

# THE ILLUMINATOR

PUBLISHED FOR THE EMPLOYEES OF APPALACHIAN POWER COMPANY • KINGSPORT POWER COMPANY • OF THE AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER SYSTEM VOL. XXXI No. 3 December 1980

## KINGSPORT RANKS FIRST IN NATION IN RESIDENTIAL USE

Residential customers of Kingsport Power Company continued to use more electricity per capita in 1979 than those of any other electric energy supplier in the country. And the title was retained even though Kingsport Power's customers used less energy than the year before while those of the next five utilities, all in the Far West, used more.

Kingsport Power's average residential customer used 16,462 kilowatt-hours in 1979, down 3.6 percent from the 17,077 recorded in 1978. For this service he paid 3.17 cents per kwh (up from 2.95 cents in 1978) or a total of \$521.64 (up from \$504.08).

Statistics compiled and made available last month by the AEP Service Corporation's Financial & Regulatory Reports Division showed the following:

### Top 10

	Average Kwh Use		
	1979	1978	% Change
1. Kingsport Power Co. . . . .	16,462	17,077	-3.6
2. Puget Sound Power & Light Company . . . . .	16,135	15,436	+4.5
3. Nevada Power Company . . . . .	16,033	15,557	+3.1
4. Washington Water Power Company . . . . .	15,763	14,878	+5.9
5. Idaho Power Company . . . . .	15,211	14,008	+8.6
6. Portland General Electric Company . . . . .	13,814	13,459	+2.6
7. Louisiana Power & Light Company . . . . .	13,758	14,063	-2.2
8. Houston Lighting & Power Company . . . . .	13,522	14,734	-8.2
9. Pacific Power & Light Co. . . . .	13,062	12,614	+3.6
10. Gulf Power Company . . . . .	12,868	13,342	-3.6

## APCO GRANTED INTERIM RATE HIKE IN W.VA.

The West Virginia Public Service Commission on November 19 issued an interim order granting Appalachian Power Company a \$36 million rate increase, to be placed in effect under bond, subject to refund, on December 10.

The Commission in its order also recognized that Appalachian's willingness to accept the interim order is not to be interpreted by any party as an admission or concession on Appalachian's part that "any amount less than the \$50,974,000 requested is adequate or is just and reasonable". A hearing on Appalachian's case for the full amount requested has been set for March 2, 1981.

In its July 1980 filing for the \$51-million, or 15% increase, Appalachian maintained that the full amount is needed "to offset the continuing high level of inflation which is impacting every area of the company's business. Additionally, a portion of the increase is related to the Mountaineer Plant at New Haven, W.Va."

At the time of the filing, it was noted that for the past four years the company has not earned the dividend paid on its common stock, and for most of that time the company has not been able to sell first-mortgage bonds. As a result, the company has been forced to carry an inordinate amount of short-term debt at a time when interest rates have been at historic highs.

It was also pointed out that Mountaineer cost \$638-million, more than two times greater than the cost of the last unit of similar size, completed in 1973. This unit, Unit 3 at the John E. Amos Plant, cost \$275-million.

## APCO FILES FOR WHOLESALE INCREASE

Appalachian Power Company last month filed for increases in rates from its Virginia and West Virginia wholesale customers and from Kingsport Power.

On November 20 the company filed a request with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for an \$8.7 million, or 19%, increase from the Virginia municipals of Danville, Martinsville, Salem, Radford, Bedford and Richlands, and Virginia Tech and 13 smaller power companies in West Virginia served wholesale.

The company then followed with a FERC filing November 26 for a \$6.9 million, or 20%, increase from Kingsport. Kingsport Power purchases all of its electricity from Appalachian for resale to its customers. The proposed effective date of both increases is February 1, 1981.

John W. Vaughan, president of Appalachian, noted that the increases "are necessary in part to offset continually increasing costs resulting from inflation but are also required in large measure to offset the impact of costs associated with placing into service earlier this year two new generating units on the company's system." He was referring to a 100,000 kw unit at Smith Mountain, which went into commercial operation June 16 and the 1,300,000 kilowatt unit at the Mountaineer Plant, which went into commercial operation September 15.

## POWER CONTROL CENTER TO BE IN COLUMBUS

A highly sophisticated, advanced-technology power control center will be installed in the AEP Service Corporation's new 32-story office tower to be built in downtown Columbus.

Announcement of plans to move the AEP System's present power control center from Canton to Columbus was made at the time, in November, according to AEP Chairman W. S. White, Jr., so that the new facility could be incorporated in the building's construction plans and because of the long lead times required for development and production of the computerized equipment required.

Ground for the new building is expected to be broken early in 1981 and construction to be completed by 1983. Site of the office tower is bounded by the Scioto River, Marconi Boulevard and Spring and Long Streets.

Development and installation of the advanced control center will further ensure the most economical generation and transmission of electric power across the seven-state AEP System for years to come, White indicated.

The center's present staff of 43, headed by Donald P. Nofsinger, vice president — system operation, will continue to operate in their facility in Ohio Power Company's Canton headquarters until the new complex is operational in Columbus. At that time they will have the opportunity to transfer to the new center, White said.

Move of the center to Columbus will bring it full cycle. It was established in the Ohio capital in 1948, first in a building adjacent to the Neil House hotel and opposite the statehouse, then on the second floor of a two-story office building in Grandview. The center was moved to Canton in 1964 to take advantage of its location as the hub of the AEP System's microwave communications network, vital to instant contact with operations centers in Fort Wayne and Roanoke and with all of the major power plants.

## APCO NUMBER 1 IN GENERATING EFFICIENCY

The most efficient steam-electric generating company in the United States in 1979 was Appalachian Power Company.

Appalachian Power last year recorded a heat rate of 9,363 Btus per kilowatt-hour of net generation, the lowest and best in the country. In fact, three other AEP System utilities ranked in the top 15: Kentucky Power Company, 7th at 9,867 Btus; Ohio Power Company, 10th at 9,884 Btus, and Indiana & Michigan Electric Company, 15th at 9,973 Btus. Only 16 companies reported a heat rate below 10,000 Btus.

The AEP System as a whole had a heat rate of 9,759 Btus in 1979, second best among holding company systems. New England Gas & Electric reported a heat rate of 9,704 Btus.

According to the AEP Service Corporation's Financial & Regulatory Division, the following utilities were the most efficient in producing electricity from steam fuels last year:

### Top 15

	Btus per kwh
1. Appalachian Power Company . . . . .	9,363
2. Canal Electric . . . . .	9,368
3. Duke Power Company . . . . .	9,438
4. Ohio Valley Electric Corporation . . . . .	9,509
5. Indiana-Kentucky Electric Corporation . . . . .	9,674
6. West Penn Power Company . . . . .	9,829
7. Kentucky Power Company . . . . .	9,867
8. Fitchburg Gas & Electric Light Company . . . . .	9,871
9. Southern Electric Generating Company . . . . .	9,879
10. Ohio Power Company . . . . .	9,884
11. Holyoke Water Company . . . . .	9,893
12. Public Service Company of Oklahoma . . . . .	9,931
13. Potomac Edison Company . . . . .	9,938
14. South Carolina Electric & Gas Company . . . . .	9,961
15. Indiana & Michigan Electric Company . . . . .	9,973

Helping Appalachian Power achieve its top spot in the nation was the fact that four of its coal-fired power plants ranked among the nation's 20 most efficient generating stations last year. John E. Amos was 13th at 9,340 Btus, Clinch River 15th at 9,349 Btus, Philip Sporn 17th at 9,395 Btus and Kanawha River 19th at 9,461 Btus. (Amos and Sporn are jointly owned with Ohio Power.)

## AEP HAS THIRD BEST LOAD FACTOR

The American Electric Power System in 1979 enjoyed the third best load factor among the nation's 70 largest investor-owned electric utilities. And, among the 20 largest, it was far and away the leader.

(Load factor is the ratio of a utility's average load to its peak load over a period of time, in this case one year.)

AEP's 1979 load factor of 72.4 percent was its best since 1973. According to a review of industry statistics carried out by the AEP Service Corporation's Financial & Regulatory Reports Division, this figure was exceeded only by Minnesota Power & Light Company, with 84 percent, and Northern Indiana Public Service Company, with 74.5 percent. MP&L has a system capability less than a tenth that of AEP; NIPSCO, less than a sixth that of AEP.

## THE ILLUMINATOR

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## DOE EXTENDS MHD CONTRACT

The AEP Service Corporation has received an extension of its contract with the U.S. Department of Energy to review the development of a pioneering magnetohydrodynamics (MHD) engineering and test facility.

MHD is a method of producing electric power by employing a hot gas derived from burning coal, converting the gas directly into electricity by passing it through a magnetic field. The process not only holds the promise of yielding thermal efficiencies of up to 60 percent compared with an average of 35 percent for conventional coal-fired steam generation, but also removes most of the coal's sulfur. However, research in MHD is long term in nature, and commercialization of the technology is not expected until at least the year 2000.

## AEP HAS NEW COAL COMPANY

There's a new company — Blackhawk Coal Company — in the American Electric Power System.

Blackhawk, which recently became active, was incorporated in Utah in 1978 as a subsidiary of Indiana & Michigan Electric Company to acquire coal reserves in Utah owned by AEP's Franklin Real Estate Company on behalf of I&M. While Blackhawk will own the coal, it will be mined by Price River Coal Company, another I&M subsidiary.

## THE COVER

Six-year-old Michele, shown on the cover of this issue, is the daughter of Gary S. Sink, Roanoke station mechanic B.

## 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
10/31/80	1.2592	.7942
<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
10/31/80	1.6613	.6019
<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
10/31/80	.9993	1.0007

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.

## SEC APPROVES C&SOE STOCK ACQUISITION

The Securities and Exchange Commission on October 29 unanimously approved American Electric Power Company's plan, filed in June, to acquire an estimated 400,000 shares of Columbus and Southern Ohio Electric Company common stock still in the hands of the latter's shareowners.

Such shares (about 2.4 percent of the original amount) had not been exchanged for AEP common under terms of AEP's tender offer (1.3 shares of AEP for each share of C&SOE), approved earlier by the SEC — the means by which AEP acquired the Columbus utility last May 9.

All that remains before AEP will own all of the C&SOE common is the issuance of an enforcement order by the U.S. District Court in Columbus, anticipated in the near future. When that takes place, the remaining C&SOE holders will automatically become AEP shareowners and begin receiving AEP dividends (whether or not they actually present their stock certificates for exchange).

The SEC, in announcing its approval, said, "We find that the (AEP) plan is fair and equitable to the minority shareholders of C&SOE and to AEP, and otherwise meets all the requirements of . . . the (Public Utility Holding Company) Act. AEP has consistently paid significantly higher dividends than C&SOE, the 1.3 shares yielding over 20 percent more in dividends, and (AEP stock) has enjoyed a significantly higher market price (than C&SOE stock)."

Thus has (almost) ended an effort that began in February 1968.



The 11 employees of the Abingdon Regional Dispatch Center have each completed four System Operations self-study training manuals prepared by the AEP Service Corporation. In recognition of their accomplishments, Operations Manager Edsel Johnson, left, presented a certificate of merit to Bill Bacchus, Abingdon regional chief dispatcher.

## APCO ASKS REVIEW OF EIS DECISION

Appalachian Power Company has asked the U.S. Department of the Interior to reconsider the decision of its National Park Service concerning the scope of an environmental impact statement for the company's proposed transmission line that would cross the Blue Ridge Parkway in Virginia and asked that it be limited to the impact on the Parkway itself. The planned 765,000 volt Jackson's Ferry-Axton line would occupy a 200-foot right-of-way in southwest Virginia, previously approved by the Virginia State Corporation Commission and upheld by the Virginia Supreme Court.

In its October 31 filing, APCo noted that the line is to be located entirely within the State of Virginia and has been fully analyzed and certified by the responsible state authority, the State Corporation Commission.

## ACCEPTED OIP PROPOSALS

Abingdon Division	1
Beckley Division	1
Bluefield Division	1
Charleston Division	1
Huntington Division	2
Logan-Williamson Division	3
Lynchburg Division	1
Pulaski Division	2
Roanoke Division	1
John Amos Plant	1
Clinch River Plant	1
Glen Lyn Plant	1
Kanawha River Plant	1
Philip Sporn Plant	1
Central Machine Shop	1
Centralized Plant Maintenance	1
GO Accounting	2
GO Customer Services	1
GO General Services	1
GO Hydro	1
GO Land Management	1
GO Operations	1
GO Personnel/Executive	1
GO Public Affairs	1
GO Purchasing	1
GO Transmission/Distribution	1

Total accepted by General Office for processing as of November 15 . . . . . 27

## SYSTEM COUPLES MARRY



**Cindy Lee Martin**, Charleston junior clerk, to Bryan Gates, November 21.



Alicia Criss to **Joseph M. Turner**, Bluefield tracer, November 1.



Sylvia Jean Ferris to **David Brent Gillilan**, Huntington line mechanic C, November 1.



**Amalva Clark**, Logan-Williamson tracer, to Garland Elmore, October 24.

Judy Lewis to **Dr. John R. Collins**, son of Howard J. Collins, retired Logan-Williamson personnel supervisor, October 11.

Joyce Ann Church to **David Radcliff**, Huntington meter reader, October 17.



Jan Harriet Stanley to **Kevin Randall Collins**, son of James Collins, Lynchburg engineering technician senior, October 18.



Patricia Blevins to **Gary White**, son of B. R. White, customer accounting supervisor NE in the Galax area of Pulaski Division, September 6.



Brenda Gayle Brumfield to **R. E. Coeyman, Jr.**, Huntington meter electrician C, October 10.

Carla Huffman to **D. D. Tulloh**, Mountaineer maintenance mechanic A, September 22.



Bernice and Jesse McClain celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary September 14. The couple has lived in Florida since 1973, following Jesse's retirement as a unit supervisor at Kanawha River Plant.

## BABY PARADE

### Abingdon

Brandy Leigh, daughter of **Randy McCoy**, Clintwood line mechanic B, October 24.

Adam Lance, son of **R. O. McGlocklin, Jr.**, line mechanic A, October 27.

### Beckley

Jason, son of **Alvin Ellison, Jr.**, meter electrician D, November 6.

Kristen, daughter of **Rebecca Lilly**, junior stenographer, October 30.

### Central Machine Shop

Justin Michael, son of **Gregory Morris**, welder 1st class, November 3.

### Centralized Plant Maintenance

Aaron Lee, son of **Ricky Bickle**, maintenance mechanic B, October 29.

Gabriel Clayton, son of **Donald Shaffer**, maintenance mechanic B, November 15.

### Charleston

Jessica Lea, daughter of **David Wehrle**, stores attendant, November 8.

Bonnie, daughter of **Tessa Lee Roe**, stenographer, October 25.

Jamie, daughter of **Kathi Parsley**, meter reader, November 7.

### General Office

Justin Corey, son of **Linda Frith**, general records clerk B, GO Accounting, Roanoke, October 25.

Christopher Michael, son of **Kenneth Worsham**, maintenance mechanic D, GO Hydro-Smith Mountain, November 7.

Jessica Nicole, daughter of **Jerry White**, transmission mechanic D, GO T&D Transmission, Bluefield, August 8.

Bradley Keith, son of **Larry Myrick**, transmission engineer, GO T&D Transmission, Bluefield, November 7.

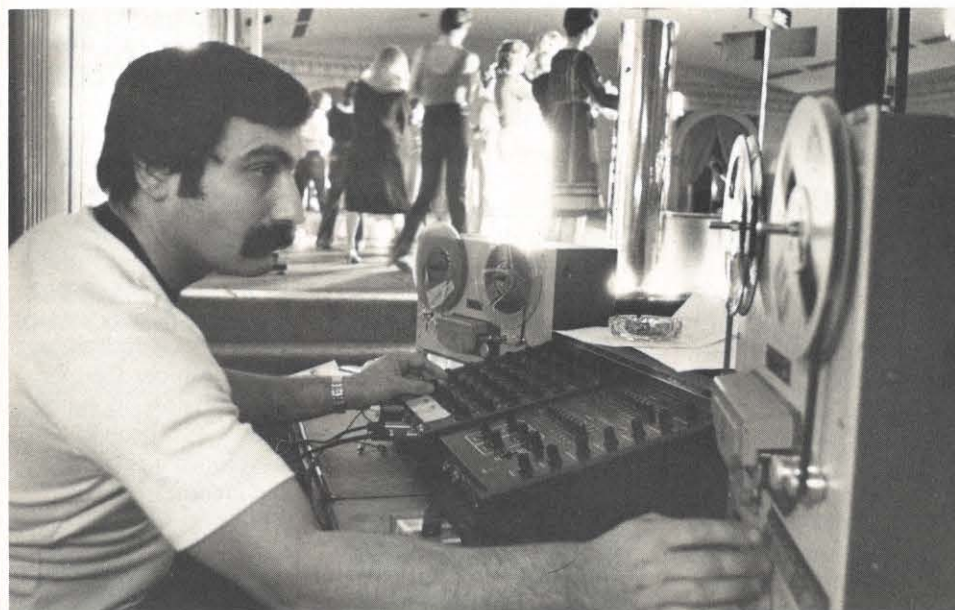
### Huntington

Bradley Allen, son of **Brent Evans**, lab technician, AEP Lab, October 29.

### Kanawha River

Thomas Ken, son of **Timmy Childers**, utility worker A, October 28.

## KAZANJIAN WORKS WITH USO TROUPERS IN BENEFIT SHOW



Some folks are just plain lucky. Others make their own opportunities. But sometimes, being in the right place at the right time helps.

At least, that's how Gary Kazanjian, video coordinator in GO Public Affairs, feels about his recent experience working with Miss Virginia Pageants, Inc., in an benefit performance for the Ola M. Thrasher Scholarship Fund. The late Mrs. Thrasher chaperoned Miss Virginia titlists for 17 years, and the fund provides scholarships to the top six contestants in the annual pageant.

"I was walking at lunchtime one day about six weeks before the show when I literally 'bumped' into Kylene Barker Brandon, the former Miss Virginia titleholder who also was 1979's Miss America. She asked me then if I would be working the benefit. Although I had been asked earlier, this certainly helped me make up my mind," Gary says.

"I had worked with Kylene on two previous occasions — in the state pageant when she won the Miss Virginia crown and again at a special performance for the Roanoke Chamber of Commerce's annual meeting. She's a talented performer and thoroughly professional, and I felt the entertainment she and her fellow USO troupers would provide would be both interesting and of the highest calibre. And I was right. It was a great show.

"Even in rehearsal, from my perch at stage-right, I could sense the vitality and effervescence of the troupe as they ran through their numbers, tirelessly, time after time."

I set up my control panel at a point from which I can key the taped music to the performance at stage center. In many ways, I suppose it's the best seat in the house.

"As sound director, my responsibilities consisted of coordinating the taped musical backgrounds for the fashion show with the music for the production numbers for dancers and singers in the USO troupe, interspersing them at the right instant as they were introduced by the master of ceremonies. This requires accurate timing and doesn't allow many opportunities for distraction.

"Considerable planning is a must. I put in a solid 12 hours the day of the show, plus about six hours the day before, just working the tapes. Even with this amount of preparation, I spent the entire two hours prior to showtime making corrections in the 'final' tape when we discovered an error.

"Fortunately, we had the right equipment at the hotel to do the job. We can probably do as many technical procedures in our mobile operation as we could do in the average sound studio, for instance, in a television station."

Gary and one "gopher" did the necessary wiring and installation to accommodate a dozen pieces of rented audio equipment. "Together we laid down about 1,600 feet of wire, enough to cross the ballroom four times. This one chore is perhaps the most time consuming, and it can't be done until the last minute. Carpenters must complete construction of stages and risers, plus the runway, before we start work. Then, too, the ballroom is tightly scheduled, since the hotel is host to many events every day. Even for a production like this, set-up time is limited to a few hours. Luckily, everything worked perfectly, and we encountered no serious problems."

Gary has contributed his skills to various productions sponsored by Miss Virginia Pageants, Inc., and the Roanoke Chamber of Commerce since 1972, when he moved to Roanoke. "The first time I was asked to assist, I can't say I was all that interested. But I've changed my mind over the years. There are perhaps six persons in the area who can provide this assistance, and all are called upon frequently. I volunteer whenever other commitments allow me to do so. I consider it my contribution to a worthwhile community project. And this project brings recognition not only to Roanoke Valley, but to the entire state.

"Of course, the first time I worked with the pageant committee, I was teaching at a local college, and my participation provided the opportunity for live production experience for my students. I always managed to bring along three or four as 'gophers'. For them, it was invaluable training for on-the-job problem-solving that is just not available to students in many communities or even in many universities.

And the best part of working behind the scenes? "Sometimes, during pageant week, I get to work with some of the finest young talent Virginia has to offer. And yes, the production staff does try to 'pick' a winner. I've done that successfully only twice. But it's harder than one would think. You have to remember that each contestant has already won a local pageant by the time she gets to Roanoke and the state finals."

And what about next time? Gary says he cannot commit himself too far in advance. "I enjoy the work, and it's fun, but I have other demands on my time. However, if my luck holds, chances are I'll be there next July."

# POWER PEOPLE MAKING NEWS

## Abingdon

Junior Clerk **Martha Farmer**, president of the Marion Business and Professional Women's Club, attended the annual District I fall meeting.

**Tony**, son of Wanda Payne, accounting, was named to the select and stage bands at Abingdon Elementary School.

**Toby**, wife of Station Mechanic Jim Cook and medical assistant instructor at the Russell County Vocational School, participated in a program presented to the Health Occupation State Advisory Council in Blacksburg. She also assists in the certification of new home health aide teachers in the State of Virginia.

## John Amos



**Lisa**, daughter of Willis Gibson, maintenance mechanic A, was crowned Miss Redskin homecoming queen for 1980 at Hurricane High School.



**Scott**, son of Russell Browning, maintenance electrician A, has attained the rank of Eagle Scout. A member of Troop 236 sponsored by Forrest Burdette United Methodist Church, he is a freshman at West Virginia Institute of Technology.

## Beckley

**Bob Dyke**, line mechanic A; **Bob Thomas**, Oak Hill service restorer; **Jim Kirby**, T&D clerk; and **Ray Vest**, administrative assistant, were selected by the West Virginia Secondary Schools Activities Commission as one of the team of officials to officiate the West Virginia State High School Football Championships.

**Cathy**, wife of David Langford, customer services advisor, was the winner of a United Fund drawing at Beckley Hospital, where she is employed. Cathy could choose between a week's paid vacation or equivalent pay and opted for the equivalent pay.

## Bluefield

**Ted White**, Princeton area supervisor, was elected to the board of directors at the Princeton-Mercer County Chamber of Commerce.



Bettye Sue Farley



Dan Farley

**Dan and Bettye Sue**, son and daughter-in-law of Clyde Farley, Tazewell area supervisor, were installed as directors of the Princeton Civitan Club. Dan was named "Civitan of the Year" and the West Virginia District selected Bettye Sue as "secretary of the year".

**Elizabeth**, wife of C. R. "Bud" Ryan, residential representative senior, was a delegate to the 1980 state conference of the Daughters of the American Revolution. She is corresponding secretary of the John Chapman Chapter of the DAR.

**Jane**, wife of Howard Meadows, retired electrical engineer senior, was reelected to the board of directors of the Bluefield Area Chapter of the American Red Cross.

**Irene**, wife of Paul Pauley, customer services supervisor, was elected second vice president of the Mercer School PTA, where she serves as principal.

**Frances Keller**, personnel assistant, was elected vice chairman of the Mercer County Commission on Aging. She is also growth and development committee chairman of the Princeton Quota Club.



**Duke Wright**, retired administrative assistant, received the Mark E. Rich Memorial Award for 1980 at the Richwood Golf Club. The award is in memory of the late Mark E. Rich, former records supervisor, who built and owned the golf course.



The Bank of Tazewell County Lions won the Bluefield, Va., Pee Wee League championship with an impressive 12-0 regular season worksheet. They captured the league title by winning the championship game 19-0. Sparking the team's successful season was **Chad Surface**, who played right halfback and scored 54 points during the regular season. Chad's father, **J. P. Surface**, GO Station relay engineering technologist, was assistant coach of the team.

## Charleston



**Sandy Byus**, customer services advisor, has been awarded a plaque by the Kanawha County 4-H for her outstanding work and cooperation with the organization. She participates in three 4-H camps during the summer.

## General Office



**Jack Hagerman**, transmission supervising engineer, GO T&D Transmission Line, Bluefield, Va., was elected president of the Bluefield, Va., Kiwanis Club.



During his second year of competition, **Blake Blackwell** captured all-metro honors for the Roanoke Valley in cross-country. A ninth grader at Woodrow Wilson Junior High School, he runs for Patrick Henry High School and was selected for all-district team. This year he broke the Patrick Henry course record along with a teammate. Blake is the son of J. Emmett Blackwell, employee relations supervisor, GO Personnel, Roanoke.



**Pvt. R. M. Bruce** became a Marine last month in graduation ceremonies at the Paris Island, S.C., Recruit Depot. The son of Patricia Bruce, junior stenographer, GO Public Affairs, Roanoke, he is now at Camp LeJeune for a nine-week special school in combat engineering.

A deer head entered in the 1980 Virginia Big Game Contest by **Johnnie Eubank**, engineering technologist in GO T&D Engineering, Roanoke, scored a 172 <sup>13</sup>/<sub>16</sub> to take fourth place in the Western District and fifth place in the state. Johnnie killed the deer with a bow and arrow last December.

## Glen Lyn

**Gerald**, son of George Evans, performance engineer senior, completed his requirements for a bachelor of science degree in pharmacy during the summer term at West Virginia University. He has since passed the state board examination and is employed as a registered pharmacist at Princeton Community Hospital.



**Lucinda**, daughter of C. L. Spangler, personnel supervisor, has received a master of music in music education degree from the Graduate School of West Virginia University. She was a member of the University Choral Union, Mu Phi Epsilon, music honorary organization, and served as accompanist. She received her undergraduate degree with honors from Concord College. She is employed as music instructor at Beaver Elementary School in Raleigh County and teaches private piano lessons.

**Robert Ratliff**, plant manager, was elected to the board of trustees at Giles Memorial Hospital, Pearisburg.

## Huntington

**George Roberts**, Point Pleasant customer service supervisor, was honored for 28 years' perfect attendance by the Point Pleasant Lions Club.

**Velma**, wife of W. C. McMahan, Point Pleasant area manager, was installed as president of the Mason County Extension Homemakers. She also presided as president of the West Virginia Baptist Convention at the annual meeting in Charleston.

**Karen**, wife of Joe Haynes, administrative assistant, and **Mary**, wife of Kevin O'Connor, Milton area supervisor, were assigned to a task force to process claims made under the Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) for Cabell and Mason counties. Karen and Mary work for the West Virginia Department of Welfare as economic service worker and social worker supervisor, respectively.

**Catherine Hayes**, mail clerk, was honored at a recognition tea as a 25-year member of Abdul Court No. 87 of Daughters of Isis.



**Staff Sgt. Charles H. Back** graduated from Community College of the Air Force in Honolulu as a paralegal. The son of H. L. Back, service supervisor, he is stationed at Hickam Air Force Base.

## Kingsport

**Andy**, son of Station Supervisor R. S. Caldwell, was voted "most outstanding student" at Bell Ridge Elementary School, where he is a fifth grader.

**Richard**, son of Personnel Director J. K. White, was selected for membership in the Beta Phi Chapter of Eta Kappa Nu Association.

(Continued on page 5)

## Kingsport

(con't. from page 4)

tion, a national electrical engineering honor society at the University of Tennessee.

## Kanawha River



**Vaughn Searls** was featured in a Charleston Daily Mail article, entitled "The Unsung 11", concerning football players who are behind-the-scene stars. Head Coach Ralph Hensley of East Bank High School had this to say about Vaughn: "He's only 5-7 and 155 pounds, but he's been an inspirational type person for us all year. He plays monster for us, but his leadership is his biggest talent. He's more of a leader than anyone on the team. He always keeps the guys going. He's always cheering and firing up the other guys. We really depend on his leadership." Vaughn is the son of Archie Searls, maintenance mechanic B.

## Logan-Williamson

**David Stilwell**, electrical engineer, was selected Jaycee of the month for August and Jaycee of the quarter by the Logan Jaycees.

**William Honaker**, retired line and station supervisor, will head the public service division of the Logan County United Fund campaign.

## Lynchburg

**J. W. Dalton, Sr.**, station supervisor NE, was ordained as a deacon in the Terrace View Brethren Church and was elected vice president of the New London Ruritan Club.

## Mountaineer



**Dorsel**, son of Janice Adkins, secretary-stenographer, played offensive line and defensive tackle to help the Ripley Viking Midget League C team get the runner-up position in the Southern West Virginia Midget League championship series.

## Pulaski

**Brenda**, daughter of B. R. White, Galax customer accounting supervisor NE, was elected to the homecoming court at Galax High School.

**Jack Lawrence**, Galax line mechanic D, missed first place by five points and placed second in the Cycle Racing Association at Farmington Dragway. In points, Jack placed second in the North Carolina championship for the 1980 racing season in the modified division. Sponsored by King's Suzuki, Jack rides a GS-1000 Suzuki.

**N. M. Quesenberry**, division right-of-way maintenance inspector, was presented a 25-year membership emblem by Hillsville Lodge No. 193, A.F. & A.M.

**S. J. "Red" Johnson**, line mechanic A on LTD leave, has been reelected chairman of the Area Manpower Planning Council 3 for a one-year term.

## Philip Sporn

Unit Supervisor **Burton Hickman**, a member of Valley Haven Stables #1, bowled a 614 recently.

## BLOOD DONOR HONOR ROLL

**John Amos Alvie Napier**, maintenance supervisor, one gallon.

## HIGH SCHOOL HONORS YOST



**Arnold O. "Sam" Yost**, Beckley area service restorer, is one of seven former Woodrow Wilson High School football players selected to be included in the Woodrow Wilson Hall of Fame. The new inductees were honored at a dinner party prior to field ceremonies at the Wilson-Dupont game.

The Hall of Fame was established in 1958 to perpetuate the memories of outstanding football players and to encourage and stimulate interest in the school's football program. Jack Groseclose, line crew supervisor NE, and Ray Vest, administrative assistant, were tapped for the honor in 1976 and 1977, respectively.

In addition to his football prowess, Sam played basketball and was selected to the all-state teams in both his junior and senior years. He was also a member of the track team, and for many years shared the school record for high jump.

Sam attended Wake Forest University and signed a professional baseball contract with the old Philadelphia Athletics. He was assigned to their Springfield, Mass., farm club. Upon returning from military service, he played baseball for the New York Giants farm teams in Lancaster, Pa., and Danville and Martinsville, Va., before joining Appalachian in December 1947.

## 30 ENTER GOLF TOURNEY

Thirty golfers from Charleston, Huntington, Logan, Williamson and Point Pleasant participated in the Huntington Golf Tournament held at the Riviera Golf Course on October 13.

Flight winners were: first, Tom Holland, relay engineer senior, GO T&D Station; second, tie between Dallas Fuller, line mechanic A, and Jim Wilcox, husband of Mary Lou Wilcox, customer accounts representative B; third Fred Schwartz, retired T&D supervisor; fourth, Leo Bias, retired division office supervisor; and fifth, L. F. Pomykata, customer services manager, Charleston.

## HUNTERS SCORE

### Clinch River

**A. V. Taylor**, chemist, 4-point buck and 12 lb. gobbler.

### General Office

**Richard Whitlow**, transmission station supervisor, GO T&D Station, Huntington, 100 lb. 6-point buck.

### Kanawha River

**L. F. Peal**, unit supervisor, doe with bow and arrow. **H. K. Hall**, auxiliary equipment operator, 5-point buck with bow and arrow. **M. T. Smith**, equipment operator, button buck with bow and arrow.

## FRIENDS WE'LL MISS



**James W. Woods, Jr.**, 75, retired Bluefield division payroll supervisor, died October 7. A native of Bluefield, West Virginia, he was employed in 1920 as an office boy and re-

tired December 1, 1960. Woods is survived by three brothers.

**Harold A. Ebersbach**, 68, retired Philip Sporn coal sampler, died October 8. A native of Pomeroy, Ohio, he began his career in 1960 as a guard and retired June 1, 1977. Ebersbach is survived by his widow Ruth, 204 Butternut Avenue, Pomeroy; one son, one daughter, three grandsons and two sisters.



**John E. Beale**, 77, retired Charleston groundman, died October 9. A native of Slaty Fork, West Virginia, he began his career in 1945 and elected early retirement January 1, 1955. Beale is survived by his widow Monta, #38 Regency Apartments, 402 Harpold Street, Ravenswood, W.Va., and one daughter.



**Ivan Stoots**, 65, retired Pulaski line inspector, died October 14. A native of Wyco, West Virginia, he was employed in 1937 as a groundman and elected early retirement September 1, 1977. Stoots is survived by his widow Edythe, 603 Randolph Avenue, Pulaski, Virginia; one daughter, his mother, one sister and two grandchildren. His daughter, Roxana Caudill, is a junior stenographer in GO Accounting, Roanoke.



**Genevieve Raike Taylor**, 54, Huntington secretary-stenographer, died of an apparent heart attack October 31. A native of Franklin Furnace, Ohio, she began her career in 1948 as a junior stenographer. Taylor is survived by her husband Keith, 310 B Street, Ceredo, West Virginia; her mother and brother.



**Mack Secondo**, 85, retired Beckley lineman A, died November 10. A native of Montamagna, Italy, he was employed in 1925 as a laborer and retired August 1, 1960. Secondo is survived by his widow Eva Elizabeth, P. O. Box 85, Oak Hill, West Virginia; two daughters, five grandchildren and two great grandchildren.



**Robert E. Christenson**, 52, Charleston engineering technologist, died November 24 of an apparent heart attack while hunting. A native of Chicago, Illinois, he was employed in 1953 as a district instrument man. Christenson is survived by his widow Joyce, 206 Mayer Drive, Charleston, West Virginia; one son, one daughter and one step-daughter.

# VETS RECEIVE SERVICE AWARDS



T. A. Graham  
Maint. Mechanic C  
Kanawha River  
40 Years



E. W. Woody  
Executive Assistant  
GO-Roanoke  
40 Years



E. O. Davis  
Meter Supervisor  
Charleston  
35 Years



C. L. Wilkinson  
Area Serv. Rest. (LTD)  
Charleston  
35 Years



H. C. Smith  
Line Mechanic A  
Huntington  
35 Years



Eleanor Cunningham  
Secretary  
Logan-Williamson  
35 Years



Fred Adams  
Energy Services Tech.  
Bluefield  
35 Years



C. E. Blankenship  
Area Serv. Rest. (LTD)  
Bluefield  
35 Years



L. H. McDonald  
Maintenance Supv.  
John Amos  
35 Years



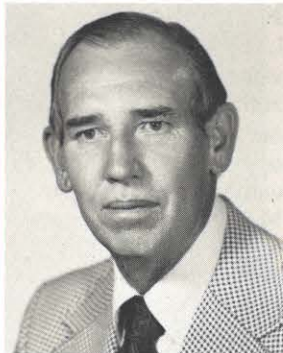
C. E. Yeager  
Station Superintendent  
Huntington  
35 Years



B. B. McCall  
Customer Serv. Mgr.  
Pulaski  
35 Years



P. T. Gress  
Energy Services Tech.  
Pulaski  
35 Years



P. P. Hancock  
Gen. Line Supv.  
Beckley  
35 Years



H. L. Powers  
Service Clerk A  
Kingsport  
35 Years



J. F. Wilson, Jr.  
Land Mgmt. Supv.  
GO-Roanoke  
35 Years



S. E. Kees  
Maint. Mechanic B  
Kanawha River  
30 Years



C. W. Knapp, Jr.  
Regional Dispatcher  
GO-Huntington  
30 Years



W. S. Wood, Jr.  
Relay Engineer Sr.  
GO-Roanoke  
30 Years



J. M. Burnett  
Allocation & Load  
Research Supv.  
GO-Roanoke  
30 Years



Stanley Harbour  
Asst. Shift Op. Eng.  
Philip Sporn  
30 Years



R. H. Baughan  
Office Supervisor  
Logan-Williamson  
30 Years



C. D. Jackson  
Meter Reader  
Huntington  
30 Years



Harold Parks  
T&D Clerk A  
Abingdon  
30 Years



W. F. Fry  
Maint. Mechanic B  
Philip Sporn  
30 Years



N. G. Ball  
Stores Attendant Sr.  
Logan-Williamson  
30 Years



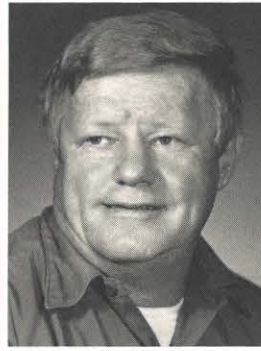
Eldivia Gullian  
T&D Clerk A  
Charleston  
30 Years



T. A. Craft  
Equipment Serv. Rep.  
Charleston  
25 Years



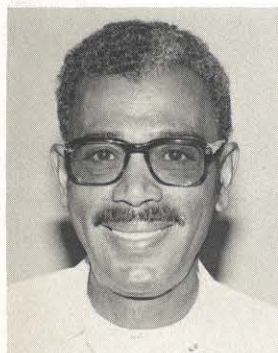
R. W. Sheaff  
Meter Mechanic A  
GO-Roanoke  
25 Years



J. W. Begley  
Line Crew Supv.  
Beckley  
25 Years



B. R. Lemar  
Line Crew Supv. NE  
Lynchburg  
25 Years



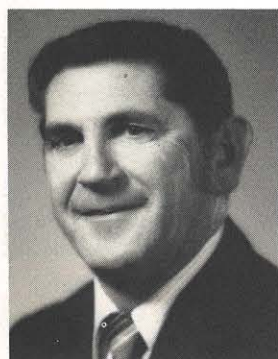
W. C. Dickason  
Meter Reader  
Bluefield  
20 Years



C. L. Julian  
Maintenance Supt.  
John Amos  
20 Years



J. L. Ferguson  
Asst. Shift Op. Eng.  
John Amos  
20 Years



R. E. Johnson  
Cust. Serv. Rep.  
Lynchburg  
20 Years

**Abingdon**  
15 Years: **R. E. Bellamy**, line crew supervisor NE. 10 Years: **Edward Wyatt**, line mechanic A.

**John Amos**  
10 Years: **R. G. Bayes**, utility supervisor. **J. R. Bowen**, maintenance supervisor. **J. E. Hackett**, control technician senior. **D. L. Nunley**, control technician senior. **C. H. Humphrey**, control technician senior. **D. L. Johnston**, maintenance mechanic A. **E. R. Taylor**, maintenance mechanic A. **Anna Bauknecht**, plant clerk B. **C. F. Jones**, harbor boat operator. 5 Years: **R. C. Harper**, maintenance mechanic B. **R. H. Smith**, maintenance mechanic B.

**Beckley**  
5 Years: **D. G. McClung**, meter electrician C. **R. W. Cruise**, meter reader.

**Bluefield**  
15 Years: **S. J. Conner**, meter reader.

**Central Machine Shop**  
10 Years: **F. D. Williams**, production supervisor. 5 Years: **G. S. Morris**, welder 1st class. **R. K. Hull**, welder 1st class. **L. D. Hite**, winder 1st class.

**Centralized Plant Maintenance**  
5 Years: **H. W. Pickens, Jr.**, maintenance mechanic B.

**Charleston**  
35 Years: **E. D. Dahmer**, meter electrician A. 15 Years: **B. L. Adkins**, line mechanic A.

**General Office**  
35 Years: **Helen Overstreet**, electric plant clerk A, GO-Roanoke. 10 Years: **W. W. Brewer**, senior production machine operator, GO-Roanoke.

**Glen Lyn**  
5 Years: **L. R. Bowers**, instrument mechanic D.

**Huntington**  
25 Years: **D. C. Miller**, meter reader. 10 Years: **C. E. Gilkerson**, line mechanic A.

**Kanawha River**  
10 Years: **Michael Siemiaczko, Jr.**, maintenance supervisor.

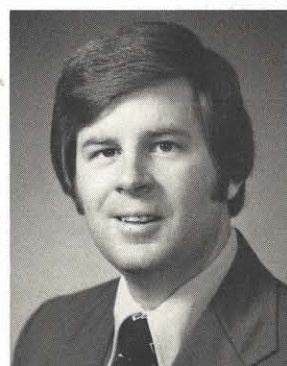
**Kingsport**  
15 Years: **D. L. Hartgrove**, meter electrician B. **J. R. Long**, line mechanic A.

**Logan-Williamson**  
30 Years: **Mildred Maynard**, personnel clerk A. 5 Years: **G. H. Maynard**, line mechanic A. **Helen Bailey**, junior clerk.

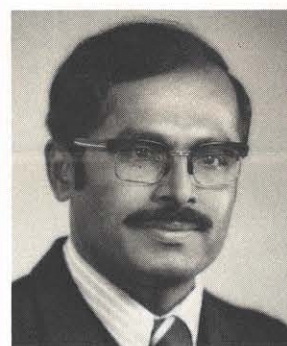
**Mountaineer Construction**  
10 Years: **J. C. Runyon**, mechanical construction assistant I.

**Philip Sporn**  
30 Years: **C. A. Smith**, maintenance supervisor (LTD).

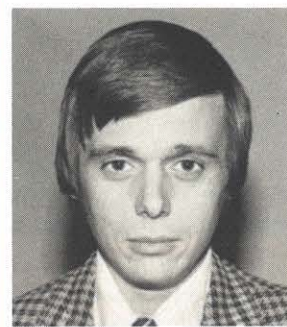
## MOVING UP



**R. H. Snodgrass, III**, former electrical engineer in Abingdon, was promoted to area supervisor at Gate City in the Abingdon Division on November 1. He succeeds B. L. Long, who was promoted earlier. Snodgrass holds a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.



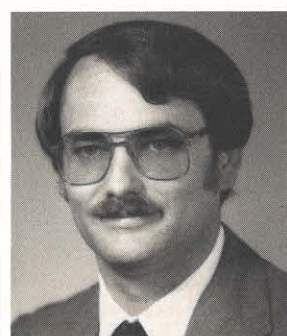
**Arakere C. Channaiah**, former engineering technologist supervisor in Lynchburg, was promoted to electrical engineer senior in GO T&D Engineering, Roanoke, on September 1. He holds a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering from the University of Mysore, India, and a master's degree in engineering administration from George Washington University.



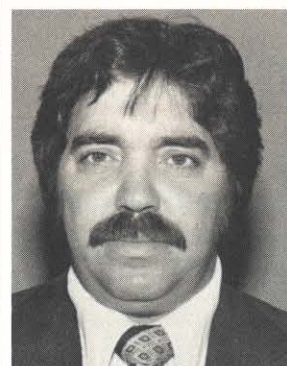
**C. N. Comerosa**, former engineering technologist, was promoted to engineering technologist supervisor in Bluefield on November 1. He holds an associate in science degree in electrical engineering technology from Bluefield State College.



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



**Grady R. Blake, Jr.**, former stores attendant senior nonexempt, was promoted to the exempt position of stores and garage supervisor A in Lynchburg on November 1. He succeeds N. K. Langhorne, who is on LTD leave.



**Harold K. Cutlip, Jr.**, former drafter B nonexempt, was promoted to the exempt position of right-of-way agent in Bluefield on November 1. He succeeds J. Paul Rose, who retired. Cutlip holds a certificate in architecture from Vo-Tech.



**David R. Mann**, former area service restorer in Princeton, was promoted to line crew supervisor nonexempt in the Peterstown area of Bluefield Division on November 15.

## "WITCH" WAY DID CONNIE GO?



This is the Christmas season, but Halloween will live on at the Central Machine Shop in Charleston.

Connie Dawson, stores attendant, can be counted on to do almost any type of entertaining when it comes to children, from playing Santa to singing for youngsters.

When a friend, Stephanie Murphy, a kindergarten teacher at West Teays Elementary School in Hurricane, asked Connie to play a witch at Halloween, Connie jumped at the chance.

On the big day, Connie arrived at the school in her finest witch's rags. Wide-eyed kids greeted her in the cafeteria. "I told them about boiling horny toads in my big black pot until they were juicy and then sticking them with a fork to see if they were tender. Then I told them about putting them on my plate, dipping them in catsup and letting them slide into your tummy, all yummy," she said.

Next stop, via broom, of course, was Conner Street Elementary, where Connie used to teach kindergarten.

Before her excursion, Connie had told the guys in the shop what she planned to do. They dared her to come to work in her costume. She, as it turned out, was the wrong person to dare.

Here's her tale: "Driving to the shop on I-64 was an experience in itself. Cars would pass, slow down and then hit their brakes to get another look to see if "it" was real. I just about cackled to death.

"The most fun of all was to see the look on Harold Rulen's face when he saw his stores attendant come in the front door of CMS as a witch. He just shook his head, but he took it all in stride and let me parade through the shop.

"I didn't cast any spells, although I would have liked to. But I sure did give out a lot of kisses, leaving a tell-tale sign on their faces with my black lipstick."

Her costume was in the best of taste: long flowing black robe with matching pointed hat; green makeup covering her face, hands and arms; black and green fingernail polish; false eyelashes that touched her hairline; and, a huge mole on her nose fashioned out of Permatex II.



J. A. Frye, Huntington station mechanic C, and his wife Lola enjoyed an all-expense-paid week in Bermuda last month. The United States convention of the Association of Independent Colleges and Schools (AICS) was held in Bermuda; and, in a complicated method of work incentive calculations, Lola won a trip to the convention for herself and her husband. She is an admissions representative at West Virginia Career College.

## ASK AMOS WOMEN HOW TO START A TRADITION



Showing off their holidays crafts are, front row, l. to r., Hope Bauknecht, Vicky Nazarewycz, Sharon Lett, Irene Goff and Jeannie Wray. Second row, Sherri Frantz, Jo Knopp, Linda Gatens, Nancy Hudson, Nancy Arthur, Wanna Barrett, Ona Willard, Brenda Jividen and WyJean Sharp. Others participating in the project were absent when picture was taken.

A group of John Amos Plant clerical employees seem to have discovered their own method of making a Christmas custom into a tradition.

First, this group recognized needy families in the communities surrounding the plant. Then they asked for and received assistance from a Putnam County community agency in identifying a family with small children.

Once the objects of their concern had been given names and faces, these imaginative women decided they could do something to make the holidays brighter for this family. During lunch hours and break times, they turned a collective interest in crafts into fund-raising projects. And the success of that first year's efforts they owe to a macrame broom pattern brought in by one member. Sales of their handmade door pieces financed not only a bountiful Christmas dinner for the family, but toys for all the children.

This year, the plant's hallways and conference room have been adorned since October with handsome wreaths, macrame bows and ribbons, and of course, the brooms. The group's holiday fund is growing once more. And the week before Christmas, these plant women will be sharing with another neighborhood family the holiday custom they are determined to make into a tradition.

## HANDMADE DOLLS WILL DELIGHT LITTLE GIRLS



Having trouble finding just the right doll for that special little girl? Well, if you're creative like Jessie Smith, you could sit down and whip up one of your own design.

The wife of Roger Smith, unit supervisor at Mountaineer Plant, Jessie and her mother started making dolls as a hobby and as gifts for relatives about three years ago. After several dolls had been made for the family, the pair decided to try to sell them for profit, not considering the time it takes to make the dolls.

Jessie works in the advertising department at the Sears store in Steubenville, Ohio, and talked the manager into buying some for decoration in store displays. They received an order for 30 dolls, ten each for the fall season, Christmas and Easter,

dressed according to the occasion. Since then Jessie has sold several other dolls to friends and neighbors.

Jessie claims that it has gotten to be so much fun that she has expanded the types of dolls she makes. "It's a very good way to relax and just let myself be me," she says.

## JACKIE WILLIAMS MAKES PERSONALIZED GIFTS



Jackie Williams was nurturing the holiday spirit even in early November as she handcrafted beautiful personalized Christmas gifts for family and friends.

The wife of Paul Williams, maintenance mechanic at Centralized Plant Maintenance, Jackie says, "Our family gift list just kept growing and it was becoming more and more difficult to choose just the right gift for the right price. So I decided to give a little of ourselves and make our gifts." Her gifts include cross stitch hangings, salt dough "strawberry" tree ornaments and an assortment of tole painted coal buckets, kitchen plaques, coat racks, trays and antique miniature snuff boxes.

The Williams' children, Tara and Matthew, will receive special watercolor plaques from their mother this year, which include each child's name in the drawing.

Jackie adds, "The real joy is creating these gifts and knowing they are special to our family and friends because they are really from 'us'."



The Elk District Major Girls All-Star Team, managed by Jim Ryan, line mechanic B, and third coach, Greg Hanshaw, line mechanic D, represented the Charleston area in the West Virginia state tournament at Summersville. Sharon Rockefeller (center), the first lady of West Virginia, opened the tournament and presented each participant with a pin. Ryan is at right on the second row and his daughter Jennifer, second row, second from left. Hanshaw is at left on the third row.



## JAYCEE CHRISTMAS PROJECT FUNDED BY HAUNTED HOUSE



Christmas began early this year for Sherman White, utility operator A at the Mountaineer Plant, who helped organize and conduct a Junior Chamber of Commerce fund-raising event this past Halloween.

Sherman, external vice president of the Meigs County Jaycees, served as co-chairman of the group's "Haunted House" project in October. Funds raised by the event are going toward Christmas baskets to feed about 100 elderly and underprivileged people in the area.

Sherman played many roles during the haunted house, including Dr. Mad, Mummy, Wild-man, Devil and tour guide.

Another Christmas project Sherman enjoys is repairing toys to be given away in the "Toys for Tots" program.

Sherman says he joined the Jaycees because he wanted to help others, and the most enjoyable moments he has had with the group was while giving out Christmas baskets and playing Santa Claus last year.

## TURNING LITTLE NOTHINGS INTO THINGS OF BEAUTY



Thalia Myles

If you've ever forked over \$20 for a 'handmade' ornament, only to discover later the "Made in Japan" label, you'll get no sympathy from Bluefield's Thalia Myles or Kanawha River's Brenda Ross, or Charleston's Beverly Meadows.

This creative trio has combined skilled hands, a good eye for color, and a lot of imagination into making Christmas crafts from things most of us discard.

Take Thalia Myles, secretary-stenographer in Bluefield Customer Services. In her hands, discarded toweling, bedspreads and burlap find new identity as "draped" cloaks for "Three Wise Men." Gold-sprayed bottle tops crown their painted heads. Errant pearls and broken rhinestones edge rich garments. Lowly matchboxes covered in glitter and grosgrain become jeweled gifts for a King.

Thalia is now three years into learning the art of fabric draping from Bess Hodges, retired Bluefield cashier. Bess tempted Thalia for some time with her own version of draped Nativity figures. "Seeing hers got me interested, and Bess insisted I try it. So, with her help, I got started on my own group," says Thalia.

A peek into Thalia's craft closet reveals the wide range of her artistry: pictures painted with beans and corn; Christmas trees of small pine cones; turkeys made from chenille bumps and large cones. "I also have a special Santa Claus and beaded ornaments which I use and add to each year," she says.

"Adding to" each year is part of the fun of handicrafts, particularly when they are made from inexpensive materials like those Beverly Meadows, Charleston junior clerk, uses for her projects: detergent bottles, pipe cleaners, beads, nylon hose, macaroni and pine cones.

Like Thalia, Beverly's interest in crafts is sometimes spurred on by friends. In Beverly's case, it's her mother and sister who trade ideas on "natural" crafts and share designs. But Beverly's hobby has practical applications, too. "Some of my work is given as gifts to relatives, and I always try to make something for my sons' school teachers, church school instructors and den mothers," she says.



Beverly Meadows

At Beverly's house, crafting has become a family hobby. "Even the boys, Troy and Todd, aged 9 and 5, help in their own way. And my husband Tom has made several decorative pieces for outdoor use. He tries to make something new for the yard every year, too."

Of course, decorating three trees in her home each year is adequate challenge to Beverly's considerable artistic flair for making something beautiful from little of nothing. All her ornaments are handmade, as are the larger pieces she uses in her home during the holidays.

But just in case, Beverly is always willing to take up something new. Though she already sews, knits, and crochets, Beverly says, "I just recently took up the study of ceramics."

And if anyone can attest to the possibilities of what can be done with ceramics, it is Brenda Ross, plant clerk at Kanawha River. Brenda first tried ceramics about ten years ago, and finding that handcrafts provided an outlet for creative expression that she could enjoy within her home, she has moved on to attempt working on other mediums. One of her favorite projects was wooden tree ornaments, which she hand-painted.

An adventurous crafter, Brenda says, "I guess I'm willing to make anything at least once. Besides, I am never content to sit down and just watch television. I have to be doing something with my hands. I guess that's why I took up crocheting."

One of her most unusual creations are the small, elf-like figures she makes for her children to put under the Christmas tree. They are made from a roll of unwrapped life savers, with arms and legs of yarn. With a small son and daughter at home for inspiration, Brenda says, "I finally bought some craftbooks for ideas, because they are delighted with my holiday crafts."

In addition to tree ornaments, a Nativity scene, a Christmas tree, and other pieces in ceramics, Brenda makes trees and wreaths from nylon netting and even finds time to do some quilting.

And as these three ladies will tell you, the joy of making crafts is two-fold for the creator. Not only do they share the appreciation of family and friends who receive lovely handmade items as gifts, but they know the satisfaction of having made something beautiful from materials others find useless.



Brenda Ross

## SPEED PLAYS SANTA CLAUS TO MANY ON CHRISTMAS



When J. P. "Speed" Young and his wife Wanda set out to do their Christmas shopping, they literally need a truck and, probably, a warehouse. Their shopping list includes a minimum of 40 people.

Speed, who is Charleston division line crew supervisor, and Wanda have five children, four of whom are married and live within a two-block area of their parents. So, for starters, there are seven grandchildren.

Then comes the big part. Sixteen foster children presently living with the Youngs. The foster children range in age from five to late teens. "We try to buy the children gifts they have asked for. This year so far, we have on order 10 cassette tape recorders, three cameras, six dolls as well as batons, footballs, basketballs and clothes.

"Each year we provide the children with money to go shopping one day prior to Christmas to purchase gifts for whomever they please. They buy for their parents sometimes, but normally they end up buying for themselves," Speed said.

But the gift-giving doesn't end with their natural children, the foster children and grandchildren. "Some of our older foster children are involved in school and church activities and, as a consequence, exchange gifts with other people in the organizations. Of course, gifts have to be provided for this purpose, also.

"Christmas shopping starts early at our house, and a lot of it is done from catalogs. We normally start purchasing gifts around the first of September," he said.

## SINGING CHRISTMAS TREE IS A HUNTINGTON EVENT



Fred Helm, Huntington division manager, will take his place for the sixth year with the Chancel Choir and the Fifth Avenue Baptist Singers as they present The Singing Christmas Tree this month.

Performances on December 13 and 14 are eagerly awaited and widely supported in the Huntington church community, according to Fred, whose daughter Kay is also taking part in the annual Christmas celebration.

"It's the beginning of the Christmas season for me and my family, and it's a wonderful way to start off the season," Fred said.

Practice begins in early November. Sessions are held two or three times a week in order to perfect the staging and lighting, entrances and exits, timing and expression. Also, all words and music must be memorized.

All of the practice comes down to the first performance, in the evening on Saturday, December 13. All 120 performers put on their dark green, poncho-type covers that hang to the waist. A double row of tinsel is laid around their shoulders.

The sanctuary is dimly lit before the hour-long performance begins. Then, the lights are turned off completely amid the humming of "Silent Night" as the singers take their places on the platforms, some as high as 35 feet. Performers dressed as the characters in the Christmas story pose in front of a large Christmas tree. Thousands of tiny lights on the tree are turned on as voices rise to sing "O Christmas Tree."

During the following hour the singers move from one carol to another — "Were You There on That Christmas Night?" to "The Holly and The Ivy" to "A Christmas Festival" and many others. All the while, the characters in the Tableau change position and expression, almost imperceptibly in order not to distract the audience.

Fred stands near the bottom of the tree while Kay plays the part of an angel in the Tableau.

Two performances follow on Sunday, December 14, at 4 p.m. and at 7 p.m.

Fred has been singing with church choirs since high school and at one time sang with Joe and Ruth Gills at the Baptist Temple in Charleston. Gills, now deceased, is a former executive vice president of Appalachian.

## GO EMPLOYEES SHARE CERAMICS AT CHRISTMAS



From left, Helen Williams, Jeanie McGarrell and Phyllis Dunnville.

What is it about working with ceramics that keeps Helen Williams, Jeanie McGarrell and Phyllis Dunnville busy for months preceding Christmas?

"Well, first of all it's the cleaning and glazing, the rubbing and polishing. Ceramics is a lot of work, but I've never regretted putting in the time," says Helen, junior stenographer in GO Accounting.

Helen took up the study of ceramics about four years ago when an older sister started the hobby. Since then, she's made a variety of things, including trees, ornaments, and her favorite piece, the lighted Christmas tree.

"Fixing one tree requires about 12 hours of work. The most time-consuming part is applying the green glaze. But putting on the lights is the last step and really the simplest to perform," she says.

In preparing for Christmas and her gift list, Helen makes several decorative items, including snowmen, Santas, ornaments and statues of Mary and Joseph. "Probably the most enjoyable part for me in making ornaments and other things is that it really gets me in the Christmas spirit," she says.

Making ornaments is something Jeanie McGarrell, data processing operator in GO Accounting, could talk about for hours. "This Christmas, I'm making enough ornaments from several different designs to decorate my tree. And I've already made gifts for everyone on my Christmas list, except one," says Jeanie.

"I'm particularly proud of the 18-piece Nativity scene I made for my mother. It's by far the largest project I've ever undertaken. It's a beauty, and the pieces vary from eight to ten inches in height," she says. Jeanie has been working with ceramics for four years, and does everything at home except the firing.

Jeanie's enthusiasm for ceramics has infected one of her co-workers, too, because Phyllis Dunnville, also a data processing operator in GO Accounting, has now taken up the hobby.

Says Phyllis, "This will be the second Christmas I've made gifts of ceramics for my friends and family. Last year, I made large ornaments, trees, Santas and other figures. And instead of using bows on Christmas packages, I substituted small ceramic pieces. I think I'll do the same ornaments again this year, too."

The majority of Phyllis's finished pieces find their way into the homes of her friends, and she says, "I like to see their faces when they open my gift and realize that it was handmade. It gives me a great feeling of satisfaction to know that they appreciate what I have done."

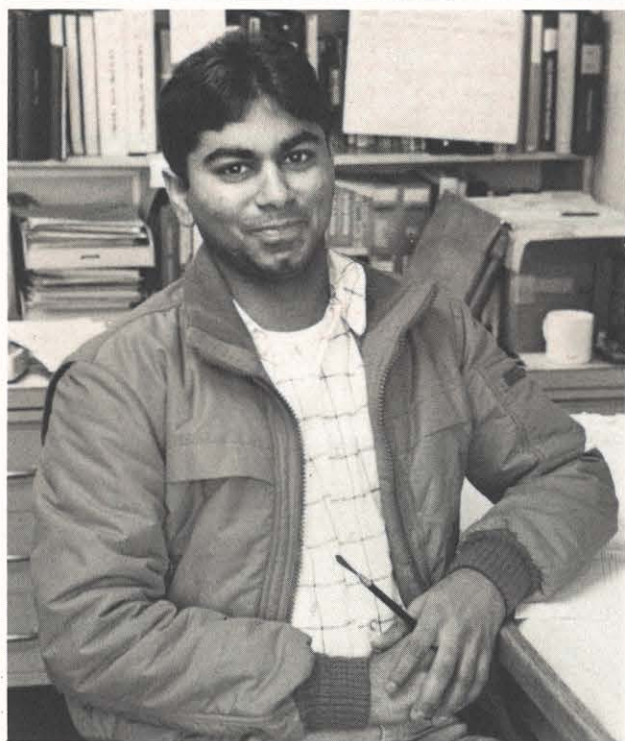
## CHRISTMAS CARD COLLECTION DATES BACK TO 1900'S



Arthur Slusher, maintenance mechanic B at Centralized Plant Maintenance, is a collector. "I never throw anything out. My home is packed with memorabilia that I have collected and that has been passed through my family. I built my house myself and designed each room with one wall of shelving from ceiling to floor so I can just have this stuff around me," says Art.

Among his treasures are dozens of Christmas cards and postcards dated from 1900 to 1917. Each is decorated with nostalgic scenes and carries special messages from his Dublin, Virginia, ancestors to relatives in West Virginia. "These cards are old and probably not worth much to anyone else, but I especially enjoy reading them again and again at Christmastime," Art confides.

## NOVEMBER IS GIFT-GIVING SEASON IN INDIA



Christmas for the Hindu in India is quite different than the Christmas we know in the United States, according to Ajaykumar Shah, communication engineer in GO T&D, Roanoke.

"There are no Christmas trees in India," Ajay explains. "But December 25 is considered the Christmas holiday. School is out and it is a 'do not report to work' day.

"Gifts are exchanged during Diwale festivities in November. Diwale is the beginning of the new year, and festivities last for one week. We go visit our friends and relatives, and it is a time for feasting.

But all of the food is prepared without meat because animals are considered sacred. The children are out of school for a month, somewhat of a semester break.

"Special to this time are the fireworks. After visiting and feasting each day, each family gathers for their display of fireworks. Usually kids are taught the art of fireworks by adults. My grandfather would take me shopping for toys and fireworks. This is the main attraction for children. If any fireworks are left over from the festivities, they may be used at any time during the new year.

Ajay also recalls that, "Everyone prepares for the new year by taking house inventory. Homes are cleaned, painted and fixed up to give a new, clean appearance for a new year."

## HOLY LAND TRIP COMES TO MIND AT CHRISTMAS



Randy Camden pictured at the entrance to Christ's tomb.

The Christmas season evokes special memories for two Appalachian employees who can visualize from first-hand experience the landmarks and important places in the birth of Christianity.

Randy Camden, unit supervisor at John Amos Plant, accompanied his brother, Rev. Danny Camden of Iaeger, West Virginia, on a trip to the Holy Land last March.

Mary Elizabeth Davis, secretary-stenographer in Logan-Williamson, made the trip in November 1978.

The trip brings back these memories for Mary: "To stand with a group of your friends on the spot where Christ was born in the stable and sing 'Silent Night, Holy Night' is a thrill that words cannot express.

"Each time I hear 'O Little Town of Bethlehem,' I remember the shepherd tending his sheep on the hillside outside Bethlehem who waved to our bus as



Mary Elizabeth Davis

we passed by. The whole story of the birth of Christ really comes alive and takes on a new meaning since I have been in the land where it all took place," she said.

Randy was initially reluctant to make the trip, given the hostilities in the Middle East. But at his brother's urging, he made the trip.

What followed was a moving and memorable experience. "When you look at Bethlehem where Christ was born, Golgotha where he was crucified and Jerusalem where he was placed in the tomb, you see Christmas and Easter combined," Randy said. "Most people are never this fortunate."

"How many people get to look into the Sea of Galilee, walk on the same stones as the Biblical characters did and see the Eastern Gate, the Walls of Jericho and the Dead Sea? And how many have stood in the Garden of Gethsemane, sat in the arena where Pilate tried Christ or drank the water from Jacob's well?

"It is difficult to comprehend it all when you are there because for a fleeting moment you become a part of history as well as being a part of the present," he said.

The highlights of the trip occurred when they had communion in the Garden of the Tomb and when his brother conducted services in the "Upper Room" one Sunday morning.

"The experience was emotional, and I would recommend to anyone a tour like this for there is no way to adequately and fully describe it," he said.

## DALTONS SHARE FOOD, TIME WITH ELDERLY SHUT-INS



There are many ways to give at Christmas, but Jim Dalton, Lynchburg station crew supervisor, and his family have found one that is more satisfying than most. Their giving to the community's elderly includes something money could not pay for: their time.

As a member of the New London Ruritan Club, Jim has participated in the delivery of fruit baskets to senior citizens for many years.

But the Dalton family — Jim, wife Jenny and son Pete — make distribution of the baskets a family affair. Jim selects five families, usually in neighborhoods near the Dalton home. During the week before Christmas, the three Daltons deliver a basket each evening to one of the families. And they make the occasion a personal visit. For an hour or so, they chat over coffee and exchange family stories.

"It's not that these people necessarily need the food, but rather the fact that they seem genuinely happy that someone has remembered them during the holidays," says Jim. "The people we visit with are 70 to 80 years old. Some are shut ins. Many are simply lonely and that's why we try to spend some time with them. If a person did this one time and saw the joy it brings, he would never give it up. We always come away with a good feeling."

## 'TIS THE SEASON TO REVIEW HOME SAFETY PRACTICES

Every year at holiday time, accidents claim lives, injure people and destroy property. Appalachian Power's Safety Director Doug Forbes believes that once-a-year use of holiday products contributes to the tendency of people to overlook hazards that they would not ignore at other times of the year.

"People are well aware that the Christmas tree, whether it is artificial or live, is a hazard in the house," Forbes says, "but they think a tragic fire will never happen to them. Decorative lights used on the tree for year after year can develop electrical problems; there may be short-circuits where the cord enters each light, or exposed metal sockets, broken plugs and faulty cord connections."

He continues, "The holidays often find candles being displayed in windows where flames can ignite curtains, drapes and decorations. Overloading of electrical circuits often occurs because of the many decorative lights, electric train sets, etc., and the limited availability of wall receptacles. Extension cords are scattered about, inviting spills and falls, and foot traffic may damage the insulation or the cord itself. Children have been known to put cords in their mouth; this has been known to cause mouth burn; or even a deadly shock."

Forbes suggests that employees take a few minutes to read the safety tips listed below and make a pre-holiday review of safety practices in their homes to reduce chances of injury.

### Christmas Trees

- Buy a fresh tree. Snap a small branch between your fingers; if the branch breaks easily, chances are the tree or that part of the tree is too dry. Tapping the trunk of the tree on the ground is often an indicator of the tree's vitality; if an abundance of needles drop from the tree, this indicates a good part of the tree is dangerously dry. Needles that bend and cannot be easily pulled from a tree are a good indication that the tree is fresh.
- After bringing the tree home, immediately remove about two inches from the base of the trunk with a saw; this exposes fresh tissue that will readily accept water. If the tree is to be stored for some time, stand the tree trunk in a container filled with water. If the tree is to be displayed immediately, stand the trunk in a tree stand that has a large reservoir for holding water. Make certain the tree stand has widespread legs for the safety of the tree. Erect the tree, then fill the stand with water and keep it filled for as long as the tree remains in the home. Some tree stands hold only a small amount of water so be certain to fill these tree stands every day.
- Locate the tree away from heat sources which would dry the tree faster.
- Be certain to place trees away from doors. In the event of a fire, the tree could block your escape if it were located next to a door.
- The cooler the room temperature, the longer the tree will stay fresh in the house. Consider lowering the thermostat.
- If the tree is tall, consider stabilizing it with guy wires to the ceiling and wall. Thin wires are almost invisible in cases like this.
- For added safety, use this flameproofing formula: To each gallon of warm water used add: 4 oz. Boric Acid; 9 oz. Borax; 1/2 teaspoon of low sudsing detergent. Saturate the tree (underside too) and let dry before decorating.

### Tree Lights

- Use only approved electrical lights at all times (UL, Noel, etc.). Use the proper lights for the environment. Indoor lights should not be used outside because they lack weatherproof connections. Lack of proper insulation increases chances of a short-circuit or fire.
- Inspect all lights when unpacking before the holidays. Check for frayed, broken or exposed wires. Look for broken or split sockets. Discard any sets with broken sockets or frayed or cracked wires.

- Inspect bulbs for safe operation. Some lighting sets are wired so that failure of one bulb will not cause other lights to go dark. In cases like this, be sure an exact replacement bulb is used. Replace the bulb before using the set since the other bulbs will tend to overheat and create another hazard in the process. If all bulbs are extinguished when one bulb fails to operate, obtain a proper replacement bulb since the set will not work without it.

- Never use electric lights on metallic trees. Although safe when used according to manufacturer's directions, metallic trees can become charged with electricity from faulty electric lights. This may result in a shock or electrocution hazard to anyone touching the energized tree.

- Use no more than three sets of lights for each extension cord.

- Inspect all rooms before retiring for the night or leaving the house. Make certain all tree and display lights have been turned off and the plugs disconnected. Many fires have occurred when lights were left burning in an unattended house.

### Ornaments

- Avoid metallic ornaments where possible, especially on the tree. Such ornaments could be a shock hazard if placed near a set of defective electric lights.

- The use of artificial tinsel and plastic icicles are a good idea since they will not cause electric shock.

- Holiday decorations that are non-combustible or flame-resistant are a good investment. With the trend toward more do-it-yourself decorations and craft items, insist on flame-resistant materials whenever possible.

### Fireplaces

- It is a common mistake to use the fireplace as an incinerator to burn gift wrappings, boxes, cartons and packing materials. Because these wrappings burn very rapidly and generate high heat, they should not be burned in the fireplace. Chimney fires have occurred when flames ignited soot deposits in the chimney.

- Have the chimney inspected once a year to ensure that all linings are intact. Keep the chimney free of soot and blockage.

- Be certain that the firescreen is in place whenever the fireplace is used. Cinders exploding from wood in the fireplace should be stopped by the firescreen.

- Use fire salts with care (those that produce a multi-colored fire in the fireplace). Because these salts are known to contain heavy metals, they should be stored away from young children.

### Extension Cords

- Inspect extension cords and other cords on holiday decorations before using them for the holidays. Look especially for loose connections or frayed or exposed wire. Discard any defective cord or product.

- Use extension cords approved by a recognized testing lab. Pick the correct cord for the job. If multiple lights are to be used, rely on a heavy-duty extension cord.

- If you plan to use outdoor lights, make certain the extension cord is labeled for outdoor use.

- Make certain each plug is inserted fully in the outlet, with no prongs exposed. Poor prong contact at the outlet could cause the plug to overheat or to become a shock hazard.

- To avoid one source of possible overheating, do not coil or bunch an extension cord while it is in use. Don't place the cord under a carpet or rug for the same reason. Cords should be resting on the floor in a safe location so they do not overheat or cause people to trip.

## YOUNGSTERS ARE ADEPT AT CRAFTS



Bryan and Cathy Weaver

Part of the renewed interest in handcrafts might be attributed to the fact that most anyone can learn, including children.

"And they seem to bring a special kind of imagination to their work," says Cathy Weaver, wife of Roger Weaver, maintenance mechanic at Centralized Plant Maintenance.

Their son, eight-year-old Bryan, is especially enthusiastic about creative ceramics. He even made his Dad's birthday gift this year. Cathy adds, "He shows particular skill with color selection and shading in his work, and he personalizes many of his pieces with unusual touches."

Together, Cathy and Bryan have wiped, cleaned and glazed enough pieces to decorate their home for the holidays with tree ornaments, a woodstained Nativity scene and brightly painted carollers. Says Cathy, "It's a hobby Bryan and I can share, and the whole family can enjoy our special gifts, particularly the tree ornaments."

And beautiful tree ornaments are the specialty of eleven-year-old Jeffrey Hugh Sayre, too. Son of Joseph Sayre, assistant shift operating engineer at Mountaineer Plant, Jeffrey began making his beaded creations about three years ago when an aunt taught him to use materials she had received in a craft class.

"When I first started, I used patterns to make the different types, but now I create my own designs," says Jeffrey. "I try to make new ornaments every year, and I always sell a few. But mostly I give them away as gifts."

Jeffrey and his parents are proud of his handcrafts. "In the summer of 1979, and again this summer, my bells, angels and stars won blue ribbons in the Meigs County Fair."

Jeffrey now is making other things, including key chains and coasters.



Jeffrey Sayre

# TO SANTA % NORTH POLE



Elizabeth Ann, daughter of H. M. Martin, Glen Lyn Plant custodian.

DEAR SANTA  
PLEASE BRING ME  
SOME NEW TOYS.  
A BABY THAT OPENS  
AND SHUTS HER EYES.  
PLEASE BRING MY  
FRIENDS TOYS TOO.  
I LOVE YOU AND  
BABY JESUS

## TASTE TREATS

(Continued from page 14)

### PECAN PIE

- 2 tablespoons soft margarine or butter
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 3 eggs
- 3/4 cup dark corn syrup
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 cup chopped pecans

Prepare your favorite pastry recipe, and make an unbaked 9-inch pie shell. Either chill thoroughly or freeze until nail prints do not show when tapped on the crust. This prevents the crust from becoming soggy after baking.

Cream margarine and sugar together until light and fluffy. Add the eggs, and beat until blended. Add the remaining ingredients, except pecans, and beat **only** until blended. Lastly, stir in the chopped pecans. Pour into the very cold or frozen pie shell.

Place rack in center of oven. Bake in a preheated 375°F oven for 40 to 50 minutes. Cool and serve, or wrap for freezing.

If a member of the family can't eat nuts, leave out the pecans, and you have a delicious "Pecanless Pie."

Martha K. Horne  
Pulaski Customer Service Advisor



Sharry Lee, daughter of Ona Willard, Amos Plant personnel clerk A.

Dear Santa  
I love you and  
your dog.  
Baby Cry and  
Dhr and Kiffing  
Barbie. I been  
good a lot and  
bad little.



Tanya, daughter of Susan Osborne, Amos Plant junior clerk.

Dear Santa,  
I want a baby  
doll named the new  
baby. I want a  
doll for my friends  
too. Make sure  
you save some  
room for cookies  
and milk



Bobby, son of Gloria Saunders, Kanawha River plant clerk B.

Dear Santa,  
I am 9 years old. I have  
been a good boy this year.  
Would you please give me  
a drum for Christmas? Would  
you please give my dog Rascal  
a present, too? Santa, could you  
make it possible that we don't  
have any more wars?

Thank you,  
Bobby B.



Kim, daughter of Ray Casto, machinist, 1st class, Central Machine Shop.

Dear Santa  
Thank You For  
The toys Last  
year, I want  
a Ironing  
Board and  
a oven and  
A Baby alive and  
Gerber Food and  
diaper Set and a  
Sew perfect and  
Sewing Basket

# TASTE TREATS FOR YOUR HOLIDAY ENTERTAINING

## COLORFUL CORN PUDDING

1 10-oz. pkg. frozen chopped broccoli  
2 cups milk  
3 tablespoons butter or margarine  
1½ teaspoons salt  
¼ teaspoon pepper  
2 tablespoons finely chopped onion  
½ cup white or yellow cornmeal  
3 eggs  
½ teaspoon baking powder  
1 8-oz. can cream-style corn  
Paprika

1. MICROWAVE (high) broccoli in packages 4 to 5 minutes or until thawed; drain well. Set aside.
2. Combine 1½ cups of the milk with the butter, salt, pepper and onion in a 4-cup glass measure.
3. MICROWAVE (high), uncovered, 4½ to 5 minutes or until milk is hot. Combine remaining ½ cup milk and cornmeal. Slowly stir mixture into hot milk.
4. MICROWAVE (high), uncovered, 2½ to 3 minutes or until mixture thickens, stirring 2 or 3 times.
5. Beat eggs and baking powder in 1½-quart glass casserole until frothy. Slowly blend in the hot cornmeal mixture. Stir in corn and broccoli until well mixed.
6. MICROWAVE (high), uncovered, 11 minutes, stirring every 3 minutes. Spread evenly in dish, sprinkle with paprika.
7. MICROWAVE (high), uncovered, 3 to 4 minutes or until center is just about set. About 8 servings.

Sandy Palen  
Beckley Customer Service Advisor

## FESTIVE CROWN PORK ROAST WITH CRANBERRY DRESSING

Pork roast — about 6-pounds  
salt and pepper  
1 teaspoon ground sage  
1 garlic clove, crushed  
2 cups apple juice or strong cider

Rub roast with salt, pepper and sage. Spread garlic on top, place on roasting rack and add apple juice or cider. Roast at 325° for 35-minutes per pound, or until meat thermometer reads 185°. Makes 8 servings.

### Cranberry Dressing

¼ cup butter  
1 cup diced celery  
1 medium onion, diced  
2 medium-size apples, peeled and chopped  
6 cups diced bread  
1 teaspoon ground sage  
¼ teaspoon ground marjoram (optional)  
1 can (8 ounces) whole cranberry sauce  
2 tablespoons brown sugar (If very tart apples are used increase to 3 tablespoons)  
1 teaspoon of salt  
grated rind of 1 orange  
½ cup fresh orange juice

Melt butter, add celery, onion and apples. Stir over low heat until softened. (To prepare in microwave, cook on high heat 5-7 minutes, stirring twice.) Add diced bread, sage and marjoram. Combine cranberry sauce, brown sugar, salt and orange rind. Stir over low heat until sugar is dissolved, and add to bread mixture. Add orange juice gradually, continuing to mix until bread is moistened.

May be baked separately in casserole, loosely covered, at 350°F for 1 hour.

Virginia Black  
Huntington Customer Service Representative

## CRANBERRY PUNCH

4 qts. cranberry juice  
4 qts. apple juice  
½ gal. ginger ale

Pour together and add crushed ice with an ice ring.

### Ice Ring

Prepare gelatin of any flavor desired (lime), add fruit cocktail that has been drained. Add large strawberries or maraschino cherries. FREEZE UNTIL SOLID. Serves 50.

Mary Kirby  
Bluefield Residential Representative

## RETIREE BAKES GOODIES FOR CHRISTMAS GIFTS



According to the old Pillsbury commercial, "nothing spells loving like something from the oven". Sylbia Hinchman, retired Charleston home sales representation senior, agrees wholeheartedly. For the past 20 years she has been baking cookies and making candy as personal Christmas gifts for family and friends.

Sylbia's pride and joy is her now-famous Kentucky Whiskey Cake, for which she originated the recipe some years ago. She makes these cakes throughout the year and freezes them until the holiday season. (Sylbia shares the recipe for her cake below).

Sylbia has remained active in her retirement, including working at the Baptist Temple where she helps in preparation of meals for various meetings and does a lot of visiting with shut ins. These lucky people are on the receiving end for her homemade goodies.

Sylbia's sister is currently residing in a nursing home in Huntington, and Sylbia is baking cookies to serve the 100 residents of the home at their Christmas party this year.

"The odd thing about all the baking that I do," confides Sylbia, "is that with my present diet, I can't eat any of it. But I do enjoy doing for other people."

## KENTUCKY WHISKEY CAKE

5 cups flour  
1 cup brown sugar  
6 eggs  
2 cups pecans  
1 teaspoon vanilla  
2 cups candied cherries

2 cups sugar  
¾ pound butter  
2 cups Bourbon whiskey  
1 cup white raisins  
1 teaspoon baking powder  
½ teaspoon mace

1. Cut cherries in half in a 4 cup measure or bowl.
2. Add raisins and pour whiskey over all. Cover with plastic wrap or foil and allow to stand overnight.
3. Cream butter and sugars together until light.
4. Add eggs one at a time and beat thoroughly after each addition.
5. Add 3 cups of the flour.
6. Pour batter into a large bowl and add fruit and whiskey.
7. Stir with wooden spoon and add remaining flour, mace and baking powder.
8. Stir in vanilla and nuts.
9. Pour into well greased and paper-lined tube pan or 2 9x5x3 bread pans.
10. Bake at 275 degrees for 3 hours. Store as fruit cake.

Sylbia Hinchman  
Retired Charleston Home Sales Representative Senior

## SEAFOOD CASSEROLE

3 eggs  
½ cup butter  
¼ cup flour  
1 teaspoon salt  
2 cups milk  
1 cup tuna fish  
¼ cup butter  
1 cup crab meat  
1 cup shrimp  
⅔ cup mushrooms  
1 cup grated American cheese  
½ cup chopped onions  
1 cup dry cracker crumbs

Hard cook the eggs. Melt ¼ cup butter and add flour and salt. Stir until blended. Add milk and cook on medium heat until thickened, stirring constantly. To white sauce, add sliced eggs, fish, mushrooms, cheese and onion. Pour into casserole dish.

Combine cracker crumbs and ¼ cup melted butter and sprinkle over top of casserole. Bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes.

Carolyn Gibson  
Kingsport Residential Advisor

## LONDON BARS

½ cup butter  
1 cup flour  
½ cup brown sugar

Cream butter, add sugar and flour. Mix thoroughly and pour into square or oblong pan. Bake for 10 minutes in preheated oven at 375 degrees.

1 cup brown sugar  
2 eggs  
1 teaspoon vanilla  
1 cup chopped nuts  
3 tablespoons flour  
½ teaspoon salt  
1½ cups coconut

Beat eggs until light. Add sugar, flour and salt. Mix well. Add nuts, coconut and vanilla. Mix thoroughly and pour over first mixture that has been baked. Bake for 20-30 minutes at 375 degrees. Cut these into squares or strips. They are chewy and delicious.

Betty J. Pearson  
Lynchburg Customer Service Representative

## SPINACH BALLS

2 10 oz. pkg. frozen chopped spinach  
2 cups herb stuffing  
2 medium onions — finely chopped  
6 eggs — beaten  
6 tablespoons butter — melted  
½ cup parmesan cheese  
1 tablespoon garlic salt  
½ tablespoon black pepper  
½ teaspoon thyme

Cook and drain spinach. Set aside. Mix all other ingredients thoroughly. Add spinach and shape into small balls. May be frozen before baking or after. Bake 350° for 15 to 20 minutes. Makes approximately 6 to 7 dozen.

Lynn Martin  
Abingdon Customer Service Advisor

## BAKED POTATO SALAD

8 potatoes, diced and cooked  
½ lb. diced cheese  
1 cup mayonnaise  
½ cup chopped onion  
salt and pepper to taste  
½ lb. fried bacon, crumbled

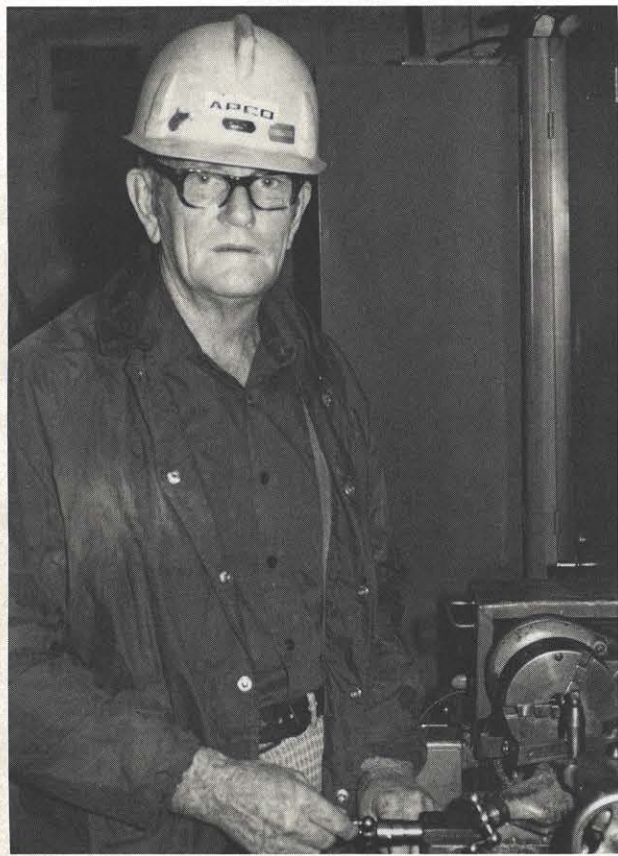
Combine potatoes, cheese, mayonnaise and onions. Put in 9x13 inch baking dish. Top with bacon. Bake 45 minutes to 1 hour at 325°F.

May be made ahead, refrigerated and baked later.

Mary L. Kessinger  
Logan-Williamson Residential Advisor

(Continued on pages 13 and 15)

## CHRISTMAS IS FAMILY TIME FOR CASEY MANN



For most people, Christmas is a special time of year that brings blessings, both great and small, in many ways. For Paul H. "Casey" Mann, instrument mechanic A at Glen Lyn Plant, Christmas Day is a time of family togetherness.

"During the last 30 years, there have been only two occasions that all of us — my wife, two daughters and I — have not been together for Christmas. Now, the family includes two sons-in-law and, a granddaughter who joined us eight years ago," Casey says.

"Christmas morn begins early with all of us gathering around our 'live' tree and each opening his or her gifts.

"Then, as has become our custom on Christmas Day, we all go to my wife's home where we join her mother (her father died in 1966), brother and three sisters for a family gathering, Christmas dinner and gift exchange," he continues.

"What 35 years ago was a gathering of only five children and their families has, in 1980, grown to include 11 grandchildren, and 14 great-grandchildren with family member's ages spanning from 2 years to 85 years.

"This day has become one of family closeness and fellowship — a time to enjoy another of the many blessings God has so bountifully given us."

## TASTE TREATS

(Continued from page 14)

### FROZEN FRUIT SALAD

4 eggs yolks  
4 tablespoons vinegar  
4 tablespoons sugar  
¼ lb. marshmallows, quartered  
1 #2 can sliced pineapple  
10 maraschino cherries, halved  
1 pint. whipping cream, whipped  
4 tablespoons mayonnaise  
½ cup chopped almonds

Beat egg yolks, add sugar, salt, vinegar, heat over low heat until warm, add marshmallows and continue cooking until marshmallows are dissolved and mixture becomes thick. Cool completely and fold in whipped cream and mayonnaise. Chop sliced pineapple and fold into mixture along with cherries and nuts. Freeze in loaf pan, lined with Saran wrap. When frozen, remove from pan and wrap for freezing or remove Saran wrap, slice and serve on lettuce.

Sandra Byus  
Charleston Customer Service Advisor

## LIGHTING BEGINS HOLIDAY SEASON



Preparing to install Christmas lights in the Town of Milton are, from left, Mac Terry and Dave Rood, line mechanics A, and Jim Drenan, line crew supervisor.

Jim Drenan, line crew supervisor in the Milton area of the Huntington Division, has devoted a quarter of century to dressing up Milton for the holiday season.

In the past, Jim has gotten Christmas decorations wherever he could find them to festoon the downtown area. "We even got the lights one year and furnished them for the town," Jim said. "We went to the Huntington people, and they gave us lights that we've been using for a good many years."

This year the Better Business Association of Milton took up the project of securing decorations and got 30 Christmas lighting decorations. Jim and Mac Terry and Dave Rood, both line mechanics A, installed the lights on Saturdays and evenings.

The lights were turned on the day after Thanksgiving as part of the town's celebration. One resident donated a large Christmas tree, which was set up in the Milton Memorial area and decorated by volunteer fire fighters. When the tree lights were turned on, each towns person carried a lighted candle in a parade. The parade led to the tree, on which each person placed an ornament in memory of the hostages in Iran.

After the holidays, of course, the decorations have to come down. The three linemen plan to start that job after January 1. Plans are already underway to double the number of street decorations for 1981. Sixty decorations would cover the entire length of downtown.

Jim's civic activities are not confined to the cold months. During the summer he helped plant 70 dogwood trees along U.S. 60 in the downtown area.

Asked why he devotes so much time to these volunteer activities, Jim said, "I enjoy doing things for the town. If you don't take care of your town, certainly no one else will. I've lived in Milton a long time, and that's where I work. I really enjoy doing it."

## CELEBRATION OF CHRISTMAS IS THEME OF CHURCH'S POETRY



Since the time the first narrative of the Christmas miracle was recorded, poets have been inspired to write in celebration of this event. And continuing in that time-honored tradition, Debbie Church, Kingsport junior clerk and part-time writer, has composed a Christmas poem to share with family and friends this year.

Debbie's experiments with verse began when she was a student. "When I was in high school, I often wrote poems for football rallies, for Valentine's Day, and for other students. As a senior, one of my poems was selected as 'class poem' and published in our school annual," says Debbie.

Though Debbie turns to poetry writing when she is depressed, she also enjoys writing for festive occasions. "I like to write in my spare time," she says, "but I find that I have to be in a certain frame of mind. I have written for many occasions, such as the birthdays of friends and other special events."

In a contest sponsored by a local women's club, Debbie's first foray into competition earned a third place award. "I've given copies of the winning piece, and all my poems, to my grandmother for safe-keeping. Someday, I hope to have them printed and bound," she says.

During this Christmas season, Debbie will be distributing several verses of holiday greetings, and among them will be "At Christmas", which is reprinted below.

### AT CHRISTMASTIME

Autumn has come and gone,  
The leaves have done their thing.  
But in the air is a feeling of cheer  
As Christmas bells begin to ring.

Little children get out paper and pen,  
A list goes special delivery to St. Nick.  
And sweethearts go from shop to shop  
For that special gift to do the trick.

Mom takes stock to prepare a feast.  
Turkey, stuffing, and all the sweets.  
While Dad settles down to watch the game  
And place a wager on which team will beat.

Everyone is filled with anticipation  
As presents are handed out from under the tree.  
The pretty paper is torn to shreds,  
And a chant can be heard, "Is this one for me?"

As the holidays grow near,  
And our excitement builds up, too,  
We worship the birth of Christ our Lord,  
And wish a Merry Christmas to you!

# the ILLUMINATOR

December 1980



## RUNNING IN FAST COMPANY

It was like old times when Ralph "Red" Holmes was invited to play in an all-star basketball game in Morgantown, honoring the opening of the new West Virginia University Mountaineer Stadium.

The Charleston line mechanic A captained the 1953-54 Mountaineers and played this special game along with some players who were All-Americans in their college heyday. Most notable among the participants were Jerry West and Hot Rod Hundley, both having been All-Americans and having played professional basketball.

Red played on the team captained by Hundley and West was captain of the other team. Red says, "We're sure a whole lot older than we were back in the good ole days, but some of us are still in pretty good shape. I have continued playing basketball in various leagues every year." Red was the second oldest player participating. The oldest was James McCartney, former secretary of state.

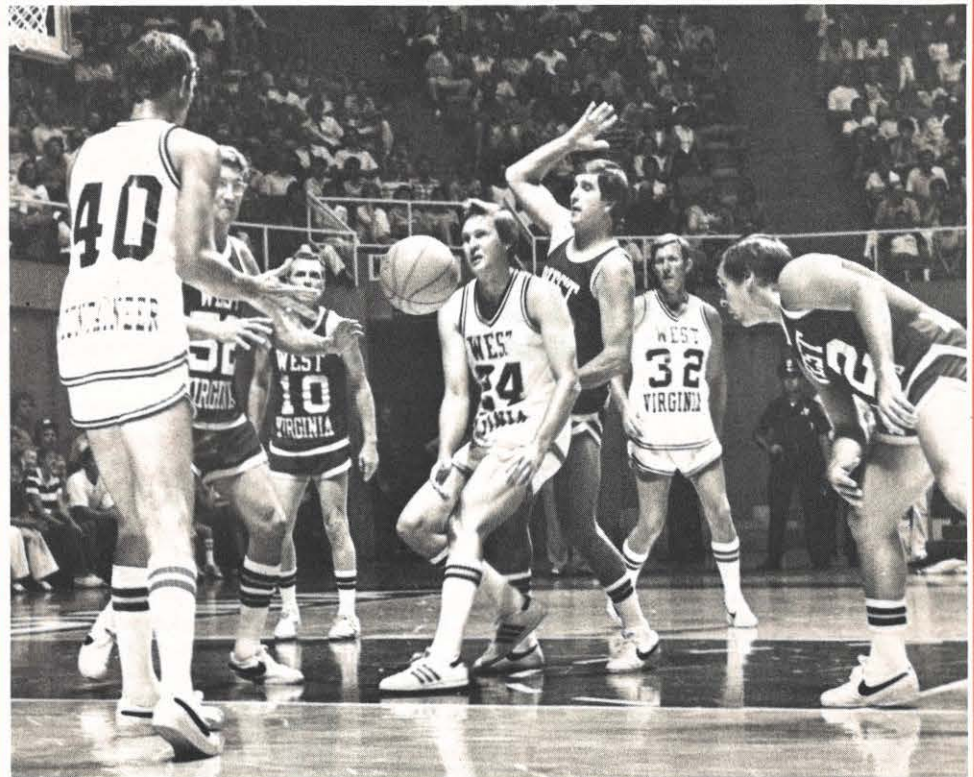
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Red was a high scoring guard for Stonewall Jackson High School before attending WVU. He made the all-state basketball and all-state baseball teams.

This recent game was a little bit different. "As I said," Red laughs, "we are just a little bit older and our accuracy is not what it once was. In this particular game, I hit 3 for 9 shots for a total of 6 points.

"They treated us royally for this weekend and introduced us at the pre-game ceremonies for the opening of the new 50,000 seat stadium. Ex-WVU players came from far and near — California, Holland, China, Florida and Arizona, to name a few. The referees for the game were also NBA stars, Willis Reed and Artis Gilmore. These were the two biggest individuals I have ever seen referee a game."



Jerry West (24) dishes off to teammate Tom Lowry (40) during the WVU alumni cage basketball game. Other former Mountaineer stars pictured include, l. to r., Lloyd Sharrar (52), Red Holmes (10), Bobby Joe Smith, Willie Akers and Jim McCormick.