

THREE OPERATING COMPANIES ARE AFFECTED BY CHANGES IN TOP MANAGEMENT



Matthews



Hall



Dick



La Fon



Lloyd

Three new officers were elected to top-management posts in three American Electric Power System operating companies at their respective board meetings last month.

Robert E. Matthews was elected executive vice president and operating head of Kentucky Power Company, effective August 1, and O. C. Hall was elected executive vice president and operating head of Wheeling Electric Company, effective September 1. Also, Matthews and Hall were elected a director of the respective companies.

Donald A. Dick was elected a vice president of Appalachian Power Company, with offices in Charleston, effective September 1.

Matthews succeeded Waldo S. La Fon in the top operating post with Kentucky Power. La Fon stepped down, due to reasons of health, after 10 years as the company's operating head, but will continue to serve the company as a consultant.

Matthews, who had been manager of Kentucky Power's Ashland Division, was succeeded in that post by James G. Saltz, who had been the company's personnel director.

Hall, executive assistant in Kentucky Power the past eight years, will succeed Dick at the helm of Wheeling Electric. Dick, executive vice president at Wheeling Electric for three years, will move to the larger Appalachian Power Company and eventually succeed Jack Lloyd, who is planning to retire next year, as the company's ranking officer in the state of West Virginia.

Matthews is a 28-year veteran with the AEP System. He joined the AEP Service Corporation, New York, in 1950 as an engineer in its former Heating & Air Conditioning Division. He was the Service Corporation's director of sales engineering at the time he transferred to Kentucky Power in 1967 as its customer services manager. He became manager of the Ashland Division in 1974.

He is a native of New Jersey, holds a BS degree in mechanical engineering from Catholic University and attended AEP System management programs at the University of Michigan in 1959 and 1969.

Hall's coming association with Wheeling Electric will be his third with an AEP System operating company. He had been with Appalachian Power before joining Kentucky Power.

A native of McDowell, Ky. and holder of a BS degree in electrical engineering from the University of Kentucky, he served Appalachian Power in Beckley, Rainelle, Oak Hill and Charleston before being named manager of its Point Pleasant area, then manager of its Logan-Williamson Division. He went to Kentucky as manager of its Ashland Division in 1969 and became executive assistant the following year.

Dick, like Hall, will also be with his third AEP System operating company. He started with Ohio Power Company in 1955, worked in Steubenville, Lima, Bucyrus, Fremont and Tiffin before becoming an administrative assistant in the general office, Canton. He was later named manager in Lancaster and, in 1970, executive assistant in Wheeling Electric. He became its executive vice president in 1975.

Dick has a BS in electrical engineering from Case-Western Reserve University and an MS in industrial management from Massachusetts Institute of Technology, which he attended as a Sloan Fellow. He is a past president of the Public Utilities Association of the Virginias.

AEP TO STUDY POSSIBLE NUCLEAR PLANT SITE IN CENTRAL VIRGINIA

The American Electric Power Company last month announced the beginning of a program, expected to take about four years, to investigate the possibility of building a nuclear generating plant in central Virginia.

Studies will begin soon on a potential site located in Nelson County where the Tye River enters the James. The area of central Virginia is being screened to identify other potential sites. Upon completion of the screening, at least one additional site will be selected for inclusion in the study.

W. S. White, Jr., chairman of AEP and president of Appalachian Power Company, said in announcing the program that it was an essential part of the utility system's overall planning for new generating capacity that will be needed to meet the electric power requirements of the more than 6-million people in the AEP System service area in the late 1980s and early 1990s.

"There is no question that, even if there should be substantially greater savings from conservation than have been experienced to date, we shall need major additions to our generating capacity beyond what we now have under construction or are committed to build," White said. "In particular, we shall need more capacity in this part of Virginia," White emphasized.

"By beginning the study — now — the technical, environmental and economic aspects of placing a nuclear plant in this part of the AEP System, we will broaden the options available to us in four years, when a decision will have to be made as to what kind of generation to build and where to locate it.

"Future developments on certain problems now being addressed by government and industry may well affect whether nuclear generation proves to be the logical and best economic choice for this area. Among these problems are spent-fuel reprocessing, nuclear-waste disposal and licensing delays," he explained. "I hope that these problems will be resolved by the time that decisions must be made on generating facilities to meet the needs of the 1990s."

The program will be undertaken by the American Electric Power Service Corporation with the help of Bechtel Power Corporation, a consulting engineering firm based in San Francisco.

White explained that the program will have two parts. "In the first, requiring about a year and costing about \$3 million, the objective will be to select a standard design from four available types of nuclear plants and to determine a preferred site. By selecting an approved standard design, we could achieve substantial savings in both time and money," he said.

"Second part of the program, which would be undertaken only upon successful completion of the first part, would require about three years," he continued. This would involve detailed plant design, the continued preparation and submission of necessary environmental and safety documents, and the obtaining of a construction permit from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, as well as the requisite state approvals.

"At that time, we would be in a position to determine whether to proceed or not to proceed with the nuclear option," White went on. "That option as currently envisioned would probably consist of two nuclear reactors, each with a net generating capacity of between 1,150,000 and 1,288,000 kilowatts."

John W. Vaughan, executive vice president and operating head of Appalachian Power, said that a site of approximately 2,000 acres of land would ultimately be needed for a generating plant such as the one to be studied.

He explained that the first part of the study would require access to the land of only a few property owners within the site area. In this phase, subsurface examinations would be made by the drilling of five to 10 soil borings; a meteorological tower would be erected; ecology data would be collected, and geophysical examinations made.

"Property owners within the site area will be contacted as soon as possible, either personally by Appalachian Power representatives or by letter," Vaughan promised.

"This generation project," he emphasized, "is not in conflict with, or an alternative to, Appalachian Power's current study of a pumped-storage hydroelectric project in southwest Virginia. In fact, each type of capacity is intended to meet a particular need of the AEP System as a whole, in supplying the electric power requirements of its customers at the lowest possible costs."

He said that Appalachian Power, one of seven operating utilities in the AEP System, would have "a substantial ownership" in the nuclear plant, if built. At the present time, the System's only nuclear station is a 2,150,000-kw plant in Michigan; the first of its two generating units has been in commercial operation since 1975, the second unit since July 1. Nearly 90% of the System's electric generation now comes from coal-fired plants in Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky, Ohio and Indiana.



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APCO BUYS FRIES SYSTEM

Appalachian Power Company purchased the electric facilities of Fries Textile Company and began serving its 325 customers within the Town of Fries, Virginia, on July 1.

The area is included in Appalachian's Pulaski Division.

AEP SYSTEM NEWS BRIEFS

Cook Unit 2 Goes Commercial

The 1.1-million-kilowatt Unit 2 at Indiana & Michigan Electric Company's Donald C. Cook Nuclear Plant was placed in commercial operation on July 1.

Thus was completed, except for a few finishing touches, the building of the American Electric Power System's first nuclear generating station: 11 years, six months and 17 days after bids were invited for the first of the plant's two nuclear reactors.

The second unit received its operating license last December 23 from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, achieved its first nuclear chain reaction on March 10 and had been test operated through June. Like Unit 1, the unit's reactor is a Westinghouse pressurized-water type. Commercial operation of Unit 2 raised the Cook Plant's generating capacity to 2.15-million kw and the AEP System's to 18.36-million kw (or, including firm purchases from other utilities, 18.97-million kw), second only to The Southern Company among the nation's investor-owned utilities.

AEP'S ACQUISITION OF C&SO OKAYED "IN PRINCIPLE"

The Securities and Exchange Commission on July 21 approved "in principle" the long-pending proposal under which American Electric Power Company would acquire Columbus and Southern Ohio Electric Company as the eighth operating utility in the AEP System.

The okay, with strings attached, came one day short of 10½ years after AEP and C&SO had, back in January 1968, announced that they had reached agreement on pursuing such an objective.

AEP Chairman W. S. White, Jr., said that the news had left AEP "both gratified and anxious to get on with the job" of bringing the acquisition about. He emphasized, however, that the SEC's action did not constitute a final order that would permit the transaction to take place.

That will not happen until and unless the SEC is satisfied on two counts: (1) that the proposed exchange of common stock between the two companies (1.3 shares of AEP for each share of C&SO) is "fair and equitable," and (2) that it has received "reasonable assurances" with respect to AEP's offer to sell to, or build for, Ohio's municipal electric systems their own generating facilities.

"We do not anticipate any problems in these areas," he added.

Once such a final order is issued by the SEC (from which date an appeal could be filed within the next 60 days), AEP would be in a position to make a tender offer, based on the approved stock-exchange ratio, to C&SO's common stock shareowners. Acceptance by the owners of at least 80% of such shares is required, for tax reasons, before the acquisition would be consummated.

In a letter to AEP Service Corporation employees in New York, who would be the most affected by the acquisition because of the company's long-standing commitment to move the major portion of its headquarters to Columbus, Chairman White cautioned that such a transfer would first have to await the actual acquisition and then an extended period of planning. After the acquisition is finalized, any New York-to-Columbus move would take an estimated three years if the Service Corporation were to move into an existing building and an estimated five years or more if a new headquarters building were to be built. This is only one of many questions yet to be determined.

Alluding to Service Corporation operations in Canton and Lancaster, Ohio and in Huntington, W. Va., White also said, "We have no plans at this time to transfer any operations other than those in New York."

He emphasized that precise details of the major steps involved in the acquisition remain to be worked out, but promised, "We shall devote our energies to this transaction so that the membership of Columbus and Southern Ohio in the AEP System will realize all of the benefits that we envisioned for it when the two companies took their proposal to the SEC in early 1968. We said then that the transaction would be beneficial to both the customers and the shareowners of both AEP and C&SO. With the passage of time and with the greatly increased need for the assurance of an electric energy supply, not only in Ohio but across the entire nation, that belief has been strengthened and reinforced, and we are gratified that the SEC, in its decision, recognized this important fact."

If and when the acquisition takes place, White reiterated that C&SO would continue as a separate corporate entity, would function like the System's seven existing operating companies and would have representation on the AEP Board of Directors. C&SO is already interconnected at several points with Ohio Power Company, the AEP System's only present subsidiary in Ohio.

Over the course of the past 10 years, during which time the AEP/C&SO proposal proved to be the oldest case on record in SEC history, the acquisition had been opposed by several parties: the SEC's own Division of Corporate Regulation, the U. S. Justice Department's Antitrust Division, two neighboring utilities in Ohio (The Cincinnati Gas & Electric Com-

pany and The Dayton Power and Light Company) and Ohio's municipal electric systems. The municipal group switched its position to favoring the proposal, however, when AEP agreed to assist its electric systems in obtaining their own large-sized power plant and thus the economies and efficiencies of scale.

On the other hand, the proposal had been favored by the City of Columbus and the State of Ohio, including two governors, the attorney general and the Public Utilities Commission, as well as the state's rural electric cooperatives and the previously mentioned municipal electric utilities.

In dealing with the various arguments advanced in the 10 years the proposal was before the SEC, the Commission said in its announcement to the press:

"The Commission's opinion that the acquisition should be allowed was based on its finding that . . . (it) would be likely to produce substantial savings and efficiencies which would redound to the consumers of C&SO." (It cited, for example, a probable saving of \$2 million a year in fuel costs alone. "The Commission also believed that the acquisition would in the long run likely save the capital costs of building additional generating equipment. One substantial reason for that is that the two systems are rather compatible. (It cited AEP's winter peak experience and C&SO's summer peak record.) The Commission expressed the view that the two systems 'fit together.'"

"The Commission also found that the acquisition would result in no substantial detriment. The Commission examined the projected size of the resultant utility in light of the purposes of the (Holding Company) Act and the present state of the art in the electrical industry. The opinion recognizes that competition is a relevant factor in determining whether the Commission should approve an acquisition but concluded there is no evidence that the acquisition would significantly impair competition.

"The settlement proposal (with respect to the municipals) was thought by the Commission to redress any possible detriment to the municipal utilities which might result from the acquisition. The Commission, however, determined that the terms of the proposal were too vague and believed that it needed reasonable assurance that the proposals were likely to be effectuated.

The Commission . . . noted that the State of Ohio and the City of Columbus supported the application and that the Commission did not have 'the specter of an aggressive holding company thrusting itself upon an unwilling but defenseless community'."

C&SO serves over 440,000 customers in a 6,200-square-mile area of central and southern Ohio, covering parts of 25 of the state's 88 counties. Its largest community — which would become the AEP System's largest — is Columbus, the capital and second biggest city in Ohio. Columbus and environs — i.e., Franklin County — have a population of over 900,000.

Here is a comparison of C&SO and AEP:

	C&SO	AEP
Generating capacity (Dec. 31)	2,480,000 kw	17,261,000 kw
Peak Load (1977)	1,932,000 kw	14,139,000 kw
Energy sales (1977)	8.7-billion kwh	81.9-billion kwh
Revenues (1977)	\$320,551,000	\$2,031,247,000
Earnings (1977)	\$44,244,000	\$236,894,000
Employees (Dec. 31)	3,039	20,300

AEP EMPLOYEE SAVINGS PLAN

Date	Value Per Unit AEP Stock Fund	Units Credited Per Dollar
3/31/1978	0.9974	1.0026
4/30/1978	0.9802	1.0202
5/31/1978	0.9572	1.0447
6/30/1978	0.9898	1.0103
Fixed Income Fund		
3/31/1978	1.0147	0.9855
4/30/1978	1.0216	0.9789
5/31/1978	1.0284	0.9724
6/30/1978	1.0351	0.9661
Equity Fund		
3/31/1978	1.0190	0.9814
4/30/1978	1.1060	0.9042
5/31/1978	1.1206	0.8924
6/30/1978	1.1072	0.9032

SPORN WORKERS RESCUE TWO MEN FROM OHIO RIVER



C. A. Bradford, left, and G. S. Reed

What started out as a pleasure trip down the Ohio River for two Mountaineer Plant employees and another man might have ended in tragedy had it not been for the quick response of several employees at Philip Sporn Plant.

John Ridgway, Jr., receiving and shipping inspector II; his brother, Jay Ridgway; and Dale Humphreys, security assistant, were riding in a canoe, when it suddenly capsized. Jay Ridgway, the only one wearing a life jacket, was able to swim ashore and make his way into the control room for Sporn units 3 and 4. The other two were left in the high, fast-moving river.

Ridgway hastily told George Reed, Sporn equipment operator, and others on the "A" shift what had happened. Reed called Shift Operating Engineer Marvin Roush, who remembered that Unit Supervisor C. A. Bradford used a boat to cross the river on his way to and from work.

Bradford and Reed got the 14-foot boat and headed for the two men, whom they found hanging on to the capsized canoe. They were trapped by the swift current in Sporn's upper harbor, back under the rack of an empty barge. They had been in the water for at least an hour while Ridgway was trying to get ashore and help was being gathered.

Bradford recalls, "They were holding on to the canoe at the base of the jumbo barge. It was like they were back in a cave. The end of the barge was as high as a ceiling; but the base, at the water line, was about ten feet back."

Bradford controlled the boat while Reed pulled the men out of the water. Reed notes, "Dale Humphreys was about on his last breath. Just as I reached for him, he let go of the canoe. I heard later that Dale said if it hadn't been for me pulling him up by his belt, he would have been a goner. He just could not hold on any longer."

PRINCETON FIELDHOUSE NAMED FOR KARNES HOGE



The new Princeton High School fieldhouse has been named for the late Karnes Hoge, former Bluefield air conditioning engineer.

Never a father, Karnes filled that role in the lives of Princeton High School athletes from the early 1930s when, upon graduation from PHS, he realized how many boys needed help, someone to talk to, someone to take time for them.

"He began by hauling boys to basketball and football games," recalls his sister Esther Hoge, with whom he made his home. "He never played a game in his life," she continues, but Karnes undoubtedly enjoyed and suffered, vicariously, more games with more Princeton athletes than anyone in the city.

In Karnes' obituary on May 21, 1971, and a column on May 27 in tribute to his memory, Bluefield Daily Telegraph Sports Editor Stubby Currence wrote, "Much of his life was spent working with boys, and he was 'Mr. Princeton' in the minds of Princeton athletes for at least 40 years." No resident of that community was as close to the athletes and coaches of PHS as Karnes.

Until he became ill, he never missed a Princeton athletic contest and was always with the team for away-from-home games. In football, he always carried the line chains. In basketball, he was the official scorekeeper for Princeton. He was a familiar sight to thousands of area sports fans as the fellow who "never wore a coat". Even in zero weather, he would be handling the chains gang along the sidelines in his shirt sleeves.

Founder and organizer of the PHS Karnes Hoge Huddle of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and other chapters in the area, Karnes once told his sister that one of the most impressive sights of his life was the first night he watched 750 athletes, sitting on the edge of their seats, listening to Billy Graham speak at the FCA conference at Black Mountain, North Carolina, then rising to sing "How Great Thou Art".

Princeton High School found many ways to honor this great fan, but it was for his loyalty to Princeton athletes that he will be remembered. Since his passing, no one has filled his shoes. Perhaps no one ever will.

GO TRANSMISSION MEN SAVE YOUNG MAN'S LIFE



Lester Searls

A young West Virginia man is alive today because of the alertness and quick response of two GO T&D Transmission employees.

Lester Searls, transmission mechanic A, and Harold Webb, transmission mechanic B, were returning to Kenova from a job in Hurricane when they passed a vehicle parked on the roadside. Harold saw a lady holding a wet towel on a man's forehead, and it looked as if he might be choking. The pair pulled off the road and went to the car, where they found the man was indeed gasping for breath.

Lester recalls, "I started talking to him to settle him down so he could relax and try to catch his breath. Then he stopped breathing altogether. We laid him on the ground, and I looked in his mouth to see if he had swallowed his tongue. Then I started giving mouth-to-mouth resuscitation. He started breathing on his own for a couple of minutes and then stopped again. I resumed mouth-to-mouth and he started breathing again. This went on a couple more times before the paramedics arrived. I guess all of this happened within a 5- or 10-minute time span, but it seemed a whole lot longer."

The young man's mother and wife were on their way to the hospital, when they realized they probably would not make it in time. They stopped the car and one had gone into a nearby house to call an ambulance when the APCo men passed by. In the excitement, neither the APCo men nor the women thought to identify themselves. Searls and Webb returned to work and forgot about the incident.

Then, on June 22, Vickie Sowards, a part-time employee in Huntington Division's Milton office, received a phone call from a customer on Buff Creek Road in Hurricane.

Vickie relates, "She did not identify herself by name but proceeded to tell me about her son's narrow escape from death. While on the job with the State Road Department, he had stopped to pick up a bag of materials which had fallen off a truck on the highway. The bottom fell out of the bag, and an acid substance burned his hands and he also inhaled it. After he returned home, the boy's wife went in to check on him and he was turning blue. The two women were taking him to the hospital when our men stopped to help."

She adds, "At this point the mother was crying, and I had tears in my eyes. She did not know the names of our employees or where they were from; but she said it had not been for the Appalachian men, her son would not be alive today."

Investigation by several people in Charleston, Huntington and General Office traced the life-saving work back to the GO Transmission crew, who were happy to find out that all ended well.

POWER PEOPLE MAKING NEWS

Abingdon

Toni Burris was named teacher of the year at J. T. Williams Junior High School in Charlotte, North Carolina. **Mark Lindamood** received a \$1,000 scholarship through the English Department at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University to continue study for his master's degree during the summer session. They are the children of W. C. Lindamood, Gate City customer accounting supervisor NE.



Barry Long, Gate City area supervisor, received the Key Man award from the Huntington, West Virginia, Jaycees for outstanding service to that club.

Shirley Spencer, wife of D. H. Spencer, Marion line mechanic C, was elected president of the Marion Tenpinners League. She was also elected president of the Highlands Chapter, National Secretaries Association.

Beckley



Cindy Hawks, daughter of D. L. Hawks, automotive mechanic B, was elected a member of the Beckley Little League girls' softball all star team.



Janet Phillips graduated magna cum laude from Wytheville Community College with an associate in applied science degree in nursing. A 1973 graduate of Raleigh County Vocational Tech in practical nursing, she is assistant director of nurses at Highland Manor Nursing Home, Dublin, Va. Janet is the daughter of Homer Greene, accounting supervisor at Oak Hill.

Matthew Saunders, tracer, was elected sargeant at arms of the Almost Heaven Social CB Club.

T. L. Humphries, Oak Hill commercial representative, was a member of the Lee Massey & Sons bowling team which captured the runner-up spot in the T. V. Lanes Bowling League at Oak Hill.

Bluefield



Jim Looney, line crew supervisor, was installed as president of the Grundy Lions Club.

Donna Ferguson, daughter of Welch Customer Accounts Representative Lvonne Ferguson, won the West Virginia state 4-H sheep award. She was awarded a \$50 U. S. Savings Bond and a trip to the National 4-H Congress in Chicago this winter, where she will compete for the national sheep award. In addition, Donna's show quarter horse, Misty, won two first places in the Craigsville Horse Show.

Sherri Shrewsbury, Princeton customer accounts representative, was elected mother of the year by the Greater Princeton Little League.

W. B. Belchee, division manager, was appointed chairperson of the Congressional Action Committee organized by the Greater Bluefield Chamber of Commerce.

Dick Bowman, administrative assistant, was appointed to serve on the Virginia General Assembly Committee.

Jackie Houston, Princeton customer accounts representative, was elected to a one-year term as state director of the Greater Bluefield Jaycee-ettes.

Oscar Adams, customer services manager, and his wife **Ethel** attended the annual International Kiwanis Club convention in Miami, Florida.

Charleston

Dawn Lanette Corder, daughter of Line Mechanic Jerry Corder, was chosen head majorette for the Marmet Little League football team for 1978. She is a sixth grader at Marmet Grade School.

Mona Sue Charlton, senior telephone operator, received a certificate from President Jimmy Carter, honoring her son Carl, who was recently killed in Charleston.

Division Manager **C. O. Carlini**, was elected to the boards of directors of the Charleston Chamber of Commerce and the Salvation Army. He is also chairman of the Major Firm B division of the upcoming United Way Drive.

Jack Shaver, office supervisor, was appointed a member of the Washington Community Education Center Advisory Council.

Le McIntyre, son of Patsy McIntyre, GO stenographer, was presented certificates for perfect attendance and for reading 88 books, more than anyone else in his first grade class.

General Office

Melody Horn, daughter of John Horn, stores assistant, GO Purchasing, Roanoke, was elected president of the Atta Deska Sorority for 1978-79. She is a rising senior at Cave Spring High School.

Thomas A. Rotenberry, R/w &

R/e superintendent in GO T&D R/e & R/w, Roanoke, was elected chairman of the Bedford County School Board.



Debra Joanne Smith, daughter of Frances B. Smith, accounts payable clerk, GO Accounting, Roanoke, was sixth in her graduating class at William Byrd High School. She received the most outstanding business student award and academic excellence award and won third place in the FBLA public speaking competition.

Glen Lyn



Charlotte Jane Robinson was awarded a Spanish scholarship by the Spanish Club at Giles High School. The daughter of W. M. Robinson, former plant manager who transferred to Mountaineer, Charlotte Jane will major in Spanish at Marshall University.

Huntington

Dorothy Johnson, wife of Clyde Johnson, AEP Lab, was elected first vice president of the Women's Auxiliary, American Legion Post 16.

M. A. Fotos, Jr., division T&D superintendent, was elected to a two-year term on the board of directors of the Huntington Lions Club.

Ray Ridgeway, meter reader, was appointed vice chairman of the Black Methodist Church Renewal for West Virginia and to the board of directors of BMCR for seven states. He was also appointed to the finance committee for ethnic minority local church missionarial priority.



Tommy Gordon, son of T. J. Gordon, line mechanic A, was selected as a student tutor in a special summer tutorial program. The Special Student Concerns Project is a federally funded program working with Huntington High, Cammack and Lincoln Junior High Schools in Cabell County, with a goal of designing a program that will eventually reduce the number of students who are suspended from the public school system. Tommy is working with students who need help in reading and/or English and who are behind because of absenteeism. Tommy was nominated as a tutor on the basis of his responsible conduct and academic achievement in the areas of math and/or language arts.

Logan-Williamson



Jeff Taylor, son of Division Manager Floyd Taylor, Jr., was named to the all-county band for the second consecutive year and to the all-area band. A rising senior at Logan High School, Jeff has been listed in "Who's Who In Music", "The Society of Distinguished American High School Students" and "Who's Who Among American High School Students".

Emory Jeffreys, III, son of the late E. M. Jeffreys, Jr., Logan Station, has accepted the position of general manager and managing editor of the Ironton, Missouri, *Mountain Echo*. A former reporter and photographer for the *Logan Banner*, he frequently contributed photos to *The Illuminator*.

Paul Owens, Williamson area superintendent, was elected recorder of the Williamson Rotary Club.

Lynchburg



Robert Withers, a junior at Nelson County High, was selected to attend the American Legion Boys' State at Lynchburg College. He is the son of R. C. Withers, Lovington line mechanic A.

R. C. Withers was a delegate from Nelson County to the state Democratic convention in Williamsburg.



Paul R. Keys, Jr., son of Right of Way Agent Paul Keys, was awarded the Presidential Physical Fitness Award in ceremonies at Boonsboro Elementary School. Paul, the only fifth grader to qualify for the award, received a certificate signed by President Jimmy Carter and a patch.

Division Manager **J. Robert Davenport** was appointed to the board of trustees of the Academy of Music. The Academy is a recognized state landmark listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Thomas W. Pillow, son of Power Engineer Thomas H. Pillow, displayed 18 paintings at the Lynchburg Fine Arts Center recently. Last year his oil painting entitled "Combo I" (Drummer Boy), won an award in the Kaleidoscope Art Festival.

William A. Robertson station mechanic A, and **Herbert M. Figg, Jr.**, commercial engineer, were elected to the executive committee of American Legion Post 16.

Pulaski



Sue Spivey, a rising senior at Pulaski County High School, was elected to "Who's Who in American High Schools". She is a member of the tennis team and school band and was twice named to the all-regional band. The daughter of D. K. Spivey, engineer B, she was also a delegate to Girls' State.

H. B. Newland, retired personnel supervisor, and **W. O. Vaughan**, personnel supervisor, were elected to the board of directors of the Pulaski County Red Cross.

F. M. Bennington, residential representative, was elected to a two-year term on the board of directors of the Galax Lions Club. A past district governor, he installed the 1978-79 officers of the Galax club.

Roanoke



Kenneth Lee Craighead, a first grader at Shawsville Elementary School, was awarded a certificate for being the student most improved in phonics. He is the son of Janet Craighead, meter electrician C.

L. W. Jenkins, Jr., son of Leonard Jenkins, residential representative senior, graduated from the University of Southern Illinois with a BS degree in industrial engineering.

Cathy Baldwin, daughter of Jack Baldwin, customer accounts representative, served as a student marshal at Virginia Western Community College, an honor accorded those graduating with the

highest grades. She had a 3.9 out of a possible 4.0 grade average.

Travis Pitches won the grand champion ribbon for his chocolate chip cookie entry in the Henry County 4-H contest. He also won a second place award for his entomology demonstration at the regional 4-H contest, where he represented Henry County. Travis is the son of Mike Pitches, line inspector.

Joe Higgins, Fieldale manager, was elected to a three-year term on the board of directors of the Martinsville-Henry County Chapter, American Red Cross.



Steve Williams, son of W. S. Williams, Jr., T&D clerk A, was awarded a certificate and gold pin as the most outstanding patrol boy at Westside Elementary School for 1977-78.

NEW FACES AROUND THE SYSTEM

Abingdon
Martha Farmer, junior clerk, Marion. **Gaynall Ray**, meter reader, Lebanon.

Beckley
Donald Smith, meter reader, Rainelle. **Misty Napier**, junior stenographer. **Sherman Diehl**, meter reader.

Bluefield
Timmy Ray Deel, meter reader, Grundy.

Charleston
Larry Harper, meter reader. **John Mokas**, custodian.

General Office
Charles Edwards, III, utility worker B, GO-Roanoke. **Kathy Divers**, junior stenographer, GO-Roanoke. **Walter Smith**, engineering technologist, GO-Roanoke. **Kevin Skaggs**, engineering technician, GO-Charleston.

Robert Vaughan, electrical engineer, GO-Roanoke. **George Simpson, III**, civil engineer, GO-Roanoke.

Muraleedharan Gopinathan, electrical engineer, GO-Charleston. **Woei Chin**, electrical engineer, GO-Huntington. **David Hamm**, electrical engineer, GO-Roanoke. **Joseph Ryder, Jr.**, transmission engineer, GO-Bluefield.

Larry Driscoll, engineering technician, GO-Roanoke. **David Morris**, engineering technician, GO-Bluefield. **Jeffrey Richards**, junior clerk, GO-Roanoke. **Cynthia Frink**, office messenger, GO-Roanoke. **Carolyn Houseman**, payroll clerk C, GO-Roanoke. **Kevin Morris**, utility helper, GO-Roanoke. **Nelson Jones** and **Ricky Brooks**, custodians, GO-Roanoke.

Glen Lyn Karen Shaver, utility worker B.

Huntington
M. A. Westfall, R. H. Harrison, C. A. Long and **R. A. Roush**, line mechanics D, Point Pleasant. **W. F. Ostrum**, electrical engineer. **J. A. Frye** and **C. W. Elam**, station mechanics D. **J. R. Irons**, meter electrician D. **H. D. Nance** and **D. K. Watts**, meter service mechanics D. **R. A. Rice**, residential representative. **D. B. Gillilan, R. J. Ransbottom** and **M. W. Mitchell**, line mechanics D. **J. D. Watkins**, meter reader. **Donna Holley**, junior clerk-accounting.

Kanawha River
Lorraine Marks, Gwendolyn Burrow and **Edmon Tucker, Jr.**, utility workers B.

Logan-Williamson
Kimberly Blackburn and **Ervin Starr**, station mechanics D, Williamson. **David Hairston**, line mechanic D, Williamson. **Lucky Stepp**, meter reader, Williamson. **Michael Donovan, Randy Roberts** and **Randy Thompson**, line mechanics D, Williamson. **Clifton Nicholson**, engineering technician, Williamson. **James Hanna** and **Robert H. Bowe**, meter readers, Logan.

Lynchburg
Paul Cianchetti, Jr., electrical engineer. **Raymond Pages**, engineering technician assistant.

Mountaineer
Robert L. Green, Jr., and **Michael Bailey**, receiving/shipping inspectors II. **George Randolph, Jr.**, mechanical construction assistant II. **Billy McCarley**, receiving/shipping inspector II, Sporn FAP. **Brian Riffle**, construction technician D. **David Glassburn**, construction accountant B. **Brenda Lipscomb**, junior clerk.

Pulaski
Randy Edwards, meter reader. **J. L. Lawrence**, meter reader, Galax. **D. F. Taylor**, line mechanic D. **Elizabeth Kelley**, engineering technician assistant. **M. W. Poore**, junior clerk. **Doris Correll** and **Kathryn Croy**, junior clerks, Christiansburg. **Donna Smelser**, junior clerk, Wytheville.

Roanoke
John Tucker and **Frank Stiff**, electrical engineers. **Susan Smith**, line mechanic D. **Sheila Sigmon** and **Pamela Glover**, junior clerks. **Richard Jarrett**, meter reader, Rocky Mount.

Philip Sporn
D. M. Harvey and **C. F. Johnson**, utility workers B.

VARNEY MAY HEAD SOUTH



Fred Varney, who was Williamson area superintendent in the Logan-Williamson Division before his retirement August 1, recalls one time when he literally took his life in his own hands to install electric service.

He says, "I was a line foreman at the time, and we were installing service for a two-room shack high on a mountain. We were installing

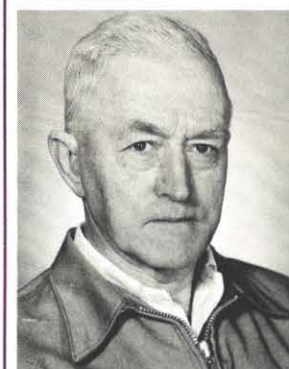
the service drop to a corner of the house, when the lady came out and said she wanted the service on the other end. I explained to her that we could not put the service drop where she wanted it since it would come across her door and she would hang herself on it. She came out with a rifle in her right hand and pistol in her left hand and said, 'Now put the service where I told you to'. We installed the service where it was supposed to go, and I instructed the men to go off the hill. When the men returned to the truck, I backed off and no shots were fired. The next morning I heard this woman had shot and killed her husband two months before."

Fred, a native of Canada, Kentucky, began his career in 1941 as a groundman and held several positions, including line foreman and line and station supervisor, before being named in 1974 to the position he held at retirement.

Fred is a ruling elder in the First Presbyterian Church of Williamson and a past president and zone chairman of the Williamson Lions Club. He enjoys golfing and civic work and wants to return to Little League baseball. He adds, "I used to coach and enjoyed working with children."

Fred and his wife Hazel have three children and six grandchildren. He concludes, "We're going to travel some and are thinking seriously of relocating to a warmer climate, possibly South Carolina or Florida."

FRIENDS WE'LL MISS



Eugene Proctor, 73, retired crane operator at Kanawha River Plant, died June 26. A native of Cedar Grove, West Virginia, he began his career in 1939 as a coal handler

and retired October 1, 1969. Proctor is survived by his widow Sadie, Glasgow, W. Va.; one son and two daughters.



Robia Mullins, 53, maintenance mechanic A at Glen Lyn Plant, died June 28. A native of Giles County, Virginia, he began his career in 1950 as a laborer. Mullins is survived by his widow Virgie, 312 Holston Street, Narrows, Va.; three sons; two grandchildren; his mother, two brothers and five sisters.



Elmer Fredrick Wright, 62, retired Beckley right of way agent, died July 6. A native of Prosperity, West Virginia, he began his career in 1937 as a groundman and elected early retirement February 1, 1978. Wright is survived by a son and a stepson.



Paul M. "Rink" Hefner, 72, retired Huntington meter service helper B, died July 9. A native of Grafton, West Virginia he began his career in 1937 as a laborer at Logan Plant and retired February 1, 1971. Hefner is survived by his widow Ruth Ellen, 121 Lewis Avenue, Barboursville W. Va.

SYSTEM COUPLES MARRY



Wanda Jean Lambert, daughter of D. H. Lambert, regional dispatcher, GO Operations, Huntington, to Thomas Edwin Tschop, June 3.



Susan L. Miller to **Gregory J. Clark**, Charleston electrical engineer, June 17.



Claudia Eans, Charleston junior clerk, to Carl W. Thomas, June 17.



Debbie Jean French, daughter of Bernard E. French, Bluefield station mechanic A (LTD), to Marshall McCroskey, July 1.



Julia Ann Ratliff, daughter of R. B. Ratliff, Glen Lyn plant manager, to Timothy Richard Porter, June 9.



Drema O. Fleeman to **Alton C. Thompson**, son of Ervin E. Thompson, Glen Lyn Plant unit supervisor, June 10.



Yvonne D. Miller, plant clerk, to **James W. Walker, Jr.**, maintenance mechanic A, both of Philip Sporn Plant, June 17.



Marlene A. Sexton, daughter of William C. Sexton, Bluefield engineering technologist, to Gale Lee Robinson, June 23.



Toni Teresa Thompson, engineering technician, GO Operations, Roanoke, to Carter Johnson, June 24.



Charlotte Hayes, daughter of Catherine Hayes, Huntington mail clerk, to Henry T. Jackson, July 15.



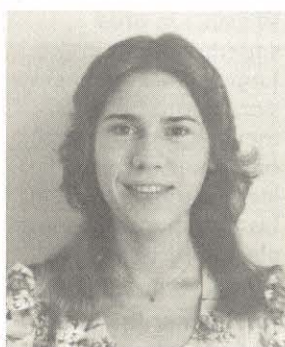
Elizabeth Jane Mann, daughter of the late O. Karl Mann, former Bluefield dealer representative, to William Gary McGuire, July 8.



Elizabeth Patricia Ryan, daughter of C. R. T. Ryan, Jr., Bluefield commercial representative, to Michael Lynn Neal, June 24.



Kathryn Kirby, daughter of James A. Kirby, Beckley T&D clerk A, to David Craddock, June 17.



Teresa Karen Pennington, Bluefield cashier C, to Thomas Branham, July 8.



Cynthia Donley to **David W. Stone**, engineering technician in Logan-Williamson Division, June 17.



Sharon A. Ryan to **Archie G. Phlegar, Jr.**, civil engineer, GO T&D, Huntington, July 22.



Pamela Newman Guynn, daughter of Jimmie R. Newman, line crew supervisor NE in the Fieldale area of Roanoke Division, to Robert Lee Deal, July 2.



Cynthia Smith, daughter of C. L. Smith, regional dispatcher, GO Operations, Abingdon, to Mitchell Harris, Jr., May 27.



Vickie Allen to **Grady R. Blake, Jr.**, Lynchburg stores attendant senior, June 24.



Jennifer Kitts to **Duane J. Ingram**, son of A. J. Ingram, maintenance mechanic B, Centralized Plant Maintenance, June 23.

BABY PARADE

Abingdon

Ashley Kathryn, daughter of **J. L. Weddle**, Marion area supervisor A, July 11.

General Office

Amanda Dawn, daughter of **Larry Hubbard**, control electrician, GO T&D Station, Roanoke, July 1.

Christopher Mark, son of **Mark Dooley**, engineering technologist, GO T&D Station, Charleston, July 5.

Kelli Keye, daughter of **Wanda Norcross**, stenographer, GO Rates and Tariffs, Roanoke, and **R. T. Norcross**, electric plant clerk B, GO Accounting, Roanoke, June 16.

Jonathon Samuel, son of **J. Ralph Poff, Jr.**, engineer B, GO Hydro, Roanoke, June 28.

James Jerry, son of **Jerry A. Joyce, Jr.**, transmission mechanic A, GO T&D Transmission, Bluefield, July 12.

Paul Edward, son of **Sharon Higgins**, secretary-stenographer, GO Personnel, Roanoke, June 26.

Glen Lyn

Masil, son of **Douglas Smith**, utility operator, June 11.

Logan-Williamson

Robert Michael, son of **Kevin Bevins**, electrical engineer, Logan, July 2.

Joshua Seth, son of **Gregory Brammer**, T&D clerk A, Logan, July 3.

Pulaski

Bobbi Jo, daughter of **C. E. Burnett**, maintenance mechanic C, Claytor, July 8.

Roanoke

Charlotte Elizabeth, daughter of **J. L. Dickerman**, electrical engineer, June 17.

Charles Samuel, son of **James Hylen**, meter reader, Fieldale, June 30.

Philip Sporn

Stephanie Kay, daughter of **J. R. Johnson**, maintenance mechanic B, June 30.

BLOOD DONOR HONOR ROLL

General Office

Sandra Bower, key entry supervisor, GO Accounting, Roanoke, two gallons.

R. D. Coffman, right of way agent, GO T&D R/e & R/w, Roanoke, nine gallons.

EPPERLY RETIRES EARLY



Kermit Lew Epperly, line crew supervisor in Logan-Williamson Division, elected early retirement August 1 after a career spanning more than 32 years.

He joined the company in 1946 as a laborer and was a groundman B and A and lineman C, B and A before being promoted in 1965 to the position he held at retirement.

Kermit and his wife Eula will move to Christiansburg, Virginia — his birthplace — where they have a new home. A member of American Legion Post 49, Kermit enjoys hunting, fishing and gardening in his spare time. He has three children, three stepchildren and six grandchildren.

MARY LOU WIRT, FIRST FEMALE ELEVATOR OPERATOR



An article in the October 6, 1917, issue of the *Roanoke Times & World-News* was headlined "Elevator Girl, Latest War Innovation Seen in Roanoke". The story was about Mary Lou Wirt, retired Roanoke cashier senior who, at that time, was working for the George MacBain Company in downtown Roanoke. Mary Lou recalls, "It was wartime, and all the young men were going off. Having a woman operate the elevators freed the men for military service."

She continues, "A friend that I worked with, Clara Mozingo, left to hire on with Roanoke Railway and Electric Company because the pay was better. We made \$7 for a six-day workweek, and she was going to make \$10 a week. I told her if she heard of any more openings to let me know. About a year later, she called about an opening. Harry Vickers, who headed up the office then, interviewed me, and Roy Snedegar, father of Dick Snedegar, Roanoke electrical engineer senior, was my first boss. I started out counting streetcar tickets, transfers and money."

When Mary Lou came to work during World War I, 11 employees made up the entire office force. She left the company to serve in the Women's Air Force during World War II. She says, "I got to see some of the world. To me, my tour in the military was my career. I came to know California, where I was stationed most of the time, from one end to the other." She reached the rank of sergeant before her discharge.

She recalls some of her experiences after rejoining the company. "We used to have some fine parties. It was the AEP Social Club, and employees attending had a lot of fun. As a cashier, I carried deposits to the bank. After closing up, my job included taking the money in a bag to the First National Exchange Bank downtown. It would scare me to death sometimes, walking by the alleys carrying huge sums of money. For a while, the company got armoured trucks, and then they dropped that."

Mary Lou took early retirement because of a heart condition. But, even then, her 40 years' service was the longest of any woman employed in the Roanoke District at that time.

Three years after retirement, her doctor gave approval for her to do part-time work. She worked on a limited basis for Lewis-Gale Hospital for ten years. She comments, "I've been a busy girl, and I'm still working. The lady down the street is an interior decorator, and she has me do some of her hemming. When I'm not doing anything else, I make braided rugs from scrap rags." She also makes all of her clothes.

A member of the Greene Memorial United Methodist Church in Roanoke since 1920, she is a member of the American Legion Auxiliary and a member of BPOE Auxiliary #197.

Mary Lou concludes, "My co-workers at Appalachian were wonderful people. I surely miss seeing them!"



HARLOWE'S SHOW BIRDS STRUT THEIR WAY TO AWARDS

Raising show birds has become a favorite pastime for Audrey Harlowe, Fieldale secretary-stenographer in Roanoke Division. She says, "I was hooked on the birds after attending my first show where they were judged. A friend of ours, who has shown birds for a number of years, had a flock of Antwerp Belgians in colors of black, quail and self blues, and I fell in love with them. My husband and I ended up buying all that he had."

During the past year, her show birds have collected many honors. In addition to monetary awards, they have won 41 ribbons, 16 trophies and three plaques for entries of best variety, best of breed, best opposite sex, best cockerel and best bullet. "Before it became a hobby, we, like so many other people, had no idea that poultry shows existed. There are poultry clubs all over the United States," Audrey reveals.

"When I mention showing poultry to anyone, it's really amusing to watch the strange expressions on their faces. Some even think you lead them around with a leash attached to the leg."

She continues, "Belgians, my favorite breed, have quite amusing characteristics. They are lovable, yet they can be very scrappy and cocky. They strut like a commanding officer and fight just as well when they want to show who's boss."

The birds are judged primarily on type, color, size, correct color of legs and condition of bird and feathers. "I've shown dogs and horses, but the judging of poultry is much stricter than either. A discolored claw or feather can mean a disqualification."

Grooming of the birds begins about two weeks prior to a show. They are fed wild bird flight food, which tones their muscles and conditions their feathers. Just before the start of the show, each bird is cleaned and wiped with a silk cloth to make their feathers shine. Each bird is placed in an individual cage, and the judge takes them out one at a time for scoring points.

"Showing them is only part of the game," Audrey advises. "They have to be given protein and cod liver oil tablets and vitamins."

Even with the best of care, problems crop up. "My black Belgian pet hen was cooped with another black Belgian which came from Germany. For some reason, she did not like the little Belgian rooming with her and the black Belgian cock. While feeding the three of them one day, it dawned on me that I had not seen this little hen come out of the house to eat for several days. I took her out of the house and immediately saw why she had stayed to herself on the roosting pole. The German hen had picked every feather off her head and it was raw and bleeding. I took her out of the coop, fed and watered her, and applied medication. Since then, I think she has adopted me as her mother or protector. She will fly to me, sometimes a distance of 30 feet, when I get around the coops. She lights on my shoulder; or, if I see her in time, I can hold my hand up and she will land in the palm of my hand. She prefers eating out of my hand."

Audrey has increased her flock to include the B B Red and Silver Duck Wing Moderns and Old English. She has won first place ribbons in each show in which the Silver Duck Wing Modern Cockerel has entered and went to "championship row" several times with the BB Red Old English. She concludes, "At the large shows as many as 3,700 birds will be shown. I've seen some of the birds sold for as much as \$250, and entries from California, Texas and even Canada."

MILLERS HELP ASPIRING DESIGNER



Harry Hadiwidjaja and Freda Miller

A young Indonesian man has taken the first step toward a career in fashion designing, thanks in part to the help of Freda Miller, retired Charleston clerk-typist, and her husband Ray.

The Millers took a cruise to Bermuda and Nassau last year and met Harry Hadiwidjaja, who was working as a waiter on the ship. Harry was moonlighting as a fashion designer, and the clothes he made and wore attracted much attention.

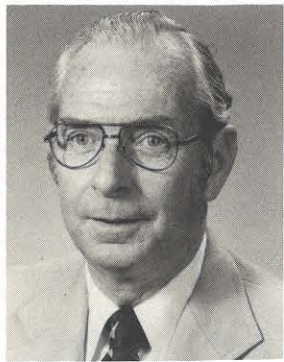
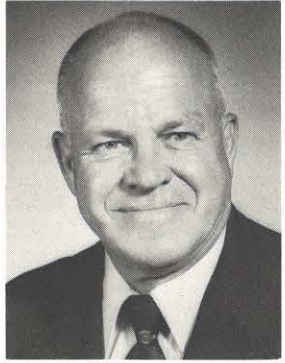
Becoming friendly with the Millers, Harry expressed a desire to become an American citizen. Last August, sponsored by Freda and Ray, Harry came to Charleston, W. Va., on a student passport and enrolled at West Virginia Career College, majoring in fashion and merchandising. He now is attending the Design and Fashion Institute in Los Angeles, California, and hopes to start his own business upon completion of the two-year course.

Harry has made several dresses for Freda and a jacket for Ray to wear when he performs with his band. The trims and border prints on Harry's fashions reflect his Indonesian heritage. He likes to make evening clothes using lots of feathers and sequins.

Harry, who speaks Dutch, English, German and Chinese fluently, also enjoys painting and is finding it difficult to give up that interest for designing and fashion.

Freda says, "Harry is a very talented young man. I am happy we are able to help him. He'll become a famous designer someday."

VETS RECEIVE SERVICE AWARDS



B. W. Hunt
Cust. Accts. Asst.
Huntington
35 Years

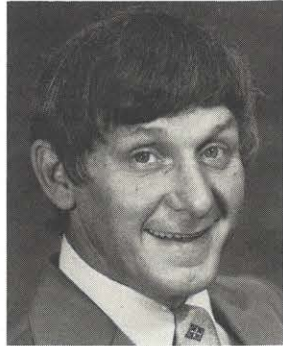
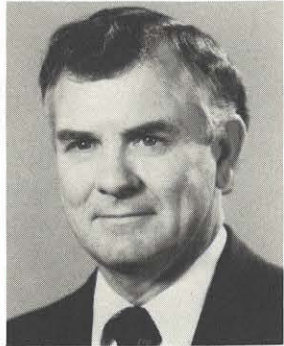
M. L. Waggoner
Cust. Accts. Rep. A
Roanoke
30 Years

J. E. Faust
Executive V. P.
Kingsport
30 Years

F. M. Royal
Meter Reader
Pulaski
25 Years

J. P. Smolder
Engineer B
Charleston
25 Years

J. E. Blackwell
Emp. Relations Supv
GO-Roanoke
20 Years



Betsy Holdren
Stores Supv.
Glen Lyn
30 Years

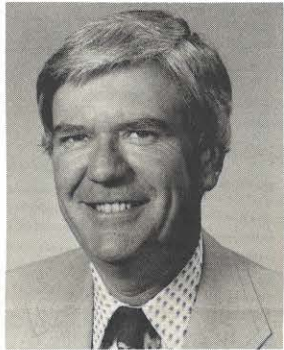
L. T. Bias
Operations Coord.
GO-Roanoke
30 Years

J. E. Hammer
Wage & Salary Supv.
GO-Roanoke
30 Years

J. E. Werry
Maintenance Supv.
Philip Sporn
25 Years

C. H. Petry
Maint. Mechanic B
Kanawha River
25 Years

G. L. Parker
Line & Sta. Supt.
Lynchburg
20 Years



A. G. Akers
Station Mechanic A
Charleston
30 Years

M. P. Paitsel
Right of Way Agent
Roanoke
30 Years

R. E. Christenson
Eng. Technologist
Charleston
25 Years

G. V. Funk
Garage Supervisor
Roanoke
25 Years

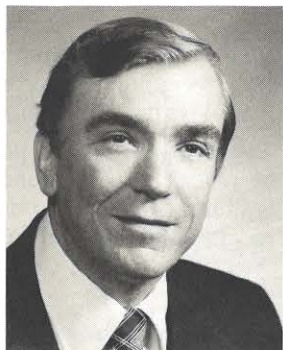
T. P. Grady
Utility Supervisor
Kanawha River
25 Years

Abingdon

10 Years: **T. M. Carter**, engineering technician senior. 5 Years: **B. A. Blevins**, line mechanic B.

John E. Amos

5 Years: **J. S. Hall**, maintenance mechanic A. **J. R. Bright**, utility operator A. **H. R. Jones**, maintenance mechanic A. **C. G. Perry**, maintenance mechanic B. **J. C. Stone**, control technician senior. **R. D. Hundley**, control technician senior. **R. W. Doughty**, maintenance mechanic B. **H. S. Noffsinger**, maintenance mechanic B. **Vicky Morgan**, plant clerk C. **S. M. Taylor** control technician senior. **L. E. Fisher**, maintenance mechanic B. **K. R. Woodyard**, maintenance mechanic B. **B. S. Brewer**, utility operator A. **S. L. Hairston**, performance technician.



A. L. Graham
Cust. Serv. Supv.
Pulaski
30 Years

E. C. Robertson
Area Service Restorer
Beckley
30 Years

J. R. Newman
Line Crew Supv. NE
Roanoke
25 Years

D. L. Kendrick
Cust. Services Mgr.
Beckley
25 Years

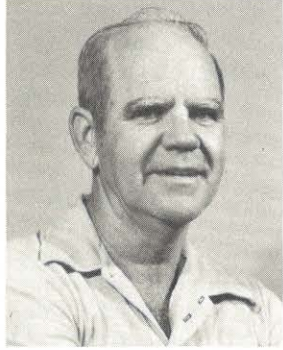
Marshall Allison
Stores Attendant
Bluefield
25 Years

Beckley

5 Years: **P. L. Goddard**, T&D clerk B.

Bluefield

10 Years: **J. W. England**, line mechanic A. **R. W. Yost, III**, engineering technician. 5 Years: **Young Dowell, Sr.**, custodian. **E. L. Ramsey**, line mechanic B.



R. E. Pendleton
Unit Supervisor
Glen Lyn
30 Years

H. L. Price
Trans. Mechanic A
GO-Abingdon
25 Years

C. R. Hudnall
Unit Supervisor
Kanawha River
25 Years

K. C. Morris
Eng. Technologist
Pt. Pleasant (Htg.)
25 Years

Central Machine Shop

5 Years: **Melvin P. McVey**, production supervisor. **David C. Moore**, welder 1st class.

Charleston

10 Years: **D. A. Foster**, customer accounts representative
B. 5 Years: **P. L. Hunter**, line mechanic C.

General Office

30 Years: **E. E. Herald**, transmission special clerk, GO-Bluefield. 10 Years: **T. E. Tyree**, transmission mechanic A, GO-Roanoke. **D. R. McFann**, transmission mechanic A, GO-Huntington. **W. D. Jamison**, operations engineer senior, GO-Roanoke. 5 Years: **R. L. Payne**, custodian, GO-Roanoke. **Karen McMillan**, classification and accounts payable clerk C, GO-Roanoke. **C. D. Mayo**, transmission mechanic B, GO-Roanoke. **Joyce Lambert**, transmission clerk B, GO-Bluefield. **J. E. Elston**, drafter C, GO-Roanoke.

Glen Lyn

15 Years: **Carol Thompson**, personnel clerk A. 5 Years: **Douglas Smith**, utility operator.

Huntington

5 Years: **P. E. Dornon**, auto mechanic A. **Barbara Collins**, stenographer. **R. G. Frazier**, meter electrician C.

Kanawha River

25 Years: **Paul Evans**, equipment operator.

Kanawha Valley Power

10 Years: **T. R. Pendleberry**, hydro utility operator. 5 Years: **C. W. Campbell**, hydro utility operator B. **C. W. Richardson**, hydro maintenance mechanic C.

Kingsport

15 Years: **L. A. Phillips**, meter electrician A. 5 Years: **L. J. Boyer**, drafter B.

Lynchburg

10 Years: **Joseph Austin**, line mechanic D.

Pulaski

15 Years: **M. G. Stowers**, line crew supervisor NE.

Roanoke

10 Years: **D. W. Hale**, engineering technician. **Frances Harville**, customer accounts representative B. **W. T. Anderson**, automotive mechanic A. 5 Years: **D. W. Powell**, line mechanic C.

ROCK STABILIZATION WORK UNDER WAY AT CLAYTOR

A contract to stabilize the rock cliffs below Claytor Dam was awarded by Appalachian Power Company to Branch and Associates of Roanoke.

Rock bolts up to 50 feet long are being installed in the area from the dam abutment to about 100 feet downstream, and loose rock is being sealed from the surface.

Cavernous areas located at various places in the slopes are being filled with concrete; and, by use of controlled blasting, the rock cliffs are being laid back to a slope of 1.5 to 1 for a distance of about 650 feet downstream. The blasted material will be placed at the bottom of the cut to form a buttress for the slope to help prevent future slides.

The \$1.2 million project, begun in January of this year, should be completed within the next two months.

WALLET LOST IN LAKE FOUND BY APCO WORKERS



A. B. Tuck, left, and Dale Watson

Dale Watson, reservoir groundskeeper, and A. B. Tuck, reservoir supervisor, both of Roanoke Division, were performing routine work on Smith Mountain Lake when they found a wallet in about three feet of water.

A. B. recalls, "Dale was working on the rack of the water witch; and, as we pulled into the cove near Shenandoah Shores, he started using the spike pole to pull debris onto the rack. He said, 'There's a wallet in the water'. What's really amazing is how Dale spotted the wallet with the enormous amount of debris in the cove. The water surface was completely covered with trash."

After wiping the mud off the wallet, A. B. and Dale took the contents out to dry on a nearby dock so they could establish identity. "When we got all the wet papers out, there were two \$20 bills folded inside," says Dale.

Considering the 500 miles of shoreline around Smith Mountain Lake, the wallet's discovery is quite amazing.

A. B. took the wallet home and mailed it that evening to the Roanoke office. Roanoke Division Administrative Assistant Martin Ratcliff began the search to locate the owner, John Michael Dasovich. The Virginia driver's license listed a Roanoke address, but a check at the address proved fruitless. The local Division of Motor Vehicles was contacted and the call referred to the Virginia State Police headquarters, who also made an unsuccessful search for Dasovich.

A faded union card bearing Dasovich's name and that of Logan Mohawk Coal Company was another possibility. A check with Logan's local telephone information operator couldn't turn up a number for Logan Mohawk Coal, which would have permitted an inquiry. A call for help was then made to Charlie Frye, Logan-Williamson administrative assistant. Frye was able to locate Dasovich through his employer and requested he call the Roanoke office for information pertaining to his wallet.

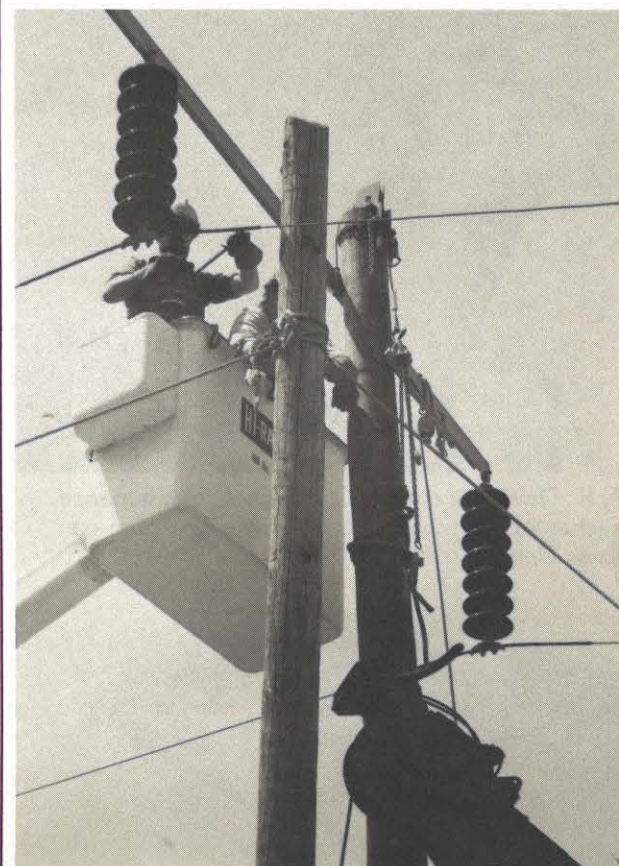
Dasovich said, "When I talked with Mr. Frye, my first question was, 'How in the world did you find me this far back in the woods?'"

Dasovich had been visiting friends on Smith Mountain Lake over Memorial Day weekend when he realized he had lost his wallet. "I really didn't know where it had disappeared to. The last time I remembered having the wallet was at a store earlier in the day. My fiancée and I sat around on the dock most of the day, but I didn't think about losing it in the water."

He continues, "What really makes getting the wallet back unbelievable is nowadays you don't find too many people that honest to return a wallet and money. I told Mr. Frye that I couldn't believe it — someone sending my wallet and with the money in it — that's something else. I figure your people who found it must be good and honest, and I want them to know. I'd like to write them a letter to express my appreciation."

Dasovich made a trip to Roanoke to pick up the wallet; and, as he told Ratcliff, "I just wanted to come in and to let you know that I'm grateful for all the trouble you went to."

NEW METHOD FOUND TO REPLACE POLES



Robert Taylor, line mechanic A, is removing a steel crossarm from a deteriorated pole in a two-pole suspension structure. The crossarm is being held in place by the coffin hoist/pulley assembly.

R. R. Jones, construction supervisor, and C. E. Long, line mechanic A, both of Bluefield Division, have devised a method to simplify and expedite the replacement of deteriorated poles in two-pole, steel crossarm suspension structures.

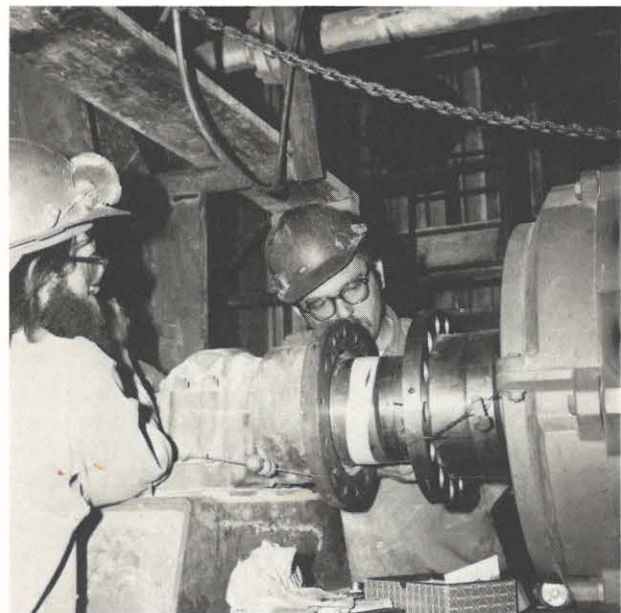
The division is currently replacing poles and maintaining structures as needed in several of the 88/69/46 kv lines which were constructed in the 1920s. The maintenance program will continue for several years until the old poles are replaced.

The old method of lowering the phase conductors, insulators and crossarms to ground level required about 126 work hours to replace both poles in the structure and reassemble the structure for service.

The new method of replacing deteriorated poles without completely disassembling the structure entails the utilization of a pulley assembly fabricated from a 6" snatch block, binding chain, 3/8" steel plate and a 10" piece of channel iron to hold the metal crossarm with insulators and conductors attached intact while pole replacement can be made. The original pole is held in place by four bull ropes or truck boom, if accessible, while the bottom is cut at ground level. The bottom of the pole is then moved over, set on a wood block so the stub can be removed and the hole prepared for the new pole. The old pole is used as a gin pole to remove the stub and set the new pole. The new pole is set parallel to the pole being removed. A coffin hoist and the pulley assembly is attached to the top of the new pole, holding the metal crossarm intact while the old pole is unfastened and lowered to the ground. After leveling the metal crossarm with the hoist, the new pole is marked for boring and the crossarm is then lowered slightly to bore the hole. Finally, the crossarm is raised into position, bolted to the new pole and hoist/pulley assembly removed, completing the exchange.

The new method of pole replacement can be conducted safely and efficiently in 70 work hours, with an estimated annual savings of \$14,000 in the Bluefield Division.

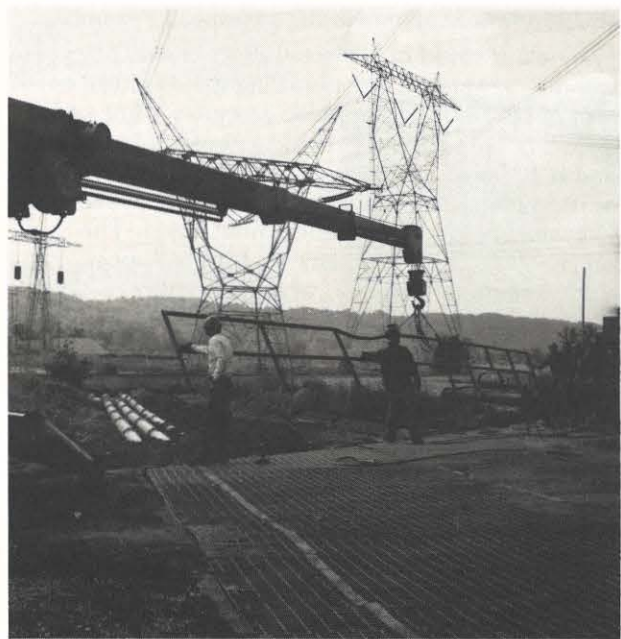
CENTRALIZED PLANT MAINTENANCE MAKES HOUSE CALLS



H. K. DeWeese and R. O. Hatcher, maintenance mechanics, aligning motor to new seal air fan on Amos Unit 2.



K. K. Carney, maintenance supervisor (on ground) and maintenance mechanics G. J. Korn and L. V. Parsons load individual tool boxes into the trailer. The trailer can be loaded, transported and unloaded at a new job site within a matter of hours.



Maintenance Mechanics R. O. Harrison, D. R. Abbott, D. B. Harden and L. J. Bailey make repairs to bridge after replacing bottom ash lines. Cherry picker is being operated by Maintenance Mechanic G. R. Cobb.

House calls are rare in most businesses these days, but Appalachian Power's Centralized Plant Maintenance employees make them because it means a tremendous savings in time and money.

Centralized Plant Maintenance (CPM) was formed as the result of a study in 1975 to find a more efficient way to perform work during unit outages at a number of plants in the AEP System. Headed by Manager Emmet Huntley, CPM is comprised of 72 maintenance mechanics who expeditiously move into a plant for work on the first shift, first day of an outage.

CPM's record shows the outage work at all plants has been finished on or before the established completion date and at substantial savings. The first full year of operation, with staffing only 50 percent complete, CPM was responsible for \$550,000 in savings.

Hiring only at the maintenance mechanic B level assures that all new employees have more than the basic knowledge of skills required of a boilermaker, millwright and pipefitter. Each employee must be able to perform all phases of outage work on all units from the 150 megawatt units at Philip Sporn Plant to the 1300 megawatt units at Gavin and Amos Plants. Since emergency work is another CPM specialty, employees must be able to work on different size units each shift if necessary.

A special tool trailer, containing a full tool complement for each employee for any job required, is pulled from plant to plant.

Employees travel to the job site and return home each day. Amos, Sporn and Gavin Plants are presently served by CPM, and Muskingum River will be added in the near future. The office staff required by CPM is permanently headquartered on the Amos plant grounds.

February 1978 provided a true test of efficiency for CPM. Gavin Unit 2 tripped with high turbine vibration on Saturday afternoon, February 25. CPM reported to Gavin on Monday morning for the emergency outage, estimated to take three weeks. Inspection revealed the No. 2 gas fan was the critical job because the damaged rotor had to be replaced. During the midst of a coal strike, with record freezing temperatures and only 80 percent staffing, CPM employees released the gas fan for balance on March 9 — after only 28 shifts. Insulation and lagging were installed while the fan was being balanced. All CPM jobs were completed by 4 PM on March 12, well ahead of the original plan.

In another instance, CPM installed Rex traveling water screens on Sporn Units 1-4 in 30 percent of the time allocated for the job. Skilled personnel is a major reason for the drastic savings in time; another is planning.

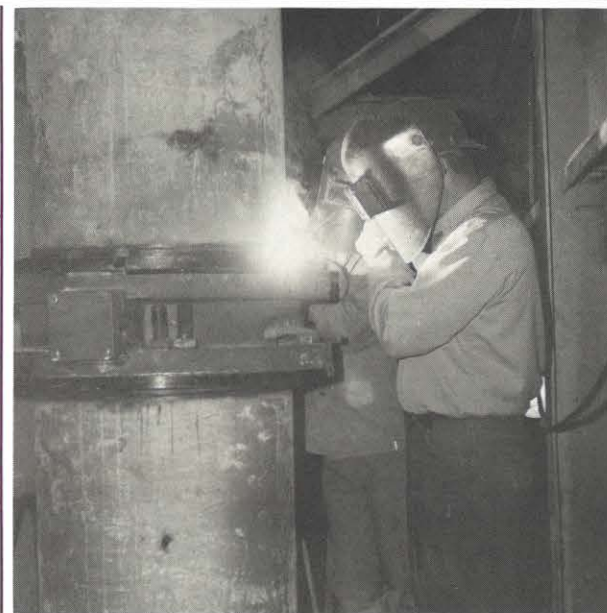
CPM's only assets are \$165,000 in tools and a tool trailer. Training costs are minimal because employees are already experienced when they are hired.

Outage schedules are set by AEP Operations in Canton, Ohio, several months in advance. Once confirmed, detailed planning for each shift begins by CPM field maintenance superintendents and the plant's maintenance superintendent.

Included among outage jobs assigned CPM at various plants have been: inspect and pad-weld waterwall, superheater and reheater tubes; install superheater tubing; pulverizer inspection and replacement of airports and installation of wear lines; installation of air preheater seals; hand finish shafts and install bearings in PA fans; reblade recirculating gas fans; reassembly of 800 megawatt turbine.

Improvement requisition and project work has included inspection and replacement of ash lines, building and installation of miscellaneous platforms and ladders; complete rebuilding of air compressor; building ID fan rotor from parts, including hot riveting; and installation of new vent fan louvers.

CPM in 1978 — mobile, flexible, highly skilled and experienced, versatile and efficient!



Maintenance Mechanics D. A. Walter, II (front), and K. D. Harrison (back), install a valve for seal air piping to soot blower, Amos Unit 2.



T. M. Henry, maintenance mechanic, repairs damaged section in 6-inch steam header to slag blower.

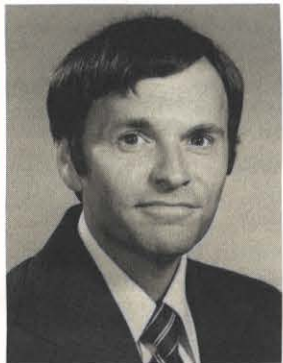


D. W. Dye, maintenance mechanic, and a certified welder in the Amos Unit 2 reheat section repairing tube platen for weld.

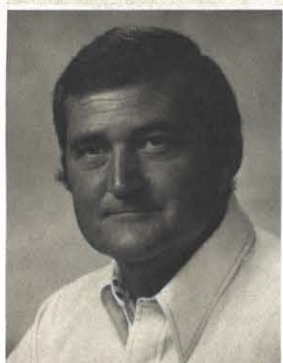
MOVING UP



Ralph E. Life, former performance engineer senior, was promoted to plant engineer, John E. Amos Plant, on July 1. He holds a BS degree in mechanical engineering from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.



Paul D. Blount, former engineering technician senior, was promoted to engineering office supervisor in the electrical engineering section of GO Transmission and Distribution, Roanoke, on June 1.



R. E. Bellamy, former line mechanic A, was promoted to line crew supervisor NE in the Gate City area of Abingdon Division on May 27.



R. L. Barley, former line mechanic A, was promoted to line crew supervisor NE in Beckley on June 17.



Joseph Schultz, former customer accounting accountant, was promoted to customer accounting control supervisor, GO Accounting, Roanoke, on July 1.



Charlotte Lavinder, former public affairs clerk A, was promoted to staff researcher, GO Public Affairs, Roanoke, on July 1. She holds an associate of arts degree from Bluefield College.



Donald R. Dent, former electrical engineer, was promoted to station engineer senior, GO T&D Station, Roanoke, on July 1. He holds AS and BAS degrees from Bluefield State College.



Ted L. White, former electrical engineer, Bluefield, was promoted to area supervisor A at Princeton in the Bluefield Division on July 1. He holds a BS degree in electrical engineering technology from Bluefield State College and a master's degree in business administration from the

West Virginia College of Graduate Studies.



M. A. "Sonny" White, former line and station superintendent of Logan-Williamson Division, was promoted to assistant superintendent of the Lynchburg Division on August 1. He will succeed P. L. Bailey as Lynchburg division superintendent when Bailey retires December 1, 1978. White is a graduate of the Huntington School of Business and has studied engineering through International Correspondence Schools.



James E. Sullivan, Jr., former personnel and office supervisor at Centralized Plant Maintenance, was promoted to personnel supervisor at Central Machine Shop on August 1. Sullivan holds a BS degree in economics from Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University.



Robert B. Gilbert, former training coordinator at Amos Plant, was promoted to personnel and office supervisor at Centralized Plant Maintenance on August 1, succeeding J. E. Sullivan, Jr. Gilbert holds a BS degree in education from West Virginia State College.

BERG FIRST UTILITY WINNER OF IMPROVEMENT AWARD



J. B. Berg, Appalachian accounting manager (left), accepts The Improvement Institute's "manager of improvement" award from Trustee Morley G. Melden. Melden is administrator, AEP Idea Exchange, for the AEP Service Corporation.

James B. Berg, accounting manager of Appalachian Power Company, has been presented the 1978 "manager of improvement" award by the Improvement Institute. He is the first utility company representative to receive the award in the Institute's 12-year history.

The Institute is an association of organizations in the United States and Canada that have programs where employees participate in developing ideas and methods that improve productivity.

The award recognizes the recipient's interest in and encouragement of ideas for improving production, efficiency and safety.

Berg was selected for "the quality of his interest in Appalachian's Operations Improvement Program and for his enthusiasm and success in promoting the same level of interest among the 180 employees whose work he directs."



Harry E. Ruloff, Jr., Logan engineering supervisor (right), accepts an award from Doug Harris, president of the Logan Jaycees. Ruloff, a member of the Logan Chapter for 13 years, was honored for his many accomplishments, including work with the Jaycees' annual Christmas shopping tour for underprivileged children.



Paul R. Keys, Lynchburg right of way agent (second row, left), coached the Boonsboro Dixie Youth Minor League team to the Bedford County Eastern League championship with a 11-2 record. His son, Brian Keys (front row, fourth from left), was awarded the team sportsmanship trophy. Another member of the team is Brian Langford (second row, second from right), grandson of Morris Langford, Lynchburg line crew supervisor NE.

WHITE WATER RAFTING IS EXHILARATING



From row, l. to r., Larry Philpot, Carol Setter, Bill Roeser and Terry Roeser. Back row, Archie Phlegar and Sharon Ryan.

"Excitement! Anticipation? These are key words to the neophyte white water rafter ready to make his debut," declares Bill Roeser, Abingdon administrative assistant.

He continues, "The planning and studying of a project help make the adventure more vivid. This was exactly the case when Archie Phlegar, GO civil engineer, Huntington, and myself were coerced into a white water rafting trip by his fiancée and my wife. The two women, who team teach, signed up for 'one last fling' at the end of the school year. Archie and I sat down in disbelief and proceeded to study what the girls had gotten us into. The panic occurred when we discovered the raft trip down the New River encompassed some 12 miles and 17 rapids. The rapids were classified II through V. A class V rapid generally means waves from five to seven feet."

Bill adds, "The tour was provided by the Mountain River Tour Company at Hico, West Virginia, one of several companies which operate along the New River. We were told there that the basic rule of white watering is 'the best ride is in the boat'. Some rule!"

"The trip was very safety oriented, no drugs or liquor allowed and all participants have to wear life jackets and safety helmets. A guide is assigned to each boat to insure expert guidance because, as they pointed out, the river can be very dangerous."

"The trip began at the tour headquarters, where everyone boarded a bus to take us to Thurmond, W. Va., where the rafts are put in. By the time the rafts were in place, the excitement was unbearable. People were reacting nervously and kept asking the same question, 'Has anybody ever been killed on this trip?'"

"The guides patiently answered questions and the adventure began. From some distance away came the muffled roar of the first set of rapids. A small set classified only as IIs; but, for beginners, that classification meant very little. The raft picked up speed and the guide urged us to paddle hard by yelling 'dig in, dig in'. The water was alive, writhing and turning over the rocks. We paddled hard and suddenly were through, our first accomplishment. The river resumed a more normal pace, and the rafters shared their feelings."

Bill continues, "The rapids became increasingly tougher and more complex to maneuver through; but, as the group congealed into a team, the rapids were mastered. After about six or seven miles, the guide headed to shore for a picnic lunch. By this time, everyone was really hungry and tired. The guide casually mentioned that the 'little rapids are out of the way now and the big ones are about to start'. We were amazed, but he was absolutely right, the trip was just beginning in terms of excitement."

We passed through rapids which have names like the Upper and Lower Keeneys, Greyhound Bus Stop and Surprise. In spots, the rapids assumed the characteristics of a savage beast, roaring, spitting, twisting and turning in a relentless effort to reach lower levels. The force was tremendous. On one particularly rough rapid, we looked around and Archie had disappeared. A wave had washed him over the side. We asked him what he felt like and if he was scared. Archie replied, 'I didn't have time to be scared. The only thing I thought was to grab for the side rope'."

Bill notes, "By mid-afternoon we were looking for new challenges consisting of higher waves and longer shots. The group was working as a team, doing complicated reverse turns and intricate maneuvers. It was during the maneuvers that I was the next one to go over the side. The group was threading the needle 'going between two large rocks'. The raft hit one of the rocks and the impact knocked me out of the raft. The required safety equipment protected me from injury."

The trip ended at Hawks Nest, where a bus was ready to carry tired and wet, but exhilarated, rafters back to headquarters.

Would they do it again? "You bet," declared Bill and Archie. "In fact, the girls were at it again when we left. They were saying something about class VI rapids!"

TRAVEL AHEAD FOR MURPHY



"I'll tell you one thing, I sure will miss everybody," says George Lawrence Murphy, who retired August 1 as head custodian in GO General Services, Building Services Section, Roanoke. "I'm not leaving here with a chip on my shoulder. I've enjoyed my years with the company."

He continues, "I plan to rest for awhile and then do some traveling." He and his wife, Christine, will visit George's sister in Madison, Wisconsin, and George's son in Bridgeport, Connecticut. "Also, I will have more time to devote to church work." He is on the board of deacons at the Promise Land Baptist Church.

A native of Moneta, Virginia, George began his career in 1947 as a laborer at the old Walnut Avenue Steam Plant in Roanoke. He recalls, "I was laid off when the plant was closed and was out of a job for about five months. Then I was called to work for Mr. Buchanan, building supervisor, and have had one boss since 1949, although he didn't seem much like a boss since we worked so well together."

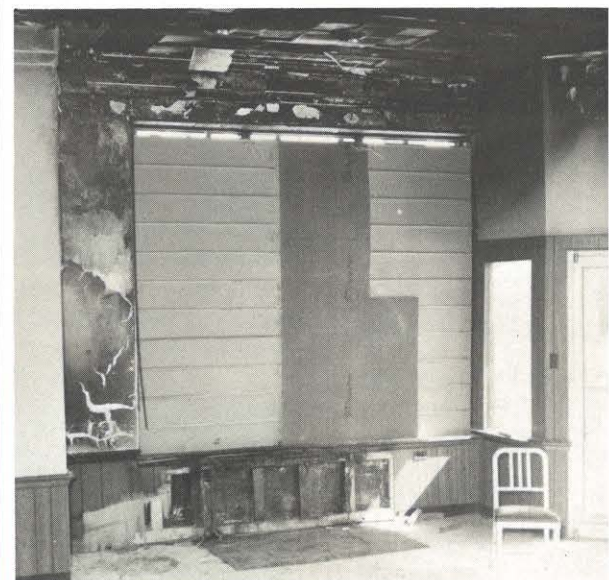
Two things George won't mind leaving behind are clearing off the sidewalks and parking lots during the winter snows and cleaning up the Walnut Avenue offices when, occasionally, the Roanoke River overflows its banks and floods them.

In his spare time, George enjoys gardening, painting and hunting.



For the fifth time, Bluefield Division reached the 1,000,000 safe work hour mark. The record for the 304 employees began October 31, 1976, and ran through June 28, 1978. Custodian Harold Thomas puts the message on the Bluefield office building marquee as Custodian Young Dowell holds the ladder.

EMPLOYEES SAVE GALAX OFFICE FROM EXTENSIVE FIRE DAMAGE



R. A. Bryan, Jr., line mechanic C, and his family were driving by the Pulaski Division's Galax office on Saturday evening, July 15, when he spotted a blaze in one of the windows. Bryan immediately notified the Galax Volunteer Fire Department, which broadcast the location of the fire to their firemen.

F. H. "Tater" Anderson, line mechanic A and captain in the Galax Fire Department, picked up the broadcast on his home receiver and responded to the fire. Arriving at the scene before the other firemen and fire trucks, Anderson attempted to put out the flames with a fire extinguisher. Although he wasn't able to put the fire out, his actions helped in slowing down its spread until the trucks arrived.

The fire was apparently caused by a malfunctioning display. Because of the quick actions of Bryan and Anderson, damage was confined to the lobby area. Until the damage, estimated at \$5,000, can be repaired, the Accounting Section will be relocated in the office auditorium.

SPARR LENDS HELPING HAND TO HOOVER HIGH



Everett Sparr, Charleston meter service mechanic A, was instrumental in helping the dream of a lighted baseball field for Herbert Hoover High School become a reality.

A member of the Boosters Club, Everett has been involved since the project was in the planning stage. He spent many hours of his own time in preparing the field as well as building the dugouts, backstop and installing the lighting. A letter from Principal Lonnie Miller read, in part, "Had it not been for the dedication and concern of individuals such as yourself, Hoover would still be one of the few major high schools without a facility on which to play and practice . . . Today we have an excellent baseball diamond complete with fence, drainage system, backstop, dugouts and, of course, lights. I recognize the fact that you worked on most, if not all, of the above mentioned projects. It is lights, however, for which we are particularly grateful. Not only did you provide basic manual labor but also unique electrical skills that would otherwise have been difficult to obtain. The fact that you do not have any children currently involved with athletics at Hoover makes your contribution even more noteworthy. As far as Hoover is concerned, if I might borrow from the words of a popular song, you certainly 'light up our life'."

Everett says, "The main reason I am interested in sports is to keep the boys off the streets. As long as they have a ball field they will be playing and not running around. I wanted to get my children interested in sports, too, so they would keep their grades up to be able to participate. I might add, they are all B students or better."

Everett has been coaching little league baseball for ten years and coached midget football four years. His sons and daughter share his enthusiasm for sports. Beginning when his oldest son, Ronald, was eight years old, each of his children have participated in little league baseball. Son, Everett R., scored 74 points this past season to rank as the second highest scorer in junior high football in the Kanawha Valley. He also participated in baseball and track. Patricia Ann played on Clendenin Junior High's basketball, volleyball and track teams as well as in senior league softball.



Cecil Hill, Roanoke engineering technician senior (left), and W. D. "Wink" Martin, GO electrical engineer, won the APCo Doubles Tennis Tournament held at Virginia Western Community College, Roanoke. Donnie Robins, GO payroll clerk A, and Wayne Sink, GO electrical engineer, were first runners-up. Gary Bannister, GO station mechanic C, and Gary Lewis, GO stores attendant, were second runners-up. Each were presented trophies. Eight teams participated in the event.



B. C. "Wheel" Thomas, Oak Hill area service restorer in Beckley Division (right), and his partner Bill Tompkins (left), won the 10th annual White Oak Country Club member-guest invitational golf tournament. The Thomas-Tompkins team finished the two-day, 36-hole, best-ball event tied with another team at 113, 27 strokes under par. On the first hole of the sudden death playoff, Wheel reached the par 5 hole in two, putted out for a birdie and a net 3 eagle to give his team a one stroke win over the runner-up. Jennings Begley, line crew supervisor exempt, and his partner tied for third place with a two-day total of 119.



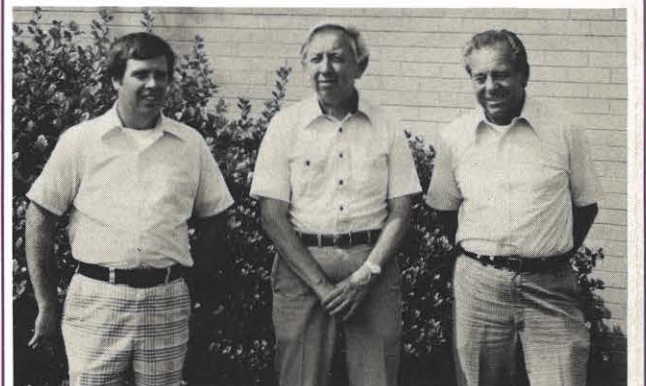
The "Knock Outs" won the APCo Kilowatt Bowling League in Huntington for 1977-78. Proudly displaying their trophies are, l. to r., Mark Lynch, power engineer; Gregory McComas, son of T. J. McComas; Flo Smith, wife of Homer Smith; Homer Smith, meter service mechanic; and Charles Botts, T&D clerk.



Hunter Thayer, Abingdon engineering technician senior (right), congratulates Division Manager J. R. Whitehurst for winning the Abingdon Division Appalachian Power Employee Open Golf Tournament. The 18-hole handicapped event, held at the Holston Hill Country Club, Marion, Virginia, included a field of 28. Charlie Edmonds, Clinch River Plant equipment operator, was low net winner. Prizes were also awarded to: Don Linkous, engineering technologist, GO T&D Communications, closest to pin #4; Rufus Bondurant, retired division superintendent, closest to pin #14; and Paul Lethcoe, electrical engineer senior, longest drive #17.



Anthony Todd Watson is "up to his ears" in his collection of professional ball player cards. The 12-year-old son of Robert Watson, Charleston line mechanic B, Todd has acquired 5,775 cards since he started collecting two years ago. Todd is a ball player himself, having participated in little league baseball, football and basketball for three years. He made the all-star team in both basketball and football for each of those years. Todd's brother, Robert, Jr., is just beginning his own card collection.



Serving as officers of the Lynchburg Division Appalachian Employees Golf Association for 1978 are, from left, Paul R. Keys, right of way agent, secretary; Jesse L. Ashworth, residential representative, treasurer; and J. A. Martin, line inspector, president.

SALMONS TRADES DRAFTING JOB FOR FARMING



"I'm tired of working and need a change of scenery and activity," explains W. L. Salmons, who was a drafter A in Charleston before electing early retirement August 1. He laughs, "I've looked at a drafting table till I can see them in my sleep."

Bill began his career in 1945 as a rodman. He recalls, "When Walter Tibbits, now retired, called me to go to work, it was a beautiful day. Four days later when I started, there was four inches of snow and I was working in the field." He advanced through the positions of transitman and draftsman senior before being promoted to his present position in 1973. Bill attended Morris Harvey College and studied surveying and mapping through International Correspondence Schools.

In his spare time, Bill enjoys coin collecting, welding, hunting and fishing. He has been a CPR and first aid instructor and attends Sandrun Gospel Tabernacle. A widower, Bill has three children and four grandchildren.

His retirement plans include part-time farming, fishing and possibly some travel. He declares, "I've done very little farming in my lifetime, but I'm going to learn."

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CHURCH WORK, TRAVEL FILLS RETIREMENT YEARS FOR MURPHY



"Retirement has been good in many ways," declares Ollie "Pat" Murphy, retired Roanoke appliance serviceman A. Pat and his wife Annie stay busy with a church work, gardening and travel.

"We're both blessed to have excellent health for our age. I guess you might say that we're in pretty good shape. The garden keeps us busy when it's in, and I'm still doing my ministry work."

An ordained minister since 1947, Ollie performs marriages and conducts funerals and other services in a 50-mile radius of Roanoke. He served the old Piney Grove Christian Church in Starkey as minister for three years and the First Christian Church in Vinton for 11 years. Ollie declares, "I'm about to hang up my gloves on most of the ceremonies though because, quite frankly, I can't remember things like I once did." They have been members of the Edgewood Christian Church for 31 years, where he is chairman of the official board, an elder, past choir director and past teacher of the Men's Bible Class.

He continues, "My wife and I had the privilege a couple years ago to travel to the Holy Land. We drank from Jacob's well and stood on Mount Nebo where Moses did and looked into the Promised Land. We visited the Mountain of Temptation where Satan took Jesus to tempt him. It's totally bare today; nothing will grow on it. Being in the Holy Land makes one feel so humble, as though it's still holy ground."

Pat was born in 1894 in Pittsylvania County, Virginia, and grew up on his dad's farm. At the age of 18, he left "mostly to look for a job, but I think, too, I just got tired of farming." His first job was as a cloth maker at Dan River Mills in Danville. After four years he hired on as a streetcar conductor with Danville Light and Traction. Pat recalls, "They had me on the extra list there. It was hard to get on regular because people didn't quit very often."

In September 1917, Pat approached W. H. Horn of Roanoke Railway and Electric Company for a job. He says, "I didn't know anybody in Roanoke, so I took my former employer's letter of recommendation to Mr. Horn."

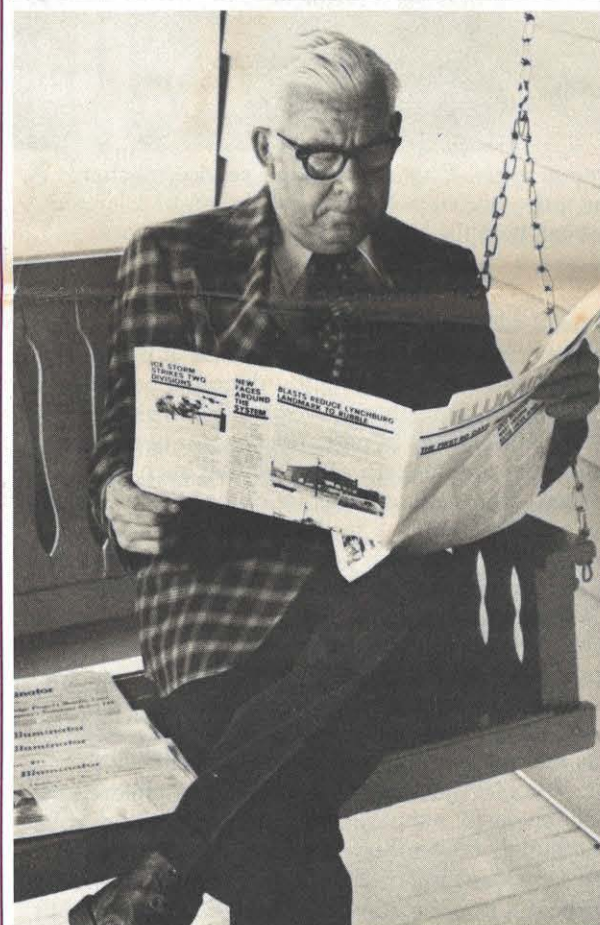
During the winter of 1918, Pat recalls, "There were so many people sick and dying with the flu that I'd have to work double shifts to fill in. My workday started at 5 AM and much of that winter it lasted until midnight, with only a two-and-a-half hour break in the afternoon. That was the coldest winter I'd ever spent. What made it even more uncomfortable, the streetcars didn't put out enough heat. Standing on the front of the cars, it actually felt like my feet would freeze to the floor."

Following that winter, Pat resigned and went to work for C&P Telephone Company in Roanoke. He left that company for a job with American Telephone and Telegraph in Lynchburg, and finally rejoined Roanoke Railway and Electric in 1920 as a conductor. He transferred into the power and light section as a troubleshooter in 1923, working under W. S. Peak.

Pat recalls only one bad experience. "In the western part of the Raleigh Court section of Roanoke, the lights had gone real dim. Because of all the calls into the company, Jimmy White, then district manager, came out to see what it was all about. We did some patrolling and couldn't see anything which would cause the problem. White sent me to Sherwood and Grandin to open the three disconnects feeding the three-phase line. It was a buckarm pole, and nothing happened when I opened the first cutout box. When the next one was opened, a big ball of fire rolled right up in front of my face. When I slammed it shut to break the arc, the copper contacts melted and spewed out like water. Some of it ran down my chest, taking the skin with it. That was the worst and closest call I ever had. We found out later what made it happen. In the last span of the line, one of our poles had leaned over, causing the hot conductors to wrap together."

The Murphys have four sons, two daughters, 13 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

RETIREE PLANS TO HELP ELDERLY



Robert Franklin Jones, who will retire September 1, plans to spend some of his leisure time helping others. He says, "I just want to help people any way I can. Perhaps I can use my car to take the elderly to the doctor, grocery store, and the like."

The former Charleston custodian wants to take things easy for a while and possibly do some odd jobs later on "if I feel like it."

He began his career in 1938 as a laborer and later worked as a maintenance man helper B and A and groundman. Bob recalls, "Years ago I was on call 2 hours a day and worked many a night all night. Lot of people have come and gone since I've been here I've seen a lot of changes over the years and have made a lot of friends."

Bob has been a member of the Sixth Street United Methodist Church for about 50 years and enjoys photography and miniature railroads as his hobbies. He notes, "I am a collector of *Illuminators* and have about all the copies, dating back to 1951. I enjoy just looking through them and reminiscing about some of my old friends who have long since gone." He also has a collection of miniature train catalogs dating back to 1928.

Bob and his wife have one daughter and one grandson.