

## ROCKEFELLER DEDICATES PUTNAM COAL TERMINAL



Governor John D. Rockefeller, IV, flips a mock switch to activate the conveyor belts on the barge loader.

More than 150 civic, government and industrial leaders were in attendance October 2 for the dedication of Appalachian Power Company's new coal handling facility, the Putnam Coal Terminal, by Governor John D. Rockefeller, IV.

The Governor was joined by W. S. White, chairman of the American Electric Power System, and John W. Vaughan, president of Appalachian Power Company.

The Putnam Coal Terminal, located on a 63-acre tract adjacent to the John E. Amos Plant, is a vital rail-to-barge link in AEP's fuel transportation network that supplies coal to the System's generating plants. The coal coming into the Putnam terminal will go primarily to the Mountaineer, John E. Amos, and Philip Sporn Plants operated by Appalachian Power.

"We're very proud of our relationship with coal and with our contribution to the great strides in advancing the state of the art of turning coal into kilowatt-hours," said Cecil Shay, Amos Plant manager.

Chairman White said the dedication "marks another milestone in the resurgence of coal". He said AEP's long-standing dependence on coal has proved over the years to be a "wise and prudent course". AEP is the largest single domestic user of coal and has 17 coal fired plants that use 44 million tons of coal a year. Last year the system purchased 14 percent of the coal produced in West Virginia.

Rockefeller told the group AEP "has made a genuine art of the generation of electricity", which he said will help make it easier for other utilities as they face the virtual necessity of turning to coal for their generating plants. "In a very real sense, the American Electric Power System has been a pioneer . . . in the fight to convert utility boilers all across this country," the governor said.

Concerning the location of the terminal, White said, "The most logical place to transfer coal to barges is where the various rail lines merge coming out of the coal fields. This occurs near Morgan's Landing where we had an existing plant with sufficient property and a coal-handling operation. It will provide an economical and reliable means of receiving coal by rail and transferring it to barges for delivery to company power plants."

Among the facilities at the Putnam Terminal is a rotary car dumper, which can unload 30 rail cars per hour. The approximately 19 miles of rail siding at the complex can receive unit trains, thereby contributing to the lowest possible transportation cost. This rail siding and a reversible conveyor with two reclaim hoppers in the temporary coal storage area will permit the segregation of train shipments containing various grades of sulfur coals into three primary groups. The separation of various types of coal is necessary to comply with the different air quality compliance standards for Amos, Mountaineer, and other plants in the Appalachian System.

A transfer station located about 340 feet from the banks of the Kanawha River houses coal sampling equipment and a 135-foot-tall, 700-ton-capacity silo. At the discharge end of the silo, the coal can be routed to the barge loader for transport to Mountaineer or Sporn Plants, or to a storage area if no empty barges are available. Coal is routed to the Amos Plant from the rotary car dumper.

To minimize coal dust emissions, the Putnam coal loading and unloading equipment has special watering devices and dust collectors, and all permanent conveyors are enclosed.

In 1981, rail cars will deliver an estimated 5,082,000 tons of coal to the Amos Plant and more than 2,000,000 tons to the Putnam Coal Terminal for trans-shipment to Mountaineer. The Putnam Terminal has the installed capacity to transfer approximately 4,000,000 tons of coal annually.

The Putnam terminal will operate on a three-shifts-per-day basis seven days a week.



The barge loader has the capacity to load 3,000 tons of coal per hour. Thirty-four concrete cells constructed in the river allow barges to tie up securely while waiting to be loaded.

## APCO CONTRACTS FOR 1.2 MILLION TONS OF W.VA. COAL ANNUALLY

Two major coal contracts representing 1,200,000 annual tons of West Virginia coal were signed by Appalachian Power Company on October 1.

Westmoreland Coal Company will supply 600,000 tons each year to Appalachian Power's new Mountaineer plant from its Hampton mines in Boone County. The Princess Susan Coal Company and Coal Power Corporation will supply 600,000 tons to the Kanawha River plant from their mines in Kanawha County near Cedar Grove.

In 1979, Appalachian Power and its sister companies of the American Electric Power System purchased more than 15-million tons of West Virginia coal, which made an economic contribution to the state of nearly \$500 million. The new 1,300-megawatt Mountaineer power plant, which went into commercial operation on September 15, will require some 3-million tons of coal each year and that coal is being purchased from the low sulfur reserves of West Virginia, according to W. S. White, Jr., chairman of Appalachian Power and AEP.

The Westmoreland contract covers a minimum period of 15 years. The coal will be mined at the Hampton mines, then moved by unit trains to Appalachian Power's new Putnam Coal Terminal on the Kanawha River at Morgan's Landing, and moved by river barge to the Mountaineer plant.

White pointed out that the Westmoreland coal mined from the state's valuable low sulfur reserves will be washed and of a consistent high quality, in excess of 12,000 Btu's. This coal will also meet the current, highly restrictive sulfur dioxide emission standards for Mountaineer, without the use of scrubbers. He added that coal of this quality will help in achieving a high level of plant availability which, in turn, assists in producing the lowest possible cost of electricity for Appalachian Power's customers.

"Test burns of the Westmoreland and similar coals indicate that Mountaineer will be a highly efficient plant thanks, in part, to the quality of coal we are feeding the boiler," White said.

The Princess Susan contract is for a minimum of eight years. "The Kanawha River plant must burn coal that limits sulfur emissions to no more than 1.6 pounds per million Btu of heat input. The Princess Susan coal meets those requirements," said White.

## THE ILLUMINATOR

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## SAVINGS PLAN UNIT VALUES

Date	Value Per Unit	Units Credited Per Dollar
<b>Fixed Income Fund</b>		
1/31/80	1.1756	.8506
2/29/80	1.1831	.8452
3/31/80	1.1915	.8393
4/30/80	1.2002	.8332
5/31/80	1.2095	.8268
6/30/80	1.2188	.8205
7/31/80	1.2285	.8140
8/31/80	1.2386	.8074
9/30/80	1.2487	.8008
<b>Equity Fund</b>		
1/31/80	1.4339	.6974
2/29/80	1.4380	.6954
3/31/80	1.2986	.7701
4/30/80	1.3554	.7378
5/31/80	1.4303	.6992
6/30/80	1.4749	.6780
7/31/80	1.5715	.6363
8/31/80	1.5896	.6291
9/30/80	1.6288	.6139
<b>AEP Stock Fund</b>		
1/31/80	.9423	1.0612
2/29/80	.8811	1.1349
3/31/80	.8506	1.1756
4/30/80	.9980	1.0020
5/31/80	1.0350	.9662
6/30/80	1.0584	.9448
7/31/80	1.0585	.9447
8/31/80	.9922	1.0079
9/30/80	.9635	1.0379

**HOW TO READ THE ABOVE CHART:** The first column lists the days on which unit values are figured; the second shows the market price or value of each unit on that day; and the third indicates how many units you could have bought for \$1 on that day. For example, if the market value or "value per unit" of the Equity Fund were 50¢ on the valuation date (last day of each month), then "units credited per dollar" would be 2.000. This also holds true for the AEP Stock Fund and the Fixed Income Fund.

## ACCEPTED OIP PROPOSALS

Abingdon Division	13
Beckley Division	10
Bluefield Division	8
Charleston Division	11
Huntington Division	20
Logan-Williamson Division	31
Lynchburg Division	13
Pulaski Division	15
Roanoke Division	17
John Amos Plant	7
Clinch River Plant	3
Glen Lyn Plant	2
Kanawha River Plant	14
Philip Sporn Plant	2
Central Machine Shop	11
Centralized Plant Maintenance	2
GO Accounting	28
GO Customer Services	5
GO General Services	3
GO Hydro	3
GO Land Management	0
GO Operations	7
GO Personnel/Executive	5
GO Public Affairs	9
GO Purchasing	1
GO Transmission/Distribution	14

Total accepted by General Office for processing as of October 15 . . . . . 254



Work on a new \$2.3 million service building for Kingsport Power Company has passed the halfway point. The building structure and outside paving have been finished and inside work is underway. The 40,000 square foot metal and brick building is scheduled for completion in May 1981. C. A. Davidson is resident engineer for the project.

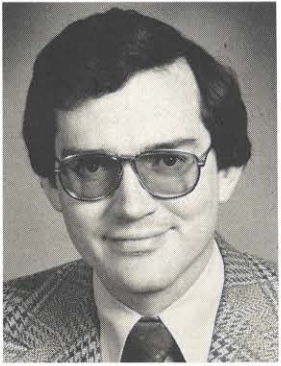


To celebrate three years without a disabling injury, Kanawha River employees were treated to a luncheon at the plant recently. Utility Supervisor Pat Grady, shown above in chef's hat and apron, helped with the serving and setting of tables. Operations Supervisor Ray Lively and Plant Performance Superintendent R. J. Cruickshank decorated the machine shop with flags, safety items, balloons, pictures and red, white and blue ribbons.

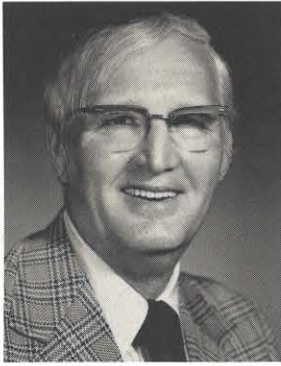


More than 8,000 people, most of whom are students in the 8th through 12th grades, have had an opportunity to learn more about wise and economical use of electricity in the home by touring a Home Energy Management Mobile Van. Sponsored by Appalachian Power, the van was assembled by the Virginia Farm and Home Electrification Council. Included are displays and information on insulation, ventilation, solar energy for heating, the heat pump, how electrical load can be controlled in the home, lighting and other subjects. Each person touring the van is given a folder which contains information as well as an "Energy I.Q." quiz. The most intriguing display is an electronic energy simulator, where a student can ask the simulator questions on annual operating costs for homes with various types of insulation, thermostat settings, heating and appliances, and receive instant answers. This unit is portable and can be taken into the classroom. The van is scheduled for appearances in Beckley, Bluefield, Charleston, Logan-Williamson, Lynchburg and Roanoke Divisions.

## CUSTOMER SERVICES FUNCTIONS EXPANDED



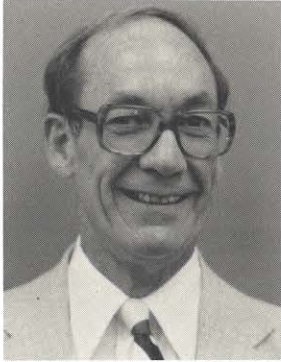
Long



Holbrook



Snodgrass



Fulkner

A restructuring and expansion of the division customer services departments within Appalachian Power Company became effective October 1. The restructuring follows by four months a reorganization of the General Office Customer Services Department.

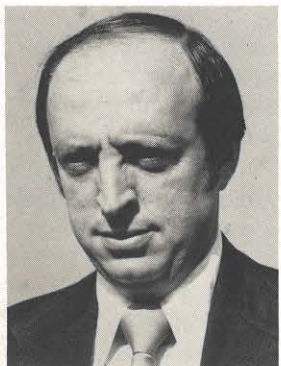
In the new division structure, the customer services department consists of three sections: customer service, customer accounts and energy services.

The customer service section took on much of the work done previously by the residential section and will function primarily with respect to residential customers. This section is headed by customer services supervisors.

The customer accounts section now performs the functions previously carried out by the customer accounting section. The division customer accounts supervisors have responsibility for customer accounts in all division offices.

The energy services section is primarily concerned with commercial and industrial customers. In the Abingdon, Beckley, Bluefield, Huntington, Logan-Williamson, Lynchburg and Pulaski Divisions, persons in the energy services section report directly to the customer services manager. Only Charleston and Roanoke will have an energy services supervisor at this time because of the large amount of activity in these divisions in the commercial and industrial fields.

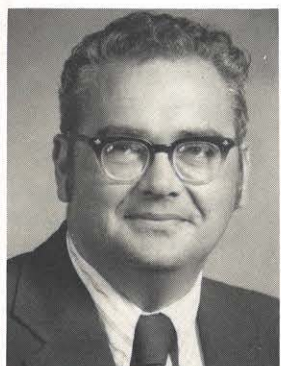
The restructuring is in line with similar changes made throughout the AEP System. The net result will be a standardization of both titles and responsi-



Nisbet



Figg



Vaught



Porter

bilities in the customer services departments throughout the AEP System.

The restructuring has resulted in the promotion of eight persons:

In Abingdon, Barry Long was named customer services supervisor. He was formerly area supervisor at Gate City.

In Beckley, Woodrow Holbrook, former residential representative senior, was promoted to customer services supervisor.

In Charleston, Barry Snodgrass, former power engineer, was named energy services supervisor. Jennings Fulkner, former administrative assistant, was promoted to customer services supervisor.

In Logan-Williamson, James R. Nisbet became customer services supervisor. He had been a power engineer.

Herbert Figg, Jr., former commercial engineer, was named customer services supervisor in Lynchburg.

In Roanoke, Daniel E. Vaught was promoted to energy services supervisor. He rose to the position from that of power engineer in Fieldale. And J. D. Porter, former residential services coordinator in GO Customer Services, was named customer services supervisor.

## VASSELL FORESEES COAL AS PRIMARY U.S. ENERGY SOURCE

"For the next several decades, American coal will be the primary source of energy for this country, gradually displacing oil," Gregory S. Vassell, AEP senior vice president — system planning, recently told Ohio Power Company plant managers in Canton.

Vassell predicted that this trend would mean a major rejuvenation of many parts of the AEP service area in terms of economic growth, new jobs and personal income. Also, the growth in electric energy requirements is bound to be faster than the growth in the requirements for energy as a whole.

Vassell foretold the future expanded use of coal and the need for additional electricity after representing the American Electric Power System at the World Energy Conference in Munich, Germany, attended by more than 4,000 delegates. The Conference is an organization of some 78 countries, each represented by a national committee. AEP is a member of the U.S. National Committee of the World Energy Conference.

Vassell reported that representatives of Western industrialized countries and Japan invariably had recognized that oil and natural gas are running out and that the world must develop renewable energy sources by 2020 and beyond. "The objectives of the Western countries are to implement programs of conservation and to substitute coal and nuclear for oil and gas plus the future development of new energy technologies," he said.

Vassell was disturbed to learn that the Soviet Union had increased its primary energy production by 28 percent during the past six years, while United States productions had increased only .7 percent over the same period.

Vassell was impressed with the positive coverage the conference received in the German news media.

"The German national television carried a one-hour program on energy one evening. The program, while showing briefly a few demonstrators carrying anti-nuclear signs, was strongly pro-energy and pro-nuclear, Vassell related. "In the course of the program, several energy experts were interviewed with courtesy and were given ample opportunity to articulate their views. The contrast in treatment, as compared with American television, was striking."

One of the most salient conclusions from the conference, in Vassell's view, was the general recognition of the pivotal role that is bound to be played by coal in the future world-wide energy trade. If this should come about, it would mean that larger parts of AEP System's service area would experience an economic revival on an unprecedented scale," he said.

"In view of this," Vassell concluded, "our challenge for the 1980s, 1990s and beyond is to strive to meet the electric energy needs of the area we serve while maintaining the vitality, vigor and financial health of the AEP System."

## SAVINGS BONDS INTEREST RAISED

President Carter has approved a 1 percent increase in the interest rate paid on United States Savings Bonds and Savings Notes.

The President acted after signing legislation permitting the Secretary of the Treasury, with the President's approval, to raise Savings Bonds interest rates by up to 1 percent during any 6-month period. Previously the interest rate ceiling was fixed by statute.

The interest rate on Series EE Bonds purchased on and after November 1, 1980, is being increased from 7 percent to 8 percent, compounded semi-annually, when the Bonds are held to original maturity. The term to maturity is being shortened from 11 to 9 years.

The interest rate on Series HH Savings Bonds purchased on and after November 1, 1980, is being increased from 6½ percent to 7½ percent to their original maturity, which remains at 10 years. Interest on these Bonds is paid semiannually by check.

All outstanding Series E, EE, H and HH Savings Bonds, as well as outstanding Savings Notes (Freedom Shares) will also benefit from a 1 percent increase to their next maturities. The redemption value of E and EE Bonds and Savings Notes and the interest on H and HH Bonds during periods before their maturity will be improved. In general, the increase will be effective with the first semiannual interest period that begins on or after November 1, 1980. Maturity periods for these Bonds and Notes will not be changed.

Depending on market conditions, a further rate increase of up to 1 percent may be made as early as May 1, 1981.

The new 8 percent rate for EE Bonds and 7½ percent rate for HH Bonds will be guaranteed minimum yields to their original maturities.

## CHECK SOCIAL SECURITY EARNINGS

Everyone should check his or her Social Security earnings record from time to time to prevent errors from occurring.

If you discover a mistake, it must be corrected within 39½ months after the year in which the wages were paid. Otherwise, you're stuck with the incorrect record, and it will be included in the calculation of your benefits when payable. The result could be a significantly lower payment rate.

To check on your record, obtain Form OAR-7004 from your Social Security office. Mail it to the Social Security Administration, P. O. Box 57, Baltimore, Maryland 21203. The SSA will return the form with the status of your earnings recorded.



Tom Philpott, hydro clerk A in GO Hydro, Roanoke, has passed the National Registry Paramedic and Commonwealth of Virginia Paramedic Exams. He recently completed 400 hours of hospital and classroom paramedic training. A state certified Emergency Medical Technician and Cardiac Technician, Tom is an instructor for the Red Cross Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation and First Aid classes and is vice president and treasurer of the Vinton First Aid Crew. Photo courtesy Vinton Messenger.

## COOK PASSES DISASTER TEST WITH FLYING COLORS



Robert Jurgensen, AEP assistant vice president and chief nuclear engineer, New York, points to a drawing while explaining to the news media the simulated accident at Cook Nuclear Plant. Jurgensen served as the utility spokesman during the emergency preparedness drill.

It was like opening night . . . except it was morning.

The "dress rehearsals" had gone better than had been expected. Of course there were a lot of wrinkles to be ironed out after the first one September 23. The second "rehearsal" a week later was an improvement so there was every reason to believe that, when the "curtain" went up October 9, things would fall into place.

The "stage" was the first emergency preparedness exercise at the Donald C. Cook Nuclear Plant, Bridgman, Mich. Its drama was heightened by the knowledge that officials from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) were there to review the performance.

So, understandably, the "players" were nervous — at first. Center stage for AEP and Indiana & Michigan Electric Co. was the Joint Public Information Center (JPIC) at Lake Michigan College Community Center, a site selected because it was at least 10 miles from the nuclear plant. JPIC was the only source of information for the news media. A room at JPIC, "command center," was the base of operations for AEP and I&M public affairs personnel, as well as for Robert Jurgensen, assistant vice president and chief nuclear engineer, New York; Robert Keith, operations superintendent at Cook, and David Campbell, production supervisor at Cook.

Also operating from the JPIC's command center were three representatives from the state of Michigan, including Al Sandner, press secretary to Gov. William G. Milliken, and Bud Umphries from the Berrien County sheriff's office.

But there were players in other places, such as the State On-Scene Emergency Operating Center at the New Buffalo State Police Post, the State Emergency Operating Center at Lansing, the Technical Support Center at Cook and the sheriff's office at the courthouse in St. Joseph.

Communications among all these centers had to be clear, accurate and constantly updated.

When the exercise started shortly after 8 a.m., its cast of perhaps 100 was activated.

It all began with a press briefing, held at 8:15 a.m. at the JPIC to update what had supposedly been happening since 1 o'clock that morning.

"Gov. William G. Milliken has declared a state of disaster Thursday following a hazardous incident at the Donald C. Cook Nuclear Plant . . ." the governor's press secretary told the media. "Milliken was informed that at 1 a.m. Unit 1 at the Plant was experiencing a pickup of excessive debris in its circulating water system," Sandner continued.

"A series of incidents during the morning hours caused a deterioration of the situation. Appropriate state, federal and local agencies were notified by the plant . . . Milliken issued his declaration at 8 a.m. The declaration empowers him to activate full state resources to cope with the situation . . ."

Following Sandner's remarks, Jurgensen described the "unusual event" at the plant, explaining that the debris had decreased condenser vacuum and threatened continued operation of the unit. As time passed and conditions worsened, the classification changed from an "unusual event" to "alert" status.

With the press thus brought up to date, the first "official" call from the plant to the JPIC came in at 8:25 a.m. and the telephone line remained open for duration of the exercise. Either Jurgensen, Keith or Campbell monitored the calls, writing down pertinent data. Press briefings were held about every half hour or when there was a major change, such as the "alert" status changing to "site emergency" and then to "general emergency." The changes in classifications occurred much more rapidly than they would have in a real emergency, which would have covered several days.

In the command center at JPIC, information was readily exchanged and, prior to each press briefing, representatives from the utility, state and county reviewed what was to be announced.

Only Jurgensen, Sandner, Umphries and a representative from the State Radiological Health Division spoke directly to the press, thereby eliminating possibly conflicting stories about what was happening at the plant and elsewhere.

Following each press briefing, reporters went into an adjacent room to write their stories. I&M provided typewriters, telephones, press kits, maps and, of course, coffee and doughnuts.

The exercise included the simulated "evacuation" of over 1,800 area residents.

Security at the JPIC was thorough. In an obvious but unannounced test of security measures, two FEMA observers tried to enter through the proper entrance area.

No one was permitted to enter the command center except authorized utility, state and county personnel, who wore special badges, until the exercise ended.

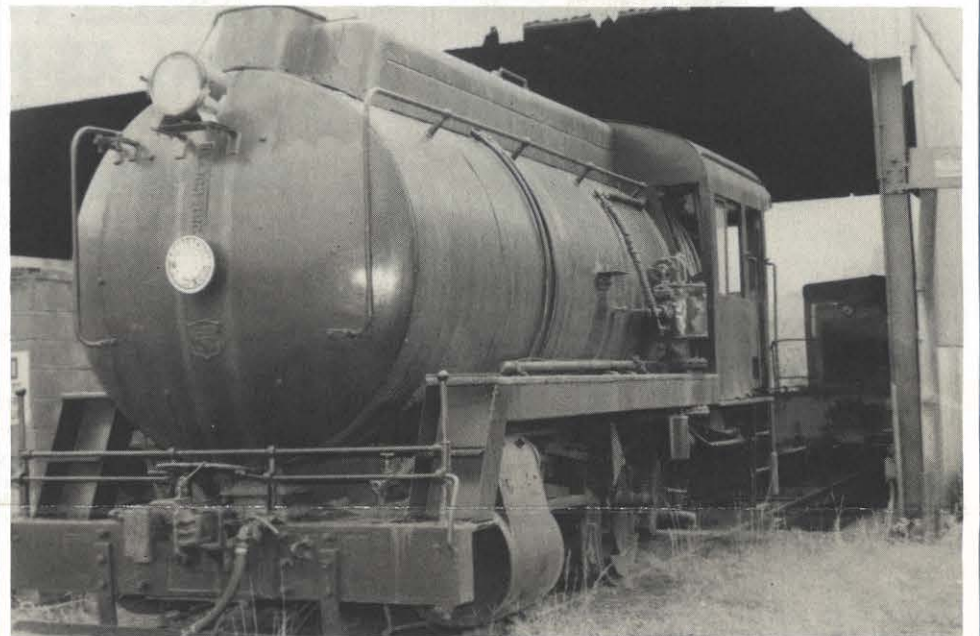
Although the actual exercise lasted only about five hours, four days had "passed" before the last announcement to the press: "As reported on October 9, the radiation release terminated at 11 a.m., and at 3 p.m. the situation stabilized."

But even then, all was not over. The following day federal officials held an evaluation of the job done by personnel of the utility, state and county. Twenty-three federal officials observed the various operating centers, including the JPIC.

Chief evaluator was Pat McCullough, chairman, Regional Advisory Committee of FEMA, who said, "We were very pleased with the results . . . it's our unanimous opinion that, should an emergency occur at the Cook Plant, the people of Berrien County would be protected . . . all involved in the exercise did a professional, top-flight job and you are to be commended."

Whew.

## CABIN CREEK ENGINE DONATED TO W.VA.



In its heyday it was the little engine that could, a classic yard engine bottled with steam, huffing and puffing around the freight yard pulling loads of coal. Today it is the little engine that did. As the latest addition to the old train depot next to Appalachian Power's St. Albans office, this tired engine is due for a long rest.

The engine, No. 7971, sits calmly by that St. Albans' landmark, old 2700.

Dwarfed by the size of its neighbor, 7971 looks anything but mighty. In fact, it looks like something a rather large little boy might have pulled out of a box at Christmastime.

But here looks are deceiving. This yard engine, donated to the State of West Virginia by Appalachian stands over 12 feet high and weighs over 100,000 lbs. Built in 1944 by the H. K. Porter Company of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, it was sold to Appalachian for \$23,825 for use at the Cabin Creek Plant.

At the Plant, the engine's major duty was to pull incoming cars of coal from the train terminal, across the yard, to the plant grinder. At the grinder the coal was emptied to be crushed.

Since the machine was often required to function around flammable chemicals and other materials which could ignite, 7971 could have no boiler. To carry its own fire would entail too much of a risk. So instead the engine was built as nothing more than a sealed teapot, an iron tank filled with steam from a boiler located on the grounds. The old engine was capable of holding 600 cubic feet of steam compressed to 600 lbs. per square inch. On a "full tank" it could run around the yard for up to 8 hours pulling coal cars across the yard.

In fact, pulling cars from the train terminal was all 7971 ever did. Too slow to pull a passenger train and too little to haul freight, this iron horse was more of a "Francis the mule" than a "Spectacular Bid."

Now Appalachian Power has retired her from the yard and donated her to the State of West Virginia for preservation. Today she is resting in the shadow of old 2700, a monument from the steam age pulling coal cars only in the imaginations of the children who come to see her.

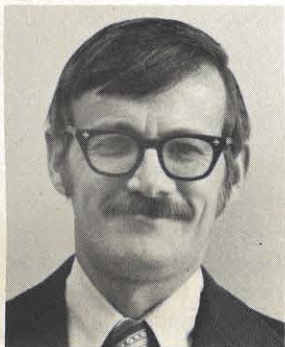
The state Railroad Society is actively involved in the maintenance of the steam engine and hopefully the engine will be in top condition before the harsh weather sets in.

Story courtesy St. Albans Advertiser.

# MOVING UP



**Steve G. Allen**, former customer accounts representative non-exempt, was promoted to customer accounts assistant exempt in Kingsport on November 1. He holds a bachelor of science degree in business administration from Milligan College.



**Larry J. Tolley**, former maintenance mechanic A, was promoted to maintenance supervisor at Amos Plant on September 1.



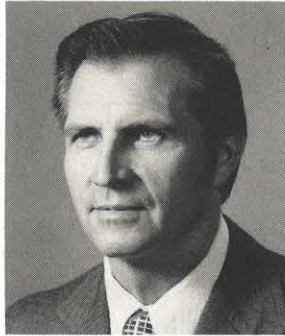
**Charles L. Sullivan**, former maintenance mechanic A, was promoted to maintenance supervisor at Philip Sporn Plant on October 1. He succeeds Jesse Abel, who retired.



**Virgil W. Watson**, former equipment operator, was promoted to unit supervisor at Philip Sporn Plant on October 1. He succeeds C. G. Sheets, who is on LTD leave. Watson attended Marshall University.



**Kenneth L. Longstreth**, former equipment operator, was promoted to unit supervisor at Philip Sporn Plant on October 1. He succeeds J. R. Bailey, who is on LTD leave.



**H. R. Mayes**, former electrical engineer, was promoted to laboratory supervisor in GO T&D Station, Roanoke, on October 1.



**Wayne T. Sink**, former electrical engineer, was promoted to relay engineer senior in GO T&D Station, Roanoke, on September 1. He holds a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.

## BLUEFIELD ENGINEER RETIRES



**Howard S. Meadows**, Bluefield electrical engineer senior, retired November 1 after 39 years' service. Employed in 1941 as a clerk, he advanced through the positions of clerk and draftsman

junior and senior, engineer senior B, distribution engineer and electrical engineer before being promoted in 1970 to the position he held at retirement.

For the graduate of West Virginia Tech with a degree in industrial education, retirement means "more". More fishing, hunting and wood-working.

Howard also has a number of civic activities that will keep him busy. He serves on the executive board of the Appalachian Council of the Boy Scouts of America and is a member of the South Bluefield Kiwanis Club and Bland Street United Methodist Church. He and his wife Jane have three children and 12 grandchildren.

## FRIENDS WE'LL MISS



**William Guy French**, 84, retired system senior transmission engineer, GO T&D Bluefield, died September 15. A native of West Graham, Virginia, he began his career in 1922 as a transit man and retired October 1, 1960. French is survived by two grandchildren.



**Ray T. Fields**, 72, retired Glen Lyn Plant equipment operator, died October 4. A native of Bay Wood, Virginia, he was employed in 1935 as a laborer and retired November 1, 1970. Fields is survived by his widow Mary, Route 4, Box 466C, Princeton, West Virginia; two sons, two daughters; two sisters and 11 grandchildren.



West Virginia Governor John D. Rockefeller IV, along with several other state officials, coal operators and news media representatives, made an inspection tour of Appalachian Power Company's new Mountaineer Plant last month. A bus tour of the plant grounds followed opening remarks by John W. Vaughan, president of Appalachian; J. E. Dolan, vice chairman of American Electric Power; and W. M. Robinson, Mountaineer plant manager. When the bus returned to the plant office, those attending began a tour of the plant's interior. Several floors of the plant, including the control room, were viewed before the party was taken to the roof, where an overall view of both the Mountaineer grounds and the Philip Sporn Plant were visible. A box luncheon for the attendees was provided in the cafeteria. Pictured at the coal storage area are, left to right, W. S. White, AEP chairman; Governor Rockefeller; Gus Douglass, W.Va. commissioner of agriculture; John W. Vaughan; John Dolan; and Gerald Blackmore, executive vice president, AEP Fuel Supply.

## CPM TACKLES STICKY JOB



S. W. Cover, left, and J. T. Pickering, both maintenance mechanics B, pull wire from the hopper hole.

Centralized Plant Maintenance employees tackled a sticky assignment recently when they removed 210 $\frac{1}{4}$  miles of barbed wire from the Amos Unit 3 precipitator and replaced it with a like amount of smooth wire. In the process, they went through 500 pairs of leather and welding gloves, 2,000 pairs of disposable coveralls and 300 pairs of monogoggles.

CPM employees worked the 48 precipitator hoppers in six-men teams. Two employees were positioned in the top section of the precipitator to unhook the wires from the rack. Two employees in the center section removed the 10# weight attached to each wire and helped lower the wire to the two men at the bottom on the outside, who rolled and disposed of each section. The wire was divided into 74,000 pieces, each 30' long, and total weight was in excess of 55 tons.

The scaffolding constructed by CPM employees for the job consisted of 480 pieces of scaffold planking, 2"x12"x16' long.

The entire assignment was completed in 15 eight-hour days with only one minor injury, a small dust particle in an employee's eye.

# POWER PEOPLE MAKING NEWS

## Abingdon



Mitchell

**Marlene Mitchell**, customer accounts representative, and **Linda Kegley**, junior stenographer, were elected president and secretary-treasurer, respectively, of the Washington County Suburban Extension Club.

**Alma**, wife of Retired Marion Area Supervisor E. W. Henson, was installed as first vice president of the Smyth County Community Hospital Auxiliary.

## John Amos



**Cynthia**, daughter of K. L. "Buck" McDaniel, safety coordinator, was crowned Miss Hurricane High for 1980 at the homecoming game between Hurricane and Oak Hill High School. Her escort was **James**, son of Irene Goff, plant clerk A.

## Beckley



**J. C. Barker**, personnel supervisor, was elected president of the Beckley Kiwanis Club.

**Mark**, son of Division Superintendent J. R. McGinnis, was elected vice president of the freshman class of West Virginia University's School of Medicine.

Administrative Assistant **Ray Vest** was elected to the Shady Spring Little League Baseball's board of directors.

**Julie**, daughter of Customer Services Advisor Sandy Palen, was selected as seventh grade attendant to the homecoming queen at Park Junior High School.

## Bluefield

**Mary Kirby**, residential representative, is chairman of Circle No. 9 at Westminster Presbyterian Church.

**W. B. Belchee**, division manager, was appointed chairman of the Public Utilities Division of the Greater Bluefield United Way.

## Charleston



**Marta**, daughter of R. W. Gillespie, St. Albans area service restorer, was chosen Miss Majorette 1980 in a Band Festival sponsored by the Hamlin Jaycees. A junior at Poca High, Marta has been a majorette for four years.

**John Frazier**, personnel supervisor, was elected to the boards of directors of the West Virginia Safety Council and the West Virginia Chapter of the Industrial Relations Research Association.

**Lloyd Pomykata**, customer services manager, was elected second vice president of the Kiwanis Club of Charleston.

## General Office

**Buren Carter**, general bookkeeper, GO Accounting, Roanoke, has been selected as a member of Alpha Chi national honor fraternity at Roanoke College.

**Shelly and Patrick**, daughter and son of Denver McFann, transmission mechanic A, GO T&D, Huntington, are members of the Junior Bible Clubs of Ice Creek Missionary Baptist Church which won 36 ribbons, 21 individual trophies and three team trophies in the Southwide Olympic Summer Competition at Chattanooga, Tennessee. Olympic Summer is an annual event to which churches can send club participants to compete in team or individual Bible events. Shelly and Patrick attend South Point Elementary #2, and she is a cheerleader for the South Point Midget League B football team.

## Huntington

**W. C. McMahan**, Point Pleasant area manager, and **Ralph Johnson**, customer services manager, were elected vice president and secretary, respectively, of the Central Ohio Valley Industrial Council.

**Earl A. Jackson, Jr.**, division office supervisor, was elected treasurer of the Huntington Chapter of Administrative Management Society for 1980-81.

Retirees **Clayton Dunlap** and **Carl Dunn** were elected treasurer and director, respectively, of the Huntington Kiwanis Club.

## Kanawha River

**Luther Boyd**, retired maintenance man, was appointed by the Montgomery Town Council to the Committee on Solid Waste Authority for Fayette and Kanawha Counties.

## Kingsport

Servicer **H. R. Morrison** was elected second director of the South Atlantic Shrine Patrol Association, which consists of 14 temples located in 6 southeastern states with a

membership of over 86,000.

Personnel Director **J. K. White** was awarded a blue ribbon for his entry "Spring Afternoon" in the nature color photography division of the third annual Netherland Inn Competitive Photography Exhibition. This was his first show entry.

**Bill Bolton**, retired meter supervisor, was presented a plaque by the United Commercial Travelers for his many years of outstanding service to the organization.

## Logan-Williamson

**Ruby**, widow of the late T. L. Henritze, represented Southwestern District, West Virginia Federation of Women's Clubs, at a regional seminar on community improvement in Philadelphia, Pa. Ruby is president of the Logan Garden Council, conservation chairman of the Logan Woman's Club, member of the West Virginia water quality advisory committee, and water resources/landfill chairman of the Logan League of Women Voters.

**Paul Owens**, Williamson area superintendent, has been named chairman of the Williamson United Appeal. Secretary-treasurer and president-elect of the Williamson Rotary Club, Paul is also vice president of the Tug Valley Chamber of Commerce, member of the Salvation Army advisory board and district chairman of the Mingo-Pike District, Boy Scouts of America.

**Genie Justice**, Williamson junior clerk, was a judge for the Miss King Coal pageant.

## Lynchburg



**W. A. Robertson**, station mechanic A, is the recipient of the "Mr. Legionnaire" award as the outstanding Legionnaire in Post 16,

Lynchburg. Post 16 is the largest American Legion Post in Virginia.

**Bill**, son of Customer Services Manager W. W. Ford, Jr., is a member of the E. C. Glass High School marching band which won the first place award of \$1,000 in the Old Dominion Dixie Classic.

Residential Representative **Betty Pearson** was appointed by the superintendent of schools to serve on a Vocational Education Task Force in Amherst County.



**W. David Crews**, personnel supervisor, was elected president of the Personnel Association of Central Virginia. He has served on the organization's board of directors for two years.

## Mountaineer Construction



**Matthew Robert and Megan Marie**, children of Sam Longanacre, electrical construction assistant II, were both first place winners in the Mason County Fair Pretty Baby Contest. Matt won in the five-year-old class and Megan in the two-year-old.



**Matthew Longanacre** shows off the trophies he won as a member of the New Haven Mets T-Ball Team which won the Middleport Youth League and Bend Area Tournaments.

## Pulaski

Retiree **L. A. Sharpe** was appointed Master of the First Veil of Wythe Royal Arch Chapter No. 51, A.F. & A.M.

Division Superintendent **R. B. Kilgore** was installed as second vice president of the Pulaski Kiwanis Club.

**Carol Webb**, Hillsville customer accounts representative C, was named corresponding secretary of the Women's Aglow Fellowship.

## Roanoke

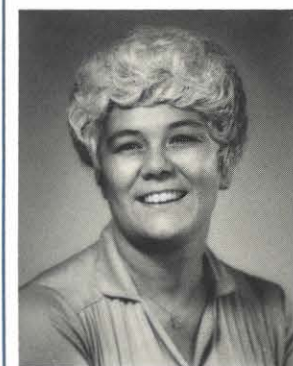
**Ann Altice**, customer accounts representative B, was elected secretary of the United Methodist Women of Redwood United Methodist Church.

**Peggy Edwards**, Rocky Mount customer accounts representative A, was elected treasurer of the Baptist Women at Story Creek Baptist Church.

**George Bronson**, engineering technologist, was re-elected to a second two-year term as Sunday School superintendent of the Williamson Road Church of God. He was also elected to a two-year term on the church council.

**Eddie**, son of George Bronson, has been chosen for the advanced placement English composition and literature program at Lord Botetourt High School. AP students who qualify may receive college credit in a freshman English course.

## BASS EARNS DEGREE



**Barbara Bass**, Lynchburg customer accounts representative A, has received an associate in applied science degree in business management from Central Virginia Community College.

## SYSTEM COUPLES MARRY



Deborah Lynne Lopez to **James Kimberly Jones**, son of James E. Jones, executive assistant, GO Executive, Roanoke, October 4.



Erica Becher to **Ian B. Dye, Jr.**, Clinch River filter plant operator and sampler, August 23.



**Kitty A. Goodwin**, daughter of Jerry Goodwin, welder 2nd class, Central Machine Shop, to **Benjamin A. Lamb**, October 11.



Valerie Jean Morgan to **Donald Wayne Abernathy**, Pulaski electrical engineer, October 11.

Cheryl Rutherford to **Randy Bordenet**, maintenance mechanic A, Centralized Plant Maintenance, July 26.



**Debra Kay Ford**, daughter of W. W. Ford, Jr., Lynchburg customer services manager, to **George Gardner Bauserman**, October 11.



**Cynthia Merchant**, office messenger, GO General Services, Roanoke, to **Harvey Saunders**, September 20.



**Debra Joanne Smith**, daughter of Frances Smith, junior clerk, GO Accounting, Roanoke, to **David Garland Slocum**, September 5.



Sheila Gail Adkins to **Michael David Deal**, son of June Deal, lab technician, AEP Lab, Huntington, September 13.

**Jacquelyn Merial**, Philip Sporn junior clerk, to **John M. Taylor**, Philip Sporn maintenance mechanic B, August 18.



Mary Thacker to **Homer Bunn**, Huntington R/e & R/w agent, October 6.



Teresa Anderson to **Douglas Drake**, Amos Plant utility operator B, September 28.



Beverly Jo Wood to **Michael Blake Cooper**, son of Douglas W. Cooper, line supervisor exempt in the Stuart area of Roanoke Division, August 9.



**Lisa Haynes**, daughter of J. Donald Haynes, Bluefield customer services clerk A, to **Mark Oliver**, September 23.



Karen Sue Gibson to **Robert W. Cooper**, junior clerk, GO General Services Transportation Section, Roanoke, October 11.

## BABY PARADE

**Abingdon**  
Jennifer Rose, daughter of **H. L. Phipps**, Clintwood line mechanic D, October 6.

**Beckley**  
Brandon Levi, son of **Debbie Simms**, tracer, October 10.

**Bluefield**  
Telisha Chantelle, daughter of **Larry Wayne Jeffries**, custodian, October 12.

**Central Machine**  
Tracey Nicole, daughter of **Jackie Cobb**, NDE inspector 1st class, October 11.

**Charleston**  
Allison Noel, daughter of **Dennis Kinder**, ash research and utilization engineer, AEP-Charleston, October 10.

Erik Joshua, son of **Gary Bledsoe**, meter reader, August 30.

**General Office**  
Amy Renee, daughter of **Joseph A. Ryder, Jr.**, transmission engineer, GO-Bluefield, September 27.

Courtney Ann, daughter of **Darrell Beck**, operations engineer, GO Operations, Roanoke, October 8.

Michael Blake, son of **Cathy Davis**, junior stenographer, GO Hydro, Roanoke, October 10.

**Huntington**  
April Dawn, daughter of **Larry Lucas**, meter reader, September 23.

**Logan-Williamson**  
Bridget Kay, daughter of **Randy Thompson**, Williamson line mechanic D, September 7.

Jeremy Mark, son of **Jerry Thompson**, Madison line mechanic A, September 25.

**Mountaineer Construction**  
Tiffany Lynn, daughter of **Charles Allensworth, Jr.**, receiving/shipping inspector II, October 6.

**Roanoke**  
Wesley David, son of **S. E. Martin**, Fieldale line mechanic A, September 16.

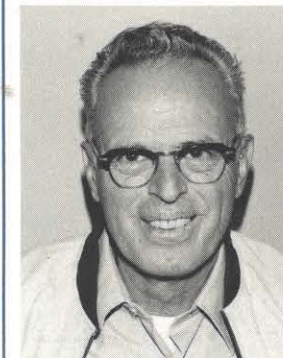
Adam David, son of **Michael Swalley**, customer accounting assistant, October 13.

**Philip Sporn**  
Jason Patrick, son of **John Riley**, barge attendant, September 14.

Adam Bryant, son of **Montie Sanders**, coal handler, September 20.

Kendra, daughter of **Kevin Walker**, chemist, September 17.

## NO FISHING FOR WALLS



Gay Walls plans to visit Florida but, believe it or not, doesn't plan to do any fishing. Gay says he is a sightseer, not an angler.

Gay retired November 1 as a maintenance mechanic D at Kanawha River Plant. He began his career in 1943 as a storeroom attendant at the old Cabin Creek Plant and was a boiler operator C before transferring to Kanawha when Cabin Creek closed in 1978.

Now Gay plans to work around the house, painting and landscaping. "That's enough," he declares. "I just want to take life easy."

Gay and his wife Maggie reside at 612 47th Street, Charleston, W.Va.

## LEANNA FORD RETIRES

Leanna Ford, who has been on long term disability leave since April 1973, retired November 1. She had worked in the Huntington Division for 19 years.

Leanna, who started as a clerk typist and was a T&D clerk B when she took disability leave, has lived in Colorado Springs, Colorado, since 1973. She has a son who works in Denver and a daughter who lives in Huntington.

"I expect to continue as I have been since leaving Huntington," she said. "I'm feeling better now than I was a year ago and am able to do more things, which is a great help."

Leanna does various types of crafts, in-

cluding china painting and calligraphy. She also teaches some craft classes in her home. She will continue to live at 1555 Hiawatha Drive, Cimarron Hills, Colorado Springs, Colorado.

## MILLER RETIRES AFTER 28 YEARS



Ivan Doug Miller hit age 62 on October 30 and the next day said good bye to the Philip Sporn Plant, where he had worked for over 28 years. Doug, who had been a maintenance mechanic A, said he decided to take early retirement in order to enjoy life while he is still "young."

Doug's first job at Sporn was as a utility worker. He spent six months in that job classification before becoming a maintenance mechanic. And during the following 28 years, he advanced through the various classes.

On the job Doug was well liked and was considered a most valuable employee because of his knowledge and familiarity with the plant. He was also quite a "kiddier," who was equally at home on the giving or receiving end.

Doug is interested in bowling and fishing and plans to indulge in both interests during retirement. He and his wife Pauline have two daughters. They will continue to live in New Haven, W.Va.

# VETS RECEIVE SERVICE AWARDS



C. E. Hoschar  
Head T&D Clerk  
Huntington  
40 Years



Thalia Myles  
Secretary-Stenographer  
Bluefield  
35 Years



W. D. Bennett  
Meter Reader  
Charleston  
35 Years



H. M. Figg, Jr.  
Commercial Engineer  
Lynchburg  
35 Years



Jessie Hill  
T&D Clerk A  
Bluefield  
35 Years



R. C. Coffman  
Eng. Technician Sr.  
Charleston  
35 Years



W. E. Overstreet  
Line Crew Supv. NE  
Roanoke  
35 Years



C. K. Rowland  
Customer Acctg. Supv.  
Abingdon  
35 Years



T. W. Holland  
Eng. Technologist  
Roanoke  
35 Years



J. B. Kahle  
Power Engineer  
Abingdon  
35 Years



Orville Napier  
Meter Serv. Mech. A  
Roanoke  
35 Years



W. C. Lindamood  
Cust. Acctg. Supv. NE  
Abingdon  
35 Years



Alvie Napier  
Maintenance Supv.  
John Amos  
35 Years



K. A. Hayes  
Trans. General Supv.  
GO-Bluefield  
35 Years



J. A. Bennett  
Plant Manager  
Kanawha River  
30 Years



Jeanne Sheets  
Adm. Asst. B  
Kanawha River  
30 Years



W. R. Couch  
Asst. Shift Op. Eng.  
Philip Sporn  
30 Years



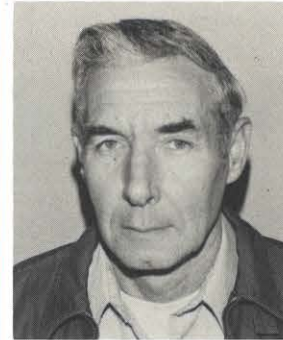
Christine White  
Plant Clerk-Special  
John Amos  
30 Years



L. J. Mills, Jr.  
Area Service Restorer  
Bluefield  
30 Years



W. R. Houchins  
Meter Mechanic A  
GO-Roanoke  
30 Years



R. S. Johnson  
Maint. Mechanic A  
Kanawha River  
30 Years



C. W. O'Daniels  
Yard Supt.  
Kanawha River  
30 Years



L. W. King  
Mech. Const. Asst. I  
Mountaineer Const.  
25 Years



W. M. Gardner  
Line Crew Supv. NE  
Pulaski  
25 Years



C. O. Welch, Jr.  
Head T&D Clerk  
Bluefield  
25 Years



L. B. Jackson  
Equipment Operator  
Glen Lyn  
25 Years



Foster Grinstead  
Civil Const. Asst. I  
Mountaineer Const.  
25 Years



J. D. Haynes  
Cust. Service Clerk A  
Bluefield  
25 Years



G. O. Givens, III  
Eng. Technician Sr.  
Roanoke  
25 Years

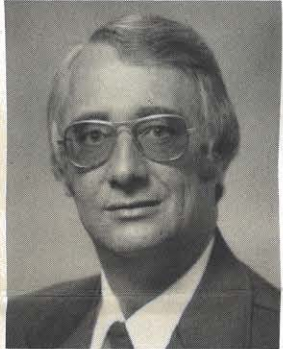




J. P. Sauer  
Tractor Operator  
Philip Sporn  
20 Years



Ruth Boothe  
Cust. Accts. Rep. B  
Logan-Williamson  
20 Years



J. D. Nickols  
Line Crew Supv. NE  
Abingdon  
20 Years

#### Abingdon

15 Years: **J. D. Moore**, meter electrician A. 10 Years: **R. H. Snodgrass, III**, electrical engineer.

#### Beckley

5 Years: **T. E. Wiseman**, power engineer.

#### Bluefield

15 Years: **J. E. Davidson, Jr.**, T&D clerk A. **H. W. Lanter**, engineering technologist. 5 Years: **E. L. Freeman, III**, meter reader. **R. K. Cantrell**, line mechanic B.

#### Central Machine Shop

10 Years: **C. R. Worley**, production superintendent. **H. L. Williamson**, production supervisor.

#### Centralized Plant Maintenance

15 Years: **J. H. Manley**, maintenance supervisor. 5 Years: **G. R. Cobb**, maintenance mechanic A.

#### Charleston

5 Years: **D. L. French**, hydro utility operator, Kanawha Valley Power. **R. L. Legg**, hydro maintenance mechanic C, Kanawha Valley Power.

#### Clinch River

15 Years: **B. G. Duty**, instrument mechanic A.

#### General Office

40 Years: **T. P. Barnett, Jr.**, electric plant clerk A, GO-Roanoke. 20 Years: **N. E. Lam**, classification supervisor, GO-Roanoke. 15 Years: **T. F. Puckett**, buyer, GO-Roanoke. 10 Years: **L. P. Haston**, classification and accounts payable clerk A, GO-Roanoke. 5 Years: **O. M. Gilliam, III**, surveyor assistant-rod, GO-Roanoke.

#### Glen Lyn

10 Years: **W. E. Neal**, coal sampler. 5 Years: **L. D. Wiley**, maintenance mechanic D. **Linda Shepherd**, auxiliary equipment operator. **M. L. Dunn**, auxiliary equipment operator. **Nancy Riddle**, maintenance mechanic D. **Carrlee Payne**, auxiliary equipment operator.

#### Huntington

15 Years: **C. E. Botts**, head T&D clerk. 10 Years: **M. L. Runyon**, line mechanic A. **J. W. Speaks**, custodian.

#### Kingsport

10 Years: **D. W. Mullins**, line mechanic A.

#### Logan-Williamson

15 Years: **Edith Williams**, senior telephone operator. 10 Years: **Sam Whitt**, area service restorer. **J. E. Jeffers**, station mechanic A. **R. S. Mills**, general servicer.

#### Mountaineer Construction

25 Years: **R. L. Nay**, mechanical construction assistant I.

#### Pulaski

10 Years: **D. L. Adams**, area supervisor.

#### Roanoke

25 Years: **M. B. Pitches**, line inspector.

#### Philip Sporn

30 Years: **R. E. Dailey**, maintenance mechanic A. 15 Years: **D. L. Gibbs**, maintenance mechanic A. 10 Years: **Roy Spencer**, personnel supervisor. **J. P. Raub**, instrument mechanic D.

## FLYING AHEAD FOR BROOKS



Jimmy Brooks, who turned 65 last month, is a World War II Air Force veteran who plans to spend part of his retirement days flying with his son.

Jimmy, a 33-year employee in the Marion area of the Abingdon Division, had been on long term disability since a tree-cutting accident in 1978.

The Baptist Church deacon began his career as a groundman in 1947. During the years as he advanced to line mechanic A, the equipment improved immensely, according to Jimmy.

"Major improvements have been made in the area of auger trucks and aerial bucket devices, which were not available then," Jimmy said. "We did most of our work off of an 'A frame' derrick which required much more manual labor."

Jimmy was a truck driver in his early days with the company. "One of the early pieces of equipment that we used was a pole trailer which had a steering wheel on the rear, much like the hook and ladder trucks the fire department uses. This unit required two people to coordinate their activities so that the trailer would not go to the opposite direction," Jimmy said.

"Even though the equipment has changed, and some of the safety rules have been increased, we practiced safety all along."

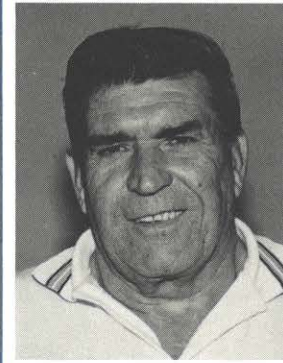
Jimmy recalled the ingenuity of customers in the early days as they tried very hard to get electric service connected to their homes. "The company had a 'rule' that to qualify for electric service, you had to have a major appliance. Since many of the people in this area could not afford these "luxuries," one of the dealers in Marion loaned people an appliance until after the electric service was hooked up. Then, the appliance was moved to a new location, thus allowing people to get electricity," Jimmy said.

One particular instance stands out in his mind. "One Friday afternoon our crew got a telegram from the dispatcher in Pulaski, requesting that we make repairs to a downed service line before coming in. There were no radios in the trucks, and many rural areas did not have telephones, so the only way to contact the crews was by telegram.

"Once we got to the house, the foreman asked me to check out the trouble while the crew got ready to fix it. I noticed that the lady's service line was OK. When I talked to her, she said she knew the lines were OK but that she had "blown a fuse" and didn't know how to replace it. I asked her why she had reported a downed line. She told me that she knew the power company wouldn't send men out if she had reported only a blown fuse," Jimmy recalled.

Jimmy and his wife Eulalee have five children and eight grandchildren. In addition to church work, hunting and fishing, Jimmy plans to visit a daughter in Newport News, Va., and a son in Indiana.

## ELMER HASH RETIRES



Hunting, fishing, spectator sports and working around the house will fill the leisure hours for Elmer Hash, Bluefield engineering technician senior, who elected early retirement last November for health reasons.

A native of Pineville, West Virginia, Elmer began his career in 1946 as a groundman B. He advanced through the positions of groundman A, truck driver-groundman, lineman C and B, planner and planner senior before being promoted in 1977 to the position he held at retirement.

Elmer is a member of Mullens Moose Club and American Legion Post No. 106. He and his wife Betty Jean have one child and two grandchildren.

## PAUL ROSE ENDS CAREER

James Paul Rose has plans to finish up "loose ends" on the home he built three years ago. Paul retired November 1 from his job as right-of-way agent in Bluefield.

He was employed in 1941 as a draftsman and was promoted in 1970 to the position he held at retirement.

Paul has a variety of interests to keep him occupied: woodworking, photography, stamp collecting and astronomy. A member of First Baptist Church in Princeton, Paul and his wife Darlene have two children and three grandchildren.

## WALKER HEADS TO COAST



Ray Walker ended 33½ years with the company on November 1, years that he calls "a good life." And with retirement Ray embarks on another significant change in his life. He is moving to the coast of North Carolina, leaving behind his native West Virginia where he was born 60 years ago.

Ray, who has been records supervisor in the Charleston Division since 1970, will move to Blounts Creek, N.C., where his wife Nina has relatives. His new home is on the Pamlico River. "I plan to do a lot of fishing and hunting," he said, "and will visit one of my daughters who lives in Florida." He also might do some babysitting with his two grandsons.

Ray's first job with the company in 1947 was a laborer in the T&D Department. Along the way Ray worked as senior T&D clerk and right-of-way agent before becoming records supervisor.

"One of the best things the company does for employees is their concern for safety," Ray said. "I've seen a lot of people come and go, but I've enjoyed my stay with the company. It's been a good life."

## BLOOD DONOR HONOR ROLL

**General Office**  
**Wayne Alexander**, electric plant clerk C, GO Accounting, Roanoke, 2 gallons.

## EARLE SNODGRASS: FROM STENOGRAPHER TO BUILDER OF POWER PLANTS



Earle Snodgrass poses in front of the Smith Mountain Hydro, for which he was resident engineer.

"You don't make many friends, but you have curtains that will fit any size window," remarked Earle Snodgrass with a smile, as he reflected on his 43 years' involvement with construction projects around the AEP System.

Earle claims that when he started to work at the old Windsor Plant in 1937 as a stenographer, he had no idea of what he was getting into. But he is quick to point out, "It has been a very interesting life and I don't think I could have done anything else I would have enjoyed more."

He continues, "When you are young, you have ideas of being a doctor, lawyer, architect or what have you. I was a frustrated sailor when I was in high school and wanted to go to Annapolis. I actually studied in high school with the idea of taking the entrance exam. Then I found out I was color blind and I couldn't go anyway, so that just turned my career plans around to the point where I had to go another way. It was during the depression, and my parents didn't have the money to send me to college. To try to work your way through college was kidding yourself because the jobs weren't available. So I went to Elliott Commercial College in Wheeling, W.Va., and worked my way through by playing the saxophone and clarinet in dance bands at night. The stenographic end at that time was a good stepping stone into other careers."

A look at his job assignments is impressive: Twin Branch Units 3 and 4; Philo Units 4 and 5; Tidd; Abingdon office building; Tanners Creek, Clifty Creek, Clinch River and Smith Mountain.

"After completion of the original Smith Mountain Project, I spent some time with Appalachian on Joe Gills' staff," Earle recalls, "then I was assigned to building construction on the AEP payroll. When the austerity program hit, I went to Meigs Mine in south-east Ohio and was there about three years. From there I spent about three years with the Service Corporation. The first job there was supervisor of building construction. Then I was assigned as manager of the construction division office in Canton. Later on when the division was reorganized, I was assigned as head of the construction division personnel section, the title I hold now. When Unit 3 at Smith Mountain was started, I went there to look after it but continued to follow other projects in the Service Corporation, particularly precipitator retrofit projects on system plants."

Earle notes, "In retrospect, the whole time has been very interesting to see many projects initiated and constructed. It gives you a feeling of accomplishment if you have been a part of them. In some cases, I had a minor part; in others, a more active role. I would say probably the two projects that were of greatest interest to me were Clifty Creek and Smith Mountain.

"Clifty Creek was built under pressure for the Atomic Energy Commission, and we were watched

very closely on our performance by the government and, of course, other companies. And then Smith Mountain was the first hydro that had been constructed in a number of years, and it was unique from the standpoint of being a pumped storage project. It had many, many problems connected with it which made it very interesting from the standpoint of construction.

"At Clifty Creek we were working on a tight deadline and were breaking records with the time we were putting units together. I recall a visitation I had from some TVA representatives one summer, and they inquired when we were going to have the first unit in operation. I remarked that we expected to have it in operation by the middle of December. One fellow, who was very skeptical, said, 'Why, you've got a year's work there to do. You won't have that in operation until next summer sometime.' Well, we beat the record and had it in operation early in December. So that makes you feel good when you remember those things.

"Construction presents many problems, of course, and the strikes were always a headache. There are a few things I recall on the lighter side.

"The location of Clinch River is pretty well back in the mountains, and when we first started, I sent a crew in from the flatlands of Indiana to do the layout work. At that time the county had open grazing and about as fast as we would stake out things, the hogs would root out the sticks. One of the fellows made the remark, 'One thing about working here, you couldn't get any farther in. If you were any farther in, you'd be on your way out.'

"Smith Mountain was pretty well out at the time of construction. Access was poor and we had many problems with reservoir clearing and the construction itself. I remember one night I got a call at home from George Bentley, who was all excited. At that time the only telephone we had was on the north side of the river, hanging in a box in a tree. To get to it you had to paddle a boat across the river and go up in the woods to use the telephone. When he called me, George was all out of breath. He said, 'We just put off a shot and we have one man dead and three missing. Of course, I panicked a little bit. With that type of blasting we were expecting anything to happen. I was pacing the floor, and told George to call me back as soon as he heard something.

"About a half hour later he called back and sounded very much relieved. He said, 'Well, the man we thought was killed was drunk. The three we thought were missing were assigned to another crew.' In the meantime, however, they had called an ambulance and a doctor. They came rushing in and the doctor was pretty irate over being called out for a drunk. The men on the job were pleased, though. The next day they said, 'You know, this is a good place to work because if you get drunk they'll haul you off in an ambulance!'

"I don't look back to my mining days with much pleasure. It was interesting, but it was a different field. As far as I am concerned, the 4½ years I spent in mining was 40 years too long.

"I remember when we were building the preparation plant at Sporn Mine. I would be up on the steel with the ironworkers, looking after some problem they might have, and they would look down at the miners coming out and remark, 'Boy, you'd never get me down in that hole in the ground.' Then maybe the next day I would be down in the ground with the miners and they would look at the ironworkers up on the steel and say, 'Boy, you'd never get me up on that steel.' It's just a matter of what you're used to. And here I was a darn fool who worked in both places!"

Earle doesn't plan to let the grass grow under his feet any more after retirement than he did before. The first week in November he will move from his home in Roanoke, Va., to a little community called Valrico on the west coast of Florida, near Tampa. He says, "Both of my daughters and my three grandsons are down there. My son-in-law, as a matter of fact, is Tampa division manager for the Tampa Electric Company. He is an avid fisherman so I'll be able to get in a little fishing with him. I'm a lazy fisherman. If somebody hands me a pole baited up, I like to fish. Then I have some friends from my hometown who will be living near me and we are planning on some outings together.

"A lot of my time will be taken up with caring for my wife Margaret. Critically injured in an automobile accident in July of last year, she is getting the desire to want to walk again. There is a good rehabilitation

center in a little town next to Valrico and I hope to get her into therapy. I have fixed up my van with a lift, and I will be hauling her back and forth quite a bit."

Earle concludes, "I feel very fortunate that I was with a company that offered so many opportunities to a partly educated individual. The company has been very good to me. I appreciate very much the opportunities for advancement that were presented as well as the monetary return in the way of salary and fringe benefits, which have been very excellent."

## RETIREE AIDS ACCIDENT VICTIM



Photo courtesy Southwest Virginia Enterprise.

Quick response from Ernest Suthers, retired area supervisor at Wytheville in the Pulaski Division, possibly saved the life of a man whose truck backed into a 34.5 kv line coming out of Wythe Substation.

"I was working on my fence across the road from the substation," Ernest relates, "when I saw this boom truck with a telescopic ladder. The ladder was in about a 45° angle when it caught the TV cable. It seemed to me like it picked the truck up."

One of the men in the truck got out and went behind the truck to give the driver instructions on how to back clear of the TV cable. In the process of backing, the boom made contact with the 34.5 kv line. Apparently the man was not aware that the boom was in contact with the electric line and stepped up on the truck in order to lower the boom. When he made contact with the truck, he was knocked to the ground.

Ernest saw the man fall, climbed the fence and ran to him. At the same time, an off-duty nurse stopped at the scene of the accident. "She said his pulse was okay, but I saw he wasn't breathing. I gave him mouth-to-mouth resuscitation and he started breathing again. The nurse began working with him, and he came around but he was pretty far out. He didn't have his bearings," recalls Ernest.

The victim was treated at Wythe County Community Hospital for small burns on the ball of each foot.



Claude and Alice Flinchum observed their 65th wedding anniversary on October 4. He retired from Radford Limestone Company, Inc., in 1960.

## MILT COLE SERVES AS HOSPITAL VOLUNTEER



Milt Cole, former Huntington equipment service representative, has found a new way to help people and add another dimension to his retirement.

Each Tuesday, along with three friends from the neighborhood, Milt drives to the Veterans Hospital in Spring Valley near Huntington. There he works for seven hours performing any number of tasks. He takes patients for various tests and examinations, does paper work, serves outpatients who come in for medicine and takes some patients to the canteen.

"My whole work career was working with the public and helping people," Milt states, "and this ties right into that. The volunteers have an office at the hospital and whenever people need or want anything, they just call there. Working with the sick makes you appreciate the health you have. I have to take some to the operating room, and that really makes you think! Some of these patients are older veterans, and I feel I have an obligation to the disabled veterans to make up for the apparent lack of fellowship. There aren't many visitors there during visiting hours. It's a lot different from other hospitals when there's a rush of visitors at visiting hours." He continues, "One day there were 170 outpatients served, which is a pretty good indication of how many this hospital takes care of in a day."

Milt also enjoys talking with the people working there. "One day I went to the washroom, where some remodeling was being done. There were two electricians working and one looked very familiar. He recognized me and told me he was Gene Wolf's son. Gene used to work for me some time ago in Point Pleasant. So you have all kinds of interesting experiences," Milt relates.



More than 80 employees on six teams participated in the John Amos Plant Softball Tournament held at Nitro City Park, Nitro, W.Va. "B" Shift was involved in a double elimination on September 13 and beat "A" Shift 20-4 in the championship game September 16. Members of the undefeated "B" Shift team are: first row, left to right, G. L. Hess, K. R. Woodson, C. A. Hickman and E. L. Chapman. Second row, D. R. Anderson, D. L. Boling, W. R. Williams and G. L. Dunlap. Third row, R. L. Warren, L. R. Brewer, Jr., W. L. Dudding, J. D. Barton, J. A. Litton and C. E. Lewis.



New officers of the Appalachian Chorus are, left to right, standing: president, Doris Young, statistical analyst, GO Rates & Contracts; vice president, Teresa Surbaugh, electric plant clerk C, GO Accounting; secretary, Janet Maxwell, personnel clerk B, GO Personnel; treasurer Linda Naff, T&D clerk A, GO T&D Administrative; historian, Pat Short, engineering clerk C, GO T&D Engineering; business manager, W. Tom Hubbard, electric plant and stores accounting supervisor, GO Accounting; director, Helen Honaker, secretary-stenographer, GO T&D Administrative; and librarian, Lila Post, civil engineer, GO Hydro. The Chorus is composed of 32 Roanoke and General Office employees.



The Bluefield Division Fall Golf Tournament was held October 13 at Princeton Elks Country Club. Winners of gift certificates were: kneeling, left to right, Bob Farley, engineering technologist, second place in first flight; Larry Houston, GO Communications engineering technologist, third place in second flight; Walter Belcher, automotive mechanic A, second place in second flight; and Harold Cutlip, drafter B, first place in first flight. Standing, left to right, Dixon Jones, engineering technician senior, third place in third flight; Ted White, Princeton area supervisor, first place in second flight; Bob Crowder, area service restorer, third place in first flight; Miller Porterfield, retired vice president and Charleston division manager, first place in third flight; and Buck Branscome, line crew supervisor, second place in third flight.



Mike Bunting, son of C. F. Bunting, GO regional dispatcher, Huntington Tri-State, was an instructor for the Huntington Division Home Economics Teachers Seminar recently. He demonstrated the preparation of various fruits, arranged on a mirror base, to highlight any table. An executive chef, Mike is a former instructor in commercial foods and catering at Marshall University and opened Micheal's Restaurant in downtown Huntington last month.