

Ribbon Cutting and Grand Opening

by Barbara Sartin

Sklar Exploration Company had its Ribbon Cutting and Grand Opening of its Arcadia Field Office Monday at 12 noon. Everyone from Sklar was very friendly and helpful. The dinner was Grilled Steaks with all the trimmings, plenty to drink, and desert.

Lane Weeks, Chamber President, Gave a short welcoming speech to Sklar, along with Mayor Smith's welcoming speech just before the Ribbon Cutting ceremony. There was also a brief accepting speech from Sklar. Mayor Smith side by side with Howard Sklar and cut the ribbon.

Sklar's Home office is located in Shreveport, however David Barlow, Chief Operations Officer, said this field office is "centrally located between Shreveport and Mississippi oil sites" so it makes good sense to have a "storage area and a place to prefabricate piping to have ready for drilling in the future". The Field Office sets on 8 acres on Felts Road. As of Monday it is in full operation, and will eventually employ at least 35 people.

The Three main employees from Sklar to run this office is Henry McElroy, Construction Supervisor, Tommy McElroy, Production Supervisor, and Lee Martin,

Pumper for west Arcadia area. Tommy McElroy said he has been "treated very well, Arcadia has nice people", and hopes Sklar can grow with Arcadia and "be apart of you (community).

Mayor Eugene Smith was very pleased to welcome them to Arcadia. He says "It took about a year of negotiations to go from the beginning to the Ribbon cutting." The mayor's saying "Come grow with us" is working as more and more business are looking at Arcadia for locations.

Howard Sklar, owner of Sklar Exploration Company, was also on hand to meet and greet the members of Arcadia's chamber of commerce, the Mayor, and members of the community.

Mr. Sklar is a third generation Sklar Exploration, taking the company over after his father, Sam Sklar, past away. Mr. Sklar has degrees in Geophysics, from MIT and Physics and Nuclear Sciences, from Michigan. He has also taught school in several places including, MIT and Louisiana Tech. He moved in Shreveport in 1996, and is still a resident there. However he is seeking a Ph. D. in Boulder, Colorado. He says he still keeps in close contact with the company, and can be here when needed.



Pictured, from left to right, are Howard Sklar, Mayor Eugene Smith, and David Barlow, Chief Operating Officer for Sklar.



These are the men that will run the Arcadia Field Office; from left to right: Henry McElroy, Construction Supervisor, Tommy McElroy, Production Supervisor, Lee Martin, Pumper for west Arcadia area, and Kenneth Trim, Operation Supervisor Overall.