

OCTOBER 1981

# THE ILLUMINATOR

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Volume 32 No. 1

October 1981

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

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## Cover

The first formal effort to test agricultural uses of flyash in the AEP System is taking place in a cornfield at the John Amos Plant. Shown looking over this year's crop is Red Clay, Amos ash supervisor, and Rusty Nida, associate engineer in the AEP Ash Utilization and Research Section, Charleston.

## Savings plan unit values

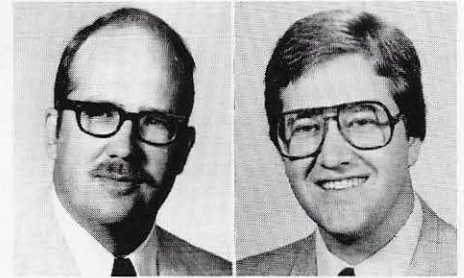
Date	Fixed Income Fund		Equity Fund		AEP Stock Fund	
	VPU	UCPD	VPU	UCPD	VPU	UCPD
1/31/81	\$1.2907	.7748	\$1.7132	.5837	\$1.0145	.9857
2/28/81	1.3001	.7692	1.7508	.5712	.9748	1.0259
3/31/81	1.3106	.7630	1.8171	.5503	1.0064	.9936
4/30/81	1.3208	.7571	1.7770	.5627	.9912	1.0089
5/31/81	1.3317	.7509	1.7862	.5598	1.0340	.9671
6/30/81	1.3425	.7449	1.7768	.5628	1.0757	.9296
7/31/81	1.3537	.7387	1.7805	.5616	1.0842	.9223
8/31/81	1.3652	.7325	1.6956	.5898	1.1047	.9052

VPU — value per unit  
 UCPD — units credited per dollar

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.

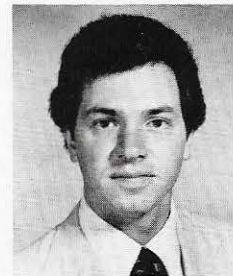
The variable interest rate for September on the Fixed Income Fund is 15.33%. All monies placed in this fund after April 1 will be credited with an interest rate of 15.33% during the month of September. □

## Three receive PE certification



McDonald

Wiseman



Weddle

Three Appalachian Power employees have been certified as registered professional engineers. They are Scott McDonald, hydro maintenance superintendent, GO Hydro, Roanoke; Harold Wiseman, Charleston power engineer; and Jeff Weddle, Huntington power engineer.

McDonald, who already holds certifications in West Virginia and Virginia, was certified in the State of Ohio. He graduated from Marshall University with a bachelor of science degree in civil engineering and joined the company in 1968 as a civil engineer in GO Hydro.

Wiseman graduated from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University with a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering and began his career in 1976 as an electrical engineer.

Weddle also holds a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University and was employed in 1976 as an electrical engineer. □

# Mountaineer plant dedicated



Families of Mountaineer Plant employees had an opportunity to see where their parents or spouses work during open house September 12. Some 465 attended the event, which featured a tour of the plant and grounds, dedication of the plant and a buffet luncheon. Appalachian President John W. Vaughan, who was unable to attend, spoke to the guests via videotape. In the photo above, Ted Abolin, vice president — operations for Appalachian, unveils the dedicatory plaque as William M. Robinson, plant manager (left), and Nick Roomy, vice president of Appalachian (right), look on. The plant, which went into commercial operation on September 15, 1980, was named in honor of the citizens of West Virginia and was dedicated to the people it will serve and those who made the facility possible. The photo below shows some of the employees and family members going through the buffet line.



# APCo's Funk Station is site of computer-controlled relay testing

The sky darkens as a thunderhead moves across the mountain. Out of the churning mass of black clouds leap bolts of lightning.

Skirting the static wire, lightning hits a conductor on an electric transmission line. An ionized cloud results from the strike, allowing power from the high-voltage line to arc around an insulator and flow to ground.

Immediately, a relay at the nearest substation detects the fault (a fault is a problem on a power line that disrupts the proper flow of electricity) and sets circuit breakers into action. The breakers open, de-energizing the line. This stops the arc and the conductive ionized cloud dissipates. The breakers reclose, and the line again carries electricity to customers. Only seconds or fractions of a second are needed to clear the transient or temporary fault.

Had it been a permanent fault — for example, a tree limb touching the conductor — the breakers could have operated as many as three times: typically, one high-speed and two time-delayed actions, to clear the fault. If the fault didn't clear after the three operations, then the breakers would lock

out. A crew would be dispatched to find the problem and correct it.

"Lightning causes about 90 percent of our transmission line faults," explains Andy Politis, manager of the System Protection and Control Section of the AEP Service Corporation's Electrical Engineering Division. "High winds, trees and man-made problems, such as a construction crane touching a line, are some of the causes that account for the rest."

Power system protection is extremely important. If the relays and breakers work the way they are designed, customers are hardly even aware of a transient fault.

However, if all doesn't go well — which is a rarity, especially on the AEP System — major problems can arise. A failure to trip could lead to system instability and extensive equipment damage, and possible explosions and fire. An incorrect trip weakens the system and could lead to a more widespread disruption of service.

This article describes a decade of research and development by two departments in the Service Corporation to develop a better method to protect the AEP System.

More than a decade ago, Stan Horowitz and Arun Phadke were having morning coffee and talking shop.

Horowitz, now assistant manager of the Electrical Engineering Division, was musing over a line protection relay problem. "Wouldn't it be nice," he said between sips, "if a computer could handle the protection chores on transmission lines and in substations?"

Phadke, now a consulting engineer in the Information Systems Department, agreed. He saw computer application of sensing and responding to various problems to be ideal.

But, both men knew that they were day-dreaming.

Cost was the key problem. The only computers able at the time to handle the complexities involved were the large "main frame" types found in climate-controlled computer centers attended by a host of computer specialists. There was no way that such cost — millions of dollars per station — could have been justified by the improvement in protection.

Not long after the initial conversation, though, technology skyrocketed and the price of computers headed toward the bargain basement.

Horowitz and Phadke watched with keen interest, and, in 1972, a project to develop computer relaying was started.

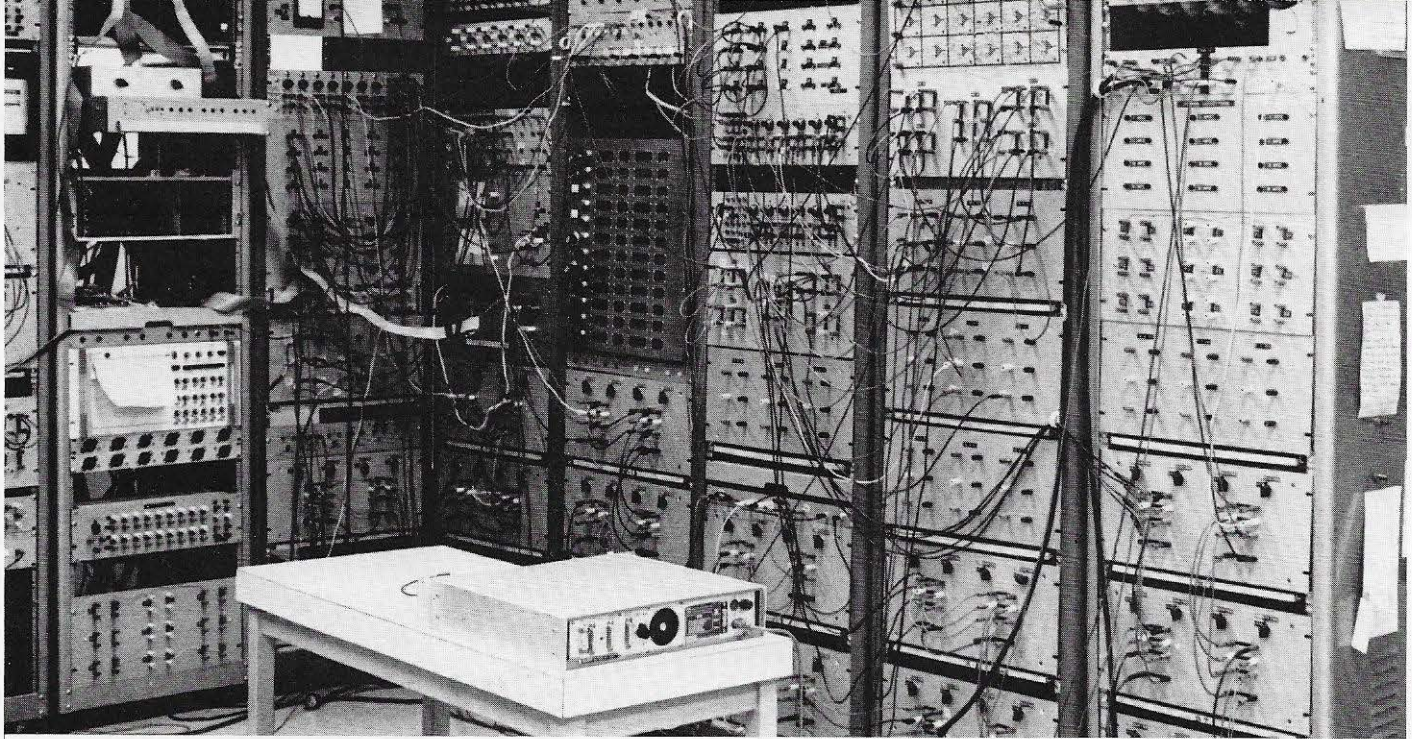
First phase of the program was to prove a minicomputer could operate in a substation environment. In 1973, one

was installed at the Matt Funk Substation in Virginia on the 138,000-volt line from the Glen Lyn Plant. The mini-computer wasn't given control of line protection; rather, it was installed in a parallel manner to test its responses to line faults. Its reactions were to be compared with those of the existing conventional relays.

While the computer hardware was undergoing field tests, software — the programs put into the computer — had to be developed further. In a sense, the AEP System's seven decades of line protection experience had to be taught to a machine.

A special laboratory was designed and built to simulate line and station activities. This low-voltage laboratory model at AEP's 2 Broadway office in New York enabled Phadke and his project team to simulate system faults with various bus and line configurations that could occur on a transmission network. Others on the project team are Ted Hlibka, Jerry Jauch, Mike Price and Mark Adamiak.

From this lab research, Phadke developed a single mathematical equation used to program a computer enabling it to handle all types of faults on a three-phase transmission line. This, in itself, was an outstanding achievement. The U.S. Patent Office granted AEP a patent for the symmetrical component distance relay equation. And, the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers' power systems relay committee gave its 1976 prize for the accomplishment.



This special in-door laboratory simulates line and station activities. It is located at 2 Broadway in New York.

In 1978, thanks again to computer technology advancement and to an expansion of AEP's substation "lab," a fully programmed microcomputer was ready for field testing. The microcomputer, built by the Plessey Company, is smaller, more rugged and less costly than the minicomputer it replaced at Matt Funk.

Since then, the microcomputer has been rehearsing. Because of the importance of power system protection, conventional relays could not be replaced until the computer system was proven reliable. The computer was closely monitored. Years of rehearsals showed that it knew its lines.

Late this year it will begin its performance. The computer system will be connected to trip in parallel with conventional relays.

AEP's system protection does a good job now; so, why all the concern over computerization? Two reasons. Costs and improved control. Power system protection construction costs, which prevented computer control just a few years ago, can be greatly reduced. While the price of computers decreased, the price of conventional relays increased. Also, a single microcomputer can replace several conventional relays.

Take the existing 765/345-kilovolt Marysville Substation in Ohio, for example. The solid-state and electromechanical relays in that station — 52 in all for primary and backup protection of seven lines — cost nearly \$334,000.

Computer relaying equipment to do the same job should be about \$184,000.

In addition to the dollar savings per substation, major improvements in protection are incorporated into the computer operation.

Typically, conventional relaying equipment senses a fault and causes circuit breakers to take all three conductors of a three-phase line out of service to clear the problem — even if only one conductor is affected. The

computer can sense the nature of the fault and tell the appropriate phase or phases to interrupt. The ability to maintain two conductors significantly enhances the reliability of the transmission system. Besides, conventional protection equipment cannot tell where the fault is. Additional fault locators are available, but to place them on all lines would be prohibitively expensive. On a long transmission line, searching for the location of the problem can take crews many hours.

With computer control, a printout showing approximately where the fault is (in miles from the station) allows a dispatching center to send repair crews directly to the area.

The computer also provides engineers much data about the problem, including type of fault, clearing time if it is a transient fault, fault current, line voltages and relay data.

Still another plus for computer control is its decrease in reaction time. In just a fraction of a cycle (alternating current power lines operate at 60 cycles per second) the computer can sense the fault and take the proper action. Coupled with high-speed breakers, transient faults can usually be cleared in much less than a second.

There is one other very important thing computers can do that conventional relays can't. The logic circuits constantly check themselves and related support equipment to make sure they are ready to do the job if called on. If something goes awry, they alert a control center to send someone to check it out.

Conventional relays do not have such a reporting capability. In effect, they can be tested only under fire. With ever-increasing loads placed on transmission systems — due in part to fewer lines being built because of high construction costs and siting problems — the development of computer-controlled relaying arrived at exactly the right time.

Though he may be prejudiced, Horowitz calls his nurtured daydream "the best project in the System."

Phadke will nod his head in agreement and even buy a cup of coffee to toast the comment. □

## 1978 contributions can be withdrawn from savings plan

In November, employees who have participated in the AEP System Employee's Savings Plan since 1978 will become eligible, for the first time, to withdraw a portion of the funds in their account through the plan's annual "partial distribution" provision.

This provision, explained in the AEP Protection Program booklet (page 15 of the Savings Plan Section) gives plan participants the option, once a year, of taking out their own and the company's contributions made during a given prior year, plus the earnings on such contributions. This year's withdrawals, for example, would involve only contributions made in 1978, the plan's first year, plus earnings through December 31 this year.

A letter with additional information will be mailed in the near future to employees eligible for the withdrawal option — those who were members of the plan at any time in 1978 and who still have funds in their 1978 account. Those who wish to make a withdrawal must notify the Personnel Department of their intention during November. Distribution of the funds will take place in February.

Participation in this partial withdrawal aspect of the plan, which is available only in November each year, is voluntary and carries no penalty. However, the amount of the withdrawal that can be made is fixed: the total of the employee's and the company's contributions, plus earnings, in the specified year. No more, no less.

The Employee Savings Plan began January 1, 1978. Under its provisions an employee may invest up to 10 percent of his or her salary in any one or more of these funds established by the plan. For every \$2 invested by the employee, up to 6 percent of his salary, the company adds \$1 to his account. Earnings on all contributions, both the employee's and the company's are plowed back into the employee's account. However, the

employee is not entitled to the company's contributions until he has completed a required vesting period. Thus, employees who have been participants in the plan since its inception will become vested for the 1978 company contributions on December 31 of this year.

Currently, the plan has 13,889 active participants and total assets of \$62.3 million. □

## Retirement refund checks issued

The AEP System Retirement Plan on October 1 issued checks totaling \$31.8 million to more than 9,000 employees who had elected, in June, to take their contributions from the plan. On the same date \$28.8 million was transferred to the AEP System Em-

ployees Saving Plan in the names of more than 6,000 employees who had elected to "roll over" their Retirement Plan contributions and interest, or the interest only.

The company early this year had announced its program to give Retirement Plan members an option of taking their own accumulated contributions, plus interest, out of the plan, either in cash or by rollover to the Savings Plan. This was made possible when AEP decided that it would fully fund the Retirement Plan, which became effective January 1, 1978. No employee contributions were made into the plan after that date.

A separate entry on the Savings Plan annual statement, mailed to each participant by the plan's trustee, will show the rollover amount. The next such statement, to be issued early in 1982, will show account values as of December 31. □

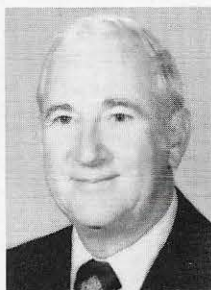


The American Electric Power Company board of directors toured the Smith Mountain Dam and Visitors Center last month as part of an inspection of System facilities. Shown looking at the terrain map in the Visitors Center are, l. to r., Chairman W. S. White, Jr.; Ben T. Ray, president, Columbus and Southern Ohio Electric; Mills E. Godwin, Jr., Mike Thacker, hydro engineer senior who served as one of the guides; Richard M. Dicke; Herbert Markley; and John W. Vaughan, president of Appalachian.

## Roomy elected chairman of W.Va. Chamber

Nicholas Roomy, vice president of Appalachian Power Company, was elected chairman of the West Virginia Chamber of Commerce at its 46th annual meeting.

Roomy has been active in the Chamber since 1963, serving as vice president and chairman of several committees. He originated the "Beaver Patrol" for membership recruitment and added 273 members in 1972-73 with broad membership assistance. The Chamber now has 935 members and a business relationship with 2,500 persons. □



## Weekend trip is grand prize in EPP contest

How would you like an all-expense-paid weekend for two at either Pipestem State Park or Canaan Valley State Park in West Virginia? That's the grand prize in Appalachian Power's Equal Payment Plan (EPP) contest for employees.

The Pipestem Resort, located 20 miles north of Princeton, offers two golf courses, both indoor and outdoor swimming pools, horseback riding, lighted tennis courts and archery ranges.

Skiing on 20 diverse slopes highlights the list of activities available at Canaan Valley, located in the eastern panhandle of the state near Davis. And that's year round. You ski on snow in the winter and grass in the summer. There's also golf, tennis, white watering, swimming and hiking.

The company launched a contest August 1 to add 25,000 new members to EPP by January 31, 1982. Two prizes are awarded in each division

monthly. First, the employee with the most sign-ups for the EPP in each division will win a prize to be selected from the Operations Improvement Catalog collection D. Then your name goes in a pool for each customer you sign up for the EPP. At the end of each month, a winner will be drawn to pick an award from the catalog. You can win this drawing as often as your name is picked.

The grand prize winner's name will be drawn at the end of the contest from the names of the 54 monthly winners.

The winners for August are as follows:

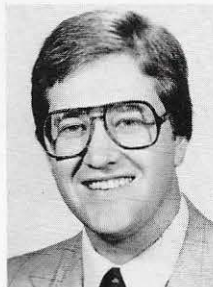
Location	Most sign-ups	Draw winner
Abingdon	Martha Farmer	Phil Young
Beckley	JoAnn Richmond	Dianna Londeree
Bluefield	Mary Lou Rice	Billie Woolridge
Charleston	Patricia Neil	Bonnie Hoylman
Huntington	Alberta Lunsford	Pauline Gilkerson
Logan	Joe Carrasco	Diana Syck
Lynchburg	Ami Watson	Joe Ann Otey
Pulaski	J. L. Rakes	Jeanette Frazier
Roanoke	Joy Gailey	Martha Jones

During the first month of the contest, employees signed up 2,006 customers for the EPP. Another 3,195 customers signed up by returning the EPP coupon in the August issue of Consumer Circuit, the company's bill insert. □

## Wiseman loaned to United Way

Harold Wiseman, Charleston power engineer, is serving as a loaned executive to the United Way of Kanawha Valley.

Appalachian Power is one of several companies which are providing persons to work full time to assist in the annual fund-raising campaign. The loaned executive trains solicitors and presents the United Way story to the business and industrial community. Wiseman began work August 17 and will serve until the end of the campaign. □



## Three APCo men take PUAV offices

Three employees of Appalachian Power Company have been elected to offices in the Public Utilities Association of the Virginias. The Association is made up of investor-owned electric companies in Virginia, West Virginia, and neighboring states.

James B. Berg, assistant secretary and assistant treasurer of Appalachian, was named second vice president; Morris E. McCrary, assistant accounting manager, was elected treasurer; and George E. Laurey, general accounting manager, was named assistant treasurer. All are from Roanoke.

All new officers will take office on January 1, 1982. □

## FERC approves APCo wholesale rate increases

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission on September 15 approved wholesale rate increases for Appalachian Power Company totaling \$15.6 million annually when the full increases go into effect in 1982. The FERC order approved prior settlement agreements between Appalachian Power and Kingsport Power Company and a number of municipalities in Virginia and West Virginia.

Under the settlement agreements, the wholesale increases were to be placed in effect in three steps beginning last February 2 and ending on February 1, 1982. The annualized effect of the new increases, when the full amounts are in effect, will be 19 percent for the municipal wholesale-for-resale customers and 19.7 percent for Kingsport Power Company, which buys all of its power from Appalachian. The settlement agreement for Kingsport reflects the decision of the Tennessee Public Service Commission on Kingsport's request to increase its retail rates. □

## Ted Payne heads south for winter

The first thing Theodore Payne will do following his October 1 retirement is head south to Memphis, Tennessee, to celebrate a belated birthday with his grandson. "My grandson's birthday is on September 29th and mine is on the 28th, and so far we have had birthday celebrations together. But this year it will be the first of October before we can get down there," Ted says.

He continues, "We plan on staying in Memphis for a while this winter, then possibly head on down to Florida for January through March to see how we like it. Next year we are definitely going to stay in Florida for the winter."

The former Huntington meter service supervisor was born in the State of



Payne

Washington but considers Princeton, West Virginia, his hometown. He recalls, "My uncle went out and homesteaded in Washington and later my father and mother went out there, too. After several years they decided they were homesick and came back to W.Va. I was only three years old at the time.

"I have always been interested in electricity and was about 18 years old when I went to work on an electrification job on the Pennsylvania Railroad. I worked there until the job was practically complete. Then I came back and Uncle Sam decided he wanted me for a year. It turned out to be four and a half years that I spent in the service.

"During that time I met the sister of a fellow who was in service with me. We were married after I came back to the States from a tour overseas. We decided on settling in Huntington, and that is when I decided to try employment with Appalachian."

Ted began his utility career in January 1948 as a laborer and the following month was made meter helper B. He spent his entire 33 years' service in the Meter Department and was named meter service supervisor in 1970.

"This has been a pleasant place to work," Ted says about Appalachian.

"I have enjoyed my stay here and the people I worked with. One bad experience I had was when a three-phase meter blew up and caused first, second and third degree burns on my hands and face. I had another close call while climbing a pole to install service. As I started to belt off, a piece of the pole slipped out with me.

"I want a little time to enjoy my life before I leave here," Ted says. "I like to hunt, fish, garden, play golf and enjoy my four grandchildren. Before the price of gas went so high, we were talking about taking a trip around the outer perimeter of the United States. I have people scattered from one side to another in the U.S. and we want to see them.

"All in all," Ted concludes, "I intend to have a good time." □

## Clark spent 38 years in stores work



Clark

"I had 11 years in stores before I started with American Electric Power, and I was with power company construction stores a little over 28 years," says William H. Clark.

Bill began his utility career with Ohio Valley Electric Corporation's Kyger Creek Plant at Cheshire, Ohio, in 1953. Before his retirement October 1 as construction stores supervisor for Putnam Coal Terminal, Bill had worked on 11 different power plant construction jobs and one coal mine construction job in Ohio, West Virginia, Kentucky, Indiana and Michigan.

"I met a lot of nice people working for the company and we made friends wherever we located, through church and school activities. Moving didn't bother us, but we hated to leave our friends," Bill recalls.

Construction, whether it be on a



house or a power plant, is not without its problems. Bill remembers, "One time the Big Sandy Unit 2 was down, and we needed a simple piece of gasket material. It didn't cost but a few dollars, but the material was needed now. I located it by telephone in Cincinnati, chartered a plane out of Huntington, got the material and was back in about three hours.

"I have gotten material in for a job by airplane and just about every way you can get it. One time I even followed a train hauling material to the plant. We were working on Kyger Creek Unit 5 and were waiting on the turbine spindle with blades assembled. The equipment was better than a week in transit from Philadelphia to the job site. I finally found the train at Crestline, Ohio, and got approval by three-way phone conversation between the resident engineer, the railroad company and me to move the train at night. It was just an engine, a caboose and the car the turbine spindle was on. I think the train crew must have stopped at every beer joint they came to before I tagged up with them. I left the plant on Friday afternoon and had the equipment on the job by Sunday morning.

"Another time I was sent to Philadelphia to get turbine parts for a unit at Kyger. The parts had been made but not delivered because the manufacturer had been on strike for about three months. The company sent two trucks, four drivers and me in a station wagon to get the parts. We got them out under court order, but I would never do it again. When we arrived, the strikers weren't very long finding out what we were doing there, but they treated us nice and gave us coffee."

Now that he's retired, Bill and Waneta plan to continue living in Hurricane, West Virginia. He will occupy his time with gardening, hunting, bicycle riding and adding to his collection of pennies.

Bill also enjoys "sitting on the porch and talking", according to granddaughter Leanne, who visits as often as she can. Her father, Ron Clark, is working on the construction of Ohio Power's Racine hydro project. □

## Edwards began and ended with APCo

"I started at Appalachian and ended with Appalachian and worked all the others in between," Hal Edwards observed upon his retirement September 1.

Hal, in those few words, summed up a career of almost 31 years devoted to building coal-fired power plants up and down the Ohio River.

In addition to beginning and ending with Appalachian, Hal's career began and ended in the same stretch of river bottom. He started at the Philip Sporn Plant and finished at Mountaineer. Hal recalled that Units 1 and 2 were well along when he went to work at Sporn in 1951. "In the early days I was handling the labor crews and the extra work orders," he said. His background was industrial management at Ohio University. After World War II



Edwards

Hal worked in Columbus for a company that manufactured motorized fire fighting equipment before starting with AEP.

The different construction sections — mechanical, civil, electrical — worked out of farmhouses on the Sporn plant site. One big change he has noted in his years along the river is flood control. "It used to be that you could almost set your clock by it. Every spring it would flood," he said. "I recall that we had a flood at Sporn once. We had some cots and slept in the plant. We worked around the clock. It was about a week before we got home."

During his career Hal said the assignments and transfers came in quick succession. "You very seldom got the opportunity to finish up all the minor things before there was another cornfield or river bottom waiting for you," he said.

Hal's only diversion from the river valley was an assignment to the Clinch River Plant. He thought he might move on to Smith Mountain Dam. "Before I got to Smith Mountain, I was routed to I&M on the Tanners Creek Plant," he said.

Hal said that over the years both the size of the units and the means of building them have changed tremendously. "The construction itself has changed from manpower to mechanical. For example, when I started in 1951, bulk concrete was placed with what were called Georgia buggies pushed by men. Then it went to motorized Georgia buggies. Then to concrete buckets placed on the boom of a rig. Now, you've got concrete trucks where you're pumping it directly out of the truck.

"And it's gotten so big over the past few years. The equipment is so big. Today you've got extended heights and extended lifting capacity to handle these weights," he said.

Hal said he had enjoyed living in all of the places from Indiana to Virginia, where he worked. Thus, moving would not bother him. But he said he and his wife Willeen, a retired school teacher, have no plans to pull up stakes and move from their present home near Gallipolis, Ohio. □

## It's been a good group to work with

"I had in mind finding a place to go to work and staying there. But I had no idea when I started with Appalachian that I'd reach retirement age," Charley Hefner said of those early days when he commuted from Bluefield to the Glen Lyn Plant.

"I started out on the Glen Lyn Plant. They were building a new stack. At that time there were six of us who lived in Bluefield and worked at the plant. The company provided us with a car to get back and forth," Charley said.

Although that was 38 years ago, Charley said one experience has stayed with him. "When I had my physical to work for the company, this doctor said, and I never understood quite what he meant, 'You're living on borrowed time.' And he said he was going to recommend me for light



Hefner

work. I've thought about it many times," Charley said.

Charley retired as T&D clerk A from the Abingdon Division on October 1. "I'm sure retirement will take some adjustment, but I think I'll enjoy it," he said.

Charley's daughter lives with him and his wife in Abingdon. But his three sons are scattered to the four winds. All are in the military. "All three volunteered after high school. One is in the Marine Corps, one in the Navy and one in the Coast Guard. My oldest completed four years in the Marine Corps, came out and took up electronics at Southwest Virginia Community College before deciding to go back in the military in the Coast Guard. One boy is in Okinawa. He's a warrant officer in the Marine Corps. And my youngest son is in the Navy in Norfolk. He's on a six-month cruise now, however, on the *USS Mississippi*," Charley said.

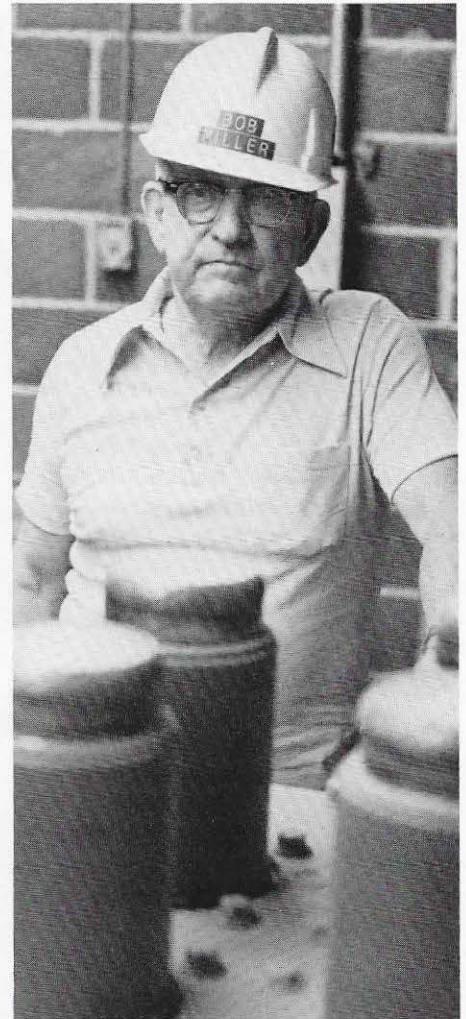
Most of Charley's career has been spent in the property records section in Abingdon. In fact, he has been in Abingdon since late 1949. "I only spent 15 months at Glen Lyn. When they finished the work down there, I transferred to the Bluefield accounting office. I worked there until September 1949, then I went to Abingdon," he said.

The son of a farmer in Lewisburg, W.Va., Charley took some business courses at West Virginia Business College before starting with Appalachian. "I've enjoyed all my years with the company. It's been a good group to work with all the way through," he said. □

## I lost a lot of sleep

With World War II over, Bob Miller of St. Albans, like a lot of other West Virginians at the time, headed north for work.

"After the war there weren't very many jobs around here. I went all the way to Detroit to get me a job. But the winters get cold in Detroit," Bob recalls.



Miller

After 18 months in the area between Lake Huron and Lake Erie, Bob returned to the Kanawha Valley. "I signed up with unemployment in Charleston, and they interviewed me at Appalachian and offered me a job. I had had quite a bit of electrical experience, working with radios in the Army and with a chemical company in Detroit. Plus, I had taken a course in electrical engineering."

At age 62 and after 34½ years, Bob took early retirement October 1. For much of his career he worked on hydros. "I started at the hydros, Marmet, London and Winfield, with Kanawha Valley Power Company. I was doing electrical maintenance at all three of those plants. I'll tell you one thing — it was cooler and cleaner than a steam plant.

"I was transferred to Smith Mountain

when they were building that. But while I was waiting to go to Smith Mountain, I worked in the relay department in Charleston for a year.

I lived at Smith Mountain while I worked there. And then I moved to Roanoke and had maintenance responsibility for all the other hydros. It was basically electrical troubleshooting — all hours of the night and holidays when it was necessary.

"When they started building the Amos Plant, I got a chance to come home to my old stomping grounds. I've been here since January 1970, first on the check-out of the equipment. I'm a relay engineer here," he said. His last job title was performance supervising engineer. Early retirement was a fairly recent decision for Bob and he and his wife Hilda have no definite retirement plans.

Regarding his years with Appalachian, Bob chuckled, "I had some nice times but lost a lot of sleep along the way." □

## We have a good bunch of employees

"Shortly after we moved to Lynchburg in 1937, I went in service in the CC Camp. I was there 15 months, then came home for about six months and signed up for the Army again. That time I spent six years in field artillery and infantry. I was in Scholfield Barracks in Hawaii when World War II started and when it ended I was on the Austrian border," recalls George Gillette.

"When I came out, I went to work for Appalachian as a groundman. They needed some men, and I had had a small amount of climbing while I was in CC Camp."

George had moved into meter reading when he was recalled into the military during the Korean War. "We fought all the way up through the southern part of Korea to the Yellow River. We made what we called a famous evacuation, and then we fought all the way back through Korea

to where the line is now. I fired the last round and brought the last artillery piece out of North Korea before the Navy took over," he remembers.

George was made a collector in 1973 and held that position until his early retirement October 1. "If you can think of an excuse, I've heard it. People will tell you as many as four or five different tales in the same conversation, trying to keep their electricity on.



Gillette

About 25 percent of the people I call on are the same ones over and over. A lot of them have the money ready for me when I come by. They say they don't want to take the trouble to mail their payment in and that it saves them 18 cents. I've had people, too, who tell me they are glad they moved on Appalachian's lines because we give better service than neighboring utilities."

George, who had 36 years' service with Appalachian, said he had "planned on working for 40 years, but my wife Mary kept wanting me to retire. She says there are things we

want to do that we haven't been able to do."

What does he plan for the future? George smiles as he says, "I'm going to make a lot of promises and keep as few of them as possible. Actually, it's not going to be that way because I have a million things I would like to do around the house and the church. And I would like to go back up to Clifton Forge and stomp over some of the places where we used to go fishing and swimming."

George is a deacon, clerk and treasurer of the Church of God of Prophecy and is quartermaster of Post 8184 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Last year he was state deputy chief of staff for the Lynchburg area. He also belongs to the Virginia Herpetological Society, which studies reptiles and amphibians. "I got involved in that because of a fear of snakes. I wanted to learn about them," George admits.

"Appalachian has been good to me," he concludes. "I think we have a good bunch of employees. I get to see most of them every morning — either speak to them or wave at them. And I will especially miss seeing all the girls in Accounting." □

## Jim would rather play golf than eat

James Andrew Martin, who retired October 1 as line inspector in Lynchburg, can sum up his plans for the future in one word: golf.

"I would rather play golf than eat when I am hungry," Jim admits. The three shelves lined with trophies in his basement give evidence to the fact that he is good at his favorite sport. Jim has won so many trophies that now, whenever the company has a tournament, he gives the trophies back so they won't have to keep buying new ones.

Jim says, "I have a 9 handicap at Colonial Hills in Lynchburg. I played to a 7 handicap until a few years ago. I am controlling the ball more right now



Martin

than I ever did in my life. I have gotten a little bit older and my swing is not as jerky as it used to be.”

Jim chuckles when asked if his wife Louise minds his playing golf so much. “She used to ask me ‘why in the world do you get out there and beat that little ball around?’ When Colonial Hills opened up, I asked her to go up and walk around with me one Sunday to see what it’s like. From that day on I have never been able to keep her off the course. She enjoys playing as much as I do.”

Jim has made two holes-in-one, both in the same year. “I paid \$20 to join a hole-in-one club, and you were supposed to get a free trip, golf equipment and things like that whenever you made a hole-in-one. After that, I never even came close. I always wanted to par a course, and the closest I ever came was at Colonial Hills. That is a par 71 and I got 2 over — 73.

Before Jim came to work for Appalachian, he had spent nearly 12 years in military service. “When I first went in, I was with the old cavalry (horse) out-

fit at Ft. Meyer, Virginia. When the war came along, they did away with the horses. I went overseas 1½ years until the war was over and was discharged in ‘45. At that time things hadn’t picked up too much so I said there isn’t but one place for me — that is back in. I was figuring on making it a career and asked the company commander if I could go back to the States if I reenlisted. He said ‘not a chance. The only thing they will guarantee you is a 90-day leave in the States.’ I told him ‘I’m going to hang it up’ and come back home to Lynchburg.

“I was working for the Dr. Pepper company when someone told me Appalachian was going to hire some people. I put in an application and a month or so later Jim Mundy gave me a call. He talked to me and said ‘if you want the job you can have it.’”

Starting as a groundman in 1950, he

had risen to line inspector by 1976. “I take care of all contract work as far as building lines and things like that are concerned. We have five people in the contract crew now, last year we had 21. We also do some distribution line work and are doing cut-over and reinsulating for a 19/9 station.

“For about a year I was driving 140 miles a day. We had 1,037 poles between Lovingson and Scottsville to be replaced, and I had to check on them every day.

“I was sitting down, thinking about it not too long ago. I gave the best years of my life to Uncle Sam and Appalachian. I went in service when I was 18 years old. Some of those were good years and some were hard years. It has been the same way here. We have had ups and downs, good years and bad years. But I can truthfully say the company has given me a good living for 31 years.” □

## BIRTHS

### Abingdon

Shannon Hope, daughter of **John Henderson**, meter electrician B, August 14.

Katherine Rebecca, daughter of **Ryland Jennings**, Gate City line mechanic C, August 18.

David Eric Wesley, son of **Rodney Hill**, Gate City line mechanic C, September 7.

### John Amos

Chasity Lynn, daughter of **Michael Wagner**, coal handler, August 21.

### Central Machine Shop

Angie Lane, daughter of **Steve McNeely**, winder 1st class, August 24.

### Centralized Plant Maintenance

Brandon Lee, daughter of **Michael Buckle**, maintenance mechanic A, September 11.

### Charleston

Aaron Franklin, son of **Jim Hall**, automotive mechanic A, August 26.

### General Office

Brittney Gay, daughter of **Steven Allison**, transmission mechanic C, GO T&D Transmission Line, Bluefield, July 21.

Beverly Ann, daughter of **Richard Anderson**, load research & allocation analyst, GO Rates & Contracts, Roanoke, August 26.

### Huntington

Angela Nicole, daughter of **Gary Rayburn**, Point Pleasant line mechanic C, August 8.

### Logan-Williamson

Edwin Lee, son of **Don Roer**, Williamson custodian, July 2.

Kalesha Monique, daughter of **Marilyn Jones**, Logan T&D clerk B, August 1.

Crystal Ann, daughter of **Eddie Jeffers**, Logan station mechanic A, September 9.

### Mountaineer

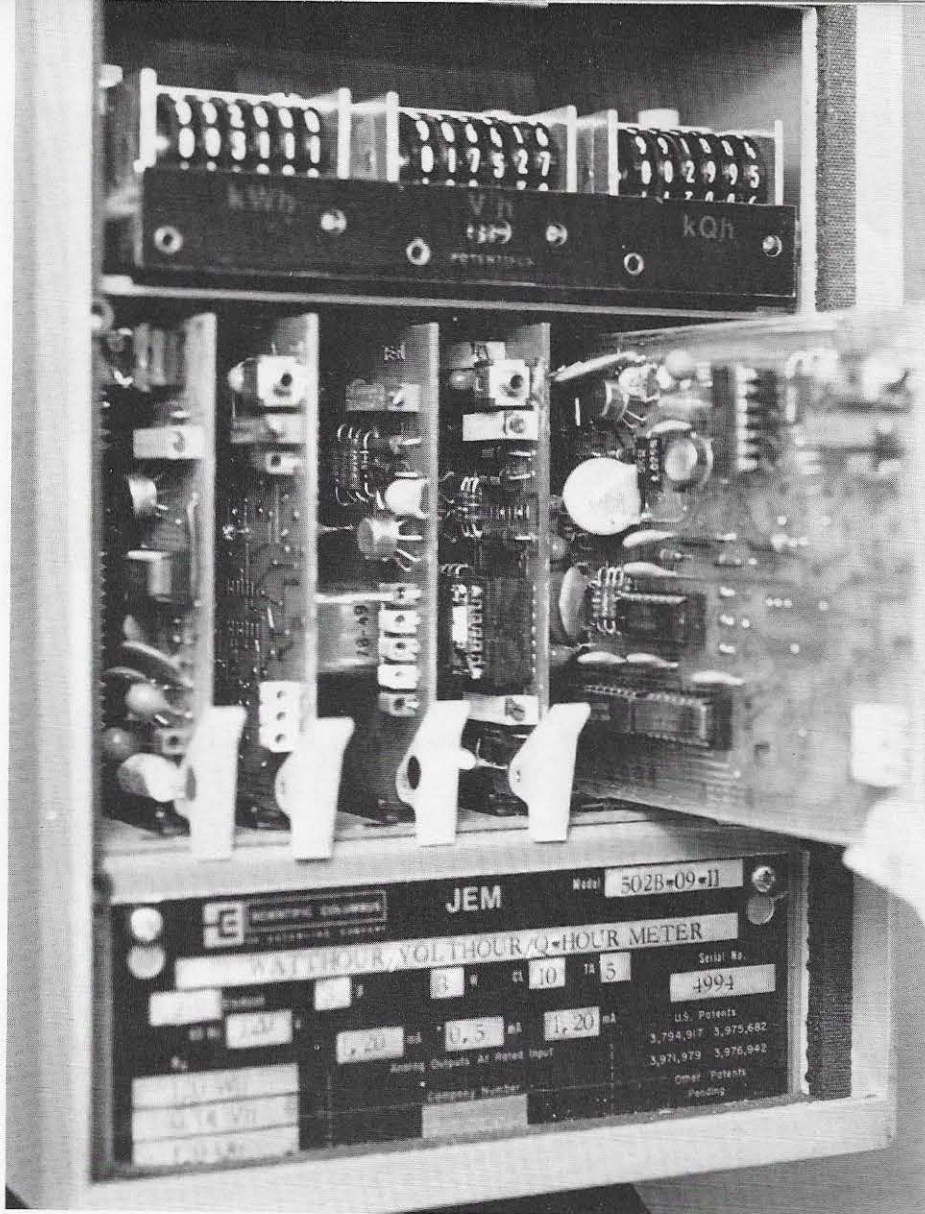
Kimberly Nicole, daughter of **Jeff Woodall**, coal handler, July 10. □

### Roanoke

Shawn Marcel, son of **Don Johnson**, stores attendant, August 5.

Michael Wayne, son of **David Crouch**, T&D clerk B, August 2.

Christine Elizabeth, daughter of **Larry Jackson**, customer services advisor, September 10.



The interior of an all solid state watt-hour meter.

# More accurate than a Swiss watch

(Part 2)

It may be several years before solid state electronic watt-hour meters are used by Appalachian on residences in our service area. But solid state and other advanced types of metering equipment are certainly getting a workout in other phases of our operations.

The electric meter, which has been used since 1894 by electric utilities as a recording and measuring device, is considered as more accurate than any other high use electro-mechanical or solid state device.

The electro-mechanical device, with its gears and moving parts, has been

the traditional meter. But solid state electronic components are making inroads into the variety of metering tasks a utility must undertake.

John A. Bostian, GO T&D meter superintendent, talks enthusiastically about solid state technology in metering, although he would be the last person to say anything derogatory about the types of meters the company has used for years. He believes each has its place, with solid state metering assuming some of the increasingly complex jobs that metering is called on to do in the utility business today.

Actually, the GO meter section first

began seeing the use of solid state electronic components in metering equipment some 20 years ago, principally in telemetering equipment. There, it has been used to transmit power flow data from substations and power plants to the Operations Control Center in Roanoke and on to the system power production coordinating office in Columbus.

From that first use there has been a steady increase in applications. Today there are available in solid state form watt-hour and watt demand meters; metering totalizers; watt, var, ampere, volt and power factor transducers; and many other devices.

Bostian says that equipment utilizing solid state components has several advantages. "There is a reduction in routine maintenance requirements, they have long term accuracy stability, they don't need as much power to operate, and the components are small. This miniaturization affords more efficient use of panel space.

"They have another advantage in our business. With solid state components, we can use metering equipment whose output is compatible with computers. Without this feature, the task of computing the volumes of data in system load growth studies, load research studies, and the analysis of power usage in special studies such as load management, as well as the effects of time of day billing rates, could not be done except by an inordinate amount of manual computation."

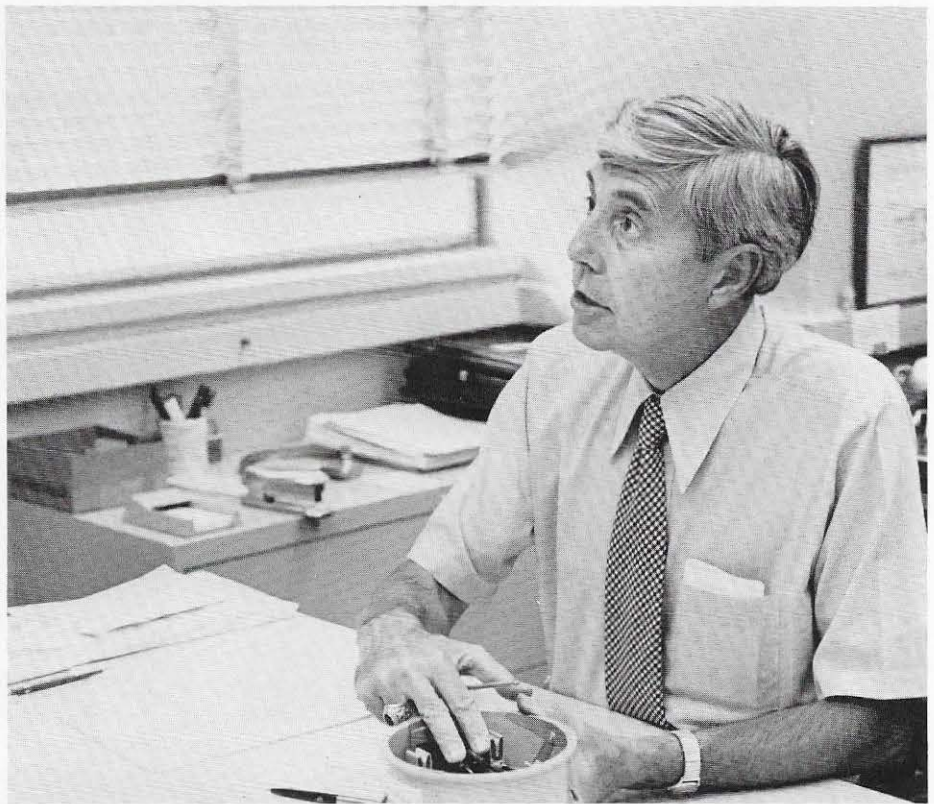
Those time of day rates, which we have in effect in experimental programs in Virginia and West Virginia, best show the versatility that solid state provides. The meters used in the time of day experiments (where customers are given a lower rate for electricity used during off peak hours) are equipped with a solid state electronic register.

First of all, the register has a multiple set of dials to register energy use during both on and off peak demand periods. The electronics within the register include a microprocess and a programmable solid state chip. The register is programmed so that it registers energy use on the correct set of dials at the prescribed time period. For our purposes, the meters are programmed to recognize the on peak period of 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. Monday through Friday, with all other times as off peak. For timing, there is

a solid state electronic clock within the register which monitors the year, month, day of month, day of week, hour and minute. The clock is automatically adjusted for time changes necessary to shift into and out of Daylight Saving Time.

There is sufficient program memory storage within the electronics of this meter to provide a program which runs through the year 2000. It is energized by a small amount of AC power, and should there be an outage, a small battery goes into operation to maintain correct clock time.

An all-important aspect of meters, no matter whether they are electro-mechanical or solid state, is their accuracy. Just as GO meter and the four division meter shops located around the company check out accuracy of traditional meters, the operation of solid states components is checked closely too.



John Bostian: "Give us a few more years of development, and I have no doubt they (solid state residential meters) will be in general use."

Unlike traditional meters, which are mounted into sockets, solid state meters are bolted to panels and wired from behind. Therefore, they are not tested on the standard single phase meter shop test board. But they are tested by a standard, just as electro-mechanical meters are. The accuracy of this standard is traceable to the National Bureau of Standards, just as the accuracy of induction type standards are. In addition, the solid state and induction type standards are checked against each other, providing an additional measure of accuracy.

Bostian sees many advantages in the solid state standard meters. "They are much less susceptible to reading errors, to errors due to tilt, and to errors due to friction of moving parts which are contained in the older induction type of watthour meter standard. They also are less susceptible to damage in handling and considerably lighter in weight."

Looking into the future, Bostian sees great improvements ahead even for the sophisticated solid state components used in meters. "Solid state electronics has enabled us to record power demand information on magnetic tape, rather than on charts or paper tape. This data can be sent to

GO Rates and Tariffs (load research section) and translated into useful information.

"But these magnetic tape recorders do contain some mechanical components which have not been trouble-free. To eliminate these mechanical problems, several manufacturers are building demand meters which record the data in an all solid-state memory unit. These are sometimes referred to as "bubble memory" units. These meters contain no motors, gear drives, clutches, etc. and their performance is expected to be better than the present magnetic tape type recorders. Several of these demand meters using the bubble memory technology are now on test on our system."

But he is cautious about the future of all solid state electronic watthour meters on single phase residences in the near future. Despite the fact that approximately 350 of the all solid state watthour meters have been installed at company substations and plants in the past three years for statistical metering applications, Bostian says that their costs and availability will limit their widespread use for some time.

"In the tests we have run, their reliability has been good. But the induc-



Debbie Taliaferro of the load research section of GO Rates and Tariffs inserts a magnetic tape cassette into the translator so that information on the tape can be translated into useful information.

tion type watthour meter being purchased today is relatively inexpensive at approximately \$26.50 each and we expect to be able to use them without maintenance for 30 years or more. I'm not aware of any manufacturer who is offering a solid state residential type meter at that price or with that life expectancy.

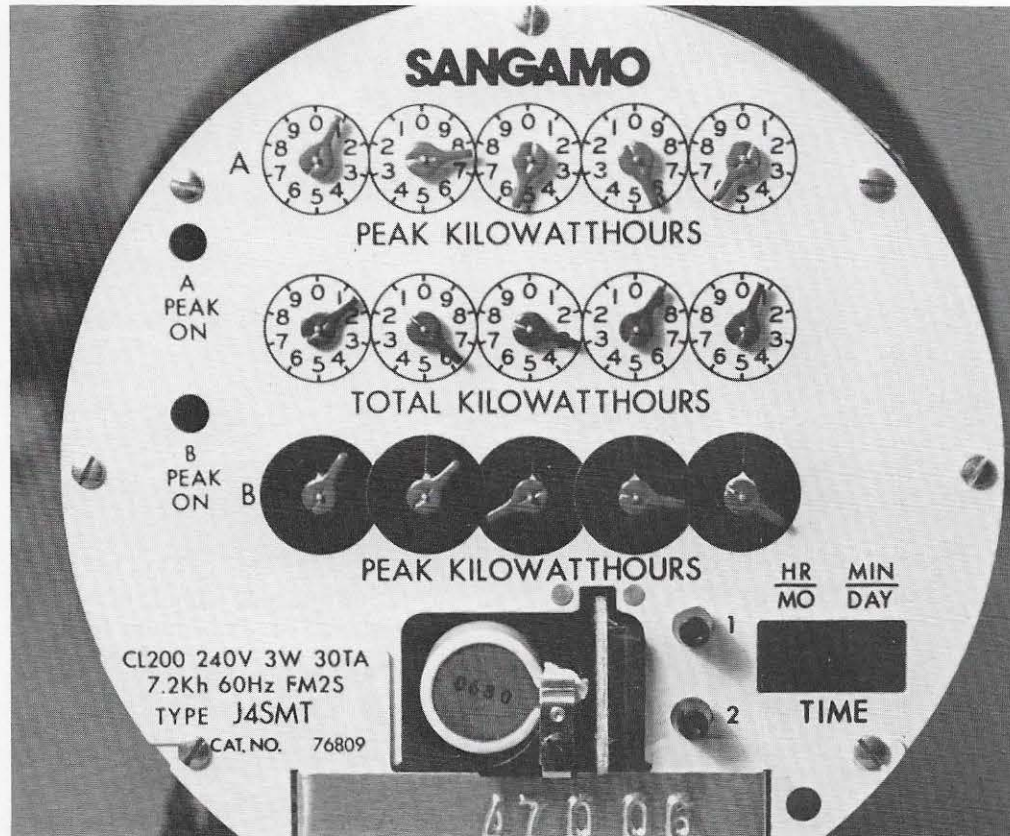
"But give us a few more years of development, and I have no doubt they will be in general use."

Meanwhile, even more exotic metering is being tested. For example, automatic (remote) meter reading is being examined, where much of the equipment presently needed in each meter can be eliminated and programming of each meter would not be necessary, because all of this would be done at a central location. From that location, each meter can be interrogated.

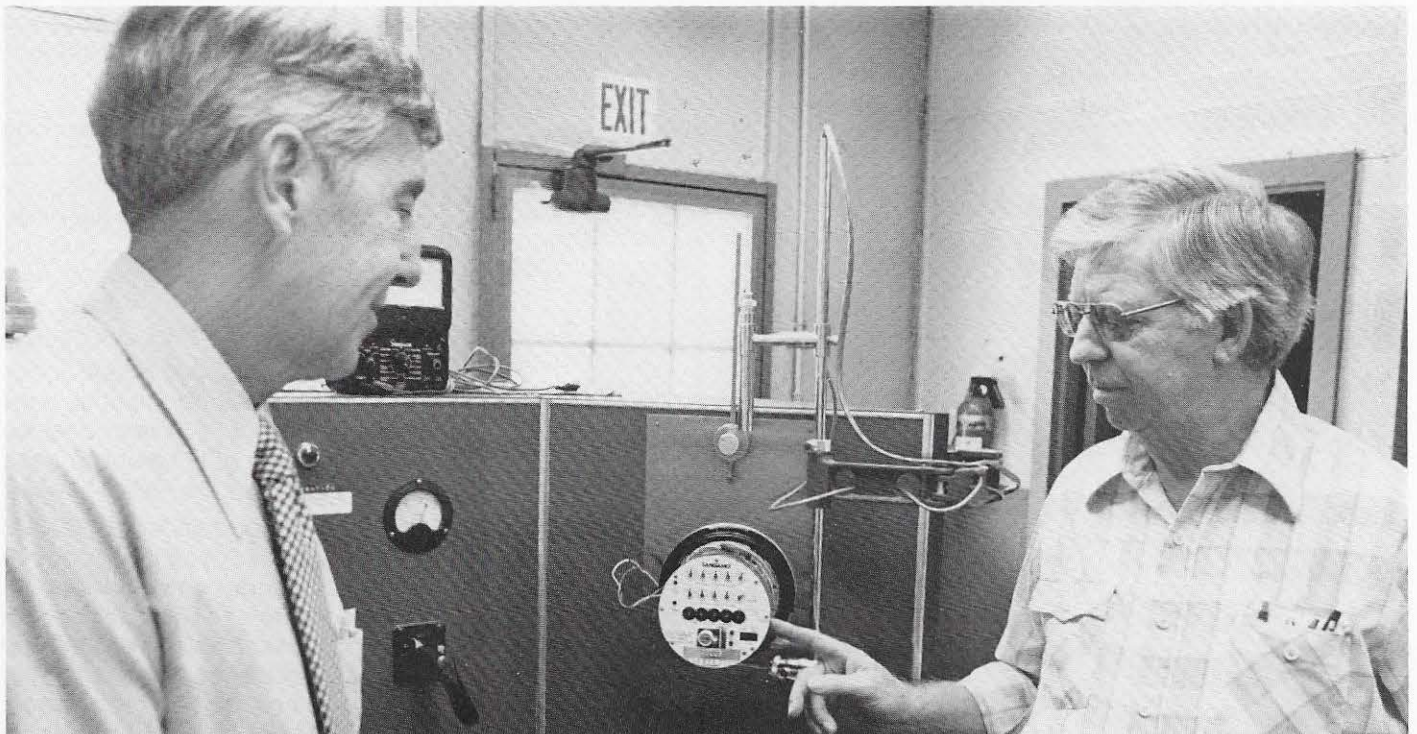
Then there is advancement in load management, where through advanced metering and other equipment the utility can manage each customer's load, a situation which could help both the customer and the company.

Bubble memory, remote reading, remote load management. All exciting concepts.

And, as John Bostian says, all made possible by electronics, which is rapidly becoming the heart of the age-old electric meter. □



The face of the future? This register dial face of a Time of Day meter can already be seen on some residences in Appalachian's service area as part of a Time of Day rate experiment.



Jim Loving of the GO meter section, right, talks with John Bostian about a Time of Day meter which is being tested for accuracy.

# Retired line supervisor adept at woodworking

It was just a little over two years ago that Bob Price, retired line crew supervisor in the Rupert area of Beckley Division, tried his hand at woodworking. Now he has built everything from hutches to trestle tables and tea carts.

Wife Beulah notes, "Bob kept saying he wanted to go into woodwork, but we didn't get him any equipment. Then I bought him a saw the Christmas before he retired. Had I known what he could do, I would have bought that saw years ago!"

"The first thing I made was this cedar

gun cabinet," Bob says, as he points to it in the living room of his home. "I had my eye on some wormy chestnut in Mt. Nebo for about ten years. After I made the gun cabinet, we went over and talked the people into selling it. We hauled 17 loads of chestnut, with about 500 feet to the load. It has gone pretty fast, too. I expect I have made 20 table sets or more."

But that's getting ahead of the story. Right after the gun cabinet was completed, Beulah was looking through a magazine and saw a photo of a trestle table she liked. Bob made her one,



Bob Price shows off some of his handiwork.

just from looking at the picture. As a matter of fact, he doesn't have plans for most things he builds. "I just find out how to make things from talking to people," Bob says.

When the trestle table was such a big hit with family members and friends, Beulah suggested that Bob make two or three things and enter an arts and crafts show. "I never dreamed he would go," Beulah admits, "because it is so out of character for him." But go they did, and orders have been rolling in ever since.

Bob was invited to enter the Chemical City Arts and Crafts Show in South Charleston, W.Va. "There were 125 entrants, and I won second place — \$60 — on my table. Some fiddle maker beat me out of first place," Bob says. "The win really surprised me. I wasn't expecting it.

"My doctor came to the first show and bought one of my tables. Then he came back to another show and bought a gun cabinet and some other things. Recently when I went to him for a checkup, he told me I should quit woodworking. (I have black lung because I used to work in the mines.) The doctor told me now that he had bought all he wanted, I should get out of it. I'm not going to quit, though. I'll just be a little more careful and wear a mask."

"We have met a lot of nice people at the shows and really had a good time. But I'm planning to enter just two shows this year because I'm in the process of building a new house," Bob says.

When Bob started into woodworking in a big way, he built a 35' x 75' shop on the side of a hill in back of his present house. That shop will be the basement of the new home. Building houses, incidentally, is nothing new for the Prices. Together, Beulah and Bob built the home they live in now and another one next door.

The kitchen cabinets in the new home, according to Beulah, will be made from some of the wormy chestnut they bought at Mt. Nebo.

Even though it sounds as if Bob doesn't have much free time between making furniture and building a house, that's not the case. "I don't try to make the woodworking a job," Bob states. "I go down in the shop for awhile, then go do whatever else I want to do. I'm not going to let it become a full-time job." □



Centuries ago maize, or Indian Corn, was a staple in the diet of this country's natives. When the white man landed on these shores, he found the vegetable appetizing (remember the stories of the First Thanksgiving?) and adopted it for his own table.

Through the years, corn has become a major growth item for farmers to feed both man and beast. Hybrids, sophisticated fertilizing techniques, planting improvements — all have been done over the years. Today, is there anything left that can be done to improve the "breed" or grow it better?

The folks at the John E. Amos Plant, along with AEP's fly ash people and some West Virginia University scientists, think so.

And to test their belief, the three groups got together last year to launch a three-year program of planting and growing corn in soil mixed with fly ash from the Amos Plant.

It is the first formal effort to test agricultural uses of fly ash in the AEP System, and it could well be the first time in the nation that this kind of testing has been done in the field. All literature on the subject talks about lab testing.

When it was decided to run the tests at Amos, a 150 by 400 foot area of land on the north end of Amos property was chosen. On it was placed 74,000 tons or so of fly ash as a base, followed by drainage pipes (to see if there is any leaching from the fly ash which could affect the crop). Then two feet of bottom ash was placed on the pipes. The site was then divided into two equal halves with one end having an approximate 50:50 ratio of fly ash to topsoil and the other end having an approximate 75:25 ratio of fly ash to topsoil. The site was then subdivided into 20 x 25 foot plots and various rates of surface additives (cow and chicken manure, sewer sludge and fertilizer) were blended into the plots. Down the middle of the area a control plot, consisting of top soil only, was placed.

W. L. "Red" Clay, ash supervisor at Amos, was the supervisor in charge of placing the fly ash. A hard-core advocate of the worthiness of fly ash for all sorts of uses, Red is fond of saying that it is "just a matter of time until the demand for fly ash will exceed the supply." For years fly ash, which is the material left over from the burning



Wayne Bennett, Putnam County extension agent, looks over this year's corn crop at Amos.

## The crop at Amos is "amaizing"

of coal at power plants, and which is collected by electrostatic precipitators before it can escape out of plant stacks, was considered a waste product that had to be disposed of in vast storage areas. Today, it is being used in road construction, building materials, structural fills, and other uses, and such experimental programs as the corn growing at Amos are leading to many more uses for the fine gray powder.

In the corn projects the fly ash and topsoil were placed by Amos people to specifications established by West Virginia University agricultural sciences department members, who also determined what kinds and how much nutrients would be added to each plot. Nutrients were supplied through the application of chicken manure, cow manure, sewer sludge, and commercial fertilizer. Then the entire area was limed.

A local farmer, Lee Gritt, did the actual planting, caring, growing, and harvesting of the crop. He had his own corn fields, and whatever and whenever he did with them, he also did at the Amos corn field to duplicate an actual situation.

Overseeing the entire experiment for the AEP Service Corporation is an advisory committee consisting of L. L. Nida, associate engineer in the Ash

Utilization and Research Section; E. P. Dzurinko, section engineer in the Ash Handling and Disposal Section; and J. H. Pape, landscape architect in the Design Division.

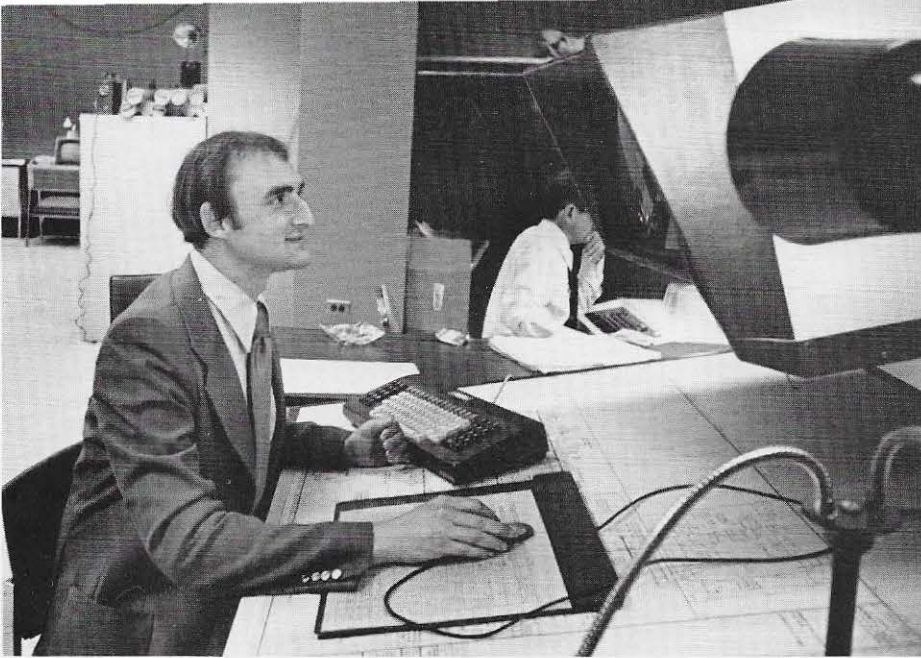
In addition to discovering whether corn can be grown on Amos fly ash and is fit for human consumption, the company is also looking to the future. The System's next plant will be Rockport, and AEP is looking into whether land at that plant can be filled with fly ash and then returned to the farmers. If so, AEP will consider doing the same thing at future plants.

To date, results at Amos have been mixed. In a preliminary report on the first year's crop, West Virginia University people say that some plots yielded better crops than the farmer's own land, some poorer. Generally, there seemed to be a deficiency of some nutrients, which is being resolved this year. The control plot did not do as well as land with fly ash mixed with topsoil.

Overall, the university people were encouraged and will carry through with the remainder of the program.

The actual yield from last year? The best from any one plot was more than 100 bushels an acre.

With that kind of yield, even the Indians may have wished for a little fly ash. □



Cliff Archer, drafter in the AEP Design Division, develops a drawing utilizing the new computer graphics system.

## Computer graphics aid power plant design

The computer — that electronic marvel that plays a vital role in today's business world — is used in countless ways by the American Electric Power System.

It dispatches electric power in the most economical fashion. It computes a customer's bill. It keeps track of our inventory of supplies. It carries out complex engineering studies. It recalls millions of facts. It does all these things in the wink of an eye.

One of the latest applications of the computer in the electric power business is its use in design work. This comparatively new field is called computer graphics.

AEP began looking into the computerized approach to drafting back in 1974, when its Computer Applications Committee approved a feasibility study that included an analysis of how computers could help in developing the many drawings required for the design and construction of power plants. AEP's first terminal was purchased in 1978.

Today, the AEP Service Corporation is using eight computer terminals dedicated to graphics. Two each in New York, Columbus and Canton are employed for producing power plant and transmission drawings. The remaining two, in New York, are used by the

Information Systems Department (formerly Computer Applications) to continue developmental work in computer graphics.

The day-to-day computer graphics operations in New York are overseen by Robert Kneisel, squad leader in the Design Division. "In our computer graphics system," he explained, "an operator produces drawings at a computer terminal with a keyboard, 'menu' and a cursor or electronic pointer. A 'menu' is a sheet containing information and instructions for what is needed to develop a drawing."

This information is in the form of symbols commonly used in power plant design drawings. For example, certain symbols represent pumps, valves and other basic items. An operator uses these symbols to build up a drawing. As the drawing is produced, the symbols in it are entered into the computer system. The menu also contains "commands" that allow for the placement and manipulation of the symbols in a drawing.

Kneisel went on, "We refer to our computer graphics as 'interactive' because the screen in front of the operator shows the development of the drawing and provides feedback for his commands." This is an impor-

tant time-saver when changes are made. Earlier computer-aided drafting systems allowed an operator to feed information into a computer, but he did not see his drawing until it was completed.

At present, the computer graphics system is producing non-dimensional drawings such as mechanical-flow diagrams. Capabilities are being developed to produce two-dimensional drawings, such as those used for piping and electrical installations.

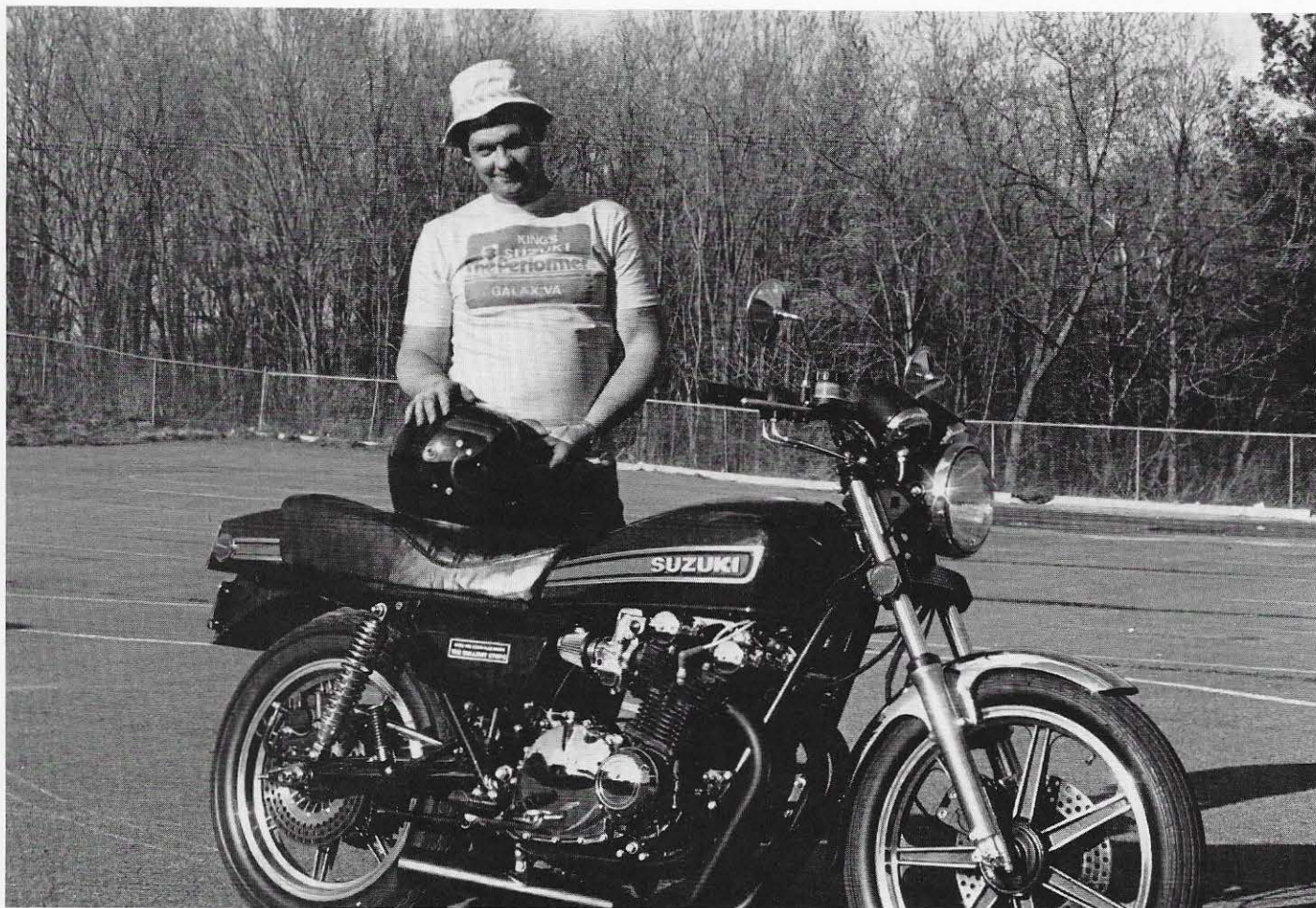
Ronald Bozgo, section manager in Electrical Plant Design, noted, "Results to date have been encouraging. The design sections now have an alternate tool for drawing production. All eight terminals are linked into a powerful mini-computer in New York. This assures both high quality and standardization in our drawings because it provides access to consistent design information."

Al Knable, manager of the Interactive Graphics Section of Information Systems, observed "Our computer graphics system is not a static tool. We must upgrade the hardware constantly to remain compatible with the state of the art. Also, we must keep up with the application of software developments to meet the ever-increasing, sophisticated requirements of those using the system."

Gerald P. Field, assistant vice president — design and head of the Design Division, is enthusiastic over the future possibilities of computer graphics. "Long term," he said, "we plan gradually to develop ways to store the useful information on our drawings and have the computer perform design analysis of various kinds as well as list data."

Field sees computer graphics as a "powerhouse tool" with an important role to play in the company's design capabilities. However, he is quick to point out that he does not envision computer graphics replacing traditional manual drafting techniques.

He concluded, "We see our basic goal as the formulation of a design process which, at any time, will be an optimum mix of approaches. This would include our traditional methods, which offer great simplicity and understand ability; physical models, which are helpful in visualizations, and computer graphics with great storage and data retrieval possibilities." □



Jack Lawrence

## Everybody has to have some kind of toy

"Everybody has to have some kind of toy. Some people hunt, some people like CBs. I just like motorcycles," says Jack Lawrence, line mechanic C in the Galax area of Pulaski Division.

"I had my first motorcycle when I was 15. After I had it for a couple of years, I went to work as a mechanic in a motorcycle shop. During the five years I worked in the shop, I motorcross raced and did a little flat tracking.

"In motorcrossing, you have a dirt track with jumps, curves, mud holes and things like that," Jack explains. "Flat track is just a round, flat dirt track.

"I had a couple of crashes so I gave up that kind of racing and went to regular street riding for a while. Then

I got interested in drag racing. I wanted to build me something pretty fast to race, so I picked the Suzuki. I do all the work on it myself except machine work, and I have that done.

"You get money as prizes but not enough to cover your expenses. My racing is sponsored by King's Suzuki. Without that help, I just couldn't race.

"I race in North Carolina, and last year I came out in second place in the modified division. The fastest division is pro comp. The next division is modified and then you have super stock and stock.

"I'm not going to race the Suzuki any more. I'm just going to have it to ride," Jack says. "I tried to use it to ride and race both, and it just gives me a lot of trouble. It won't idle and

every time you want to take a ride you have to change tires.

"Right now I am in the process of building another one to run pro comp with. If everything works out right, I'm going to try to run in some of the national races — just according to how it runs.

"My wife Charlotte has a cut down KZ 1000 Kawasaki. The thing that makes it odd is that she is 4'11" tall, weighs 110 pounds and is riding a 575 pound motorcycle. I had to cut it down for her so that she could get both feet on the ground to ride it.

"Motorcycling is a right expensive hobby. I've tried to get away from it a time or two, but I'm just hung up on it, I guess," Jack concludes. □



5' 7" Angie Wilson is dwarfed by the 35-ton bulldozer she often drives.

## On the job with Angie Wilson, utility coal attendant

When 20-month-old Todd Wilson grows up, it might be that he will want to follow in the footsteps of his dad, a maintenance worker at Clinchfield Coal Company.

It's quite possible, however, that his mother's choice of a career would be equally appealing. His mother is Angie Wilson, a utility coal attendant at Clinch River Plant. Among her duties are rail pit, operating the scale house, running a 100-ton locomotive and driving a 35-ton 824 bulldozer with a 5' x 17' blade.

Angie, who admits that she has "always been a tomboy", applied for a job at Clinch River when she

graduated from high school in 1977. "I came to work in the temporary labor gang," Angie recalls, "and the last day they told me they would hire me permanently.

While it is not uncommon to see women in nontraditional roles around the company, there are still a relatively small number who choose jobs involving physical labor. Angie chose this field because "I like maintenance work and I like the money".

She continues, "When I was in the labor gang, I would come down to work coal handling as a yard helper. There was an opening and I bid on the job."

What's it like to be the only female working in the coal yard? "The first morning I came in, I was standing waiting for the boss to come out, and all the men were standing and staring. I felt kinda funny but it didn't take long to make friends. Now I'm just considered one of the guys."

Yard Superintendent Howard Lasley says, "I could tell Angie was going to do a good job. As soon as she came down to the yard, she wanted to get on the dozer. She went out on the dozer in her spare time and learned how to operate it. She started out as a yard helper and was promoted to utility coal attendant. Then she qualified

as an equipment operator and we use her stepped up to equipment operator a whole lot.”

It was Howard who showed Angie how to operate the dozer and then she had to successfully pass a test after studying a book on dozer operation.

Angie will be the first to tell you that her job is not a glamorous one but neither is it routine. “Sometimes when someone is off on vacation or sick, you know your schedule ahead of time. You might be on the dozer for a week at a stretch, or you might be in the scale house or on the locomotive.” She also works one month on day shift and one month on evening

shift. Even that is not routine because she might get moved back and forth if someone else is off work.

“Of all the things you have to do, pushing is the hardest because it gets boring out there after eight hours when you are by yourself and have no one to talk to,” Angie admits. “When they get low on coal, you have to get up on the cone and keep pushing until you get a load into the feeders going into the plant. If you’re pushing at night, it’s pretty rough to see where there is a high place or low place in the pile. It can get pretty rough, too, when you work the thaw shed in the winter. You have to go back and get the rail cars and bring them up to the thawing pit. When you are riding back

and forth on them, it gets awfully cold sometimes.

“I may be tired by the time I go home, but I always have my work to do there or run after Todd, so I just keep going.”

For relaxation, Angie turns again to the outdoors. “I like fishing, camping, horseback riding, trail and street riding on motorcycles. As a matter of fact, I bought my husband and me two PE 185 Suzukis this summer.”

Angie plans to keep on working “because I like to have my own money to do what I want to with.” She has her eye on a maintenance helper’s job as the next challenge. □



Among Angie’s duties is opening rail car doors with a 6-pound sledge hammer. She closes them with a 52 steel bar.



Angie also operates the locomotive in the coal yard.

# Summary of changes in

The U.S. Congress, in passing the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981, effected sweeping changes in Social Security benefits.

Because of the interest of all employees in knowing what these reductions in benefits are, **The Illuminator** is reproducing, below, a summary of the changes prepared by Hewitt Associates, Lincolnshire, Illinois, an employee benefits consulting firm — with its permission.

## **Eliminating minimum benefit**

The minimum benefit (\$122 per month for age 65 retirees) will end February 1, 1982, for present retirees, and this reduction will first be seen in benefit checks received in March. Retirees affected by this provision will be notified of the reduction when they receive their December 1981 checks. The minimum benefit will not apply for new retirees whose benefits are payable after November 1981.

With the minimum benefit removed, those persons affected will have their benefit recalculated and based on their actual earnings record.

## **Phasing out student benefits**

The continuation of children's benefits for unmarried, dependent, full-time student ages 18-22 will end. Benefits will continue to age 19, however, if the child is still a full-time student in a secondary school (high

school). Student benefits will not be available as of May 1982 for those who would have been newly eligible (i.e., high school students now approaching their senior year). Present recipients under the student provision will have their benefits frozen at the August 1981 amount, with no future cost-of-living increases, and phased out at a rate of 25%-per-year-reduction in the benefit amount. Also, benefits will stop during the summer months of May through August, starting in 1982.

## **Reducing benefit period for parent of surviving child**

The new legislation requires that benefits for the parent of surviving children end when the youngest child reaches age 16, instead of the current age 18. This provision is effective September 1, 1983, for present recipients. The provision became effective October 1, 1981, for parents becoming newly eligible.

## **Eliminating lump sum death benefit**

Payment of the \$255 lump sum death benefit will stop in cases where there is no direct survivor (a spouse or child eligible for survivor's benefits) for deaths occurring after August 1981.

## **Rounding benefits differently**

Social security benefit amounts will be rounded downward (rather than

upward) in the new calculation procedure. Amounts will be rounded to the next lower 10 cents at each stage of the benefit computation, except for the last step of the calculation. This will be rounded down to the next lower dollar.

## **Continuing earnings test to age 72**

The earnings test for Social Security recipients requires that, for every \$2 earned over the earnings limit, the Social Security benefit is reduced by \$1. The earnings test presently applies to benefit recipients until age 72. The age limit for this test was to be lowered to 70 as of January 1, 1982; however, the new legislation maintains the age limit at 72 for one more year (1982).

## **Raising Medicare deductibles and co-insurance amounts**

Medicare Part A deductible and co-insurance amounts and the Medicare Part B deductible have been increased. The table on the following page shows the 1981 figures, the figures that would have been in effect in 1982 if the new legislation had not been enacted, and the figures resulting from the new legislation.

In the past, beneficiaries could count expenses incurred in the last quarter of the previous calendar year toward the Part B deductible for the current year. The new law does not allow this carryover of expenses for the 1982 deductible or any later year.

# Social Security benefits

**Changing open enrollment policy for Medicare Part B**

The new legislation reinstates the enrollment policy for Medicare Part B as it was before April 1981. This means there will be an initial enrollment period starting the first day of the third month before a person becomes eligible (typically, age 65) and continues for seven months. In addition, a general enrollment period exists from January 1 to March 31 of every year for persons who did not enroll at their first opportunity. (The April 1981 policy allowed open enrollment continuously from the first day of the third month before a person became eligible.)

This provision is particularly important for workers who delay retirement past age 65. If they delay application for Social Security benefits, they may overlook applying for Medicare benefits, despite being eligible for Medicare at age 65. If their initial enrollment period for Medicare passes, they must wait to apply for Medicare until the next general enrollment period (January through March) — and coverage does not become effective until the following July 1.

**Requiring benefit coverage in a group health plan**

The new legislation also makes Medicare payments for end-stage renal disease services secondary to employer-provided group health coverage. The legislation goes on to add a provision that the cost paid by an employer for a group health plan will not be tax deductible if the plan differentiates in the benefits it provides individuals having end-stage renal disease compared with benefits for other individuals covered by the plan. The coverage requirement for group health plans is effective for employer taxable years beginning January 1, 1982. □

	1981	1982 (Old Law)	1982 (New Law)
<b>Medicare Part A (hospital expenses)</b>			
• Deductible for in-patient hospital services	\$204	\$228	\$256
• Daily co-insurance for 61st to 90th days of hospitalization (paid by individual)	\$ 51	\$ 57	\$ 64
• Daily co-insurance for 60-day lifetime reserve (paid by individual)	\$104	\$114	\$128
<b>Medicare Part B (medical expenses)</b>			
• Deductible	\$ 60	\$ 60	\$ 75
• Co-insurance (paid by individual)	20%	20%	20%

# WHO'S NEWS

## Beckley

**Matthew Saunders**, tracer, was awarded a tree by the Beckley Beautification Committee for winning the "best cluster" lawn competition in the City of Beckley's first lawn and garden contest. □

## Logan-Williamson

**Paul Owens**, Williamson area superintendent, was elected vice president of the Tug Valley Chamber of Commerce.

**Barbara Aliff**, Williamson customer accounts assistant, was selected for inclusion in the 1981 edition of the National Register of Outstanding Junior and Community College students.

**Robert**, husband of Emma Warren, Williamson PBX operator, was appointed by city council to fill an unex-

pired term on the Williamson Utility Board.

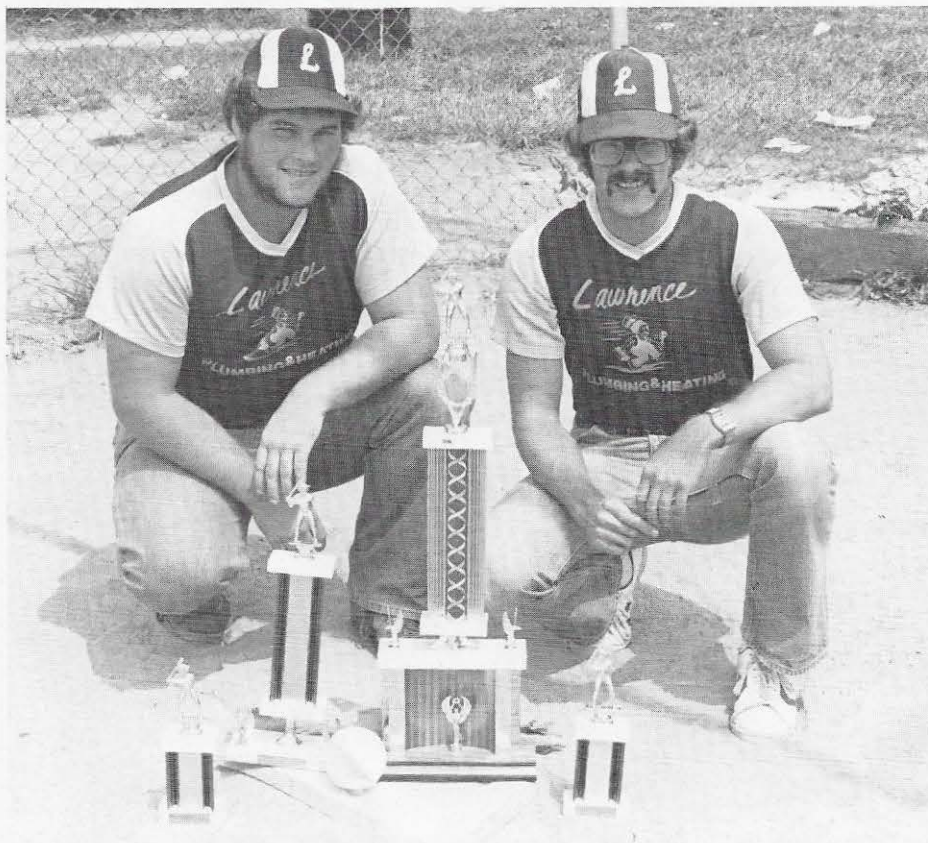
**Jeff**, son of Williamson Line Inspector Ronnie Horne, received an honorable mention on the West Virginia Class AA all-state baseball team. Besides pitching well for the Williamson High Wolfpack, Jeff batted at a .475 clip and played a dual defensive role as utility infielder.

**1st Lieutenant Bruce Akers**, son of Jerry Akers, area service restorer, was promoted to captain in the U.S. Army in ceremonies at Fort Rucker, Alabama. He graduated from the U.S. Army's Initial Entry Officers Rotary Wing Course in April.

New officers of the K-Appa-K Girls Club in Williamson are: **Diana Syck**, customer accounts representative C, president; **Lisa Smith**, junior clerk, secretary; and **Genie Justice**, junior clerk, treasurer.

**George Hairston**, retired Williamson custodian, was elected adjutant treasurer of the Disabled American Veterans.

**Tammy**, daughter of Eugene Hatfield, line crew supervisor, was named "Miss Majorette" at the Fred J. Miller summer camp held at Marshall University. Tammy competed with more than 100 girls for the title, which was judged on showmanship of dance-twirl and parade routines. She also won two first place ribbons and one superior ribbon. Tammy is head majorette at Belfry, Ky., High School and a member of the United States Twirling Association. She is a Nelson's F.A.B. Girl and served as "Miss September". □



Two Bluefield employees are members of the Division A first place softball team. Vernon Crouch, tracer (left), who plays first base, and Clay Stowers, drafter C (right), who assists in coaching and plays outfield, helped the team place second in the Princeton City League Tournament. The team is sponsored by Lawrence Plumbing & Heating of Princeton.

## Abingdon

**Fillmore McPherson, Jr.**, retired division manager, was elected president of the board of trustees of the Johnston Memorial Hospital. **Rex Cassady**, division manager, was elected a member of the board of trustees and will serve on the executive and the building advisory committees.

A poem written by **Jennifer**, daughter of Marlene Mitchell, customer accounts representative A, was selected for inclusion in "The World's Greatest Contemporary Poems" by the World of Poetry Press. Jennifer is a senior at Virginia Intermont College.

**Bob Cussins**, Clintwood area supervisor, was elected president of the Clintwood Lions Club. □

## Kanawha River

**Michel Maggio**, stores attendant senior, spent three days at sea aboard the *USS Nimitz*, at the invitation of his son-in-law, Lt. William Michael Anderson. They sailed off the coast of Virginia and North Carolina, while planes were being loaded and pilots requalified for landing. □



## Bluefield

More than 250 friends and family members from eight states attended a reception in the fellowship hall of the First Presbyterian Church in Bluefield to honor Earle and Louise Wood on their 50th wedding anniversary. The reception was hosted by their daughter and two grandsons. Earle is retired residential sales supervisor.

**Dick Bowman**, administrative assistant, was elected to a three-year term on the board of directors of the Greater Bluefield Chamber of Commerce. □

## General Office

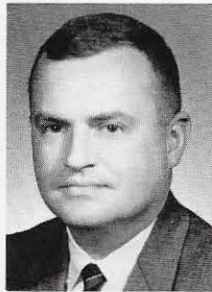
**Sam**, husband of Joyce Lambert, transmission clerk B, GO T&D Transmission Line, Bluefield, is the Ninth District commander for the State of Virginia Veterans of Foreign Wars. There are 21 posts in the Ninth District.

**Lila Munsey**, civil engineer-hydro, GO Hydro, Roanoke, has been elected secretary-treasurer of the Roanoke Chapter of the Society of Professional Engineers.



**Isaac and Ila Conner** observed their 65th wedding anniversary last month with a luncheon given by their family at the Vinton Recreation Center. They have two sons, nine daughters, 48 grandchildren, 54 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild. Isaac is a retired system stationman A, GO T&D Station, Roanoke.

**Lewis**, husband of Doris Young, lead research analyst, GO Rates & Contracts, Roanoke, has been awarded a doctor of philosophy degree in general business from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. A former employee of Appalachian, Lewis is assistant professor of finance in the Department of Finance, Insurance and Business Law at VPI&SU.



Three employees' children attended the National Boy Scout Jamboree at Camp A. P. Hill. They are: **Scott**, son of Gordon Parker, engineering technician senior, GO T&D Station, Roanoke; **Robert**, son of P. L. Humphreys, Roanoke line crew supervisor NE; and **Kevin**, son of Raymond Totten, tax accounting supervisor, GO Accounting, Roanoke. All are members of Troop 252 sponsored by St. Paul's Lutheran Church. They were accompanied by **Raymond Totten**, troop committee chairman.

**Steve Jamison**, employee benefits administrator, GO Personnel, Roanoke, was promoted from captain to major in the U.S. Army Reserves (attached to the selective service system). □

## Pulaski

**Carol**, wife of Wally Brockmeyer, line mechanic B, and **Debbie Grubb**, customer accounts representative C, played softball for the Bank of Virginia in the Pulaski League. Their team finished second in regular season play and were undefeated to capture the championship in a tournament at Richmond.

**Jerry Whitehurst**, division manager, and **Harry Jennings**, records supervisor, were elected to the board of directors of the Fine Arts Center for the New River Valley.

**Sam**, son of Barbara Pope, meter reader, won the good sportsmanship award for his group at the Hensel Eckman YMCA summer day care

center. He received a certificate and T-shirt.

**Jeffrey**, son of Larry Dunn, T&D clerk A, has been awarded a teaching assistantship at West Virginia University. He will receive a master of professional accountancy degree in December.

**Larry Bucklen**, customer services representative, is executive chairman of a ten-member committee which is responsible for scheduling a Billy Graham film in the Wythe County, Bland County and Marion area.



**Zella and Jack Gaking** celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary September 12. They have four children and five grandchildren. Jack is a retired plant clerk at Radford Steam Plant.



**Edna and Kenneth Phillips** celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary August 20. They have one son and two grandchildren. Kenneth is a

retired maintenance man at Claytor Hydro.

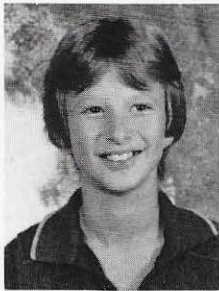
**Diane**, wife of Fred Myers, customer accounts supervisor, graduated summa cum laude from New River Community College with a licensed practical nursing degree. She is employed by Pulaski Community Hospital. □



## Philip Sporn

**Captain Frank Nelson Reynolds**, maintenance supervisor, has completed phase IV of a two-year course given at Aberdeen Proving Grounds, Maryland. He received a certificate for completing a four-mile run in 40 minutes and was selected as class leader by the commander of Headquarters 2091st USAR School.

**Jay**, son of Frank Reynolds, took first place in overall events for 10-year-olds in the 1981 Cub Scout Olympics held at Point Pleasant Grade School. Taking first place in the 100- and 50-yard dash, softball throw and standing broad jump and second place in javelin throw, pushups, situps and frisbee throw, Jay accumulated a total of 20 points, the highest score in the Olympics. □



## Lynchburg

**Bob Waggoner**, retired customer accounts supervisor, was selected chairman of the Pacesetter Division for the 1981 United Way campaign in Lynchburg. Appalachian was designated a Pacesetter company for the fourth consecutive year.

**Robert**, son of Lewis Thomas, energy services technologist, was selected as one of the "Outstanding Young Men of America" for 1981. □



Claude Gilkerson and Dallas Fuller, line mechanics A, teamed up to win first place in the Huntington Division Golf League. Runner-up was the team of Homer Smith, line mechanic A, and Mike Read, stores attendant. Proudly showing off their trophies are, l. to r., Smith, Fuller and Gilkerson. Mike Read was absent when photo was made.



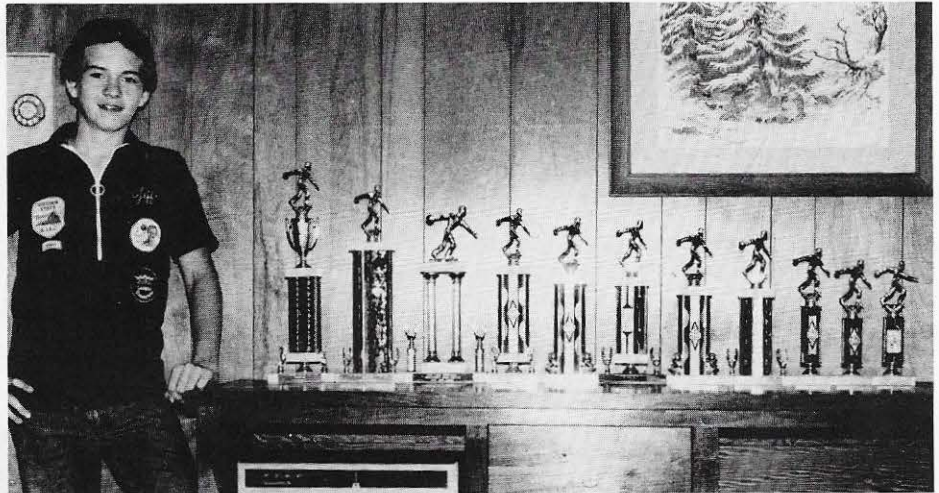
A team representing Appalachian's Lynchburg Division won first place in the lower bracket and third place overall in the upper bracket of an invitational slow-pitch softball tournament. Team members are: front row, l. to r., Jackie Giles, line mechanic A; Kenneth Eagle, station mechanic C (coach); Preston Burnette, station mechanic B; and George Wingfield, stores attendant. Standing, l. to r., Ray Foster, line mechanic D; Larry Ring, stores attendant; Harry Hughes, line crew supervisor; Tom Bondurant, line mechanic A; and Greg Thacker, station mechanic D. Other members not pictured are Fred Clarkson, Billy Habel, Bobby Hawkins and Gerald Cunningham.

## Mountaineer



**Jared Ross**, 2½-month-old son of Ted Woods, maintenance mechanic A, won first place in the pretty baby contest at the Meigs County Fair.

**Dave Martin**, personnel assistant, was issued a certificate of recognition as an associate safety professional after successfully passing the Core Examination. □



Jeff Kennedy is only 13 years old but he's got plenty of trophies to show for his expertise on the lanes. Jeff bowled for East End Cleaners, which won the Winter League championship. He first bowled in the Junior League and was so good that he bowled in the Senior League, too. He had high scratch game (231) in the Summer Mixed League and participated in two state and three city-county tournaments. He also turned in \$216.25 as a participant in the Bowl-A-Thon for Jerry's Kids (Muscular Dystrophy Association). Jeff is the son of Tom Kennedy, Roanoke line crew supervisor.

## Roanoke

**Kenny**, son of Janet Craighead, meter electrician C, played on the King-Sureway tee ball team, which placed second in Montgomery County Recreation Department competition.

**Larry Miles**, meter electrician B, was assistant coach of The Reds tee ball team. His son **Matt** played on the team for two years.

**Ron**, son of Carolyn Gordon, T&D clerk B, played on the Chamblissburg Champs baseball team, which placed first in the Minor League sponsored by the Stewartsville-Chamblissburg Recreation Department. □

## FRIENDS WE'LL MISS



Reese



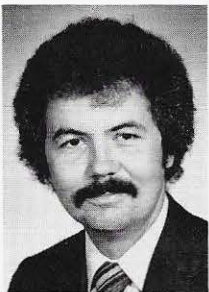
Fain



Tibbets

## Huntington

Three employees were elected officers of the Huntington Jaycees. **Joe Haynes**, administrative assistant, was elected president; **Elvin Epting**, electrical engineer, secretary; and **Jeff Weddle**, power engineer, director.



Haynes

**Clayton and Bernice Dunlap** celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary August 22. He is retired meter superintendent. □

**Walter Reese**, 64, retired Amos Plant custodian, died unexpectedly September 7. A native of Page, West Virginia, he began his career in 1953 as a plant janitor at Cabin Creek Plant and elected early retirement September 1, 1980. Reese is survived by his widow Francis, 16-133rd Street, Chesapeake, W.Va.; one son; one daughter; five sisters; and three brothers.

**William Howard Smith**, 38, Roanoke line mechanic A, was fatally injured in a motorcycle and truck accident September 13 while on his way to work. A native of Pulaski, Virginia, he joined the company in 1967 as a lineman helper in Roanoke. Smith is survived

by two sons, his parents and a sister.

**Jerry Fain**, 61, Charleston meter service supervisor, died August 29. A native of Bellwood, West Virginia, he was employed in 1949 as a laborer. Fain is survived by his widow Nola, 413 Vine Street, South Charleston, W.Va.; four brothers and two sisters.

**Walter Tibbets**, 82, retired Charleston right-of-way agent, died September 19. A native of Grafton, West Virginia, he began his career in 1941 as a transitman and retired February 1, 1963. Tibbets is survived by one sister. □

# WEDDINGS



Hypes-Farley



Bondurant-Morris



Welch-Harman



Emery-Walters



Leftwich-Carter



Widener-Shiple



Thacker-Wells



Laffoon-Baldwin

**Robin Lynn Farley** to **Brian David Hypes**, August 21. Robin Lynn is the daughter of Robert Farley, Bluefield engineering technologist.

**Carolyn Jo Morris** to **Thomas Allen Bondurant**, Lynchburg line mechanic A, August 8.

**Kim Harman** to **Brian Welch**, September 4. Brian is the son of Clyde Welch, Jr., Bluefield head T&D clerk.

**Judy Walters**, Roanoke junior stenographer, to **Jack Emery**, August 1.

**Jeanne Carter**, operations clerk C, GO Operations, Roanoke, to **John Leftwich**, junior clerk, GO General Services, Roanoke, August 29.

**Katherine Shipley**, Abingdon junior clerk, to **Harlow James Widener**, August 12.

**Rhea Nell Wells**, Kingsport customer accounts clerk A, to **Robert Thacker**, August 1.



King-Schmid

**Dana Lynne Baldwin** to **Michael Laffoon**, August 8. Dana is the daughter of E. C. "Jack" Baldwin, Jr., Roanoke customer services assistant.

**Nancy Lynn Schmid** to **Daniel Ross King**, August 15. Daniel is the son of Bob King, Huntington personnel supervisor.

**Lori Jordan** to **James Sowards**, Amos Plant braker, August 10.

**Roxana Caudill**, stenographer, GO Customer Services, Roanoke, to **George Rasmussen**, August 20.

**Cathy Lynn Bass** to **Joel Hurley**, Amos Plant utility worker, August 15.

**Donna Smith**, Point Pleasant residential advisor, to **Michael Watson**, September 5.

**Wanda Adkins** to **Timothy Thomasson**, Amos Plant maintenance mechanic B, September 12.

**Merri Ault** to **James Amsbary**, Sporn Plant utility worker A, September 5.

**Ava Gay Elam**, Lynchburg junior clerk, to **Bobby Allen Arrington, Jr.**, August 7.

**Roberta Withrow** to **Timothy Hardman**, Amos Plant coal handler, August 15.

**Victoria Kovach**, Charleston junior stenographer, to **Roger Blankenship**, Charleston engineering technologist, August 7. □

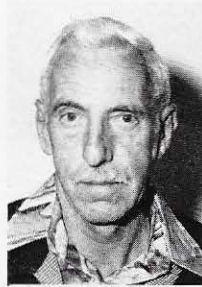
# SERVICE ANNIVERSARIES



**Samuel Bowling, Jr.**  
meter supervisor  
Abingdon  
45 years



**Gus Akers**  
line crew supv.  
Pulaski  
40 years



**William Gordon**  
general servicer  
Bluefield  
40 years



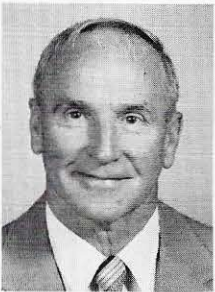
**Tom Old**  
T&D con. & maint.  
mgr.  
GO-Roanoke  
40 years



**Leroy Balding**  
public affairs coord.  
John Amos  
40 years



**Paul Baker**  
cust. serv. supv.  
Huntington  
40 years



**Thurman Ball**  
fleet maint. supv.  
GO-Roanoke  
35 years



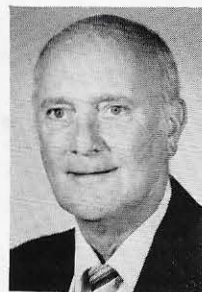
**Alfred White**  
photog. & reprod.  
(LTD)  
Bluefield  
35 years



**Clifford Picklesimer**  
general line supv.  
Charleston  
35 years



**Billy Harlowe**  
line crew supv.  
Roanoke  
35 years



**Ralph Myers**  
eng. tech. supv.  
Charleston  
35 years



**Cecil Shay**  
plant manager  
John Amos  
35 years



**Marvin Short**  
eng. technician sr.  
Roanoke  
35 years



**Willie Clay, Jr.**  
ash supervisor  
John Amos  
30 years



**Mel Creedle**  
communications eng.  
GO-Roanoke  
30 years



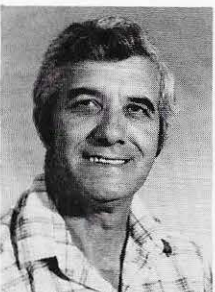
**Arlie Pack**  
meter serv. mech. A  
Huntington  
30 years



**Gus Croft**  
cust. accts. supv.  
Abingdon  
25 years



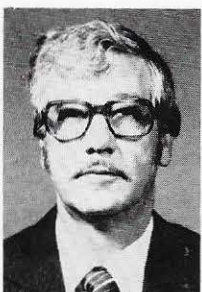
**Bill Pethel**  
const. office mgr.  
Mountaineer Const.  
25 years



**Don Lasley**  
maint. mechanic A  
Clinch River  
25 years



**Joe Mullins**  
cust. accts. supv.  
Beckley  
25 years



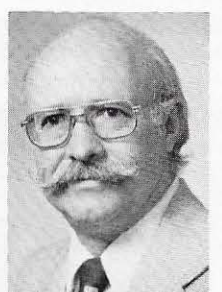
**Jack Spraker**  
sta. crew supv.  
Pulaski  
25 years



**Guy Puckett**  
unit supervisor  
Clinch River  
25 years



**Gene French**  
eng. technologist  
Roanoke  
25 years



**Bucky Buchanan**  
cust. serv. rep.  
Abingdon  
25 years



**Jerry Jordan**  
T&D clerk  
Point Pleasant  
20 years



**Richard Whitlow**  
trans. station supv.  
GO-Huntington  
20 years

### Abingdon

15 years: **Larry Brown**, surveyor. 5 years: **Berkley Burkett**, meter reader.

### John Amos

15 years: **Gary Burkhart**, barge unloader operator. **Narry Kidd, Jr.**, assistant yard superintendent. 10 years: **David Boling**, equipment operator. **Herbert Jordan**, coal equipment operator. **Roger Grubb**, performance engineer. **Emmett McGehee**, maintenance supervisor. **Charles Cash**, performance technician supervisor. 5 years: **Douglas Webster**, maintenance mechanic A. **David Porter**, coal equipment operator. **Thelma Randolph**, custodian.

### Beckley

10 years: **Bradley Williams**, meter reader.

### Bluefield

15 years: **James Graham**, general servicer. **Charles Long**, line mechanic A. 5 years: **Faye Hankins**, telephone operator.

### Centralized Plant Maintenance

10 years: **Robert Gilbert**, personnel and office supervisor.

### Charleston

15 years: **Dennis Selbe**, line mechanic A. 5 years: **Essie Ford**, line mechanic D.

### Clinch River

25 years: **Robert Parks**, maintenance mechanic A. 5 years: **Hobert Taylor**, plant janitor. **Dennis Bordwine**, plant janitor.

### General Office

15 years: **Dan Sayers, Jr.**, r/w maintenance coordinator senior, GO T&D Forestry, Bluefield. **Ralph Poff, Jr.**, engineering technologist, GO Hydro, Roanoke. 10 years: **Rhonda Carter**, personnel clerk A, GO Personnel, Roanoke. **Donald Barnes**,

transmission mechanic A, GO T&D Transmission, Bluefield. 5 years: **Gerald Tyzinski**, engineering technician, GO T&D Civil Engineering, Roanoke. **Stephen Ball**, transmission mechanic B, GO T&D Transmission, Bluefield.

### Glen Lyn

5 years: **David Hargro**, utility coal handler.

### Huntington

25 years: **Dorothy Smith**, T&D clerk A. 15 years: **Betty Adkins**, stenographer.

### Kingsport

5 years: **Kenneth Hickman**, line mechanic B.

### Logan-Williamson

15 years: **Mary Randan**, customer accounts representative B. **Grover Wooten**, station crew supervisor NE. **Joe Pride-more**, automotive mechanic A (LTD). **John Varney**, line mechanic A (LTD). 10

years: **Ernest Drummer**, station mechanic B. 5 years: **Jerry Thompson**, line mechanic A. **Dave Stone**, engineering technician. **Gregory Clark**, area supervisor. **David Stillwell**, engineering services engineer. **George Copley**, line mechanic A. **Mark Summers**, line mechanic B. **Rod Jeffrey**, line mechanic B.

### Mountaineer

15 years: **Al Gillies**, maintenance supervisor. 5 years: **Mike Martin**, maintenance mechanic A.

### Pulaski

15 years: **Steve Albert**, area service restorer. **Duane Hix**, stores supervisor A.

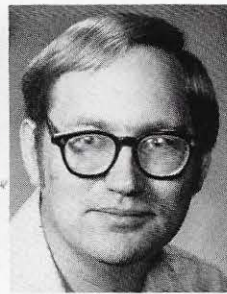
### Philip Sporn

5 years: **Stephen Halley**, maintenance mechanic A. **Danny Taylor**, maintenance mechanic A. **Jeffrey Lewis**, maintenance mechanic A. **Judith Hunter**, stores attendant. □

## PROMOTIONS



Witt



Parsons



Ferrell



Humphrey

**Michael Witt**, equipment operator, was promoted to unit supervisor at Clinch River Plant on August 1, succeeding **K. D. Lambert**. Witt is an electronics graduate of Southwest Virginia Community College.

**Earl Ferrell**, assistant shift operating engineer, was promoted to shift operating engineer at Clinch River Plant on August 1, succeeding **Norman Bass**, who retired.

**Steven Parsons**, performance super-

vising engineer at John Amos Plant, was promoted to performance superintendent at Ohio Power's Mitchell Plant on September 16. He holds a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering from West Virginia Institute of Technology.

**Charles Humphrey**, control technician senior, was promoted to instrument maintenance supervisor at John Amos Plant on September 1. He succeeds **William Hickok**, who resigned. □

Down in a dark corner of Jess Williamson's basement, next to the fireplace, stands a tall wooden cabinet that once held records in the Internal Revenue Service office in Pikeville, Kentucky.

For a number of years, however, the cabinet has held the artifacts of another culture. Therein also rest the fruits of about 20 years of Jess's spare time.

"Yeah, I've got eight or ten arrowheads in there, eight or ten thousand," he joked.

Jess was as regular as the doves scouring a freshly plowed field at one time. It all started as a diversion for fishing. "After you go fishing a few times, and they don't bite, you get out on the bank and start looking around and finding arrowheads. Then the bug hit me, and I decided I would rather hunt arrowheads than fish," he said.

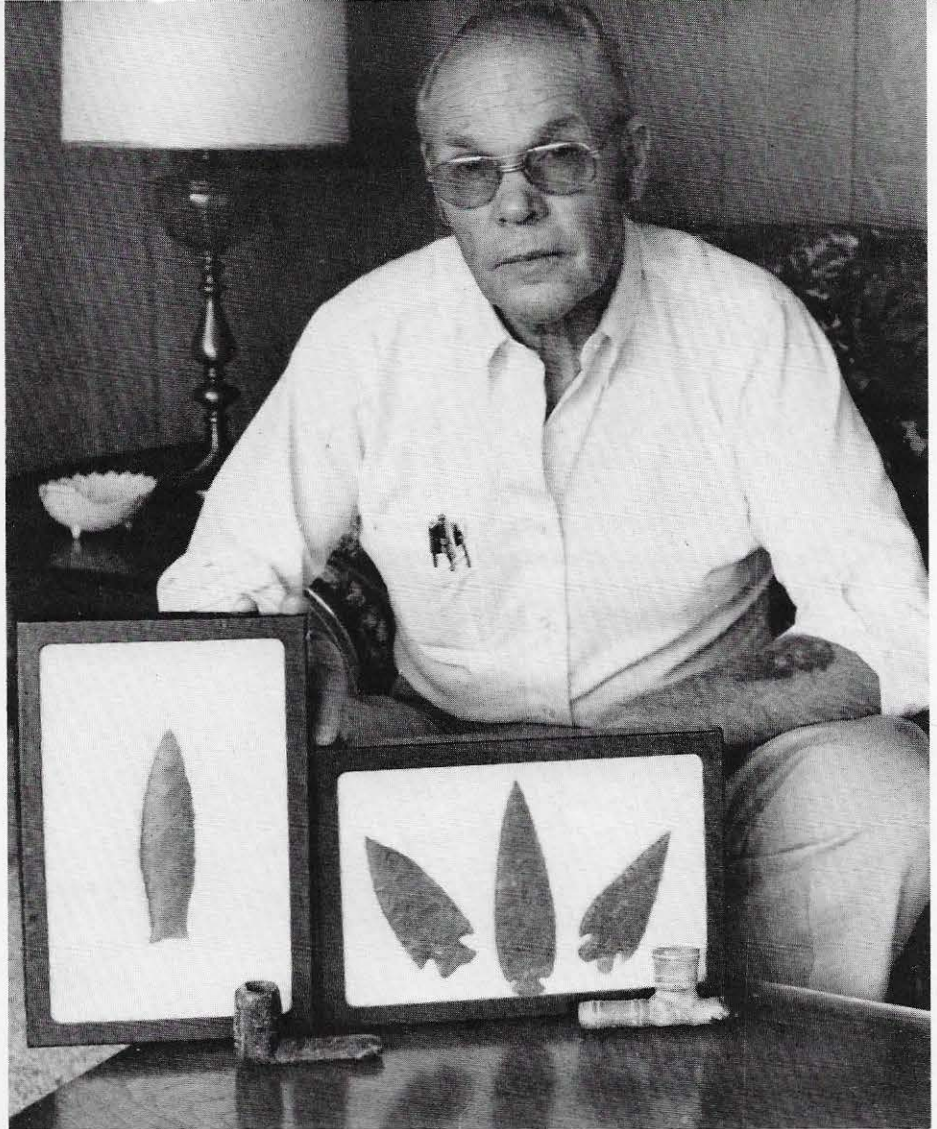
"I started on the lakes, but then after a little while, I began to hunt these bottoms when they would plow them up. There'd come a good rain, and the rain would wash the dirt off the arrowheads. You could find them pretty good then," he said.

"Most farmers, when I started, didn't mind you looking on their land. But it got to the point that other people did so much damage looking for arrowheads that a lot of them quit letting you come and look on their land.

"I kept sneaking into one fellow's tobacco patch, you know, crawling around down under. I did it so many years, after he would finish his plowing, that I kind of got ashamed of myself and finally asked him about going in there and hunting for arrowheads.

"He said, 'Well, I don't mind you going, but it won't be much use because I've found them all.' He showed me one of those eight-pound lard buckets full of arrowheads, but he nowhere near got them all. After I asked him and he turned me down, I figured I better not get caught in there," Jess said.

Jess, who is line superintendent for Kingsport Power Company, has arrowheads from Kentucky, West Virginia, Ohio and North Carolina as well as Tennessee. But the Holston River area around Kingsport is a prime place to hunt. "There were mostly Cherokee around this area. Along the Holston River, they camped virtually all of the bottoms through



Jess Williamson

## Digging up the past

here. Of course, I never did any digging like an archaeologist would. But there are some archaeologists who have done some digging and have located villages.

"The Indians around here used a dark flint for their arrowheads. In North Carolina, they used a white stone. But this dark flint chips good and shapes good. It's kind of like glass. You put pressure on it, and it chips off. I've got them from the size of a fingernail to a six or eight inch spear point.

"I've got some that date back before Cherokee time. But every Indian village made their arrowheads a little different. You can tell where they're from and from what period of time it was by the shape of their arrowheads.

"Most of the time the older men, who weren't able to get out and hunt, would make arrowheads for the whole village, and they would provide him with food for his work. They were craftsmen, that's for sure," Jess said.

In addition to his arrowheads and spear points, Jess found a number of different types of implements. He has several pipes, stones shaped to grind meal and sharpened stones used to skin animals.

Gazing out his back window, he said, "I don't look for them anymore. That work shop over there is the first project I tackled after I quit looking. And that fireplace and patio right here, that took about three years of work." □

# Hodges' log cabin is reminiscent of early homeplace

A replica of a log cabin made by Curtis Hodges, retired Roanoke general utility worker, won honorable mention in this year's Norfolk and Western art show. "I couldn't actually enter the competition because my daughter works for NW," Curtis explains. "They told me if I had been eligible, the cabin would have taken first place.

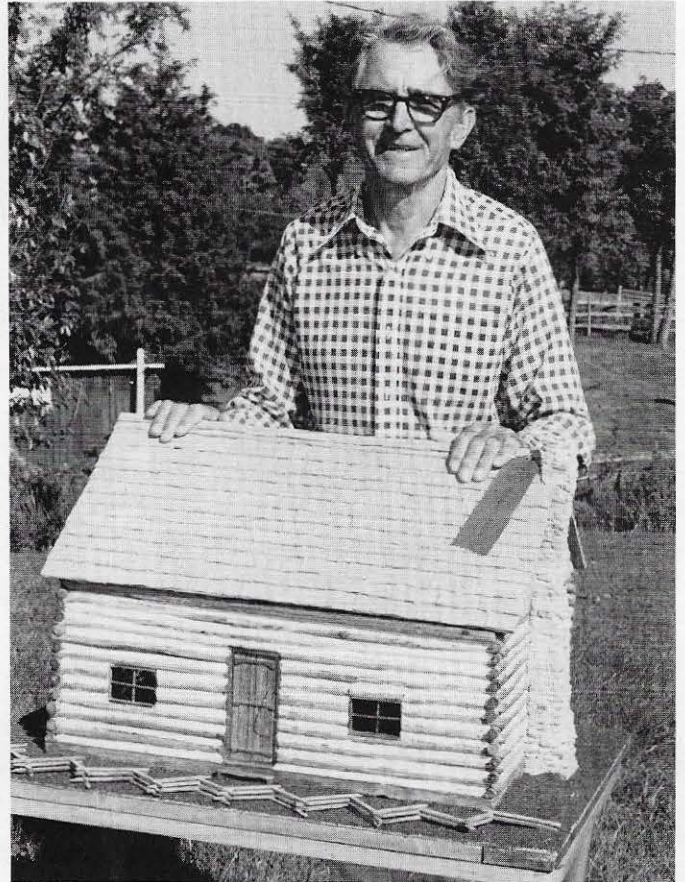
"My daughter bought a doll house kit a while back, and I helped her put it together. She asked me why I didn't buy a kit for myself, and I told her I wanted to make one that was original. I happened to think about the log cabin I lived in one time and decided to make one."

Just like his early home, Curtis' miniature cabin has one big room with steps leading to an attic. The back side of the cabin is open, and Curtis has already made a few pieces of furniture to place in it. The rest he plans to make during the winter months.

Curtis says, "I couldn't count the hours I worked on the cabin because I would work whenever I had a few minutes." For the logs, he cut sticks, peeled the bark off and put them under the stove to dry. The chinking between the logs is corking compound and the shingles are glued on. "I cut oak, sawed pieces and split them with a knife and made the shingles. I'd say there are about 300 shingles on the roof," Curtis adds.

The chimney is made of small, flat rocks put together with mortar. "I tore the chimney down twice before I got it like I wanted it," he admits. "I sawed flooring for the cabin out of 3/4" boards."

Just in case Curtis finishes the furniture before the winter is over, he won't be idle. "I just bought a railroad clock to put together," he says with a smile. □



Curtis Hodges' miniature log cabin won honorable mention in the annual NW art show.



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