Vicki Urban, (818) 443-6807.

DJ, Sound Courier Prod, weddings, dances, parties, satisfaction is our business. Jim Castner, (213) 921-3306 eves.

Roofing, repair all or part, free estimates, a second generation in roofing. Sonia or Rod Wheeler, (213) 725-6084 eves.

Tax preparation, 10 yrs experience, enrolled agent with IRS, free information over phone. Frank Kalinowski, (818) 966-6021 or (714) 777-4740.

Lost, scarf, square with bird design, of sentimental value, lost 2-10 in 810 S. Flower Bldg. Phyllis Oyama, (213) 732-1906 or ext. 251-2517.

Ski Mammoth, wkend trips, \$109, includes transportation and Chamonix condo, leave from Van Nuys and other locations. Call for info, Jacki Mayol, (818) 348-3727.

Photography, weddings, single or group portraits, parties, special events, gd prices, professional work. Mike Marshall, (213) 258-3802 eves.

Personal problems? Try the Employee Assistance Program, confidential counseling, 24-hour hotline, (800) 321-2843.

Why wait 30 years? Quartz watches, blue flame on face, leather band, men or womens, 1 yr. warranty, gift boxed. Tom Cirillo, (818) 710-8174.

Seoul Korea and Hong Kong, Oct 9-17, \$1,195. Weekend bus trip to Hearst Castle June 5-7, \$140. Elbert Tufts, (213) 387-7254.

Insurance, State Farm best coverage, great service for your auto-home-health-life-business insurance needs. Rosanna Domingo, (213) 425-7427 or (714) 952-1014.

Water purifier, solid carbon, removes asbestos, all chemicals, 6 cents per gallon. Dan Medford, (213) 656-0775.

Northwest Flames, May 1 Las Vegas Trip, \$104, deposit due now for Hilton. Geneva Fischer, ext. 227-3560.

Northwest division host bowling tournament, March 21, Hollywood Star Lanes, deadline March 17. Irene Dilsworth, ext. 227-3414.

Disc Jockey, music tailored for your dancing-listening pleasure, call now for GasCo discount. Glenn Enoki, (213) 949-2506 or (213) 949-7681.

White water rafting, American River, South Fork, transportation-meals, \$200-adults, \$190-kids, July 31-Aug 2. Dolly Ruelas, (213) 929-2006.

Commission, reduced to SoCal employees buying or selling home in Simi Valley-Moorpark-Thousand Oaks, 14 yrs experience in area. Ann Jones-Duran, (805) 527-6684.

Magician, have top hat will travel, birthday parties, schools, clubs, all happy occasions. Sande Ridge, (619) 949-2967 after 1pm.

Painting, int-ext. San Gabriel Valley, Inland, Riverside, Orange county, LA area, all wk guaranteed, free est, special rates. James Blanchard, (714) 597-6041.

Video by Matt, weddings and all occasions, call for estimate, discount for GasCo employees. Mary DeNardo or Matt Adragna, (213) 697-6318.

Area specialist, to help you buy-sell-or lease a home in the Conejo Valley. Jodi Christensen, Realtor Associate, (818) 707-1289 or (818) 991-3555.

Biplane rides are great, do aerobatics or just fly along for scenery, makes a great gift. Mark Lightsey, (213) 928-8008.

Personal Problems? Try the Employee Assistance Program, confidential counseling, 24-hour hotline, (800) 321-2843.

Close out special on Pandora 3/4 length fashionable lingerie jackets by Chic, all sizes and colors, only \$5. Patricia Bligen, (213) 381-3030.

Mini blinds, vertical draperies, complete service, measuring and installation, free estimates, convenient shop-at-home appointments. Mike Mendez, (818) 792-6475.

Friends of Mike Skinner: the Third Annual Newport-Alone Alone Yacht Club honors Skinner, (its original member who is still at sea), at Michael's (Washington Blvd. off Santa Ana Fwy.) on Thurs., March 12, from 5:30 p.m. until exhaustion! R.S.V.P. to Ed Sonny, ext. 235-0485.

Plumbing and heating, 16 yrs experience, all areas, Dan Doolan Plumbing Co. Lic#450585, (818) 249-9225.

Cosmetics, Mary Key, free facial, complete makeover. Annette Saragueta, (213) 283-9740 or (818) 571-2728.

Cosmetic opportunities, be a counselor or have parties. Jafra products can help you. Arlo Ulloa, (213) 726-1766.

Tax preparation, by Jackie & Arlo Evans, 30 yrs experience, registered and bonded, open year round. Jackie Evans, (714) 538-7527.

Reward, for silver and gold heart bracelet, lost 2-11-87 in company car parking lot (8th St. side), of great sentimental value. Linda Herrera, (213) 726-9913 eves.

As part of its salute to LOS Angeles' Cancer Awareness Week, April 6-12, GasNews is looking for employees who would like to share how they fought back and won. If you'd like to tell your story, contact the editor at ext. 2180 m.l. 111K

Classified Ad Policy

Classified ads are published free. They may be submitted by any employee or retiree of a Pacific Lighting company.

Company policy states that personal, outside business activities are not to be conducted during working hours and should not involve the use of company facilities, equipment or materials at any time.

Ads must contain the name of an employee or retiree. Other names are not acceptable.

Ads are limited to one per person. Each ad is limited to a maximum of 25 words.

Ads must be submitted in writing to Gas News, mail location 111K.

Ads should contain:

- 1) full first and last name of sender,
- 2) home phone number (with area code).

Company extensions are not permitted except for car pools and retirement parties.

- 3) a brief description of the item with a price, if applicable.

Editor reserves right to edit or reject any ad.

GasNews Vol. 46, No. 5

Gas News is published every other week by employee communications for the men and women of Southern California Gas Company. Classified ads, stories or photographs should be addressed to P.O. Box 3249, Terminal Annex, Los Angeles, CA 90051 (mail location 111K). Telephone (213) 689-2180.

Debra Washington Editor
Denise Tarr Associate Editor
Carol Jeffries Classified Ads
Veronica Calderon Typesetter
Angie Sheehan Circulation
Ron Hale Employee Communications Manager

SoCal faces

GasNews is published biweekly for Andrea Hasara and other employees and retirees of the Southern California Gas Co. Hasara, who works in San Fernando Valley customer services as a billing analyst, came to the company almost nine years ago. "I enjoy my job," she says, "but it's the people I work with whom I enjoy more than anything else."



Carlos Lavín



Robert Gray, Southern



Elsie Yoshimura, Administrative Services



Carole Nedeff, Dist/Meas James Moore, Western

Headquarters moves

MANAGEMENT

- Information Center Specialist**
- †Marvene Raz Regulatory Affairs
- Planning Instructor**
- Robert Carrillo Distribution and Measurement
- Office Procedures Specialist**
- †Carole Nedeff Distribution and Measurement
- Real Estate Specialist**
- Elsie Yoshimura Administrative Services
- Shift Data Processing Supervisor**
- †Donald Taylor Information Systems
- Disability/Health Programs Coordinator**
- †Peggy Anderson Human Resources
- Industrial Market Staff Specialist**
- †Dan Rendler Consumer Services
- Senior Facilities Information Management Analyst**
- †Ernest Ramer Information Systems

• promotions † temporary assignments

- Project Engineer**
- †William Boyd Engineering and Research
- Administration Manager**
- Howard Bush Strategic Planning
- New Business Control System Specialist**
- †Maxine Harris Consumer Services
- Gas Control Manager**
- Billy Hankins Transmission and Storage

NON-MANAGEMENT

- Secretary II**
- Esther Souders Distribution and Measurement
- Rose Garvin Engineering and Research
- Senior Computer Operator**
- Karen Hiller Information Systems
- Senior Distribution Records Clerk**
- Anna Chung Distribution and Measurement

Division moves

MANAGEMENT

- Meter Reading Supervisor**
- †William Clutterham HQ to San Fernando Valley
- Pipeline Planner**
- †Donna Bundy South Basin
- Shift Supervisor**
- †Harold Pryor North Basin
- Field Distribution Supervisor**
- †Hudson Ackerman HQ to Northern
- Service Bureau Supervisor**
- †Roberta Rivera SE to San Gabriel Valley
- Technical Supervisor**
- †James Moore Western
- Division Superintendent**
- †Robert Gray SE to Southern

NON-MANAGEMENT

- Records Control Clerk-U**
- Sylvia Ornelas North Coastal
- Order Dispatcher**
- Margaret Cypress Western
- Customer Controller Representative**
- Tyrone Potts Southern

Customer Billing Analyst

- Claudia Shomo Southern
- Jeanette Curtis Inland
- John Higdon Orange County
- Michael Arons Eastern
- Raquel McGowan San Joaquin Valley
- Sharon Abdelaziz Southern
- Cheryl Moffat Northern
- Pamela Kahn San Fernando Valley

Crew Assistant

- James Ocampo SE to San Joaquin Valley
- Joe Ozuna Northern
- Michael McDuffie NW to Western

Crew Leader

- George Flynn Orange County
- Gerald Norquest Metropolitan to San Gabriel Valley

Pipeline Crew Leader

- Earl Brown Coastal
- Eugene Desjardins Orange County

Station Assistant

- Robert Jauregui Western to Coastal
- Planning Aide**
- William Whalen Northern



Anna Chung, Distribution/Measurement

People & places

The next East Basin Golf Assn.'s tournament will be held March 14 at Ontario National in Ontario. Starting time is 9 a.m. and green fees are \$15 for members, \$16 for non-members. Mail reservations to **Paul Gendron**, m.l. 201 A . . . **Marla Derian-Baker**, from Southeast, writes in that the Gas House Toastmaster Club — formed last year — is going strong with 31 members. They hail from Western, Southern, Southeast, Headquarters and Pacific Lighting Corp. The group meets every Monday in Downey at 6 p.m. for about two hours. "We welcome guests and new members," says Baker . . . Market services' **Katy Yonemura** was commended for her work as a loaned executive in a recent United Way newsletter. She "has compiled an excellent record in her four months with United Way, including the El Camino Community College campaign which is up 79%," the news item reported . . . The **San Fernando Valley Employees' Club** donated more than \$2,500 to needy families and philanthropic organizations during 1986, notes **Debbie Morris**, club president. Morris says this is the largest contribution made in the club's history . . . **Jim Humphrey**, salvage sales, announces the dates of the next vehicle and equipment auctions: March 1, March 15, April 26 and May 10 . . . **Virginia Allen**, minority/small business administrator in material services, was chosen by the Mexican and American Foundation, Inc. to receive the "Dama De Distinction" award for the month of February. The foundation, based in San Diego, will honor Allen at a luncheon for her involvement in the San Diego-Tijuana community. "Your activities have been in the finest tradition of multicultural friendship and understanding," the foundation said in a congratulatory letter . . . **The Bowling Assn.** held their latest tournament on Jan. 24 at Verdugo Hills Bowl in La Crescenta. **Mary Lou Passafiume** reports that **Jan Barr**, **Bernie Bakke**, **Gracie Ugalde**, **Linda Trivette** and herself were on the women's first-place team from Headquarters. **Collier**

'Evening Concert' host retires after 43 years

Thomas Cassidy, the "voice of the gas company" to more than 300,000 radio listeners each week since 1943, has retired from KFAC radio.

Cassidy was one of the early hosts of SoCal Gas' "Evening Concert" program, when it first aired more than 46 years ago, and introduced many listeners to the world's greatest music.

"We regret Tom's decision to retire, but at the same time we cherish our long association with him," said **Don Robertson**, manager of advertising. "For many in southern California, he was the voice of the gas company as well as a voice of authority on classical music. We will miss him."

The company plans to continue its sponsorship of the "Evening Concert" and will work with KFAC's management to select a new host for the program.



LENDING AN ARM — Janice Moisant, gas supply, and Steve Mengel, consumer services, were among 135 Headquarters people who volunteered to donate blood during this month's Red Cross Blood Drive. Shirley Westbrook and Cristy Figueroa, the team from human resources who coordinated the blood drive, report that all together 116 units were donated. "For the first bloodmobile of the year, it was a great success," says Figueroa. The next Red Cross visit to Flower St. will be on April 21 and 22.

Murphy, Mike Morris, Pete Leon, James Leonard and **Mel Haynes** played on the men's first-place team. The next tournament will be held March 21 at Hollywood Star Lanes in Hollywood and will be hosted by Northwest. Contact **Irene Dilsworth**, m.l. 9241, for details . . . **Al Pizano**, district manager in Santa Barbara for North Coastal division, has been elected to a one-year term as a board member of the Santa Barbara Chamber of Commerce. Pizano is also president of the Santa Barbara School District Educational Foundation and president of Old Spanish Days . . . **Paul Brunton** writes in that the following people were winners of February's bridge tournament: First-place team: **Harry Beck** and **Milt Weiss** (both retirees). Tied for second place were the team of **Fred Bruecker** and **Art Steed** (both retirees), and the team of **Bill Grindstaff** and **Mirin Wu**, both from information systems. The next bridge game will be held on Wed., March 4, at 6:30 p.m. in the Flower St. card room. Contact **Mirin Wu**, at m.l. 404E or ext. 251-4268, to learn more.

Dates, places change for service awards

The Feb. 12 issue of *GasNews* featured a listing of the dates and locations for this spring's service recognition dinners. However, a few of the details have changed since *GasNews* hit the stands. Here they are:

March 19
Southeast
Whittier Hilton, Whittier

March 24
Inland
Arrowhead Country Club,
San Bernardino

April 30
South Inland
Palm Desert Resort and Country Club,
Palm Desert

May 14
Regulatory Affairs
The Tower, Transamerica Center, Los Angeles

May 27
Eastern
Travel Lodge, El Centro

GasNews

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Mail Location 111K
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