

# STATION NEWS

ENGINEERING EXPERIMENT STATION • GEORGIA TECH



VOLUME 3 NUMBER 7

AUGUST, 1974

## EES Productivity Program

In pursuance of its mission to promote the general welfare of the people of Georgia through science, engineering and industrial research, the EES has undertaken a variety of projects for the State and area industries in past years. Usually, this has been done on a random basis, i.e., we have reacted when a problem has been brought to us.

More recently we are approaching some of the work for the state from the standpoint of productivity. Problems of industry are examined on a more systematic basis and those for which solutions appear to be technically and economically feasible are identified. As a consequence of a July 29 staff memo prepared by Assistant Director Rudy Yobs, the concepts, procedures and administrative aspects of the Productivity Program are being brought into sharper focus.

In our approach to the program, "productivity" refers to the increase in efficiency of output relative to the input of resources. For industry, it may entail lower unit production costs or minimizing the cost impact of certain regulatory requirements. For State and local governments, it may mean provision of services at lower costs. The program approach includes systematic visits with industry and government to identify problems and appropriate subjects for research. We will also establish priorities for the initiation of new and exploratory-type research and the results of such research will be aimed at developing new project sponsors among industries and appropriate government agencies.

Actually, the productivity program is not entirely new at EES but includes the systematic approach

initiated this past year by the Programs Office in its industry characterization studies.

There are now several reasons why it is timely for the Station to pursue such a program: The South is in a transitional phase of industrial development concurrent with increasing resource scarcity which calls for more efficiency in the utilization of labor, natural resources, capital and management skills.

Recognition of the meaning of "productivity" will help amplify the EES capabilities to serve the State and will focus the understanding and efforts of our staff in serving the industries and governments throughout the State. There is also a growing national concern and interest in the increase of productivity as a curb to inflation and to strengthen the economy.

The systematic approach has already produced limited but promising results in several poultry projects for the Georgia Department of Agriculture and potential projects for the lumber and tufted textile industries.

The productivity program will operate with a small core staff of program developers in the Office of Industrial Assistance and will look primarily to the various EES divisions for performance of both exploratory and sponsored research.

As a client-oriented, applied research and development organization, EES is itself a "productivity center" in that improvement or growth is usually the object of our research. The use of the term "productivity program" is intended to highlight to our public and particularly our sponsors the importance which the Station places on this ob-

jective in a time of increasingly scarce resources.

We will plan to discuss this program in additional detail as it develops.

## Al Becker on the Move

Al Becker is the Research Reports, Property and Security Coordinator for the Office of Research Administration (ORA). He's also been a man on the go lately. Because of his expertise and experience in government classification, he was called to testify before the Foreign Operations and Government Information Subcommittee of the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Government Operations. Al's testimony supported an amendment to the Freedom of Information Act which will provide a statutory basis for classifying official government information and will limit what material may be withheld from the public. The Freedom of Information Act is concerned in part with the application of government security. Al said other witnesses included the heads of the CIA, executive vice president of the *New York Times* and division of classification director of the Atomic Energy Commission.

Al and his office staff of Anna Lee Gasque and Cindy Kerr moved into the Photo Lab recently because Al has been designated Business Manager of the Photo Lab. This transition phase to learn the operations of the Photo Lab was effective July 1. Upon Ed Garrett's pending retirement, M.C. Heddin will be in charge of the Photo Lab operations.

## Who's Slipping?

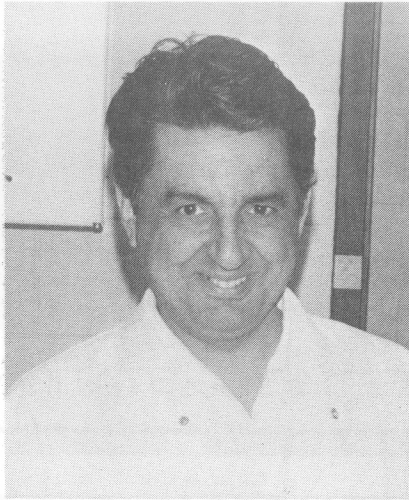
Although the August 1st article by Nancy Lewis in the *Atlanta Journal* citing an alleged slipping reputation of Georgia Tech doesn't mention the EES, it reflected indirectly on the EES in a critical way. The article stated, "Georgia Tech is contributing almost nothing to the development of technology for industries of Georgia," and that, "Georgia Tech is providing no national leadership in technology."

Actually, for some fourteen years the EES has had a specific mission of furthering the economic development of Georgia business and industry. Through our seven field offices, our industrial extension services, our Office of Industrial assistance and our IDD, we have been successfully carrying out this mission. As a direct result of our management and technical assistance, thousands of new jobs have been created, existing businesses have been expanded, new industries have come into Georgia and about one-hundred-million dollars of new economic benefits for the State have been created annually. The EES is and has been contributing a great deal to the development of technology for the industries of Georgia. In addition, there are fields such as electronics, radar, electromagnetic interference, industrial and community development and aid to industrial development in foreign countries where we enjoy not only national and international distinction, but also wide leadership recognition.

**Such misleading reporting can be countered by EES personnel telling the true facts to friends and business contacts at every opportunity.**

## TIME Visits EES

**Mr. Sam Iker from the Washington, D.C. staff of TIME Magazine spent some hours on Wednesday, 25 July talking with EES people and visiting our activities. He was gathering material and ideas to file with the TIME staff for possible use in an Essay about the current national situation for research and related funding.**



Monsieur Gilbert Bonel

## Visitor from France

A belated welcome to **Gilbert Bonel**, working this summer with **Ray Young** in the Crystal Physics Branch. M. Bonel is Maitre de Conférences (lectures) at the Université Paul Sabatier in Toulouse, France. A chemist, he is comparing his analyses of apatite structures with the physical equipment results here. He is also working to improve his English, since nearly all scientific meetings are held in English, he said.

His wife Gisele and son Pierre, ten, are with him for the three months. When asked their impressions of America, M. Bonel commented, "Generally we are very happily surprised by American people; it is easy to meet and talk to them. We are very well received by everyone; people we know and people we don't know. The relationship between Americans and foreigners is very good. Atlanta is a very pretty town, especially the suburbs. Our apartment here is surrounded by woods, which is not typical of housing in France. And Atlanta is a growing town; we're impressed with the new areas downtown. We are French and we live in France, but if we could not live there we would like to be in America."

The Bonels have been doing some traveling and hope to get to Miami, Disney World, Cape Kennedy and New Orleans before they return to France in September. They have seen the Okefenokee Swamp, St. Simons Island and the Smokey Mountains. Enchanté, Msr.

## Radar Symposium

**H. Allen Ecker** was appointed **Chairman of the Committee on Man and Radiation during the Tri-Service Radar Symposium last month.**

**J.L. Eaves** presented a paper at the 20th Annual Tri-Service Radar Symposium at West Point, N.Y., July 16-18, entitled "Improved Target Discrimination with Polarization Agility and Digital Video Processing."

**J.W. Cofer** also presented a paper entitled "Computer-Aided Analysis of Selected Foreign Radar Antennas."

**Archie Corriher** was a member of the Paper Selection Committee for the Symposium.

## New Employees

Welcome to **Michael L. Brown** a recent DeKalb Tech graduate who will join Dr. J. Knight's group. **Sue Kitson** is the new receptionist in the Reactor. Part-time in Reports and Procedures is **Judith Klose**. Welcome back to **Eleanor Hancock** in TAG after having a baby boy.

**Maria Ball**, Photo Lab, is leaving to join the IM Department.

**Alton Colcord**, TAG, has returned full-time after heart surgery.

## IDD News

**Tom Murphy** has resigned as head of the Augusta Area Office to become executive director of the Macon Area Development Commission-Forward Macon.

**Nelson Wall**, IDD, has been elected executive vice president, chapter operations, of the American Institute of Industrial Engineers.

**Dick Johnston**, IDD, conducted a seminar in international librarianship for Emory Library School students on July 9.

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Vol. 3 No. 7 August, 1974

Published monthly for employees of the Engineering Experiment Station, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, Georgia 30332.

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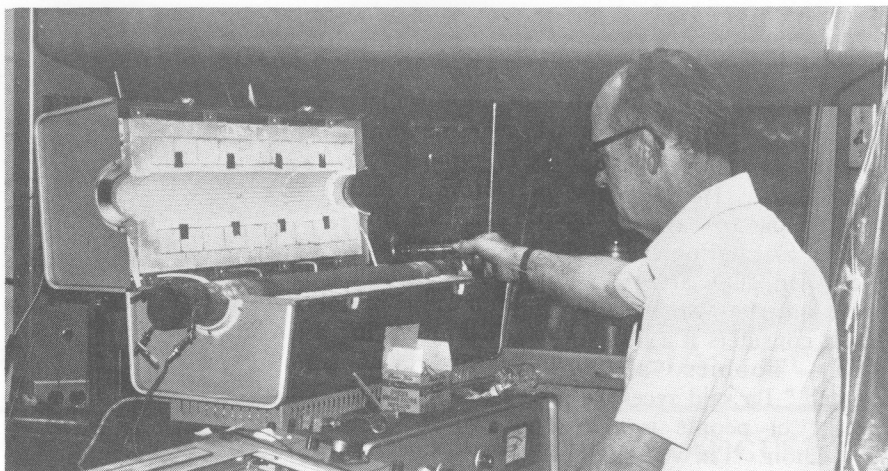
## NEW PROJECTS

Ross, Saarinen, Bolton & Wilder to NBSD (**R.S. Ingols**) for study of pollution abatement programs — Agway, Inc. to TAG (**G.L. Bridger**) for utilization of activated sewage sludge for fertilizer production — Ga. Community Continuing Education to IDD (**R.E. Collier**) for increasing understanding of community and area planning and management under an energy shortage constraint — Agency for International Development to IDD (**M.A. Deadmore**) for small industry newsletter — Army Electronics Command to RD (**R.J. Hodges**) for support of VOLPER tests and (**S.N. Cole**) for environment and radar operation simulator (EROS) — Environmental Protection Agency to TAG (**J.W. Tatom**) for utilization of agricultural, forestry and animal wastes for the production of clean fuels and to RO (**M.V. Davis**) for neutron activation analysis — Federal Aviation Administration and Coratomic, Inc. to CD (**J.C. Toler**) to develop electromagnetic control documents and for evaluation of nuclear pacemaker electromagnetic performance — NASA to CD (**J.R. Walsh**) for time delay profiles for teleoperator — Goddard Space Flight Center to STD (**J.W. Dees**) for research in millimeter wave techniques — Atlanta Regional Commission to TSD (**J.L. Birchfield**) for evaluation support services — NASA Lewis Research Center to RD (**R.P. Zimmer**) for benefit-cost methodology study for the use of wind generators and to STD (**H.L. Bassett**) for S-Band omnidirectional antenna — Tech Air Corp. to TAG (**H.G. Dean**) for study on pyrolysis unit — Cook Construction to TSD (**J.L. Birchfield**) for computer and related services —

### Be Alert for Thievery

During the last few weeks, the Georgia Tech Campus continued to be hit hard by thieves. It also marked an increase in the number of arrests of suspects by the Georgia Tech Police. In every case, it was a "tip" by a member of the Georgia Tech family that set up the arrest. The 10,000 pair of "MK-I eye balls" on campus is the most important factor in solving our problems.

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Pete Elston with a furnace for making charcoal and fuel oil from agricultural wastes such as sawdust. Pete is with the Waste Utilization Lab.

### Alumina from Kaolin

Dr. J.E. Husted (TAG) and W.C. Ward (IDD), who work jointly on the Department of Community Development's alumina from kaolin project, say interest is higher now than any time in the past for using Georgia's kaolin. The "Alumina from Kaolin Potentials" report issued two years ago is still in demand from companies both here and abroad.

The two recently visited the Bureau of Mines alumina from kaolin pilot plant in Boulder City, NV. The pilot was set up to extract alumina from calcined kaolin by nitric acid, using Wrens-area kaolin. Several aluminum companies were represented and seemed favorably impressed. Georgia kaolin is probably the most promising source of domestic kaolin.

### EDA Renews Grant

The Economic Development Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, has renewed IDD's grant to provide technical assistance to planning groups and business and industry for the eighth consecutive year. The \$130,000 grant will be matched with \$43,375 of Georgia Tech funds. Under the program, directed by *Hardy Taylor*, IDD provides a variety of services to stimulate growth and create jobs in economically lagging areas of the state.

### New International Newsletter

IDD's work in the international development field has led to the establishment of an eight-page quarterly newsletter focusing on small-scale industry development in the less-developed countries. Contributors include, but are not limited to, IDD's six counterpart institutions in Brazil, Ecuador, Kenya, Nigeria, the Philippines, and the Republic of Korea. The inaugural issue will be mailed in August to about 400 recipients worldwide. **Martha Ann Deadmore** is editor of the "Small Industry Development Network" Newsletter, which is funded by the Agency for International Development, U.S. Department of State.

### Study Highway Accidents

Dr. Paul H. Wright, professor of civil engineering at Georgia Tech, is directing a survey and analysis of fatal highway accident locations in Georgia. The 15-month study is financed by a \$53,640 contract from the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety.

Prof. Wright says the objective of the study is to identify distinctive characteristics of fatal accident sites where vehicles strike fixed objects. A student research team will study approximately 300 crash sites in central and northern Georgia. Findings will be compared with nearby control sites.

## PERSONALITY

### The Hobbist

Ila Benson of IDD probably has more hobbies than many of us ever think about. Her interests range from people to cats to flowers to cooking to catering to wine making to crushed glass art. And her attitude about her work indicates she almost considers it a hobby.

"My hobbies are people-oriented," Ila said recently. Top on the list of people is the Atlanta Boys Choir. "I'm very interested in that since my two sons are charter-member alumni. And I was on the committee which selected the present director."

Not everyone may agree with her, but Ila considers her cats as people. (Or should it be that her cats consider themselves people?) She has a blue Persian, a rare tricolor and a tabby. The oldest is fifteen and Ila's traveling companion. As an indication of their "humaness," she cites the example that one always says "thank you" when the door is opened for her to go in or out.

In the realm of growing things, her favorite flowers are begonia and ferns. She said that ferns take a lot of care and patience before they look pretty. She's willing to start new plants for friends, but will part with them only when she feels they are healthy enough. Several results of her green thumb are housed in her and her boss' offices.

Ila's culinary expertise is centered in homemade candy, her specialty. She will also do catering for friends for anniversaries, weddings or graduations. But she does not view it as a commercial venture. "If I started making money on it, it would no longer be a hobby or as enjoyable." Her fondness for cooking is probably traceable to the year she lived in Waterville, ME during the war operating a restaurant. Obviously a lobster dish had to be included on the menu; their specialty was baked stuffed lobster. Ila wouldn't say whether she serves her homemade wine at the catered functions, but we're sure it would be welcome.

Crushed glass art looks kind of like a giant, shaped cracked marble. When IDD hosted the Southern Industrial Development Council meeting last year, Ila made 150 crushed glass Georgia peaches as souvenirs for the ladies attending.

Ila hopes to add spoiling grandchildren as a hobby in the future. Her older son Lawrence is office manager for H.



Ila Benson

Muhlenbach and Company. Other son James is finishing his journalism degree requirements at the University of Georgia.

The Mobile, AL native has lived in Atlanta for 25 years, but still goes back to visit her mother, sister and friends. And usually puts her cooking skills to the test for a party.

Before joining EES in 1961, Ila had been office manager at the Georgia Business and Industry Association. Then she joined EES. In the 10 years she has been secretary to Bob Cassell, Ila says she has yet to have two days exactly alike. As she commented, "I like my work and particularly the people I work with. There's never a dull day. I have many people all over the country from Florida to Washington who will call. I consider them friends, yet I know them only by their voices. Bob's reputation as a leader in the industrial development field really makes my job interesting. And liking people helps."

Now she and Bob are responsible for keeping the Southern Industrial Development Council in shape. Their guidance has increased membership from 350 to 1250. Ila is a contributing co-editor of the SIDC News and circulation manager for the Georgia Development News. When asked what she would be doing if she had it all to do over again, she replied, "The same exact thing I'm doing now."

Two things this bundle of energy seems not to like are organized women's groups and militant women's libbers. "I like femininity and think that those who get so aggressive have a difficult time distinguishing between the two. Often, the aggressiveness becomes unattractive. I guess I just prefer dresses to pants on women. And I think there are some jobs men are better able to perform. Personally, I wouldn't want to work for a woman."

Ila does feel women should have an equal chance if they want it. And she strongly believes in equal pay for equal

work and equal responsibility.

So if you decide to start a new hobby, talk to Ila. She's probably had a hand and interest in it already.

### EES People on the Move

**M.V. Davis, RO**, to Philadelphia for the meeting of the Am. Nuclear Soc. June 26-29... Attending the Tri-Service Radar Symposium at West Point, NY July 15-18 from S&TD were: **R.C. Johnson, J.L. Eaves, H.A. Ecker, F.B. Dyer, E.K. Reedy, J.W. Cofer, Jr., S.P. Zehner, R.D. Hayes**... IEEE EMC Conf. was held July 15-18 in San Francisco with **J.C. Toler, E.E. Weaver** and **J.A. Woody** attending from S&TD... **R.D. Hayes, S&TD**, went to Dayton and Philadelphia for ACT meeting July 22-23... **J.D. Walton, HTMD**, attended an NSF briefing in Minneapolis July 24-25... Testifying before the Interstate Commerce Comm. was **R.B. Cassell, IDD**, on July 25... **G.W. Leddicote, NBSD**, was in Columbia, MO July 28-31 to present a paper at the Conf. on Nuclear Methods in Environmental Research... At the Wind Energy Workshop in Asheville, NC July 28-31 were **R.P. Zimmer** and **G. Grenaker, S&TD**... **R.K. Hart, PSD**, attended the EMSA council and editorial board meetings in St. Louis Aug. 11-13, then presented two papers at the International Congress on Electron Microscopy in San Francisco Aug. 25-31...

### IDD's Certified City Program Completes Tenth Year

A program to upgrade Georgia's communities conducted by **George Dodson** has just completed its tenth successful year.

Ten Georgia municipalities received Certified City Bronze Award plaques at the 1974 Ga. Municipal Association annual meeting at Jekyll Island on July 15. George, who performed the investigation and evaluation of all entrant cities made the presentation speech. Hapeville, Jesup, Madison, Moultrie and Toccoa achieved certification for the first time. The previously certified cities of Lavonia, Monroe, Rossville, Sylvania and Valdosta qualified for recertification to maintain their rating.