



*In Memoriam*  
 Sun Ship Historical Society  
 extends its sympathy to the  
 family and friends of Ann  
 Smedley who passed on  
 February 1, 2025

Site: [www.sunship.org](http://www.sunship.org)

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Hope we have done justice to Ann Smedley's time at Sun Ship, if you have any additional information, suggestions or corrections, please let us know.

Thank You,  
 Dave Kavanagh  
 SSHS  
[davekav@verizon.net](mailto:davekav@verizon.net)

### *Obituary of: Ann H. Smedley*

Courtesy of: Minshall Shropshire-Bleyler Funeral Home and Bruce Montag

" Ann Smedley, age 99, of Brookhaven, PA, formerly of Chester, PA, died on February 1, 2025. Ann was born June 25, 1925 in Chester, PA, and graduated from Chester High School.

**Ann was an Executive Assistant at Sun Ship for 45 years.**

She enjoyed spending time with her family and attending the theater with friends. Ann loved to travel and relax on the beach.

Daughter of the late George C. Smedley and Helen (Burns) Smedley; Sister of the late George Smedley, Hunter Smedley, Robert Smedley, Harry Smedley, Elizabeth Stanaitis, Mary Dougherty and Helen Shanahan; Longtime partner Bob Blackburn.

#### **Survivors:**

Sisters-in-Law: MaryAnn Smedley and Lynn Smedley

Also survived by many nieces, nephews and grand nieces and nephews.

Visitation: Monday, February 10th after 10:30AM at the Minshall Shropshire-Bleyler Funeral Home, Middletown (Rte. #352) & Knowlton Rds., Middletown Twp., Media, PA 19063"

### *SSHS's Thumbnail history of Ann H. Smedley and Sun Ship*

The following 'Ann Smedley' related photo crops were taken from Sun Ship's 'Our Yard' magazine in chronological order. This 'Our Yard' magazine was published from September 1941 thru February, 1965.

#### **02/1952**

"Photographs were taken of various department's 'from Dispensary to Mail Room All Joined in the Festivities with 1951 Christmas decorations." This photo highlights the Personnel Office's (Dept. 98) Christmas Tree with department members shown (l to r): Helen Shallet, **Ann Smedley**, Grace Hite and A. Earnshaw."

SSHS: 705\_5202\_005



This is a photo-shopped picture of our Ann Smedley from the above photo.

SSHS: 705\_5202\_005f



11/1957

“ ‘Our Yard’ Secretary Ann Smedley and Vice President and first editor, John G. Pew Jr., look back at the first issues, now over sixteen years old.”

SSHS: 705\_5711\_002b



12/1957

“**Team Harvard** was one of 10 ‘Mixed Bowling’ League teams from the 1957-58 competition. This photo showing L to R; Dave Rich, Gloria Mancini, Helen Daily, Bart Orr (Captain), Tony Reyes and **Ann Smedley**.”

SSHS: 705\_5712\_014f



01/1959

Transcription of page showing past and present members the ‘Our Yard’ Staff, volunteers and outside services with a ‘goodbye’ from retiring editor John Hart .

SSHS: 705\_5901\_027c

**Staff**

A. Bagby,	H. Osman,	C. Laird,	H. Hladky
H. Baker,	J. Pitts	V. DiLorenzo	<i>Photographer</i>
L. Bentley	G. Rennie, C.	Palmer,	W. Spencer
F. Brooks	H. Sanborn,	J.G. Pew,	<i>Printer</i>
H. Burr E.	Wertz,	J.G. Pew Jr.,	E. Holt
J. Connor,	R. Wilson,	R.B. Vale,	<i>Foreman</i>
J. Falcone,	F. Wilson,	P. McKinney,	R. Stuber
H. Fithian,	L. Green,	P. Bell,	<i>Engraver</i>
R. Clendening,	A. Smedley,	L. Buscaglia,	J. Downham
S. Flood,	N. Kefford,	F. Owens,	<i>Printer</i>
R. Hahn,	T. Leeson,	A. Wagner,	A. Carson
J. Hefflefinger,	G. Linaweaver,	C. Duke	<i>Typesetting</i>
C. Grauel,	G. P. Buchan	<b>Outside Serv.</b>	P. Stankus
F. Hickman,	P. Embree,	A. Knott	<i>Foreman</i>
J. McBride,	S. Sterrett	<i>Photographer</i>	
A. Themens,	M. Znachko		

01/1959

Cropped picture of **Ann Smedley** from the cover page of ‘Our Yard’ magazine January 1959 edition showing the ‘Our Yard’ Staff.

SSHS: 705\_5901\_001b

**In addition, there are several dozen who wrote feature articles for the magazine during the past six years. Much gratitude is due these**

**volunteers:**

A. Adam	C. Doyle	W. Martin	J. Sulger
E. Andraeas	F. Ferrell	H. McBride	J. Techtou
S. Becton	F. Goodwin	J. McNamar	F. Thompson
G. Blair	J. Graber	M. McLaughlin	G. Trosley
G. Buchan	F. Griffith	F. McShane	A. Wagner
E. Broomall	A. Hiebeck	A. Millay	E. White
W. Brotherston	A. Holzbauer	D. Mylrea	G. Widdowson
H. Chetty	F. Hoot G.	F. Pavlik	G. Wilde
L. Collison	H. Hutchinson	K. Pippert	G. Wilkie
W. Craemer	A. Ingram	J. Roberts	J. Wilroy
J. Czudak	E. Lacrosse	P. Shaver	
K. Kamsgaard	T. Larkins	D. Sidle	
C. Dooley	B. Maling	W. Smith	
O. Wilde			


**I have enjoyed working with each of you, and take pleasant thoughts of these and additional friendships with shipbuilders with me. I know**

you will cooperate with the new editor. W. Dean Moore.

Gratefully,  
John Hart

**11/1960**

Listing of 'Our Yard' personnel showing Staff: W. Dean Moore and **Ann Smedley** and reporters from the various Yard departments.  
SSHS: 705\_6011\_003b



**The Staff**

W. DEAN MOORE .....*Editor*  
ANN SMEDLEY .....*Secretary*


**Reporters**

Carl Browne ..... *Electrical Installation* 33  
William Burns ..... *Engine Drawing*  
Harry Burr ..... *Machinist Maintenance* 84  
Clarence Duke ..... *Retired Employees G.A.R.*  
James S. Falcone ..... *Fabricators* 47  
Adam Heibeck ..... *Sheet Metal* 31  
Frank Hickman ..... *Carpenters* 66  
Clyde Landis ..... *Welders and Burners* 59-60  
Albert J. McCann ..... *Electrical Maintenance* 33M  
Harry Osman ..... *Hull Drawing* 78  
Gavin Rennie ..... *Machinists* 36  
John Rosati ..... *Plate Yard* 75  
Harry Sanborn ..... *Riggers* 68  
Charles Thornton ..... *Pipe Shop* 34  
Edward Wertz ..... *Wetherill Plant* 1-19  
Frank Wilson ..... *Office*  
Robert Hahn ..... *Outdoors Editor*  
*Boiler Shop* 30

**Second Shift**

Stanley Boyda ..... *Pipe Shop* 34  
Charles Jenkins ..... *Burner and Welders* 59-60  
Robert Willoughby ..... *Fabricators* 47

*All unsigned articles are by (or with the collusion of) the editor*



**06/1961:**

**Annual Day of Reckoning for staff of OUR YARD** came April 26. That's only time 'ye Ed' (The Editor) ever gets them alone together so he can

compliment them on many fine things they did during the year. Writers themselves might tell you different, but you should take chief's word for it. Delightful affair was held at Corinthian Yacht Club. From lower left going around the outside of the table); Al McCann (33M), who found food so good he didn't even stop chewing for photographer (G. Harry Hladky); Mrs. McCann (much sweeter than what you see of her); Charles S. Falcone (47 Shop) behind whom Mrs. Falcone is hiding; Mr. and Mrs. Adam Heibeck (31 Dept.); Mr. and Mrs. William Burns (38 Dept); **Ann Smedley (she beggars description)**; Treasurer and Mrs. William Craemer, W. Dean Moore, (Servant of all); Vice President and Mrs. John G. Pew, Jr.; Mrs. Cathryn Moore, (The Editor's Wife); Mr. and Mrs. Ed Wertz (Wetherill), and Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Boyda (Pipe Shop 2<sup>nd</sup> Shift), Mr. and Mrs. Harry Sanborn (68 Dept), Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hahn (Rod and Gun). Inside from lower left; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Thornton (Pipe Shop Day Shift), Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Landis (59-60 Day Shift), Phil Flanigan (36 Dept.), Mr. and Mrs. John Tecton (Chemist), Mr. and Mrs. John Rosati (75 Dept.), Mr. and Mrs. Frank Wilson (Office Chatter).

**'Our Yard' Annual Staff Chat**

SSHS: 705\_6106\_017b

**OUR YARD Staff Has Annual Chat**



too. Editor (W. Dean Moore) got a chance to get across a point or two, Vice Presidents Galloway and Holzbaur gave some most interesting thought-provoking facts about ship building in Europe and a movie of activities of **SS Hope** (Hull 351) carrying medical care and knowledge to far reaches of the earth was shown.

Attending were (l. to r. Outside) Mrs. Editor, Janet McGee, soloist of the evening and Miss South Carolina, 1962 ; Albert and Mrs. McCann, John and Mrs. Tecton, Mrs. and John Rosati, Vice President Arthur A. Holzbaur, Mrs. Galloway, Ye Ed. (W. Dean Moore), Mrs. Holzbaur, Vice President Robert Galloway, Mrs. and William Burns, Ed and Mrs. Housley, William and Mrs. Walsh, Bruce's fiancée Patricia Cwyk and Bruce Shanko. (l. to r. inside) James S. Falcone, Thomas and Mrs. Flynn, Frank and Mrs. Wilson, **Ann Smedley, secretary and chief whip cracker**; Robert Hahn Mrs. and John Aull and Mrs. and Mr. Clyde Landis.

**'Our Yard' Annual Staff Chat**

SSHS: 705\_6306\_019c



**06/1963:**

**Annual Get-Together For Staff of OUR YARD** magazine was held at Colony Hotel May 1. Good time was had by all – so they said – and profitable,

**05/1964:**

**Much Lead is Represented Here**, the kind you find in pencils, of course. This is the annual meeting of staff of **'OUR YARD'** except for the Second Shift

writers and two missing from day shift. Seated in the Captain's Room at the Colony Hotel in Chester are (from left on the outside): Hand of Mrs. William Walsh and we're sorry we couldn't get all of her because it's real attractive; William Walsh (38 Dept.), Donald and Mrs. Smith(59-60 Dept.), Mrs. Galloway, Charles Zeien, vice president in charge of engineering' Mrs. Pew, Ye Ed (W. Dean Moore), Robert Galloway, vice president in charge of production; Mrs Zeien, John G. Pew, Jr., vice president in charge of pulic relations; John and Mrs. Aull (Wetherill), Thomas and Mrs. Flynn (34M Dept.), Mrs. Wilson. (Inside from right) Frank Wilson (Office Chatter), Mrs. Ye Ed (W. Dean Moore), John and Mrs. Rosati (75 Dept.), John and Mrs. Techton (Safety), James and Mrs. Falcone (47 Dept), Harry Burr (84 Dept.), Robert and Mrs. Hahn (Rod and Gun), **Ann Smedley (secretary and interpreter)**, Edward and Mrs. Housley, Morris and Mrs. Kalmus (32 Dept).

**'Our Yard' Annual Staff Chat**

SSHS: 705\_6405\_004c



the bride (May 23) and Mrs. Ann Farber soon will join Stork Club. Party in their honor was given by a bunch of the "girls" who whooped it up in Town House in Media

Those involved (outside from left then inside from right) were; Mrs. Lottie Flick, Elsee Stott, Peggy Jones, Mrs. Betty Montgomery, Judy Paige, Mrs. Jane Parent, Mrs. Ollie Kehler, Mrs. Sue Longbine, Phyllis, Mrs. Farber, Mrs. Jane Scull, Doris Covey, Mrs. Kathleen Crist, Mrs. Edna McKinney, Mrs. Mary Perry, Mrs. Helen Brownhill, Mrs. Helen Daily, Mrs. Delores Heitz, Bernice Brackett, Lois Mekenney, Jean Walters, Mrs. Doris Moody, Mrs. Dorothy Nuttal, Mrs. Catherine Mea, **Ann Smedley**, Mrs. Dorothy Loontz, Ruth Shull and Mrs. Sylvia Thompson.



**June is Month of Brides and other things...**

SSHS: 705\_6406\_016c

**The Last Page?**

SSHS's digital archives show that during 'Our Yard' magazine's lifetime, Oct, 1941 to Feb, 1965, 268 editions were printed generating a digital file of 17,567 pages.

We attached a page from 'Our Yard's' November, 1957 issue, in what may be our last 'Ann Smedley' reference in the SSHS archives, her position as a Executive Assistant to VP John G. Pew, Jr. and secretary for 'Our Yard' magazine has left a significant 'footprint' in the history of Sun Ship, for which we and future historians will be eternally grateful.

Sincerely,  
David Kavanagh, President  
Sun Ship Historical Society

**06/1964:**

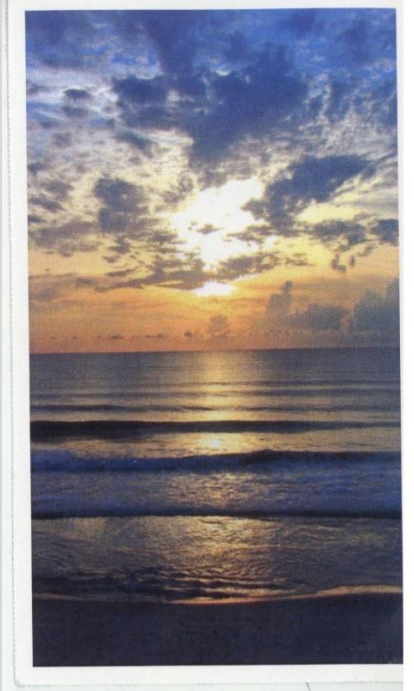
**'June is Month of Brides and Other Things-and here we have a little of both'**

June is Month of Brides and Other Things – and here we have a little of both. Phyllis DiNauta now is

**02/2025:**

**In Remembrance from Ann Smedley's Funeral on February 10, 2025:**

SSHS: 98-14\_6b



SSHS: 98-14\_7b

In Loving Memory of  
***Ann H. Smedley***  
June 25, 1925  
February 1, 2025

I'd like the memory of me  
to be a happy one,  
I'd like to leave an afterglow  
of smiles when life is done.  
I'd like to leave an echo  
whispering softly down the ways,  
of happy times and laughing  
times and bright and sunny days.  
I'd like the tears of those  
who grieve, to dry before the sun.  
Of happy memories that I leave  
when life is done.

Minshall Shropshire-Bleyler  
Funeral Home, Ltd.  
Middletown Twp., Media, PA

*Memo from* John G. Pew, Jr.

## A FAMILY PROJECT

In the Fall of 1941 my father called me into his office and was characteristically brief: "Let's have a monthly magazine to be sent to all employee families. I want it called OUR YARD and the first issue sent out for Liberty Day."

Just what prompted the decision, I'm not sure. There had been several mentions among employees of having a plant publication, but Sun like the majority of industrial firms had none. It had been approximately twenty years since the yard published a smaller magazine, the Sun Dial—but it didn't last.

Of one thing we may be sure, John G. Pew's purpose in starting a publication was a good deal more than a vehicle for the purchase of war bonds. As the first editor's statement said, "The hope is that as each issue of our family magazine is published, it may serve to knit the Yard into a closer family relationship." That I was the editor of the early issues I will never forget—for my father gave me just ten days advance notice before the first deadline! You may be sure I called for help.

The last September issue of OUR YARD was Volume XVII, No.

1. We have therefore completed sixteen years, publishing twenty-eight pages (including four covers) every month for every employee. Bound copies, two years to each volume, measure 14 shelf inches and weigh 42½ pounds. That's not surprising, because those 192 copies contain 5,376 pages. But heft doesn't make an employee family project successful. We should measure interest.

Without polling our readers, we can get a pretty fair idea of interest by surveying participation, because such a project best succeeds when all of the family pulls together. Well, how are we doing? Let's take the last five years.

Our first thanks go to the staff of volunteer reporters who have regularly gathered department news and spent a great deal of their personal time putting their columns together. This crew, currently numbering twenty, is the backbone—they have made the magazine possible, and for most, worthwhile.

Aside from department items we have had 60 individuals contribute an original or selected item of a feature nature since Sept. 1, 1952. Nine of these, like our former safety engineer, E. E. White, have retired or left service. Outstanding has been rough and ready, outdoor editor Mike Znachko, who has come up with some fine writing, contributing Rod and Gun features in addition to toolroom news almost every month since former editor Bob Vale hooked him before this period began.

The next most frequent contributor is our dean of reporters, Dick Clendening, who contributed twelve features in addition to machinist news. Dick would still be evident in these pages if our doctor hadn't insisted he cut out all extracurricular activity.

Naval architect Frank Pavlik wrote seven papers which were

printed; guarantee engineer Sterling Becton, six. Sales engineer Perry Shaver has developed five articles in as many years, as have hull superintendent Arthur Holzbaur and assistant foreman "Fireball" Bentley, who has covered the burning and welding departments regularly and well.

Tank tester Harold Baker wrote four pieces in addition to department reporting; chief engineer David Mylrea and Wetherill superintendent William Smith have done three features each.

Alphabetically, two-timers include: Howell Chetty, L. D. Collison, Jim Connor, William Craemer, Frank Hoot, Joe McBride, Harry Sanborn and John Techt. Here Mike Znachko turns up twice more in addition to the above mentioned sports and department news.

Thirty-three more from A to Z (Atkinson to Zeien) have at least fired one shot into OUR YARD. Half of this group are department heads and supervisors—a pretty good showing for salaried personnel. But where do we go from here?

The current editor reports that he has asked many employees to contribute an item without success. He too, wishes to keep OUR

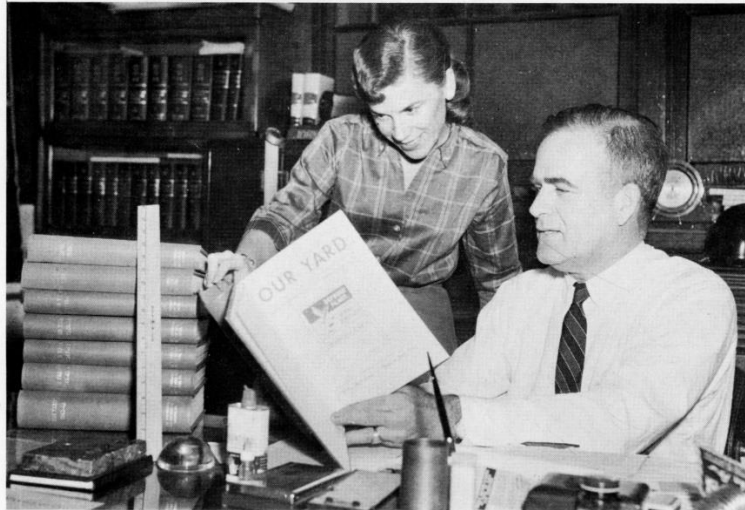
YARD of the "home grown variety" by having readers submit their own articles. There is almost no limit to subject matter. We have had some good features on department functions — from semi-technical to humorous — vacation and hobby stories, and others of historic or cultural character. The trouble is that we don't receive enough of them.

Certainly we should not lean so heavily for feature items on the volunteer staff which already is devoting time and thought in department columns. Is it too much to ask that each executive, superintendent and department head makes a genuine effort to write or select at least one item

every year? This alone would put us in a selective position as far as material is concerned—improving the quality of the magazine generally.

What about some new authors from the hourly role? Some of our most entertaining and educational pieces have come from men who "never wrote a thing" in their lives before! We included a short, informal piece called "Anyone Can Write" in the October 1956 issue, to encourage the beginner. Writing is basically thinking on paper. All of us can think—and write—if we will but take the time. Get some paper and start accumulating notes of ideas and facts you think are interesting when they first occur to you. You'll be surprised how quickly and easily you will have enough material for a feature in OUR YARD. You'll be pleased how little organizing and rewording of original notes is needed to make a satisfactory article in print.

Finally, when our former chef left service, we lost one feature for our female readers—menus. There is no doubt in my mind that many employee wives or daughters and Sun Ship girls can contribute material to establish a clever and stimulating women's page. How about it, you girls? Will you give it a try?



OUR YARD secretary Ann Smedley and Vice President and first editor, John G. Pew, Jr., look back at the first issues, now over sixteen years old.

Our Yard: Nov. 1957