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IABC

International Association of Business Communicators

About the Cover:

Kim Gerlach, left, speaks with First Lady Barbara Bush at a White House coffee for delegates to the Second National Adult Literacy Congress. Turn to page 11 for a story on Kim's activities as a literacy tutor in Point Pleasant.

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AEP, DOE sign agreement for PFBC unit at Sporn Plant

American Electric Power Service Corporation and the U.S. Department of Energy have signed a cooperative agreement to share the cost of building a commercial-scale Pressurized Fluidized Bed Combustion (PFBC) unit at the Philip Sporn Plant, New Haven, West Virginia.

The PFBC Utility Demonstration Project is to be funded as part of the federal Innovative Clean Coal Technology program.

"Our goal is to demonstrate that PFBC is capable of helping the nation meet its environmental goals more effectively than current technology," said Dr. James J. Markowsky, senior vice president and chief engineer — AEP Service Corporation.

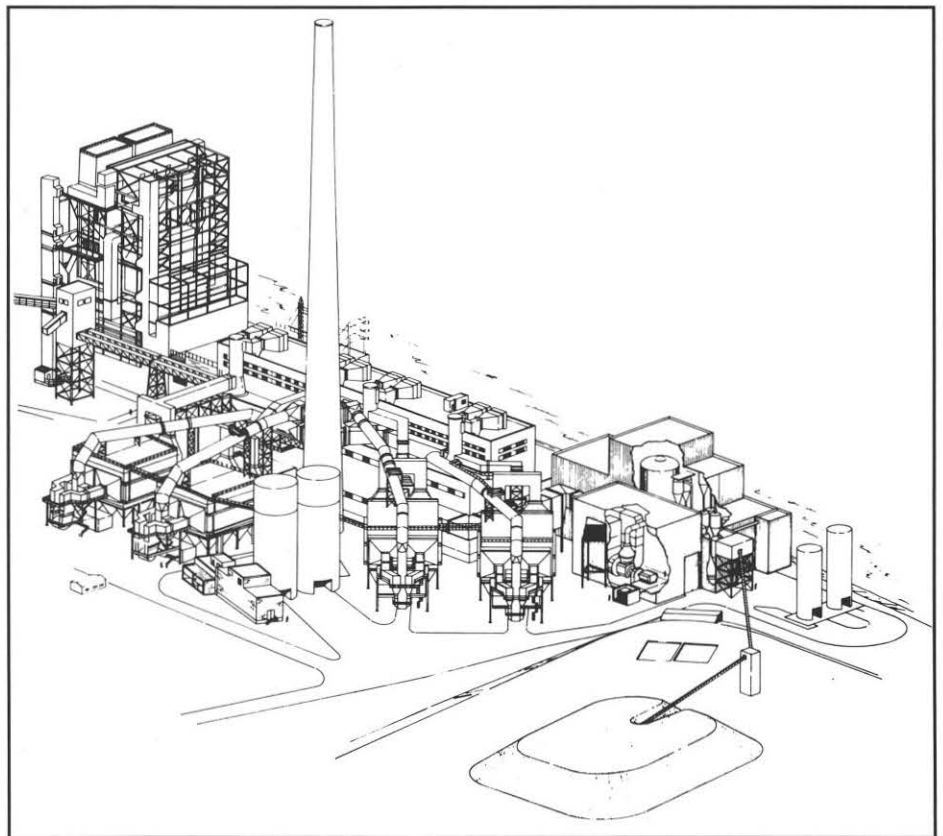
Among the benefits of PFBC are reduced emissions of nitrogen oxide and sulfur dioxide and higher thermal efficiency.

The key environmental feature of the PFBC process involves SO_2 removal — greater than 90% — during combustion and only a fraction on NO_x emissions compared with conventional technology. Basically, SO_2 released when coal is burned reacts with a limestone sorbent present in the pressurized combustion chamber. The resulting inert byproduct — a dry, granular material — is collected and is potentially usable.

"The specific objective of this project is to demonstrate the feasibility and cost effectiveness of using PFBC technology in a commercial-scale plant of at least 330 megawatts capacity. This plant will be the largest PFBC plant in the world," Markowsky said.

The cost associated with the cooperative agreement is \$660 million, of which the government would provide \$185 million (28%). The remainder of the cost would come from one or more AEP subsidiaries. In September 1988, AEP's project was one of 16 proposals selected for negotiation to share \$575 million in federal funds. This agreement concludes the negotiation process for AEP.

"This project is a critical bridge between a smaller-scale demonstration of PFBC to begin operation later this year at Ohio Power's Tidd Plant and



Philip Sporn PFBC repowering project.

commercial implementation of the technology at utility scale," Markowsky said. The 70-megawatt Tidd PFBC Demonstration Plant at Brilliant, Ohio, which will commence a three-year operational phase this year, is expected to provide valuable input into the commercial plant design. The Tidd project is a cooperative effort of AEP and the Department of Energy under the first round of Clean Coal Technology projects. The Ohio Coal Development Office is also a participant in the Tidd project.

Preliminary engineering and design for the PFBC Utility Demonstration Project are under way. Preliminary engineering includes a detailed evaluation of both the Sporn Project and the option of constructing a completely new facility. Commercial operation is scheduled for 1996 if the Sporn option is selected and 1998 if a completely new facility is selected. The extended schedule associated with a new facility is required to allow sufficient time for additional environmental studies that would be required for a totally new unit.

AEP's efforts to commercialize PFBC could be hampered if the Clean Air Act is amended to require extensive retrofit of flue gas scrubbers to existing power plants or premature retirement of those plants, according to W. S. White, Jr., AEP chairman and chief executive officer.

"Any amendments to the Clean Air Act should provide an appropriate time frame to permit deployment of clean coal technologies. The industry simply does not have the financial resources to pursue the development of clean coal technologies while simultaneously installing scrubbers or replacing prematurely retired units," White said. □

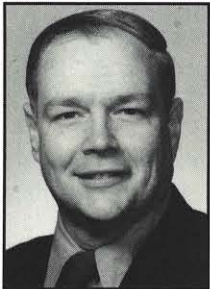
Customer Accounts employees earn awards of merit

Customer Accounts employees in 17 Appalachian Power offices have been awarded certificates of merit for efficiency in 1989. They are: Abingdon Division — Marion; Beckley Division — Beckley, Oak Hill, and Rainelle; Bluefield Division — Bluefield, Princeton, Pineville, and Tazewell; Charleston Division — St. Albans; Huntington Division — Ripley; Lynchburg Division — Lynchburg; Pulaski Division — Christiansburg, Hillsville, Pearisburg, and Wytheville; and Roanoke Division — Rocky Mount and Fieldale.

The awards program recognizes Customer Accounts offices which exceed 85 percent of minimum standards of office operation. Categories include safety, customer account delinquency, meter reading, cashing, and no billing memos.

Customer Accounts employees in each office will be treated to dinner. □

Adkins named KRP manager



R. Wayne Adkins was promoted to plant manager of Kanawha River Plant on March 1. He will succeed James A. Bennett, who is retiring on April 1. Adkins had been an assistant plant manager at

the John E. Amos Plant.

A native of Dawes, West Virginia, Adkins holds a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering from the West Virginia Institute of Technology. He began his career in 1968 as a performance engineer at Kanawha River and transferred to Amos Plant in 1970. He was performance engineer senior, performance supervising engineer, production superintendent-operations, outage coordinator, and performance superintendent before being promoted to assistant plant manager in 1986. □

SEE honors GO Accounting



Employees of Appalachian Power Company's General Office Accounting Department are the recipients of a safety performance award from the Southeastern Electric Exchange in recognition of 25 years without a disabling injury. GOAD, which holds the AEP System safety record, hopes to reach 9-million safe work hours in May. Pictured, l. to r., Milton Clark, clerical supervisor-customer accounting; René Kendrick, data entry operator-intermediate; Sandra Bower, data entry supervisor; Jack Whitenack, customer accounting clerk A; and Anna McCadden, clerical supervisor-data entry.

Bluefield employees reach safety milestones



For the second time in history, Bluefield Division employees reached 2-million safe work hours without a disabling injury. The milestone was achieved on November 28. Past safety accomplishments include reaching 3-million safe work hours once and 1-million safe work hours seven times. Breakfast meetings were held for employees in January. Each employee will receive a Timex wristwatch with the APCo logo on the face, commemorating the 2-million safe work hour record and working three years without a lost time accident. Division Manager Tobie Eaton said, "I would like to personally express my appreciation to all Bluefield Division employees for these great safety achievements. With every employee's continued commitment to safety, we will reach even greater milestones."

AEP annual report showcases clean coal technology

AEP's clean coal technology program to demonstrate Pressurized Fluidized Bed Combustion technology is the theme of the 1989 annual report. Printing of the 48-page report titled "The Glowing Promise of Clean Coal" will be completed this month, and copies will be distributed to all employees.

The background, benefits and process of PFBC are described in a special 10-page section of the annual report. Other notable research and development projects under way at AEP are presented with photos in a six-page section. R&D efforts are featured in ash marketing, land management, residential energy management and transmission and generation. □

Kingsport Power

(continued from page 7)

- heat pumps (single family), over 140 percent;
- heat pumps (mobile home), over 109 percent;
- zoned electric resistance heat (single family), over 107 percent;
- zoned electric resistance heat (mobile homes), over 131 percent;
- commercial/industrial water heating, over 195 percent;
- commercial/industrial security lighting, over 141 percent; and
- commercial electric cooking, over 152 percent. □

Junk bonds pose no problem for AEP savings, pension plans

Problems with junk bonds — so-called because of their low credit rating and, as a result, relatively high yields — have garnered recent media attention.

Numerous financial institutions and insurance companies have made large investments in junk bonds. Executive Life Insurance Company, for example, has held nearly 70 percent of its assets in junk bonds. Unfortunately, ELIC's financial stability has been threatened because of the difficulties in the junk-bond market and the resulting write-downs of those bonds. (A write-down is a loss of value an insurance company must show on its balance sheet when the market value of its assets decrease.)

The AEP Savings Plan's Fixed Income Fund, like those of most U.S. corporations, has used investments in guaranteed investment contracts as attractive vehicles for investment of funds. The guidelines for such investments under the AEP Savings Plan have been consistently rigorous in insisting upon contracts with only the highest quality insurance companies.

At present, the Fixed Income Fund is using seven such contracts with major insurance companies in the United States. Every one is rated A+ by A. M. Best, a firm that specializes in such credit ratings, and also rated AA or AAA by Standard & Poor's, a well-known rating agency.

"These insurance companies generally have modest, if any, investment in junk bonds," said Gerald Maloney, senior vice president — finance for the AEP Service Corporation. "There is no reason of which we are aware for these high quality ratings to deteriorate."

In addition, Maloney said, those contracts generally are for 1-3 years, so they will be paid off and reinvested, as appropriate at that time, within relatively short periods.

The fixed income fund also uses similar arrangements with two banks — Bank One Columbus and Pittsburgh National Bank — both rated AA or higher by Standard & Poor's. Those contracts are backed by the Federal Deposit

Insurance Corporation, providing an additional level of protection.

"As to the AEP Pension Plan," Maloney said, "junk bonds have never played a significant role in the retirement fund's investments, and this policy will continue."

At the end of 1989, the pension fund's assets were invested as follows:

- 59% — Common stocks
- 21% — Fixed income securities
- 16% — Short-term high-grade investments
- 4% — Miscellaneous

"From the beginning, the investment policies for both the AEP Savings Plan Fixed Income Fund and the AEP Pension Plan have emphasized high quality and low risk where fixed income investments are involved," Maloney said. "This policy has been beneficial in the past, and it is an approach that should continue to protect interests of employees and beneficiaries in the future." □

Newcomers

(continued from page 23)

Philip Sporn

John Thorne, utility worker B.

Jennifer Knight, utility worker B.

Martin Hager, plant janitor.

Parry Crush, utility worker B. □

PAYSOP pays more than \$1 million to employees

Employees who own American Electric Power Company common stock through the System's Employee Stock Ownership Plan (PAYSOP) will receive a check in March from Ameritrust representing the 1989 dividends allocated to their accounts.

"The total amount to be distributed to employees is a little over \$1 million, with an average individual amount of about \$53," said Bob Strahan, assistant vice president-Compensation and Benefits for the AEP Service Corporation. PAYSOP originally called for the dividends to be retained in the plan, Strahan said. Even though the amounts are small, however, they are being distributed again this year because of tax law changes enacted since the plan's inception.

In accordance with federal tax law, interest earned on the dividends is retained in employees' accounts, but the dividends themselves are distributed. Dividends have been distributed to participants since 1985, but dividends allocated to employees' accounts prior to 1985 remain in the trust. □

South Bend is site of annual meeting

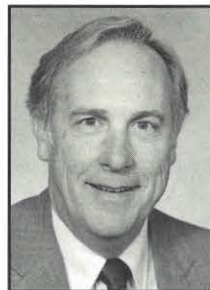
American Electric Power Company's 83rd annual meeting of shareowners will be held April 25 in South Bend, Indiana. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 9:30 a. m. in the Convention Hall of Century Center, 120 South Saint Joseph Street.

Official business of the meeting includes election of members of the Board of Directors and approval of independent auditors for 1990. W. S. White, Jr., AEP chairman and chief executive officer, will review the company's performance in 1989 and discuss issues facing AEP. Afterward, White will answer questions from shareowners. □

Nine elected to Service Corp. board



Taylor



Webster

Nine new directors, representing four of American Electric Power's eight operating companies, were elected to the board of the AEP Service Corporation at its annual meeting last month, bringing the total board membership to 46.

The new directors are:

From Appalachian Power Company: F. H. (Floyd) Taylor, Charleston Division Manager and R. D. (Bob) Webster, Roanoke Division Manager. They replaced S. V. Caudle, Amos Plant Manager; S. P. Montague, Abingdon Division Manager; and M. A. White, Logan Division Manager. One director position was not filled.

From Columbus Southern Power Company: M. J. (Mike) Holzaepfel, Athens Division Manager and M. J. (Mike) Price, Chillicothe Division Manager. They replaced P. Splawnyk, Executive Assistant, Columbus and T. R. Watkins, Columbus Division Manager.

From Indiana Michigan Power Company: No new directors were elected.

From Kentucky Power Company: W. O. (Warren) Vaughan, Pikesville Division Manager. He replaced K. C. Brashear, Hazard Division Manager.

From Ohio Power Company: S. W. (Steve) Burge, Plant Manager, Tidd PFBC; T. C. (Tim) Mosher, Division Manager, Zanesville; W. F. (Bill) Sheffield, Division Manager, Canton; and E. L. (Everett) Townley, Plant Manager, Cardinal. They replaced D. E. Henderson, Steubenville; W. A. Leuby, Lima; A. J. Trawick, Gavin Plant; and R. W. McDaniel, Ohio Centralized Plant Maintenance Division.

The elections maintained the practice of rotating a portion of the largest operating companies' representation on the Service Corporation board. □

CMS celebrates 3 safe years



Central Machine Shop employees were treated to cake and coffee in recognition of having worked three safe years. The milestone, achieved on November 13, represents an accumulation of 761,427 work hours. Employees were also presented with engraved glass mugs. CMS Manager Harold Rulen said, "This accomplishment was made possible by CMS employees' commitment to safe work practices and by staying alert to safety hazards. These three years included many jobs within the AEP System plants as well as those worked within the shop."

Appalachian Power has best marketing year ever

Nineteen eighty-nine was the most successful marketing year in Appalachian Power's history, according to Marketing & Customer Services Director Glenn Reynolds.

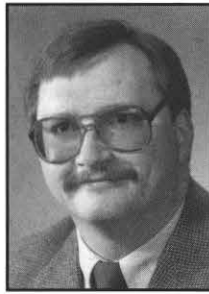
Reynolds reports, "We reached over 102 percent of our marketing goal last year, making 1989 the seventh consecutive year we have exceeded 100 percent. This in itself is impressive but becomes even more so when you consider the increasing competition from the fossil fuel industry in our service area."

He continues, "Four of the company's nine divisions exceeded 100 percent of their overall goal. Lynchburg Division finished in first place with over 135 percent of goal. Bluefield Division was second with over 108 percent; Abingdon Division third with over 105 percent; and Logan-Williamson Division fourth with over 103 percent."

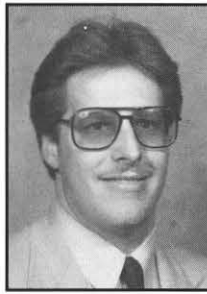
The Residential marketing group exceeded 100 percent in four categories:

- heat pumps (single family and apartments) — 8,405 installs for over 116 percent of goal;
- heat pumps (mobile homes) — 894 installs for over 146 percent of goal;
- add-on heat pumps (mobile homes) — 26 installs for over 136 percent of goal; and
- security lighting — 4,930 installs for over 122 percent of goal.

The Energy Services Section also was successful in four marketing categories:



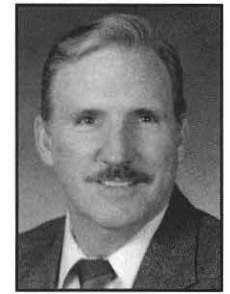
Young



Fitzwater



Muncy



Turpin

- 14,895 kilowatts of heat pump and add-on heat pump installations;
- 42,636 kilowatts of zoned resistance heating — over 130 percent of goal;
- 14,874 kilowatts of electric water heating — over 320 percent of goal;
- 3,977 kilowatts of off-peak water heating — over 160 percent of goal.

Lynchburg Division was awarded the director's cup for having the best overall marketing program in 1989.

Phill Young of Abingdon and Jon Fitzwater of Pulaski were awarded Appalachian Power jackets of honor for achieving the highest percentage of goal during 1989. Young earned the award in the Residential Section and Fitzwater in the Energy Services Section.

Ed Flowers of Logan-Williamson and Bud Hutton of Abingdon placed second and third, respectively, in the Residential Section. John Kahle of Abingdon and John Griffith of Bluefield placed second and third, respectively,

in the Energy Services Section.

Don Muncy and Jim Turpin, both of Bluefield, were AEP jacket of honor winners during 1989.

Reynolds notes, "The ACE Team program continues to play a very important part in our marketing performance. We received 3,366 prospects through ACE during 1989, and these resulted in 1,459 sales. I encourage each employee to promote the sale of our product — electricity — to their friends and neighbors. I would also encourage employees to install heat pumps in their own homes when their heating systems need modernizing. By using the product we sell, employees let their friends know they believe it is the best."

Reynolds concludes, "I firmly believe that electricity is a marketing dream. The price is right and it is a product which improves quality of life and increases efficiency in business and industry." □

Kingsport Power leads utilities in electric heating saturation

Kingsport Power Company, with 74.4 percent electric heat saturation, continues to lead the AEP operating companies and all other investor-owned electric utilities in the United States, reports Marketing and Customer Services Director John Nance.

"We have exceeded our marketing goal for seven consecutive years," Nance adds. "During 1989, we reached over 109 percent of goal, making it the best marketing year ever."



Carolyn Gibson was Kingsport's outstanding marketer for the year, exceeding 138 percent of her assigned goal.

Some of the major areas in which Kingsport Power excelled are:



Lynchburg Marketing and Customer Services Manager Bill Ford, left, receives the director's cup from Marketing and Customer Services Director Glenn Reynolds.

(please turn to page 5)

EMF raises questions; research offers answers

For more than two decades, the AEP Service Corporation has been involved in research on electric and magnetic fields. Because of recent media and employee interest in the subject, *Illuminator* interviewed Brendan Ware, manager of AEP's Electrical Research and Equipment Division, for an update on the company's position on EMF.

ILLUMINATOR: What is EMF?

WARE: EMF stands for electromagnetic field and is associated with the presence and movement of electrical charges at high frequencies. It has become common practice, however, to use the acronym EMF to stand for electric and magnetic fields at low frequencies, such as the power-line frequency of 60 Hz, and even DC (zero frequency). In the context of this discussion, EMF stands for the electric and magnetic fields from power lines and home appliances.

Electric fields are related to the number of charges, or voltage, on a conductor and are measured in volts per meter. Magnetic fields are related to the rate at which the charges flow, or current, on a conductor and are measured in milligauss.

Within a home, electric fields from outside power lines are small due to the shielding effect of the home's building materials. Magnetic fields from power lines, however, are not shielded by the home and can be the same level on the inside as on the outside of the home.

Electric and magnetic fields are found throughout nature and in all living things. The magnetic field of the earth, which makes a compass needle point north, is made by flowing charges, or currents, in the earth's molten interior. The molecules in the human body and in all other living and non-living things are held together by fields.

While accurate measurements of electric and magnetic fields can be made today, it is difficult to estimate the dose that people may have experienced historically.

ILLUMINATOR: How long has American Electric Power been involved in studying the EMF issue?

WARE: AEP has been monitoring the results of international studies on EMF for more than 20 years. In fact, the



Ware

company conducted one of the earliest, in-depth medical research projects on a group of its own linemen in a nine-year study that began in 1962. That comprehensive study showed no effects on the linemen due to exposure

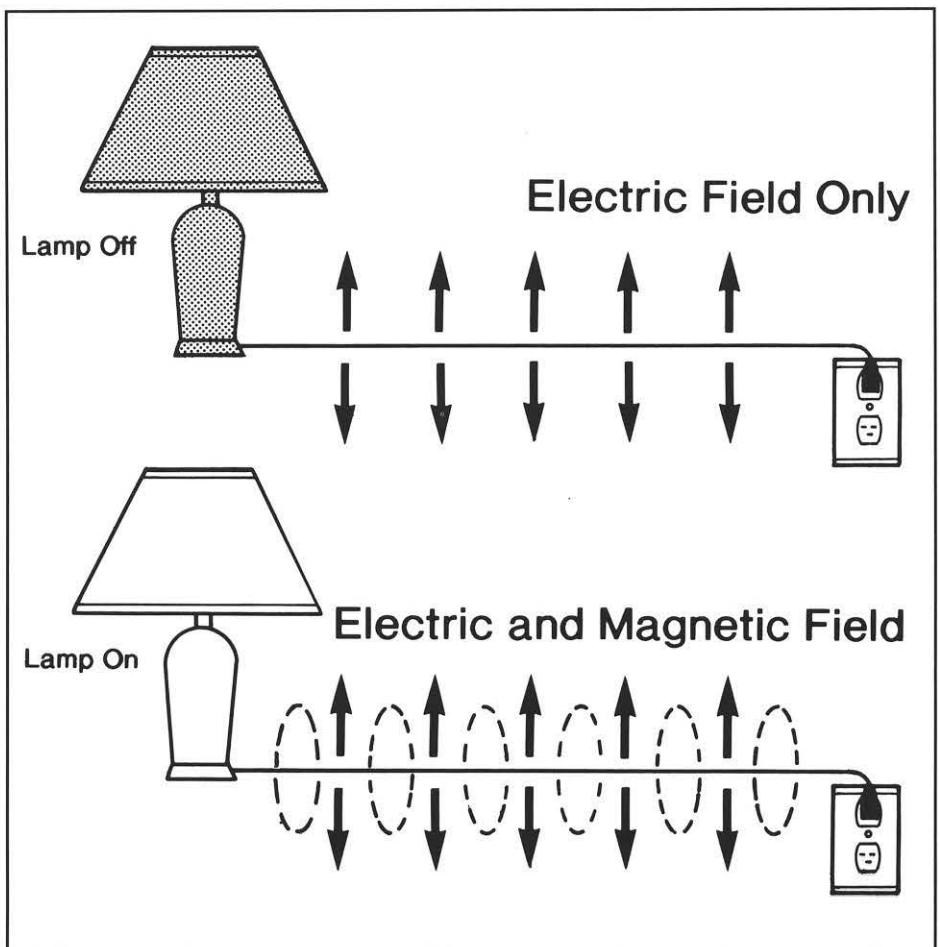
to EMF.

Hundreds of other studies have proved no ill effects from exposure to EMF. Recently, however, a few epidemiological studies have suggested a statistical association between EMF and human illness.

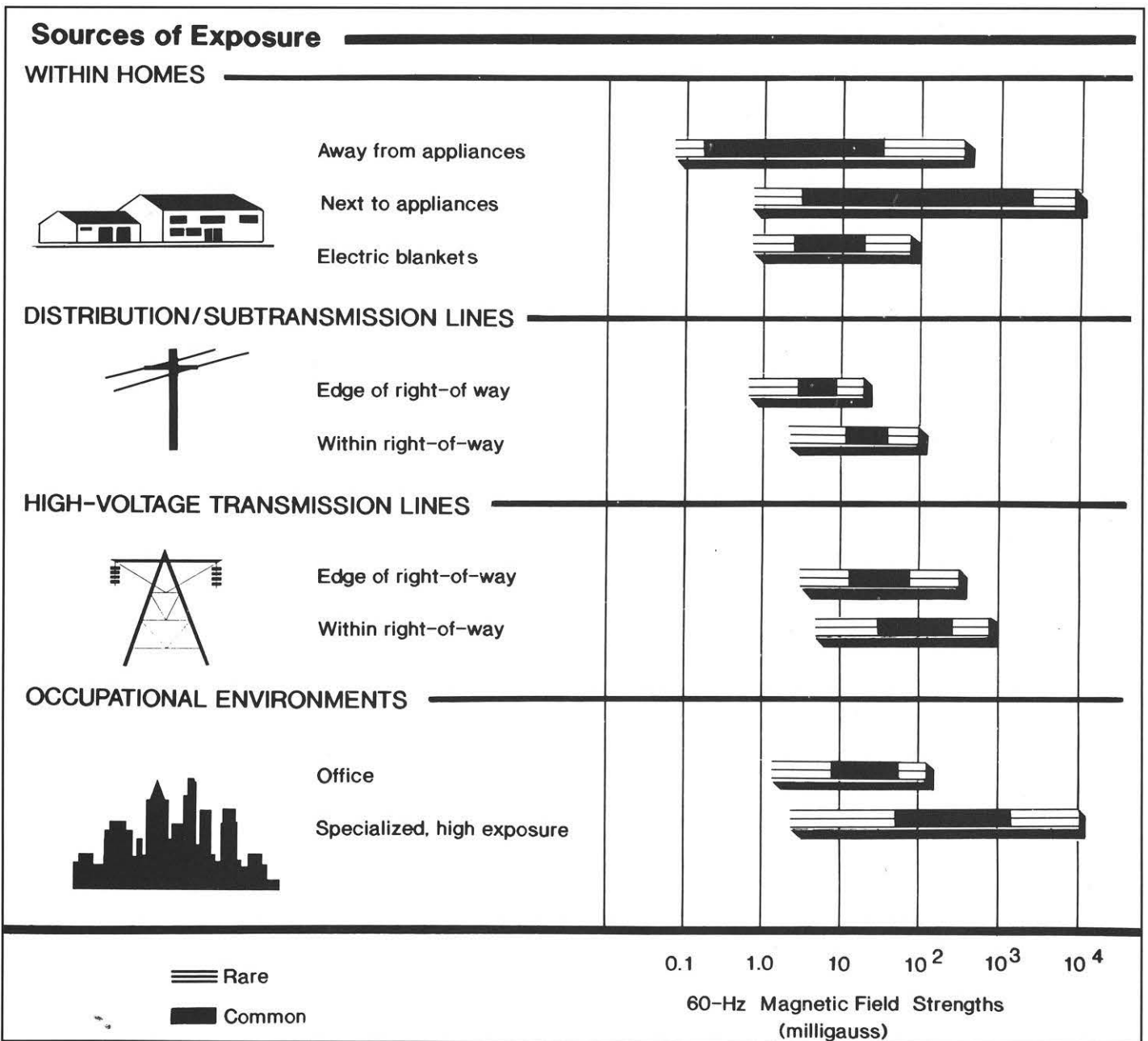
ILLUMINATOR: Is AEP still involved in EMF research?

WARE: Yes, the company is involved in a research and development project with the Bonneville Power Administration on the effect of realistic levels of EMF exposure on livestock in a real-world environment. Specific attention is being given to the hormone melatonin, because it is a sensitive indicator of potential health effects and appeared to be influenced by EMF in earlier laboratory studies.

ILLUMINATOR: What other studies has AEP conducted?



Only electric fields are present when the lamp is off — that is, there is voltage but no current on the electrical cord. Both electric and magnetic fields, however, are present when the lamp is on — meaning that both voltage and current are present.



Exposure to electric and magnetic fields is an inevitable consequence of living in a society that uses electricity. The relative contribution of different sources to overall exposure is not well documented, but it appears that household and workplace appliances and equipment provide at least as much exposure as power lines.

WARE: In addition to the comprehensive study of its linemen, the company conducted a two-year study of crops growing in close proximity to a 1,500-kv transmission test corridor. The results showed “no statistically significant difference in the height or yields of those crops grown in high electric fields as compared with those grown in very low electric fields.”

Extensive studies of farm animals existing in close proximity to extra-high-voltage 765-kv lines also found no harmful effects from EMF.

ILLUMINATOR: What are epidemiological studies and other types of EMF research?

WARE: Epidemiological studies look for a statistical association between disease occurrence and EMF exposure. It’s important to realize that even positive epidemiological findings do not suggest a cause-and-effect relationship between disease and EMF, but merely point out health problems found among people who may have been exposed to EMF as well as to other agents.

For example, Genevieve Matanoski, M.D., at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, MD, recently conducted a study of 50,000 male employees of the New York Telephone Co. In her study, she found a slightly higher number of cases of cancer among telephone linemen — five out of 14,000 workers studied — when compared to the incidence of cancer among the 36,000 other employees who presumably were exposed to lower levels of EMF. The incidence rate of cancer among those linemen, however, was generally lower than for a comparable group of males

in New York State.

Further medical study into the workers' family medical histories and lifestyle habits, such as smoking, is needed to reach a scientific hypothesis about the causes of the cancer.

The data from this study are preliminary, and full details and analysis have not yet been reported. The findings appear to be different from those of another Matanoski study, which found no association between cancer and EMF in a nationwide assessment of 1.2 million telephone company employees.

Other studies of EMF have included exposure assessment studies to determine the amount and sources of exposure to EMF. In addition, laboratory or basic science studies have examined EMF's effects on cells and tissue samples as well as on live animals.

ILLUMINATOR: Why has EMF been in the news recently?

WARE: One reason EMF has received considerable recent media attention is because of a book written by journalist Paul Brodeur called *Currents of Death*. Brodeur's book reports only negative findings regarding EMF, some of which are totally unacceptable to the scientific community. Rather than striving for scientific objectivity, Brodeur dwells on information that supports his notion that EMF exposure is harmful.

There was also widespread reporting of the Matanoski-New York study without any real effort being made to put her epidemiological study into perspective for non-scientific audiences.

It's important to realize that any news story to date suggesting there is conclusive evidence linking illness to EMF — from power lines or any other source — is simply wrong.

ILLUMINATOR: Have independent agencies assessed EMF studies conducted throughout the world?

WARE: Yes. A number of independent agencies have assessed international EMF research. They include: the Colorado Public Utilities Commission, the Virginia Department of Health, the Maryland Public Service Commission, the New York Court of Claims, the Office of Technological Assessment of the U.S. Congress, the National Academy of Sciences, the National Radiological Protection Board of Great Britain, the International Radiation Protection Association and the World Health

Agencies speak out on EMF

A number of independent agencies worldwide have assessed the effects of EMF. The following quotes represent several of their conclusions:

"The perusal of the recently published literature does not perspicuously demonstrate that exposure to electric and/or magnetic fields in the magnitudes produced by high-voltage transmission lines is casually associated with cancer or any other long-term detrimental effects in humans."

— **Virginia Department of Health 12/5/88**

"Analysis of the scientific data does not provide evidence that exposure at present-day levels has a public health impact that would require corrective action."

— **International Radiation Protection Association 5/4/89**

"... regulatory approaches (that) set quantitative 'safe' field strength limits (such as 1kv/m at the edge of the right-of-way) cannot be supported on risk management grounds, given available scientific understanding."

— **U.S. Congress, Office of Technological Assessment 6/89**

"It appears to the court that the claimant's experts believe they see smoke and conclude that five (health hazards) might be present. The defendant's experts don't see any smoke."

"After reviewing all of the scientific testimony and the numerous reports, the court finds that claimant failed to sustain his burden of preponderating in the evidence on the issue that there is a reasonable basis for any fear that power lines cause health problems."

— **Court of Claims, New York 9/29/89**

"There are no known, apparent, adverse health effects resulting from electric and magnetic fields from low-level, overhead power lines."

— **Public Utilities Commission, Colorado 12/20/89**

"While it is acknowledged that there is uncertainty on this issue and that continued oversight of new scientific evidence is necessary, (we) find it inappropriate to set standards for magnetic fields or rights-of-way that have no scientific basis."

— **Public Service Commission, Maryland 12/21/89**

Organization, to name several prominent ones.

None of those organizations has found scientific evidence that power-line-produced EMF causes human illness. (See sidebar for statements by those agencies.)

ILLUMINATOR: Have some states set standards for EMF?

WARE: Yes. A few states have regulated electric fields, and Florida has adopted a standard for magnetic fields. It's important to note, however, that those regulations apply only to new lines and were devised not because of proven harmful effects, but to prevent levels higher than those existing today.

In March 1989, one of the most comprehensive legal examinations of EMF issues to date was begun. Nine months later, Judge Teresa Bay of the Maryland Public Service Commission ruled

in favor of Potomac Electric Power Company's proposed Brighton-High Ridge 500-kv transmission line.

Despite opposition from several parties, Judge Bay ruled it is "inappropriate to set standards for magnetic fields or rights-of-way that have no scientific basis." She also rejected proposals for wider rights-of-way, line redesign, field limits in adjacent homes, rerouting and delay — pending further research.

ILLUMINATOR: What position does AEP take on the EMF issue?

WARE: The weight of scientific evidence gives us confidence that we are providing electricity to our customers in a safe manner. Beyond this, the company has joined with other electric utilities to fund and support a continuing research effort on the issue and is devoting considerable time to assessing the results of on-going studies throughout the world. □

Literacy work leads to White House visit

"When I took literacy tutor training last year, I never dreamed I would end up shaking hands with First Lady Barbara Bush," says Point Pleasant Stenographer Kim Gerlach. "Neither did my student, Wilma Bailes, when she contacted the Mason County Literacy Council for help. But we were invited to the White House for a coffee with the First Lady, and here's how it all came about.

"When I moved up here from Huntington, I was looking for something to fill my evenings," Kim explains. "I have always been a reader, and the Literacy Council seemed right up my alley. After my training, I was paired up with Wilma.

"Last Fall Wilma was selected as a student-delegate from West Virginia to the Second National Adult Literacy Congress, which Mrs. Bush serves as honorary chairman. Two literacy students from each state were chosen to meet and give their input on national literacy issues.

"Wilma and I received \$100 each towards our travel expenses from West Virginia Laubach Literacy, the West Virginia Adult Literacy Coalition, and the Point Pleasant Rotary Club. We were sent a Western Union Mailgram from the White House inviting us to the coffee. We were required to RSVP with our dates of birth and social security numbers and were instructed to bring a photo ID to the White House."

Kim continues, "On the morning of September 8, we flew from Huntington to National Airport in Washington, D. C. That evening we were guests of the International Reading Association at a reception, where we met Rosemarie from New Jersey, whose husband divorced her, in part, because he was ashamed when she admitted to people that she could not read.

"Early Saturday morning, we went to the Marvin Center at George Washington University, where the students were seated alphabetically by states. Each one stood, gave his or her name and state, and told why they needed literacy tutoring. One of the students whose story made an impact on us was Laurence from Louisiana, who lost his arm up to the elbow because he couldn't read a sign which said, 'Do not extend arm into press.'



A whole new world opened up for Wilma Bailes, left, when she learned to read with the help of her tutor, Kim Gerlach, right.

"When it was Wilma's turn, she told what it had meant to her to improve her reading skills, and her words brought tears to many eyes. She was in special education classes during high school. When she started in beauty school, she was asked to read aloud in class, and it was only then that they realized she couldn't read. The other students worked with her, and the teachers gave her oral tests to a large extent. When she completed a year's training, they gave her an award as the most improved student. It was the first time she ever made an A in school."

Kim continues, "Wilma didn't blame the school or her family. She has eight brothers and sisters and didn't get a lot of individual attention when she was growing up. Her dad, who worked on the railroad all his life, couldn't read nor could her older brothers. Wilma's youngest sister, who is six, was having trouble in school until Wilma started helping her, and now she is improving. We go to the library occasionally, and Wilma gets books so that she can read them to her sister."

Kim adds, "After each student gave a speech, they were divided into caucus groups, and Wilma was selected for the Voting Rights caucus. Most of the students in Wilma's group either had never voted or did not vote until they learned to read better. Wilma and several others vowed they would register and vote in the future."

Saturday evening Wilma and Kim attended a reception hosted by USA Today, and on Sunday the students

met to discuss and vote on each group's proclamations on their topic. That afternoon they walked to the Lincoln Memorial for the public reading of the New Readers' Proclamations, and Wilma was interviewed by a TV news team.

Monday morning, after a security check, Wilma and Kim entered the East Room of the White House for the coffee. "The First Lady had a few words to say to everyone (over 200 people) and was very gracious. Mrs. Bush gave a short speech welcoming all the new readers to Washington and the White House, and she compared not being able to read with her own struggle in learning to use a computer. She said she particularly enjoyed reading letters from literacy students who wrote to her about their learning experiences."

The delegates were then taken to Capitol Hill, where they presented copies of the New Readers' Proclamations to their elected representatives. Wilma and Kim, along with the other West Virginia delegate, Chuck Villers, spoke with an aide in Senator Rockefeller's office and asked that the Senator support the Simon and Sawyer literacy bills before Congress. The Literacy Congress concluded with a luncheon on Capitol Hill with representatives from several states.

"The need for tutors is great," Kim says. "Most literacy councils have a waiting list of adults who want tutors. Tutors spend just three hours a week, split into two nights, with their students. I've found it very satisfying, and Wilma wants to become a tutor herself some day." □

Retirements

Bob Coffman



"When my wife Carolyn took early retirement from Blue Cross in 1988, she made it look so good that I was real anxious to join her," said Bob Coffman, right-of-way administrator, GO T&D R/e & R/w, Roanoke. On March 1, after more than 34 years' service, he elected early retirement at age 60.

Bob served in the Air Force from 1951-55 and joined Appalachian just two months following his discharge. "I mentioned to Ira Peters (now retired Roanoke personnel supervisor) that I was looking for a job," Bob recalled, "and he suggested putting in an application at Appalachian. I certainly owe Ira a debt of gratitude for suggesting his company. I don't think I could have asked for a better place as far as benefits and working conditions. I certainly feel grateful."

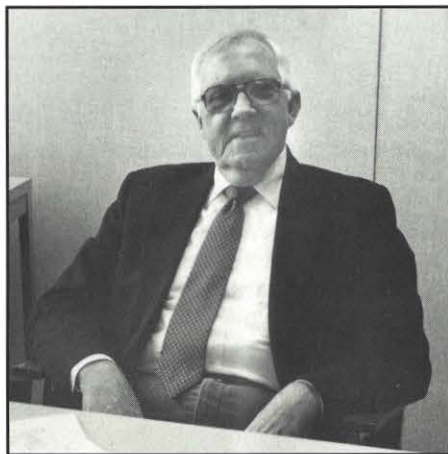
He continued, "People are mighty important, too, and I have enjoyed my co-workers — the ones I worked with every day and others at AEP and the other operating companies I met over the years."

Bob took vacation prior to his official retirement date and immediately headed to Florida. "Carolyn and I both enjoy traveling and hope to have more time for that," he said. "Our next trip will be to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, this summer, when I will be a delegate from my congregation to the Church of the Brethren annual conference. We may try to see some other areas on the way back, including Niagara Falls." The Coffmans enjoy yard work, walking, and golf and expect to spend more

time at their home on Smith Mountain Lake.

"I'm keeping the options open for some type of volunteer work occasionally" Bob said. At the Williamson Road Church of the Brethren in Roanoke, he is a deacon, choir member, and coordinator of the host program. □

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.

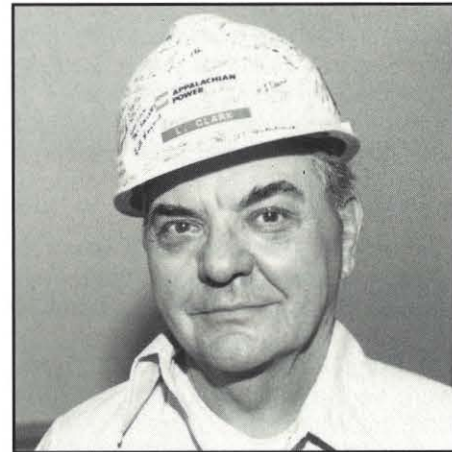
"After the war, I went to Penn State and graduated with a BS degree in forestry. I managed a 2,000-acre rubber plantation in Africa for Firestone Rubber, then practiced forestry in the Douglas Fir area of the northwest in the State of Washington. After that I came back east in northern hardwoods forest 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." □

Larry Clark



When Larry Clark turned down a job promotion a couple of years ago, it was because he wanted to give something back to the company he felt had given him so much. Larry, who retired February 1 as assistant shift operating engineer at Philip Sporn Plant, explained: "I knew I'd be retiring soon, and I wanted to spend the rest of my time there educating the people coming up through the system. The operating systems take a lot of knowledge, a lot of know-how. I felt honored the company thought enough of me to allow me to do that." Larry's 42 years in the AEP System provided him with the skills to be an excellent teacher. One of his greatest achievements, he said, was marking 42 years without a disabling injury.

"I'd never be a thing without the people I worked with," added Larry. "People never worked for me, they worked with me. I had a wonderful career."

Retirement means not only a drastic change in lifestyle for Larry but also a new home for him and his wife La-Donna. They recently moved from Pomeroy to Nashport, Ohio.

Larry expects fishing and gardening will occupy much of his leisure time. No major trips are planned for the time being. Larry served in the U. S. Navy from 1944-46 and is a member of American Legion Post 39 in Pomeroy and the VFW in Mason, WV. He has three step-children, seven step-grandchildren, and three step-great-grandchildren. □

David Oldaker



"I was looking for a steady job, and I found one at Amos Plant," said Coal Equipment Operator David Oldaker, who retired on March 1. "In fact, it was one of the steadiest jobs I ever had. I worked at several other places and either got laid off or the place closed down."

David was hired as a utility man B in 1971 and worked as a coal handler and barge handler before being promoted to coal equipment operator in 1974. "I was on the locomotive for several years," he recalled. "I liked all the jobs I had at the plant although some of them were rough in the winter."

David, who has been on long term disability leave since 1985, appreciated the LTD benefit. "It would have been hard to get along without it." He added, "The guys at the plant were all real nice. When you have been working for a long time (18 years), you miss it." The AEP coal barges traveling up and

down the Kanawha River in front of his home are a constant reminder of his years at the power company.

David's activities are somewhat limited for health reasons, and he spends a great deal of time watching television or reading. "I read encyclopedias," he said, "and I've learned a lot of things I didn't know."

The Oldakers have two sons, two grandchildren, and two step-grandchildren. □

Pee Wee Jones



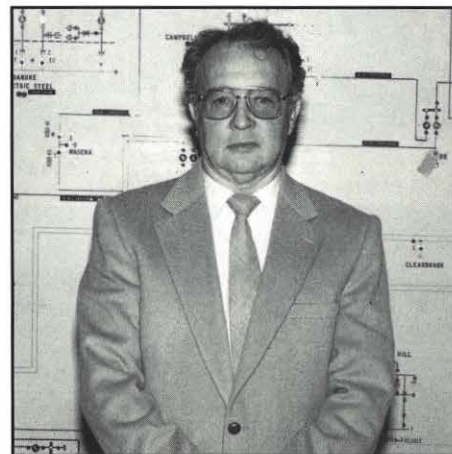
"The river has been my career since I was 15 years old," claims Clarence 'Pee Wee' Jones, Amos Plant harbor boat operator. "I started out wheeling coal on a steam boat. In fact, I kid everybody that I pushed a wheelbarrow from Pittsburgh to Memphis and back. I towed sand and gravel up the Kanawha River when the West Virginia Turnpike was built the first time, and I towed sand and gravel when the Kanawha River and Philip Sporn Plants were built, too. I even hauled the sand to fill those big cells on the river behind Amos Plant. All that was before I hired on here in 1970."

Pee Wee continues, "I took a cut in pay to come, but it was a steady job and close to home. It seemed like I had been away from home all my life. Another thing, too, I applied for a job because I knew the company was buying a boat that I had experience running. I don't have any idea how many men I've helped train, dozens I'm sure. Appalachian has been a good company to work for, and I'll miss my friends here."

Pee Wee adds, "I'm also going to miss talking to my friends on the marine radio as they pass by on their boats. If I get bored, I can always go out on the river again because my license is good for three more years."

Pee Wee enjoys fishing, hunting, and working on automobiles. He also works on lawn mowers and chain saws as a hobby. "My youngest son is a foreman in the coal yard for Gulf State Utilities, and I'm going to spend some time fishing with him down in Louisiana," Pee Wee concludes. □

Neil Smith



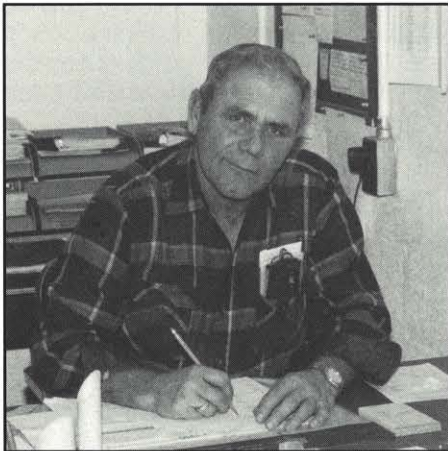
"I thank Appalachian for providing three generations of my family with a good life," said Neil Smith upon his retirement March 1 as regional dispatcher in GO Operations, Roanoke. "My grandfather, father, two uncles, and a brother all worked for Appalachian. Right through the Depression my father was able to feed us and help other families who didn't have anything."

Neil continued, "I was born and raised in a company-owned house at Niagara Hydro. My brother, Carl Smith, retired last year, and I am the last one. I hope Appalachian can survive the shock!"

He added, "I love all the people at Appalachian, and I will keep in touch. My biggest plan for retirement is not to make any plans. I play a little golf, fish, and hunt and I love to read. I'll read soup cans if nothing else," he laughed.

Neil and his wife Grace will continue to live in Vinton. An Air Force veteran, he is a Sunday School teacher at the Jetters Chapel Church of the Brethren. □

Horsey Fowler



"I never asked the power company for a job," claimed C. E. 'Horsey' Fowler, Point Pleasant line construction and maintenance representative. He explained, "I dropped out of Marshall University on a Friday, and Monday morning the personnel supervisor, Billy Gilmore, called and asked if I would like to work for Appalachian." Horsey hired on as a groundman and 37 years later, on March 1, he elected early retirement.

"Appalachian has been real good to me," Horsey added. "I made a living here and raised my family, and I have no regrets. But I had bypass surgery six years ago; and, even though I haven't had a minute's problem, I may as well enjoy life while my health is good. The big thing is that I'll miss the people I worked with."

Horsey continued, "We have no intention of leaving Point Pleasant because this is home, although we hope to spend at least a month each year in Florida. We have one daughter here and a son and grandson in Chicago we'll be visiting. I have a boat and like to fish on the river. I also have a little property in town I'll be working on and a shop where I refinish furniture and antiques."

Horsey retired from the West Virginia National Guard after 25 years' service. He is a member of the Bellemeade United Methodist Church, Masonic and Moose Lodges, and American Legion. □

Oscar Fowler



World War II interrupted Oscar Fowler's high school studies; but, once the war was over, he continued his education at Marshall University for two and a half years. Oscar came to work for Appalachian in Huntington as a junior clerk in 1949 and rose through various positions before being promoted to engineering technician senior in 1977. Along the way he studied electrical engineering through ICS.

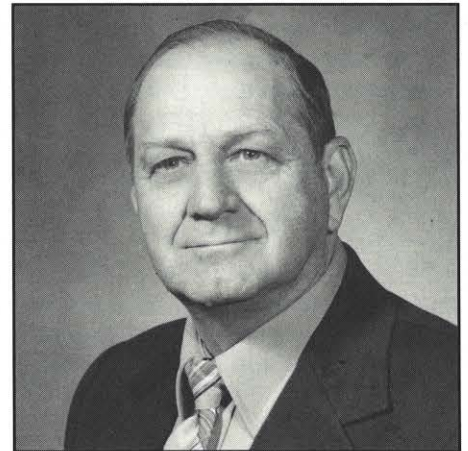
Oscar, who elected early retirement on March 1, said, "I had a lot of enjoyable times with the company and I met a lot of interesting people. I ended up in overhead lines, but I enjoyed my underground experiences, too, because it was kind of a natural for me. I believe my best times with the company, though, were as an inspector when we were upgrading our local substations to 69 kv.

"I've worked for the power company for more than 40 years, and my thoughts have been electricity for a long time," he said. "It will take a little doing to get it out of my mind. But now I hope to completely change my life around.

"I have a 27-acre farm in Ohio, which I hope to sell, so that I can move to North Carolina where one of my daughters lives. When I get there, I want to buy a boat and do a lot of ocean fishing, golfing, and camping out." In Huntington he lifts weights and jogs at the local YMCA.

Oscar has two daughters, and three grandchildren. □

Wes Walker



A utility career spanning more than 33 years came to a close on March 1 with the early retirement of Wes Walker, Beckley right of way agent.

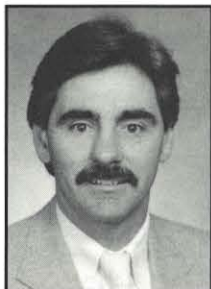
A native of Rich Creek, Virginia, Wes joined Appalachian in 1956 as a groundman. He rose through the ranks as a material clerk, head material clerk, and engineering aide before being named in 1978 to the position he held at retirement. Wes spent the majority of his career in Beckley except for a stint with the Charleston engineering department.

"I've enjoyed working for the company," he claimed. "It's been a good experience in more ways than one."

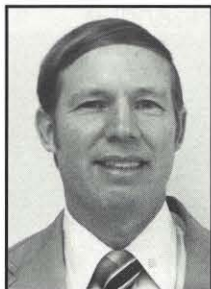
Retirement will provide Wes more time for his woodworking hobby. "I've made a lot of furniture," he said, "as well as clocks and other pieces. I also do needlework and macrame and usually make my own Christmas gifts." A past master of the Masonic Lodge, Wes also enjoys gardening.

He and his wife Janice expect to travel some but, Wes said, "We always like to come back home." The Walkers have one son and three daughters. □

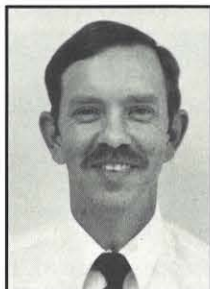
Promotions



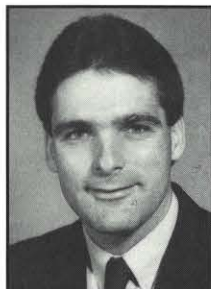
McMillian



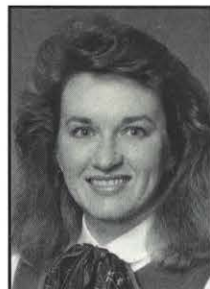
Watson



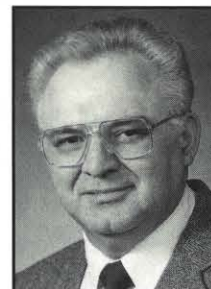
Reed



Booth



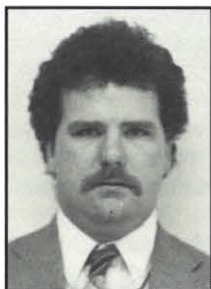
Moore



Martin



Ohlinger



Barton



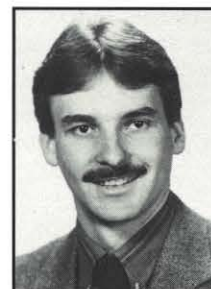
Darnell



Gillenwater



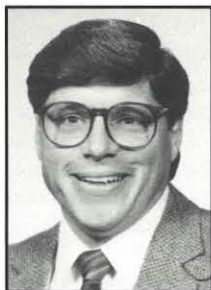
Grayson



Shaffron



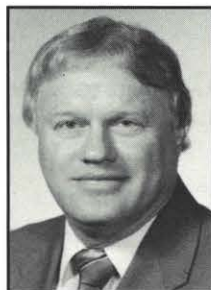
Marshall



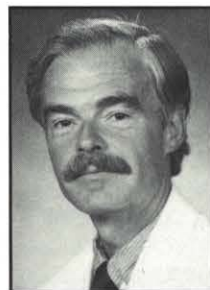
Lough



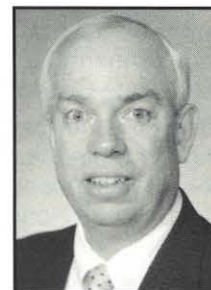
Barley



Dillon



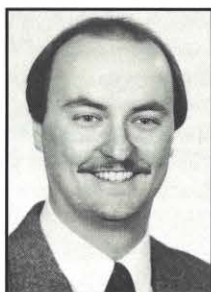
Yost



Arnold



Mitchell



Nichols

Wesley E. McMillian, line mechanic A, was promoted to line crew supervisor NE in Roanoke on January 13.

Virgil W. Watson, unit supervisor, was promoted to assistant shift operating engineer at Philip Sporn Plant on January 1.

Don E. Reed, unit supervisor, was promoted to assistant shift operating engineer at Philip Sporn Plant on January 1.

Mark W. Booth, electrical engineer, was promoted to electrical engineer senior in Huntington on January 1. He holds a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering from the West Virginia Institute of Technology.

Dale P. Moore, rate analyst, was promoted to rate analyst senior, GO Rates & Contracts, Roanoke, on November 1. She holds a bachelor of science degree in mathematics from Roanoke College and an MBA in mathematics from Radford University.

Thomas Ray Martin, stores attendant senior, was promoted to transmission stores supervisor, GO T&D Transmission, Roanoke, on December 1.

Johnny R. Ohlinger, equipment operator A, was promoted to unit supervisor at Philip Sporn Plant on January 1.

John F. Barton, equipment operator A, was promoted to unit supervisor at

Philip Sporn Plant on January 1.

Paul M. Darnell, Jr., Amos Plant unit supervisor, was promoted to instructor-operator training, GO Plant Operator Training, Amos Plant, on December 1.

Harold D. Gillenwater, station mechanic A, was promoted to safety and training coordinator in Kingsport on January 1. He attended East Tennessee State University.

Harold Lynn Grayson, right of way maintenance coordinator senior, GO T&D Forestry, Charleston, was promoted to forestry control and utilization superintendent, GO T&D Distribution, Roanoke, on February 1. He holds a bachelor of science degree in forestry from West Virginia University.

Andy Shaffron, electrical engineer, was promoted to electrical engineer senior in Charleston on January 1. He holds a

bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering from West Virginia University.

Brenda Marshall, customer services representative B, was promoted to customer services office supervisor for Welch and Pineville on February 1.

Bernard E. Lough, line mechanic A, was promoted to line crew supervisor NE in Beckley on February 10.

Robert L. Barley, line crew supervisor NE, was promoted to service supervisor in Beckley on February 1.

Charles R. Dillon, engineering technician senior, was promoted to right of way agent in Beckley on January 1. He holds a bachelor of science degree in business administration from Morris Harvey College (University of Charleston).

Bob Yost, engineering technologist, was promoted to engineering technologist supervisor in Bluefield on March 1. He holds an associate in science degree in engineering technology from Bluefield State College.

George S. Arnold, customer accounting control supervisor, was promoted to customer accounting supervisor, GO Accounting, Roanoke, on February 1. He holds an associate in science degree in business from Virginia Western Community College and a bachelor of science in business administration from Roanoke College.

Thomas E. Mitchell, accounting staff assistant senior, was promoted to senior accounting administrator, GO Accounting, Roanoke, on February 1. He holds a bachelor of arts degree in government from the University of Notre Dame, a bachelor of science in accounting from Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University, and an MBA in finance from VPI&SU.

F. Don Nichols, II, Charleston energy services engineer, was promoted to energy services coordinator, GO Marketing and Customer Services, Roanoke, on March 1. He holds a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering from the West Virginia Institute of Technology.

Abingdon

Walter Carlton from line mechanic B to line mechanic A, Clintwood.

Lester Hill from line mechanic C to line mechanic B, Clintwood.

John Amos

Russell Burgess from maintenance mechanic B to maintenance mechanic A.

Terry Burdette from maintenance mechanic B to maintenance mechanic A.

Rex Eggleton from maintenance mechanic C to maintenance mechanic B.

Richard Rutledge from maintenance mechanic C to maintenance mechanic B.

Terry Workman from control technician junior to control technician.

Charles Perry from maintenance mechanic B to maintenance mechanic A.

Robert Massey from maintenance mechanic C to maintenance mechanic B.

Kenneth Tucker from utility worker to coal handler.

Bluefield

Mike Thomson from T&D clerk C to area T&D clerk B, Welch.

Central Machine Shop

Larry Blankenship from machinist 2nd class to machinist 1st class.

Charleston

Alan Withrow from line mechanic D to line mechanic C.

Bruce Burns from line mechanic D to line mechanic C.

General Office

Albert Smith from transmission equipment operator to transmission equipment operator senior, GO T&D Transmission, Kenova.

Leslie Woods from transmission mechanic C to transmission mechanic B, GO T&D Transmission, Bluefield.

Glen Lyn

Doris Long from utility worker B to utility worker A.

Huntington

Carla Mallory from junior clerk to T&D clerk C.

Jennifer Black from customer services representative D to customer services representative C.

Howard Carver from automotive mechanic C to automotive mechanic B.

Kingsport

Norman Rochowiak from meter reader to line mechanic D.

Pulaski

Jeff Repass from station mechanic C to line mechanic B.

Roanoke

Donald Hall from line mechanic B to line mechanic A.

Timothy Rogers from line mechanic B to line mechanic A.

Philip Sporn

Barrett Lanier from maintenance mechanic B to maintenance mechanic A.

Michael Plymale from maintenance mechanic C to maintenance mechanic B.

Kelvin Honaker from maintenance mechanic C to maintenance mechanic B.

Raymond Willford from maintenance mechanic C to maintenance mechanic B.

Charles Towner from maintenance mechanic C to maintenance mechanic B.

William Little from maintenance mechanic C to maintenance mechanic B.

Kevin Gallagher from maintenance mechanic C to maintenance mechanic B.

Mark MacKnight from maintenance mechanic D to maintenance mechanic C.

Scott Howell from maintenance mechanic D to maintenance mechanic C.

Robert Duckworth from maintenance mechanic D to maintenance mechanic C.

Gary Short from maintenance mechanic D to maintenance mechanic C.

Charles Roush from maintenance mechanic D to maintenance mechanic C.

Robert Hysell from maintenance mechanic D to maintenance mechanic C.

Perry Kennedy from utility worker A to coal handler.

Jason Hysell from plant janitor to utility worker B.

Lynne Smith from control technician junior to control technician.

William Martin from equipment operator B to equipment operator A.

Calvin Engle from equipment operator B to equipment operator A.

Matthew Matics from equipment operator C to equipment operator B.

Brady Huffman from equipment operator C to equipment operator B.

Charles Dalton from utility worker A to equipment operator C.

Russell Phillips from coal handler to equipment operator C.

Richard Harmon from barge handler to tripper operator.

Randy Meaige from coal handler to barge handler.

Roger Fink from utility worker B to utility worker A.

Danny Porter from utility worker B to utility worker A. □

Weddings

MackKnight-Young



Ginger L. Young, Philip Sporn Plant chemist assistant, to **Mark A. MacKnight**, Philip Sporn Plant maintenance mechanic C, December 2.

Duffy-Berry



Patricia S. Berry, secretary, GO Executive, Roanoke, to F. Wayne Duffy, January 20.

Paul-Rutledge

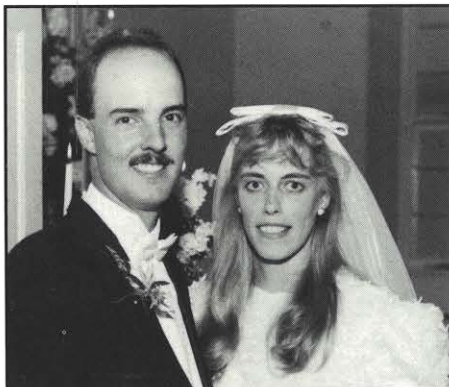
Tracy Elizabeth Rutledge to **Scott Paul**, Charleston line mechanic D, January 19. □

Wed 50 years



Mary and Charles Hamblin, retired Charleston groundman, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary recently. They have 6 daughters, 3 sons, 15 grandchildren, and 6 great-grandchildren.

Knowles-Greer



Amy Jill Greer to **Steven Lewis Knowles**, Christiansburg marketing and customer services advisor, August 5.

Sain-Custer



Paulette C. Custer, general records clerk A, GO Accounting, Roanoke, to Jack Sain, December 9.

Golden anniversary



Lila and Alva "Shorty" Shepherd celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on January 12 in New Smyrna Beach, Florida, where they have been winter residents for nine years. Shorty is retired Hillsville area supervisor and Lisa is a retired school teacher in the Carroll County school system. They have three children and four grandchildren.

Births

Abingdon

Katie Lynn, daughter of **Mike Jones**, engineering supervisor, January 8.

Charleston

Nolan Adam, son of **Merrel Sankoff**, electrical engineer, January 26.

Clinch River

Travis Michael, son of **Jerry Johnson**, equipment operator C, January 3.

General Office

Megan Elizabeth, daughter of **James R. Thrasher**, civil engineer-hydro, GO Hydro, Roanoke, January 18.

Glen Lyn

Erin Alexandra, daughter of **Angela Mann**, plant clerk C, January 31.

Huntington

Jacob Tyler, son of **Mark Allen Meadows**, line mechanic D, January 24.

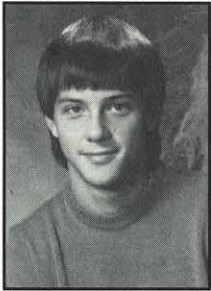
Philip Sporn

Cassady Rayne, son of **Raymond Willford**, maintenance mechanic B, January 25.

Chelsea Elizabeth, daughter of **Clarence Watt, II**, control technician, January 5. □

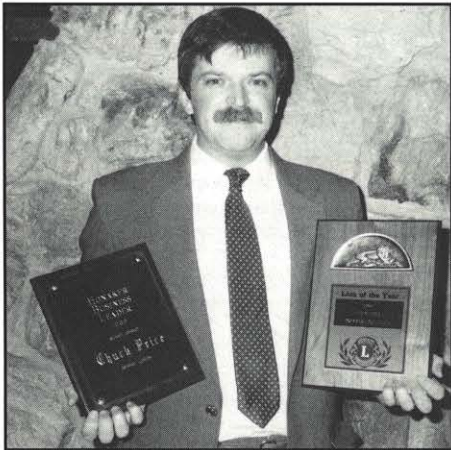
Who's News

Abingdon



Tracy, son of Ron Gill, stores and garage supervisor, has been inducted into the Alpha Gamma Rho Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa at Virginia Highlands Community College. Students selected for membership

must have established academic excellence as judged by the college faculty, be of good moral character, and possess qualities of leadership.



Chuck, husband of Stenographer Brenda Price, has been named "Lion of the Year" by the Honaker Lions Club. This award recognizes outstanding service to the local community and club. He also was named "Honaker Business Leader 1989" at the Honaker Jaycees annual award banquet. Chuck is a pharmacist at B & B Pharmacy in Honaker.

Marshall Hughes, Clintwood line crew supervisor, has been installed as secretary of the Clintwood Masonic Lodge #66.

Jim Farmer, Lebanon area supervisor, has been named to the board of directors of the Russell County Chamber of Commerce.

Officers of the Employees Benevolent Association include Bill Roeser, president; Diana Haynes, secretary; and Randy Cooper, treasurer.

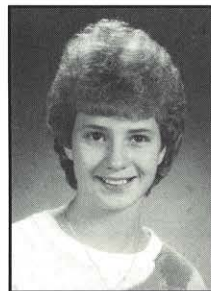


For the fourth consecutive year, Freddie Williams has won the Scott County Spelling Bee. A seventh grader at Gate City Middle School, Freddie first won her grade (7-8) division and then captured the top honor at the

Scott County Vocational Center. She will represent Scott County at the 1990 Scripps/Howard National Spelling Bee May 27-June 2 in Washington, D.C. This will be her second year of national competition. Freddie is the daughter of Phyllis Williams, Gate City customer services representative C.

Kate, daughter of Ryland Jennings, Gate City meter reader, won the third and fourth grade division of the Scott County Spelling Bee. □

Kanawha River



Tonia, daughter of John Jones, maintenance mechanic C, was inducted into the National Honor Society at Montgomery Middle School and elected its vice president. She also was named most studious and

most athletic.

Wallace, son of B. B. Briggs, instrument mechanic B, completed the Federal Aviation's air traffic controller test with honors. As the second highest scorer in the Eastern United States, Wallace was permitted to select the airport of his choice. He is working at the Bluegrass Field Airport, Lexington, Kentucky. □

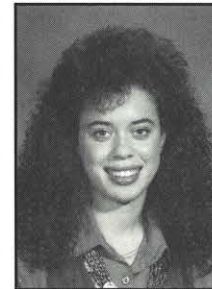
Charleston

Carl Charlton and his grandson, Donald, won \$340 in the West Virginia Lottery. Donald told Carl to bet the numbers 882 because he is 8 years old and was born in '82. Donald boxed the three digits and Carl bet the three digits straight. Carl is the husband of Mona Sue Charlton, senior telephone operator. □

Huntington

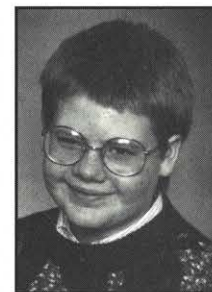


Lacey, daughter of Line Superintendent Harold Wiseman, won \$100 in the *Huntington Herald Dispatch* Trim-A-Tree contest. She colored the photo in the local newspaper and added cut-outs.



Melissa, daughter of Sonny Garnes, Point Pleasant customer services representative A, was named to the All-SEOAL triumvirate. A junior at Gallia Academy, she is a three year letterman on the volleyball team. She recorded a 96.9 percent serving average, was 150 for 189 from the spiking line (29) kills, and had a team best 75.4 percent serve-receive average for the season. Melissa was awarded a plaque.

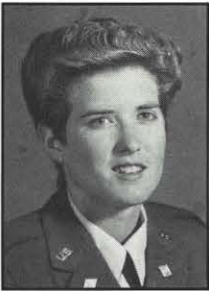
Michael, son of Mike Barbour, drafter B, was inducted into the National Junior Honor Society of Barbourville Middle School.





Courtney, daughter of Jerry Vest, customer services office supervisor, was chosen as a cheerleader of Beverly Hills Middle School for the 1989-90 school year. □

Roanoke



2nd Lieutenant Cheryl Bullard has been selected to attend law school under the Army's funded legal education program. She was one of 15 officers chosen out of 141 applicants for the fully funded program.

The daughter of Earl Bullard, retired Fieldale engineering technician senior, she received her commission as a finance officer in May 1988 after graduating magna cum laude from the University of Tampa on a reserve officer training corps scholarship. She is an executive officer for an advanced individual training company at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indiana. She will begin law school in August and will continue to serve on active duty during school.

Rob Glenn, marketing and customer services manager, has been elected to a one-year term as treasurer of ARC-CHD Industries, a sheltered workshop for the handicapped. He will serve on the Workshop's executive committee.

J. D. Higgins, Fieldale manager, was named to the board of trustees of the Memorial Hospital of Martinsville and Henry County.

Donnie Robins, human resources supervisor, has been awarded the Navy Achievement Medal for professional achievement in the superior performance of his duties while serving as the command senior enlisted advisor in the Naval Reserve COMSUBLANT Detachment 206, Roanoke, from 26 July 1988 to 30 September 1989. □

Beckley

Emory McGuffin, Oak Hill collector, was elected to the board of directors of the West Virginia Sports Festival.

Matthew, son of Herb Stover, Oak Hill T&D clerk C, and a first grader at Central Elementary, has been selected "student of the month" for the second time during this school year.

Marquita, daughter of Clifford Washington, station mechanic A, and a student at Woodrow Wilson High School, was honored by Marshall University as one of the outstanding black high school students in the Tri-State area.

Jeff, son of Ray Vest, administrative assistant, has been inducted into the Gamma Beta Phi National Honor Society at Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University. □

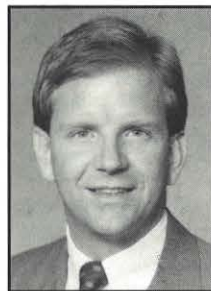
Bluefield

Roger Jones, marketing and customer services supervisor, was elected to a second three-year term on the board of directors of the United Way of the Virginias.

Ted White, division superintendent, was elected to the Princeton-Mercer County Chamber of Commerce board of directors.

Jesse Foster, Grundy meter reader, was elected marshall of Sandy Valley Masonic Lodge No. 17 for 1990. □

General Office



Mark Lawrence, administrative assistant to the president, has been awarded the Virginia Jaycees' highest honor, a life membership. A member of the Roanoke Jaycees since 1986, he has

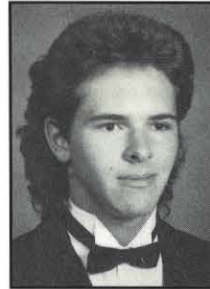
served as director, community development vice president, and president. He currently is chairman of the board of the chapter. Mark also has been elected to a two-year term on the board of directors of the American Cancer Society, Roanoke Valley unit.



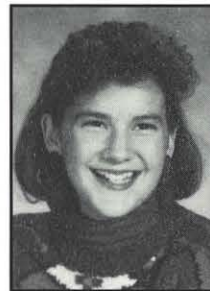
Laura, daughter of Richard Reed, meter supervising engineer, GO T&D Meter, Roanoke, was selected for inclusion in *Who's Who Among Students In American Colleges and Universities*. She is a

senior at Roanoke College, majoring in criminology.

Greg Holland, meter reading supervisor, GO Marketing & Customer Services, Roanoke, is the new president of the Backbone Club. He will serve on the board of directors of the Roanoke Regional Chamber of Commerce for 1990. The Backbone Club is the membership arm of the chamber, and its members serve as a recruitment team with a year-end goal of \$45,000 in new member investments.



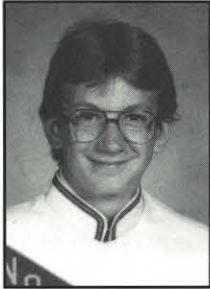
Mark Swart, Jr., was selected by audition as first chair trombone for the All-District VI concert band. The son of Mark Swart, hydro mechanic A, GO Hydro, Leesville, Mark is a senior at Gretna High School.



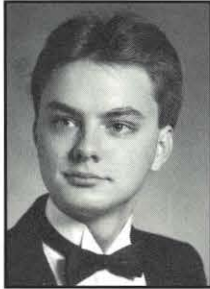
Children of three employees were selected by audition for the All-District VI symphonic band. **Melanie**, daughter of Betty Lou Carter, editor of publications, GO Public Affairs, Roanoke, was second chair

mallets. She is a member of the marching and concert bands at Northside High School and the Roanoke Youth Symphony. **Jeff**, son of Lewis Sturm, engineering technologist, GOT&D Communications, Roanoke, was second chair alto sax. He is a member of the marching and concert bands at Northside High School and band president. **Todd**, son of Jim Fariss, hydro operations superintendent, GO Hydro, Roanoke, was fifth chair trombone. He is a member

of the marching and concert bands at Cave Spring Senior High School and band president.



S Sturm



Fariss

Kristi, daughter of Jack Kirby, staff engineer, GO T&D Administrative, Roanoke, won second place in the Roanoke District of the 1989-90 National PTA Reflections contest. She competed in the music category, primary division, and composed a song titled "Where Does the Sky End?" To qualify for county competition, she won first place in her division at Penn Forest Elementary School. □

Mountaineer



Aaron, son of Beryl Wilson, Jr., assistant shift operating engineer, participated in the Kent All-Star Band at Kent State University in January. Applicants were selected from over 90 high schools in Ohio and Pennsylvania. Aaron received leadership and best musician awards at Eastern High School's fall marching band banquet. □

APCo teams raise \$1,379 for JA



Three teams of Lynchburg Division employees participated in the Junior Achievement Bowl-a-Thon, raising \$1,379.93 for the organization. Participants included, front row, l. to r., David Burnette, meter reader; Mary Johnson, customer services representative C; and Renea Harrison, meter reader. Second row, l. to r., Ted Jordan, station mechanic C; Tammy Love, meter reader; Ann Wade, customer services representative C; Brenda Irby, stenographer; and Carol Read, customer services representative D. Back row, l. to r., Jim Dalton, station crew supervisor NE; Larry Rakes, marketing and customer services supervisor; Lawrence Johnson, husband of Mary Johnson; Tommy Meador, meter reader; Jeff Wade, husband of Ann Wade; Boo Jones, Jr., meter reader; David Humphreys, customer services assistant; and Chris Nicholas, son of Ann Wade.

Pulaski

Joe Weddle, division superintendent, was appointed to fill an unexpired term on the New River Valley Planning District Commission. He represents the Town of Pulaski as a citizen member.

Chuck Talley, line superintendent, was elected senior warden of the church vestry of Christ Episcopal Church in Pulaski.

Fred Fowler, right of way agent, was elected chairman of the Wythe County Planning District Commission. He has been a Commission member for ten years.

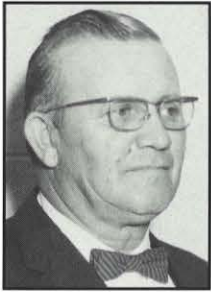
Elwood Bobbitt, Galax line crew supervisor NE, was elected a junior deacon of the Oldtown Masonic Lodge, Galax.

Gene Musser, Hillsville line crew supervisor NE, was installed as fire chief of the Hillsville Volunteer Fire Department for 1990. His son, **Steve**, is secre-

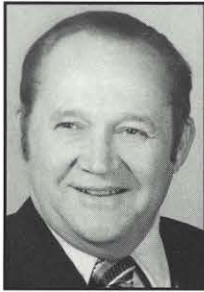
tary of the department. Steve was recognized during a recent awards ceremony for having the highest number of training hours for 1989. Gene's wife **Mebus** was elected president of the HVFD Ladies Auxiliary.

Larrie Bucklen, Wytheville marketing and customer services representative senior, is president of the Wytheville Rotary Club for 1990-91. He will serve as editor of the club's monthly newsletter, *The Windmill*. □

Friends We'll Miss



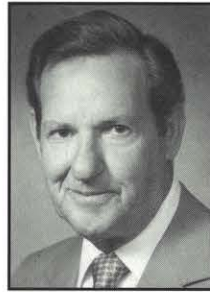
Langford



Armstrong



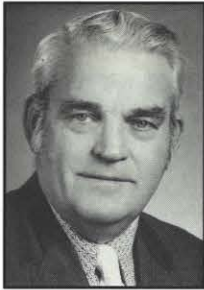
Wilson



Sutphin



White



Slusser



Rader

Morris Alton Langford, 75, retired Lynchburg line crew supervisor NE, died January 21. A native of Bedford County, Virginia, he was employed in 1937 as a groundman and retired in 1979. Langford is survived by his wife Esther, Route 7, Box 91, Lynchburg, VA; one son; two

daughters; eight grandchildren, two great-grandchildren; two sisters; and two brothers.

Dorsey Vernon Armstrong, 77, retired joint pole use supervisor, GO T&D Engineering, Roanoke, died January 26. A native of Page County, Virginia,

he joined Appalachian in 1937 as a draftsman and retired in 1978. Armstrong is survived by his wife Ruth, 1929 Sheffield Road, Roanoke, VA, and three stepdaughters.

Austin Wilson, 78, retired Galax meter reader, died January 29. A native of Sturgis, Kentucky, he was hired in 1945 as a lineman B and retired in 1973. Wilson is survived by six sons; two daughters; 12 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; five sisters; and one brother.

James P. Sutphin, 60, transmission station mechanic A, GO T&D Station, Bluefield, died February 11. A native of Montcalm, West Virginia, he began his career in 1953 as a stationman helper in Welch. Sutphin is survived by his wife Mary Lou, 2813 Marellen Avenue, Bluefield, WV; one son; and six sisters.

James Bell White, 74, retired Lynchburg division manager, died January 29. A native of Bristol, Virginia, he began his career in 1938 as a draftsman in Pulaski and retired in 1977. White is survived by his wife Virginia, Route 4, Box 206C, Lynchburg, VA; two sons; four grandchildren; one sister; and one brother.

Claude L. "Tut" Slusser, 73, retired Huntington general line supervisor, died January 29. A native of Sheffield, Illinois, he was employed in 1938 as a groundman and retired in 1979. Slusser is survived by his wife Ada, 118 Wilson Court, Huntington, WV; and one son.

Roy J. Rader, 86, retired boiler maintenance mechanic A at Cabin Creek Plant, died January 10. A native of St. Albans, West Virginia, he was hired in 1936 as a maintenance man and retired in 1965. Rader is survived by two sons. □

Hunters Score

Bluefield

Roger Jones, marketing and customer services supervisor, 8-pt. and 5-pt. bucks and doe.

John Ratliff, general servicer, 3 deer and 1 doe (with muzzle loader) and 2 does (with rifle).

Charleston

Kenneth Chambers, automotive mechanic A, 125-lb., 6-pt. buck.

Roanoke

R. G. McGee, Fieldale line crew supervisor NE, 135-lb., 5-pt. buck.

J. R. Newman, Fieldale line crew supervisor NE, 150-lb spike buck and 120-lb. doe.

Tim East, Fieldale automotive mechanic B, 150-lb., 5-pt. buck.

John Bussey, Fieldale meter electrician A, 135-lb., 4-pt. buck and 2 does.

Steve Foster, Fieldale automotive mechanic A, 135-lb., 4-pt. buck and 125-lb. spike buck.

Earl Joyce, Fieldale marketing and customer services collector, 150-lb., 8-pt. buck.

Doug Morris, Fieldale line construction and maintenance representative, 125-lb. doe.

Doug Cooper, Fieldale line crew supervisor B, 160-lb., 8-pt. buck.

Gary Sheppard, Fieldale line mechanic A, 155-lb., 8-pt. buck.

David Swisher, Fieldale marketing and customer services advisor, 135-lb., 6-pt. buck and 10-lb. turkey.

J. E. Nichols, Jr., Fieldale area superintendent, 145-lb., 9-pt. buck and 12-lb. turkey.

S. J. Shivley, Stuart line mechanic A, doe, spike, 7-pt. buck.

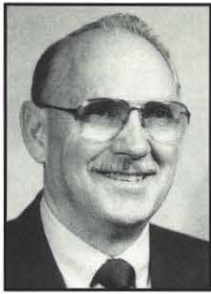
D. W. Cooper, Stuart line crew supervisor B, 8-pt. buck.

W. H. Terry, Stuart engineering technician senior, 4-pt. buck.

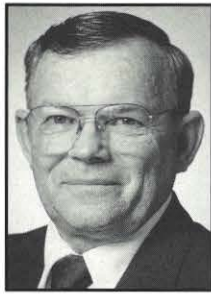
T. M. Greer, Stuart line mechanic A, 20-lb. 12-oz. gobbler.

G. A. Sheppard, Stuart line mechanic A, 8-pt. buck. □

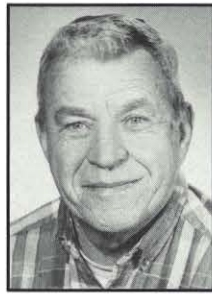
Service Anniversaries



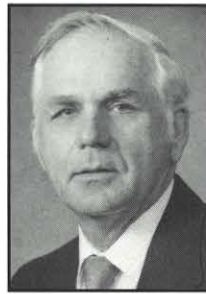
Dave Spivey
garage supervisor
Pulaski
35 years



Jeff Bryant
sta. crew supv.
Kingsport
35 years



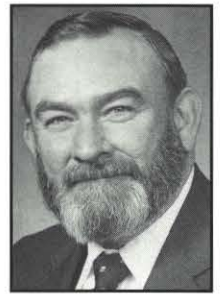
James Bradley
meter serv. mech. A
Charleston
35 years



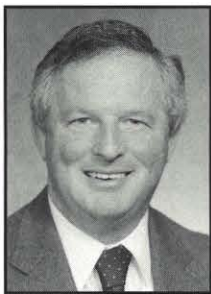
Herman St. Clair
sta. supt.-div.
Bluefield
30 years



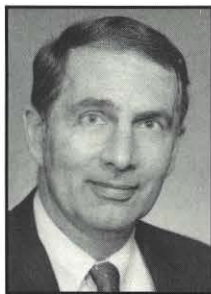
Brenda Harvey
hum. res. clk. A
Huntington
25 years



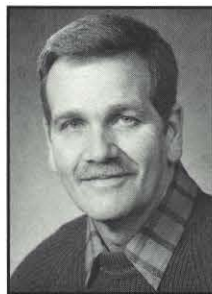
Buck Branscome
line crew supv. NE
Princeton
25 years



Bill Loope
sta. crew supv. NE
Roanoke
25 years



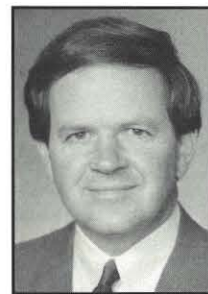
Russell Wise
dist. staff eng.
GO-Roanoke
25 years



Ernest Harmon
trans. line crew supv.
Bluefield
25 years



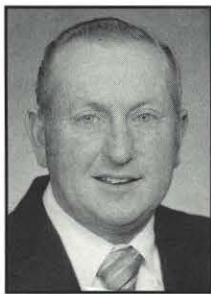
Ronnie Wray
stores & gar. supv.
Fieldale
20 years



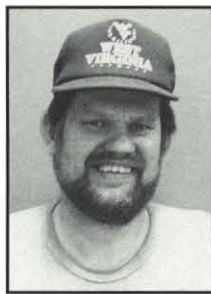
Dan Carson
executive asst.
GO-Roanoke
20 years



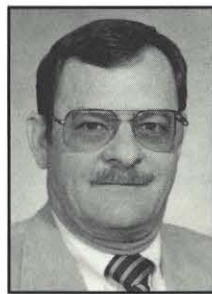
George Korn
maint. mech. A
CPM
20 years



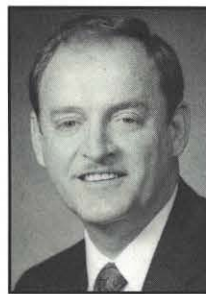
Fred Dearing
automotive supv. NE
Roanoke
20 years



George Reed
equipment op. A
Philip Sporn
20 years



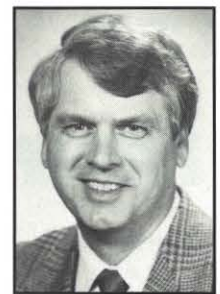
Richard Hartless
assoc. programmer
GO-Roanoke
20 years



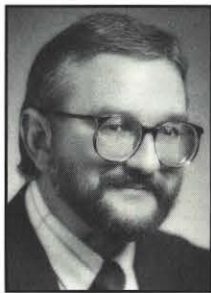
Butch Cahill
R/w agent
Bluefield
20 years



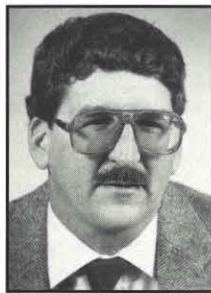
Ray Mullen
data proc. op. A
GO-Roanoke
20 years



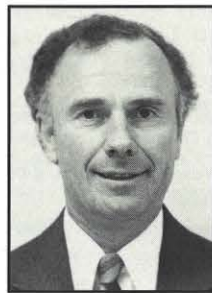
Paul Smalley
meter engineer sr.
GO-Charleston
20 years



Jerry Scott
general servicer
Lynchburg
20 years



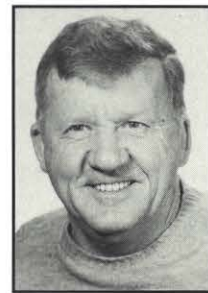
David Spencer
line mechanic A
Marion
20 years



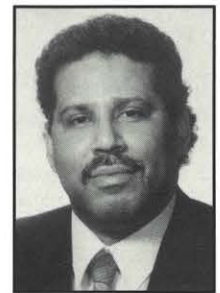
Carl Cline
asst. shift op. eng.
Philip Sporn
20 years



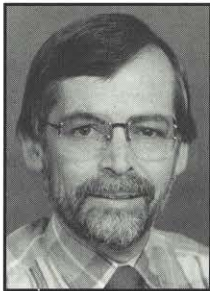
Kenneth Chambers
automotive mech. A
Charleston
20 years



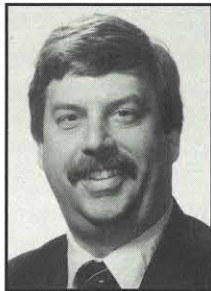
Denzil Jones
automotive supv. NE
Charleston
20 years



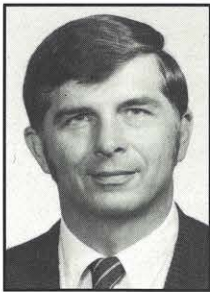
Rudy Trigg
area supervisor
St. Albans
20 years



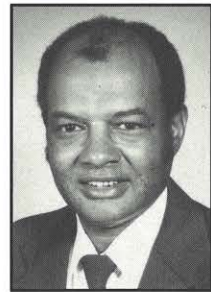
Danny Thomas
comm. clerk A
GO-Roanoke
20 years



Charlie Ross
eng. technician sr.
St. Albans
20 years



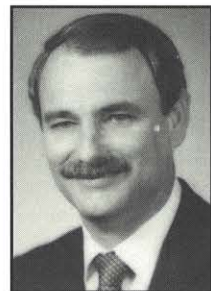
Gary O'Dell
line mechanic A
Rainelle
20 years



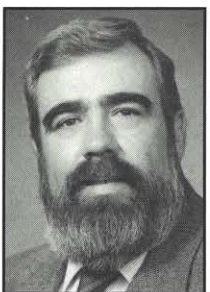
Ray Ridgeway
meter reader
Huntington
20 years



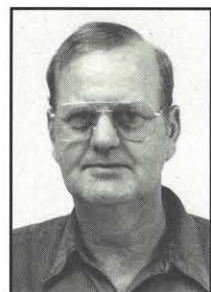
Virgil Watson
asst. shift op. eng.
Philip Sporn
20 years



Grady Blake
stores & gar. supv.
Lynchburg
20 years



Scotty Phipps
general servicer
Peterstown
20 years



Bracy Kinnaird
maint. mechanic A
Philip Sporn
20 years

Abingdon

5 years: **Kevin Sigmon**, line construction and maintenance representative. **Mark McCormick**, station mechanic C.

John Amos

10 years: **Richard Rutledge**, maintenance mechanic B. **John Zickafoose**, plant engineer. **Ricky Warren**, equipment operator C. **Harold Hedrick**, equipment operator C. **Patrick Farry**, equipment operator C. **William Greene, III**, control technician junior. **Thomas Thursack**, coal equipment operator. 5 years: **Larry Lively**, equipment operator C. **Terrence Williams**, equipment operator C.

Beckley

5 years: **Keith Von Scio**, customer services advisor. **Dusty Gilbert**, station mechanic C.

Bluefield

10 years: **Jess Franklin**, station mechanic A. 5 years: **Gwen Kitts**, customer services representative C, Tazewell.

Centralized Plant Maintenance

10 years: **Bruce Cottrill**, maintenance mechanic B. **Don Shaffer**, maintenance mechanic B. 5 years: **Tim Zerkle**, maintenance mechanic B.

Charleston

10 years: **Patty Neil**, customer services representative B. **Frances Melton**, customer services representative B, St. Albans. **Lisa Hudson**, customer services representative B. **Roger Vannoy**, meter reader.

Clinch River

5 years: **William McCarty**, equipment operator C. **Larry Cantrell**, coal handler.

General Office

15 years: **Sheila Campbell**, stenographer, GO Public Affairs, Roanoke. **Eugene Spencer, Jr.**, transmission station mechanic A, GO T&D Station, Bluefield. 10 years: **Curtis Tatum**, right of way maintenance coordinator, GO T&D Distribution, Roanoke. **Linda Markham**, drafter C, GO T&D R/e & R/w, Roanoke. 5 years: **Richard Johnson**, operation engineer, GO Operations, Roanoke. **Randy Kirby**, surveyor-instrument, GO T&D Civil Engineering, Roanoke.

Glen Lyn

5 years: **Danny Mitchem**, equipment operator C.

Huntington

10 years: **Jerry White**, line mechanic A, Ripley. **Terry Damron**, line mechanic A. **Ed Davis**, line mechanic A, Milton. 5 years: **Jesse Clay**, meter reader, Wayne. **Jerry Leggett**, line mechanic A, Milton. **Steve Warden**, station mechanic D. **Steve Turley**, line mechanic B, Hamlin.

Kanawha River

15 years: **Tom Cox**, instrument mechanic A.

Lynchburg

10 years: **Raymond Rucker**, line mechanic A. **Renea Harrison**, meter reader.

Mountaineer

10 years: **Larry Lehew**, custodian. **Roy Hoffman**, maintenance mechanic B. **Ron Cale**, equipment operator A. **Marlin Mooney**, harbor boat operator. **Bob Wood**, harbor boat operator. **Carl Randolph**, coal equipment operator. 5 years: **Alice Weiss**, plant clerk C.

Pulaski

10 years: **Clyde Turner**, line mechanic B, Pearisburg. **Steve Bell**, line mechanic A, Christiansburg. 5 years: **Timmy Coomes**, line mechanic C, Hillsville.

Roanoke

10 years: **Steven Richardson**, line mechanic A. 5 years: **William Thurman, Jr.**, line mechanic C. **William Hicks**, meter electrician C.

Philip Sporn

20 years: **Robert Bowen**, stores coordinator. □

Newcomers

Central Machine Shop

Curtis Pennington, winder 3rd class.

General Office

Quinn Mongan, associate environmental specialist, GO Environmental Affairs, Roanoke.

Anthony Price, station operator D, GO Operations, Roanoke.

Jane Brogan, centralized cash operator junior, GO Accounting, Roanoke (part-time).

Birinder Aujla, centralized cash operator junior, GO Accounting, Roanoke.

John Becker, office messenger, GO General Services, Roanoke.

Jodie Neuse, custodian, GO General Services, Roanoke.

Huntington

Wade Adkins, part-time meter reader.

Mark Meadows, line mechanic D.

Billy Joe Barless, automotive mechanic B.

Daniel Curry, line mechanic D, Hamlin.

Lynchburg

Penny Hubbard, customer services representative D.

Pulaski

Al Taylor, electrical engineer.

Roanoke

Teresa Mitchell, telephone operator (division), Fieldale.

(please turn to page 5)

Scout earns Eagle award despite muscular dystrophy

Bruce Gravely may be wheelchair-bound, but he doesn't let his handicap get him down. Eighteen-year-old Bruce recently received his Eagle Scout award at a ceremony at First Presbyterian Church of Collinsville. He is the only handicapped Scout in the District to receive this award since 1972.

The son of Dillard Gravely, Fieldale line crew supervisor, Bruce says that Scouting is one way he tries to lead as normal a life as possible. He was born with Ducheneone's muscular dystrophy, a disease which weakens all the muscles in the body. The disease is transmitted genetically and is thought to be caused by defective genes.

"I'm in a wheelchair now," Bruce says. "I can use my hands, feed myself, and write, but I have to have a special speaker telephone. I don't let it get me down though. I try to make the most out of my life that I can. If I think about it, it'll get me down so I tell myself to get on with whatever I'm doing. I know there will be break-throughs in the treatment of this disease, but I might as well live my life as well as I can until then," he says.

One of the ways Bruce has been doing that is through Scouting. Although he admitted that camping in the wilderness was one of the things he might have thought impossible, he said the help and encouragement of his troop



made the trip a reality. "My troop helped me get out and do things. They were able to get me in and out of rough areas where I wouldn't have dreamed of going by myself. A lot of my friendships have come through Scouting. It's also helped give me direction."

Bruce said the fact that the other members of Troop 484 treated him as if he were 'normal' made him feel more accepted. The troop's leader, Steve Isom, said the other boys help Bruce when he needs it but otherwise he is

just 'one of the boys.'

"Bruce is something else," said Isom. "He's very intelligent and very involved. He's so enthusiastic and anxious to participate in everything he possibly can."

Isom said that two equally demanding substitutions were made for life-saving and swimming on Gravely's merit badges, otherwise he completed the same requirements as any other Eagle Scout.

"Provisions are made for handicapped Scouts, but we haven't had anyone locally to try to complete the requirements for years, and none of those were as severely handicapped as Bruce," Isom said. "Only 3 percent of the Scouts ever obtain their Eagle award, and most have no handicap. For Bruce to complete his is very remarkable."

Bruce, who insists that he's nothing special, continues to break barriers in other areas of his life as well. He graduated in 1989 from Bassett High School, where he maintained a B average. Now he attends Patrick Henry Community College, where he's studying computer programming.

"I hope to get a job around here working on computers. I'd like to do something with taxes and accounting," he said. □

Adapted from article by Patricia Koger, Martinsville Bulletin.

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