



AEP ranks second in heat efficiency

The AEP System operated its generating plants with the second most efficient heat rate in the nation last year according to an independent survey of America's 100 largest electric utilities.

Electric Light & Power magazine, a utility trade publication, conducted the nationwide survey based on 1990 power plant performance. AEP's generating facilities had a heat rate of 9,777 Btu per kilowatt-hour in 1990, second only to Commonwealth Energy System's rate of 9,616.

While AEP's 1990 heat rate improved from the 1989 figure of 9,851 Btu/kwh, the median heat rate for the nation's 100 largest electric utilities increased from 10,561 Btu/kwh in 1989 to 10,601 in 1990, representing a slight decline in efficiency.

AEP had been third in the magazine's 1989 rankings and second in 1988. The AEP System's 1990 heat rate was its best in the past decade.

When heat rates for fossil-powered units alone were compared, AEP was again second in the nation with 9,646 Btu/kwh, trailing only Duke Power. Four of AEP's generating units ranked among the nation's 20 most efficient: Unit 1 at Cardinal Plant was fourth at 9,049; Unit 2 at Big Sandy Plant was fifth at 9,061; Unit 2 at Clinch River Plant was 13th at 9,266; and Unit 1 at Big Sandy was 17th at 9,305. In addition, Unit 2 at Cardinal Plant — built and operated by AEP for Buckeye Power — was 16th at 9,303

Unit 5 at Sporn Plant would have ranked seventh nationally but its capacity factor was too low to qualify for the magazine's rankings. Also high in the national rankings were Clinch River Unit 3 (9,335) and Amos Unit 2 (9,337).

AEP's efficiency advantage, compared with the national average for heat rate and fuel consumption, saves its customers millions of dollars each year.

General Services celebrates 11 safe years



Employees of the General Office General Services Department were treated to a buffet luncheon in celebration of their completing 11 years without a disabling injury on July 23. During that time they accumulated 1,46,490 safe workhours.

Tax regulations could affect retirees' Savings Plan lump-sum distributions

Recent amendments to the AEP System Employees' Savings Plan allow retired participants who choose to defer the distribution of their accounts to make partial withdrawals.

However, because of tax regulations, making partial withdrawals could cause some retirees to lose the favorable tax treatment of a lump-sum distribution. (A lump-sum distribution is the payment of a savings plan participant's entire account balance within one taxable year.)

At present the favorable tax treatment allows for the taxable portion of a lump-sum distribution to be rolled over without tax penalty into an individual retirement account (IRA). Or, when distributed, the lump sum may be given special five- or ten-year income averaging treatment.

Under current tax regulations, the time period between taking a partial withdrawal and a distribution of the remaining balance is important. If, following a partial withdrawal, the full account balance is not withdrawn — or distributed — within one taxable year, the remaining account balance will not qualify for favorable tax treatment.

For example: an employee retires in 1991 with a savings plan account balance of \$50,000 and elects to defer distribution of that balance. In 1992.

the employee withdraws \$5,000, and then, in 1993, requests the distribution of the balance of the account. Because the employee did not withdraw the full account balance in the 1992 tax year, the 1993 distribution does not qualify as a lump-sum distribution. The remaining balance distributed in 1993 would not qualify for a rollover into an IRA or for the five- or ten-year income averaging treatment.

If you are a retiree and are thinking of making a partial withdrawal from your account, please take note of these possible tax consequences and consult a tax advisor before making the withdrawal. \square

Correction

Appalachian Power's St. Albans office has received two excellent ratings on audits of its customer services operations, rather than one as mentioned in the September issue of the *Illuminator*. The first one occurred in 1973 and the second in 1991.

APCo to build new facility in Pineville

Construction is scheduled to begin October 1 on a new 14,800 square foot office and service center for Appalachian Power in Pineville, West Virginia.

When completed in October 1992, the new facility will house offices and workshops for about 23 employees in the managerial, marketing and customer services, and transmission and distribution departments. It also will provide facilities for inside material storage, vehicle maintenance, and outdoor storage and staging for poles and transformers.

Safety plaudits

Appalachian Power Company employees, for the first time in history, have completed 5 million workhours without a disabling injury. The record, reached on September 16, was continuing as the *Illuminator* went to press. Appalachian is the first AEP operating company to reach this safety milestone.

General Office T&D employees completed 4 million safe workhours on August 11.

Amos Plant employees set an alltime plant safety record by completing 2 million safe workhours on August 20.

Employees in General Office Accounting, Roanoke, completed one year without a disabling injury on August 20.

Central Machine Shop employees completed one year without a disabling injury on August 21.

Employees of General Office Operating reached 4.5 million safe workhours on August 27.

Abingdon Division employees reached the 500,000 safe workhour mark on August 31.

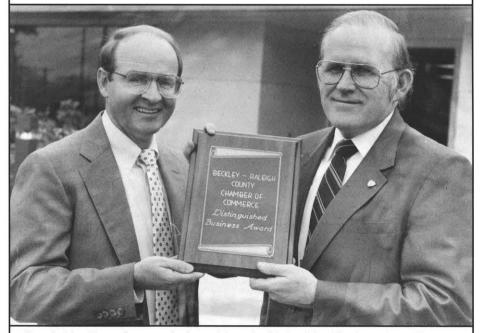
Bluefield Division employees reached 500,000 safe workhours on September 11. □

ACPM completes one safe year



The 127 employees of Appalachian Power's Centralized Plant Maintenance group completed one year without a disabling injury on August 31.

APCo receives business award



Appalachian Power Company is the recipient of a Distinguished Business Award from the Beckley-Raleigh County Chamber of Commerce. The award was presented to Beckley Division Manager Larry Gearhart, left, by Chamber Chairman Neil Bays. Appalachian is a long-time chamber member.

Simmons responds to opponents of

Editor's Note: Some opposition to Appalachian Power's proposed 765 kV line between its Wyoming and Cloverdale Stations has developed, particularly in Craig, Giles, Mercer, and Monroe Counties. The following article was adapted from one written by Charles A. Simmons, the company's vice president-construction and maintenance, for publication in the Salem (Va.) Times-Register to respond to allegations and misinformation being circulated by those opposed to the project.

A sign of the times is that any major construction project proposed today will encounter opposition from one or more parties. And that is true in the case of Appalachian Power's latest project — a transmission line. While opposition on the part of people directly affected is understandable, it is extremely important that the project be considered on a factual basis.

Need for line

Reinforcement of APCo's transmission system is needed by the late 1990s if we are to maintain an adequate and reliable supply of electric energy to our customers for the remainder of the decade and into the next century. Providing such a supply at a reasonable cost is our public service obligation and one that we take very seriously. Since the reinforcment program must be approved by both the Virginia State Corporation Commission and the West Virginia Public Service Commission, we would not have proposed this project without the need being clearly evident. The last major transmission reinforcement into the eastern APCo area was in 1973 while our customers' demands have increased by over 80 percent since that time. While those with no responsibility for meeting the need for electricity can always suggest the easy answer, we must deal with the real facts of operating a complex system in a reliable manner.

One of the points on which there has been confusion is the allegation that APCo presently has transmission capacity much greater than its peak load. Statements have also been made that the population of APCo's entire service area is less than one million people. Our opponents have confused the num-

ber of APCo customers with the number of people in the service area. APCo serves over 800,000 customers, but the population in that service area is over 2.1 million people. Craig Botetourt Co-operative, for example, is one customer as is West Virginia Power, the City of Salem, the City of Danville, the City of Bedford, and others. Also, their estimates completely ignore the electrical requirements of all of the businesses and industries which, on an individual customer basis, are significantly higher than that of individual households.

Line opponents arrive at their conclusions without any consideration of transmission line outages which, unfortunately, do occur and for which we must make provision. The bottom line is we need to be able to withstand the loss of one transmission line without it causing a wide area blackout. The present system is capable of meeting the existing need but is projected to be inadequate by 1998 if not reinforced. This is despite existing and planned conservation programs.

Wholesale sales

A lot of attention has been directed at the fact that APCo sells wholesale to other utilities with the suggestion that this is somehow wrong. APCo and the AEP System do make wholesale sales, and they fall into three basic categories. They are:

Firm Wholesale Customers. These include customers such as Craig-Botetourt Co-operative, West Virginia Power, City of Salem, City of Danville, etc., as well as Kingsport Power, City of Martinsville, City of Radford, and others. These customers are treated in essentially the same manner as our retail customers in terms of our obligation to serve them reliably.

Craig-Botetourt Electric and West Virginia Power are relatively new wholesale customers which transferred service to Appalachian Power Company from higher cost suppliers. There has been no indication to date that these customers, including the line opponents, are interested in changing power suppliers. Craig-Botetourt Co-operative incidentally has been one of our fastest growing customers with an in-

crease in demand of nearly 70 percent between winter 1985/86 and winter 1989/90.

If we are to continue to provide wholesale service to these two relatively new accounts, we certainly cannot refuse service to other firm wholesale customers who have helped to pay for our facilities over periods of 40 years or more.

Short Term or Opportunity Sales to Other Utilities. During periods other than peak load periods for AEP/APCo, we are able to sell to other utilities because we are a lower cost producer. The customers of the other utility benefit by this lower cost, and our customers also benefit. The profits we make from these sales are used to directly offset costs that would otherwise be paid by our customers. This is one of the reasons for our low rates. Additionally, these energy sales create additional coal markets with economic benefits to the mining portion of our service area.

Sales of this type do not require any additional facilities to be constructed as they are made in off-peak periods. I don't believe anyone with knowledge of these facts would suggest this type of sale be stopped.

Long term sales to other utilities. The long term sales by AEP to other utilities presently total 850 MW or slightly over 3 percent of AEP capability. These contracts allow us to transfer costs of temporarily surplus generating capacity from our customers to utilities which need the capacity. This has reduced costs for our customers while allowing us to recall the generating capacity for future use when it is needed to meet our customers' needs.

Line opponents, in referring to the sales to other utilities, have described the AEP/APCo reserve margin as 35 percent or even in some cases as 50 percent. The correct figure is 31 percent, but what is important is the fact that a 20 percent reserve is considered the minimum prudent margin. (AEP/APCo have one of the highest availability rates in the nation, but even our plants are out of service on a scheduled or forced basis approximately 20 percent of the time.) Because of growth

APCo's proposed 765 kV line

in usage by our own customers, the 31 percent current reserve margin is projected to be just below the 20 percent level in the 1998/99 winter following completion of the proposed line. At that point we will reclaim the generating capacity which had been the subject of a long term contract with Virginia Power.

It needs to be emphasized that the profits from opportunity sales and long term contracts with other utilities are used to offset the costs to our retail and firm wholesale customers.

Conservation efforts

A recent article on behalf of a Craig County opposition group described ways that conservation could reduce the need for additional facilities. What may be surprising is that virtually all the items mentioned were programs that APCo has been involved in for years. For example, the article mentioned energy efficient technologies, and AEP has been a leader in this field. A few examples are:

Plants — The AEP System plants have, since the 1940s, been among the most efficient in the nation and presently are 10 percent better than the national average.

Transmission — 765 kV transmission lines developed in the 1960s are the most efficient in the nation. Placing the proposed line into service will reduce generating requirements in APCo by over 60 MW. That savings is the equivalent of the generating capacity required to meet the needs of a city the size of Salem, Vâ.; or Beckley, W. Va.

Pumped Storage — Smith Mountain was developed in the 1960s to make better use of existing coal-fired plants while reducing the need for both new power plants and transmission lines.

Other initiatives

The article also mentioned the need to retrofit old buildings to conserve energy. The facts are that APCo has been promoting insulation in homes since the 1950s. We offer home energy audits to our customers, specify proper insulation ratings, and offer a residential insulation financing program. We have made over 3,200 loans to customers for a total of nearly \$2 million for the purpose of installing insulation.

APCo has long been a promoter of efficient energy use and has worked with manufacturers to both develop and increase the efficiency of heat pumps over the years. As a result, the average electric heating customer now uses approximately 12 percent less electricity than 10 years ago.

It was suggested that APCo should integrate peak load management into our plans. Again, the intervenor group does not seem to be aware that APCo has had interruptible rates since the late 1940s, time-of-day rates for large industrial customers in West Virginia since the early 1980s, experimental time-of-day rates for residential and commercial customers in Virginia since the last rate case, electric thermal storage time-of-day rates since the late 1970s, and an experimental variable spot pricing program for over a year. All of these programs are aimed at peak load management.

APCo is supportive of conservation efforts, and our projections for the future include further gains from conservation initiatives. Conservation has slowed the need for new facilities, but conservation alone cannot meet the growing need

Use of eastern coal

Opponents of the project have maintained that the proposed power line would hurt the coal industry in our service area. In support of that position, we have been accused of having plans to use "cheap" coal from Wyoming. This type of misinformation is particularly troubling since this line will, in fact, help the coal mining portion of our service area where an economic boost is needed.

Construction of the proposed transmission line is necessary to provide for APCo's internal load. A secondary benefit, however, is that 25 percent of the capacity of the line will be made available for the transmission of power by independent power producers (IPPs). That commitment was made in 1990 by Appalachian Power Company and enacted into law in 1991. It will permit IPPs in both states which have indicated their willingness and ability to build power plants in southwest Virginia and southern West Virginia to

proceed with their plans. Virginia Power, for example, has actively sought such suppliers, but the transmission capacity has not been available. The ability of these IPPs to construct generating plants means good paying jobs in construction, plant operation and coal mining, among other economic benefits.

The only plant in the entire AEP System that burns western coal is in western Indiana, and this line will not increase the Wyoming coal usage one bit. Opponents of the line, while stating that Wyoming coal is cheap to mine, ignore the high transportation costs to move it to the east. They have even circulated materials that say we plan to switch existing plants to western coal to meet the new Clean Air Act standards. This is totally untrue. In fact, a filing by Ohio Power with the Ohio Public Utility Commission in May of this year made clear that Ohio Power considered switching to eastern low sulphur coal as the least expensive method of compliance at its Gavin Plant.

APCo's record of using coal from its service area is one of long standing and one that has made us one of the lowest cost energy producers in the nation. We see no reason to change.

Effects on people and property

The one remaining item we would like to address is the depicting of this 765 kV line as being something that would totally destroy the area either by its construction or operation. APCo has over 600 miles of 765 kV lines in service and the AEP System has over 2,000 miles in service. These lines have not created any health problems for people, animals or crops in the 20 plus years they have been in service and that experience provides a basis for people to make their own informed judgment on the magnitude of the impact.

We feel we have demonstrated over the years that, while power lines may not be aesthetically pleasing to everyone, we can construct, operate and maintain them without any major disruption to the area. If we are to continue to provide reliable electric service, transmission reinforcement is required. We feel the proposed 765 kV line is the most environmentally responsible way to meet that need.

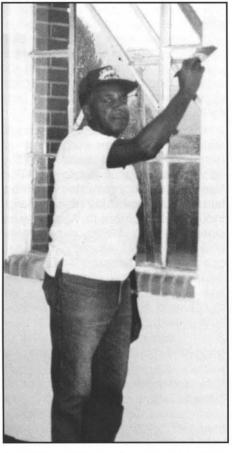
APCo volunteers work to improve

The strength of a community lies in the quality of life provided for all its members. And the quality of life for residents in the Upper Kanawha Valley of West Virginia is improving thanks, in part, to the efforts of three Appalachian Power employees. Mattie Day, Charleston stenographer; Jesse Woodson, Charleston station mechanic B; and Gloria Rhem, Kanawha River plant clerk A, are among the volunteers at the Washington High Memorial Community Education Center.

Originally a high school for blacks, Washington High became a junior high school after desegregation and finally an elementary school. After closing in the 80s, the building was vandalized and stripped of everything. In 1989, the Alumni Association petitioned the Kanawha County Board of Education for permission to renovate the building to be used as a community center which would provide activities for young people, a place for senior citizen activities, and a remedial learning center. Among the specific needs cited were the lack of meeting space for area groups, lack of space for cultural performances, lack of adequate indoor recreation facilities in the Upper Kanawha Valley, lack of facilities for senior citizen activities, and the number of unemployed and underemployed who need job counseling, training programs, and remedial reading and math training.

Mattie and Jesse were among the original volunteers who helped clean and paint the building and open it up. Jesse, a 1948 graduate, recalled, "When we went in, everything was in bad shape. We had to clean out the trash, scrape the walls to get ready to paint, you name it. My brother-in-law and I donated materials and did all of the brick work for a trophy case. I would go over there in the evenings after I got off work. I guess I have a year's work, off and on, in the building."

Mattie, a board member and financial officer of the center's anti-drug program, was chairman of the recognition



Jesse Woodson has spent countless hours at the center, making repairs, painting, and laying brick.

for Washington High graduates held at the center last year.

Gloria got involved just a year and a half ago. "They were selling hot dogs as a fund raising activity," she recalled. "When I went over there to buy some, they said 'why don't you start working with us?" It was only a matter of time until her whole family was involved. Husband Willie helped remove scrap from the building, which was sold to raise money for the center, and now helps with the maintenance. Son Robert, a junior at West Virginia Institute of Technology, is active in the anti-drug program, and five-year-old daughter Alexandria acts as tour guide, running errands, and, in a pinch, answering the center's phone.

Gloria currently is on the Washington High Alumni Association board, which is the governing board of the center. She also works with the center's drugfree community project board. "Our goal is to keep children off drugs, and the program is directed toward the 6to 15-year-old age group," she explains. "I'm also coordinator for the development of a day care program at the center because there is none in this area for working parents."

Funding for the center has come from Washington High alumni, the Benedum Foundation, Kanawha County Commission, Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation, Governor's Office of Community and Economic Development Anti-Drug Program as well as the general public. "We have an operating budget of \$100,000 a year, and we have only a paid director and parttime secretary. Everyone else is a volunteer," Gloria said.

Lou Myers, who is Mr. Gaines on NBC's A Different World, comes to the center every year to put on a benefit to raise funds.

The center now has a game room and a gym where the children can play basketball, a fully-equipped kitchen for meal preparation and catering, and a small library furnished with donated books. In cooperation with Kanawha County Adult Education, there is a GED class underway and also a bi-monthly senior citizens program. During the summer, the center is open six days a week from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. "The hours are changed in the Fall because we don't want the children to skip school," Gloria added.

Members of the Cornerstone Theater, a national theater group, were housed at the center for four days while they put on plays. "They chose our building because there is no place else in the area to stay," Gloria noted, "and people donated mattresses and linens for them to sleep on. When we had our first annual vocal camp to teach the children how to sing, I was head cook for three days. I enjoy cooking, and the center gives me a chance to cook for a captive audience. The kids at the camp made me feel good when they wanted

neighborhood quality of life

their parents to meet the 'cook'."

Future plans for the center include the addition of a swimming pool, literacy training, remedial education programs, counseling, and a museum pertaining to coal mining and the people of the area. There is much renovation work yet to be done, and fund raising is a long, tedious process. Despite the evident progress that has been made, area businesses have not given much financial assistance.

"Even if people have no money to donate, we're desperately in need of people who will volunteer a few hours of their time for carpentry, wiring, painting, and the like," Gloria said. "We need help in so many ways. There are only about ten regular volunteers at the center. But if we can keep just one child off drugs, then the effort we put forth will be well worth it."

Mattie concluded, "Those of us who went to school at Washington have a sentimental place in our hearts for this old building. It has been a long, hard task obtaining and maintaining the cen-



Gloria Rhem uses some of her vacation time to cook for attendees at various center activities. She also caters as a fund raising activity.

ter. Because there are only a few alumni in the area, we all have to wear a lot of hats to keep things going. I think one of the most rewarding experiences for me was last year when we had a recognition at the school. When the alumni came back to visit and saw all the work that had been done, they were really stunned.

"Being a board member and financial officer for the anti-drug program keeps me busy. Even though my children are grown and living away from the area, I find it necessary to do my part in the community to try to make it a better place. When I retire in a few years, one of my objectives is to give a lot more time to the center.



Being a board member and financial officer for the anti-drug program keeps Mattie Day busy.

Re-tubing on the banks of the Kanawha River

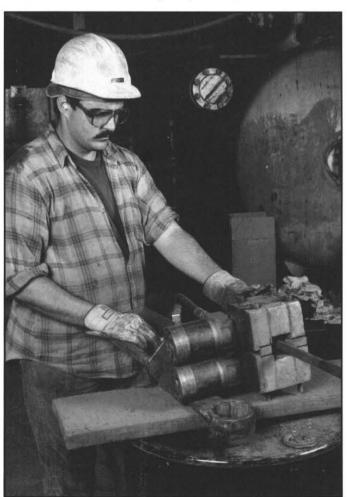
At Kanawha River Plant's Unit 1, three men crouch before a steel wall pierced by 6,600 holes. The holes are seven-eighths of an inch in diameter. The wall itself is more than an inch thick and 20 feet high by nearly 20 feet long. The men are cleaning these holes of grime and scale deposits.

They work on a plywood platform that is mounted on scaffolding halfway up the wall. Below them, in the bottom portion of the wall, are 6,600 holes that they and their partners have already reamed out and cleared. All told, they will have to clean 132,000 holes.

They are working on the unit's condenser. Their efforts are part of an extensive overhauling and refurbishing of the plant's two 200-megawatt units.

The program began in late 1990, when Unit 2 was taken out of service. It returned to operation on May 31 of this year. In the next month, work began on Unit 1, which is scheduled to be back on line in December, in time for peak winter loads.

R. Wayne Adkins, plant manager, says that this work "is going to help bring 20 years of further operation to Kanawha River. Many of the plant's major pieces of equipment have been or are being overhauled." The equipment includes the electrostatic precipitators, the main turbine



Lewis Prete flattens condenser tubes to reduce the volume of scrap.

stop valves, the intermediate-pressure and low-pressure turbine, the high-pressure generator and two large, river intake screens. "The two units went into operation in 1952 and 1953," Adkins says, "and we're going to keep them running until at least 2003. That's 20 years beyond their original life expectancy."

George R. Burris Jr., manager of the AEP Service Corporation's Mechanical Engineering Division, says that "although these are extended outages, they have been occurring at a convenient time, when the capacity of the units has not been required to meet System demand and while the work can be accomplished on a regular schedule and at the least cost."

(Kanawha River, as noted in the August issue of the Illuminator, is one of the first plants to enter the program that will ready all AEP System plants for a half-century of service. The program will cost about \$50 million to \$60 million a year over the next five to six years.)

Meanwhile, the three men at the wall are working in difficult surroundings. They stand or crouch, or, when they get to the bottom rows of holes, they sit on the plywood floor. Their tools are air-powered drills.

First, they put a burr on the drill and ream out the hole until it shines brightly after being in the dark for nearly 40 years, since 1952. Then they replace the burr with a spiral, steelwire brush, putting the finishing touches on the hole's interior, which now gleams like silver.

This is one of the first times that AEP System employees have ever re-tubed a generating plant's condenser. In the past, this type of work was usually contracted to outside firms that specialize in re-tubing condensers. But, because the extent of the work to be done on the unit would make the outage longer than usual, it was determined to do the re-tubing work on both Units 1 and 2 with personnel drawn from the plant's various departments. It's estimated that the savings over having a contractor do the work will be approximately \$270,000 for the two units.

Each generating unit in a power plant has a condenser to cool the unit's steam back into water so the water can be used again. Simply put, a condenser is a huge steel box, or tank. For each of the two Kanawha River units, the box is two stories high (about 20 feet), 40 feet wide and 50 feet long. The box holds thousands of tubes that run through it from end to end. At each end of the condenser is a "tube sheet," a strong steel wall through which the tubes enter and leave the condenser. The tube sheet is solid except for the tube holes and closes off the water portion of the condenser from the steam portion.

Inside, the condenser is separated into compartments about five feet wide by eight steel walls, or "guide sheets" that support the tubes as they traverse the condenser's length. Each sheet, tube or guide, contains 13,200 holes that must be cleaned. There are ten sheets — 132,000 holes. The "guide sheets" are solidly connected to the walls of the condenser at a number of points, but are otherwise open to allow steam from the turbine exhaust to circulate around the tubes.

The condenser is located on the floor below its turbine. After passing through the turbine, the steam plunges down into the maze of tubes in a Niagara of roaring force and smothering heat.

To reduce the steam back into water, it must be cooled. Pumps in the river intake house propel water up into the space between the tube sheet and the outside wall through two oval ducts, three feet by four in size. The pressure of the pumps fills the tubes with rushing cold water that hurtles through the tubes in seconds, taking the heat of the steam with it. The water gushes out of the open tube holes in the tube sheet at the far end.

Clad in worn jeans and T-shirts, the men move the drills in and out, scouring away the scale that has accumulated over the 39 years since Unit 1 began operation. The retubing crew was recruited from the plant's own workforce. John Conn, coal handler; David Hastings, maintenance mechanic B; and Richard Lanham, equipment operator C, are working between the three-inch-thick steel rods that pierce the condenser's tube sheets and guide sheets, holding them all together. Each man works between the rods in a space only three to four feet wide, sometimes perching on a rod beside him while working his drill.

Her glasses on, her face a bit smudged, wearing white overalls and earrings, Cindy Flores, utility worker A, appears in an aperture deep within the condenser. She and Lewis Prete, maintenance mechanic B, have been cleaning tube holes in the guide sheets within the steel box. She flashes a smile, then disappears down among the tubes.

"This can seem endless," Hastings says, crouching and moving his drill through a hole. The holes he has cleaned shine bright on the face of the tube sheet. "One hundred and thirty thousand holes. Boy."

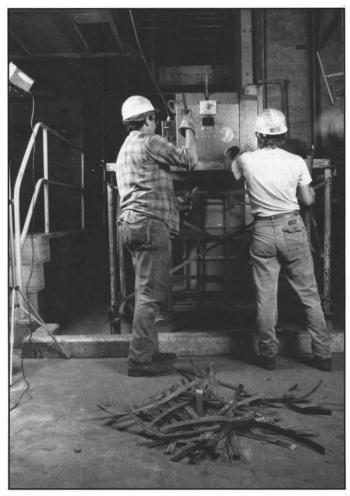
Maintenance Supervisor William M. "Butch" Grimm, on loan to Appalachian Power Company from Columbus Southern Power, is in charge of the job. "These folks are doing a good job," Grimm says. "Most of the people here consider this a dirty, busy, hard job. For sure, there are a lot of easier jobs in a power plant.

"We've got to make sure these holes are clean so that the new tubes will move through them easily, and so the tubes will have a good 'seat.' "

Sitting on his heels, Conn sways back and forth, shuttling his drill rhythmically into and out of tube openings, his side braced against a steel wall dark brown with rust. He finishes a hole in less than a minute.

"There's a lot less rust here than in other plants," comments Gene Edwards, site agent for Harris Tube Pulling and Manufacturing, Inc. of Ooltewah, Tenn., the company which furnishes the drills, bits, pneumatic pumps and other gear for the job. "That means you've got good water treatment here."

A week before, when the old tubes were pulled out of the condenser, the crew did a ballet on the plywood platform as they tugged the 40-foot tubes out of the holes that had cradled them for decades. As they emerged from their



Lewis Prete, left, and Cindy Flores cut tubes into pieces for easier handling. Flattened pieces are in foreground.

holes, the tubes were lowered to the floor below, where they were cut into eight-inch lengths that were stored in 50-gallon drums. Outside, in the plant yard, stand more than a score of the drums, filled with the cupro-nickel tubes and waiting for salvage.

"We were really hustling around here when we brought those tubes out," Grimm says. He grins: "All of us, we were taking them out, feeding them into the cutter, we were bustling around like ants up here, wheeling those tubes around."

On this morning, around 8:30, the working area is relatively cool, perhaps about 75 degrees. "That's because Unit 2 is down," Grimm notes. "It's not so bad inside the condenser just now. But when the unit goes on, it gets hot and stuffy. It's ugly in there . . ."

The floor on which these employees work is about 30 by 40 feet, large enough for a good-sized dance floor. But the surface is all wrong for ballroom dancing — though it will feel the boots of the workers' waltz when they bring down the shiny, new, 40-foot-long tubes from the floor above. There will be some fancy dancing in getting them lined up with the holes and pushed into place.

"Oh yeah," Grimm chuckles.

OWER PEOPLE

Abingdon

Division Manager **Pete Montague** and **L. C. Angle, Jr.**, retired power engineer, were recognized at Washington County's first "Salute to Volunteerism" ceremony. Montague was selected by the executive committee of the Washington County Clean Virginia Program, and Angle was selected by the VPI Alumni Association as outstanding volunteers of the year.

Beckley

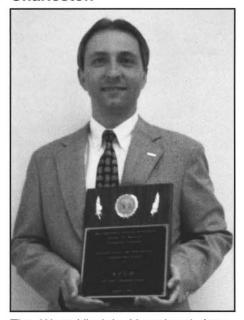
Keith Von Scio, marketing and customer services advisor, has been elected to the board of directors of the Beckley Tri-County Professional Baseball Association. □

Bluefield



Alex Yazdani, electrical engineer senior, has been elected president of the Bluefield, Virginia, Kiwanis Club.

Charleston



The West Virginia Vocational Association presented **Joe Jones**, marketing and customer services supervisor, an award recognizing Appalachian's involvement in improving vocational,

Who's News

technical, and adult education in West Virginia. The Charleston Division sponsors annual in-service seminars for vocational and home economics teachers.



Jack Shaver, administrative assistant, was elected president and public hearing chairman of the Charleston Municipal Planning Commission.

J. B. Eplin, retired meter service supervisor, and his wife **Marie** celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with a dinner given by their children and grandchildren. They have four children, 11 grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

General Office

Adrian Willis, who plays guitar and vocalizes with the Equalizers Band, had a cassette single released in May, entitled "Felony/Beach Dreamin'." He is a drafter B, GO R/e & R/w, Roanoke.

David Atkins, payroll clerk B, GO Accounting, Roanoke, was named to Who's Who in American Junior Colleges for 1990-91. □

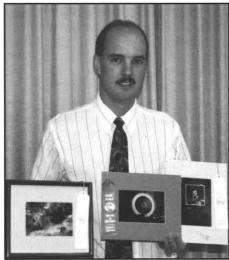
Kanawha River



Sherry Youell, plant clerk C, placed fourth in the Baby Sternwheeler heat of the annual Regatta Sternwheeler Race with her boat, the Sherry B. The Youells replaced the 80 hp motor on their 28' pontoon boat with a Volkswagen engine with automatic transmission and chain drive. They built a four foot wheel from quarter inch angle with oak boards. The average speed of the boat is 14 knots.

Pulaski

Eight teams from Pulaski Division and Glen Lyn Plant participated in a captain's choice golf tournament at Pipestem State Park. The winning team, which finished 9 under par, was composed of **Robert Kirby**, Christiansburg engineering technician, captain; **Danny Suthers**, son-in-law of Arlie Parsons, Wytheville area servicer; Retiree **Wayne Ruble**, and **David Bennett**, Pulaski energy services engineer I. Closest to the pin recognition went to Retiree **Jimmy Earles**, who used a wedge on the 126-yard par 3 #17 hole to come within 18" of the cup.



Steve Knowles, Christiansburg marketing and customer services advisor, won three ribbons for photography at the West Virginia State Fair. He took first place in the experimental category for a ferris wheel photograph taken at the Christiansburg-Blacksburg Kiwanis Club Carnival; third place in the nature category for a sea urchin photograph taken at St. Thomas; and third place in the still life category for a neon sign taken at Quality Mart, Christiansburg.

Roanoke

Carolyn Gordon, engineering technologist I, was a member of the Roanoke Racketeers tennis team which finished first in local competition in the 3.0 Ladies Adult Division of the USTA Volvo League.

The Virginia Hawks, coached by **Bill Hankins**, line mechanic A, won the Virginia AAU tournament for the 11 and under age group, qualifying them to

compete in the AAU National Basketball Tournament in Orlando, Fla. His team finished ninth out of 38 in the national event.



Richard Downey, engineering technologist I, has completed written and practical requirements necessary to become a national registered EMT paramedic. The paramedic offers the highest level of

pre-hospital care in Virginia and requires 300 hours of training beyond the initial 110 hour EMT course. A paramedic is proficient in a number of advanced life support skills and in the use of all equipment and medications for cardiac and trauma resuscitation. Richard has been a member of the Stewartsville first aid crew since 1984.

Philip Sporn

Mike Burris, maintenance mechanic A, and **Denver Gibbs**, maintenance mechanic A, placed first in the 9,000 lb. and 7,000 lb. class, respectively, in the tractor pull at the Mason County Fair.

Lew Gilland, production superintendent-operations, shot his second hole-in-one at the Riverside Golf Course, Mason, W. Va., in August. Lew was using an 8-iron, and the ball went in on the fly on the 14th hole. □

Twenty-six employees on seven teams participated in a golf scramble at the Riverside Golf Course, Mason, W. Va., on August 11. The winners and their prizes were: lst place (tied with 8 under par) — Buddy Peaytt, maintenance mechanic A; Tim Burnett, barge handler; Roger Sharp, maintenance supervisor; Ivaunna Lidel, chemist senior; Gary Richards, maintenance mechanic A; Ralph Ross, maintenance supervisor; Randy Meaige, coal equipment operator; and Jerry Morgan, equipment operator (\$240). 3rd place (7 under par) — Jim Mitchell, stores administrator; Tim Cox, plant engineer II: Joe Forbes, maintenance mechanic A: and Tim Kerns, plant engineer II (\$60). 4th place (tied with 6 under par) — Scott Pierce, student temporary; Olin Rice, maintenance mechanic B; Dave Johnson, maintenance mechanic A; Sam Hawley, plant clerk A; Chris Stout, student temporary; Kelvin Honaker, maintenance mechanic B; Bill Wallace, plant engineering technologist I; and John Taylor, maintenance mechanic A. 6th place (5 under par) — Lew Gilland, production superintendent-operations; Charlie Yeager, retired production superintendent-maintenance; and George Burns,

retired maintenance mechanic A. 7th place (3 under par) — **Don Hoffman**, equipment operator C; **Dan Edwards**, plant staff engineer senior; and **Art Fulks**, human resources assistant. Winning \$10 each were: **Olin Rice**, closest to pin on #4 hole; **Joe Forbes**, longest putt on #6 hole; **Charlie Yeager**, closest to pin on #7 hole; **Olin Rice**, closest to pin on #12 hole; **Gary Richards**, closest to pin on #14 hole; and **Art Fulks**, longest putt on #18 hole.

Duffield receives military awards for service in World War II



Jim Duffield displays the awards he received from the Chinese Air Force.

Jim Duffield, Jr., retired communications engineer, GO T&D Telecommunications, Charleston, is the recipient of awards from the Chinese Air Force.

Jim is a member of the Hump Pilots Association, a veteran fliers association dedicated in the memory of all who flew over the Himalaya Mountains to China during World War II. The Chinese Nationalists have honored the hump fliers in a number of ways since the war, one of the last of which was to award them an honorary membership in the Chinese Air Force along with a pair of silver wings and certificates signifying the award, written in English and Chinese.

Jim made 273 combat missions over the "hump" as a flier carrying troops in C-47s and C-46s to resupply U. S. ground forces and the Chinese military. He personally was involved in a number of combat situations and two air crashes. The thousands of planes that were used kept China in the war until the Japanese surrendered in 1945. \square

Roanoke, GO golf tourney draws 50

The annual Roanoke Division/General Office Golf Tournament, held this year at Monterey Golf Course, attracted 50 participants. The winners were:

Championship Flight—first place, Ron Payne (77); second place, Doug Bryant; and third place, Ron Hogan.

First Flight — first place, Tom Ruble (78); second place, Rick Johnson; and third place, Martin Seay.

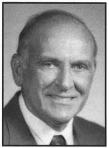
Second Flight — first place, Ronnie Kidd (80); second place, John Burnside; and third place, Ken Posey.

Third Flight — first place, Clyde Bernard (87); second place, Lloyd Bridges; and third place, Dave Campbell.

First place winners were awarded \$40 gift certificates to Steak and Ale Restaurant; second place winners, \$20 gift certificates to Shakers; and third place winners, \$10 gift certificates to Libby Hill Seafood Restaurant.

A dozen golf balls each were awarded to Mike Kosinski for longest drive on #17 hole and Jay Divers for closest to the pin on #10 hole.

Promotions







Terry



Conner



Keith



Martin



Dorsey



McDaniel



Spence

Norman Fowler, engineering technician senior nonexempt, was promoted to line construction and maintenance representative exempt in Lynchburg on August 1. He attended Pennsylvania Technical Institute.

Hale Terry, engineering technician senior nonexempt, was promoted to line construction and maintenance representative exempt in Stuart on August 1

Larry Conner, line crew supervisor nonexempt, was promoted to line construction and maintenance representative exempt in Roanoke on August 1.

David Keith, engineering technician senior nonexempt, was promoted to line construction and maintenance representative exempt in Roanoke on August 1. He holds an associate in science degree in civil engineering technology from Virginia Western Community College.

Vicki Martin, environmental specialist I, was promoted to environmental specialist senior, GO Environmental Affairs, Roanoke, on July 1. She holds a bachelor of science degree in biology and general science from Marshall University.

James Dorsey, utility worker, was promoted to utility supervisor at John Amos Plant on August 16.

Kathy McDaniel, engineer II, was promoted to engineer I, GO T&D Telecommunications, Roanoke, on June 1. She holds a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering from Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University.

Mike Spence, Galax engineering technician senior nonexempt, was promoted to engineering technologist I exempt in Pulaski on September 1. He holds an associate in applied science degree in electrical technology from New River Community College.

Cecil Martin, transmission station mechanic A, was promoted to transmission station crew supervisor non-exempt, GO T&D Station, Roanoke, on July 13.

Abingdon

John Vencill from area T&D scheduler to engineering technician, Lebanon.

Beckley

Kevin Cordle from line mechanic A to area servicer, Oak Hill.

James Jones from line mechanic B, Beckley, to line mechanic A, Oak Hill.

Bluefield

Samuel Hylton, Jr. from engineer B to line construction and maintenance representative, Grundy

Dana Ashley from customer services representative C to T&D clerk B, Pineville.

Kenneth Lester from line mechanic C to line mechanic B, Welch.

Centralized Plant Maintenance

Teresa Brannan from human resources clerk B to human resources clerk A.

Charleston

Paul Coon from department assistant-marketing and customer services to marketing and customer services advisor.

James Reveal from electrical engineer III to electrical engineer II.

John Neal from electrical engineer III to electrical engineer II.

Rebecca Farcin from meter electrician C to engineering technician.

General Office

Susan Huff from classification and accounts payable clerk B to classification and accounts payable clerk A, GO Accounting, Roanoke.

Harold Crosier from computer graphics technician C to computer graphics technician B, GO T&D Engineering Graphics, Roanoke.

Gary Woodford from engineering technician to engineering technician senior, GO T&D Station, Roanoke.

Glen Lyn

Mike Davidson from plant clerk C to plant clerk B.

Huntington

Keith Henson from line mechanic B to line mechanic A.

Roger Cline from line mechanic A to general servicer.

Kanawha River

Sherry Youell from junior clerk to plant clerk C.

Lynchburg

Brian Lecik from engineering technician to engineering technician senior.

Dennis Smith, Jr., from engineering technician to engineering technician senior.

Pulaski

John Buckner from station mechanic C to station mechanic B.

Philip Sporn

Kevin Riffle from barge handler to coal equipment operator.

Randy Meaige from barge handler to coal equipment operator.

John Troy from coal handler to barge handler. **Gene Smith** from coal handler to barge handler. **Richard Sines** from utility worker A to coal handler.

Randy Lavender from equipment operator C to coal handler.

Robert Workman from coal equipment operator to crane operator. □

Retirements

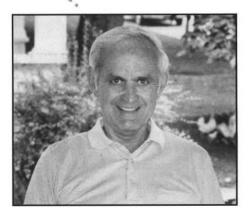


Mary Lee Farrier, secretary to the human resources director of Appalachian Power, Roanoke, retired October 1.

She recalls, "A college friend and I were on our way to the Roanoke Fair with my dad, and we asked him to stop at Appalachian just long enough for us to fill out applications. We both were hired that day and told to report for work on October 1.

"I thought it would be a short-time job until I decided what I really wanted to do," Mary Lee laughed, "but I stayed exactly 45 years to the day. Appalachian has been a good company to work for, with good benefits. I've made many friends during my career because I worked with so many people."

Her plans for retirement include traveling, continuing an exercise program, playing with her bridge club, and just doing things she never has had time for



After more than 12 years on long term disability leave, **Stanton "Zeke" Burdette** officially retired on October 1. He had been a maintenance mechanic A at Philip Sporn Plant.

Zeke began his career in 1953 as a laborer following service at Fort Lewis, Washington, with the U. S. Army.

"It was a good company to work for. I enjoyed all the people and I enjoyed working," he said. "I would still be working if I could. LTD has certainly been a good benefit. There's no complaint on our side."

Zeke continued, "My wife Jean and I plan to stay put in Point Pleasant (W.Va.) and take it from day to day like we have been. In the summertime, I can mow the yard if I stop and rest occasionally. Other than that, hunting, fishing, and sitting on the porch is about all I can do. We visit our son and two grandsons in Richmond, Va., as often as we can."



"I had a chance to go to Kyger Creek Plant on construction, but I think I made the right decision in coming to work at Philip Sporn," said **John Werry**, who was production superintendent-maintenance before electing early retirement on October 1.

John began his career in 1953 as a laborer after serving two years in Germany with the U. S. Army. "What I've enjoyed the most over the years is the people," he said. "My wife Jean and I like to travel and see how the other half lives, so we'll be doing that in retirement. My ambition, though, is to coach the Cleveland Browns for about five years and bring them to the Super Bowl. I'm a sports fan all the way!"

John likes the outdoors and bought a 174-acre farm out in the country. "I'm no farmer, but I enjoy gardening and raising flowers. I was into beef cattle for a while, but I sure got out of that fast."

John is a member of American Legion Post 39 and sings in the choir at the United Methodist Church in Pomeroy, Ohio, where his wife is choir director. The couple has two sons — Jeff, a school teacher, and Mark, a maintenance mechanic B at Kyger Creek — and four granddaughters. □



"I was driving a truck hauling logs for 80 cents an hour when 'Preacher' Mundy asked me if I wanted to work for Appalachian. I told him I had a pretty good job; but, when he said I could go to work for 85 cents an hour, I told my boss I was quitting. That was on Wednesday, and I went to work on Friday and have been here ever since," recalls Pineville Area T&D Scheduler **Bob Runion**. He elected early retirement on October 1 after 44 years' service.

Bob started out at Mullens as a laborer in the line crew and worked as a groundman B and A, junior and senior meter reader, and T&D clerk senior before transferring to the Pineville office in 1965. "While I was a T&D clerk at Mullens, I also operated the Mullens Station," he added. Bob recalls that, during a big snow storm in 1961, he cut more timber that week than he hauled when he was working for the lumber company. "We had a lot of snow in those days!

"I've worked for six area supervisors, and I've enjoyed working all these years. Now I guess I'll go back to hunting and fishing. My wife Mabel and I also like to visit the malls."

The Runions attend the First Baptist Church at Bud, W. Va., where Bob is treasurer, deacon, usher, and trustee. They have one son, one daughter, and two granddaughters. \square

Service Anniversaries



Kyle French records supv. Roanoke 35 years



Robert Parks maintenance supv. Clinch River 35 years



Bucky Buchanan M&CS rep. sr. Abingdon 35 years



Gus Croft cust. serv. supv. Abingdon 35 years



Joe Mullins cust. serv. supv. Beckley 35 years

Abinadon

John Amos

Gate City.

erator.



Dick Whitlow trans. sta. supv. GO-Kenova 30 years

15 years: Berkley Burkett, meter reader, Marion. 10 years: Thomas Gilmer, general servicer,

20 years: Larry Boling, equipment operator A. 15 years: Douglas Webster, maintenance mechanic A. Gregory Porter, coal equipment op-

15 years: Faye Hankins, senior telephone operator. 10 years: Willie McKinney, Jr., meter reader, Pineville. Donald Muncy, marketing and customer services representative senior. 5 years: Curtis Elswick, Jr., line mechanic C, Grundy. Jack Miller, line mechanic C, Princeton. Sue Young, customer services representative C, Welch. Stanley Ennis, station mechanic C. Beth



Larry Brown surveyor Abingdon 25 years



Steve Albert area servicer Pulaski 25 years



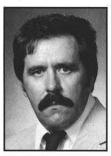
Dennis Selbe line crew supv. St. Albans 25 years



Jim Graham line crew supv. E Tazewell 25 years



Beckley 10 years: Serena Bishop, T&D clerk C. Bluefield



Charlie Long line mechanic A Tazewell 25 years



Gary Burkhart barge I/u operator John Amos 25 years



Douglas McGehee maintenance supv. John Amos 20 years



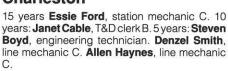
Duane Hix stores supervisor Pulaski 25 years



mechanic-welder. 5 years: Bobby Johnson, maintenance mechanic.



Charleston



sources clerk A. Dave Downey, maintenance

Clinch River

35 years: Donald Lasley, maintenance mechanic A. 15 years: Marvin Cain, unit supervisor. Dennis Bordwine, plant janitor.

General Office

20 years: Donald Barnes, transmission mechanic A, GO T&D Transmission, Bluefield. 15 years: Stephen Ball, transmission mechanic A, GO T&D Transmission, Bluefield. Gerald Tyzinski, designer, GO T&D Civil Engineering, Roanoke.



Paul Jordan car dumper John Amos 20 years



Bob Gilbert training coord. John Amos 20 years



Bradley Williams collector Beckley 20 years



Roger Grubb plant engineer I John Amos 20 years

10 years: **Phil Hancock**, stores attendant, GO T&D Stores, Roanoke. **Dave McCreary**, engineer senior, GO T&D Station, Roanoke. **Kathy Simmons**, centralized cash operator-intermediate, GO Accounting, Roanoke. 5 years: **Mark Holt**, tracer, GO T&D Engineering Graphics, Roanoke. **Mark Miller**, station operator B, GO Operating, Abingdon. **Dan Nichols**, programmer, GO Accounting, Roanoke.

Glen Lyn

15 years: **David Hargro**, coal equipment operator. 10 years: **Randall Rose**, equipment operator B.

Huntington

10 years: **Chuck Burdette**, engineering technician senior, Point Pleasant. 5 years: **Dale Chatterton, Jr.**, electrical engineer I. **Lisa Napier**, energy services engineer I.

Kanawha River

10 years: **Gary Turley**, maintenance mechanic B. **John Creathers**, equipment operator B. **Craig Ervin**, barge handler. 5 years: **Mike Petry**, maintenance mechanic C. **Rick Lanham**, equipment operator C. **Willie Barnes**, equipment operator C.

Kingsport

15 years: Kenneth Hickman, line mechanic A.

Logan-Williamson

15 years: **Mark Summers**, area servicer, Madison. 10 years: **Janet Todd**, station mechanic B, Williamson. 5 years: **Tony Kirk**, engineering technician, Logan.

Pulaski

10 years: **David Bell**, meter reader, Christiansburg.

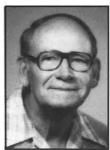
Roanoke

10 years: **Donald McGhee**, stores attendant B, Fieldale. **Barbara Mattox**, customer services representative B, Rocky Mount. 5 years: **Barbara Carter**, engineering technician. **Norris Hancock**, engineering technician. **Molly Shelton**, T&D clerk C, Fieldale.

Philip Sporn

15 years: **Stephan Halley**, maintenance mechanic A. **Danny Taylor**, maintenance mechanic A. **Jeffrey Lewis**, maintenance mechanic A. **Judith Hunter**, utility supervisor. 10 years: **Olin Rice**, maintenance mechanic B. **Carl Swisher**, equipment operator B. **Mitchell Mace**, equipment operator B. **Richard Carter**, **II**, equipment operator B. **Thomas Dawson**, equipment operator B. □

Friends We'll Miss









Porter

Brown

Cavender

Rosenbaum





Senter

John Herman Porter, 72, retired Lynchburg station mechanic A, died August 9. A native of Auxier, Kentucky, he was employed in 1948 as a laborer at Logan and elected early retirement in 1983. Porter is survived by his wife Helena, 818 Erskine Avenue, Lynchburg, Virginia; one daughter; four sisters; and one brother.

Dixie Brown, 81, retired Glen Lyn Plant yard foreman, died August 24. A native of Mercer County, West Virginia, he began his career in 1941 as a laborer and retired in 1973. Brown is survived by his wife Susie, P.O. Box 31, Oakvale, W. Wa.; one daughter, two stepdaughters; two stepsons; 17 grandchildren; 24 great-grandchildren; one greatgreat-grandchild; and one brother, Harold Brown, retired chief plant dispatcher at Glen Lyn.

Delmer Cavender, 63, retired Montgomery office supervisor, died August 21. A native of Charleston, West Virginia, he was employed in 1952 as a meter reader and elected early retirement in 1987. Cavender is survived by his wife lola, 137 Walnut Street, East Bank, W. Va., and two daughters. A

son-in-law, Dana McNeal, is a line mechanic D at Montgomery.

Fred Rosenbaum, 80, retired Abingdon station man A, died August 25. A native of Cripple Creek, Virginia, he was hired in 1937 as a truck driver in the Clinch Valley District and retired in 1975. Rosenbaum is survived by his wife Rowena, 715 Colonial Road, Abingdon, Va.; and three sisters.

Elmer Johnson, 86, retired Lynchburg commercial sales engineer, died August 27. A native of Lynchburg, Virginia, he began his career in 1925 as an electric salesman and retired in 1970. Johnson is survived by his wife Ethel, 3411 Daniel Avenue, Lynchburg.

Russell Senter, 72, retired assistant plant manager at Clinch River Plant, died August 29. A native of Connecticut, he began his career in 1948 as a test engineer with the AEP Service Corporation and retired in 1984. Senter is survived by his wife Cricket, Route 3, Lebanon, Virginia; one daughter; three sons; one brother; and six grand-children.

HE INSIDE STORY

ILLUMINATOR

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IABC

Jill LaValley, Philip Sporn

International Association of Business Communicators

News

- AEP ranks second in heat efficiency

 Tax regulations could affect retirees' Savings Plan lump-sum distributions
- APCo to build new facility in Pineville Safety plaudits

Features

- Simmons responds to opponents of APCo's proposed 765 kV line
- APCo volunteers work to improve neighborhood quality of life
- Re-tubing on the banks of the Kanawha River

People

- 10 Who's News
- 12 Promotions
- 13 Retirements
- 14 Service Anniversaries
- 15 Friends We'll Miss

About the cover: A Kanawha River Plant employee works on refurbishing the plant's Unit 1 condenser. Employees at Kanawha River have completed work on Unit 2's condenser and are near the end of the job on Unit 1. Doing the refurbishing work themselves will save about \$270,000. See story on page 8.

ILLUMINATOR



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