



Bill Aitchison

Bill Aitchison manages to find time to help others

Fresh out of Purdue University in early 1974 with a degree in industrial management, Bill Aitchison found himself in desperate need of work. "Afterall," chuckled Bill, "I didn't have a job for a WHOLE three weeks and thought I'd NEVER get one."

That all changed, though, on January 17 when Aitchison joined Citizens State Bank in his hometown of New Castle. Bill, currently executive vice president, began his banking career in bookkeeping working under Don Webber who was cashier at the time. "He wanted me to learn by doing," recalled Bill, "then gradually passed along more and more duties to me."

Promoted to assistant cashier in the mid-1970s, he became cashier in 1978 when Don Webber transferred to the lending area. Aitchison moved to his present position in 1986.

One of Bill's primary duties as executive vice president is to watch over the bank's investment portfolio. In addition, he joins with Bill Hubbard and Carolyn Padgett to make sure that operations in the bank's 11 locations run smoothly.

Known as an unflappable individual who always makes time to help other staff members in solving problems, Bill became the first recipient of the Citizens State Bank employee-of-the-year award when the program was initiated in 1986. "It really meant a lot to me," he reflected. "My willingness to help is not something I consciously turn on or turn off—I guess it's just my nature."

Born and raised in Henry County, Aitchison graduated from New Castle Chrysler High School in 1970. He gained his bachelor's degree from Purdue University in just three and one-half years with a major in industrial management and minors in economics and computer science.

The father of four sons, Bill and his wife, Teri, will have been married for 20 years this June. Their oldest son, Brian, 16 is a sophomore at New Castle Chrysler High School where he's involved with swimming and band. Next comes Patrick, 13, who is a seventh grader at New Castle Junior High School. Teri and Bill are also parents of identical twins, John and Paul, 11, who are in the fifth grade at Riley Elementary School.

As you might expect, much of Bill's free time is spent keeping up with the boys and all their activities. "We've been deeply involved in scouting for the past eight or nine years," related Aitchison. "We also try to go camping as often as possible during the summer at our trailer in Brookville. It gives us a chance to do things as a family."

A member of First Presbyterian Church, Bill belongs to the Westwood Country Club and Y.M.C.A. He is a current board member of the New Castle Housing Authority and a past board member of several other New Castle area organizations. Aitchison also serves as a regional officer of the Indiana Bankers Association.

IT'S A NEW WWW WORLD RECORD

We're all promised 15 minutes of fame during our lifetimes. Bill Aitchison's turn came over the teacher's institute break in late-October 1969.

During his senior year at New Castle Chrysler High School, he and five buddies who worked on the yearbook staff hatched a plan that wound up in the Guinness Book of World Records.

"We started playing six-on-six touch football at 4 pm Wednesday and completed the game at 7 am the following Monday," remembers Bill. "The final score of the 111-hour game was 1,680 to 1,640. I played on the winning team and scored six touchdowns (not that he was counting or anything)."

Bill and his friends were joined by "80 to 90" other guys to pull off the feat. Playing in three-hour shifts, the teams battled one another through the cold nights and warm days.

An injury to Aitchison on Saturday afternoon sidelined him from actually completing the competition. "But it's still something I'll never forget!" declares Bill.

And now, neither will we! Next.....