

This is how Amos unit 2 looks after it was disassembled following the fire on March 7. Disassembly took two shifts working ten hours a day for ten days.

MECHANICAL, FIRE DAMAGE TAKES AMOS UNIT 2 OFF LINE TILL SUMMER

On March 7, unit 2 at the John E. Amos Plant suffered disastrous mechanical and fire damage. The 800,000 kilowatt unit represents 4.6 per cent of the AEP System's active generating capacity.

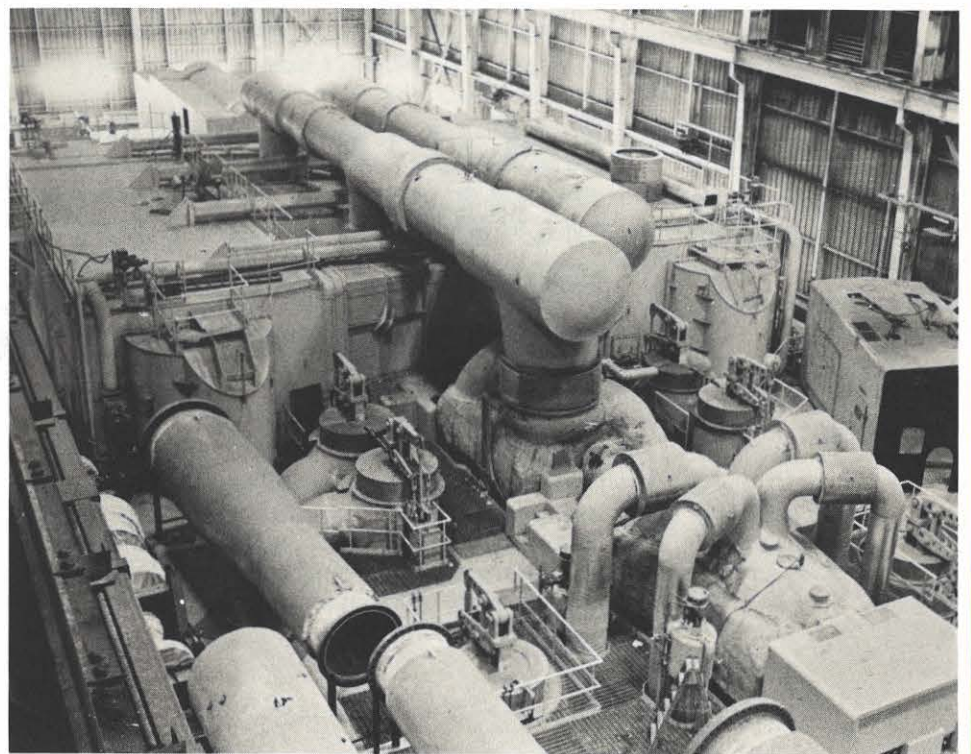
Unit 2 had been removed from service on March 4 to Doble test the main transformer bank. While conducting an overspeed trip test on unit 2 turbine before placing it in service, the unit developed violent vibration at approximately 3750 rpm and tripped out. Intense fires broke out at each end of the generator and in the area below the second reheat and high pressure turbines. The fires at the generator were caused by hydrogen blowing through the seals and the turbine fires by oil spilling out of the bearings.

Plant employees, using all available breathing apparatus, manned the fire hoses and extinguishers and did all possible to contain the fire. All fire protection equipment operated as designed; however, the fires were in such a location and so intense they could not be extinguished by the automatic protection.

The violent vibration was caused by a failure of the steam flow guides and a massive blade failure on the last stage of the "A" low pressure turbine rotor, generator end. Damage was sustained at all points of the turbine-generator but was most severe near the point of failure, no. 6 turbine bearing.

The damage is estimated at \$6-million, and repair is expected to take three to four months.

(For related story on employees' fire-fighting efforts, turn to page 7.)



This photo of Amos unit 1 shows how Amos unit 2 looked before it was disassembled following the fire. Amos units 1 and 2 are both 800,000 kilowatts.

THE ILLUMINATOR

Published monthly for employees of Appalachian Power Company and Kingsport Power Company and their families.

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AEP PLANS RIGHTS OFFERING

American Electric Power Company plans to sell 9,000,000 shares of its common stock, authorized but unissued, in a rights offering to its shareowners in the second quarter of 1977.

The additional shares of stock, par value of \$6.50, would first be offered for subscription to owners of AEP's 93,222,943 outstanding shares on a 1-for-11 basis. Also, holders would have the opportunity to subscribe for additional shares, subject to allotment, if necessary. Unsubscribed shares would then be purchased, under stand-by arrangements, at competitive bidding by underwriters and security dealers.

AEP Chairman W. S. White, Jr. said it is anticipated that the record date for determining shareowners entitled to receive rights will be on or about June 1, but the subscription price of the stock and the date of its offering will be determined by the board of directors at a later time.

Proceeds will be applied to repayment of short-term debt, for contributions to the company's equity in its subsidiaries, for working capital and for other corporate purposes.

FIRE GUTS 765 KV TRANSFORMER

A 765/345 - 34.5 kv, 500 mva transformer was completely destroyed and other equipment damaged during a fire at the Cloverdale Station near Roanoke on March 4. Replacement costs are estimated at over \$1-million. Service to customers was not interrupted.

The transformer bank was protected by a working oil containment system, which kept another transformer phase from becoming involved in the oil fire. Approximately 9000 gallons of oil were collected in the sump pit at Cloverdale and subsequently recovered. An estimated 8000 gallons of oil burned.

Fire units from the Troutville, Va., Volunteer Fire Department and the Woodrum Airport Fire Department, Roanoke, brought the fire under control externally with foam. However, the fire burned internally for more than two days while repairs were being made.

Employees of the General Office T&D Station and Transmission Line Sections restored the station to service by the afternoon of March 7. R. L. Lewis was the project engineer and overall coordinator.

Marvin L. Pollard, station supervising engineer in GO T&D Station, Roanoke, said, "All of the individuals involved are to be congratulated for their part in assisting us in accomplishing what on early Friday morning seemed an impossible task. Without their excellent cooperation, the job couldn't have been done in so short a period of time."

APCO LAUNCHES COMMUNICATIONS PROGRAM IN APRIL

A new communications program will be launched through radio, television and newspapers in Appalachian Power Company's service area this month.

Utilizing the theme, "Working Together", the program is designed to explain to customers how the company fits into their respective communities. It will also seek to explain some of the tough problems the company is facing today which, in turn, affect customers.

VAUGHAN EXPLAINS NEED FOR VIRGINIA RATE INCREASE

Appalachian Power Company on March 18 applied to the State Corporation Commission for a \$30,400,000 increase in rates from its Virginia retail customers. The amount represents a 14.1 per cent average increase above the price customers are currently paying for electric service. In addition, the company asked the SCC to make permanent the revenues being produced by the 6.878 per cent surcharge granted by the SCC on a temporary basis last August.

The announcement of the rate filing was made by John W. Vaughan, APCo executive vice president, in a press conference attended by Roanoke area news media. Excerpts from Vaughan's statement and answers to some of the questions raised by the media are printed here.

Vaughan: Even with this proposed increase, Appalachian's rates will be among the lowest in this section of the country. There are two basic reasons for seeking the increase. First, there is a need for additional revenues to overcome the increasing expense of virtually everything we buy in our business. Secondly, it's necessary that we increase our earnings to provide a more attractive rate of return in order that we can finance the staggering construction program that we have over the next three or four years.

In this filing, we asked the Commission to grant us a 9.75 per cent rate of return. I'd like to emphasize the need for that return is in large measure due to the fact we are going to have to go to the capital markets in the next several years to raise in excess of \$500,000,000.

Our construction program between now and 1980 will be in the range of \$1.2 and \$1.3-billion. The need to build additional facilities cannot be overstated. That can best be illustrated by talking about our generating situation.

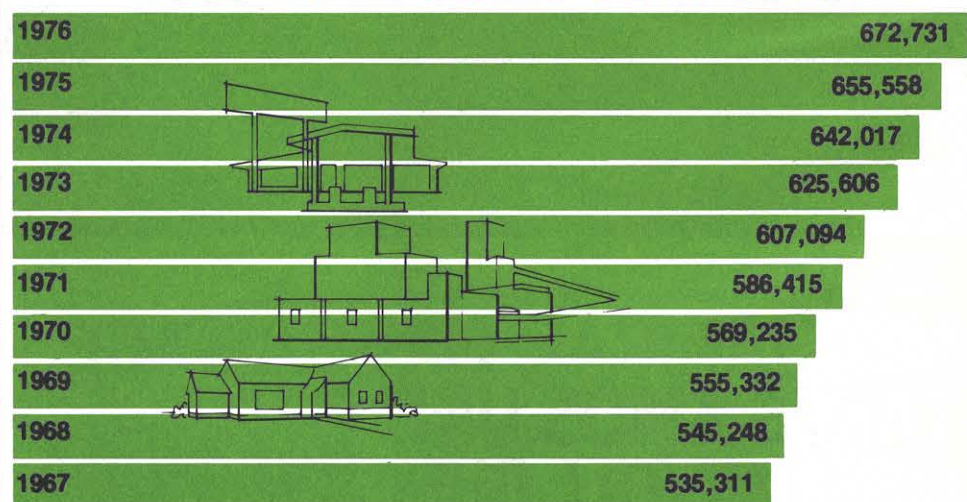
In January of this year we established a new all-time peak in our company. On January 17, perhaps the coldest day we had all winter, our customers required 4,329,000 kilowatts. Appalachian's present generating capability is 4,645,000 kilowatts, which means the margin between our peak demand and our generating capability is 316,000 kw or less than eight per cent.

It's imperative we accelerate construction on a generating plant located at New Haven, West Virginia, that we call Project 1301. It was announced in 1974 and construction was slowed up considerably in 1975 because of our inability to finance the plant. If we can accelerate construction this spring, it will be the winter of 1980-81 before that plant can be in service. Without that plant by 1980-81, Appalachian's reserve figure is estimated to be a negative 15.1 per cent.

You might say well, you can depend on the American Electric Power System to make up the difference, but the projected reserve for AEP at that time would be only 11.7 per cent. We can ill afford not to take the steps to build that plant because the consequences of having an inadequate electric power supply are just too disruptive for our economy, our jobs and our standard of living.

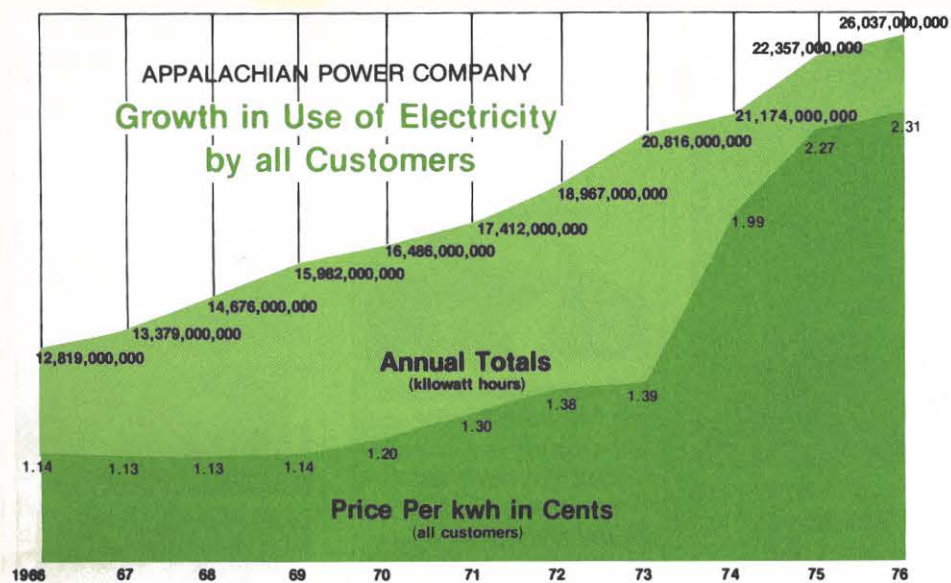
I'd like to show you several charts which will show you why we need to continue to build facilities.

1967 APPALACHIAN POWER COMPANY Ten Year Customer Growth 1976

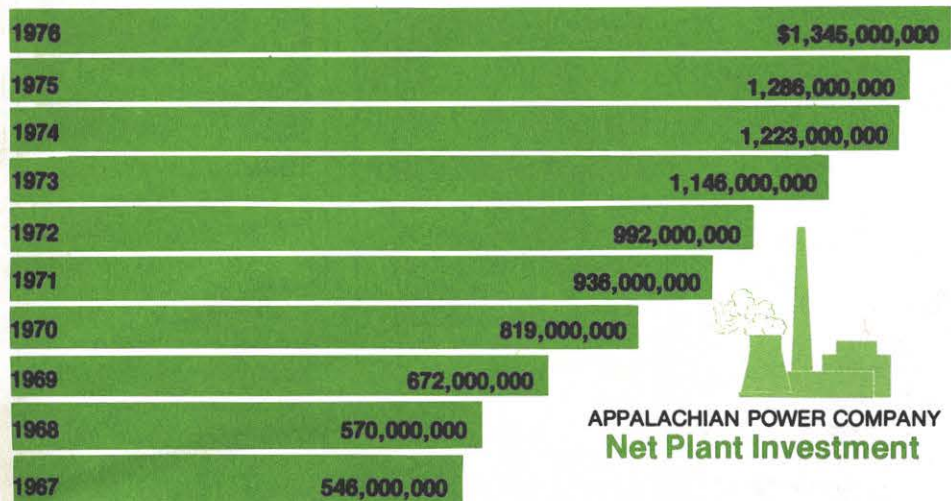


In 1967 Appalachian served 535,000 customers. At the end of 1976, we had 672,700. We have connected about 137,000 customers to our lines in a ten-year period. We think there is little likelihood this expansion is going to stop in the next several years. With the increasing unavailability of natural gas and the cost problems associated with petroleum, we have seen the number of residential customers heating with electricity increase from 25,000 in 1967 to almost 125,000 at the end of 1976. It does not take a great deal of imagination on my part to believe that with the gas shortages we saw last winter, as people look to what they will be using to heat in the future, this turn to electricity is going to continue to increase.

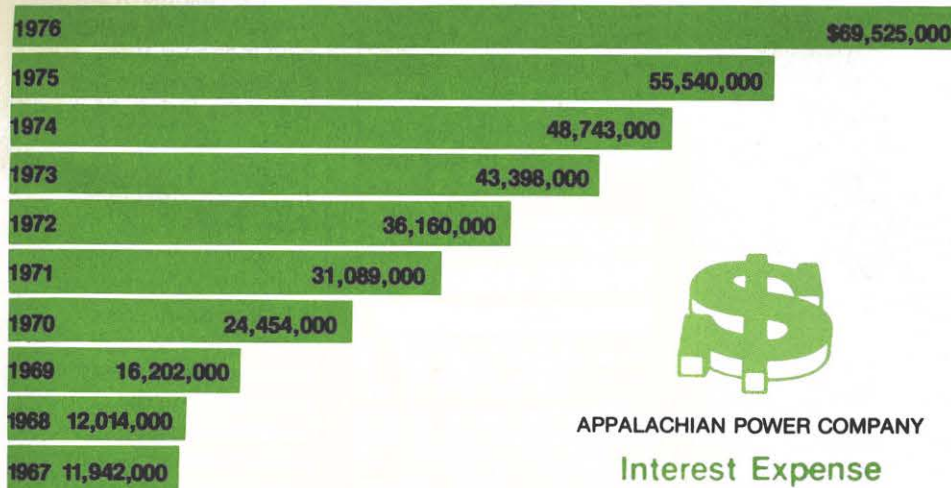
Any way you measure what has happened to us in the last 10 to 20 years, our customers increased their demand for electric power on a basis that doubles about each 10 years.



The top line on this chart underscores the fact that in 1966 our customers used over 12-billion kilowatthours. In 1976, they used 26-plus billion. Even though the cost of electricity increased, they still continued to use more power.



Our demand has also doubled in the past ten years. The unfortunate part is that the investment to serve that demand, because of inflation and environmental requirements, has risen from \$546-million in 1967 to \$1,345,000 in 1976. While our customers' demands have increased by 100 per cent, the cost of building the facilities has increased in the range of 165 per cent.



Not only has it taken more dollars invested in plant, but we have to raise about 70 per cent of those dollars in the financial market. We sell bonds and stock. We pay a great interest on the bonds. In 1967 our interest expense was \$11,942,000. In 1976 it had increased to \$69,525,000. Our interest costs have gone up between five and six times in a ten-year period. Later this year we will be faced with refinancing a bond issue bearing an interest rate of 3 1/8 per cent. There's some \$27-million involved and, based on today's financial market, it will probably cost an interest rate in the range of 9 per cent to refinance that issue. It's as simple as if you had a note at the bank on which you were paying interest of 3 1/8 per cent and, when you went to renew it, the bank says, "We'll renew it, but the interest rate will be 9 per cent or 9 1/8 per cent". This is the kind of cost increase we are faced with, and that's the reason electric rates have begun to move up in recent years.

What I have shown you has basically been historical data. It's fair to ask about the future and, from all indications, we see this growth will continue. We believe coal and nuclear will have to meet an increasing amount of our nation's energy supply in the future. If that is true, electricity will be the means by which this energy is delivered to homes and businesses in this country. I don't believe we are quite yet at the point where we'll have coal furnaces in the basements of our homes again. And certainly we don't have technology to put a black box for nuclear in the back yard. Even though conservation must come and even though conservation will indeed have an impact on our nation's usage, I think it's likely that the growth for electricity will continue at a rate higher than the growth rate for energy generally.

I noted earlier the increase in rates would be 14.1 per cent. This increase will not be spread evenly among all customers. We have done some restructuring and, in the case of our residential rates, we have attempted to simplify it by reducing the number of steps and by reducing the difference between the initial step in the rate and the last step in the rate. We have tended to level out the steps in our residential rate. The net result of this is that the low-use residential customer will incur an increase less than the 14 per cent. Generally speaking, customers using less than 700 kilowatthours per month will probably experience an increase of 10 per cent or less. The high-use residential customer will experience a greater increase. To the extent that the higher costs on the bottom step of the residential rate produces conservation, this is the desirable end result.

Reporter: If you get this rate increase, will this improve your credit rating?

Vaughan: We certainly think it will be a big first step in that direction. In addition to this rate relief, we have to have rate relief from our wholesale customers as well as customers in West Virginia and the other jurisdictions in which we operate. So this is just one of the places we'll be seeking rate increases.

Reporter: Are you planning to ask for increases in those areas or have you already done so?

Vaughan: Yes, we are. In West Virginia we have a rate case that has been pending for almost two years. We are hopeful we will have a decision before the end of March. Depending upon the results of that decision, we will make a determination of what we'll do next in West Virginia.

Reporter: If the winter hadn't been so cold and APCo hadn't got so close to its maximum capacity, would you not ask for this rate increase at this time or would it come anyway?

Vaughan: It would have come anyway because we have been pointing out for three to four years now that our customers are continuing to demand more each winter. We have been pointing out that we have had mild winters and very moderate summers. We knew this customer demand was out there; we knew it was going to be imposed upon us. We just didn't know when, but we found out this year. We are constantly evaluating what our customers will be requiring, and our best estimate at the moment is their demands will continue to increase by 5 to 6 per cent a year for the next 10 years.

Reporter: Do you expect any significant impact at all to be accomplished through this home insulation loan program? Do you expect to realize any kind of return on that strictly public service project?

Vaughan: It's really a conservation effort and certainly we don't expect any return on it. We would anticipate that the manpower and people needed to advise our customers would add some cost to our operation that would not be recovered through the finance charges associated with the insulation program. I would like to comment on the insulation program. I believe an insulation program of some sort will probably be included in the President's energy program when it's announced in April. Even though there might be costs associated with such a program, in the final analysis, we have to promote conservation in this country and promoting all the conservation we can, we are still going to have a difficult time. So this program to finance insulation is really our attempt to encourage our customers to improve their insulation and to hopefully reduce their use of electricity.

Reporter: What is the total estimate on the cost of Project 1301?

Vaughan: The total estimate on the cost is around \$600-million. You know, it's really unbelievable to talk about a generating plant that's going to cost \$600-million to build. I showed you on the chart that in 1967 everything we had ever spent in this company put together totalled \$546-million. One plant today is going to cost more than the total investment we had to serve our customers in 1967.

Reporter: And you really attribute that to three major factors — increase in demand, inflation, environmental restrictions you have to follow?

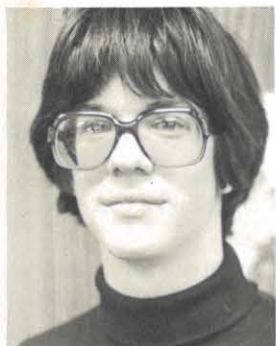
Vaughan: Increase in demand just means you have to build a plant. Look at the cost of building a home today. The heavy construction industry has been faced with the same thing, and we've just seen prices escalate clear out of sight.

POWER PEOPLE MAKING NEWS

Pulaski

Terry Jones, son of R. S. Jones, line foreman non-exempt, was elected an outstanding senior by his classmates at Pulaski County High School.

Martha Ann Sisson, daughter of S. L. Sisson, placed third in prose reading at the New River District forensics contest.



Scott Kilgore, son of Division Superintendent R. B. Kilgore, has been selected to attend the 1977 Governor's School for the Gifted. Attendees, who are in the tenth and eleventh grades in high school, are chosen from the top ten per cent in their schools, based on ability, academic standing or display of unusual talent in the arts. Scott plans to study political science and economy at the school.

K. R. "Slick" Owens, lineman A, was accepted on a one-year trial basis as a new member of the Hillsville Volunteer Fire Department.

Claud K. Kirkland, division manager, was renamed to the Co-operative Education Advisory Committee at New River Community College.

Charleston



Nancy Jarrett, daughter of Jack Jarrett, Kanawha Valley Power hydro plant foreman, was elected "student of the month" at Roosevelt Junior High School.

Bluefield



Evelyn Martin was named Valentine queen of the newly-formed Preceptor Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi Sorority in Pineville. The wife of Jack Martin, Pineville area supervisor, Evelyn is the chapter's corresponding secretary and program chairman. She is a charter member and past president of the Gamma Xi and Xi Beta Epsilon Chapters and has been Valentine queen for both.



Diane Fanning, wife of Building Supervisor Buck Fanning, was re-elected president of the Double Gates Homemakers Club.

Earl Sprinkle, retired head meter clerk, was re-elected to his eighth consecutive term as secretary and visitation chairman of the Bluefield Old Guard.

Administrative Assistant **Duke Wright** was appointed key man for the parish of Christ Episcopal Church.

Harry Street, auto repairman B, bowled a 611 series in league competition at Mountaineer Bowling Lanes. A member of the APCo Kilowatts in the Thursday Night Industrial League, Harry had games of 210, 190 and 211 in rolling his first 600 series.

Dottie Lawless, **Helen Vermillion** and **Jane Meadows** attended the 71st convention of the West Virginia Federation of Women's Clubs. Dottie, secretary-stenographer, is president of the Keystone-Northfork Woman's Club. Helen, wife of Meter Supervisor John Vermillion, is first vice president of the Bluefield Woman's Club. Jane, wife of Electrical Engineer Howard Meadows, is state spiritual values chairman.

Huntington

R. H. Johnson, customer services manager, was elected to a three-year term on the Salvation Army advisory board.

Jean Baker, wife of Customer Services Supervisor Paul Baker, was elected to a one-year term as president of the board of directors of the Community Mental Health Center.

New officers of the Appalachian Power Company Employees Federal Credit Union located in Huntington are: **June Deal**, chemical technician, AEP Lab, president; **D. G. Simms**, meter serviceman B, vice president; and **D. A. Nance**, electrical engineer, secretary.

Roanoke

Annis Craig, retired private secretary, was elected president of her Sunday School class at Huntington Court United Methodist Church. She was also elected to her second two-year term as secretary of the church's women's organization.



Ludy Rakes, competing in the girls' 12- and 13-year-old group, tied for second place in the Virginia state finals of the Elks National "Hoop Shoot" Free Throw (basketball) Contest. She won the county contest in Collinsville with 17 of 25 free throws, and was the Southwest Virginia champion with 13 of 25 free throws. She is the daughter of Jo Ann Rakes, Fieldale T&D clerk.

E. T. "Shorty" Jones, customer accounting supervisor, was appointed the electrical utility representative on the Roanoke County Electrical Examining Board.

Glenn H. Reynolds, assistant division manager, was appointed to a two-year term on the board of directors of Downtown Roanoke, Inc.

Dale Ragland played guard for the Heights Club "Orange" basketball team which won the Roanoke City Boys Title League championship for 1976-77. The team finished the season with an 11-1 record and competed in the annual Heights Club Invitational Tournament held in Roanoke last month. Dale is the 11-year-old son of Bob Ragland, lead draftsman.

John M. Wright, customer services supervisor, and **Margie L. Cahill**, residential advisor, were selected to serve on committees of the Virginia Farm and Home Electrification Council for 1976-77. They will attend the VFHEC annual conference at Bryce Mountain, Basye, Va., this month.

Beckley

J. W. Begley, line foreman non-exempt, was selected by the West Virginia Secondary Schools Activities Commission to officiate the 1977 West Virginia State High School Basketball Tournament.

R. E. Dyke, lineman A; **J. A. Kirby**, T&D clerk A; and **Ray Vest**, administrative assistant, were selected to officiate the regional basketball tournaments.

Tina Mullins, wife of F. J. Mullins, Rupert lineman A, was elected president of the Rupert Woman's Club.



Vernard Wooten was named to the All Tournament Team at the Raleigh County Junior High Basketball Tournament. Chosen by students as Park Junior High's "most popular athlete", Vernie was captain of the 1977 "Roadrunners" which finished the season with a 14 win - 4 loss record and a second place finish in the county junior high basketball tourney. The son of V. W. Wooten, stores attendant, Vernie averaged 24 points and 10 rebounds per game during the season.



In the publication, **Moving Ahead to Better Schools in Fayette County**, Commercial Representative **T. L. Humphries** received recognition from the Fayette County Board of Education for his assistance in the school building program. The publication will be distributed throughout West Virginia.

Kingsport

John E. Faust, executive vice president, was re-elected a director of the First National Bank of Sullivan County for 1977.

Jim Warrick, son of Garage Foreman Gordon Warrick, was chosen national director of the Fellowship of Christian Musicians. He is director of the marching band and jazz studies at Lakewood (Ohio) High School.

Edward Martin Jones, Jr., son of Eddie Jones, stationman B, attends the Southeastern Training Center School for handicapped children at Hillsville, Va.

Logan-Williamson

Tammy Renee, daughter of Eugene Hatfield, Williamson lineman A, won the sixth grade spelling bee at Varney Grade School, Belfry, Ky., and is eligible to compete in the Pike County spelling bee.

Billie Hatfield was crowned valentine queen of Delta Pi Chapter, Beta Sigma Phi Sorority, by her husband, Williamson Area General Serviceman Bobby Hatfield. She is vice president of the chapter and a former "sweetheart" of the sorority's Chi Chapter.

Hubert King, Williamson engineer B, is secretary of the Pond Creek Lions Club, Stone #533 Eastern Star and the Mingo-Pike Boat Club. He is a past master of Stone Lodge 890 of Free and Accepted Masons.

Mary Alice Ward was elected vice president of Phi Kappa Alpha Chapter, Beta Sigma Phi Sorority. A student at Southern West Virginia Community College, she was an attendant to the chapter's "queen". Mary Alice is the daughter of Claude Ward, residential representative.

Lynchburg



Timothy J. Withers, son of R. C. Withers, lineman A, was elected president of the honor society at Nelson County Junior High School. He is reporter and former treasurer of the Student Council Association and song leader for the community 4-H Club. He participated in a special project for potentially gifted students during the 1976-77 school term and will participate again when the program resumes.

James B. White, division manager, was named a charter member of the O. I. A. M. Society (One In A Million) for his service to the Lynchburg United Way. The society is composed of previous United Way presidents and campaign chairmen. White has also been re-elected to three-year terms on the boards of directors of Junior Achievement of Lynchburg and Central Lynchburg, Inc.

Stephen L. Jamison, administrative assistant, was named coordinator of public relations for Central Lynchburg, Inc.

A. C. Channaiah, engineering technologist supervisor, is group chairman in charge of the study of technical education facilities in the area as a part of the Leadership Lynchburg Program sponsored by the Greater Lynchburg Chamber of Commerce.

Lloyd T. Smith, retired administrative assistant, was elected to a one-year term as secretary and treasurer of the Past Exalted Rulers Association of the Lynchburg Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

General Office



Kimberly Nichole, daughter of Brenda Colston, stenographer in GO Accounting, Roanoke, won a baby contest sponsored by the Hill Street Baptist Church.

David Perfater won second place in the 105 lb. class at the Roanoke Valley District wrestling tournament. A tenth grader at Patrick Henry High School, David ended the season with 9 wins, 3 losses and 1 tie. He is the son of Glenn Perfater, material expediter-stock controller, GO Purchasing, Roanoke.

C. R. Wooten, safety director, is president of the Southwest Virginia Safety Society for 1977. He is also a member of the board of directors of the Roanoke Valley Chapter, American National Red Cross, and the Roanoke Highway Safety Commission.

Abingdon

M. L. Croft, division office supervisor, was elected vice president of the John Wesley Bible Class at Abingdon United Methodist Church.

David Akers, GO communications engineer B, was appointed to the equipment committee and a representative to the state board of governors for the Washington County Life Saving Crew.



Fillmore McPherson, Jr., retired division manager, was re-elected president of the Barter Foundation Board. The non-profit foundation is responsible for the operation of Barter Theatre, the state theatre of Virginia.

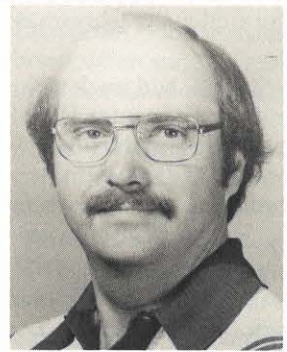
Toby Cook, wife of J. L. Cook, stationman C, was elected secretary-treasurer of the Southwest Virginia Trade and Industrial Education Teachers Club. She is a medical assistant instructor at Russell County Vocational School.

Julie Jackson and **Clyde Landreth** represented E. B. Stanley Elementary School in the Washington County Junior All-County Band Concert. Julie, daughter of S. W. Jackson, plays the clarinet. Clyde, son of D. C. Landreth, plays the trombone.



Engineering Technologist **D. C. Landreth**, Scoutmaster of Troop 222, was honored on Boy Scout Sunday during the morning worship service at his church. He received a plaque for "faithful and untiring service to boys of Troop 222 sponsored by the United Methodist Church of Abingdon, Virginia", and was given a winter scout jacket by troop members. He has been selected to serve as an assistant Scoutmaster at the 1977 National Scout Jamboree to be held in Pennsylvania in August.

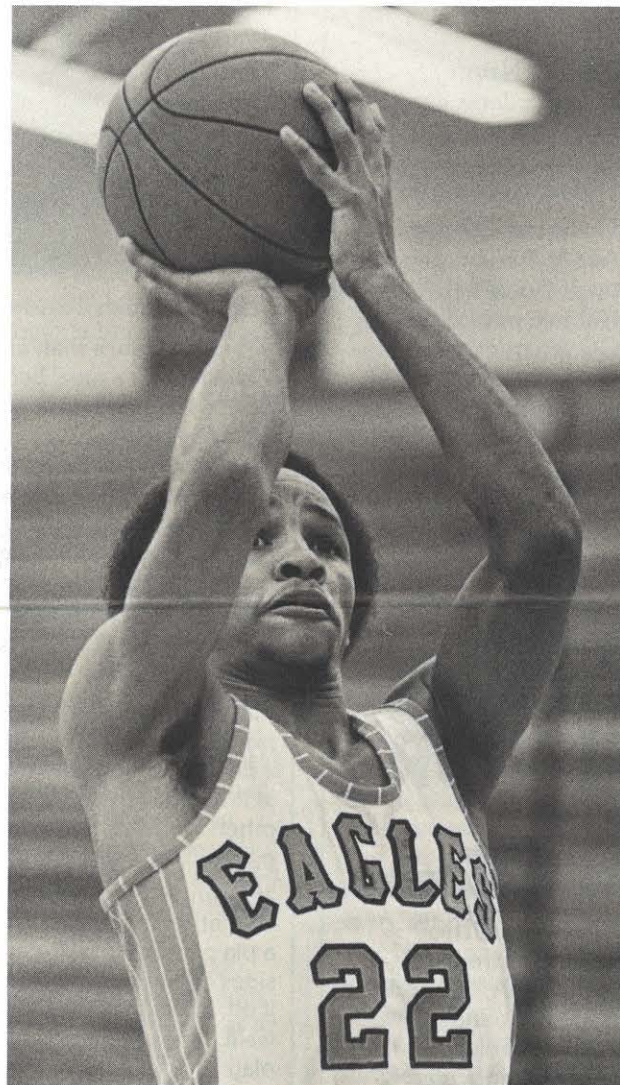
LYNCH PASSES PE EXAM



Larry A. Lynch, electrical engineer in GO T&D Station, Roanoke, has passed examinations to become certified as a professional engineer in the State of Virginia. Lynch graduated from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in 1971 with a BS degree in electrical engineering and was employed by Appalachian that same year.



Principal **Aubrey Brown** crowns **Mary Ruth Hughes** the Valentine queen of Abingdon High School as **Jeff Hawley** looks on. The ceremony took place at the school's Valentine dance, sponsored annually by the Key Club. Mary Ruth, a senior, is the daughter of Abingdon Administrative Assistant **Jim Hughes**. Jeff, president of the Key Club, is the son of **Cliff and Dot Hawley**. Cliff is building supervisor and Dot is T&D clerk A in Abingdon.



Alan Hawkins leads the Kanawha Valley Conference, considered the toughest in West Virginia, in free throw shooting with a .960. The son of **Corintha Hawkins**, customer accounts representative C in Charleston Division's St. Albans office, Alan plays for South Charleston High School. He is an outstanding player despite a heart condition which requires him to be rested often during a game.



Abingdon Division Manager J. R. Whitehurst, left, awards **H. H. Stovall**, engineering technologist, a certificate in recognition of his earning 25 credits in business and industrial supervision. Stovall attended evening classes at Virginia Highlands Community College.



William S. Wood, Jr., relay engineer senior, GO T&D Station, Roanoke, was named auxiliaryist of the year — 1976 by the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary, Flotilla 81. He was awarded a plaque for his outstanding work and contributions to the four cornerstones of the Auxiliary — operations, education, examination and fellowship. The Auxiliary promotes water safety, particularly on Smith Mountain, Claytor and Philpott Lakes. Bill was also elected second lieutenant in the Kazim Shrine Temple's Patrol Unit.



Dale Rice has acquired a weightlifting trophy to add to his collection of football and swimming awards. The Princeton High School sophomore won his latest trophy in the heavyweight competition by bench-pressing 310 pounds. Dale is the son of **Mary Lou Rice**, Bluefield Division customer accounts representative C.



Beulah Price is the recipient of the Western Greenbrier Area Chamber of Commerce's 1976 "citizenship award for outstanding service to the community". The award was presented by **Dr. D. K. Cales**, chamber president (right), at the organization's annual dinner. The wife of **R. H. Price**, line foreman in Beckley Division's Rupert area, Beulah served two terms as president of the Rupert Woman's Club and is currently chairman of the board of directors of the Rupert Area Improvement Council.

SYSTEM COUPLES MARRY



Deborah Lynn Koss to **David Cormac McCarthy**, son of the late Charles Henry McCarthy, former Lynchburg hydro plant foreman, February 19.



Regina Fay Mooney, daughter of Kanawha River Shift Operating Engineer Carl H. Mooney, to Charles W. Firmkoess, February 25.



Connie Ellen Grant to **James Allen Back**, son of Huntington Line Foreman H. L. Back, February 11.



Robyn Otey to **Prentest Cabbler**, son of Josephine Cabbler, maid in General Office General Services, Roanoke, February 12.



Lenna Joanne Langford, daughter of Lynchburg Line Foreman Morris A. Langford, to Robert Carlyle Hepler, Jr., February 4.



Patricia E. Lowe to **G. Robert Hartman, Jr.**, son of Kanawha River Unit Foreman Guy R. Hartman, February 26.



Cynthia Lynn Farmer, daughter of Bluefield Line Foreman Henry E. Farmer, Jr., to Walter Christopher Webb, February 5.

Jenny Crawford to **Amos Workman**, Kanawha River maintenance foreman, February 18.

Donna King to **Mark V. Hanshaw**, Cabin Creek utility man B, March 4.

BABY PARADE

John E. Amos Kelly Dawn, daughter of **Michael S. Criner**, coal handler, February 17.

Shane Travis, son of **James E. Skeens**, maintenance man B, February 18.

Beckley Crystal, daughter of **J. L. Dunford**, junior clerk, stores, February 27.

Bluefield

Cassie Rebecca, daughter of **Thomas W. Cahill**, surveyor, February 18.

Robin Lee, daughter of **Richard L. Davis**, general serviceman, February 20.

Cabin Creek

Joshua Seth, son of **Johnny G. Woody**, stores attendant, March 5.

Centralized Plant Maintenance

Phillip Andrew, son of **G. R. Cobb**, maintenance man B, December 30, 1976.

Charleston

Jamie Nannette, daughter of **Cynthia Witt**, customer accounts representative B, February 27.

Clinch River

Beverly Jane, daughter of **Randall L. Garner**, performance engineer, March 15.

General Office

Allison Renee', daughter of **Donald E. Robins**, payroll clerk A, GO Accounting, Roanoke, March 5.

Kingsport

Sarah Catharine, daughter of **Robert Rucroft**, electrical engineer, February 14.

BLOOD DONOR HONOR ROLL

General Office

D. R. Brammer, station clerk A, GO T&D Station, Roanoke, two gallons. **Jack F. Meador**, engineering technician, GO T&D Station, Roanoke, five gallons.

Logan-Williamson

Paul E. Owens, Williamson service foreman, one gallon.

Bluefield

Dave Chumbley, meterman A, one gallon.

Huntington

Wayne Pugh, administrative assistant, one gallon. **Roger Sizemore**, meterman C, one gallon. **T. R. Templeton**, garage foreman, one gallon. **J. W. Hughes**, electrical engineer, two gallons.

MOTHER, DAUGHTER EXPERT FLATFOOTERS



Pearlie Reynolds, left, and Elaine Keith.

"I'd rather dance than eat when I'm hungry, and I've missed many a meal because of dancing," laughs Pearlie Reynolds. Pearlie, wife of V. P. Reynolds, Roanoke Division line foreman non-exempt, and their daughter, Elaine Keith, are members of the Patrick Henry Travelers, a dance group organized last August. The Travelers perform traditional square dances and participate in individual flatfoot competition throughout Virginia and North Carolina. Elaine won first place in flatfoot competition before a crowd of 50,000 at the recent Galax Fiddlers' Convention, the largest and oldest in Virginia.

Elaine admits, "It's hardest at Galax in front of all those people, many who gather in front of the stage, making it difficult to hear the musicians. There are butterflies at first. But when you win, competing against 60 to 80 others, some of the best, it's something else!"

Pearlie adds, "Recently the Veterinarian's Association at Eden, N. C., asked us to appear. When we arrived, the gathering was off in the woods and the stage was a pig pen. A pig pen, can you imagine? They took the sides off, and we performed on the pen's floor. To top it off, it was raining. But when we're asked to perform, we'll dance as long as the musicians are willing to play."

The Travelers have performed with some of the top names in the Bluegrass music field, such as Mac Wiseman, Lester Flat and the Osbourne Brothers. They have appeared at fund raising events, such as the Danville March of Dimes Telethon and the Patrick County Heart Telethon. They also performed in the Christmas parade last year at Draper, N. C.

Elaine said, "We were dancing on a flat bed truck with no side rails, and it had a hole right in the center. With the truck moving, we had to dance around the hole and worry about falling off the side, too. If we didn't love dancing, it wouldn't be worth it."

Pearlie adds, "I love dancing so well, I've danced until the band members couldn't play any longer. While we've never had any tomatoes thrown at us, I did have a man walk over during one performance and say, 'I don't want to make you feel bad, lady, but you're no spring chicken. Being so much older than the rest of the group, I don't see how you can keep up with them.' I'm not sure yet if he meant it as a compliment or not."

Mother and daughter tied for first place in a recent flatfoot competition at Collinsville, Va. The judges brought them back three times to pick a winner, but finally gave up. Elaine said, "They told us it was too close to pick a winner, gave us first and second place money and said, 'split it up any way you want.'" Both have won first place in competition against each other and the other six members of the Travelers.

NEW FACES AROUND THE SYSTEM

Cabin Creek

John L. Goldberg, **Richard L. Wood** and **Michael L. Chaney**, utility men B (temporary).

Clinch River

Gary L. Dye, **Sanford T. Johnston, Jr.**, and **Joyce I. Puckett**, utility men B.

General Office

Kenneth O. Croghan, utility helper, GO Operations, Abingdon. **James B. White**, utility helper, GO Operations, Danville. **Shelia Hodge**, tax accounting clerk C, GO Accounting, Roanoke. **Vicky H. Sutherland**, junior clerk, GO Accounting, Roanoke. **Barry A. Graham**, office messenger, GO General Services, Roanoke. **Lawrence Martin**, rodman, GO T&D Civil Engineering, Roanoke.

Kanawha River

James M. Samples and **Karen L. McComb**, utility men B.

Lynchburg

Philip D. Tucker and **Grover A. Goolsby, III**, meter readers.

Project 1301

Kenneth F. Ferrell, receiving/shipping inspector II. **Jeffrey P. Harbrecht** and **Gary W. Gregory**, construction trainees. **Thomas C. Musick**, construction technician A, Sporn FAP. **Stephen H. Nease**, construction trainee, Sporn FAP. **John R. Norman**, construction trainee, Amos FAP. **Charles R. Oro, II**, electrical construction assistant I. **Mark E. Dillard** and **Richard K. Harmon**, construction time-keepers II. **M. Kathleen Hesson**, junior clerk.

Pulaski

Pamela F. Hayes, junior clerk.

Roanoke

Dwayne E. Ingold, electrical engineer. **William H. Laprade, Jr.**, draftsman, Fieldale. **Philip Sporn** **Bruce E. Stewart**, **Jeffrey R. Darst** and **John B. King**, utility men B. **Roberta H. Adamsky**, personnel assistant. **Douglas L. Draper**, senior engineering technologist.



Ernest



Dudding



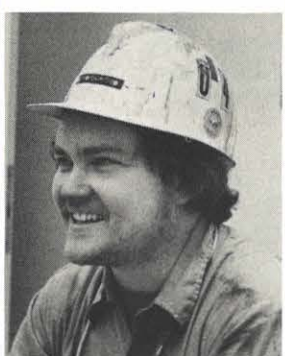
Clark



Trawick



Taylor



Edwards

EVERYONE WORKED TOGETHER IN AMOS FIRE DISASTER

"You would have to be present to understand the magnitude of the situation we had," says Shift Engineer Bill Ernest about the Amos Unit 2 fire March 7. "Everyone kept their heads, and people did their jobs just like they are supposed to do. The only thing we were not in control of was the turbine!"

"You just can't give enough praise for the job the people did," chimed in Willis Dudding, assistant shift operating engineer and a member of the plant fire brigade.

Utility Operator A Ray Clark was the only one to see the beginning of the fire. He recalls, "I had just walked out by the turbine on unit 1. I knew they were starting up unit 2 and just stood there for a minute and looked over that way. Then I started to go downstairs. About the time the door closed behind me, I could hear the sound of the machine change. I walked back out and looked toward unit 2 turbine. At the instant I looked, there seemed to be nothing out of order. Then I saw the glow begin, and it burst into flames. They shot out 10 or 15 feet on all sides. Within about five seconds, there was so much smoke you couldn't see." Ray called the control room over the intercom and told them there was a fire in unit 2 generator. Then he immediately went to his post in the unit 1 control room. "As senior A man, I had to stay there," Ray added. "The scariest thing was that once I saw the fire, the noise continued for eight minutes. I didn't really know whether the thing was going to blow up or not because the sound didn't stop."

The noise and the machine's violent vibrations were heard throughout the plant.

Operations Supervisor Andy Trawick was in his office in the service building at the time. "At first I thought it was a lathe in the machine shop next door," he said, "but when I ran in there and saw all the machines were down, I just kept on going. When I got to the south end of unit 1, I met the smoke and could see we had a fire under the generator of unit 2. I was glad to see the hydrogen burning because it meant it was being burned off and not collecting somewhere to blow up!"

Earnest Taylor, maintenance man A, had been in the machine shop when he heard a noise "that sounded like the top of the unit was coming off." He continues, "Dave Abbott and I started going toward the noise and, when we got there, everybody was grabbing fire hoses. Everywhere you looked, there was a fire. Everybody just pitched in to try to put it out. We were lucky everybody stuck together. A lot of places where people work, if there were an explosion, everybody would take off. But here, everybody sticks together in emergencies. Everybody pitches in. When work has to be done, they do it." Earnest added, "I was scared when it first started; but, after I got into it, I was too busy. I took a board — Gary Painter was on one side — and we knocked insulation off the pipes. We fought fire maybe one-and-a-half or two hours. I don't think I did anything special. I just did what anyone else would have done."

Electrician Bob Edwards was in the cafeteria taking a break when suddenly the coffee in the cups on the table started shaking. Bob says, "I thought unit 3 had blown up. I grabbed the phone and called the control room, and they told me it was unit 2. First I went to the control room of unit 1 and grabbed a chemox breather and started toward unit 2. Everybody said the smoke was too thick, so I ran up on top of the roof and started opening vents. Then I went down and carried a fire extinguisher around, putting out small fires."

Virgil Adams, assistant plant manager, was talking on the phone to Don Nofsinger in Canton. Suddenly he said, "This whole building is vibrating. I have got to go!" Virgil says, "There was this fantastic noise. I thought it was unit 3. I ran out the front of the service building to see if I could tell which way to go, and someone said it was unit 2. By the time I got there, the whole thing was on fire. My reaction was instant panic.

Water was up above your ankles from the fire protection system. I was concerned about venting the generator, but it was already done when I checked on it. You didn't see anyone standing around. Everybody here is trained in fire fighting. Some more than others, of course. It was more or less organized disorganization. Everyone grabbed what they could and started putting out the fires. The smoke was so dense I don't even know who half the men I worked with were."

Maintenance Foreman Gary Painter is assigned to unit 3. "When I heard over the PA system that unit 2 generator was on fire, I took off running over there," he says. "When I came across, the hydrogen was igniting in the air. Flames were erupting out of the generator housing, so we just immediately picked up guys and started stringing fire hose. The oil which spilled out of the bearings had saturated the insulation, and it was burning. All the insulation is wired on, so we had to take wire cutters to get it off. At this plant you don't have any trouble — you have men who are willing to help. The main thing you think about is someone else getting hurt, not yourself. The smoke was so intense you couldn't see your hand, and the guys were standing close together so they didn't get lost. I never thought about it until it was all over. The guys in the control room, though, were right beside the fire and had to stay in there to keep it secure."

In Unit 2 control room for the startup and overspeed test were Bob Thompson, engineer B; Willis Dudding; Bill Ernest; Jimmy Ferguson, unit foreman; Rex Shoemaker, plant performance supervisor; Wayne Adkins and Charlie Powell, both senior performance engineers, and Ronald Wentz, production supervisor of operations.

Rex says, "We heard this extremely loud noise from the turbine room floor. We saw all the vibration indicators and trip monitor lines energized on the control board. We knew the machine was severely damaged within five seconds. As soon as we realized the machine was being destroyed, we had to determine what was going on out there. When we knew there was a generator fire, Wayne Adkins and Charlie Powell went down to vent the hydrogen.

Wayne, not trusting the elevator, took the stairs. Charlie, hoping for speed, took the elevator, which turned out to be operating slowly. "By the time I got there," Charlie says, "Wayne was two-thirds through turning the valve, but there was flame right over his head. I figured if I couldn't put the rest of the fire out, I could at least put him out so I played a water hose on that flame."

Andy Trawick says, "Water was going all over, and when Wayne came back from flipping that valve, he was just soaked. He was on the basement floor and the fire was above him. You know you have hydrogen up there and you know you have fire up there and to still go in and throw a valve — it was something!"

Art Hill, maintenance supervisor, and Bob McDaniel, production supervisor of maintenance, started looking around to see if the lines coming off the generator were de-energized. When they found out they were, they started putting fire hose on them. Bob says, "We proceeded down the length of the turbine, surveying the situation, and got people moving into other areas. We looked around to see if we saw anybody hurt. Fortunately, we never found anybody."

After the fire was extinguished, the gigantic task of cleaning up began. "There was about six inches of foam on the floors, the sprinklers were still going, and we were slipping and sliding everywhere," said one man.

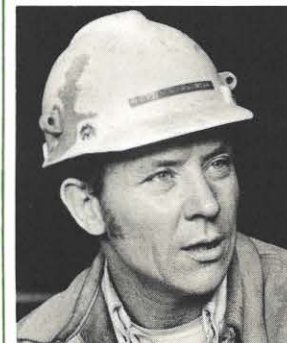
With the clean-up under way, Virgil Adams still had to call Plant Manager Al Moore, who was in Roanoke at the monthly staff meeting.

How did he break the news? "Virgil was tense," Moore commented. "He said, 'Do you remember when I had to tell you about the flyash pond break at Clinch River Plant? Well, this disaster is even worse!'"

Moore continues, "Three men were overcome by smoke and taken to the hospital but were released right away. Thank goodness nobody was hurt. There just happened to be no one in the turbine room at the time. I can't say enough good about these people. They all stuck together, they all worked together, and they took care of everything."



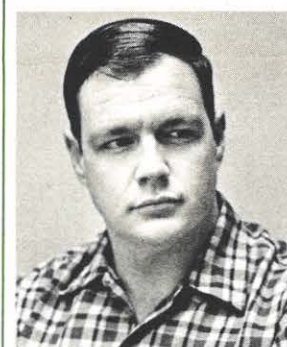
McDaniel



Painter



Shoemaker



Adkins

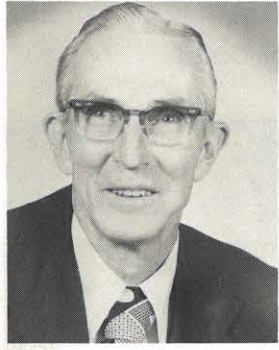


Powell

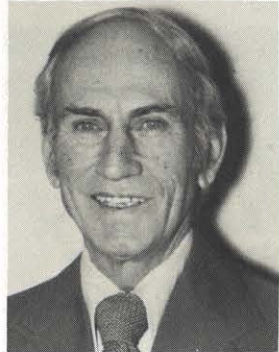


Hill

VETS GIVEN SERVICE AWARDS



H. L. Mann
Data Processing Op. A.
GO — Roanoke
40 Years



C. R. Ryan, Jr.
Res. Rep. Sr.
Bluefield
40 Years



Lois C. Hart
R/w & R/e Off. Supv.
GO — Roanoke
40 Years



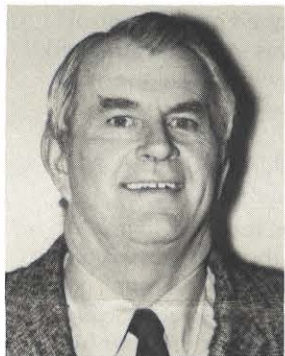
J. O. Franklin
Meter Foreman
Lynchburg
30 Years



S. N. Burchette
Asst. Trans. Supt.
GO — Bluefield
30 Years



J. D. Adams
Line Foreman NE
Roanoke
30 Years



J. H. Kiser
Stationman A
Bluefield
30 Years



J. I. Muncey
Draftsman Sr. (LTD)
Roanoke
30 Years



T. R. Templeton
Garage Foreman
Huntington
30 Years



E. D. Boggess
Area Serviceman
Huntington
30 Years



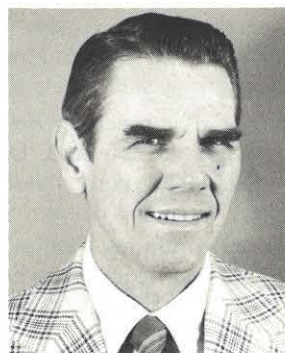
G. S. Robinson
General Serviceman
Charleston
30 Years



P. H. Mann
Inst. Maint. Mech. A
Glen Lyn
30 Years



W. H. Minsker
Commercial Rep.
Charleston
30 Years



R. E. Givens
Customer Serv. Rep.
Charleston
30 Years



O. V. Middlekauff
Station Maint. Fmn.
GO — Roanoke
25 Years



George Youell, Jr.
Inst. Maint. Foreman
Kanawha River
25 Years



W. M. Walls
Commercial Engineer
Huntington
25 Years



J. J. Harmon, Jr.
Engineering Supervisor
Bluefield
25 Years



M. A. Fotos
Div. Superintendent
Huntington
25 Years



M. L. Pollard
Station Supv. Eng.
GO — Roanoke
25 Years



L. O. Smith
Utility Foreman
Philip Sporn
25 Years



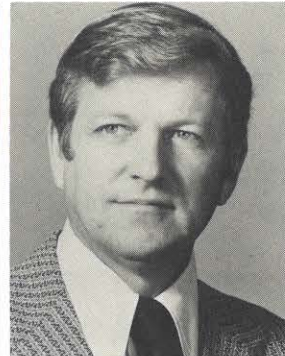
R. L. Tucker
Electrical Engineer
Lynchburg
25 Years



C. L. Barnes
Collector
Kingsport
25 Years



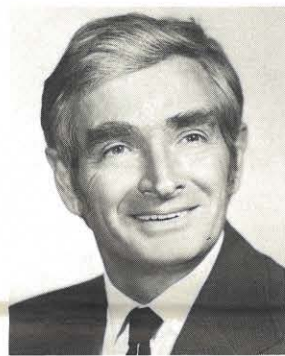
J. H. Witt, Jr.
Engineer B
Glen Lyn
20 Years



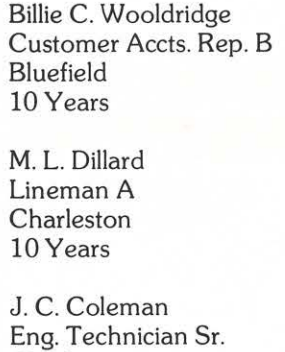
D. E. McNeil
General Serviceman
Roanoke
20 Years



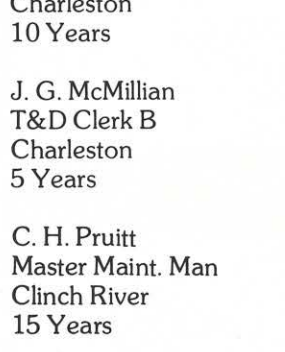
B. R. Canaday
Customer Accts. Rep. A
Beckley
20 Years



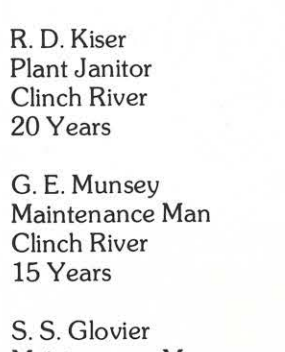
S. H. Williams
Area Serviceman
Beckley
20 Years



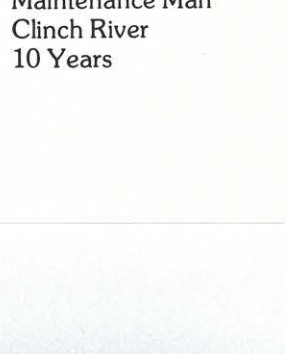
Billie C. Wooldridge
Customer Accts. Rep. B
Bluefield
10 Years



M. L. Dillard
Lineman A
Charleston
10 Years



J. C. Coleman
Eng. Technician Sr.
Charleston
10 Years



J. G. McMillian
T&D Clerk B
Charleston
5 Years



C. H. Pruitt
Master Maint. Man
Clinch River
15 Years

R. D. Kiser
Plant Janitor
Clinch River
20 Years

G. E. Munsey
Maintenance Man
Clinch River
15 Years

S. S. Glovier
Maintenance Man
Clinch River
10 Years

E. M. Fuqua
Transmission Man C
GO — Abingdon
5 Years

F. O. Blevins
Eng. Technol.
GO — Roanoke
10 Years

C. F. Harlowe, Jr.
General Records Clerk
GO — Roanoke
10 Years

Patsy Smith
Secretary
GO — Roanoke
10 Years

D. M. Casto
Transmission Inspector
GO — Charleston
10 Years

Djuna Spicer
Electric Plant Clerk B
GO — Roanoke
10 Years

J. H. Smith
Trans. Station Foreman
GO — Roanoke
10 Years

D. C. Fletcher
Transmission Man A
GO — Roanoke
20 Years

G. H. Price
Transmission Man A
GO — Abingdon
25 Years

G. W. Dewees
Meter Reader
Huntington
5 Years

T. J. Johnson
Guard
Kanawha River
5 Years

C. W. Burke
Lineman A
Kingsport
10 Years

Cleo Crawford
Lineman A
Kingsport
5 Years

J. R. Nisbet
Power Engineer
Logan-Williamson
10 Years

F. H. Clarkson, Jr.
Lineman B
Lynchburg
10 Years

C. W. Wynn
General Serviceman
Lynchburg
10 Years

Hazel M. Hawkins
Secretary-Stenographer
Marmet
5 Years

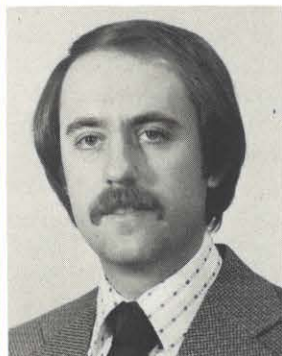
M. O. Wilson
Res. Rep.
Roanoke
15 Years

J. R. Frazier, Jr.
Lineman A
Roanoke
10 Years

D. A. Willard
Lineman B
Roanoke
5 Years

W. L. Carter
Supervisory Assistant
Philip Sporn
10 Years

MARTIN EARNS DEGREE



R. David Martin, Glen Lyn Plant engineer B, has been awarded his third college degree. Culminating three years of study, he received a master's degree in safety from Marshall University in December graduation ceremonies.

Martin, who was employed in 1970, also holds an associate degree in mechanical engineering technology and a bachelor's degree in business administration (technology option) from West Virginia Institute of Technology.

WORK IDEAS SHARED

Appalachian Power employees submitted articles which were published in the March/April issue of **AEP Operating Ideas**.

Earl Adkins, maintenance supervisor at Kanawha River Plant, wrote "Eases Checks on Turbine Standard Movement".

C. A. Powell, performance engineer senior; **R. E. Herndon**, performance supervising engineer; and **R. F. Shoemaker**, plant performance supervisor, all of John E. Amos Plant, collaborated on "Monitors Generator Reactive Currents".

William M. Dean, production supervisor at Central Machine Shop, is the author of "Storing Gas Bottles".

APCO OFFERS TALKS, FILMS TO CIVIC CLUBS

Appalachian Power Company's revitalized speakers bureau is ready to go into full operation. Thirty division and plant managers and general office personnel who will participate in the first phase of the bureau received training in an intensive two-day communications seminar last month.

The seminar was conducted by Professor Henry Sullivan of the Marshall University Speech Department. During the first day, Sullivan presented ideas on how to reach an audience and pointed out that each speaker should put the prepared manuscripts into his own words. On the second day, the participants were video-taped as they made speeches, and Sullivan offered a critique as the tapes were played back.

The speakers bureau is under the supervision of the General Office Public Affairs Department in Roanoke, which prepares the talks. There are currently three talks and four movies available for use. A brochure describing these is being mailed to civic clubs throughout Appalachian's service area.

The three talks available now are:

The Energy Crisis Revisited — A 20-minute overall view of the energy situation in the nation. Quoting authorities in the field, the talk describes oil, gas, coal and nuclear energy and the need for expansion of the electric power industry.

The Return Of King Coal — A 15-minute look, with slides, at the importance of coal in the nation's future. The talk traces some of the past and present problems of coal and concludes that coal is vital in the solution to energy problems.

Is Strike Three Out? — An 18-minute discussion of the nation's energy sources, zeroing in on the fact that there must be greater dependence on electricity. It asks if the oil embargo was strike one, and the winter of 1976-77 strike two, then will possible curtailments of electricity production be strike three?

The brochure also describes four movies: **Mr. Edison's Dilemma**, **Outlook For Energy**, **What Time Is The Power On Today**, and **Electricity — The Way It Works**.

Employees are urged to tell the clubs of which they are members about the availability of these programs. Bookings may be made through the administrative assistants in each division office.



Glen B. Gainer, Jr., West Virginia state auditor (left), accepts a \$4,777,877 check from Nicholas Roomy, executive assistant in Charleston Division. The payment is the second on Appalachian Power's \$9,555,754 property tax assessment in the state for the 1976 tax year. The payments represent an increase of \$324,292 over those for the 1975 tax year. The State Tax Department has estimated a \$413,910 increase in property taxes for the company in the 1977 tax year.

AEP SYSTEM BRIEFS

Williams Elected VP Operations

David H. Williams, Jr., who has been a vice president of Kaiser Industries, Oakland, California, has been elected a vice president of the AEP Service Corporation, effective April 18. Williams, who had previously worked for AEP for 15 years before resigning in 1971, will be based in Canton, Ohio, and serve as vice president — operations, having responsibility for the operation and maintenance of all system power plants.

Huck Moves To Smith Mt.

H. D. Huck, construction office manager, Breed Plant Construction Department, transferred in the same capacity on April 1 to Smith Mountain Unit 3 Construction Department. He will supervise construction accounting activities. Huck had worked at Smith Mountain during the original construction.

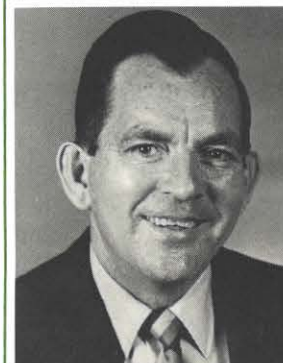
I&M To Sell Preferred

Indiana & Michigan Electric Company announced plans to sell 1,600,000 shares of its \$25.00 par preferred stock in May, and expects to receive competitive bids on or about May 17. The proceeds of approximately \$40 million would be used to repay short-term debt.

Don Piedmont Is Promoted

J. Donlan Piedmont was appointed manager of media relations for the AEP Service Corporation, effective April 1. A former editor of **The Illuminator**, he transferred to New York in 1967 where he founded **Current**, AEP's employee publication. He became manager of publications in 1974.

KERLEY MAKES TRAVEL PLANS



"A trip to Kingsport in 1941 was a turning point in my life," says W. C. Kerley, who retired April 1 as Kingsport meter supervisor. He continued, "My brother-in-law, Sam Russell, Sr., mentioned there was an opening for a meter reader and asked if I would be interested. At the time, I was employed at a hosiery mill in my home town of Harriman, Tenn., and was looking for a better job. Sam took me to the home of John Randall, Sr., then meter supervisor, and two weeks later he called me to work."

Carl says, "This past winter reminded me of the cold winters when I was reading meters and the cars and trucks did not have heaters." He also recalled the time he was reading meters in the Lynn Garden area and fell up to his neck in a snow-covered hole.

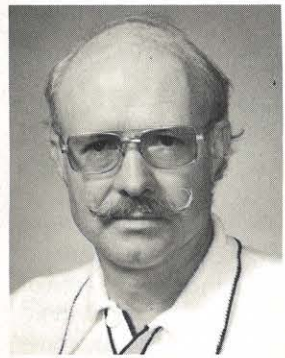
Carl adds, "If I were starting over again, I would still want to work here with all the fine people I've been associated with over the years, especially the two meter supervisors I've worked for, John Randall and Bill Bolton."

Carl and his wife Mildred hope to visit their son and grandchildren in Rochester, N. Y., more often in retirement. They may take an extended trip out west with another couple.

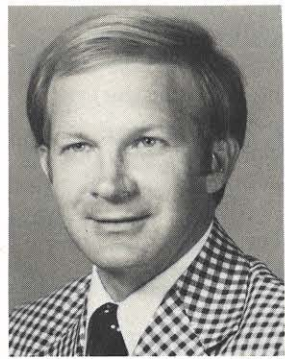
MOVING UP



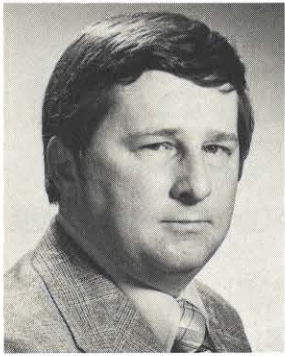
Jack Newland, former electrical engineer, was promoted to engineering technologist supervisor in Bluefield Division, effective January 1. He attended West Virginia Business College and is studying electrical engineering through International Correspondence Schools.



A. S. Buchanan, former customer service representative non-exempt, was promoted to residential advisor exempt in Abingdon Division, effective March 1. He succeeds A. C. Hutton, Jr., who was promoted earlier. Buchanan holds an AB degree in business education from King College.



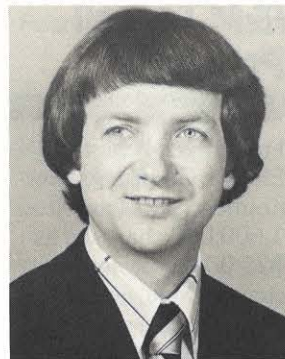
R. S. Caldwell, former engineering technologist supervisor in General Office T&D Station, Roanoke, was promoted to associate engineer in the Maintenance and Installation Section, Canton Electrical Engineering Division on April 1. He holds an associate in electronics degree from Virginia Western Community College.



Robert J. Robinson, former performance engineer at Ohio Power Company's Kammer/Mitchell Plants, was promoted to environmental engineer in Appalachian's General Office Executive Department, Environmental Group, Roanoke, on April 1. He holds a BS degree in chemistry and math from West Liberty State College.



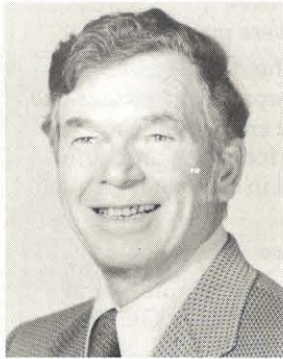
William L. Gibson, operations engineer in General Office Operations, Roanoke, will become associate engineer in the System Operation Department in Canton, effective April 15. He holds a BA degree in history and a BS degree in electrical engineering from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.



William A. Rose, former electrical engineer, was promoted to engineering technologist supervisor in Roanoke Division, effective January 1. He holds a BS degree in electrical engineering from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.



J. R. Watkins, former general serviceman non-exempt, was promoted to line inspector exempt in Roanoke Division on March 1. He succeeds R. J. Siner, who retired.



R. E. Leftwich, former planner senior non-exempt, was promoted to line inspector exempt in Roanoke Division on December 1, 1976. He has taken courses through International Correspondence Schools.



G. W. Gott, former service foreman, was promoted to meter supervisor for Kingsport Power Company on April 1. He succeeds W. C. Kerley, who retired.



J. W. Overbey, former serviceman, was promoted to service foreman in Kingsport on April 1. He succeeds G. W. Gott.



Ivan K. Stoots, former stores attendant, was promoted to Pulaski Division line inspector, effective March 7.

WOODY WEBB RETIRES



"I started with the company at 35 cents an hour, and 50 cents per day board came out of that," recalls Woodrow W. Webb, who retired April 1 as a stationman A in Charleston Division.

The Hazard, Kentucky, native began his career in 1934. He says, "When I started, I had to travel out of town during the week and stay at boarding houses. I rode on the back of a truck with the material. Everything in the early days was strictly brute labor." He continues, "I own about four acres of land, and I plan on doing some farming. We'll be traveling some, too. My wife Alice and I have been taking western square dancing lessons for about a year and we will be doing a lot of square dancing. It's the greatest recreation there is. I highly recommend it for all retired people."

The Webbs have one daughter and three grandchildren.

GARAGE FOREMAN RETIRES EARLY



"I'm going to get up in the morning with nothing to accomplish and go to bed at night with it only half done," laughs Charles J. Crawford. He was garage foreman non-exempt in Charleston before electing early retirement April 1.

Charlie says, "The company has been good to me, and that's why I stayed 39 years. When I first started in the garage, we had wood bodies on our vehicles and mechanics had to furnish their own tools. We had many more breakdowns out on the road than we do today. I started at 62½¢ per hour, and my main job was to keep the garage clean."

Charlie continues, "This is the last cycle of life and I want to make it last as long as I can. I just want to do what ole Charlie and Frances want to do. (His wife Frances worked in the Nitro-St. Albans office 15 years.) I'm sure not planning to look for another job. I have a 24' x 24' workshop and can keep as busy as I want. If I do anything for anybody when I retire, I sure don't want to be paid for it. I just want to do it because I want to help people."

WHITLOCK'S FIRST JOB WAS ELECTRIC SALES



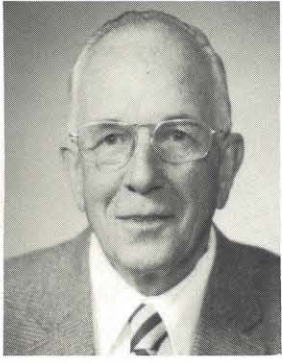
James A. Whitlock, a 39-year veteran of the Charleston Customer Services Department, elected early retirement April 1.

Jim, a native of Fire Creek, West Virginia, holds a BS degree from Hampden-Sydney College. He joined Appalachian in 1938 as a rural solicitor. "Back in those days," Jim says, "people were real glad to see you because they all wanted electricity. They invited you to stay for dinner and just were overly nice. You could also see where you were accomplishing something because you could see the lines being built."

He continues, "Probably the most enjoyable job I've had with the company was this type of work. I've also enjoyed some of the promotional work we used to do, such as dealer co-op advertising programs and the like."

About retirement, he says, "I've always looked forward to doing some of the things I've never been able to do. This is my chance to do it." He plans to travel some and "might even take up golf". A widower, he has two children. Jim is a member of Ruffner Memorial Presbyterian Church in Charleston.

KELSEY HELPED APCO GROW



Paul V. Kelsey, whose name is synonymous with growth in Appalachian Power Company, retired April 1 as Abingdon Division customer services manager.

Paul graduated from VPI&SU in 1935 with a BS degree in agricultural engineering and a minor in industrial engineering. He worked for a short while on a research program there which had to do with the design of electric hot plates and ovens. "Little did I know at that time that I was involved with something that would later play a big part in my entire life," he exclaimed.

Starting to work in 1937 as a rural service engineer in the Pulaski District, Paul was soon involved in an attempt to expand and add loads to the existing lines and facilities. His job was to canvass prospective customers, arrange for line locations, execute contracts, and secure the rights of way. "For every ten miles of line, about half of the people contacted wanted power and the rest just didn't care. It was real difficult getting the contracts signed once the people decided they wanted the power. I soon discovered many of them couldn't write and didn't want to admit it. A friend advised me to ask such customers to touch the pen while their names were signed, and this worked like a charm."

Paul entered the U. S. Navy in 1942 and was discharged as a Lt. Commander in 1946. He returned to work in Pulaski as a power engineer senior and soon learned the entire situation had changed. People were clamoring for power and begging that power lines be built to their homes. The company was in the midst of a major expansion program.

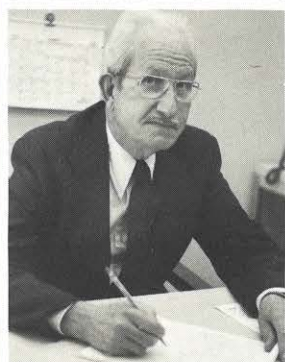
Paul was named Pulaski District commercial manager in 1948 and was promoted to Bluefield Division commercial manager in 1952. Under a company reorganization in 1964, Kelsey was moved to Abingdon as division commercial manager. Under his leadership, these divisions came to the forefront in sales campaigns and remained in the spotlight until the company disbanded its sales organization.

Paul recalls people such as Ben Painter, Julius Hall, Skinny Koontz and H. L. Cushing as being the mainstays in the company's expansion efforts. However, the employees who have worked under his guidance and leadership will tell you that Paul ranks with the best.

Paul's retirement time will be anything but idle. He loves to hunt, fish, play golf, read, travel and is an expert at cooking and woodworking. He and his wife, Isabel, enjoyed a vacation to England last August and plan to return again this year for a leisurely tour of that country.

He is a member of St. Thomas Episcopal Church, Abingdon, and the American Legion; past president, Washington County Chamber of Commerce; and vice president and board member, Abingdon Rotary Club.

PRICE ENDS 40-YEAR CAREER



"I will have some fine memories after working all these years, but missing it is something else," says Charles G. Price, Jr., who retired March 1 as accounting staff assistant in General Office Accounting, Roanoke.

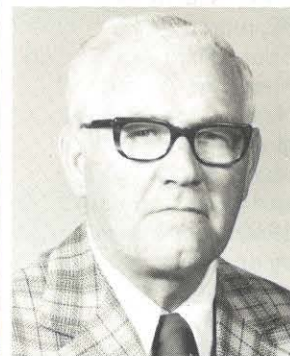
He relates, "In the early days, there was nothing secretive about working

overtime. We knew we would be working three nights out of a month to prepare the status of construction reports. I can also remember when our department was located over the People's Drug Store on Jefferson Street. It was so hot and dusty that every time a train would pass, we would have to shut all the windows. The dust was so thick that when you would lay your arm on your desk, the paper would stick to it."

Charlie continues, "My plans for retirement are gardening, fishing and traveling. Whatever mood that hits first is the one I'm going to do. I'll also be following basketball and football for a year or so. I have a son who is a junior in high school, and I'll probably be seeing a lot of games."

Charlie, an Elk and a member of the Grandin Court Baptist Church in Roanoke, has five children and five grandchildren.

TRACTOR TRAILER DRIVER RETIRES



"Shorty Watkins, a friend of mine since childhood, called me one evening and told me Appalachian was getting ready to hire for the Engineering Department. The next morning I showed up bright and early at the old Campbell Avenue main office. They hired me on the spot. I took my physical that morning and went to work in the survey gang that afternoon," recalls George Edward Poole. He was a tractor trailer driver in Roanoke Division before electing early retirement April 1.

After three years surveying, George transferred into the garage as auto mechanic helper. "I wanted to drive and Tommy Bryant, who was the tractor-trailer man at the time, had an experience that opened

the way for me to take over. He was driving the old '50 model F-100 truck. He walked in one afternoon and said to me, 'I'm going to give up driving even if I have to quit the company'. A rear wheel brake had come off and, when Bryant looked out the window, it was passing the truck. I called Bill Booker, district manager then, and asked for the job. He said, 'George, can you handle this outfit?' I said 'yes' when really I didn't have any experience at all. Bryant spent three days with me and from there on, it was my baby."

George relates: "About six months after I took over, another trucker forced me off the road. Rather than hitting head-on or going into the river, I chose to hit a bridge. The truck rode up on the abutment, stripping everything out from the engine to the rear of the truck." His only injury was a slight cut over one eye.

Another time a train struck his truck as he was coming out of the substation at Glen Lyn Plant. "When I looked up, the train was right on me, and the engineer was giving his horns all they had. I threw the grease to it but didn't quite make it." The diesel struck the rear wheels, knocking the truck off the tracks and almost into the river some 140 feet away. "The impact was tremendous, causing me to lose consciousness momentarily," George adds. When he came to, he was hanging out of the truck, still holding on to the steering wheel.

He said, "About the only injury was a cut to the same eye as with the bridge mishap. That incident had to be explained to none other than John Vaughan, assistant Roanoke division manager then."

George emphasized he is extremely proud of all the good friends he made over the AEP System while delivering and picking up material at every major steam and hydro plant and substation. "Let me say, too, that Appalachian is a wonderful company, and I'm proud to have been associated with it and all the fine employees."



BOOTH ENDS 39-YEAR CAREER

James Booth, Jr., customer accounts assistant in Abingdon, retired April 1 after 39 years' service.

Following graduation from National Business College, Jim began his career with the Edmondson Electric Company in Abingdon, the first major power supplier in the area. The firm also supplied water for the Town of Abingdon. Jim recalls chestnut poles were then priced at 50¢ each, including hauling to the place they were to be installed.

After the Republic Service Corporation of Pennsylvania purchased the company, its name was changed to Holston River Power Company. At that time, Jim says, the company had two diesel generators and the Holston River Hydro Plant, with a capacity of 550 kw. It also had a tie line with East Tennessee Power and Light Company in Bristol, Va. There were about 18 employees, including office personnel, one line crew and two servicemen. Jim thinks he may be the last active employee who worked for Holston River.

Appalachian purchased Holston River Power Company in 1945 and consolidated it with the system when the Abingdon District was formed in 1948. Jim says, "I recall going to Pulaski for three weeks' training and taking my bride Hazel with me at just about the time World War II ended. I had to change my way of thinking when the company was purchased by Appalachian. Everything was systematized and on a much larger scale. We were better equipped to serve our customers".

Jim is looking forward to retirement and a chance to do a little fishing and hunting.

THOMAS JOINS RETIRED RANK



Jesse Conduff "Windy" Thomas, Roanoke auto repairman A, elected early retirement April 1 after a career spanning 29 years. "I hired on in the old Roanoke Steam Plant. Dave Plaine, hydro plant superintendent B then, came by my house and wanted to know if I'd come down and look it over. The job looked good so I took it. Never been sorry since."

Windy's first job was as maintenance man helper. He transferred to the Line Department in 1953, where he worked as a groundman and truck driver-groundman. In 1965 he was promoted to auto repairman helper and in 1969 to the position he held at retirement.

Windy recalls Bruce "Cathead" Burnette, retired line foreman, as one of the more colorful men he worked with. He says, "I was driving for Tuck "Wormie" Musser, retired line foreman now, when we received a call to give "Cathead" some help. He had been in the process of hanging a regulator and had managed to turn over two trucks doing it. Cathead was using one of the old line trucks equipped with a rigged boom and, for additional pull, he chained a ladder truck to the line truck. The regulator was wrenched into place and tied off with a rope. The rope broke, and the weight of the regulator turned over the line truck. When it did, it took the ladder truck with it!"

Windy's immediate plans include a trip to visit friends in Laurel, Mississippi. He and his wife Edith have one son, a retired Navy chief petty officer.



GRIFFEE WILL STAY BUSY WITH HOBBIES DURING RETIREMENT

John W. Griffie, who retired April 1 as right of way agent in Charleston, won't lack for something to do. He has several paintings started that have to be completed; he's currently putting together a grandfather clock for a friend; he's been installing smoke detectors for friends; and there's maintenance work to do on some rental property.

John has also been offered a teaching job in the Putnam County Extension Division and he may possibly work on his master's degree at Marshall University. He also enjoys making cabinets and furniture.

John holds a BS degree in accounting from Western Kentucky University and has two teaching certificates. He has taught art at Mason and Morris Harvey Colleges as well as in adult education classes.

John began his career in 1938 as a meter reader and later moved into the then Commercial Department, where he was involved in a number of activities. He recalls doing adequate wiring layouts and once worked with a man at George Washington High School on gardening under lights. He taught wiring and basic electricity classes at 4-H and FFA camps for many years. He notes, "I've always liked working with children, and that's why I've particularly enjoyed working for Appalachian."

John has served on several committees of the Farm Home Electrification Council. For the work accomplished the year he was chairman of the Farm and Home Safety Committee, President John F. Kennedy invited him to the White House to attend the national safety committee meeting. John also attended Governor Moore's education conference to improve the education system in West Virginia.

John is a member of Allied Artists of West Virginia; past president of 4-H Leaders; a past vice president and president of the 4-H Foundation, and helped build Camp Virgil Tate in Kanawha County. He is also an Elk and a member of Humphreys Memorial Methodist Church, Charleston.

A widower, John has one child who is working on a master's degree in chemistry at the University of Wisconsin.

FRIENDS WE'LL MISS



Frank Henry Board, 73, retired Pulaski Division dealer sales representative, died March 3. A native of Pulaski, Virginia, he began his career in 1937 and retired June 1, 1968. Board is survived by four sisters.



Don Elwood Jeffrey, 69, retired laborer at Kanawha River Plant, died March 14. A native of Dempsey Branch, West Virginia, he had broken service before being permanently employed at Logan Plant in 1934. He took early disability retirement March 1, 1962. Jeffrey is survived by a son and a daughter.



Glenn Marshall, 41, master maintenance man at Clinch River Plant, died March 4 of an apparent heart attack. A native of Chelyan, West Virginia, he began his career in 1959 as a laborer at Clinch. Marshall is survived by his widow Linda, Box 296, Cleveland, Virginia, and his parents. His father, Lester Marshall, retired from Clinch as a maintenance foreman.



Seaton T. Preston, 84, retired Charleston district manager, died March 22. He was general manager of Union Power Company at Mullens, W. Va., before being named assistant district manager at Hazard, Ky., in 1920. He was Charleston district manager from January, 1937 until April, 1951, when ill health forced him to work on a semi-active basis for the division. He retired April 1, 1957. Preston is survived by three sons.

Ronald Lee Harless, 35, Pulaski Division lineman C, died February 25 of an apparent heart attack. A native of Montgomery County, Virginia, he was employed as a laborer at Radford Steam Plant in 1971. Harless is survived by his widow Phyllis, 965 Collins Street, Christiansburg, Va.; one daughter, one son, his parents, grandmother and two brothers.

Edgar Curtis Layne, 82, retired Philip Sporn Plant janitor, died March 20. A native of New Haven, West Virginia, he began his career at Sporn in 1950 and retired January 1, 1960. Layne is survived by one daughter and one sister. His son-in-law, R. M. Cooke, is a performance engineer senior at Sporn.

Arden Royal Kiser, 76, retired electric plant and stores accounting supervisor in General Office Accounting, Roanoke, died March 18. A native of Ona, West Virginia, he began his career in 1922 as a bookkeeper and retired March 1, 1966. Kiser is survived by his widow Agnes and two sons.



GILMOUR AWARDED CHURCH COMMISSION

Bernadine Gilmour was awarded a certificate instituting her into the Order of Jerusalem by the Bishop of the West Virginia Diocese, The Rt. Rev. Robert P. Atkinson, during services at Point Pleasant's Christ Episcopal Church. She was also presented a blue tippet and a silver Crusader's Cross suspended from a silver chain to be worn during services and conventions.

This commission culminates the passing of a three-year study course on church history, the Bible and theology, including three in-residence sessions provided by The West Virginia School of Religion. Bernadine is the first Episcopalian in Point Pleasant to receive this commission.

A member of the Order of Jerusalem is entitled to preach original sermons under license from the bishop, may supply in vacancies and be in charge of unorganized missions. Bernadine is licensed by Bishop Atkinson to administer the chalice during celebration of the Holy Eucharist.

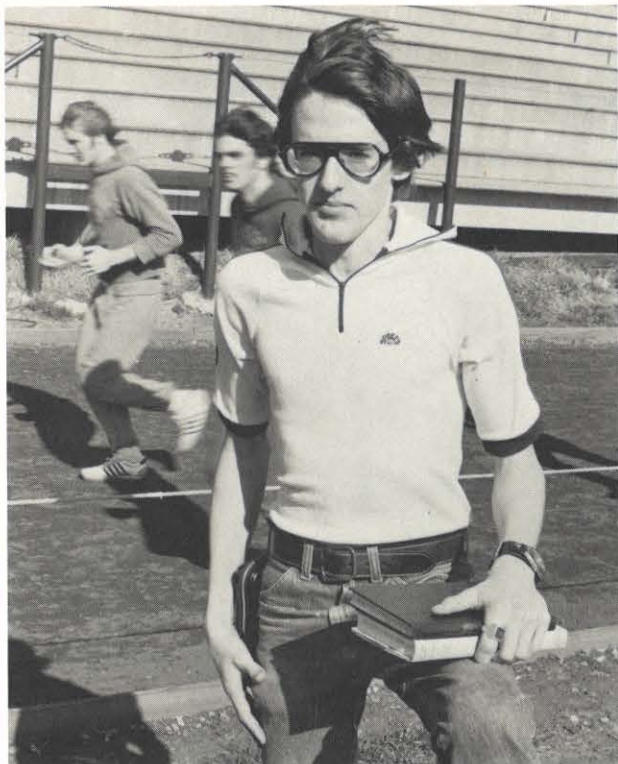
Her husband, W. C. Gilmour, retired administrative assistant in Huntington Division's Point Pleasant office, started the study course but was unable to finish because of serious illness. Bill plans to continue as soon as his health permits.

CARRIER WINS TRIP TO PORTUGAL, SPAIN

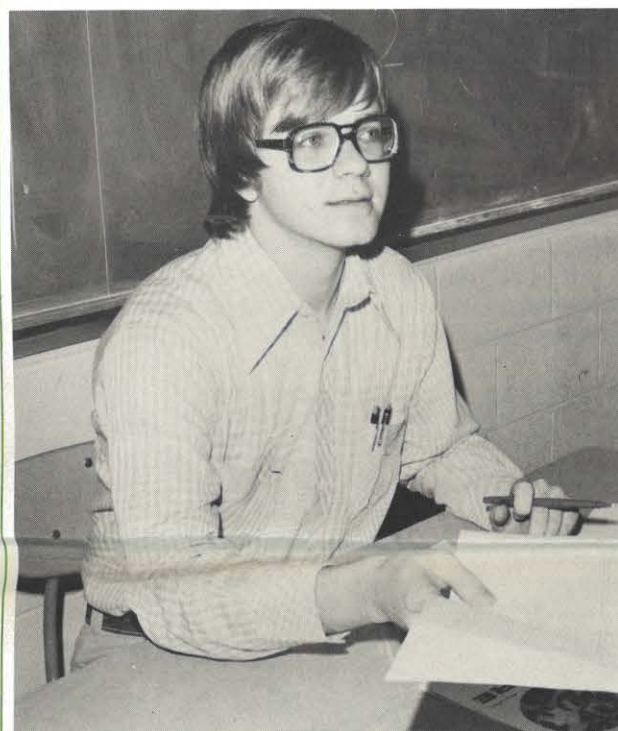


James Paul Griffith, son of Charleston Division Line Supervisor Robert Griffith, is the recipient of the Young Columbus Award as outstanding **Daily Mail** newspaper carrier. A panel of Charleston newspaper judges made the selection at an interview-dinner in February.

The 16-year-old junior at George Washington High School has been a carrier for six years and delivers the **Daily Mail** to about 85 families. He will take a 12-day chaperoned trip to Portugal and Spain along with 100 other outstanding carriers across the country. The trip is co-sponsored by the Charleston newspapers and Parade Magazine.



Givens



Amos

MEET APCO'S 1977 EDUCATIONAL AWARD WINNERS

Thirty-three sons and daughters of System employees are winners in the 23rd annual American Electric Power Educational Awards competition. The scholars will get a \$2000 grant for their freshman year and \$1000 for the sophomore year at an accredited college. The five winners from Appalachian Power are:

Lee Ann Simmons, daughter of Charles A. Simmons, executive assistant to the executive vice president of Appalachian. She will major in accounting at the College of William and Mary. At Andrew Lewis High School in Salem, Va., she is captain of the drill team; treasurer, Beta Club; and member of the Spanish Club, Keyette Club and Student Council. She is a Red Cross volunteer and Community Service Corps tutor. Lee Ann was selected JA treasurer of the year and crowned Junior Achievement's Miss Executive of Roanoke Valley in 1976. She was also named "Family Leader of Tomorrow". Lee Ann attends Covenant Presbyterian Church, and her hobbies include sewing and piano playing.

John Morgan, son of John K. Morgan, groundman in the Welch area of Bluefield Division, currently on LTD leave. At Welch High School, John is president, Quill and Scroll; co-editor, yearbook; and member, National Honor Society. He is the recipient of a DAR American history award, a merit finalist in the National Merit Scholarship competition; and first place winner in the county math field day. He has attended Boys' State. John is president of both the Hemphill and Welch Cooperative Parish, United Methodist Youth Fellow-



McGinnis



Simmons

ships. He will major in chemistry at West Virginia University and plans a career in medicine. He wants to serve overseas through the auspices of the United Methodist Committee on Relief.

Gregg Givens, son of G. O. Givens, III, Roanoke engineering technician senior. He will work toward a degree in computer science engineering at the University of Virginia's College of Engineering and Applied Science. At Northside High School in Roanoke, he is a reporter for the school paper; treasurer, National Honor Society; member, German Club and Nelson Bond Society, a science fiction club. He was listed in the 1976 edition of "Who's Who Among American High School Students" and was one of 12 students tapped for the National Honor Society tour to Germany. He is a past grand marshal of graduation ceremonies at Northside, past delegate to the national youth convention in Kansas City, and past recipient of a Roanoke College Senior Scholarship. Gregg is president of his church's youth group.

Mark McGinnis, son of J. R. McGinnis, Beckley division superintendent. Mark will study pre-medicine at West Virginia University. At Woodrow Wilson High School in Beckley, he is a member of the National Honor Society, Conservation Club, Select Chorus, Science Club, and cross-country, track and basketball teams. He advanced to final standing in the National Merit Scholarship competition and was named co-valedictorian of his graduating class at Woodrow. Mark is a former delegate to Boys' State and spent a

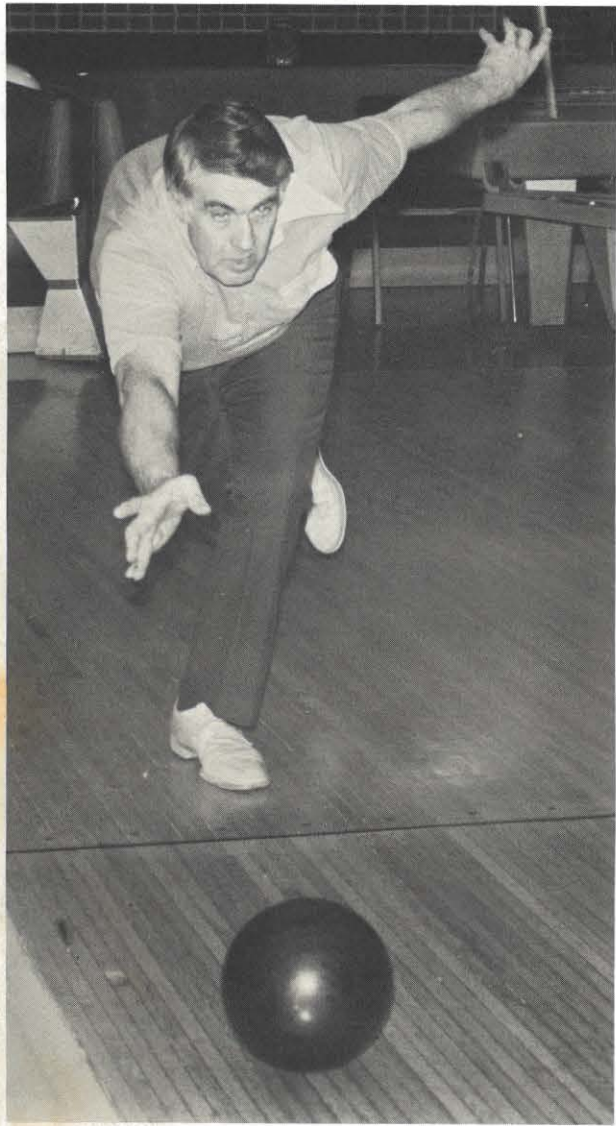


Morgan

month in Europe with "America's Youth In Concert - 1976". He is listed in "Who's Who Among American High School Students", "Who's Who In Music Among American High School Students", and is a member of the Society of Distinguished American High School Students. Mark is a choir member and past pianist at the United Methodist Temple. He has received superior ratings in piano for ten consecutive years in National Federation of Music Clubs auditions. His sister, Mary, was an AEP educational award winner in 1974.

Robert Amos, son of Ralph G. Amos, Jr., Roanoke general foreman. He will major in architecture at either the University of Virginia or Georgia Tech. At William Fleming High School in Roanoke, he is editor of the school paper; vice president, Tories Club, German language division; vice president, Campus Life Club; and member, Beta Club, Human Relations Club, Quill and Scroll Club, National Honor Society for Journalists; Student Cooperative Association and Synopsis 77. He is the recipient of the Rensselaer Award in math and science given by the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and the outstanding student history award presented by Woodmen of the World. He is currently rehearsing for a role in his school's production of "Hello Dolly".

On a five-point scale, he stands second in his senior class of 435. Robert works part-time for the Roanoke Public Library and his hobbies include building models from plans he draws and reading and collecting books.



CHITWOOD BOWLS 300 GAME

Jessie Chitwood didn't get too excited. But his wife Reva broke into tears and had to use smelling salts to regain her composure.

Jessie, master maintenance man in General Office Hydro, caused a to-do at All-Star Lanes when he rolled a 300 game, only the fifth ever in Roanoke. He rolled his masterpiece in double competition in the Roanoke Bowling Association Tournament.

"I didn't get too shook", Jessie said. "I know it's the dream of all bowlers. But I never get too excited about anything." The only time he got nervous was when "everyone in the house stopped to watch my final three balls". It was a different story with his wife. "I knew Jessie was going to go all the way."

Jessie's 300 came in his last game in the doubles events and after he had scored games of 208 and 192. His 700 total gave him and partner Jim Carter (541) first place after two days of tournament competition. Jessie will receive a check for \$300 from All-Star Lanes and a trophy from the American Bowling Congress.

SIMMONS NAMED EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT



C. A. Simmons was named executive assistant to the executive vice president of Appalachian Power, effective April 1. He had been personnel director of the company from September, 1974 to February 1, 1977, when he was selected to attend the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Program For Senior Executives.

A native of Powellton, West Virginia, Simmons holds a BSEE degree from West Virginia Institute of Technology. He began his career in 1956 as an electrical engineer in Point Pleasant and moved to Charleston as area superintendent in 1963. The following year he went to Logan as division engineer and later became engineering supervisor. Simmons was promoted to plant engineer-special at Kanawha River in August, 1969 and later that year was named personnel supervisor there. He moved to General Office Personnel in Roanoke as labor relations supervisor in 1972.

VAUGHAN ELECTED SEE VP

John W. Vaughan, executive vice president of Appalachian Power Company, has been elected third vice president of the Southeastern Electric Exchange.

The SEE is a non-profit organization which serves as a clearing house for technical, marketing and management data and conducts training and research programs for the electric industry in the region. It is made up of investor-owned electric utilities from 12 southeastern states.



Colonel Herbert M. Figg, Jr., Lynchburg commercial engineer (right), presents the bronze star award to George R. Gillette.

GILLETTE GETS BRONZE STAR FOR WORLD WAR II HEROISM

After a 32-year wait, Lynchburg Collector George R. Gillette has been awarded a bronze star for heroism during World War II.

An administrative oversight by the Department of the Army prevented George from receiving the award until this past February. After writing to inquire about his eligibility, George received a prompt response stating he should have been awarded the commendation on January 4, 1945, when he was a member of the 42nd "Rainbow" Infantry Division. The cannon company to which he was assigned operated 105 millimeter howitzers and on that date fired approximately 1400 rounds or one round per minute. The action took place near Strasbourg, France.

STATEN SPENDS WINTER MAKING FEATHER BIRDS



The severe winter weather just passed kept a lot of folks homebound and presented the problem of what to do to while away the time. Roland Staten, stores attendant senior in the Williamson area of Logan-Williamson Division, found an answer by "going to the birds". He spent many spare hours this winter building bird cages and their inhabitants.

"I had been interested in making this particular type of artificial bird for a long time and knew how to do it, but I could never come across the kind of seed pod necessary to make them," Roland says. "The pod is bird shaped and apparently very hard to cultivate in this part of the country. I still haven't learned the name of the plant that bears the pods, but I was fortunate enough to be given some seeds about a year ago and now I grow my own plants. Of course, the pod is the principal material, but I use a lot of pipe cleaners, paint and feathers in the construction of the birds."

He continues, "I'm building some pretty good sources of supply. Several of my friends save feathers for me, and I make some use of feather dusters, too. I'm sorry we can't make a color picture so *ILLUMINATOR* readers could see how beautiful these birds really are. Black and white doesn't do them justice."

Roland makes the birds and cages for his own enjoyment but has promised several to friends, who saw them when he brought them to the Williamson storeroom to be photographed.

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