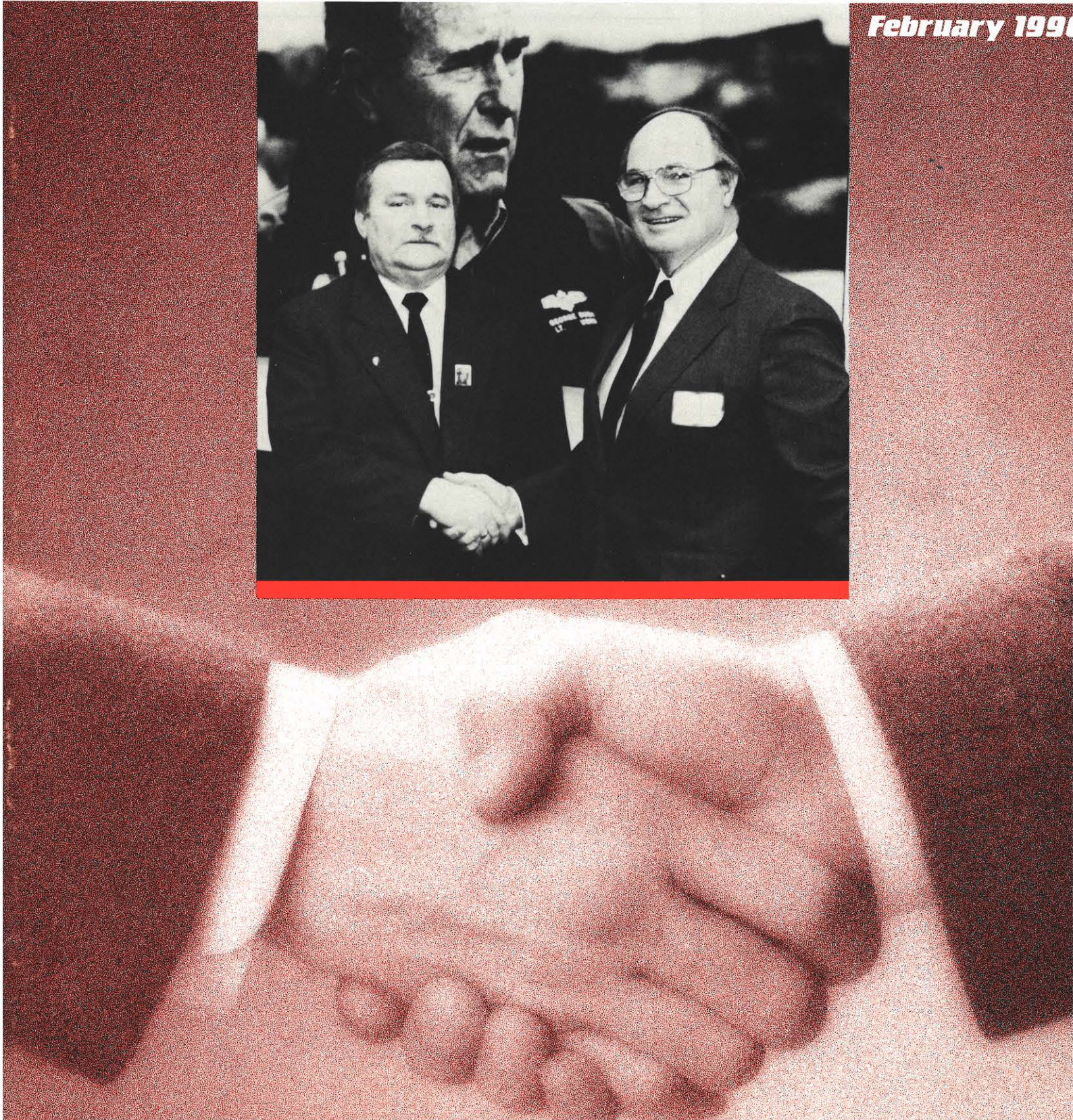


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# ILLUMINATOR

February 1996



# The Inside Story

## ILLUMINATOR

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## IABC

International Association of Business Communicators

### About the Cover:

Before leaving on his presidential mission to Poland, White meets Solidarity leader Lech Welesa in the Washington, D. C., office of the Secretary of Commerce. "He's a very charismatic guy," White said of Welesa. "He's self-assured, but he recognizes his limitations . . . That to me says he's a very big man." Read more about AEP's involvement in Poland beginning on page 5.

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### AEP Savings Plan Funds

Investment Rates of Return  
For Period Ending December 31, 1989

	Last 12 Months
Fixed Income Fund	12.03% (See note)
Equity Fund	30.63%
AEP Stock Fund	32.22%

**NOTE:** As previously stated, this rate continues to decrease due to maturities of contracts that carried extraordinarily high interest rates. On 12/31/89, the Fixed Income Fund's current annual effective yield was 9.63%. It is estimated that the applicable rate during 1990 will be in the neighborhood of 9.5%.

The Fixed Income Fund is becoming quite large — \$323,600,000 currently — and thus has also become more diversified in the number of contract carriers and investment strategy. Just two years ago, for example, the fund comprised contracts from five insurance companies. Today eight insurance companies, two banks and the trustee's short-term securities fund are involved. The short-term securities fund is temporarily being used in order to provide an opportunity to arrange higher interest-rate contracts, if rates increase. Quality and size restrictions continue to be applied to all issuers.

Corresponding future rates of return will be affected by stock market prices or, in the case of the Fixed Income Fund, the addition or replacement of fixed-income funding segments. Participants may change their investment-fund choice twice in any calendar year. In addition, the percentage rate of matched and unmatched contributions may be changed twice in each calendar year. See the savings plan booklet in your Protection Program Manual for details.

## AEP undertakes major power transmission research at APCo station

The American Electric Power Service Corporation has launched a major research project that could lead to significant advances in the control of power flow on electric transmission networks. This research project will study a technique for controlling the electrical characteristics of an existing extra-high-voltage (EHV) line with the objective of increasing power transmission capability of the line.

"The consequences that we expect to result from this project are quite positive," said H. N. Scherer, Jr., AEP senior vice president-electrical engineering. "At present, greater demands are being placed on transmission networks. As a result, they are being loaded closer to their operating limits. We'll be seeing more of technologies to better utilize our existing transmission system," he said.

Appalachian Power and ABB Power Systems, Inc., of Sweden have signed a contract for a series capacitor bank having a unique, controllable feature. This is part of a \$21 million system improvement project for an existing 345-kv transmission line in West Virginia and Virginia to enhance the power transfer capability of the line.

The series capacitor bank will be located at the Kanawha River transmission station near Charleston, West Virginia, at the western end of a 110-mile, 345-kv transmission line that runs to Matt Funk station near Roanoke, Virginia. The capacitor bank will be equipped with a prototype thyristor switching device to allow the bank to be switched rapidly in several steps to vary the transmission line's electrical characteristics.

Series capacitors are electrical devices used on long transmission lines to increase their power-carrying capabilities. A thyristor is a semiconductor that can be switched rapidly on and off. In this application, the thyristor controller can be used to adjust rapidly the power flow on the line as well as the line's power transmission capability. After its installation, the thyristor device will be tested extensively to determine its ef-

fectiveness in controlling power flow on a transmission line for a wide range of operating conditions.

"We anticipate that this thyristor-controlled series capacitor installation will allow us to operate with greater control, speed and flexibility," Scherer said. The installation will be the first thyristor-switched series capacitor in the U.S. and the first major series capacitor installation east of the Rocky Mountains. The AEP System operates 21,700 miles of transmission lines that are interconnected with 27 other electric power systems at 113 locations in 10 states providing a vital link in the transfer and flow of power in the eastern United States. □

## APCo seeks hike in wholesale rates

Appalachian Power Company has filed a request with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for a \$2.4 million or 2.9 percent annual rate increase from its wholesale customers, effective March 3.

Wholesale customers in Virginia include Martinsville, Salem, Bedford, Radford, Danville, Richlands, Virginia Tech, and the Craig-Botetourt and Central Virginia co-ops. In West Virginia, wholesale customers are West Virginia Power (Utilicorp) and about a half dozen privately-owned small utilities.

According to Joseph H. Vipperman, president of Appalachian, the increase is necessary for several reasons:

- The company's recent all-time internal peak demand for electricity;
- The company's increased costs, as a member of the AEP System Pool, associated with the commercial operation of Indiana Michigan's Rockport Unit 2;
- The increase in the State of West Virginia's Business and Occupation (B&O) tax on all energy generated within the state; and
- general inflation over the last three years of approximately 4.5 percent.

Vipperman said these factors will cause Appalachian's earnings to drop dramatically from 1989 levels; and, if rate relief is not obtained, the company will be faced with less than satisfactory earnings results.

Appalachian's last wholesale rate increase, granted in 1987, was about 1 percent. □

## AEP companies reach new peaks

While the mercury plummeted to establish new low temperatures on December 22, internal demand on the AEP System soared to an all-time peak of 17,700 megawatts during the hour ending at 10 a.m. During the hour of the peak, the average temperature was -7° F across the System.

The new peak demand level is 8.2 percent greater than the previous record winter peak of 16,365 mw that was recorded January 6, 1988. The new mark improved AEP's all-time record, a 17,164-mw summer peak achieved on August 17, 1988, by 3.1 percent. Internal demand exceeded 17,000 mw for five consecutive hours on December 22.

Also on the 22nd, Appalachian Power experienced an all-time peak of 5,996 mw established at 10 a.m. This was almost 10 percent above the previous all-time high on January 21, 1985, and nearly 13 percent above the 1988 peak demand of 5,317 mw. □

## Rockport 2 goes commercial

Rockport Plant Unit 2 generated power commercially for the first time on December 1, completing the plant's 12-year construction schedule.

Indiana Michigan Power Company employees had been test operating the unit since September 28, when the initial turbine roll took place. On October 5, Unit 2 reached initial parallel with the AEP System, meaning it was, for the first time, connected to the transmission system.

Unit 2 last year was sold to a group of investors for \$1.7 billion. Those investors include the Philip Morris Credit Corporation and the Nynex Credit Company. I&M and AEP Generating Company will lease Unit 2 for at least 33 years and I&M will continue to operate both units.

The sale/lease-back arrangement has the effect of reducing the impact on rates by reducing annual costs in the early years and leveling them over the life of the plant. □

## Visitors center at Ohio wildlife preserve dedicated

The first building on the site of the International Center for the Preservation of Wild Animals, near Cumberland, Ohio, was formally dedicated on December 2.

Now being developed on 9,154 acres donated by Ohio Power Company, the International Center will be "the largest animal facility in North America," said David Jenkins, executive director of the Center. Much of that land had been mined and reclaimed by Central Ohio Coal Company.

The new 3,600-square-foot building initially will house the International Center's reception, briefing, and educational activities. The first animals are due to arrive at the site in June 1990.

The International Center is expected to draw more than 500,000 visitors a year and contribute about \$64 million annually to the local economy. □

## Eight selected for AEP Management Program at Ohio State University

Eight employees from Appalachian Power Company are among those selected to attend the 1990 American Electric Power System Management Program at The Ohio State University from April 22-May 19.

They are: Harold Wiseman, Huntington line superintendent; Rob Glenn, Jr., Roanoke marketing and customer services manager; Gordon Parker, general services manager, GO General Serv-

ices, Roanoke; Jim Elswick, Beckley line and station superintendent; Barbara Aliff, Logan customer services office supervisor; Wayne Heninger, general stores supervisor, GO Purchasing, Roanoke; Jay Johnson, III, station supervisor construction and maintenance, GO T&D, Roanoke; and Ron Neal, Mountaineer operations superintendent. □

*My idea counted,*

Ken Cline  
Winder 1st Class  
Central Machine Shop



*yours can too.*

**oip**  
OPERATIONS  
IMPROVEMENT  
PROGRAM

**AEP**

**APPALACHIAN  
POWER**

# White visits Poland on presidential mission; plans more AEP involvement



White (far right), the only American industry representative to visit Belchatow, shares ideas with a group of Polish power plant managers in the plant's control room.

Poland has "some bitter medicine to swallow" if it is to cure itself of the symptoms of 45 years of a planned economy under Communist rule. But with financial and managerial help from other free-market countries and patient perseverance from the Polish people, they can succeed.

So concluded a hand-picked delegation of American private-sector leaders, including American Electric Power's chairman, W. S. White Jr., after their recent trip to Poland.

"It was an unusual opportunity to observe firsthand the current situation in Poland and to hear directly from Polish leaders their ideas for the restoration of their economy," White wrote to Secretary of Commerce Robert A. Mosbacher Sr. in a letter upon his return.

White was one of 20 private-sector members named by President George Bush to the U. S. Presidential Economic Delegation to Poland. The group visited that country Nov. 29 through Dec. 2 as part of the Administration's efforts to assist in Poland's economic reform and restructuring and to support its democratic transition.

U. S. Secretary of Agriculture Clayton Yeutter headed the delegation, which

provided the president with recommendations as to the most effective use of U. S. assistance to Poland, and to assist the Poles in developing their economic restructuring program.

(In mid-November, Congress enacted a three-year package of \$664.5 million in aid to Poland.)

Other senior Administration officials leading the delegation were Secretary of Commerce Mosbacher, Secretary of Labor Elizabeth H. Dole, and Michael J. Boskin, Chairman of the White House Council of Economic Advisors.

The twenty delegation members named from the private sector included representatives from industry, agriculture, economics and labor from such diverse organizations as Upjohn, Motorola, the National Pork Producers Council, Harvard University, Washington University, First National Bank of Chicago, Peabody Coal Corp., the AFL-CIO and the Polish-American Congress.

The delegation's mandate was "to examine key sectors of the Polish economy in which the U. S. could help most, such as agriculture, business management, financial services and portions of industry; also to study the overall Polish structural, macroecon-

omic and price reform program."

Since the delegation had only four days to complete its mandate, the itinerary was jam-packed, including 10.5-hour trans-Atlantic flights on Air Force II (see sidebar on page 6).

"We had a very full schedule," White said. "While it is dangerous to form firm convictions on so short a visit, I nevertheless did come away with certain impressions."

## Switching to a free market

A foremost impression centered around the country's need to create from scratch several macroeconomic elements essential to surviving in a competitive, free-market society. Systems that in the West are taken for granted, like accounting, commercial law, financial management and realistic pricing, haven't existed in the Poland that just emerged from nearly half a century of Communist rule.

"They had 45 years of a planned economy in which they haven't dealt with questions such as how much anything really costs," White said in an interview with the *Illuminator* after his return home.

"It was evident that problems related to the centrally planned economy of the

## Itinerary of White's trip to Poland

Tues., Nov. 28	
Afternoon	Dinner meeting at Blair House in Washington, D. C. President George Bush briefs delegation, says Poland trying to turn things around, very important U.S. offers assistance.
Evening	Flight on Air Force II leaves at 11 p.m. Refuels in England, on to Warsaw.
Wed., Nov. 29	
3:30 p.m.	(Poland time) Landing in Warsaw completes 10.5-hour trip. American and Polish dignitaries exchange welcoming remarks at airport. Bus drive to 3-week-old Marriott Hotel in Warsaw.
Evening	Meeting at Marriott with U.S. Ambassador to Poland John R. Davis, followed by dinner with Secretary of Commerce Robert Mosbacher. Delegation splits; White assigned to Commerce Cluster to discuss industry.
Thu., Nov. 30	
Morning	Two-hour working breakfast with Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance Leszek Balcerowicz at Office of the Council of Ministers. Also talks by ministers of labor, industry, and foreign and economic relations. Presentation by Prime Minister T. Mazowiecki follows.
Mid-day	White joins Energy and Environment Cluster. White, Robert Quenon (president of Peabody Coal Corp.) and William Ruckelshaus (chairman and CEO of Browning-Ferris Industries) meet at luncheon with ministers of industry and environmental protection.
Afternoon	White and Quenon meet at the Ministry of Industry with Zbigniew Bicki (director-general of the Community of Power Industry and Brown Coal) and Dr. Kczimierz Adamczyk (director of the Department of Energy and Fuels). Session with Polish Sejm follows to discuss need for quick economic reform to avoid social and political discontent.
Evening	Dinner at Radziwill Palace.
Fri., Dec. 1	
Morning	White, a Polish and a U. S. State Department representative drive 100 miles southwest to village of Belchatow to visit power plant. Share ideas with five Polish plant managers. Drive back to Warsaw in late afternoon.
Evening	Dinner at Marriott with dignitaries, including U. S. Ambassador Davis, Polish ambassador, Sejm members, other Polish officials. Speech by Secretary of Labor Elizabeth H. Dole.
Sat., Dec. 2	
Morning	Breakfast with Secretary of Commerce Mosbacher to compare notes, recommendations. Second working breakfast with Poles follows at Belvedere Palace. Speech by President W. Jarulcelski. Press conference follows. Then meeting with Council of Ministers. Bus ride to airport. During 10.5-hour flight home on Air Force II, delegation members draft 26-page report of recommendations to President Bush. "We had a very full schedule," White said.

past, with many economic sections heavily subsidized, have totally confused the economic system. Without an idea of what things really cost, it is very difficult to properly allocate scarce resources efficiently."

For example, White said, the price of bread in Poland is less than the cost of the wheat used to make it, so it is reported that farmers have used bread as fodder.

"Prices were simply pulled out of the air," White said. "They have a big job ahead just in pricing things properly."

Another observation — tied to inaccurate pricing — that made an impression on White was the "considerable waste of energy in Poland.

"With the very substantial subsidies to both the coal industry and, indirectly, and maybe directly, to the electric power industry, prices of energy do not reflect their cost, providing little incentive to use energy wisely," he said.

Also undermining energy conservation is the inefficient use of district heating, a common European method of using a portion of the heat energy produced when converting coal to electric energy. To work efficiently, it requires proper controls in each domestic unit.

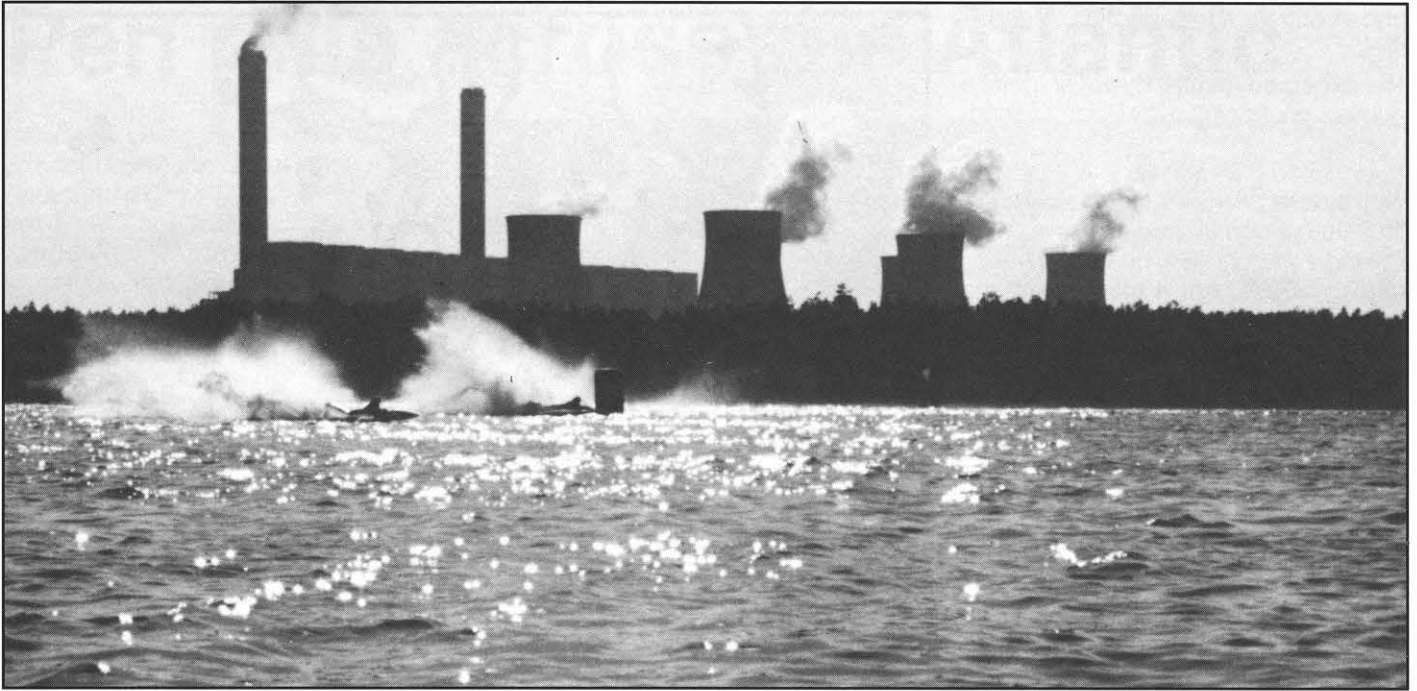
"We were told," White said, however, "that the only way to prevent overheating in some cases is to open the windows."

In addition, most recently completed apartments, rather than using individual metering for electric service, provide such service as part of the rent. That, again, provides no incentive for energy conservation.

"A considerable effort will have to be mounted to educate the population as to how they can use energy more efficiently," White said. "Certainly one of the principal tools will be to set the prices of energy at proper levels" and to eliminate government subsidies.

White had the opportunity to continue his observations of Poland's energy industry by spending a day at Poland's newest and largest power plant, located in the village of Belchatow, about 100 miles southwest of Warsaw.

Construction of the 4,320-mw plant began in 1975; the last of the plant's twelve 360-mw units was completed in 1988. The plant's turbo generating units



The 4,320-mw lignite-fired Belchatow plant, Poland's newest and biggest, has twelve 360-mw units and employs 3,254.

were built in Poland, but licensed by ASEA Brown Boveri, one of the world's foremost builders of electrical equipment. The plant employs 3,154 people.

In comparison, AEP's largest plant, the John Amos plant near Charleston, W. Va., has a 2,900-mw capacity and employs 525. Last year, the Polish power industry produced about 140 billion kwh; AEP's System produced 113 billion kwh.

White, the only American industry representative on the sidetrip to Belchatow, met at the plant with managers of five of Poland's principal power plants. They had questions similar to those of AEP plant managers, he said. He found the plant's controls adequate, but not as sophisticated as AEP's or those of other American power systems.

Adjacent to the plant was the open-pit lignite coal mine that fuels the plant by mining 38 million tons of lignite per year. The plant's lignite has a heat rate of 3,240 BTU/pound.

"The mine resembled a copper mine," he said, with a ratio of earth removed to coal recovered of 3:1. The pit measures about 13 miles long and 3 miles wide.

"It's a big hole," White said. In fact, the Poles developed a ski slope next to the mine on the hill created by the earth removed.

White noted that Poland's best coals are exported, yet "the vast majority of Poland's energy — about 98 percent — is produced by coal."

"The bituminous coals being burned in most of their power plants contain about 28 percent ash, far above that which most power systems would tolerate. The Poles recognize the problem, but have not had the resources to invest in coal washing plants."

#### **Power facilities adequate**

White also found the age of the equipment not too different from that in the United States, since most power facilities were built after World War II.

"If (the existing power system) is well maintained and operated, it should be sufficient to take care of the Polish economy for several years until additional capacity can be installed," White wrote in his recommendations to Mosbacher.

In addition, Poland has a partially completed, Russian-designed nuclear power plant on which no work has been done for several years due to lack of funds. Consideration also is being given to lowhead hydro-electric facilities at navigational dams on the lower Vistula River, although no work has begun.

"In responding to questions about the

order of priority on expenditure for their power systems, I offered my view that such limited funds as are available could best be devoted to the proper maintenance of their existing systems," White said.

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**"What they need is better management of their existing stock of energy-production facilities."**

**— W. S. White Jr.**

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He cited the availability of a new generation of nuclear plants and the high first-cost capital expenditures of hydro-electric as reasons.

"Nuclear power and lowhead hydro-electric facilities can come later. The most important thing for them to do is to get prices right for energy. That in itself will lead to a great deal of conservation.

"Poland also has a very substantial problem with pollution," White said. "The Poles are very concerned about their environmental problems and consider their resolution high on their list of priorities."

Effective Jan. 1, Poland's version of the U.S. Senate, called the Sejm, voted to enact Polish Finance Minister Leszek Balcerowicz's economic stabilization plan, which included elimination of all

price controls and reduction of subsidies.

The expected results, however, paint a grim economic picture for Poland's short-term future. Economic experts predict a reduction in real income by 20 percent, layoffs of at least several hundred thousand workers, and an increase in Poland's annual 900 percent inflation rate by 50 percent a month, with the hope that it will drop to 5 percent a month by spring.

While advisors say such radical reforms are necessary, they also worry they may be too strong to be acceptable politically among Poland's population of 37 million.

"We are coming into a round of testing," Poland's president, W. Jarulcelski, told White and his fellow delegates at a breakfast meeting at the Belvedere Palace in Warsaw.

(One may recall that Jarulcelski was the general who declared marshal law a decade ago ostensibly to keep the Russians out of Poland.)

"The government of Poland made the mistake of trying to make people happy by force," Jarulcelski said. "It was the will of the people that they be changed.

"There is a great deal of support for the new government," he said. "We have great opportunities . . . and now some bitter medicine would have to be taken. The people understand the need for this and will accept it.

"It will be a tough year. Our leaders must be careful about political extremist — those on the left or the right," Jarulcelski said, "and we must be alert to possible threats."

White expressed guarded optimism for Poland's ability to survive the political shock of instituting so many sweeping economic changes at once.

"It's a real question," White said. "One of the members of the Sejm told us, 'The government can govern only so long as the population is reasonably satisfied. Therefore, we must produce results within a reasonable period of time.'

"They are anxious to move fast," White said. "The problem is that they have to do so many things all at the same time. I think the will is there. If they can be a little patient . . . this can be made to work."



Poland sits in a strategic location, surrounded by East Germany, Czechoslovakia and the U.S.S.R.

### AEP's future involvement

One of the elements essential to their success, the delegation determined, is management training. Many Poles question whether the nation has a class of managers ready to step in to run newly freed companies.

According to a Nov. 30th article in the New York Times, even before Communist rule, the Poles were largely a peasant society that, unlike Germany, had not developed an indigenous business class. France, Britain and the United States have promised assistance to help train managers.

Therein lies an opportunity for AEP, White said. He hopes that arrangements can be completed for an exchange of information by inviting Polish managers here for training and sending AEP advisors to Poland. The Poles particularly lack cost-accounting principles and management training, although their engineering capabilities are technically sound, he said.

"What they need is better management of their existing stock of energy-production facilities," White said.

He also alluded to a possible need to share environmental-equipment tech-

nology with the Poles, who have expressed interest in clean-coal technology. In fact, the delegation's 26-page report to president Bush included a recommendation that "a fluidized-bed technology project in the Silesia region is likely to have a greater positive impact than some other projects that have been discussed."

The Silesia region is the southwest corner of Poland near the Czechoslovakian and East German borders. An industrial region dotted with old factories using soft coal, Silesia suffers from "Severe environmental problems", White said, and is seeking answers.

White said he was pleased to have been invited to try to help provide solutions to the challenges facing Poland's fledgling democracy. And he hopes to include others in the AEP System in future assistance efforts.

"If nothing else is done, I think it was worth the government's efforts to demonstrate its concern and support for Poland," White said. "Some will do business in Poland. Certainly the door is open. I felt honored to be a part of the delegation." □



# Pen pals across the Atlantic

Nearly 38 years ago, a British school-girl sat down and wrote a letter to an American girl she had never met. Several weeks ago that girl, now a mature married woman, sat down in a house in Washington County and reread the same letter.

The letter Ruby Jefferson wrote so many years ago was the start of a long friendship between her and Kitty Farley of Abingdon. Ruby was entering her first year in grammar school. Kitty was a seventh-grader in Bristol, Tennessee.

For the next 35 years the two exchanged letters faithfully, telling each other about their lives and countries. They went through school and were married. Then, three years ago, Kitty was vacationing in Florida with her husband Jack (retired relay engineer senior, GO T&D Relay, Bluefield) when she said to him, "Someday, I'd like to meet Ruby." Jack replied, "Why don't you get a plane ticket when we get back and go see her?"

She did.

The two women felt they knew each other well from their long correspondence, but there also were many things they didn't know about each other. So Ruby was understandably nervous as she waited for Kitty to get off the plane in Manchester, England, three years ago.

"When I went to Manchester to meet her, my stomach was in pain because I was nervous and excited. Part of it was not knowing how well we would get on," Ruby admitted.

The two got on marvelously. So well, in fact, that within 48 hours they were down at the travel agent's office trying to extend Kitty's planned two-week stay. Eventually they were able to make arrangements for her to fly back a week later than she had originally planned so she got to spend three beautiful spring weeks in Britain.

This past September it was Kitty's turn to play hostess as Ruby got her first look at the United States after a round-about flight that took her first to Chicago, then to Charlotte, and finally to Tri-Cities Regional Airport. The two friends spent the next three weeks visiting



Kitty Farley, left, of Abingdon and Ruby Jefferson of Kingsley, Great Britain, have been pen pals for nearly 38 years.

a variety of attractions on the East Coast. Ruby was delighted with her visit to Disney World.

"I felt it was a proper holiday because you're in such a fantasy world," she said.

Kitty also took her friend to local attractions like Bristol Caverns, the Molasses Festival on Whitetop Mountain, and Barter Theatre, where Ruby won a prize for being the first-time visitor from the most distant place.

Ruby also helped her friend and her husband move from their home in Bluefield to their farm in Washington County, where Kitty and Jack are now living full time after Jack's retirement from Appalachian Power in October.

Kitty made her second trip to Great Britain in 1986. During that stay she and Ruby met the teacher who got their correspondence started by giving Kitty's address to Ruby 38 years ago. The teacher, Miss Phillips, is now in her 70's. She got Kitty's address from an American teacher while on an exchange visit.

Miss Phillips used to come back to the United States every summer to visit a friend in Bristol. Oddly enough, during one of those visits, she was treated by

Kitty's father, who was a doctor.

That is just one of a number of unusual coincidences that have laced the two women's correspondence and long-distance friendship. For instance, both of them owned a Nash Metropolitan, a British-made car that was rare on both sides of the ocean. Kitty never knew another person in the United States who had one. There were few in England, too, because Nash built the car for the export market. Later on, both owned Chevettes, too.

Neither woman has children, and both like the outdoors and animals. Neither one smokes or drinks. Both married husbands who are several years older than they, and their husbands share many of the same interests and political views.

"Since we've met, we've grown so much closer together," Ruby said. "I just feel now that there is someone on the other side of the world I can go to, and Kitty feels the same." □

*Adapted from an article by Terry Hawthorne, Washington County News.*

# Retirements

## Fred Helm

When Fred Helm graduated from Virginia Polytechnic Institute in 1949 with a degree in electrical engineering, he had an important decision to make: a job with the steel industry or the power company. In the 40 years since, he's never regretted his choice of Appalachian Power. Helm retired on February 1 as Huntington Division manager.

"Since I had served in the U.S. Navy in the Pacific in World War II and spent three and a half years at VPI, I wanted to spend some time in Beckley. I hired into the Beckley office under a 32-week training program, which took me across the company," he recalls. "I even worked at Claytor Lake for a while and in the old System T&D Transmission Department near Danville, Virginia. After that I was given the job of power sales engineer, working in the coal mining field. In those days, few mining companies had electrical engineers on their staffs so power engineers were called upon for a variety of advice. I suppose I actually lost revenue for the company because of my power factor studies for coal companies, which helped them pay less for their electricity."

In 1952 he married a power company home economist, the former Emily Witherington. Another wise decision because, he claims, "Her cooking was as good as my mother's."

Transferred to Charleston two years later, Helm worked with not only coal mines but also the large chemical and industrial plants in the Kanawha Valley. "One thing I am especially proud of is that I was in on the very beginning of Appalachian's electric heat promotion. In those days, you could count on one hand the electric heat sales over a six-month period. It was a real selling effort! I even designed a heating system for an acetylene gas generating building at a junk firm in Charleston."

In 1958 Helm was promoted to St. Albans area superintendent. "While I was there," he recalls, "I don't suppose I missed a single broken pole replacement, night or day, snow or rain. That was the way I learned — just being right out there on the highway with the crews."

"Shortly after I returned to Beckley as



district T&D superintendent, a wet snow interrupted many thousands of customers. It took us a week to get everyone back in service — a real challenge for a new superintendent. Another incident that comes to mind was when two U.S. Navy jet fighters attempted to sneak up on the Guthrie Radar Station in Charleston by flying up the New River Gorge near Oak Hill. In the process, one of them struck our 46 kv McClung Loop river crossing. The pilot returned to base safely but with considerable damage to his aircraft. We had no idea what had taken the line out of service, but we were in big trouble over in Greenbrier County because of it. Mac McMahan, district manager then, and I hitched a helicopter ride in a snow storm with the construction firm building our 345 kv line. We finally determined that the static wire was entangled in the conductor. Restoration is another story in itself."

In 1965 Helm attended the AEP Management Program at the University of Michigan Graduate School of Business Administration. "I thought it was a wonderful program," he says, "and I got to know people from across the entire AEP System."

That same year he went to Charleston as commercial and industrial sales supervisor. "We promoted electric heating and cooking in the new state parks being built in our territory," he

adds, "and were able to get electric heating in several new high schools being built in the division. When Floyd Taylor was promoted to assistant division manager in 1967, I succeeded him as sales manager. Those were interesting years, trying to sell electric heat by the acre. We worked with subdivision developers in many ways to ensure that the entire subdivision would be electrically heated. During that time I went to New York on several trips, assisting in the extension of 138 kv service from Kanawha Plant to the Union Carbide Corporation at Alloy."

Helm continues, "When John Vaughan offered me the job of assistant Huntington division manager in 1973, I took it with no hesitation. George Hervey retired as division manager the following year, and I have been here ever since. In all of these moves about the company, we have always built a new home so we have had a variety of electric heating systems. Some say that Emily's and my marriage must be quite stable to endure the planning and building of five new homes."

Helm claims he got much satisfaction from the quality of people the company was able to hire. "We have brought young people on, trained them, and made excellent employees out of them," he says. "That meant that their families enjoyed all the benefits Appalachian offers. I am particularly impressed with

the quality of the people we have brought into division management. I'll miss my life at Appalachian but I'll miss its people even more."

During Helm's 15 years as division manager, the number of customers has grown from 84,000 to over 100,000. Also during that time six substations have been added and much of the distribution system rebuilt. "We encounter few of the problems today that we experienced some years ago during extreme hot or cold weather," he comments. "I was particularly pleased to have a part in securing \$130 million in Mason County Pollution Control Bonds for Sporn and Mountaineer Plants."

Helm admits he is looking forward to retirement, and says his first priority is to spend more time with his wife and family.

"We just want to slow the pace a bit. We want to travel in the western United States and Canada. We found Hilton Head Island before it became such a popular place. We have a timeshare there and will be spending much more time in and around the ocean. I love to golf and plan to return to trout fishing. That's the busy kind of fishing where you walk miles along beautiful streams.

"Emily and I plan to continue living right here in Huntington because we love the community. It's a university town that has everything we enjoy in the way of arts, entertainment, and sports.

"We love our church work and will be actively involved in that. I am the moderator of the Fifth Avenue Baptist Church and active in the music program there.

"Music is my hobby. We have a small instrumental group in church composed of former professional musicians. I recently bought another set of drums to play with them." Helm says he played his way through college in the VPI dance band. "We called ourselves the VPI Cavaliers and played on weekends throughout Virginia and West Virginia as well as over Christmas vacation."

Helm adds, "I love to work with my hands — appliances, automobile engines — I guess I just like to tinker. I plan to stay busy in the community because I know the value of having some structure in your life. I am still a

member of several boards. I have always felt that I am an optimist. Things will work out if you just give them half a chance."

The Helms have a son and daughter, both Virginia Tech graduates, and one grandson. Their son Jim is an employee of Indiana Michigan Power Company, where he works with trust funds to dispose of spent nuclear fuel and the eventual decommissioning of the Cook Nuclear Plant. "We talk shop every time he comes home," Helm notes. □

### Leva Smith



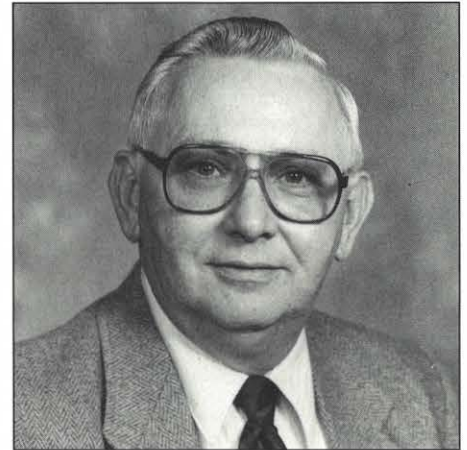
Better benefits and better pay are what attracted Leva Smith to Appalachian Power in 1970, when she joined the company as a junior clerk in Beckley. She previously had worked for the Board of Education, Department of Employment and Security, and Raleigh County Community Action. Leva was a customer services representative B when she retired on January 1 after 20 years' service.

On long term disability leave since 1985, Leva says, "I enjoyed working with the girls and think about them now and again." She adds, "The LTD benefit has definitely been a big help to me since I've been off. I don't know what I would have done without it."

Leva spends her leisure time listening to the radio, watching television, going for walks, or participating in activities at the Welcome Baptist Church. She has one son, two daughters, and ten grandchildren whom she enjoys visiting occasionally. She will continue to live in

Mullens, West Virginia. □

### Harold Garrett



"When I came to work for Appalachian in 1948 as a meter helper for \$1.03 $\frac{1}{2}$  an hour, I considered it to be an excellent job opportunity. Through 41 years of service, I found that to be true," says Madison Area Supervisor Harold Garrett.

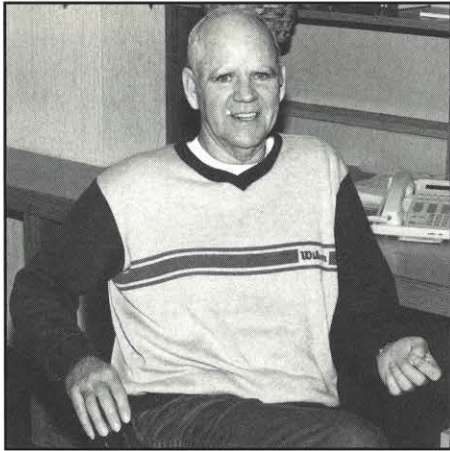
He adds, "Although I was happy to retire (on January 1), I have much regard for the power company as an employer. I made many good friends in the company while working here."

Harold continues, "Now I expect to spend much time in my woodworking shop, designing and building furniture. I enjoy going down to the sawmill and selecting rough sawn boards to process myself. It gives me much satisfaction when I complete a project.

"After my wife Jewell retires from teaching, we plan to do much traveling and hope to become snowbirds. However, we will also spend much time in this area because our three children and six grandchildren are here. I hope to find more time for fishing with the grandchildren." □

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## Chuck Hudnall



"I wanted a steady job that I could depend on, and I always heard you could depend on Appalachian. It has held true," remarked Chuck Hudnall. He was a shift operating engineer at Kanawha River Plant before electing early retirement on February 1.

Chuck continued, "I served as a combat engineer with the U. S. Army during the Korean War; and, after I got out, I worked at a service station for a while. I started to work for Sollitt Construction Company while the Kanawha River Plant was being built. I put in my application here and was hired in 1953 as a laborer."

Chuck rose through the ranks as an auxiliary equipment operator, equipment operator, unit supervisor, and assistant shift operating engineer before being promoted in 1981 to the position he held at retirement.

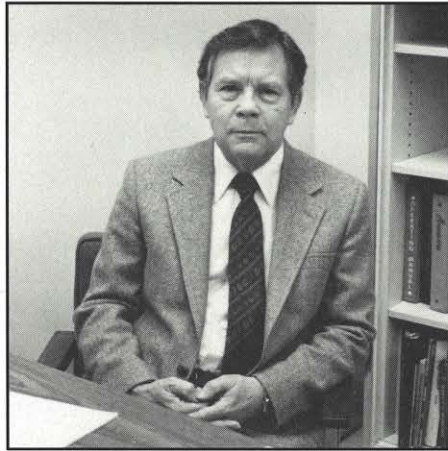
"Everybody said I was a perfectionist," Chuck said with a smile, "and I enjoyed the satisfaction of doing a good job."

Now, as he enters retirement, Chuck claims to have made very few plans. "I usually do things one day at a time. I'll just do whatever I want to do," he said.

A member of the Glasgow Nazarene Church, he enjoys hunting, fishing, bowling, and golfing. Not so widely known is Chuck's talent for needlework. One of his most prized possessions is a quilt his mother started and which he and his sister finished after his mother's death.

Chuck and his wife Victoria have one son and two grandsons. □

## R. D. Blevins



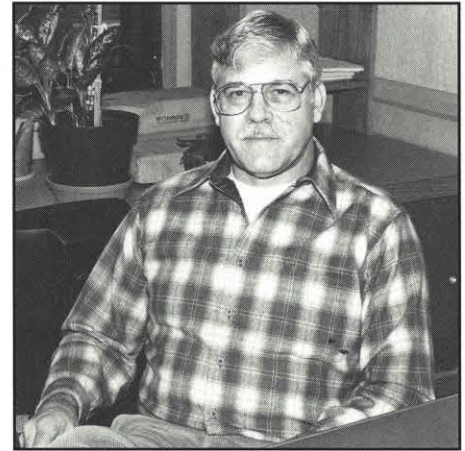
"Believe me, I'm excited about retiring. It felt good when I got up the first morning and realized I didn't have to work anymore," says R. D. Blevins. He was general line crew supervisor in Pulaski before electing early retirement on January 1 after 41 years' service.

R. D. continues, "I have enjoyed working for APCo, and I'm sure I will miss the day-to-day contact with my co-workers. I wanted to retire while I am in seemingly good health. We raised a family, educated our children and, with the retirement and 401k plans, we feel sure we will be able to continue our current standard of living."

Both of R. D.'s sons were AEP educational award winners. Doug is a doctor at Lewis-Gale Hospital in Roanoke; Jack is in the landscape architecture business in the Washington, D. C., area.

R. D. adds, "Much of my time will be spent maintaining our home, yard, and garden. I have several interests and hobbies that should make my retirement enjoyable. I am an avid ham radio and slow scan TV operator and enjoy my woodworking shop. My wife and I are members of the Turn-N-Q Square Dance Club and have square danced for more than 30 years. We plan to continue these activities. We also plan to do some traveling across the U. S. and hopefully take a trip or two abroad. We may spend a couple of cold months each year somewhere in the south, but we have no intention of leaving this area." □

## Woodrow McClung



Soon after his discharge from the Army in 1953 after service in the Korean War, Woodrow McClung landed a temporary job as an elevator guard at the Kanawha River Plant. "The elevators had just been put in," he recalls, "and they had three shifts of guards. I was laid off temporarily but was called back in March 1954 as a laborer."

Woodrow, a maintenance supervisor, elected early retirement on February 1 after nearly 36 years' service. He says, "I've had a steady job and paycheck ever since I've been here. It helped me educate three children, so the security meant a lot to me."

Woodrow continues, "I was a machinist for several years and enjoyed that more than anything I ever did. It kept me busy. For a long, long time I was the only one in the shop so I did just about all the machine work. When jobs got slack it made me nervous because I wanted plenty of work."

Woodrow concludes, "I really hadn't thought too much about retiring; but, after I became eligible, I thought it would be good to go while I still have my health and several things I want to do. I have some property in Nicholas County, and maybe I'll build a house and a farm pond. It's some place to keep me busy. My wife works for the Board of Education so we're not going anywhere until she's vested in a couple more years."

Woodrow and his wife Leora have two sons, one daughter, and one granddaughter. □

## Bud Perdue



"For 35 years I have tried to get out of the customer accounts section, and I finally made it. I always knew I either would have to retire or die to get out so, thankfully, the retirement came first," jokes Bud Perdue. He was customer services office supervisor in Bluefield before electing early retirement on February 1.

Bud reflects, "Seriously, you just don't walk away after 35 years without some hesitation. I may be the most unhappy person in the world, but I'll sure give it my best shot. I think I'll make it." He adds, "The savings plan is the best thing that ever happened to this company. If it weren't for that, I would have to work until I was 75!"

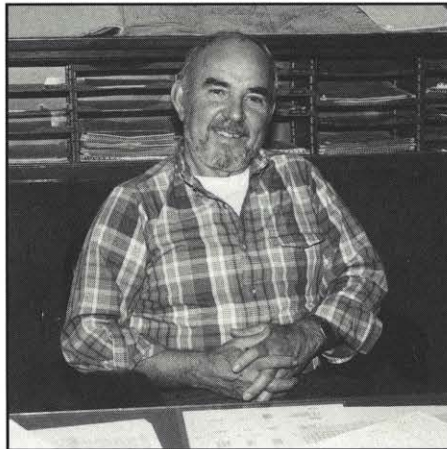
Bud says he always enjoyed working with customers and had many interesting experiences during his career. "I remember one incident which occurred when Jeff Gillespie sent me to work a damage claim," he recalls. "One of our meter readers had run over a dog, and Jeff wanted me to talk to the customer. I did and felt real good about it until I ran over one of her chickens as I was leaving. I went back up to the house and told her I had a real hankering for chicken and asked her how much she would charge me for one. When she replied, 'Oh, a dollar I guess,' I said, 'Here's a dollar for your chicken and another dollar to get your grandson to bury it!'"

Bud and his wife Nell expect to head south to get away from the snow. "If I have to go all the way to Key West to get warm, I will," he says. "In March we're

going to Missouri and bring back a new pontoon. We have a trailer at Claytor Lake and, for the past 25 years, have spent our summers there."

An Air Force veteran, Bud has three sons, two daughters, and three grandchildren. □

## John Scott



"I have been saying for years that I would like to retire when I reached 60, and I'm going to do it," says John Scott, Bluefield line crew supervisor. He elected early retirement on February 1 after 35 years' service.

John first went to work for Appalachian in 1948. "I worked three years for the power company and then left to go to work for the railroad because there was a little bit more money involved. I soon realized that was a mistake. In 1954 I came back as a rodman.

"I worked two years in the survey crew, and that was hard work. You cut brush from the time you started until you quit. I have been in the line department since 1957 and since then it seems like I have worked on just about every line. I have enjoyed my whole career with the company," John notes. "There have been a lot of experiences, and I have gained a lot of knowledge.

"When my wife Mary Ruth quits work, we'd like to do some traveling to see some of the things we haven't seen before. I'd also like to go to a warmer climate because it seems like the winters get colder every year.

"I guess hunting will take up the biggest part of my time. I enjoy any kind of hunting and hunt in eastern Virginia a

lot. I have two real good coon hounds and have a puppy to train. When it's pretty, I will be outside. When it's bad, I enjoy tinkering around in the kitchen." □

## Clyde Welch



"I worked 70 hours a week at a service station before I got a job with the power company in 1955," recalls Clyde Welch. "Having to work only five days a week and getting paid holidays, I thought I had died and gone to heaven."

Clyde started as a clerk-typist in Welch and held several positions there before moving to Bluefield in 1967 as head T&D clerk. He was records supervisor in Bluefield before electing early retirement on February 1.

"As a whole, Appalachian was a very good company to work for," Clyde states. "I have enjoyed working with all the people who have come and gone over the past 34 years. Records is a job that is never done and never gets boring. There is always something to do.

"However, we have been thinking about early retirement for a long time. I wanted to get out while my health is decent and get to do a few things. We want to travel some, and I want to get back into woodworking, which I haven't done in a long time. I bowl and always have a garden in the summer."

Clyde and his wife Peggy have one son, one daughter, and two grandsons. □

## Bill McKinney



The day of his *Illuminator* interview, Bill McKinney was loading the car for a trip to Florida with his wife Dorcie. "We have a place down there," he said, "and we're going to raise oranges while everybody else is cold! In fact, this is the first Christmas we have been here in 26 years. Now that we're free, we will go just as the good Lord moves us." Bill was chief electrical construction, GO Hydro, Marmet, before electing early retirement on January 1. Dorcie, a third grade teacher for 27 years, also retired the first of the year.

The son of C. A. McKinney, a veteran of over 40 years with Kentucky Power, Bill jokes that he was born in the lot at Betsy Layne Station. "My dad was station supervisor then," he explains, "and we lived in a company house there. I was raised in the power company."

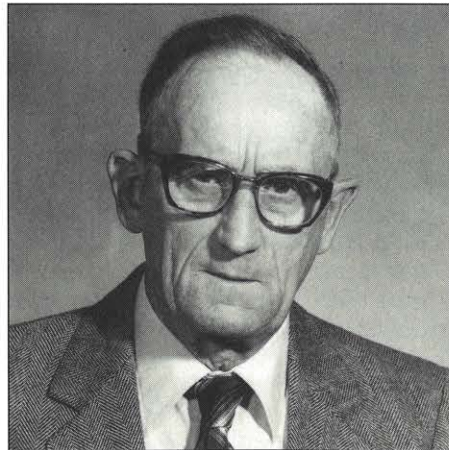
Bill worked as a PBX operator in Pikeville while going to college, then went to Ashland and started out in the old bull gang in the line crew. From there he went to Big Sandy Plant as a control technician, helping to start up the first 800 mw unit in the AEP System. After transferring to the AEP Service Corporation Construction Division, he was involved in numerous projects at various places around the System: Gavin Plant, Amos Plant, Muskingum 5, Racine Hydro, Rockport Plant, Conesville Plant, Winfield Hydro, Tidd Plant, London Hydro, Twin Branch Plant, and Clifty Creek Plant.

"I really enjoyed my work," Bill stated. "It was always something different, and usually I was working with new equip-

ment. I never stopped learning."

There have been a lot of miles over the road, as Bill puts it, and traveling will continue to be a part of his retirement years. The McKinneys live in Ashland, Kentucky, and have one son at Paducah, KY, and one in Massachusetts. "We'll do some running back and forth to see them," he said, "and one of these days we'll probably go out west. We like to fish," he added, "and the fellows got me a fish finder." Bill, a deacon at Central Baptist Church in Ashland, also likes to read and study quite a bit. □

## George White



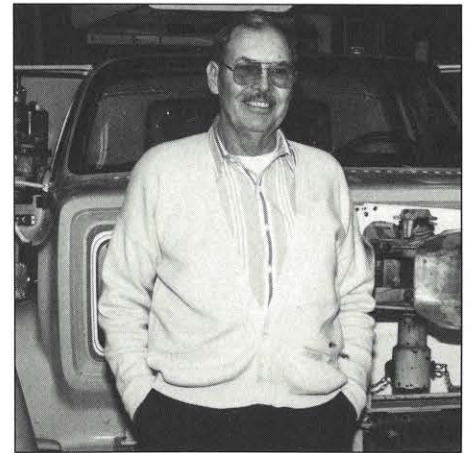
"I've been very fortunate," claims George White. "I've had steady employment for 42 years. During that time I lost only eight hours' work." An assistant shift operating engineer at Philip Sporn Plant, he retired on February 1.

George began his career as a laborer at Ohio Power's Philo Plant and, when a layoff occurred there, came to Sporn in 1960. "I sure appreciated getting the job at the time," he says. "It has been an extra good place to work, and working with all the men has been enjoyable."

George expects to take retirement day by day. "We'll probably do some traveling, and I garden in the summer. We have one daughter, who lives in Kansas, and two sons in Ohio. We also have five grandchildren and one great-grandchild."

A Navy veteran of World War II, he attends the Hemlock Grove (Ohio) Church of Christ. The Whites will continue to live in Pomeroy. □

## Sam Dunn



Sam Dunn, St. Albans line crew supervisor, retired on February 1 after 43 years' service. "I've enjoyed it," he says. "I've always worked with real good people, and I liked being outdoors."

Sam began his career in 1947 as a laborer in Charleston and transferred to Nitro three months later. He returned to Charleston in 1956 and moved to St. Albans in 1965.

"When I started to work," he recalls, "most everything was done by hand. When I was coming up through the ranks, we spent probably six weeks in the Spring patrolling the subtransmission lines by foot. Then we'd spend the rest of the year repairing them. Most of the time it was carry in equipment and climb towers. We had a lot of 15-hour days because we did our traveling before daylight and after dark."

Sam plans to continue his community activities during retirement. He twice has served as president of the Nitro Lions Club and is a 32nd degree Mason, a Shriner, and member of the Scottish Rite. He attends St. Paul's United Methodist Church in Nitro. His hobbies include working on small engines and woodworking.

"We have three children, two in this area and one in Florida, as well as six grandchildren," Sam says. "We'll travel back and forth to visit them, and we may possibly go to Hawaii. That was my home port for a while when I was in the Navy." □

## Gordon Lipscomb



"Until I went to work for Appalachian in April 1966, I worked for AEP through a contractor," recalls Gordon Lipscomb. "I was at Leesville for two years and Smith Mountain for four years. Actually I left Smith Mountain and went right to work for Appalachian in the control wiring section. The only difference was in the color of my paycheck. I was fortunate that I went right into a section where I already knew the people. It was a pleasant relationship and has been for 23 years." Gordon was a control electrician A in GO T&D Relay, Huntington, when he retired on February 1.

Gordon continues, "The worst part of the job was having to travel a lot because we worked all over Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky and Kingsport, Tennessee. The work was always interesting, and I met a lot of people. Even though I'm looking forward to retirement, I'll miss the people."

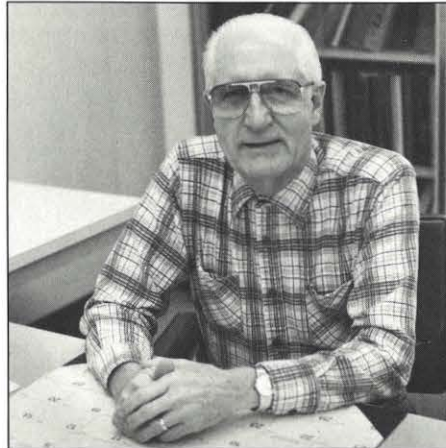
Gordon adds, "My wife Ethel works for Marshall University, and she'll probably stay two or three more years so I'm going to put the apron on. I told her I would have supper on the table when she comes home. We have a son who lives in Georgia and a daughter who lives just five miles from us. I'm sure we won't go anywhere as long as she's still living in Huntington."

Gordon says that sports take up a big part of his life. "My main hobby is playing golf, but I want to do a whole lot more fishing now. I also enjoy football and basketball games, and I read a lot."

An Air Force veteran of World War II,

Gordon belongs to the Elks Club and Riviera Golf Club. □

## Jim Hughes



"When I finished college, Appalachian interviewed about 20 of us and hired three. I am the only one who is still with the power company," says Jim Hughes. A relay engineer senior in GO T&D Relay, Huntington, Jim retired on February 1 after 42 years' service.

"I've enjoyed it," Jim claims, "but I'm anxious to retire because I have been at it for so long. I've had a lot of good times working with the fellows. They've been a real good group."

Jim began his career in Beckley, then worked in GO T&D, Charleston, before opening up the Relay office in Huntington. "I've worked at stations and power plants," he notes. "I was head of the checkout of Amos Plant and spent four and a half years down there. That was very interesting and educational, and I met a lot of nice people. Then I checked out the precipitators at Sporn and Kanawha River."

Jim and his wife Alma Lee expect to travel some during retirement. "We like to take bus trips," he says. "And we're going to Florida this winter for about a month. We have two sons, one in Logan and one in Atlanta, and we'll be visiting them and our five grandchildren."

Jim's hobbies are hunting, fishing, and amateur radio. "I have a lot of repair work to do around the house," he says, "and in the summer I'll be gardening. We attend the Baptist Temple in Huntington regularly." □

## Bill Sheaff



When Bill Sheaff took up the watchmaker trade, he never dreamed that it would lead to a career at Appalachian Power. "I used to have a jewelry store in Roanoke," Bill recalls, "and one day O. P. Cornelison (now retired) told me that Appalachian was losing a watchmaker in Charleston and asked if I would be interested in coming to work. Before I knew it, I was on my way to Charleston. I stayed over there just two weeks before the department moved back to Roanoke."

Bill, a meter electrician A in GO T&D Meter, retired on February 1 after 34 years' service. He worked in the Meter and Stores building in the new John W. Vaughan Center, testing instruments for the entire Appalachian Power System.

Bill's retirement plans include traveling and a continuation of church and civic activities. "In May, I'll be bowling in the National Bowling Tourney at Reno, Nevada. We have a Caribbean cruise lined up for July. We have traveled just about all over Europe so now we want to see more of this country."

Bill is a member of the board and chairman of the usher committee at Thrasher Memorial Methodist Church in Vinton. He also is a member of the Masonic Lodge, VFW, and Lions Club of Vinton. "I think I'll stay busy," he declares. "Since I am a watchmaker, I have plenty of clocks to work on."

An Army veteran of World War II, Bill and his wife Jacqueline have one son, two granddaughters, and one grandson. □

## Jim Farmer



"I've never had a job at Appalachian that I didn't enjoy," claims Jim Farmer, who retired February 1 as customer accounting supervisor, GO Accounting, Roanoke.

"I worked for Appalachian about two and a half years, then left when I was offered a job as a door-to-door milkman at twice the salary. I hated to leave, but I had just gotten married and needed the money. I was gone five years and finally Mac McMahan, district manager then, asked if I wanted to come back. The only job open was auto repair helper, and I jumped at the chance. I washed cars, swept floors in the garage, and pumped gas. Then I became a meter reader and probably enjoyed that more than anything else I ever did because I met so many people. In those days, people would have a bushel of green beans, tomatoes, or other vegetables setting on their porches for me. Even though we weren't supposed to take things, you had to because people would get insulted if you didn't. When I went home, I shared with everybody," Jim recalls.

"Eventually I did relief work in the office, and everybody began to teach me. I did every clerk job in the field office before working my way up to accounting supervisor. I transferred to Roanoke in 1972 and took this job in 1981."

Jim adds, "I'll never be able to repay the people who have done so much for me. Somehow throughout my career I have always received so much more than I have been able to give."

Jim concludes, "I think retirement will be interesting, and I'm looking forward to it. We're going to visit our daughter in Arizona sometime in February or March, then go on to California and Mexico. We also want to visit the New England states and Canada. We want to get involved in a walking club, and I may get back into coaching sandlot sports again. I like to hunt and fish and will continue to be active in the Windsor Hills Baptist Church." The Farmers have one son, four daughters, and three grandchildren. □

## Mary Taylor



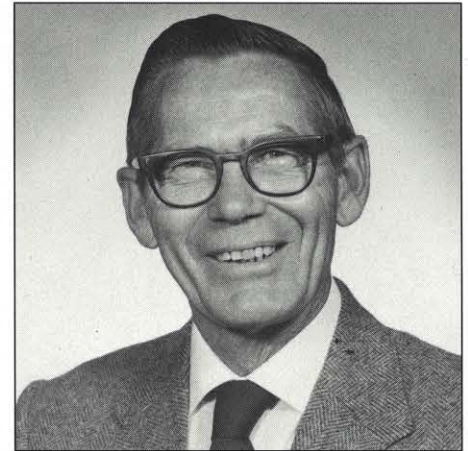
"I'm looking forward to a slower pace," admits Mary Taylor, Oak Hill customer services representative A, who elected early retirement on February 1.

"I've worked since I was 16, including 20 years for West Virginia Water and 22 years for Appalachian," Mary says. "My husband has been retired for three years, and that is one of the reasons I'm going. Working with the public was not the very best of jobs, but Appalachian is a good dependable company with good benefits."

She adds, "I've run all my life so now I plan on doing nothing. We have a son and daughter, both married, who live close by so we don't plan on leaving. I have my mother to look out for, too."

Mary concludes, "I used to sew, but other than that I have no hobbies. One of these days I would like to learn to play the piano, and my husband and I hope to travel at least once a year. We enjoy taking bus tours and would like to go out West." The Taylors attend Oak Hill Catholic Church. □

## Jim Kirby



"There have been some trying times but a lot of fun times, too," says Beckley Service Supervisor Jim Kirby, who elected early retirement on February 1. "I think the company really gave me an education."

He continues, "I'm looking forward to retirement, but I hate to leave the people I've worked with. I appreciate those who worked for me and those I worked with. Without good people, you don't do a good job. I don't think there is one of them who wouldn't do something for me if I asked."

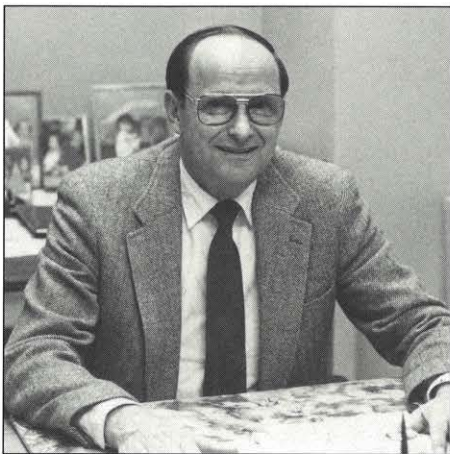
"I have relied on a lot on people I know throughout the company. It is awful nice, when you get into a predicament, to know you can call someone in another division or the General Office and get his ideas before you make up your mind on something you need to do. I think there is nobody like John Bostian in GO T&D Meter, Roanoke. He has been a big help to me."

Jim adds, "Most people I dealt with have been real nice. Our electrical and building contractors know me pretty well and know I will help them. I like to think I have their respect."

Next winter, Jim says, he and his wife Mary will probably spend some of the winter months in Florida. "This summer we're going to go across the Blue Ridge from one end to the other and visit some state parks we haven't been to. Between us we have 8 children and 12 grandchildren scattered all over the country, and we'll spend some time with them. I also plan to spend some time playing golf, hunting, and fishing." □



## Ernie Bevins



"I really wasn't looking for work when I put in an application at Appalachian back in 1946," Ernie Bevins confesses. "I had several attacks of malaria after getting out of the service following World War II and wasn't able to do much. But a friend asked me to come with him to put in an application, so I did. As it turned out, I got hired and he didn't." Ernie began his career as a meter reader and rose through the ranks as a collector, personnel clerk, assistant credit supervisor, utility clerk senior, and customer accounts supervisor before being named division accounting supervisor in 1968. He retired on February 1 after more than 43 years' service.

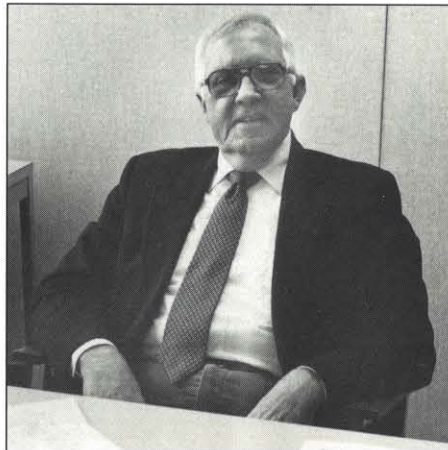
"The most enjoyable part of my job was being involved in the changes which took place over the years," he says. "When I started, the billing was done manually — in Huntington for this area, and we've gone through different stages of the computer. All of the changes enabled us to better serve our customers.

"I don't have a lot of plans for retirement," Ernie claims. "However, I'm an avid gardener and will devote time to that. I also want to be a VITA volunteer, answering questions and helping prepare basic tax returns for the low income, handicapped, non-English speaking taxpayers and others who need assistance."

Ernie and his wife Ilene attend the First Presbyterian Church, where he sings in the choir. They have two sons and two granddaughters. "Logan will con-

tinue to be our home, particularly as long as those two granddaughters are nearby," Ernie concludes. □

## Hank Colwell



"Like most fellows my age," says Hank Colwell, "I was in the Army during World War II. To make my life complete, I was a prisoner of war for seven months. I was captured by the Germans and liberated by the Russians right at the tail end of the war. A group of us took off from camp after we were liberated and walked to the Elbe River where the English were. While I was overseas, I had the honor of meeting General Eisenhower.

"After the war, I went to Penn State and graduated from Ohio State. I managed a 2,000-acre rubber plantation in Africa for Firestone Rubber, then practiced forestry in the Douglas Fir area of the northwest in the State of Washington. After that I came back east in northern hardwoods forest management. I worked for Monogahela Power for three years before Appalachian called," Hank relates. He was forestry control and utilization superintendent in GO T&D Forestry, Roanoke, before retiring on February 1.

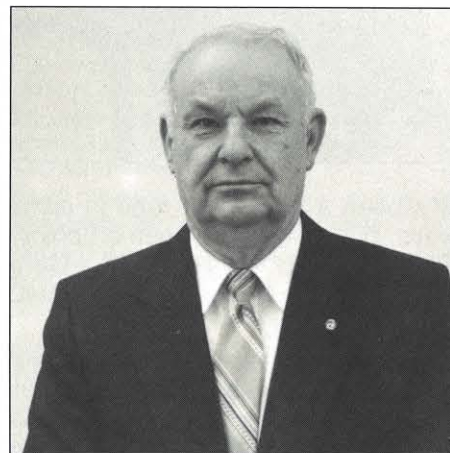
"It's been a good 20 years," Hank states. "I didn't get accomplished everything I would have liked to, but we made a lot of progress.

"Although I've never really anticipated retirement, I'm looking forward to it. I have some things to do in the basement and have planned that everything will be fixed by the time the weather breaks. We plan an extended motor

trip to the central and western United States in late spring. I enjoy refinishing furniture and doing yard work. When Orvis came to town, I got myself a rod and reel and started trout fishing again."

The Colwells have a son, daughter, and four grandchildren. "Our daughter lives in Richmond," he says, "so we'll be visiting there some." □

## Chester Elkins



"I am a lucky person to have a job as long as I have," says Chester Elkins about his nearly 43 years at Appalachian. He was building supervisor in Logan-Williamson Division before electing early retirement on February 1.

Chester continues, "I thank the good Lord for giving me the opportunity to work for a place like this. It enabled me to care for my family and get four daughters through college, and I really appreciate it."

He adds, "I've always had top notch supervisors ever since I came here. I can't say enough about the people I made contact with through the years. They've been wonderful.

"Now," Chester claims, "I'm going to take things a day at a time. My wife Annabelle and I will spend at least the next two years in Chapmanville while our youngest daughter finishes school. I'll play golf, fish, and work on the house — just whatever comes. We want to visit my brothers and sisters, who are scattered across the country."

Chester is currently president of the Kiwanis Club and a deacon, trustee, and treasurer of his church. □

## Bud Steffey



"It's been a long, hard road in some ways, but all in all it's been an enjoyable 36 years," says Clintwood General Servicer Bud Steffey, who elected early retirement on February 1.

He continues, "I started with a floating crew out of Bluefield, and they paid us so much a month plus board. You had to be half mule, half man back then to stand it. I have always liked line work and trouble shooting; and, even though I had to work in all kinds of weather, I would rather work outside than anywhere else."

Bud adds, "What I will miss most are the thousands of friends I have made for myself and the company in the three counties I covered — Dickenson, Wise and Buchanan. I know most of the folks by first name. I'll miss the boys, too, but I can see them because we'll continue to live in Clintwood.

"My wife Mozelle has been a part of the power company all these years too," Bud claims. "She worked as a cashier here when we got married, and she's taken many calls for me over the years. A lot of people called me at home because they knew me."

Bud adds, "I'm proud of my safety record — 34 years without an accident." He's also proud that he turned down overtime only twice during his career. "That's because I was so sick I couldn't hold my head up," he recalls.

"I have never had time for hobbies until now. My two sons have bought me a lot of power tools, and retirement will give me an opportunity to use them. I might even take up golf with my brother. If I

get time, I'd like to see the 35 states I haven't been in." □

## Allen Saunders



"The company was good to me all the time I was here," says Allen Saunders. He was a maintenance mechanic A at John Amos Plant before electing early retirement on February 1.

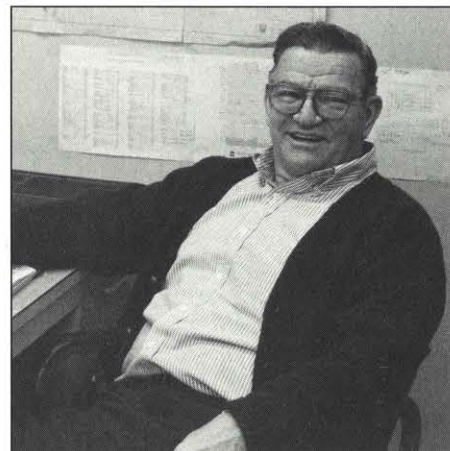
Allen joined Appalachian in 1972 after being laid off from his job at Union Carbide. "I'm thankful I worked here 18 years without a disabling injury," he adds.

"I've bought an RV and I'm ready to travel. I'll be hunting, fishing, and traveling back and forth to Florida. When I'm not doing that, I have a 41-acre farm at Liberty, West Virginia, which will keep me busy.

"I'm planning on going to Florida in mid-February and stay until April so it will be warm when I get back. While I'm there, I'm planning on fishing in the ocean a fair time. Around here, I do a lot of bass and trout fishing. I hunt quite a bit, too."

An Army veteran, Allen and his wife Lilly have two daughters and four grandchildren. They attend the UBI Independent Church in Redhouse, WV. □

## Alvie Napier



"I have always enjoyed my work, from the time I was a helper at Logan Plant until now," claims Amos Plant Maintenance Supervisor Alvie Napier, who elected early retirement on February 1.

He adds, "I went in the Navy when I was 15 and started to work for the power company at the age of 17. My oldest brother, Orville, worked at Logan Plant and helped me get on."

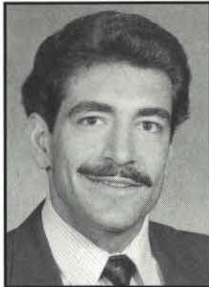
Alvie says, "I have been affiliated with a lot of good people over the years. I trained under Joe Pearl, and Jim Warner was my first electrical supervisor. John Patterson was manager when I went to Clinch River, and I also worked for Bill Robinson down there. I can't name them all, but some others who come to mind are Nick Roomy, Bob Herndon, and Bill Sheets. John Larew, to me, is one of the finest people this company has ever had. I enjoyed working with them all, and they will be in my memory the rest of my life. The power company is the best place in the world to work as far as I am concerned."

Alvie and his wife Dolly plan a car trip this summer and a Caribbean cruise in the fall. "We'll try to enjoy life a little bit," he says.

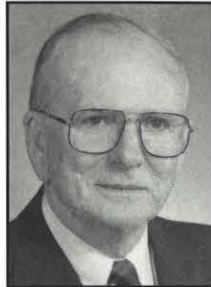
Alvie sings in the choir at the First Baptist Church of Hurricane. "My wife has started buying me some wood-working tools, and I'm going to try my hand at that," he says. "I think I'll enjoy it."

The Napiers have one son and one granddaughter, who they plan to visit often. □

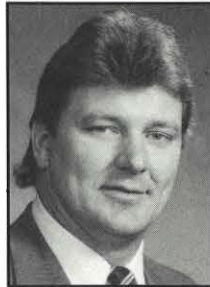
# Promotions



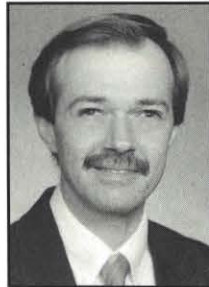
Jackson



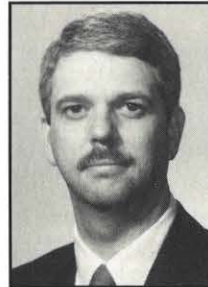
Ferguson



Simpkins



Huff



Zickafoose

**Larry E. Jackson**, energy services coordinator, GO Marketing and Customer Services, Roanoke, is being promoted to Lynchburg marketing and customer services manager, effective March 1. He holds a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering from West Virginia University and is a registered professional engineer in Florida, Virginia, and West Virginia.

**William H. Ferguson, Jr.**, energy services engineer, was promoted to power engineer in Abingdon on January 1. He attended Lincoln Memorial College and the University of Tennessee.

**Mac Simpkins**, line mechanic A, was promoted to line crew supervisor NE in Bluefield on December 9.

**Carl P. Huff**, engineering technician senior, GO T&D Meter, Roanoke, was promoted to computer graphics supervisor, GO T&D Engineering Graphics, Roanoke, on November 16. He holds an associate in applied science degree in electrical engineering from Virginia Western Community College.

**John G. Zickafoose**, maintenance engineer senior, was promoted to plant engineer at John Amos Plant on December 1. He holds an associate of science degree in mechanical engineering technology and a bachelor of science degree in mechanical engineering from the West Virginia Institute of Technology.

## Abingdon

**P. J. Jones** from engineering technician to engineering technician senior, Gate City.

**R. B. Vanhuss** from line mechanic A to general servicer, Clintwood.

## Beckley

**Leon Lilly** from line mechanic D to line mechanic C.

**Elizabeth Nixon** from customer services repre-

sentative C to customer services representative B.

**Michele Mooney** from customer services representative D to customer services representative C, Oak Hill.

## Bluefield

**Carmen Stuart** from junior clerk to human resources clerk C.

**Michele Damewood** from office messenger to T&D clerk C.

**Donnie Bailey** from line mechanic B to line mechanic A.

## Central Machine Shop

**Ken Thomas** from winder 3rd class to winder 2nd class.

**Jim Imel** from winder 3rd class to winder 2nd class.

**Gerald Garbin** from winder 3rd class to winder 2nd class.

**Lenny Haberbosch** from winder 3rd class to winder 2nd class.

**Dan Bilak** from winder 3rd class to winder 2nd class.

## Centralized Plant Maintenance

**D. G. Neigler** from maintenance mechanic B to maintenance mechanic A.

**L. A. Davison** from maintenance mechanic B to maintenance mechanic A.

**E. G. Rawson** from maintenance mechanic B to maintenance mechanic A.

**B. A. Stewart** from maintenance mechanic B to maintenance mechanic A.

**D. L. Downey** from maintenance mechanic B to maintenance mechanic A.

**D. K. Beckett** from maintenance mechanic B to maintenance mechanic A.

## Charleston

**Greg Hansha** from line mechanic C to line mechanic B.

**Rob Johnson** from engineering technician to engineering technician senior.

## General Office

**René Kendrick** from data entry operator to intermediate data entry operator, GO Accounting, Roanoke.

**Robert Blackburn, Jr.** from transmission mechanic C to transmission mechanic B, GO T&D Transmission, Bluefield.

**Randolph Jones** from transmission station mechanic B to transmission station mechanic A, GO T&D Station, Marmet.

**Garry Simmons** from staff accountant to tax accountant, GO Accounting, Roanoke.

**Steven Taylor** from control technician senior, Amos Plant, to simulator computer specialist, GO Plant Operator Training, Amos.

## Glen Lyn

**Timothy Butler** from utility worker B to utility worker A.

**Dennis Fox** from utility worker B to utility worker A.

## Huntington

**Veisa Ross** from junior clerk to T&D clerk C.

**Jack Preece** from line mechanic B to line mechanic A.

**Terry Adkins** from line mechanic C to line mechanic B.

**Judy Combs** from junior stenographer to stenographer.

## Mountaineer

**Frank Gilkey** from maintenance mechanic B to maintenance mechanic A.

## Pulaski

**Jeff Worrell** from engineering technician senior to engineering technologist.

## Roanoke

**Randolph Keys** from line mechanic C to line mechanic B, Fieldale.

**Phillip Farmer** from line mechanic D to line mechanic C.

**Garry Rogers** from line mechanic B to line mechanic A, Fieldale.

## Philip Sporn

**Richard Sanders** from tripper operator to tractor operator.

**Charles Howard** from tractor operator to harbor boat operator. □

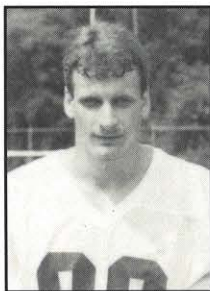
# Who's News

## Abingdon

Katie, daughter of Ron Rose, T&D clerk A, won first place in the Abingdon Parks and Recreation Department's "Guess the Lights" contest. She is a first grader at Abingdon Elementary School.

John Blankenship, station mechanic A, was elected president of the Abingdon Lions Club for 1989-90. He also is zone chairman for District 24-F. □

## John Amos



The American Football Coaches Association has named **Phil Hudson** to the Kodak All-America team for College Division I, which includes NCAA Division II and NAIA Division I. The 6-2, 195-pound senior

from Hurricane set school records for receptions (71), receiving yards (1,151), and touchdown receptions (18). The 18 TD catches led the NAIA. An all-West Virginia Conference pick, Phil was the only conference player named to the team. He ranked second in the NAIA in receiving and fourth in scoring. Phil is the son of Nancy Noffsinger, plant clerk A, and Howard Noffsinger, maintenance mechanic A. □

## Bluefield

**Danny Neeley**, marketing and customer services advisor, was elected treasurer of the Grundy Rotary Club for 1990.

Officers of the Bluefield Girls' Service Club for 1990 were installed at the group's annual Christmas luncheon. They are: **Teresa Belcher**, GO T&D Transmission stenographer, president; **Carmen Stuart**, human resources clerk C, vice president; **Beth Martin**, GO T&D Transmission junior clerk, secretary; and **Sheila Cline**, meter clerk C, treasurer. □

## Farmer named Lion of the Year



Jim Farmer, Lebanon area supervisor (left), was named Lion of the Year by the Lebanon Lions Club. He is being congratulated by Lions President A. C. Wilson (right).

## Huntington retirees organize



Retirees of Appalachian Power and the American Electric Power Service Corporation, located in the Huntington area, have formed an association known as the APCo Vets. Officers are, front row, l. to r., Ed Yeager, board member; Troy Hatfield, vice president; Richard Smith, president; and Richard Gibson, board member. Back row, l. to r., Sue Schwartz, treasurer; Alberta Lunsford, board member; Dorcas Moncer, secretary; and Sylbia Hinchman, board member. Not pictured is Virginia Oakley, treasurer.

## Clinch River



Lori, daughter of Terry Saddler, maintenance mechanic A, is the recipient of the Charles McFarlane Academic Achievement Memorial Award. The award is presented each year to the seventh grade student at Castlewood with the highest academic average for grades K-7. □

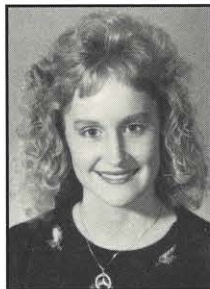
## General Office

Paul, son of George Laurey, accounting manager, GO Accounting, Roanoke, received the Billy Mitchell Award from the national headquarters of the Civil Air Patrol upon his promotion to flight officer in the Roanoke Composite Squadron of the CAP. He is a freshman at the Governor's School for Science and Technology and Patrick Henry High School.

A. C. Channaiah, distribution staff engineer, GO T&D Engineering, Roanoke, has been elected chairperson for the Advisory Council for Gifted Education for the Roanoke County School System. He served as vice chairperson during the 1988-89 school year. □

## Huntington

Steve Carpenter, Point Pleasant area manager, was elected president of the Point Pleasant Rotary Club.



Lenore Bush won a trip to the Citizenship Washington Focus, Washington, D.C., in July, where she will receive the Ralph Hayes Memorial Award, a \$40 scholarship. The award is presented to the two high

scoring senior public speakers from either the national awards or the non-national awards section of state 4-H Days of the previous year. Lenore last year won the public speaking contest at the 4-H County Roundup and then

participated in 4-H Days at Jackson's Mill. A junior at Buffalo High School, she is the daughter of Jim Bush, Ripley line crew supervisor. Lenore, the only representative from Putnam County, will be part of the West Virginia delegation of approximately 35 students. □

## Philip Sporn

Yvonne Swisher and Paula Brooker have successfully completed the written exam sponsored by the American Medical Record Association, a two-year medical technology program. They are now designated as accredited record technicians (ART). Yvonne is the wife of Carl Swisher, equipment operator B. Paula is the wife of Pete Brooker, control technician. □

## Logan-Williamson

David Stillwell, power engineer, was elected president of Pride, Inc. □

## Pulaski

Eric, son of Meter Reader Harry Hubble, is a member of the Christiansburg High School cross country team which won the Group AA state championship at Charlottesville. □

## Lynchburg

Kaye Mitchell, station mechanic B, and Karen Kennedy, department assistant-marketing and customer services, were members of the Monte Carlo women's softball team which won the Class C state championship. □

## Roanoke

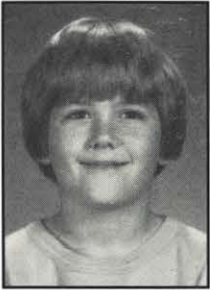
Rob Glenn, marketing and customer services manager, will chair the marketing committee of the Roanoke Valley Home Builders Association. He has been a member of the Association's board of directors for two years. □

## Food baskets for the needy



For the second consecutive year, Princeton employees prepared and delivered Christmas food baskets to needy families in the area. Employees donated food or money for gifts, which were used to fill the baskets painted and decorated by Mary Lou Rice. Pictured with the five baskets prepared are, l. to r., Jackie Houston, customer services representative A; Sherri Shrewsbury, customer services representative B; Debbie Moye, customer services representative B; Sherry Barker, customer services representative C; and Mary Lou Rice, customer services representative B.

## Mountaineer



Richard Grant Shaddeau, Jr., a fourth grader at Addaville Elementary School, is a participant in the Ohio Talented and Gifted (TAG) Resource Program. The son of Rick Shaddeau, equipment operator C, he

attends Buckeye Hills Career Center one day a week.



Kyle Roach, left, and John Hartman were members of the undefeated soccer team in the Point Pleasant Youth Soccer League. The team was coached by Sam Hartman, human resources supervisor. Kyle is the son of Ed Roach, control technician, and John is the son of Sam Hartman. □

## Beckley

Trena Griffith, customer services representative B, raised \$266 for the West Virginia Lung Association while participating in a three-hour aerobic marathon sponsored by Fitness Concepts Health Club. For her participation, Trena received a three-day trip to Silver Creek Ski Resort and a \$150 gift certificate from a local jewelry store.

Louise Humphries and her bowling partner captured the doubles championship in the Beckley Women's Bowling Association 41st annual city tournament. She is the widow of the late Tom Humphries, former energy services engineer. □

## Bluefield golf winners



Bluefield Division's annual fall employee/guest golf tournament was held at the Wolf Creek Golf and Country Club, Bastian, Virginia. The winners were: (kneeling, l. to r.) Dick Bowman, administrative assistant A, first place, third flight; and Bob Edwards, engineering technician senior, third place, first flight. (Standing, l. to r.) Rick Streeter, GO transmission mechanic A, second place, third flight; Robert Gruver, stores assistant, first place, first flight; and John Davidson, records supervisor, third place, second flight. Not pictured are Buck Branscome, line crew supervisor NE, first place, second flight; and Bob Crowder, retired area servicer, second place, second flight.

## Hunters

(continued from page 23)

**Mike Duffy**, station crew supervisor NE, 100-lb., 4-pt. buck and 8-lb. turkey hen.

**M. R. Prillaman**, station crew supervisor NE, 120-lb., 7-pt. buck and 100-lb., 3-pt. buck.

**Mike Lugar**, station mechanic A, 80-lb. doe.

**Dale Ridgeway**, station mechanic B, 10-lb. and 11-lb. turkeys.

**Glenn Mullins**, station mechanic A, 140-lb., 8-pt. buck.

**Garry Bowles**, station mechanic C, 120-lb., 7-pt. buck.

**Leon Woods**, meter electrician A, 119-lb., 8-pt. buck and 101-lb., 6-pt. buck.

**Gary Williams**, meter reader, 9-pt. buck and turkey.

**Wayne Bowling**, Rocky Mount line crew supervisor, 125-lb., 7-pt. buck and turkey.

**Frank Nichols, Jr.**, Rocky Mount line mechanic A, 150-lb., 4-pt. buck and two turkeys.

**Todd Hancock**, Rocky Mount engineering technician, 125-lb., 8-pt. buck and 100-lb. doe.

**Sam Robinson**, Rocky Mount line crew supervisor, 115-lb., 5-pt. buck.

**Keith Robinson**, son of Sam Robinson, 120-lb. spike buck and 75-lb. doe.

**W. B. Thurman, Jr.**, line mechanic C, 18-lb. turkey.

**H. J. Berger**, line crew supervisor, 8-pt. and 5-pt. bucks and turkey.

### Philip Sporn

**Tony Roach**, maintenance mechanic A, 6-pt. buck (bow); 8-pt. buck and 6-pt. buck. □

# Hunters Score

## Abingdon

Kent Lambert, Lebanon line mechanic A, 175-lb., 8-pt. buck (70-lb. compound bow).

## John Amos

Robert Watters, utility worker, 120-lb., 6-pt. buck.

Donald Stanley, utility worker, 125-lb., 5-pt. buck.

Carl Cunningham, utility worker, 100-lb. spike buck.

Daniel Smith, utility worker, 165-lb., 8-pt. buck.

Roger Riley, utility worker, 120-lb. spike buck.

P. W. Hall, unit supervisor, 140-lb., 4-pt. buck.

C. R. Swisher, equipment operator B, 140-lb., 6-pt. buck and 100-lb. doe.

Greg Martin, performance technician senior, 148-lb., 9-pt. buck (bow); 105-lb., 6-pt. buck; and 70-lb. doe.

Von Caudle, plant manager, 150-lb., 7-pt. buck.

Narry Kidd, assistant yard superintendent, 150-lb. doe.

Frank Hayes, maintenance mechanic D, 130-lb., 8-pt. buck.

## Beckley

Bob Barley, line crew supervisor NE, 125-lb., 5-pt. buck.

Mike Bates, meter reader, 120-lb., 7-pt. buck.

Basil Bolen, line crew supervisor NE, 115-lb., 5-pt. buck.

Homer Greene, retired meter reader supervisor, 150-lb., 5-pt. buck.

Bunk Keatley, area servicer, 150-lb., 9-pt. buck.

Jim Linkswiler, line mechanic A, 140-lb., 8-pt. buck.

Glenn O'Neal, station crew supervisor, 100-lb., 6-pt. buck.

Chuck Palmer, station mechanic A, 110-lb. spike buck.

Pat Richards, engineering technician, 100-lb. spike buck.

Don Walter, line mechanic A, 120-lb., 4-pt. buck.

Greg Kindrick, line construction and maintenance representative, 145-lb., 8-pt. buck.

Pete Graham, area servicer, 130-lb., 5-pt. buck.

Mike Vest, son of Ray Vest, administrative assistant, 125-lb., 5-pt. buck.

## Central Machine Shop

Gary Berry, power equipment mechanic 2nd class, button buck.

Don Parsons, production supervisor, 140-lb., 6-pt. buck; 120-lb., 3-pt. buck and 100-lb. doe.

Clifford Witt, winder 1st class, 130-lb. doe.

Jim Deem, husband of Anita Deem, plant clerk C, 130-lb. doe.

## Charleston

Glen Sizemore, meter reader, 4-pt. buck.

M. D. King, area servicer, 288-lb. black bear (bow); doe (bow); 10 pt. buck (bow) and spike buck.

Dave Stinnett, line crew supervisor NE, two 8-pt. bucks.

Ben Selbe, area servicer, 8-pt. and 5-pt. bucks.

Terry Moore, meter electrician C, 125-lb., 6-pt. buck.

Ray Sayre, meter electrician A, 150-lb. doe.

Art Burdette, engineering supervisor, 140-lb., 8-pt. buck.

Corky Brown, engineering technician, 165-lb., 8-pt. buck.

Ken Posey, engineer senior, 100-lb., 4-pt. buck.

John Rader, engineering technician, 150-lb., 8-pt. buck; 120-lb., 4-pt., buck and 110-lb. doe (bow).

Tom Duttine, line mechanic A, 110-lb. doe (bow) and 145-lb., 7-pt. buck.

Dave Morris, area servicer, 140-lb., 6-pt. buck and 140-lb., 7-pt. buck (bow).

Jim Hicks, line mechanic A, 3-pt. buck.

Paul Coon, department assistant-marketing and customer services, 100-lb. doe.

Roger Summers, husband of Marcia Summers, customer services representative D, 204-lb., 9-pt. buck and 130-lb., 8-pt. buck.

Scott Givens, son of Bill Givens, meter reader, 110-lb. doe (bow) and 140-lb., 8-pt. buck.

Rick Hively, husband of Karen Hively, customer services representative D, spike buck.

## General Office

Bobby Daniel, clerical supervisor-electric plant, GO Accounting, Roanoke, 5-pt. and 6-pt. bucks.

Bill Thomasson, husband of Gayle Thomasson, work order supervisor, GO Accounting, Roanoke, 4-pt. and 7-pt. bucks and 18-lb. turkey.

Jimmy Wagoner, electric plant clerk B, spike buck.

R. E. Fisher, engineering technologist, 176-lb., 7-pt. buck and 160-lb., 8-pt. buck.

Willie McCall, transformer specialist, 130-lb., 5-pt. buck.

Kenneth Hern, civil engineer-hydro, GO Hydro, Roanoke, 120-lb., 7-pt. buck.

Johnny Quarles, hydro mechanic B, GO Hydro, Smith Mountain, 150-lb., 6-pt. buck.

Darrell Dalton, hydro mechanic B, GO Hydro, Smith Mountain, 75-lb. spike buck and 140-lb., 9-pt. buck.

Ricky Barbour, hydro mechanic B, GO Hydro, Smith Mountain, 125-lb. spike buck and 135-lb. doe.

Charles Burnett, hydro mechanic A, GO Hydro, Claytor, 19 $\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. turkey gobbler.

Gary Johnson, hydro mechanic B, GO Hydro, Claytor, 187-lb., 8-pt. buck.

Wesley Eversole, hydro mechanic A, GO Hydro, Byllesby, 100-lb. spike buck and 95-lb. doe.

David French, hydro mechanic C, Kanawha Valley Power, Winfield, 160-lb. spike buck.

James Lawson, hydro mechanic B, GO Hydro, Niagara, 140-lb., 6-pt. buck and 100-lb. doe.

D. M. Dodson, communication specialist, GO

T&D Communication, Bluefield, 6-pt. buck.

## Lynchburg

Kenneth Brown, line mechanic C, 150-lb., 13-pt. buck and 100-lb., 3-pt. buck.

Bobby Hawkins, station mechanic C, 173-lb., 8-pt. buck.

Bill Martin, line mechanic A, 4-pt., 7-pt. and 8-pt. bucks.

Lee Tolley, meter reader, 90-lb. doe.

Tommy Meador, meter reader, 80-lb. button buck.

## Pulaski

Sonny Westmoreland, Galax line crew supervisor NE, 6-pt. buck.

Nelson Coleman, Galax line mechanic A, two turkeys.

Kenneth Belton, Galax line mechanic B, 7-pt. and 9-pt. bucks.

Richard Wingate, Galax area servicer, 6-pt. buck.

Carl Martin, Galax meter reader, 125-lb., 7-pt. buck (bow); 125-lb., 6-pt. buck and 100-lb., 3-pt. buck.

Gary Adkins, Hillsville meter reader, 8-pt. buck.

Donald Harmon, Hillsville meter reader, 6-pt. buck.

Bill Brewer, line construction and maintenance representative, 170-lb., 10-pt. buck.

Nelson Quesenberry, line construction and maintenance representative, 170-lb. cow elk.

Vernon Crouch, drafter C, 160-lb., 7-pt. buck.

G. F. Shrader, Jr., meter electrician supervisor, 125-lb. spike buck and 145-lb., 9-pt. buck.

Bob Semones, engineering technologist supervisor, 120-lb., 5-pt. buck.

Barry Hicks, technician senior, 15-lb. gobbler.

Timmy Coomes, Hillsville line mechanic C, doe (bow) and 6-pt. buck.

Doug Atkins, Hillsville line mechanic A, 15-lb. turkey.

Harry Hubble, Christiansburg meter reader, 8-pt. buck and spike buck.

Earnest Kirk, Pearisburg line mechanic B, 8-pt. and 6-pt. bucks.

Barry Phillips, Christiansburg line crew supervisor NE, 125-lb. doe and 4-pt. buck.

Frank Young, clerical supervisor-T&D, turkey; 110-lb. and 125-lb. bucks.

## Roanoke

Frank Frango, storeroom supervisor, doe and 6-pt. buck.

Bev Frango, wife of Frank Frango, 4-pt. buck.

Randy Frango, son of Frank Frango, doe.

Jimmy Frango, son of Frank Frango, doe.

Felix Vasser, reservoir groundskeeper, 100-lb. doe.

Bob Jones, stores attendant A, 5-pt. buck.

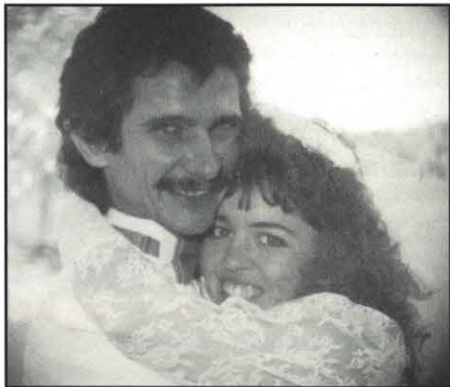
Glenn Haskins, reservoir supervisor NE, 150-lb., 10-pt. buck; 130-lb., 8-pt. buck and 100-lb. doe.

(please turn to page 22)

# Weddings

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## Shrader-Chinault



Angela Chinault to **Nathan L. Shrader**, Glen Lyn Plant braker, October 21.

## Griffith-Bishop



Debbie Bishop to **Jason D. Griffith**, communication engineer, GO T&D Communication, Marmet, June 30.

## Dorsey-Jones

Barbara Jean Jones to **Larry R. Dorsey**, John Amos Plant performance technician, December 9.

## Kirkland-Collins

Virginia P. Collins to **Claud K. Kirkland**, retired Pulaski division manager, December 15.

## Linkous-Maull

Janice C. Maull to **Mike Linkous**, Pulaski meter reader, December 17.

## Loving-Richie

Christy L. Richie to **Mike Loving**, Central Machine Shop winder 2nd class, December 16.

# Births

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## Beckley

Corey Brett, son of **Danny Windon**, Rainelle line mechanic A, November 9.

## Bluefield

Jon David, son of **Joan Leftwich**, secretary-stenographer B, December 14.

Allison Leigh, daughter of **Rick Richmond**, line mechanic A, January 5.

## Charleston

Mia Kathryn, daughter of **Doug Paitsel**, meter electrician B, December 4.

Destiny Maria, daughter of **Jim Hudnall**, Montgomery line mechanic A, December 4.

## Clinch River

Skyler Seth, son of **Philip E. Musick**, equipment operator B, January 15.

## General Office

Scott Davidson, son of **David Bradford**, express driver, GO General Services, Roanoke, November 21.

## Huntington

Ashley Lynn, daughter of **Joe Keith**, custodian, December 31.

## Logan-Williamson

Christopher Adam, son of **Mimnaugh Hill**, Madison meter reader, November 14.

Susan Leah, daughter of **Patty Garrett**, Logan stenographer, November 15.

## Roanoke

Victoria Ashton, daughter of **William Thurman, Jr.**, Rocky Mount line mechanic C, December 30.

Harris Leigh, daughter of **Jon Williams**, marketing and customer services supervisor, December 11.

## Philip Sporn

Justin Wayne, son of **Robert Duckworth**, maintenance mechanic D, December 26.

Shawn Nathaniel, son of **David Daniels**, performance engineer, December 30.

Keith Edward II, son of **Keith Pearson**, utility worker B, December 25. □

## Massie-Elder

Terrie B. Elder to **Paul J. Massie**, John Amos Plant performance engineer, November 25.

## Lovejoy-Witt

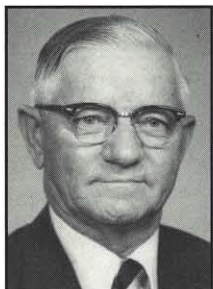
Vicky L. Witt to **C. Wayne Lovejoy**, John Amos Plant maintenance mechanic A, December 16.

## Warren-Fox

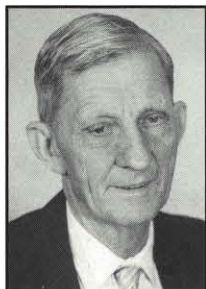
Carol L. Fox to **Ricky J. Warren**, John Amos Plant equipment operator C, January 12. □



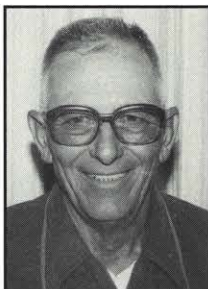
# Friends We'll Miss



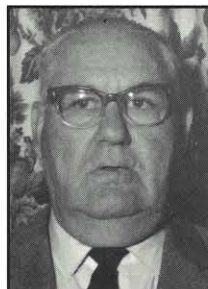
Howard



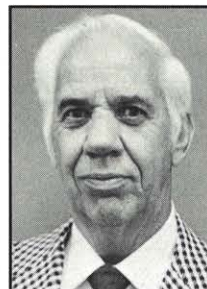
D. Jones



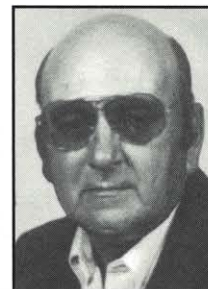
Kidd



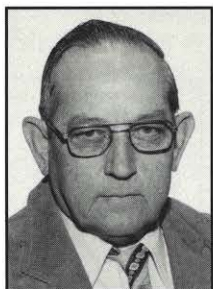
Safriet



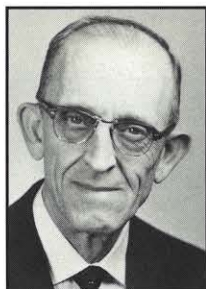
Vickers



Fields



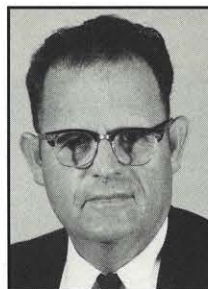
Towler



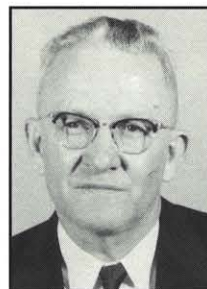
Fuller



A. Jones



Nicholas



Roach

**Massie Terrell Howard**, 77, retired Lynchburg collector, died December 10. A native of Bedford County, Virginia, he was employed in 1937 as a serviceman and retired in 1973. Howard is survived by his wife Elizabeth, 522 McConville Road, Lynchburg, VA; two sisters; and two brothers.

**Dick Jones**, 92, retired Charleston lineman A, died January 9. A native of Charleston, West Virginia, he began his career with Appalachian in 1945 after working for Florida Light and Power Company and the Chesapeake & Potomac Telephone Company. He is survived by a nephew.

**Bradie N. Kidd**, 74, retired Pulaski area service restorer, died December 7. A native of Bland County, Virginia, he was hired in 1936 as a laborer and retired in 1980. Kidd is survived by his wife Mildred, 120 12th Street, Pulaski, VA; three sons; one daughter; four grandchildren; one great-grandchild; and one sister.

**Lester M. Safriet**, 84, Kingsport general serviceman, died December 20. A native of Rowan County, North Carolina, he was employed in 1942 as a serviceman and retired in 1970. Safriet is survived by three sons and one daughter.

**William P. Vickers, Jr.**, 72, retired regional dispatcher, GO Operations,

Turner Dispatch, died January 14. A native of Hansford, West Virginia, he was hired in 1942 as a laborer and pumpman at Cabin Creek Plant and retired in 1978. He is survived by a son.

**Jackie E. Fields**, 49, Clinch River Plant instrument mechanic B, died December 24. A native of Russell County, Virginia, he joined the plant in 1970 as a laborer and went on LTD leave in 1980. Fields is survived by his wife Nellie, Route 1, Box 125, Cleveland, VA; one son; one grandchild; one sister; and his mother.

**Jackson D. Towler**, 65 retired senior visitors center attendant at the Smith Mountain Visitors Center, died January 17. A native of Sandy Level, Virginia, he was employed in 1957 as a laborer in GO Hydro and elected early retirement in 1988. Towler is survived by his wife Aylene, Route 1, Box 305, Sandy Level, VA; two sons; two grandchildren; one great-grandchild; seven sisters; and three brothers.

**Russell A. Fuller**, 84, retired T&D cost accounting coordinator, GO T&D, Roanoke, died December 24. A native of Noble County, Indiana, he was employed in 1929 as an electrician and retired in 1970. Fuller is survived by his wife Grace, 16571 Marc Allen Drive, Fort Myers, Florida.

**Alda H. Jones**, 77, retired Logan mer-

chandise bookkeeper senior, died December 6. A native of Clinton, Tennessee, she began her career in 1947 as a clerk junior and took disability retirement in 1965.

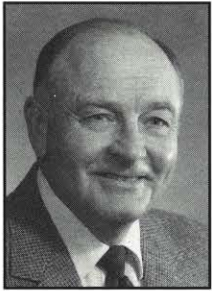
**Lee R. Nicholas**, 80, retired station maintenance man A, GO T&D Station, Charleston, died January 10. A native of Clay County, West Virginia, he was employed in 1940 as an electrician helper and retired in 1972. Nicholas is survived by his wife Ethel, 832 Sutherland Drive, St. Albans, WV; and a son.

**John W. Roach**, 86, retired Charleston area serviceman, died December 22. A native of Oak Forrest, West Virginia, he was hired in 1926 as a laborer and retired in 1957.

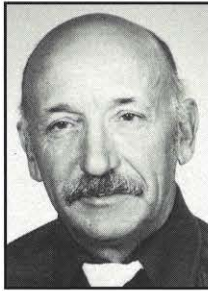
**Albert J. Thomas**, 95, retired Beckley station man A, died December 13. A native of Jeffery, West Virginia, he was hired in 1918 as a switchman and retired in 1959. Thomas is survived by his wife Jessie, 910 31st Street, Columbus, Georgia.

**Joseph H. "Pete" Merriman**, 79, retired Fieldale line foreman, died December 13. A native of Henry County, Virginia, he was employed in 1929 as a laborer and retired in 1970. Merriman is survived by one sister. □

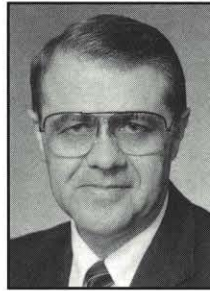
# Service Anniversaries



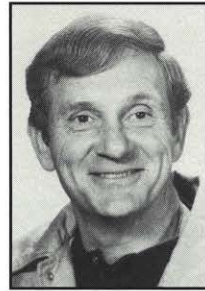
**Jim Boulton**  
M&CS supervisor  
Abingdon  
35 years



**Bill Payne**  
sta. crew supv.  
Charleston  
35 years



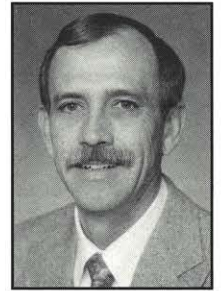
**Rod Goins**  
asst. reg. chief disp.  
GO-Roanoke  
30 years



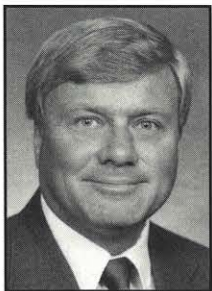
**Leonard Bird**  
elec. test spec.  
GO-Marmet  
25 years



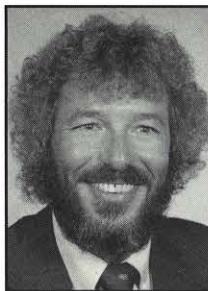
**Wanda Norcross**  
load res. data proc. A  
GO-Roanoke  
25 years



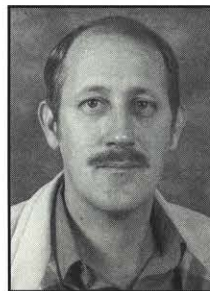
**Bob Pope**  
condenser specialist  
GO-Roanoke  
25 years



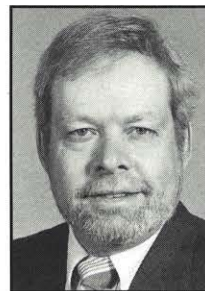
**Michael Duffy**  
sta. crew supv. NE  
Roanoke  
20 years



**Ronnie Kidd**  
line crew supv. NE  
Roanoke  
20 years



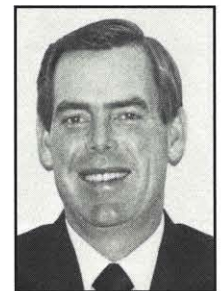
**Billy Breeding**  
maint. mechanic A  
Clinch River  
20 years



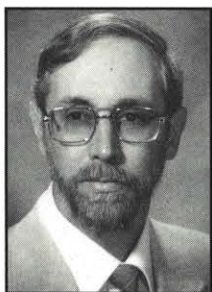
**Jerry Blake**  
line mechanic A  
Huntington  
20 years



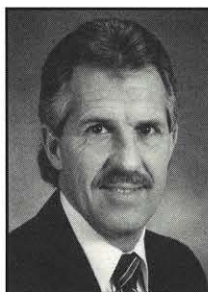
**Veronica Reed**  
sec.-steno. B  
GO-Roanoke  
20 years



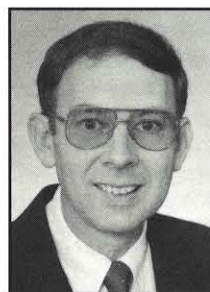
**Harold Dawson**  
general servicer  
Grundy  
20 years



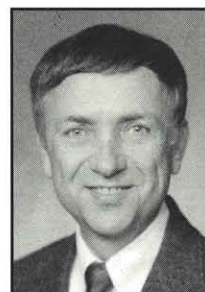
**Dave Stinnett**  
line crew supv. NE  
Montgomery  
20 years



**R. K. Hess**  
sta. mechanic A  
Kingsport  
20 years



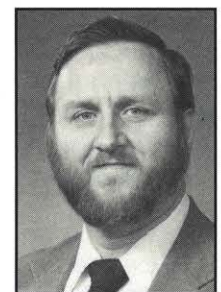
**Richard Rader**  
designer  
GO-Roanoke  
20 years



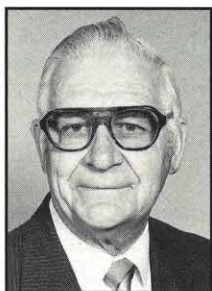
**Bill Rose**  
meter supervisor  
Roanoke  
20 years



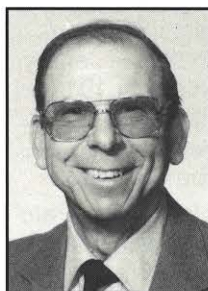
**Ronald Poe**  
meter elec. supv. NE  
Abingdon  
20 years



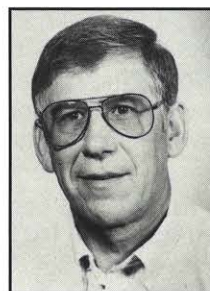
**Bill Fisher**  
eng. technician sr.  
Bluefield  
20 years



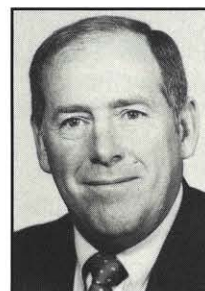
**William Carver**  
auto mechanic C  
Huntington  
20 years



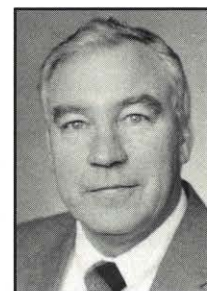
**Danny Wymer**  
meter reader  
St. Albans  
20 years



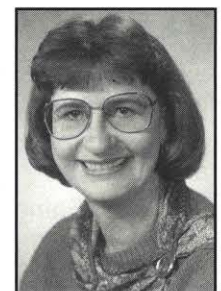
**Jerry Corder**  
line mechanic A  
Charleston  
20 years



**Jim Ryan**  
line mechanic A  
Charleston  
20 years



**Jack Richmond**  
general bookkeeper  
GO-Roanoke  
20 years



**Delta Purkey**  
cust. serv. off. supv.  
Gate City  
20 years

## John Amos

10 years: Joel Hurley, maintenance mechanic B. James Rasnake, outage coordinator. David Laughlin, maintenance mechanic C. Timothy Echols, maintenance mechanic B. Frederick Tipane, performance engineer. Bobby Gibson, performance technician. 5 years: David Alford, Jr., maintenance mechanic C.

## Beckley

10 years: Elizabeth Nixon, customer services representative B. 5 years: David Romine, line mechanic C, Rainelle.

## Bluefield

10 years: Jeff Smith, meter reader. Gary Bazzie, line mechanic A, Princeton. Isaac Webb, engineering supervisor.

## Central Machine Shop

15 years: Connie Dawson, stores attendant.

## Charleston

15 years: Marsha Larch, collector. Bob Bird, meter reader. 5 years: Andy Shaffron, electrical engineer. Mike Neal, line construction and maintenance representative.

## Clinch River

30 years: Jessee Hackney, instrument mechanic A.

## General Office

30 years: Michael Haynes, operation coordinator, GO Operations, Roanoke. 15 years: Barry Thomas, rate design and research supervisor, GO Rates & Contracts, Roanoke. 10 years: William Price, engineering technician senior, GO Hydro, Roanoke. Karin Gastineau, classification and accounts payable clerk B, GO Accounting, Roanoke. Ewell Fykes, engineering technician senior, GO T&D Communications, Huntington. Doris Harris, classification and accounts payable clerk B, GO Accounting, Roanoke. Clifton Blair, express driver, GO General Services, Roanoke. Timothy Summers, transmission mechanic B, GO T&D Transmission, Turner. 5 years: Allen Crowder, mail clerk, GO General Services, Roanoke. Alan Argabright, heating, ventilating and air conditioning assistant, GO General Services, Roanoke. Teresa Belcher, stenographer, GO T&D Transmission, Bluefield.

## Huntington

20 years: Bruce Hagley, stores attendant B. 15 years: Jim Cogar, area servicer, Point Pleasant. 10 years: William Fizer, line mechanic A. Jeff Preston, drafter B, Point Pleasant. 5 years: Joseph Johnson, stores attendant B.

## Kingsport

10 years: S. G. Allen, customer services office supervisor. 5 years: E. C. Owens, automotive mechanic A.

## Mountaineer

10 years: Jeff Flesher, maintenance mechanic A. Mike Ralbusky, maintenance mechanic B. 5 years: Max Hill, control technician. Ron Durst, control technician.

## Pulaski

10 years: Eddie Woodyard, meter reader.

## Newcomers

### Abingdon

A. R. Gilbert, II, line mechanic D, Clintwood.

Linda Tomlinson, part-time customer services representative D.

Vickie Mullins, meter reader, Clintwood.

### John Amos

Ernest Jakes, Jr., utility worker.

### Bluefield

Ricky Adkins, meter reader.

### Central Machine Shop

Troy Miller, NDE inspector 3rd class.

### Charleston

Dawnette Douglas, customer services representative D.

### General Office

David Ball, electrical engineer, GO T&D Relay, Bluefield.

William Gaudin, Jr., meter electrician C-GO, GO T&D Meter, Roanoke.

Lynn Cline, meter electrician C-GO, GO T&D Meter, Roanoke.

Donnie Jones, Jr., transmission mechanic D, GO T&D Transmission, Abingdon.

### Huntington

Richard Hammond, line mechanic D.

### Logan-Williamson

Connie Butcher, part-time meter reader, Logan.

Shirley Webb, part-time custodian, Williamson.

### Lynchburg

Paul Hanson, electrical engineer.

### Mountaineer

Michael Fisher, utility worker.

James Hitt, performance engineer.

### Pulaski

Stacy Hardin, line mechanic D, Wytheville.

### Roanoke

VonRonstead Wright, Sr., meter reader, Fieldale. □

## Roanoke

10 years: Douglas Jacobs, station mechanic D. Kenneth Boone, II, line mechanic A. Randolph Keys, line mechanic C, Fieldale. □

## Habel authors magazine article



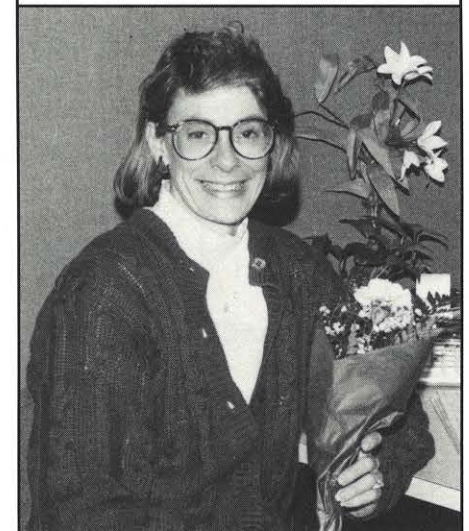
Billy L. Habel, Lynchburg line mechanic B, is the author of an article entitled "Auger Bit Modified for Drilling Dynamite Holes in Rock" which appeared in the September 1989 issue of *Transmission &*

### Distribution.

He designed a tool which, in most instances, is an effective replacement for the air compressor or hammer-and-bar drilling methods. The new method saves time and the need for hazardous procedures.

Habel submitted his idea first through Appalachian Power's Operations Improvement Program, and it later was published in AEP's *Operating Ideas*. □

## Floral thank you



Judy Hale, Roanoke customer services representative C, received this floral bouquet from an appreciative customer. The customer had been erroneously billed for a connection charge, and Judy corrected the situation.

# Foster hosts German exchange student

When Dixie and Claude Foster travel to Cologne, West Germany, sometime this year, it will be more than a vacation. It will be a reunion with Matt Dzikowski, who lived with them during the 1988-89 school year, and the opportunity to meet his parents and sister for the first time.

"Claude and I had talked about hosting an exchange student for a long time," says Dixie, secretary in GO Executive, Charleston. "Finally we decided that this was the time to do it. We applied to the Aspect program, and before you know it, Matt was here. We asked for a German student because Claude had spent some time in Germany."

Dixie continues, "Matt was a real joy, and we really miss him. We grew to love him and think of him as part of our family. Since he's returned to Germany, we've been exchanging letters, phone calls, and photographs."

It was Matt's parents who first suggested that he visit the United States. "In Germany, everybody is taught English," Matt says. "A lot of people there take part in exchange programs just to improve their ability to speak English. It is quite different to learn English in school and then speak it every day. Being able to converse in English will be important later on in your business life."

According to Matt, life in America and Germany is pretty much the same. There are some differences, of course, one of which is the school system.

"It was much easier in the United States,"



Matt Dzikowski, left, from Cologne, West Germany, stayed in the home of Dixie Foster during the 1988-89 school year.

Matt states. "I went to school ten years in Germany and hated every minute of it. I liked school in America for several reasons. I liked the football, basketball and baseball games and the school spirit. In Germany, if you want to be in sports, you do it through a club. It has nothing to do with school. I also think the teacher-student relationship in the United States is much better. It is more like friends, but still there is authority behind it. In Germany, it's 'I'm the teacher, you are the student'."

Matt continues, "When I first came to West Virginia, the football season was just starting. I didn't know much about it because football is not very popular in Germany. I was asked to play and I wish now that I had because I like it very much."

Being an exchange student is not for

everyone, according to Matt. "You have to have an open mind," he says. "I know some other exchange students who never really were part of the school. I was pretty lucky because the people liked me, and I made a lot of friends. The first couple of months weren't easy because people didn't know what to expect, but after that it went really smooth. I had no problems at all."

Matt has two more years of school in Germany and then two years in the Army before he has to decide on a career. "I have a lot of time to think about it," he says, "but I think I'd like to be a stockbroker or something in the field of economics."

In 1991, if things go as planned, Matt will return to West Virginia with his parents and sister to visit once again in the Foster home. □

## ILLUMINATOR



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