

the ILLUMINATOR

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Professors urge new coal-burning power plants as boon to W. Va. economy

The economy of the State of West Virginia can be significantly enhanced if electric utilities are encouraged to locate new coal-burning power plants in the State.

That was the essence of a presentation to a legislative interim committee last month by Dr. Thomas C. Campbell and Dr. Patrick C. Mann, Professors of Economics at West Virginia University. The committee is reviewing a legislative bill proposed in early 1976 which would increase the tax on manufacture of electric power from 88¢/\$100 to \$3.00.

In their study on the electric utility industry's impact on the West Virginia economy, the professors said that in the context of economic development, "The business privilege of manufacturing electricity in West Virginia should not be treated differently

from other manufacturing activities such as steel or chemical production. In both cases, B&O tax revenues are realized from the mining of the natural resource and from the sale of the manufactured product. And since the manufacture of electricity uses significant amounts of the State's primary resource (coal), there is little economic reason for singling out this manufacturing activity for special treatment."

They also said, "The imposition of inequitable taxes . . . would encourage electric firms to locate new generating plants in adjacent states such as Ohio and Kentucky."

At another point in their presentation, the professors said that, "It has been verified that the electricity sector is an important component of the State's economy. The significant amounts

of capital investment required for construction of new generating plants provide temporary increases in State income and employment and permanent increases in property tax revenues."

They went on to point out that there would be continuing permanent income and employment impacts from the plants, "especially from the purchase of huge amounts of West Virginia coal."

An example provided by Appalachian Power Company of this impact is its plant to be built in New Haven at a cost in excess of \$600-million, to employ some 2,600 construction workers during the peak of the 3½ year construction period. The construction payroll would be approximately \$170-million. The plant would permanently employ 159 persons with an annual payroll of \$2.3-million. The plant would use 3.8 million tons of coal annually, requiring some 2,000 miners to produce the coal at an estimated wage of \$25.3-million annually, according to Appalachian estimates.

In addition to the effect on local property tax revenues, there is a significant permanent impact on B&O tax revenues, they said.

"Finally, the attraction of new power plants to the State able to produce reasonably-priced power may provide a catalyst for industrial development, e.g. energy-intensive industries such as chemicals, aluminum, etc. Obviously, the location of these manufacturing industries in the State will also have significant income, employment and tax revenue effects," they added.

In their report, the professors reviewed the impact electric utilities are already having on West Virginia.

They said seven companies presently operate 12 power generating plants in the State with an installed capacity of 12,463 megawatts, representing an investment of \$1.95-billion, plus an additional one billion dollars in other facilities.

"During 1970-75, the electric power industry in the State consumed more than 123 million tons of coal having an estimated market value of \$1.60-billion," the professors stated.

"The coal consumed by the electric power industry in West Virginia," they continued, "is increasing both absolutely and relatively, indicating that the primary hope for expanding West Virginia coal markets lies with the power industry within the State."

(Continued on page 2)



Howell



Ferguson

APCo, Kentucky employees win prizes in Operating Ideas competition

A total of 1,200 shares of AEP Company stock, the biggest award ever, was distributed among the 16 AEP System Operating Ideas prize winners for 1976. Two more winners, employees of Ohio Valley Electric Corporation and Indiana-Kentucky Electric Corporation, received cash prizes.

The largest prize of 240 shares was divided among **Mark A. Bailey**, performance engineer at Ohio Power Company's Gavin Plant; **David D. Crabtree**, supervising engineer at Gavin, and **Fletcher C. Hastings**, recently promoted to the position of production supervisor-operations at Ohio Power's Muskingum River Plant. Their article was titled, "Heat Rate Computer Provides On-Line Data."

Two hundred shares went to **Albert E. Johanson** and **Raymond J. Haas** for "Designs Relay to Prevent Capacitor Cascading." They are both in the Service Corporation's Electrical Engineering Division in Canton.

Don W. Howell and **Frank W. Parrinello**, both electrical engineers in GO T&D Meter, Roanoke, when they submitted their contribution, divided 180 shares for "Accumulator Tests Magnetic Load Recorders." Parrinello has since resigned.

Other prize winners were:

Howard Ferguson, operations supervisor at Clinch River Plant; 120 shares for "BTU Loss Monitor Helps Operators Cut Costs."

B. Dale Williams, maintenance

foreman at Big Sandy Plant; 100 shares for "Air Compressor Casings Repairs Save \$25,000."

James R. Michalec, rotating machinery staff, AEP Service Corporation, New York; 100 shares for "System Now Has Versatile, Mobile Exciter."

George M. Guill, assistant to communications superintendent, GO T&D Communications, Roanoke; 80 shares for "It Now Pays to Own Our Telephone Equipment."

Ewin M. Brame, station engineer, Indiana & Michigan Electric Company; 70 shares for "Oil Thief Cuts Cost of Tanker Sampling."

Robert Hollacher, line foreman, and **Cletus D. Spaulding**, general line foreman (retired), I&M, Benton Harbor; 60 shares for "Designs Inexpensive Hydraulic Pipe Pusher."

Rusko Matulic, assistant head, electrical station section, AEP Service Corporation, New York; and **Walter J. Schaefer**, senior staff electrical engineer, AEP Service Corporation, Canton; 50 shares for "New 15-kv Enclosed Switchgear Saves \$."

R. L. Grose, maintenance foreman at Ohio Valley Electric Corporation's Kyger Creek Plant, received \$500 for "In-Place Machining Avoids Costly Overhaul." **Bruce A. Bell**, maintenance man at Indiana-Kentucky Electric Corporation's Clifty Creek Plant, received \$400 for "Installs Larger Doors on Coal Feeders."



Williams



Guill



Signed and delivered with honors, the last major steel beam in Kentucky Power Company's new Ashland office building was bolted into place in early November. Before the final I-beam was hoisted to the top of the five-story building, a topping out get-together was held for employees working in the old Ashland building. Each person got the chance to sign the 20-foot-long structural piece for posterity. Waldo La Fon, executive vice president, joins in the ceremony as Sherylene Killin, General Office Personnel, and Public Affairs Director Marshall Julien look on. The \$6-million building, which will be the home for the company's General Office and Ashland Division, is expected to be completed by mid-1977.

Apple Grove Project closed; UHV research moved to Dumont

The Apple Grove Test Station, spawning ground of much of the American Electric Power System's thinking and methodology for ultra-high-voltage transmission, closed down December 31.

The Apple Grove site, near Point Pleasant, West Virginia, was set up in 1960 with transmission test lines and associated switching and transformer equipment. The System's Electrical Engineering Division personnel and others from Westinghouse Electric Company used the equipment in what came to be known as "the Apple Grove Project." The tests covered a ten-year span, 1960-70, exploring corona loss and radio interference. Data thus obtained were incorporated into the nation's first 765,000-volt

transmission grid, more than 1,300 miles of which now forms the AEP System's backbone. UHV research is now being conducted at a test facility at Dumont Station at Lakeville, Indiana.

From 1970 until 1974, Apple Grove work was concerned with audible noise problems associated with high voltage lines, and, since 1974, with television interference. This project ended with the calendar year.

The test site and its equipment, although essentially in mothballs, will be available over the next three years to both AEP and Westinghouse. At the end of that time, the station will be dismantled, and another pioneering chapter will be brought to a close.



Congressman William C. Wampler presented a United States flag to Abingdon Division employees last month. At his request, the flag was flown over the nation's capital on October 12 specifically for the Abingdon Service Center. The presentation took place on December 7, the date of Washington County's 200th birthday. The occasion was also used to commemorate the bombing of

Pearl Harbor, the nation's Bicentennial and Appalachian Power Company's 50th anniversary. Pictured, l. to r., Kenneth Buchanan, chairman, Washington County board of supervisors (raising the flag); Dr. F. H. Moore, Jr., vice mayor of the Town of Abingdon; Congressman Wampler, and J. R. Whitehurst, Abingdon division manager. Observing are employees of the Service Center.



The Glen Lyn Plant has met the requirements for safety certification by Appalachian Power and Employers Insurance of Wausau. The first requirement for certification is that an overall rating average of 3.5 for several categories be established. Glen Lyn received an average grade of 3.896. The second requirement is that the plant's disabling injury index rate for a designated period prior to inspection be lower than the AEP rate for the same period. Glen Lyn's rate for the period July 1, 1975, through June 30, 1976, was 1.24; AEP's rate was 4.17. Admiring the certificate of excellence are (l. to r.) W. G. Bell, Jr., executive assistant; John W. Vaughan, APCo executive vice president; and W. M. Robinson, Jr., Glen Lyn plant manager.

Coal power plants (Continued from page 1)

They pointed out, "It is reasonable to assume that approximately 9,000 of the more than 47,000 coal miners in the State are employed because of the coal used by the electric industry in West Virginia." The estimated annual payroll for the 9,000 miners is more than \$114-million.

The power companies in West Virginia employed 7,520 people in 1975 with the payroll totaling more than \$98-million, they said.

The professors said electric utility companies pay a significant share of all taxes paid in the State, and, in addition, their fuel purchases are responsible for a substantial portion of taxes paid by coal companies because of the latter's sales to the power companies.

They told the legislators that conservative estimates indicate that business and occupation taxes paid to the State for West Virginia coal consumed by West Virginia power plants increased from \$5.7-million to \$16.1-million between 1973 and 1975 — an increase of 184 percent.

They reported that electric power companies paid more than \$52-million in taxes in West Virginia in 1975, including more than \$23-million in real and personal property taxes, more than \$24-million in State business and occupation taxes, more than \$4-million in municipal business and occupation taxes, and nearly \$900,000 in Public Service Commission fees.

West Virginia counties and their municipalities receiving major tax benefits from the State's electric companies in 1975 include: Kanawha, \$2.9-million; Putnam, \$1.5-million; Grant, \$1.5-million; Harrison, \$1.3-million; Cabell, \$1-million; Monongalia,

\$948,030; Hancock, \$943,350; Wood, \$713,660; and Marion, \$619,610.

In addition, Ohio Power and West Penn Power companies, which do not have any West Virginia customers but are part owners of several generating plants in the State, paid \$4.3-million and \$1.6 million, respectively, in local property taxes to 12 West Virginia counties and their municipalities in 1975.

The professors said that West Virginia finds itself in an enviable position — unlike such states as New York and Michigan — because of its extensive coal resources. They concluded by saying that the State should encourage "the location of new generating plants in the State and thus reaping the income, employment and tax revenue benefits associated with the increased electricity generation."

Ashland GO wins bond drive

The 1976 U. S. Savings Bond Campaign was recently completed in Kentucky Power Company. A close race developed during the campaign period, but Ashland's General Office group won the competition with a 10 percent increase in employee participation.

For their efforts, the General Office group was presented a meritorious award by the United States Savings Bond regional director.

Some 224 Kentucky Power employees are now buying Savings Bonds through the payroll deduction plan.

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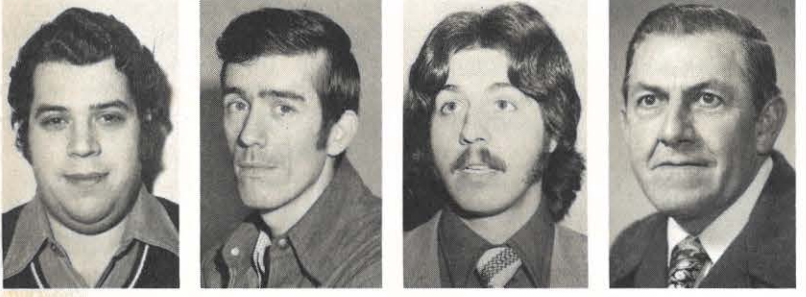


Waldo S. LaFon, left, executive vice president of Kentucky Power, presents a safety award to J. M. Wood, Pikeville division manager. Pikeville employees reached the 500,000 consecutive safe manhour mark on November 19 and completed two years without a lost time or disabling injury on November 25. In recognition of the achievement, employees and their spouses were honored with a dinner last month.

MOVING UP



R. L. Jackson Harris Wright Dickinson



Gunnoe Gillies Barnett H. C. Jackson

Robert Lee Jackson, former environmental technician A, was promoted to foreman trainee, Southern Appalachian Coal Company, Bull Creek Complex, on August 16.

Tommy Ralph Harris, former assistant mine superintendent, was promoted to mine superintendent, Southern Appalachian Coal Company, Bull Creek Mines, on June 1. He succeeds Guy D. Enicks, who resigned.

Gregory Alan Wright, engineering technician senior, was promoted to industrial engineer, Southern Appalachian Coal Company, Marmet, on November 1. He holds a BBA degree in management from Marshall University.

Evan Langston Dickinson, former engineering technician senior, was promoted to mining engineer, Southern Appalachian Coal Company, Marmet, on November 1. He holds an AS degree in management and BS degree in business administration/marketing from Morris Harvey College.

Kenneth Charles Gunnoe, former senior clerk, was promoted to mine office administrator, Southern Appalachian Coal Company, Julian Office, on November 1. He holds AS and BS degrees in business administration from West Virginia Institute of Technology.

Alexander Gillies, former maintenance man A at John E. Amos Plant, was promoted to maintenance foreman at Centralized Plant Maintenance on December 1.

Ralph E. Barnett, former customer accounting supervisor, was promoted to assistant accounting supervisor, Pikeville, on December 1. He holds a degree in business administration from the University of Kentucky.

Peter Paul Capaldo II, former electrician, was promoted to maintenance foreman for Lens Creek No. 1, Southern Ap-

palachian Coal Company, Bull Creek Complex, on September 1.

Loren Edwin Neal, former maintenance technician, was promoted to maintenance foreman trainee, Central Appalachian Coal Company, Morris Creek, on June 1. He holds an AS degree in electrical engineering technology from West Virginia Institute of Technology.

Marvin Albert Wolfe, former section foreman, was promoted to assistant general mine foreman, Central Appalachian Coal Company, Morris Creek Operation, on July 15.

Harry C. Jackson, former equipment operator, was promoted to unit foreman at Clinch River Plant on August 1. He succeeds W. H. Gilmore, who was promoted earlier.

Social Security tax increases

Effective January 1, the base for computing Social Security taxes and benefits was raised to \$16,500 (it was \$15,300 for 1976). The tax rate will remain unchanged at 5.85% each on employers and employees.

This means that employees earning \$16,500 in 1977 will pay Social Security taxes totaling \$966.25, or \$70.20 more than anyone earning \$15,300 paid in 1976.

Also, the amount of outside earnings a Social Security retiree can draw in 1977 without reducing his or her benefit will increase to \$3,000, compared with the 1976 limit of \$2,760.

A retiree earning more than \$3,000 this year will lose one dollar in Social Security benefits for every two dollars in outside income, but the full Social Security payment will be made in any month in which outside wages did not exceed \$250.

Charleston credit union organized

A credit union for employees of the Charleston Division was organized and chartered last month. To be known as A. P. Co. Federal Credit Union, applications for membership should be available sometime in January.

Elected to the board of directors were: Bob Burnam, St. Albans area T&D clerk, president; Don Thompson, St. Albans planner, vice president; Doris Foster, St. Albans customer accounts representative B, treasurer; Annetta Brown, Charleston T&D clerk, secretary; and Ted Pendleberry, Kanawha Valley Power hydro utility operator, advertising agent.

Elected to the credit committee were Naomi Sampson, St. Albans customer accounts representative B; Corintha Hawkins, St. Albans customer accounts representative C; and Eddie Stone, St. Albans customer accounts representative A.

Serving on the supervisory committee are Bonnie Carter, St. Albans customer accounts representative C; Bill Gillespie, St. Albans area serviceman; and Walt Minsker, Charleston commercial representative.

These officers and committee members are being trained by the National Credit Union Association, Parkersburg, W. Va.

Smith elects early retirement



Lacy Miller Smith, Huntington stationman B, elected early retirement January 1 after 36 years' service.

A native of Wayne County, West Virginia, Miller began his career in 1940 as a laborer and was a maintenance man, electrical helper, electrical maintenance helper A, electrical maintenance man before being promoted to stationman B in 1954. He went on LTD leave in August 1973.

Miller enjoys the outdoors and his hobbies used to include hunting, fishing and camping. Miller is a former member of the Isaac Walton League and helped in the founding of Virginia Point Park. He attends the First Baptist Church of Kenova.



Jim Hanning holds the signal light safety sign, which is his brainchild.

Kanawha employees keep green light burning in quest for million manhours

Safety is an important consideration to Jim Hanning, master maintenance man at Kanawha River Plant. Recently, while stopped for a signal light in the Town of Marmet, his thoughts flashed back to a near accident at the plant that day. It occurred to him that a signal light could be made into a safety sign for the plant.

The next day, Jim discussed his idea with Ed Bradley, personnel and safety supervisor. Ray Lively, operations supervisor, was then pressed into service and made the sign to Jim's specifications. A piece of 1/8" x 3' x 3' masonite painted with black lacquer was used for the front of the sign. Red, green and yellow fiber glass

was used for the lens of the signal lights. And four 10-inch discs with two-inch numbers painted on them can be turned to show the number of years and days worked without a lost-time accident.

When there is a perfect day at Kanawha, the green light burns. If there is a near accident, the yellow light will be turned on for the day. And, should an accident occur, the red light will burn.

All employees at the plant are observing the sign each day and looking forward to working a million safe manhours by keeping the green light burning.



Junior Power '77, the Junior Achievement company sponsored by Appalachian Power in Roanoke, will manufacture pyramid puzzles like the one shown in this photo. The puzzle works like this: There are three upright posts on a wooden base. On the left-hand post are seven wooden plates of various sizes with center holes. They are stacked in graduated pyramid order so each plate is smaller than the one just below it. Using the three posts for intermediate moves, moving one plate at a time and never placing a larger plate on a smaller plate, the object is to move the entire pyramid stack from the left post to the right post. The puzzle is not difficult, once the routine of the moves is discovered. It will take 127 moves to transfer the seven plates. L. to r., are Cinthia Pullen, granddaughter of A. S. "Elec" Pullen, retired Roanoke meterman C, vice president of marketing for Junior Power; R. D. Webster, Roanoke division manager and member of the board of directors of the Roanoke Valley JA program; and Leslie Dunnville, president of Junior Power.

PEOPLE IN THE SPOTLIGHT

CHARLESTON

Donald Griffith, son of R. R. Griffith, line supervisor, scored 5-0 to win \$100 in the Mountaineer Open Chess Tournament at West Virginia University.

Todd Watson, son of Bobby Watson, St. Albans lineman C, was selected for the All-Star team of the St. Albans Little League.

Jack Bruer, son of Jackie Bruer, customer accounts representative B, made the All-Star midget football team in South Charleston.

GENERAL OFFICE



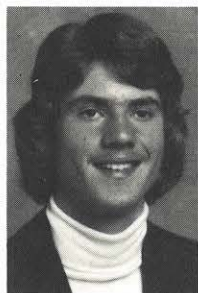
Waid

Sally Waid, daughter of Robert A. Waid, right of way agent, GO R/e & R/w, Roanoke, was crowned the 1977 Botetourt County Junior Miss. She also won the talent and youth fitness awards. Sally's prizes included a \$500 scholarship to Roanoke College.

R. T. Philpott, planner in GO Hydro, Roanoke, was elected captain of the Vinton Rescue Squad. His wife **Jackie** was elected vice president of the Ladies Auxiliary.

Carl M. Dunn, retired area development consultant, Huntington, was named vice president in charge of public relations for Huntington Trust and Savings Bank.

GLEN LYN



Thornton

Steve Thornton, 6'2" sophomore and the son of E. C. Thornton, equipment operator, helped lead the 1976 Narrows JV's to a 7-1 season record. As quarterback, he completed 19 of 40 passes for 292 yards, moved the team 910 yards on the ground and 113 of the team's 195 points scored. In the second game of the season, Steve punted seven times for 308 yards, an average of 44 yards a punt. He punted 14 times for 574 yards for a season average of 41 yards a punt.

ASHLAND

Mark Tucker, son of Dorothy Tucker, stores accountant in GO Accounting, was a member of the Bears Junior League football team which won the championship in the 11-12-year-old division.

Michael and Steven Rolan were members of the Jets Junior League football team which won the championship in the 9-10-year-old division. They are the sons of Ella Mae Rolan, secretary in GO Accounting.

Jack and Sally Keeton, who coach a gymnastic team sponsored by the Ashland YMCA, won their first meet of the year against Parkersburg, W. Va. Jack is an accounts payable clerk in GO Accounting.

R. E. Matthews, division manager, was elected first vice president of the Ashland Area Chamber of Commerce for 1977.

O. C. Hall, executive assistant, was elected to a three-year term on the board of directors of the Bellefonte Country Club.

LOGAN-WILLIAMSON

Frieda Broughton, wife of Clyde W. Broughton, division line inspector, was named chairman of the world fellowship committee of Theta Chapter, Delta Kappa Gamma, for 1976-77. She was also selected a member of the membership committee. **Goldie Honaker**, wife of William H. Honaker, retired line and station supervisor, was selected chairman of the historical records committee and a member of the telephone committee. **Virginia Bivens**, wife of Walter E. Bivens, residential representative senior,

was named to the telephone committee, and **Faith Frey**, widow of George Frey, was named to the auditing and nominations committees.

William Gary Doss, Logan meter reader, recently served as president of the G. A. McCormick Class of the Logan Masonic Lodge.

LYNCHBURG

James W. Dalton, stationman B, was installed as sergeant-at-arms of the London Ruritan Club.

James B. White, division manager, is serving on the fund raising and nominating committees for Junior Achievement of Lynchburg for 1976-77.

BLUEFIELD



Sims

Michael D. Sims, son of Jackie Houston, customer accounts representative B in Princeton, was listed in the 1976-77 edition of "Who's Who for High School Students". A senior at Bluefield High School, he plans to study veterinary medicine.

Marilyn W. Lackey, daughter of Earle Wood, retired residential/rural sales supervisor, was appointed director of college relations, a newly created administrative post at Concord College. She was serving as department chairman and assistant professor of home economics at Concord at the time of her appointment.

David Meadows, son of Dwight Meadows, general serviceman, was elected vice president of the Science Club at Pineville High School.

Sam Hylton, engineer B, was installed as a director of the Buchanan County Chamber of Commerce.

Evelyn Martin, wife of Jack Martin, Pineville area supervisor, was installed as corresponding secretary of the new Preceptor Chi Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi Sorority.

Jeff Vance, son of Jim Vance, lead draftsman, was a member of the eighth annual honor choir held at Concord College. The choir was under the direction of Dr. Jack Donovan, chairman of graduate studies in music-music education and director of the University Singers of the University of Southern Mississippi.

ABINGDON



Cox

Ulysses L. Cox, son of U. L. Cox, Sr., Marion custodian, was selected for inclusion in the 1976-77 edition of "Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges". A junior at Knoxville College, he is a member of the marching band, an assistant in the science department's bio-medical research program and has been on the dean's list.

Ellen Ferguson and Sandra Johnson of Abingdon High School and **Randy Morefield** of Patrick Henry High School represented their schools in the Washington County schools all-county band.

Sandra Morefield, daughter of J. C. Morefield, engineer B, played the part of Hypathia in George Bernard Shaw's comedy about courtship "misalliance". The play was presented by the theatre arts department of Virginia Highlands Community College.

John Kahle, commercial engineer, was appointed chairman of the administrative department of the Sinking Spring Presbyterian Church, Abingdon.

Gordon Craig, residential repre-

sentative, is serving his 20th year as parliamentarian of the Abingdon Lions Club.

Charlie Wagner, residential representative, was elected secretary of the Abingdon Civitan Club.

H. S. Fogleman, stores supervisor, was appointed minority enterprise coordinator for Abingdon Division.

KINGSPORT

Lori Ferrell, daughter of Roy Ferrell, head T&D clerk, was elected president of the eighth grade class at John Sevier Middle School.

Bruce Bacon, son of Carl S. Bacon, power engineer, was the recipient of the Youth Appreciation Week Award as the outstanding eighth grade student at Lynn Garden Elementary School. The award is presented annually by the Lynn Garden Optimist Club to a student selected by the faculty as being the most outstanding in scholastic achievement and demonstrated leadership ability.



Ferrell



Bacon



Carol Loudermilk, daughter of R. L. Loudermilk, Beckley commercial engineer, won these awards for her work in the Raleigh County 4-H Club. They include an "I Dare You" book for outstanding work in 4-H, ribbons for first place in both food and clothing displayed at the West Virginia State Fair, and a pin for achievement in food preparation. Carol was interviewed over WWNR Radio along with the Raleigh County 4-H director regarding the program for achievement night when all county awards were presented.

BLOOD DONOR HONOR ROLL

Abingdon

D. T. Robinson, Marion line foreman NE, one gallon.



William Ward Zoellers, right, Pikeville customer services manager, was elected and installed as president of the Pikeville Kiwanis Club. **Chester Smith**, left, Pikeville administrative assistant and past president of Kiwanis, passes the gavel to Zoellers.

BIG SANDY



Cassell

Crystal Cassell, daughter of Billy Cassell, unit foreman, was awarded \$10 for winning the Louisa Elementary School PTA membership drive. She recruited 55 new members.

Kathy Kise, daughter of Robert R. Kise, maintenance foreman, was elected historian of the Future Homemakers of America at Louisa High School.

Linda Jobe, wife of Billy J. Jobe, control technician, was elected president of the El Hasa Shrine Clownettes.

ROANOKE



Young

Walter Lewis Young, husband of Doris Young, general clerk in Customer Services, has been named to "Who's Who in the South and Southwest" for 1976-77. He holds a BS degree from the College of William and Mary and did postgraduate work at Johns Hopkins University. Lewis had been a systems analyst, director data processing services and vice president of First National Exchange Bank in Roanoke before becoming vice president and manager data processing for Dominion Bankshares Corporation, Roanoke, in 1973. He is currently on leave from his position of vice president and director of research for Dominion Bankshares and is attending VPI & SU to complete studies for his MBS. He has been a lecturer in computer science for Roanoke College and is certified in data processing by the Data Processing Management

Association and the Institute for Certification of Computer Professionals. Lewis is a member of the Data Processing Management Association, American Institute of Physics, American Physics Society and American Institute of Banking.

Mike B. Pitches, planner senior, was reelected treasurer and **M. G. Handy**, planner, was elected vice president of the Martinsville-Henry County SPCA.

Tommy Anderson, auto repairman A, won a trophy as first prize in the Street "Cycle" Radical Division of the Eighth Annual Winston-Salem, N. C., Car-Cycle and Van Show.

David Ragland was offensive end for the North Roanoke 105-pound Vikings, which won the Roanoke County 105-pound championship. The Vikings was the only undefeated team in the county, finishing the season with 9 wins and 0 losses. **Dale Ragland** played quarterback and safety and scored 77 points for the season to lead the North Roanoke Steelers to a third-place finish in the Roanoke County 90-pound football league. The Steelers had 7 wins and 2 losses. David and Dale are the sons of **Bob Ragland**, lead draftsman. Bob coached the North Roanoke Chargers pee wee football team to its third consecutive Roanoke County championship. The Chargers ended the season with an 8-1 record.

CEDAR COAL



Williams

Pfc. Dave Williams, son of Charles Williams, Coal Fork I Mine, graduated with honors and meritorious promotion from the Marine Corps Depot, Parris Island, S. C. He is now stationed at 29 Palms, California, studying in electronics and telecommunications. Dave's grandfather, Kenneth Williams, and three great uncles, Frank, Charlie and Goldie Williams, are retired from Cabin Creek Plant.

Lyman Valley built first (play) power line at age eight



Valley

Lyman C. Valley, Gate City area supervisor in the Abingdon Division, will retire February 1 after 42 years and 7 months of service. He is one of three brothers who have a combined total of 128 years with the company. His late brother, Leon, retired in 1971 as Lebanon area supervisor in Abingdon Division. His brother, Ted, retired in 1972 as local office supervisor at Williamson in the Logan-Williamson Division. And Lyman's son, Bill, is carrying on the family tradition as Roanoke Division station supervisor.

Lyman recalls building his first (play) power line around his home when he was only eight. He was influenced by the Appalachian line gangs who were building power lines into Buchanan County in 1923. Lyman says, "Little did I realize at the time that I would spend almost a lifetime in this occupation."

The Valley family later moved to South Carolina and Lyman graduated from Newberry College with a BA degree in education. He was offered a teaching/coaching job in the state with a monthly salary of \$60.

About this time Lyman received word from Leon to come back to southwest Virginia and apply for a job with Appalachian. "I was interviewed by Price Carter in Bluefield and offered a job on one of the floating crews at the unheard of wage of \$85 per month."

Lyman was assigned to Jim Davis' floating crew in the old Clinch Valley District. The crew traveled from Giles County, Va., to Dickenson County, Va.

It was during this time that Lyman met Myrtle Ferguson, who later became his wife. Myrtle's mother owned the boarding house in Cleveland, Va., where Lyman stayed. Lyman was then dating another girl. One of Myrtle's jobs was to collect letters from the men and mail them at the post office. Myrtle remembers, "I failed to mail several of Lyman's letters to that girl friend." The Valleys were married after a long courtship.

Lyman's service with the company took him to the storeroom in Tazewell, Va., in 1940, the

Mullins, W. Va., storeroom and station operator in 1942, and back to Russell County in 1944. He was later classified as working foreman and local superintendent in Lebanon, Va. He moved to Gate City as area supervisor in 1952.

Lyman states he has had his share of working experiences and headaches over the years, but he would not change a thing. "I have especially enjoyed the working relationship with the Appalachian employees and the many friends I have made over the years. Now it's time for me to spend the winters in Florida and enjoy the fishing."

Myrtle summed things up recently when Lyman was honored at a safety and operating conference: "Lyman has been a good employee, and the power company has been good to him. If I could be granted a wish and start all over again, I would not change a thing."

The Valleys have two children and four grandchildren.



Michael Shannon, son of Charles Shannon, Roanoke general serviceman, was awarded a trophy as most valuable player by the Burnt Chimney Redskins football team. He played both offense and defense and was captain of the defensive team for 1976.

WE REMEMBER



Kidd



Ballengee



Valley



Powell

Howard B. Kidd, 74, retired Bluefield stationman A, died December 2. A native of Bluefield, West Virginia, he had broken service before becoming permanently employed in 1934 as a mechanic. Kidd retired July 1, 1966. He is survived by one brother and two sisters.

Leon F. Valley, 69, retired Lebanon area supervisor in Abingdon Division, died December 10. A native of Whitewood, Virginia, he began his career in 1929 in the old Bluefield-Clinch Valley District as a lineman helper and retired September 1, 1971. Valley is survived by his widow Jeanette, Box 132, Lebanon, Virginia; two daughters; two sons and two brothers: L. C. Valley, area supervisor A at Gate City, Abingdon Division, and Ted Valley, retired Williamson office supervisor, Logan-Williamson Division.

Hobart Cecil Ballengee, 80, retired Charleston general clerk senior, died November 23. A native of Clayton, West Virginia, he began his career in 1923 as a billing clerk in Charleston and retired June 1, 1961. Ballengee is survived by his widow Stacia, 521 Grant Street, Charleston, W. Va.; one daughter; three sis-

ters, two brothers and three grandchildren.

James G. Powell, 62, Charleston station foreman NE, died December 11. A native of Charleston, West Virginia, he began his career in 1946 as a laborer in Charleston and went on LTD leave February 13, 1973. Powell is survived by his widow Opal, 14 Lilly Street, Charleston, W. Va.; two sons, three grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

A. L. Thurston, 90, retired junior classification clerk, General Office Accounting, Roanoke, died November 30. A native of Fluvanna County, Virginia, he began his career in 1924 as a clerk in Roanoke and retired September 1, 1951. Thurston is survived by his widow Merle, 3541 Valley View Avenue, Roanoke, Va., and one son.

Augustus M. Jordan, 74, retired janitor in General Office General Services, Roanoke, died November 30. A native of Roanoke, Virginia, he began his career in 1945 and retired November 1, 1957. Jordan is survived by his widow Lilly, 1611 10th Street, Roanoke, Va., and one daughter.



J. R. Whitehurst, Abingdon division manager (left), awards a diploma to R. N. Trent, planner senior, in recognition of his completing an International Correspondence Schools course in electrical engineering.

System couples exchange wedding vows



Mrs. A. D. Vassgal
(Melda Jane Musselman)



Mrs. B. W. Mann
(Shirley J. McCoy)



Mrs. M. T. Pagans
(Sylvia Frances Plybon)



Mrs. J. W. Thompson
(Shirley Lynn Moore)

Bonnie Peal's hobby brings joy to the hearts of little girls



Bonnie Peal is surrounded by some of the dolls she has made.

Bonnie Peal has a hobby which has brought joy to the hearts of many little girls, including her own two. The wife of Leon Peal, unit foreman at Kanawha River Plant, she makes about 100 dolls each year, all of which "sell like hot cakes" without any advertising.

Bonnie's Holly Hobbie dolls are quaint little ladies in old-fashioned garb. Their faces are embroidered, pantaloons peek out beneath their skirts and the dolls have poke bonnets atop their pert yarn braids.

Raggedy Ann and Andy dolls are everyone's sweethearts. Their

bodies are stuffed with cotton and covered with unbleached muslin. The hair is made from yarn, shoes from felt, and the eyes, nose and mouth are embroidered. The 15-inch dolls sell for \$10 each.

The most beautiful dolls of all are the dream dolls. The head, arms and hands come in a half kit from the hobby shop, and the lower part of the body is made from one gallon Magic jugs. The hair is made from fake fur and dresses from silk and velvet. Their necklaces are made from pearls and some even have earrings. These 24-inch dolls sell for \$15 each.



The Bluefield Girls' Service Club delivered Thanksgiving food baskets to two needy families in the area. Packing the baskets were (l. to r.) Helen Sabo, GO T&D Transmission stenographer; Joyce Lambert, GO T&D Transmission clerk; Sue Hankins, GO clerk stenographer; and Gail Shaffer, Bluefield customer accounts representative A.

WEDDINGS

Melda Jane Musselman, daughter of C. L. Musselman, Roanoke Division right of way maintenance inspector, to **Alexander D. Vassgal**, November 12.

Shirley J. McCoy to **Benny W. Mann**, Pulaski stationman A, November 20.

Sylvia Frances Plybon, daughter of Silas F. Plybon, meter serviceman A at Rocky Mount, Roanoke Division, to **Michael Thomas Pagans**, November 28.

Shirley Lynn Moore to **Jerry W. Thompson**, Logan-Williamson lineman helper, October 23.

Kathy Carol Ratliff to **Donald K. Jackson**, Pikeville lineman C, December 4.

Debra Jean Watts to **Samuel L. Booker**, John E. Amos utility man B, December 4.

Kay Louise Pettit to **Carl Bruce Richmond**, son of James L. Richmond, Logan-Williamson division superintendent, August 14.

Karen Lynn Ratliff to **Charles Ray Richardson**, transmission man C, General Office, Ashland, July 31.



Fanny and Earl King celebrated their golden wedding anniversary on December 23, 1976. He retired in 1967 as senior appraisal engineer in General Office Valuation, Roanoke. The Kings have two children and three grandchildren.

Hill elected REACT chairman



Hill

Jim Hill, Abingdon draftsman senior, was elected chairman of the board of directors of Washington County REACT, Inc., for 1977. The organization, now in its second year, deals with local and highway emergency citizens band radio contacts for relaying emergency radio messages to local authorities.

Jim, who owns and mans his own radio equipment to monitor emergency calls, has a personal reason for being in REACT. While stationed in central Illinois with the U. S. Air Force, Jim was in an early morning single car accident with two others. The other two men were injured, one unconscious and one with a broken arm. Jim was lucky with only a flattened nose and broken glasses. It was two and one-half hours before another automobile passed to summon help and another hour before emergency help finally arrived.

With the REACT teams of today and the multitude of mobile radio equipment on the highways, help is usually only minutes away. Jim says, "If only one life is saved then all the hours and equipment expenses is worth it."

Hayner (Con't from pg. 10)

trical work from time to time for my neighbors. I suppose I'll be pretty busy just keeping things working right around the house. But I suppose that, first and foremost, I'll start work on my second million since I failed on the first million."

Floyd concludes by saying, "This has been a good company to work for, steady employment. A person isn't going to get rich but he makes a good living and the company has good fringe benefits."

BABY PARADE

John E. Amos

Andrea Nicholle, chosen daughter of **Richard E. Thomas**, maintenance man A, born September 28, adopted December 3.

James Alexander, son of **Pat M. Wilson, III**, engineer B, October 26.

Ashland

Mark Allen, son of **Stephen E. Early**, power engineer, November 26.

Big Sandy

Charles Edward, Jr., son of **C. E. Hensley**, unit operator, November 30.

Bull Creek Complex

Tracie Dawn, daughter of **Clarence Joseph Atha**, section foreman, Bull Creek No. 1 Mine, December 3.

April Dawn, daughter of **Billy Ray Matics, Jr.**, maintenance foreman, Bull Creek No. 3 Mine, November 19.

Cabin Creek

Amber Marie, daughter of **Anthony J. Barnette**, utility man A, November 27.

Cedar Coal

James Paul, son of **James Thomas**

Tackett, Jr., safety director, November 24.

Charleston

Christina Lynn, daughter of **Carl A. Reveal**, hydro maintenance helper, Kanawha Valley Power, Marmet, November 28.

Hazard

Jason Taylor, son of **Ronald Gene Fannin**, residential advisor, December 10.

Kanawha River

Jason Eric, son of **J. A. Hall**, equipment operator, November 30.

Pulaski

Jennifer Colleen, daughter of **E. A. Bishop, Jr.**, Christiansburg lineman C, December 2.

Roanoke

Ronnie G., Jr., son of **R. G. McGhee**, Fieldale lineman A, November 13.

Merle, Jr., son of **Merle Wykle**, lineman C, November 12.

Philip Sporn

Christopher Ray, son of **G. A. Spradlin**, instrument maintenance man A, November 17.

Huffman active in Mountain State Gospel Singers Assoc.

"I started singing with my mother, father and brother when I was young. We would sing mostly at our home church. Back in those days, we were called the Nallen Quartet," says Donald Ray "Dickie" Hoffman. He is an engineer B in Charleston.

The organization holds three sings a year and normally has as many as 20,000 spectators. The sings last for three days each and are recorded by WVAR radio in Richwood for playback over the air.

Dickie says, "The West Virginia Association has been so successful that the State of Pennsylvania is now trying to form the same type organization and has asked for our help. We will certainly give them as much help as we can."

Now Dickie sings tenor with a quartet called the Pacemakers, a group which has been together 13 years and sings at various churches upon request. The other members are John Fisher, bass; Eddie Osborne, lead; Charlotte Osborne, alto; and Irene Fisher, pianist.



Performing in the Pacemakers quartet are, l. to r., Charlotte Osborne, John Fisher, Eddie Osborne, and Dickie Huffman.

The quartet also participates in the West Virginia Mountain State Gospel Singers Association at Mt. Nebo, W. Va. Dickie replaced his father, Willis Huffman, as a member of the board of directors. Dickie's primary responsibility is to take care of all the electrical needs.

Dickie says the Association's history goes back some 30 years. The leaders of the Nicholas County Song Convention were holding a homecoming sing at the Nazarene Church Camp near Mt. Nebo and leaders and singing groups from two surrounding counties were invited to participate.

While the singing was in progress, a group of the leaders gathered and decided to organize a three-county convention to be held once a year at the same place. The following year the response was so great that it was enlarged to a five-county convention. It was suggested that instead of a five-county sing, it be extended to include the whole State of West Virginia. This was unanimously agreed upon and the West Virginia Mountain State Gospel Singers Association received its name along with the theme "Where Mountain People Sing to the Glory of God".

Dickie's father was one of the original board members and was instrumental in purchasing the land and making the organization what it is today. Dickie's mother, the late Adaline Huffman, was referred to as "Ma" and was a mother to everyone who ever came on to the convention grounds. She was so honored at the 1974 convention.

Hazard employees claim square dancing keeps doctor bills down

Western square dancing has swept the nation and Hazard, Kentucky, is no exception. The Black Gold Chainers Square Dance Club in Hazard has been active for five years and recently held a festival, which it hopes to make an annual event.

The Black Gold Chainers include three active and one retired Hazard Division employees.

Thelma and Adrian Brashear served as club president in 1974 and Anneta and Oscar Hudson were president in 1976. Oscar's daughter, Toni Hudson, was a member of the executive board last year. And Laura and Vernon Hurt served as secretary in 1975. Retiree Russell Muncy is also a participant.

According to these folks, square dancing "keeps the doctor bills down, makes you feel good, and it is clean fun".

Square dancing classes are taught at Hazard Community College each fall, and all members are required to take the 22 lessons, which cover 50 basic movements. Over 2,000 movements have been developed throughout the world.

With square dancing so popular, there are square dance festivals in nearly every country. Kentucky has its annual festival at Freedom Hall in Louisville, and this year the United States "grand national" will be held in Atlantic City, New Jersey, in June.



Members of the Black Gold Chainers Square Dance Club in Hazard are (l. to r.) Laura Hurt; Vernon Hurt, T&D clerk; Toni Gail Hudson; Russell Muncy, retired distribution

engineer senior; Anneta Hudson; Oscar Hudson, serviceman; Thelma Brashear; and Adrian "Little Joe" Brashear, serviceman.

WELCOME NEW EMPLOYEES

Appalachian Power Abingdon

William A. Anderson, stores attendant. Connie Sue Nipper, clerk trainee.

John E. Amos

Douglas C. Webster and Joseph R. Conkle, maintenance men C. David G. Porter, Charles R. Browning, Frank T. Esterly and Ronald B. Cobb, utility men B. Robert W. Osborne, performance engineer. William R. Simmons, control technician junior.

Bluefield

Alvin E. Goodman, lineman helper. John N. Weaver, meter reader.

Cabin Creek

Raymond G. Wagner and Harold L. Straughter, utility men B.

General Office

Mary L. Haynes, clerk junior, GO Accounting, Roanoke. Anna M. Craddock, clerk-typist, GO Accounting, Roanoke. Kinza C. Pickelsimer, clerk-stenographer, GO Purchasing, Roanoke.

Glen Lyn

Janice F. Broyles, utility man B.

Huntington

J. J. Wilson, meter reader.

Logan-Williamson

Lonnie R. Brumfield, meter reader, Logan. Samuel S. Day, Jr., stores attendant, Logan.

Lynchburg

Imojean J. Harris, custodian.

Pulaski

Angela Reeves, clerk-trainee, Hillsville. Barbara S. Grubb, clerk-trainee, Pulaski.

Roanoke

Douglas Jones, meter reader. Kathy W. Plogger, part-time PBX operator, Fieldale.

Philip Sporn

Timothy R. Crabtree, David G. Johnson, John E. Hale and David J. Hudnall, utility men B.

Central Appalachian Coal

Morris Creek

Stephen Wesley Wilburn, weighmaster. Mike P. Vargo, resident engineer. James L. Petry, section foreman. Michael G. Kuhn, intermediate clerk.

Kentucky Power

Ashland

John C. Cookman, assistant technician. Mary A. McCoy, junior clerk.

Pikeville

Shelley Goff, junior clerk. Ronald Rye, assistant technician. Mark T. Pleasant, lineman D. Timmy Hall, meter reader.

Southern Appalachian Coal

Bull Creek Operation

Thearn Matthew Keffer, section foreman, Bull Creek No. 2. John Livingston Garretson, section foreman, Bull Creek No. 1. Burley Peck Duncan, Jr., assistant general mine foreman, Bull Creek No. 3/4. Peggy Ann Elkins, weighmaster. Danny Wayne Kelly, maintenance technician. James Franklin Martin, intermediate clerk.

Julian Operation

Billie Joe Prichard, section foreman, Freeport No. 2. Jerry Wesley Deems, personnel supervisor. Catherine Ruth Vickers, weighmaster. Delbert Oliver Woodrum and Jessie Dale White, section foremen, Freeport No. 1. James Samuel Conrad, mine superintendent, Julian Operation. Bobby Gene Moreland, maintenance foreman, Freeport No. 1.

Marmet

Edward Lee Hanna, maintenance foreman. Lenox Profitt, safety director. John Lawrence Hatch, outside foreman. Charles Woodrow McCallister, chairman. Diana Lynn Williams, junior clerk-stenographer.

Frosty Brown enters retirement



Brown

Forrest Conley "Frosty" Brown, Grundy area T&D clerk in the Bluefield Division, retired January 1 — his 65th birthday.

A native of Glade Spring, Virginia, he had broken service before being permanently employed as a field clerk in 1941. He was a groundman before serving in World War II and returned to work as a serviceman B. He then held successive positions as inspector junior, field time and material clerk, junior T&D clerk, T&D station operator B and A and T&D clerk senior before becoming area T&D clerk in 1970.

Frosty is a member of the United Methodist Church, Order of Eastern Star and the Sandy Valley Masonic Lodge No. 17 in Grundy.

Frosty and his wife Mary have one child. They have bought a home in Abingdon and will move in the near future.

Service emblems awarded to veterans of our companies



A. L. Hall
Cust. Accts. Asst.
Roanoke
35 Years



J. I. Schultz
Cust. Acctg. Acct.
GO-Roanoke
35 Years



C. K. Orr
Asst. Shift Op. Eng.
Cabin Creek
35 Years



G. R. Young
Line Foreman
Charleston
30 Years



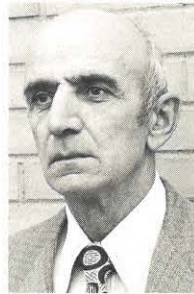
C. A. Rhudy
Area Serviceman
Bluefield
30 Years



R. A. King
Personnel Supv.
Huntington
30 Years



John Turnley
Meterman
Pikeville
30 Years



D. M. Acela
Line Foreman NE
Charleston
30 Years



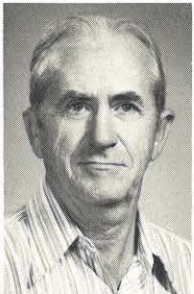
R. E. Wells
Groundman
Lynchburg
30 Years



S. L. Drumheller
Line Foreman NE
Lynchburg
30 Years



C. H. Morris
T&D Clerk
Lynchburg
30 Years



A. W. Haley
Meterman A
Lynchburg
30 Years



W. L. Lemaster, Jr.
T&D Clerk
Ashland
30 Years



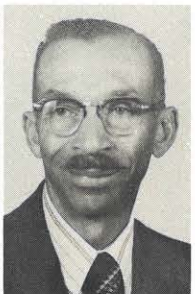
H. M. Bailey
Line Foreman
Huntington
30 Years



W. C. Adams
Station Op. A
GO-Charleston
25 Years



C. H. Bondurant
Relay Staff Engr.
GO-Roanoke
25 Years



H. N. Murphy
Garage Attendant
Roanoke
25 Years



K. G. Roush
Line Foreman
Huntington
25 Years



G. A. Burns
Master Maint. Man
Philip Sporn
25 Years



H. R. Morrison
Serviceman
Kingsport
20 Years



P. G. Campbell
Guard
Clinch River
20 Years



G. E. Puckett
Unit Foreman
Clinch River
20 Years

Lanzy Mabe wants to rest



Mabe

"I have been a meter reader for the past 35 years. If I had kept notes, I could probably write a book. But since I didn't, maybe I better not relate any experiences," said Lanzy Robinson Mabe, who was a Pulaski Division employee before electing early retirement January 1.

He continues, "I have been a meter reader, so I have had my share of traveling. I have always been on the go. I think I would like to sit down and rest awhile. I do own a 50-acre farm and raise a few white-faced cattle."

A member of the Church of the Brethren, Lanzy is chairman of the board, an adult Sunday School teacher and has been a deacon for 25 years. He and his wife Alma have four children and three grandchildren.

SERVICE ANNIVERSARIES

Appalachian Power Company Kentucky Power Company

Bluefield

10 Years: **Douglas D. Cameron**, meterman A.

Central Machine Shop

5 Years: **D. R. Stricklin**, NDE inspector, 1st class.

Charleston

25 Years: **L. E. Duff**, T&D Clerk senior. 10 Years: **H. J. Cline**, garage foreman NE.

General Office

30 Years: **Virginia C. Bright**, classification clerk, GO Accounting, Roanoke. 15 Years: **B. G. Hughes**, transmission inspector, GO T&D Transmission, Bluefield. 10 Years: **J. R. Turner**, hydro maintenance foreman, GO Hydro. **R. N. Painter**, station maintenance man A, GO T&D Station, Roanoke. 5 Years: **R. L. Umberger**, transportation clerk, GO General Services, Roanoke. **M. E. Douglas**, draftsman, GO Hydro, Blue Ridge.

Huntington

15 Years: **Mavis J. Weaver**, customer accounts representative B.

Kanawha River

10 Years: **Audra E. Pauley**, stenographer.

Logan-Williamson

10 Years: **Bobby L. Hatfield**, General Serviceman.

Pulaski

10 Years: **M. J. Williams**, lineman A.

Roanoke

10 Years: **C. E. Robinson**, lineman A. 5 Years: **A. B. Martin**, cashier.

Ashland

10 Years: **Leonard E. Brammell**, personnel supervisor.

Big Sandy

5 Years: **Harold C. Fluty**, utility coal handler. **James W. Hardin**, junior maintenance man.

Pikeville

10 Years: **Fred Birchfield, Jr.**, meter reader. **Larry Cantrell**, stationman B.

Southern Appalachian Coal

Marmet

5 Years: **William G. Casto, Jr.**, section foreman.

SYSTEM BRIEFS

Markley elected director

Herbert E. Markley, president of The Timken Company, Canton, Ohio, last month was elected a director of American Electric Power Company. His election increased the board's membership to 14 and its non-company directors to eight.

In announcing the action, AEP Chairman W. S. White, Jr. said that Markley's election to the utility holding company's board, aside from bringing to it "an outstanding business leader," would also provide further representation on it from Ohio, the largest of the seven states served by the AEP System.

Noble Marshall

"I'm happy to have been a part of AEP"

Noble G. Marshall, general records supervisor, General Office Accounting, Roanoke, retired January 1 after more than 39 years' service.

A native of Buchanan, Virginia, Noble began his career in 1937 as a clerk and spent his entire career in the Accounting department. He recalls, "Everything was done manually when I came to the company. Since converting to data processing, a greater volume can be produced but one has to wait until the end of the month before you can obtain information. When manually done, one can look at the books to give an account at that precise moment."

He continues, "Volume is the key word to machine accounting. It became necessary to turn in that direction because of the company's growth in the last 10 to 15 years. If we hadn't turned to data processing, we would have had to increase our employees threefold."

Speaking of employees, Noble said, "The wonderful personnel of the company, as far as my experience is concerned, has been like one big happy family. Not one company in the whole United States can surpass us with the caliber of people that we have on



Marshall

this payroll. AEP is the foremost utility in the world, and the people that work for it have caused it to maintain this status. I couldn't have associated myself with any other company or people. I'm happy to have been a part of it."

One of the highlights of his career occurred in the late 1950's, when he and John Vaughan, now executive vice president, were advisors for the Junior Achievement program the first year it was set up. "Appalachian was the sponsor of our JA corporation. We called ourselves the "Burn-Me-Not" Company and produced biscuit pans. We won the national industry award, which was an accomplishment since we had no experience. The Roanoke Chapter has never won the award again. In fact, I learned more about the capitalistic system from that program than I did in four years of college and earning my master's degree."

Noble attends the Second Presbyterian Church in Roanoke, where he has been a deacon and vice president of the Men's Bible Class. He also has served as chairman of the recreation committee for the Chamber of Commerce and is a member of the Businessmen's Club.

Noble's plans for retirement including renovating his home, which has been in his family for 60 years; playing golf and bridge and traveling throughout the United States and perhaps abroad later.

Noble has taught at the University of Virginia and was offered a position at Roanoke College, which he turned down to work for Appalachian. He says, "I have been offered a teaching position when I retire. If things get too monotonous, I may start teaching on the college level again."

Bill Ham operates Beckley's most complete bike repair shop



Bill Ham works on a bicycle in his garage repair shop.

"Some people like to hunt in their spare time, some enjoy fishing and others play golf. But as for me, I like working on bikes," says William C. Ham, Beckley auto repairman A.

Bike enthusiasts for several years, Bill and his wife always take their bikes with them on vacation, and he often makes the two-mile trip from his home to work via bicycle. Working the 3:15 P. M. to midnight shift provided spare time, so Bill began repairing bikes of neighborhood children.

In 1973 he opened a bicycle repair shop in his garage, and it has become known as the most complete repair shop in the area. He specializes in the repair of ten-speed models and works on approximately 250 bikes each

year. During the summer of 1976, Bill was called upon to repair the bikes of two much-traveled cyclists. In June two young men left Fort Lauderdale, Florida, on a 2,000-mile trip to Montreal for the Olympic Games. Having trouble with their bikes, they made their way to Princeton, W. Va., only to find the local bike shop closed. Someone there knew of Bill's shop, so they went to Beckley for the repairs.

And in September another young cyclist from California was on a 10,000-mile cross-country trip when his bike was hit by a coal truck near Madison, W. Va., resulting in a broken front wheel. Since there is no bike shop in the area, he, too, was sent to Beckley for repairs.

Nicholson's favorite pastime is hunting for ginseng herb

B. C. Nicholson, master maintenance man at Kanawha River Plant, enjoys roaming the beautiful mountains of West Virginia and often goes ginseng hunting on his days off. He finds this pastime relaxing as well as rewarding.

The Chinese believe Ginseng roots possess miraculous powers to ward off old age. The herb sells for about \$75 a pound when thoroughly dried. On two days recently, Bennie returned with 2.5 pounds of the root.

Bennie made his ginseng hoe from a jeep spring. The berries from the ginseng are scattered over the area to start new plants.

While "ginsenging", Bennie is always on the alert for wild game and supplies his friends with excellent hunting areas. Recently he spotted three deer and several squirrels and wild turkeys. He also sees lots of snakes. On a recent outing, he

felt a snake strike his leg above the top of his boot. Although fang marks showed, no ill effects resulted.



B. C. Nicholson, master maintenance man at Kanawha River Plant, has a knack for locating ginseng.

ON TARGET

Abingdon

W. C. Mitchell, Marion area T&D clerk, 6-point buck. **Jimmy Brooks**, Marion lineman A, 100-lb. spike buck. **Gary Stoots**, Marion meter reader, 4-point, 125-lb. buck. **Tom Crabtree**, Abingdon T&D clerk, 3-point, 100-lb. buck. **A. C. Hutton**, Abingdon residential representative, 100-lb. spike buck. **Jim Vencill**, Lebanon meter reader, 100-lb. spike buck.

Charleston

Tom Young, area serviceman, 13-point buck. **L. C. Shaffer**, line foreman, 6-point buck. **Dave Morris**, lineman A, 6-point buck. **Terry Banks**, lineman A, spike buck. **Herb Miller**, draftsman, spike buck. **Ben Selbe**, lineman B, 8-point buck.

Kingsport

Jerry L. Hagood, stationman B, 4-point buck.

Lynchburg

Jerry Scott, lineman B, 9-point, 180-lb. buck (bow and arrow).

Pulaski

G. D. Jones, clerk trainee, 120-lb. doe. **J. L. Conrad**, lineman B, spike buck. **J. N. Coleman**, lineman C, spike buck. **J. K. Westmoreland**, lineman C, 8-point buck. **B. M. Phipps**, lineman A, 6-point buck. **J. R. Painter**, meter reader, 4-point buck. **W. G. Eversole**, maintenance man, 6-point buck. **C. E. Burnett**, junior maintenance man, 175-lb. doe. **F. W. Young**, T&D clerk senior, 6-point buck. **B. B. McCall**, customer services manager, 14-lb. turkey. **R. E. Semones**, senior engineering technologist, spike buck (bow and arrow). **K. R. Owens**, lineman A, 6-point buck. **N. M. Quesenberry**, division R/w maintenance inspector, 8-point buck.

Roanoke

R. B. Horne, T&D surveyor, 6-point, 200-lb. buck. **Ray Parcell**, stationman A, 150-lb. spike buck. **V. P. Reynolds**, line foreman NE, 8-point, 225-lb. buck. **J. E. Nichols**, general foreman, 66-lb. doe. **Mike Nichols**, son of J. E. Nichols, 52-lb. spike buck.

Reactivated Fincastle Rifles perpetuate memory of Civil War



Dressed in their authentic Confederate uniforms are (l. to r.) Boyd Miles, C. F. Harlowe and his brother Jerry Harlowe.

On April 9, 1865, General Robert E. Lee officially ended the Civil War by surrendering to General Ulysses S. Grant at Appomattox. But more than a century later, Confederate forces are still making their presence felt in Virginia.

C. F. Harlowe, Jr., general bookkeeper junior in General Office Accounting, Roanoke, is a member of the reactivated Company D of the 11th Virginia Infantry Volunteer Regiment, informally known as the Fincastle Rifles. Though the emotions and issues which caused so many men to give up their lives in battle have long since expired, the members of this unit are intent upon seeing that the role played by at least one group of fighters is not forgotten.

Dressed in uniforms of authentic grey and butternut wool pants and tunics, the members of the company meet several weekends a year to camp, drill and stage mock battles.

Authenticity is stressed in everything from uniforms and weapons to tents, cooking utensils and food. C. F.'s wife made part of his uniform, which is authentic down to the last detail. He says, "My uniform was copied from an original in the Bedford Museum."

He is particularly proud of a Model 1842 69-caliber Springfield musket he recently acquired, which was made in 1850.

He adds, "Confederate soldiers were extremely poor and ragged. We cook over open fires and use tin cups and plates. Rations include, for example, a cup of rice and some ears of corn, which we eat raw. You're pretty well starved by the time you get back home. You have to get used to sleeping outside with only a blanket for cover, and that's sort of hard, too."

The Fincastle Rifles appeared in several mock battles last summer, in observance of the nation's Bicentennial, which were reenacted on parts of the actual battlegrounds. Some of these included the Battles of New Market, Cross Keys, Port Republic, Spottsylvania Court House and Gettysburg. "There was a crew filming the Battle of New Market for later use in a Virginia travel film," says C. F., "and Dan Rather of CBS television was at Gettysburg, doing narration of the battle for his network's news show. We reenacted Pickett's Charge at Gettysburg, which was the turning point for the Confederacy."

C. F. continues, "We use the Hardy's Manual for our tactics. We do exactly what they did back then — march close order, shoulder-to-shoulder. Everybody fires in groups and most likely we have two ranks. We have cavalry and artillery there, also. The officers give us the plan of attack on paper the night before the battle. But it's confusing just like it was in the war. We use the same plan of attack as they did in the original battles."

There is something satisfying in knowing what our forefathers went through. You can really get caught up in a reenactment. When the units line up for the parade to the battlefield and you hear the bugles and drums, chills go all over you. It's just like going back in time."

Although C. F. has not been able to find any ancestors who were involved in the Civil War, interest in this period of history apparently runs in the family. His 14-year-old son Clay has accompanied him on many of the reenactments. And during a mock battle at Morefield, W. Va., last summer, C. F. was reunited with a brother he had not seen in 16 years.



Vicky and Brandt Morgan pose under the road sign which officially designates the site as Morgan's Landing. Brandt is among the fifth generation of John Morgan's descendants, who settled in Putnam County in 1846.

It's official — Amos Plant located at Morgan's Landing

Ever since John E. Amos Plant was built, there has been confusion as to its exact address. There's a post office box at St. Albans but mail comes addressed to Scary Creek, Bills Creek, Route 35, Route 17, Winfield, etc.

But now Amos Plant is officially located at Morgan's Landing. The Department of Highways, at the request of Appalachian, put up signs on U. S. 35 to identify the place.

Plant Manager Al Moore says, "We weren't anywhere. Nick Roomy, executive assistant in Charleston, mentioned to me that we ought to have a name for this place. I thought for awhile, and then a name just came to me."

The plant was built on land once owned by John Morgan, who moved from the Shenandoah Valley to Putnam County in 1846. "There is no doubt in my

mind that packet boats stopped here with goods consigned to Morgan's Landing," Moore says.

The Morgan Museum, established on the property in 1925 and dismantled in 1971, contained hundreds of specimens of animals and large collections of arrowheads, guns and other memorabilia from the days of the steamboat. The museum was begun by Sid Morgan, hunter, historian, taxidermist and naturalist. Sid was the great uncle of Brandt Morgan, husband of Vicky Morgan, clerk typist at Amos. Part of the museum was moved to Milton, and the kitchen to the park in St. Albans. The old Morgan home was used by Union troops during the Civil War as their headquarters.

Vicky and Brandt live on the property directly across the highway from Amos Plant. She says, "It's kind of nice to have a town named for your family."



Two employees at Point Pleasant in the Huntington Division won trophies for their achievements in golf tournaments held at Point Pleasant's Hidden Valley Country Club. Tom Rose, head T&D clerk (left), was runner-up, 1st flight, in the men's club tournament. Bessie Wilson, stenographer, was 3rd flight winner of the ladies' club tournament. In addition, Bessie and her husband Eustace won a trophy for low net in the 1st flight of a golf tournament sponsored by the Citizens National Bank of Point Pleasant.

Tax law changes sick pay exclusion

The tax bill signed by President Ford on October 4, 1976, changes the eligibility requirements for active or retired employees to claim the sick pay exclusion from personal income taxes. These new rules are retroactive to January 1, 1976.

Previously an active employee absent on account of illness or injury could exclude up to \$100 a week from taxable income. Those who had retired because of disability could also claim this exclusion until they reached the age of 65.

Under the new rules, the sick pay exclusion will be available only to retired employees who were "permanently and totally disabled" at the time of retirement. Further, this exclusion will be phased out even for totally disabled retirees if their gross income exceeds \$15,000 a year.

Questions on the definition of "permanent and total disability" should be referred to your local Internal Revenue Service office.

More details should be available before income tax returns are due April 15.

DeBusk retires after 41 years



DeBusk "I feel 41 years of service is long enough and want to pursue some hobbies and other interests I have not had time for," says John Sanford DeBusk, who elected early retirement January 1. He was an area serviceman at Northfork, working out of the Welch area of Bluefield Division.

A native of Glade Spring, Virginia, John began his career in 1935 as a laborer and advanced through the positions of operator, electrician's helper and truck driver, patrolman and maintenance man, maintenance man B, troubleman and maintenance man A before moving to area serviceman in 1950.

John, who enjoys flower gardening, has planted flowers around the Northfork Station for a number of years, furnishing the bulbs and tending the bed on his own time.

His plans for retirement include some gentleman farming and doing electrical repairs in his hobby shop. He and his wife Gladys Virginia have two children and two grandchildren.



Herb Miller exhibited some of his paintings at the Capitol City Arts and Crafts Show at the Charleston Civic Center recently.

Talented artist Herb Miller exhibits work throughout W. Va.

"I've been painting since I was 5 years old and have been selling paintings for some 20 to 25 years," says Herbert Miller, Charleston draftsman senior. "I enjoy it as a hobby, and I spend as much time as I can working on it."

He recently had an exhibit at the Capitol City Arts and Crafts Show at the Charleston Civic Center and sold several of his works. Some 100 artisans and craftsmen from throughout the state participated.

He currently has an exhibit at the new Abraxis Gallery. He adds, "A little later on, I will have a one-man show in connection with the Gallery. It's hard to tell just how many shows I've been in over the

years. It just all depends on how much time I have to paint. I've had exhibits at the Rhododendron Arts and Crafts Show, West Virginia State Fair, Cedar Lakes Arts and Crafts Fair, just to name a few. Most of these shows are by invitation."

Herb is a self-taught artist. The only formal training he had was a three-hour course in art at Concord College. "I paint by moods, and I guess I've been through all phases of it. Mostly I'm a realist painter with some abstractions, and I sometimes blend both into a painting. Right now I'm heavily involved in graphics, blending colors of ink, and I like it very much. I'm looking forward to the time when I retire so I can spend more time on my painting."

Father's reputation once helped Floyd Hayner obtain right-of-way

Floyd Hayner, stores attendant at Logan in the Logan-Williamson Division, retired January 1, ending a 29-year career.

A native of Big Creek, West Virginia, he joined the company in 1948 as an axman and worked as a rodman and material clerk before moving in 1974 to the position he held at retirement.

Floyd recalls, "I remember, not long after joining the company, when several of us went into the Mud River area to do some surveying and right-of-way work. There were John Shriver, Max

Scites and several others. Back then it was normal practice to acquire a right-of-way as the survey was made. We ran into a couple of farmers who refused to give us a right-of-way. They apparently were afraid of electricity and wanted nothing to do with it."

He continues, "Well, John called down to us, 'have Hayner bring that book to me', and one of the old timers came alive then. 'Would that be Uncle John Hayner's boy?', he asked. Assured that I was indeed Uncle John's boy, the old fellow replied, 'Well, guess I'll have to give you a right-of-way then. Uncle John Hayner was a good man when he lived down in this country here.'"



Hayner

Floyd says, "My wife will be working for several more years before she retires. This will hold the travel plans down a little. I'm planning to do missionary work for my church (Seventh Day Adventist Church in Peck's Mill, W. Va.) and will probably do drug abuse programs in area schools. I'll also be involved in the five-day smoking clinics our church sponsors. I like to do auto mechanic work and will probably do a bit of that, and I also do a little elec-

(Continued on page 6)



Forty-five retired employees of Charleston Division and Cabin Creek Plant and guests attended their annual Christmas luncheon at Humphrey's Driftwood Room.

Jim Creasey uses artistic talents to construct model airplanes

Jim Creasey, instrument maintenance man A at Kanawha River Plant, has found an outlet for his inventiveness and artistic talents by becoming a model airplane pilot.

Jim, who has been flying for about a year, is a member of the Mountain Model Club in Charleston, W. Va. The model airport, which the 60 members rent for \$300 a year, is a large level tract of land at Quincy, W. Va.

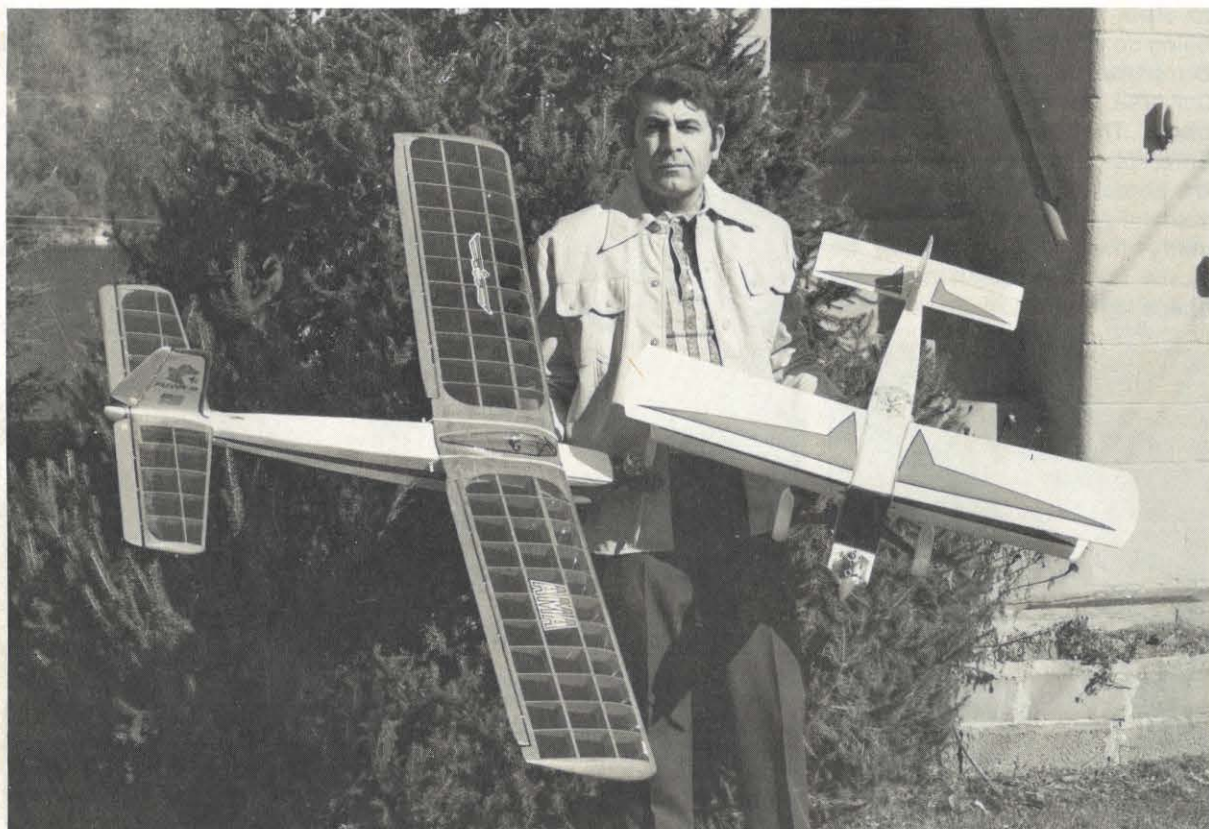
Jim's favorite plane is a Falcon 56 with a 36-cubic-inch engine, which he made from a kit. The plane is of balsa construction and covered with plastic, which he hot shrunk. Jim uses an air brush to finish his planes with epoxy spray paint. It took him some 60 hours to make the Falcon 56, at a cost of about \$100 without radio. The plane

has a 56" wing spread.

Another beauty he made from plans is a Quicke Bite. He won an award and gift certificate flying this plane.

Jim controls his planes with solid-state radio control units. He has control over his planes as far as one can see them. Most of the time he flies them about 200 to 300 feet high and performs stunts with them. Each time Jim flies, a crowd of spectators and often photographers show up to watch the flights. Recently a cameraman for a local TV station took film for about two hours, which will be offered as a feature soon.

Since there is so much time, effort and expense involved in the models, Jim says that losing one "can really blow your mind."



Jim Creasey with two of the model airplanes he constructed.

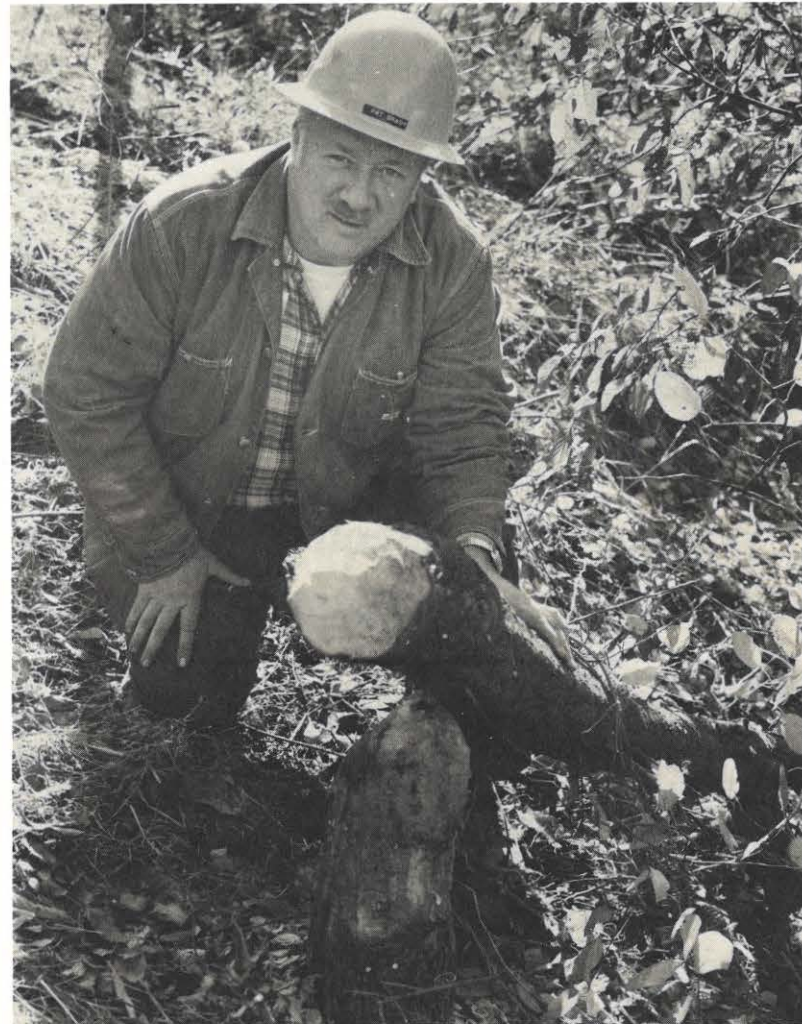
Pat Grady's apple trees appeal to industrious Kanawha River beavers

Beavers are back on the Kanawha River these days, a fact which has caused Pat Grady, utility foreman at Kanawha River Plant, some concern lately. Beavers cut down two of his prized apple trees.

Several years ago Pat started planting fruit and nut trees on the river bank near the coal unloading station. He had ten beautiful apple trees, four plum, one peach, three chestnut, two walnut trees and some grapes. This past season the trees produced some delicious fruit.

One night recently beavers gnawed a ring around one of his apple trees. The next night they came back, felled the tree and completely trimmed it. Then the following night the beavers debarked the tree and later cut it into 4' sections and carried it away to their home somewhere on the river.

Pat installed wire mesh around the trunks of the remaining trees, hoping the beavers would stay away. But the little animals returned, removed the wire, gnawed down another apple tree and carried it away.



Pat Grady's apple trees have become the target of beaver activity on the Kanawha River.

Vandals set fire to station shop

Vandals cut a wire fence to gain entrance to the old Abingdon storeroom property last month and set fire to the partitions inside the old station shop. Damage to the structure was estimated at \$1,500 by the Abingdon Fire Department. The Virginia state fire marshal, Abingdon police chief and fire chief are investigating the incident.

The property was vacated two years ago when work was completed on the new Abingdon Service Center.



Elected to serve as officers of APCo's Fieldale Employees Club (Roanoke Division) are, l. to r., J. E. Nichols, general foreman, vice president; Jo Ann Rakes, clerk-stenographer, treasurer; W. H. Kahle, station foreman NE, president; and Donna Bennett, PBX operator, secretary.



A 45-minute tape of the Bicentennial concert of the Appalachian Chorus and pictures of the chorus in costume and on the company float in the July 5th parade were placed in a time capsule buried on Roanoke's Mill Mountain last month. The capsule is to be opened in 100 years. Looking over the material from the chorus are (l. to r.) Helen Schmehl, executive director of the Roanoke Valley Bicentennial Commission; William S. Board, vice chairman of the commission and chairman of the time capsule committee; Norwood Turner, incumbent chorus president; Helen Honaker, chorus director; and Chester Robison, past chorus president.



Velma Jo Scott displays the Bicentennial afghan she recently made.

Creative Velma Jo Scott dreams of operating craft, ceramic shop

When Velma Jo Scott, general bookkeeper junior in General Office Accounting, Roanoke, was only four years old, her mother taught her to sew and knit. Later on, as a teenager, Velma was influenced by her grandmother to learn to crochet and knit.

Her first project was a bedspread in the popcorn stitch. "It took me about six years to complete the bedspread," Velma recalls, "because it was intricate work. I have never used or showed it though because I don't think it is pretty enough."

Velma's latest creation is a Bicentennial afghan, which took about six weeks to complete. The stars around the edges of the afghan took the most time. She says she wouldn't sell this one, "but I would start another afghan if someone wanted it."

Other accomplishments include crocheted bead jewelry, corsages, infant sweater sets and capes. She completed 25 per-

Phillips earns associate degree



Phillips

"If it had not been for the urging of my wife Lois, I probably would not have returned to school," confides Loren Phillips, Kingsport meterman B, who recently received an associate degree in the science of business management from Steed College. "Now that I've reached my first goal, I'm considering working toward a BS degree."

Loren adds, "I attended school three nights each week for two years to complete the requirements for the degree. Sometimes I felt I would never finish, but perseverance finally paid off, and I now have confidence in myself to begin working on an advanced degree."

cent of her first cape on board an airliner headed for Hawaii. "I had never flown before and thought this would keep my mind off the flight!"

Velma is a member of the Roanoke Valley Square Dancers and has made outfits for the entire group, which included shirts for the men and dresses for the women.

Last Christmas she made shirts for all the men in her family, averaging two to three hours per shirt. She adds, "I make all of my own clothes, too."

Velma has also made ceramic teapot sets, Christmas tree ornaments, ashtrays and dishes. She concludes, "My dream is to own and operate a craft or ceramic shop."

Retiree Bert Miller's hobbies leave little time on his hands

"Since retiring several years ago, there have been very few dull moments in my everyday life," confesses Hubert R. Miller, former payroll records supervisor in General Office Accounting, Roanoke. "In fact, there doesn't seem to be enough time, or I don't have the physical energy to accomplish everything that I would like to do. I've never worked so hard in all my life."

In the nine years since Bert retired, he has taken every course in geology, archeology, paleontology and astronomy — his hobbies — which Virginia Western Community College offers. He is currently enrolled in a course in Western Civilization.

Astronomy has fascinated Bert since a youngster, when his mother, who was also very interested in the subject, would point out and explain the stars and constellations to him. "I remember vividly her showing me Jobs Coffin or the constellation Delphinus, the Dolphin."

Bert received his first astronomy book in 1942 and his first telescope in the 1950's, an instrument which he still has today. "I now have an 8-inch reflector telescope which will reach out in-

Customer risks hazards to install antenna

"I've run into many unusual situations in my work with the company but never anything quite like this. I couldn't believe my own eyes when I saw a TV antenna mounted on our pole so near the 7,200-volt primary conductor," says Roanoke General Serviceman Don McNeil. The antenna he refers to had been installed on an APCo pole by a customer and had been mounted on saddle straps, permitting the antenna itself to extend above and directly over our energized conductor.

Don recalls, "Bill Poff, General Office operations coordinator, called and got me out of bed one night to advise that we had a line out on 12 O'clock Knob Road, south of Roanoke. When I arrived, I shot the line and after seeing the flash realized it would be necessary to patrol the line to locate the trouble. A tree limb had fallen across our facilities, knocking the line out, but that wasn't all I saw. There was this TV antenna, and I got out of the truck twice while I was there to make sure I was really seeing what it appeared to be," he adds.

"It may seem silly, but after I removed the tree limb and fused the line, I drove back for the third time to make sure that my eyes were not playing tricks on me. It was still hard to believe!"

Don reported the hazardous condition to his supervisor early that morning, and a line crew was dispatched to remove the antenna.



Don McNeil, Roanoke general serviceman, couldn't believe his eyes when he saw this TV antenna installation.

"The amazing thing is that no one was killed or injured when it was installed," says W. W. Holdren, line foreman non-exempt, who removed the antenna. "Even though we had the primary conductor de-energized during the removal, the antenna being top heavy, got away and dropped down across me. This could have happened when the person installed it and could have fallen right into the hot wire."

The customer who installed the antenna was advised that antennas should be located well away from any electric power lines to avoid the possibility of the antenna or lead-in wires making

contact with such lines.

Installation of the antenna took place within the past 12 months. During that same time period, Appalachian had offered safety tips for the installation of antennas in two issues of its monthly bill stuffer.

Rudy Wooten, Appalachian safety director, says, "Don McNeil is to be commended for his alertness and follow-through in this particular incident. I would like to encourage all employees, particularly the area servicemen, meter readers, line crews and engineers, to be on the alert for similar installations and report them immediately."



Miller

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