

By MANLEY J. ANDERSON

In-house publications recall old times in Jamestown

Two issues of an in-house publication, *Art Metal Welder*, described as "A magazine edited by and for the employees of the **Art Metal Construction Co.**" revive recollections of when the late firm was one of Jamestown's major industries.

The November 1942 and June 1952 issues of the magazine were brought to *The Post-Journal* by Sam J. Nalbone, retired city ombudsman and chief negotiator and coordinator

of the Jamestown Area Labor-Management Committee.

Nalbone was named 1990 recipient of the "Peacemaker of the Year Award" of the National Academy of Conciliators.

The cover story of the November 1942 issue of the *Welder* included a large photograph of a flag-raising at the plant, with the headline "WAR BOND FLAGS FLY AT ART METAL."

The text went on to explain that each Art Metal plant was proudly flying its own "Minute Man" flag - awarded after at least 90 percent of the company's employees were buying "War Bonds" through payroll deductions.

An inside feature - "All Around the Art Metal Plants" - devoted several pages to activities within the company's various locations and departments, including numerous references to the whereabouts and experiences of several former employees in military service.

It also included bits of gossip, out-

side activities and insights into everyday life of workers at the plants.

One page was given to nine photos and brief information in a feature titled "WITH OUR BOYS IN THE SERVICES."

Another page was devoted to "LETTERS FROM WAR ZONES AND TRAINING CAMPS" while a section of the publication dealt with

activities at Art Metal's New York, Washington and Pittsburgh branches.

Overall, it provided an interesting look back at a time when the United States was becoming seriously

involved in World War II. The June 1952 issue of *Art Metal Welder* was thicker than its earlier counterpart, including a one-page, six-photo layout devoted to various departments, along with three more department photos and a half-page story on the new Art Metal office building.

Much of the rest of the issue dealt with "ALL IN THE ART METAL FAMILY" - relating to news about employees and their activities in the the company's various departments, divisions, office and the Pittsburgh branch, along with a few photos and cartoons.

Other stories related to illustrated Art Metal displays at the "Made in Jamestown" Show, the golf league, softball, Red Cross blood bank, safety for the women at work and the AMSCO Jamestown Federal Credit Union.

The two issues of *Art Metal Welder* capture the essence of workday and recreational life at what once was one of Jamestown's most respected companies.



This photo from the June 1952 issue shows Art Metal's latest development in desks, the "1800" line, and chairs in Nelson's window.



At top, a functional desk drawer arrangement display was at Office Machine and Equipment Co. At bottom, Upright Unit Files and Postindex are displayed in Bigelow's window. Photos are from the June 1952 issue.