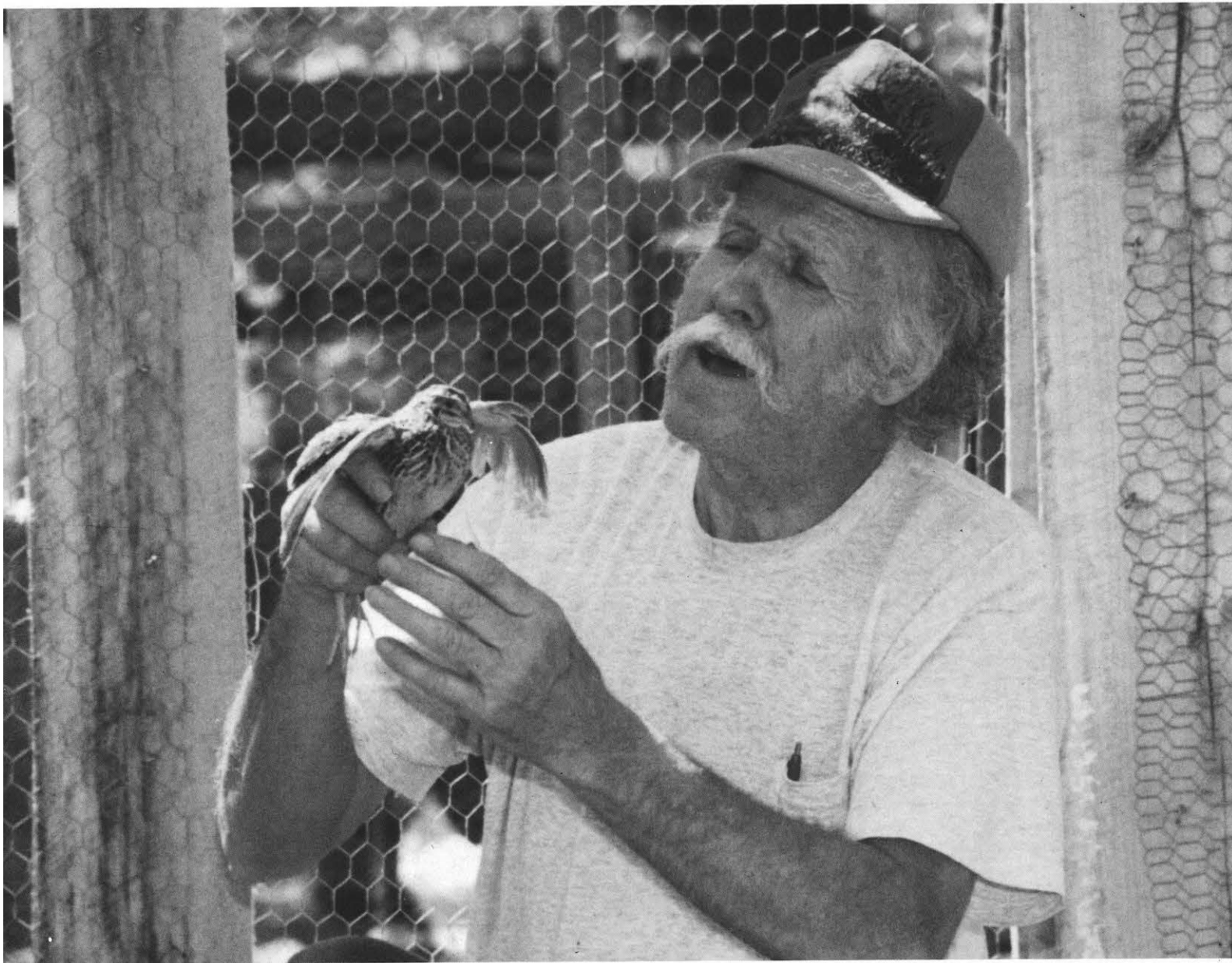


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International Association of Business Communicators

- 3** W. Va. PSC rejects 765 kV line application; APCo to reapply quickly
AEP Savings Plan Funds
Dependent coverage available
Disbrow elected Intersource board chairman
- 8** W. Va., Kentucky, Ohio to lose 73,000 jobs if Btu tax enacted
- 9** London fishing access site dedicated
New boat dock at Camp Kilowatt
- 10** Worker study finds no EMF/cancer link

Features

- 4** "... we will have plenty of challenges, plenty of opportunities."
- 11** Couple has enough mugs for 600 coffee breaks
- 20** He can't resist the call of the quail

People

- 12** Promotions
- 13** Friends We'll Miss
- 14** Retirements
- 15** Weddings
- 16** Who's News
- 18** Service Anniversaries
- 19** Births

About the cover: Fred Erwin, retired Huntington meter reader, has been raising quail for two years. See story on page 20.



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W. Va. PSC rejects 765 kV line application; APCo to reapply quickly

Following a possible request for reconsideration and/or clarification, Appalachian Power Company plans to make changes asked for by the Public Service Commission of West Virginia (PSC) and refile its request for its proposed Oceana-Cloverdale 765 kilovolt (kV) power line as quickly as possible.

The PSC last month rejected the company's application requesting permission to build the power line, filed on February 11, because of "technical flaws" in a map of the route. The PSC rejected the application at the request of Common Ground, a Monroe County, W. Va., opposition group.

The PSC said that additional information was required on the map that shows the line's proposed primary and alternate routes. According to the company, this application provided more information than was contained in two prior applications for power lines that were approved by the commission.

"It is unfortunate that the commission has elected to dismiss the filing for technical deficiencies in a map. This action will make it difficult, if not impossible, to meet our 1998 completion date when our existing facilities required to serve our customers in two states will be badly in need of reinforcement," said Charles A. Simmons, Appalachian's vice president-construction and maintenance.

Simmons said the PSC requires Appalachian to display significant amounts of data, including computerized information on the environment combined with natural, cultural, and political features, on a single map showing the line's preferred and alternate corridors in West Virginia.

"The information provided in our filing is the most comprehensive ever filed in connection with a power line request; and, even though the information was displayed on multiple maps, we continue to believe the filing was adequate, a view shared by the commission's staff in its report of April 7, 1993," Simmons said.

"Unfortunately, some of the com-

mission's rules and regulations are broadly stated and leave some issues to the parties to interpret. We seem to have been caught in one of these situations where our interpretations differ in certain respects.

"The study team from Virginia Tech and West Virginia University did an excellent job in providing detailed information about the power line's impact on the environment and in selecting preferred and alternate corridors having minimum impact on people and the environment. We will now meet with them to decide how best to meet the commission's current mapping request," he noted.

Simmons said no estimate had been made as to how long it would take to prepare a new map, but that it will be completed and the power line request refiled as quickly as possible "in order to minimize any further delay in resolving this critical matter." □

Dependent coverage available

Graduation time means that it's time for employees with dependents still in school to review an option concerning their coverage for continued dependent health care.

The continuation of eligibility for health care for dependent children who are 19-24 years of age, unmarried, and still attending school full time is one of the AEP System's long-standing benefits.

An additional option provides for continued group coverage up to 36 months beyond the regular dependent eligibility period. For example, this continued coverage will be offered when a dependent marries, or is 19 or older and no longer a full-time student. The cost for this continued coverage is the full premium plus administrative costs.

Employees or their dependents should notify your Human Resources Department within 60 days of the date the dependent reaches 25, marries, or is 19 or older and no longer a full-time student. If continued coverage is desired, the employee (or dependent)

AEP Savings Plan Funds

Following are investment rates of return for the period ending March 31, 1993.

	Last 12 months
Fixed Income Fund	8.5%
Equity Fund	15.1%
AEP Stock Fund	28.6%

Corresponding future rates of return will be affected by stock market prices or, in the case of the Fixed Income Funds, the addition or replacement of fixed income funding segments.

Participants may change their investment fund choice twice in any calendar year. In addition, the percentage rate of matched and unmatched contributions may be changed twice in each calendar year. See the savings plan booklet in your Protection Program Manual for details. □

must fill out an election form, which the company will provide within 14 days of notification. □

Disbrow elected Intersource board chairman

Richard E. Disbrow, former AEP chairman and chief executive officer, has been elected chairman of the board of Intersource Technologies, developers of the recently introduced E-Lamp electronic light bulb.

Disbrow, who retired from AEP at the end of April, will join the Intersource board as chairman immediately, according to the company's board of directors.

Tests have shown the E-Lamp light bulb to be up to four times more efficient than current incandescents, and can last from 15,000 to 20,000 hours. Intersource hopes to introduce the new technology to the marketplace later this year. □

“... we will have plenty of challe

On May 1, E. Linn Draper Jr. became chairman and chief executive officer of American Electric Power Company as well as its subsidiaries. He had joined AEP 14 months earlier as president of both the parent company and the Service Corporation, coming to the System from Gulf States Utilities, where he had served as chairman, president and chief executive officer.

Draper, who earned a doctorate from Cornell University, joined Gulf States as technical assistant to the chief executive officer after serving for nearly a decade as head of the nuclear engineering program at the University of Texas. At Gulf States, he quickly progressed to vice president-nuclear technology; senior vice president-engineering and construction; senior vice president and then executive vice president-external affairs; and then to vice chairman, president, chief executive officer and chairman.

In a recent interview, Draper offered his perspectives on the future of the AEP System and the rapidly changing electric utility industry.

The wide-ranging discussion covered a myriad of topics, including the corporate restructuring program, transmission access, the Clinton Administration's proposed energy tax, the need to expand the System's emphasis on marketing, and the possibility that AEP might become involved in power-generation projects outside its traditional seven-state service area.

Here, for the readers of the *Illuminator*, are his remarks:

ILLUMINATOR: After a year's experience with the AEP System, what observations have you made concerning its strengths or advantages, as well as areas of the System that may need to be strengthened or improved?

DRAPER: I did not come to AEP with intimate knowledge of the company, but I was certainly well familiar with its reputation for engineering excellence. I guess if anything, my expectations were not as high as reality showed they



Dr. E. Linn Draper, chairman and chief executive officer of American Electric Power.

should have been. The technical talent in this organization is second to none, not only in the electric utility business but in industrial America. We see the manifestations of that in the high-quality power plants we operate, and the very, very strong transmission system that is the backbone of our service area. I expected good engineering — what I found was even better.

Now that I have spent a little more than a year at the company, I see that we have lots of opportunities. I think we can build on a very strong AEP System which has plenty of capacity, reasonably priced fuel, and serves an area of the country that has good transportation infrastructure and a good labor force, by expanding our marketing activities. Our service area is an altogether attractive part of the world in which to do business. I would expect that there would be a considerable emphasis in the next several years on marketing and on dealing with external people who are important to our well-being. That includes elected and appointed officials, regulators and our customers — industrial, residential and commercial. I would hope we would

retain our engineering excellence and add to it parallel strengths in marketing, customer service, and other areas.

As I have traveled around the System, I have been impressed by the dedication of the people in the operating companies, people at the power plants, people who deal with customers on a daily basis. It is quite clear that there is a strongly held conviction that we should be the premier electric system in this country. I think we are a long way toward that goal. We need to be sure that the things we do well continue to be done well and, at the same time, that we improve in areas where we're not where we wish to be.

ILLUMINATOR: Could you please comment on AEP's corporate restructuring program? Why is the restructuring necessary and will it enable the company to be better positioned for the future?

DRAPER: It's logical that all electric utilities at this time would be looking at what they do and how they do it. It's clear that the electric business is going to undergo some dramatic changes, not unlike those that have occurred in the telecommunications business, the airline business, the banking business and the natural gas business. In the more competitive world in which we will find ourselves, we will be doing business differently.

In our particular case, there is additional impetus to take a look because we have been involved in a very long-term, large construction activity. We've been building power plants for a long time and doing it quite well, but we have, to some extent, ended that era. We've moved to another where the emphasis will be on making sure that the existing system operates effectively, and that we are making maximum use of it.

Both the industry situation and the



ges, plenty of opportunities.”

corporate situation argue that now is a good time to take a look. It's also a reasonable time to look at how our activities in Ohio are being conducted. For essentially a decade, we've had two companies operating side by side in the same state, doing much of the same thing. During that decade, the Columbus Southern activities have been harmonized with the rest of the AEP System. It makes sense to see if there are opportunities for further integration and that is what the combination study is all about. I expect that, when all is said and done, we will see that there are lots of opportunities in the combination of the two operating companies in Ohio. I think we will see plenty of opportunities to change the way we do business in the Service Corporation. We need to create more efficiencies in our engineering activities and, at the same time, retain a high-quality work force. We don't want to lose the engineering expertise that we have, but we do need to slim down some. So there's going to be a thorough look to be sure that the things that we have done very well in the past will continue to be done well, and the things that we have not done so well in the past will be improved. As a result of the study, we will know a lot more about ourselves and we will be better prepared for the future.

Also, as we look at how we do business in the Ohio companies and the Service Corporation, there will doubtless be things that will be unearthed that will be of value in the relationship between the other operating companies and the Service Corporation. While the heavy emphasis now is on Columbus Southern, Ohio Power and the Service Corporation, we will also take looks at how we do business in Kentucky, Indiana and Michigan, West Virginia and Virginia, and Tennessee.

ILLUMINATOR: Could you please comment on the rapid changes that are taking place in the electric utility industry — such as the Clean Air Act amendments, transmission access and the advent of independent power producers. Will we be able to posi-

tion ourselves to take advantage of such changes?

DRAPER: It's going to be quite important to be among the low-cost producers in the country. We enjoy a position like that now. Even after absorbing some of the costs of the Clean Air Act requirements and with some yet to go, we expect to continue to be an attractive electric system from a cost point of view. It's clear that the Clean Air Act amendments fell heavily on the industrial heartland of this country, where coal is used as the principal fuel. Compared to the East Coast, the Gulf Coast and the West Coast, we bore more of the brunt than others.

There are rapid changes with respect to who will generate and who will transmit electricity. It is clear that the Energy Policy Act of last year will increase competition on the generation side. As there are more non-traditional generators of electricity, there will be more demands to use the transmission systems of companies such as ourselves, first for wholesale transactions and then, as time goes on, for retail transactions as well. Opening the transmission system on a retail basis to all comers is poor public policy, in my opinion, but I believe it will happen, and if it is to happen, we should be positioned to take advantage of it.

I believe we are well positioned. We have adequate generating capacity, a very strong transmission system, and we're right in the big middle of the United States. We are surrounded in most directions by electric companies whose rates are higher than ours, and that will afford us opportunities for sales that we have not had previously. I believe we can protect our own residential and commercial customers because we will be a relatively low-cost producer. But, it will be a more aggressive world in which we do business.

ILLUMINATOR: What other external issues — such as global warming, EMF, energy taxes, or stricter environmental standards in other areas — do you believe may cause a significant impact on AEP's operations,

and will merit our attention?

DRAPER: The things that we can see on the horizon that are troubling include the Btu tax. The Btu tax is being promoted as something that will cut about evenly in all parts of the country, but it is a non-trivial cost, particularly to our large industrial customers who use electricity in an intensive way. The Btu tax may not disadvantage one broad region of the country compared to another, particularly. But there is some unevenness, no question, in terms of more jobs lost in individual states such as Ohio, Kentucky and West Virginia. And it certainly is an issue from a global point of view. If we increase our costs and our global competitors don't, and if our AEP industrial customers have it fall more heavily on them than either their competitors outside the United States or in some other region of this country, that's troublesome. I think that it will have a deleterious economic impact on our nation.

Having said that, if there must be an energy tax of some sort, it seems we've already dodged the worst bullet — the carbon tax. The Btu tax is the lesser of the two evils, since the carbon tax would have meant a terrible blow to the use of coal and an even more unfair burden to our region.

I still harbor plenty of hope that the Congress will come to realize that reduced government spending can cut the deficit just as well as an energy tax, and without the terrible side effects of job losses in the energy industries and manufacturing. A Btu tax simply is not good for the nation, and we will do whatever we can to make that case in the states we serve and before the Congress.

EMF is a growing concern. The epidemiological studies are very complicated, they are hard to do, they take time, and during the time they are being done, there will be continued uncertainty. Those



people who don't want transmission lines for whatever reason, whether it's aesthetic or otherwise, will use EMF as one of many arguments why transmission lines should not be constructed. I suspect that we will have increasing difficulty siting transmission facilities. We are encountering significant opposition to the 765-kv line from Wyoming County to Cloverdale. Some of those opponents, no doubt, are genuinely concerned about EMF, others are concerned about the scenic beauty of the area, still others have different agendas. But as long as there is uncertainty about EMF, it will be a concern.

ILLUMINATOR: In a recent speech to an employee safety conference, you said the AEP System must remain focused on three things: (1) keeping operating costs under control; (2) improving sales of electricity; and (3) maintaining reasonable rates. What do you believe are our prospects for success in these three areas?

DRAPER: In the most simple of approaches to utility finance, there are three things that are important. One is having a unit cost that is fair — low enough so that the customers can afford it, and high enough so that it fully covers the cost of operation. The second is that you have to sell enough units of the product so that the total dollar volume is adequate. The third is that you have to keep your costs under control. On those three fronts, I think we have opportunities in all three.

We clearly did not get fair rate treatment in the Zimmer case. We have appealed that decision to the Ohio Supreme Court and nobody knows how it will turn out. However, I think that we have to believe that if there is fairness in the judicial system, we will get some modification of that rate order. If we get

what we asked for in the Supreme Court, our rates will still be very competitive. I think that it is only fair to our shareholders to try to increase the rates to some extent.



There will be, as we go forward with Clean Air Act modifications and other things, requests from time to time to increase rates, but I don't believe that rate increases will be our salvation. We want to have rate increases only when, as, and if necessary. We have to try to control our costs so that we're not always before the commissions asking for rate increases. That means that we have to work smarter and make sure we do only those things that are necessary for the safe and reliable operation of our System to provide affordable and reliable electricity for our customers. So there will be a great emphasis on cost control and the organization studies that are underway now are a large part of that. We will continue to look for opportunities to reduce our costs.

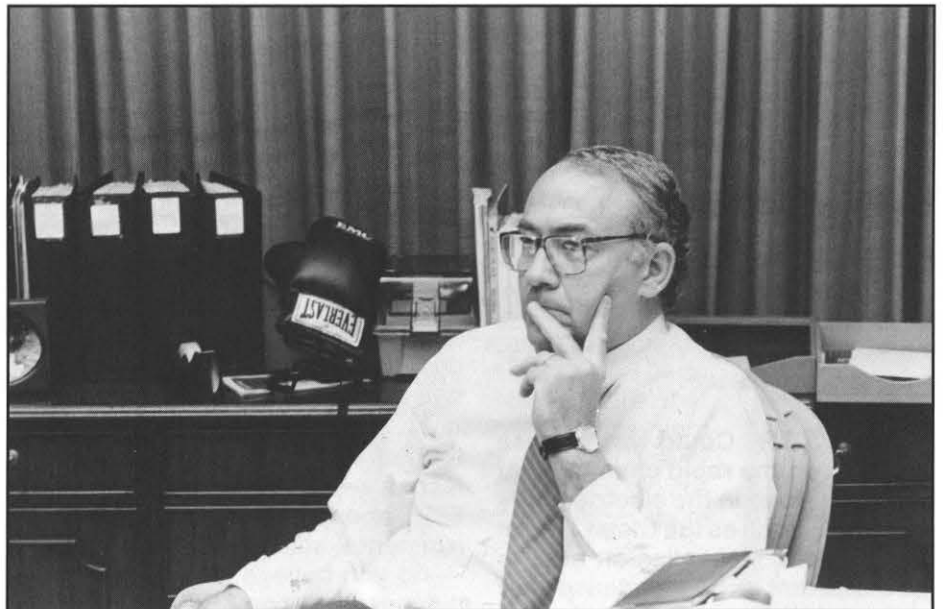
We will continue to seek low-cost fuels, we'll look at our operation and maintenance costs, and we'll continue to try to take advantage of the low-interest-rate environment in which we happily find ourselves today and refinance higher-cost obligations as we have an opportunity to do so.

As I indicated earlier, I believe there's going to have to be increased emphasis on marketing our product. We have plenty of capacity and the System sales market — that is, selling electricity to other people besides our native load customers — has become increasingly

competitive in the last few years. Consequently, we will diligently have to seek out opportunities to sell power to other than our native load customers and we will have to work very hard to market electricity within our traditional service area.

I don't mean that we will encourage people to use more and more electricity in an unwise way, but to the extent that there is a legitimate need for energy, we ought to make electricity the energy of choice. To the extent that an existing industrial customer is going to expand its facilities in either Europe or South America or Louisiana or Ohio, we ought to make it Ohio. And we need to do everything we can to make it attractive to be in Indiana or Michigan or Kentucky or Ohio or another AEP state rather than in Louisiana, California, Texas or some other place. And I think that with diligent effort, we will do that.

We also want to work with our commercial and residential customers so that when they have a decision on what form of energy should be used in a particular application, electricity is the energy of choice. We want the customer to have high-quality energy service, and when a choice is to be made, have it be electricity. And so that says that our marketing activity will be increasingly important to us.



ILLUMINATOR: The possibility has been noted that AEP may become involved in power-generation projects outside its service area, including a possible project in Asia. Could you comment further on those developments?

DRAPER: I think that we should try to take advantage of those things that we do particularly well. There are a number of areas in which we have almost unique capability. Two that jump to mind instantly are construction and operation of 1,300-megawatt coal-fired plants and construction and operation of 765-kilovolt transmission systems. We also have an unusual capability in our conversion of the Zimmer project from a nuclear plant to a coal plant, and there are doubtless other niches that we have that others don't. Now it's not every place in the world that is adding capacity in 1,300-mw blocks, but there are some places—fast-growing economies that are building electric facilities of perhaps smaller size but in large number, where a 1,300-mw plant would fit right in. We are having some discussions of that right now in one location and I think that we will seek out other opportunities. It will be a competitive business. There will be folks in there arguing that what they really need are 500-mw or 800-mw or 900-mw units, but I think that we can demonstrate that our 1,300-mw plants can be built economically and run very well. As you know, the Zimmer facility last year generated more kilowatt-hours than any single unit-facility in the United States ever has, and that's quite an achievement.

So we'll be looking at opportunities for selling our 1,300-mw capabilities, and we'll be looking at transmission opportunities. Obviously there aren't many opportunities for conversion of nuclear facilities to coal, but there are some.

There are some nuclear units around the world that are either partially built or, in some cases, fully built but not yet operating, and that might be something that we would seek



out as an opportunity.

We might look at the opportunity to build more traditional independent power facilities, although we would look at that with considerable care, because it's not something that we have an unique capability of doing. We could do it quite well, but so could lots of other people, and I think it's important to capitalize on areas where you have unusual capabilities. I do not believe we will be in the business as just architect/engineer/construction manager. If we are to be involved in the facilities of the type I've described, I think that we would want an equity position. There are a lot of people out there who can do the architect/engineering work at least ostensibly as well as we can. Our people would argue that we're a little better at it, but there are a lot of people doing it. AEP's niche ought to be that not only can we design it and build it for you, we can also take an equity position in it and, to the extent that you need operational help, we'd like to do that as well.

ILLUMINATOR: What message do you have for AEP System employees as the electric utility industry in general, and AEP in particular, enter an unprecedented era of change and competition?

DRAPER: The first thing and the most important thing I'd like to tell them is how happy I am to be associated with AEP. This is a marvelous organization, and over the last year I've had an

opportunity to get out and about and see a reasonable number of the employees. And I expect to pick up the pace on that. I'm fully aware that an electric utility consists of more than people who work in a 31-story building in Columbus, Ohio. It is comprised of people who are in our operating companies, in our power plants, in our Fuel Supply operation, who are producing the fuel, consuming the fuel, making the electricity, climbing the poles, reading the meters and talking to the customers every day. I intend to be out and talking to them and finding out what's on their minds, what their concerns and issues are. It's vitally important that we keep in touch with our employees as well as our customers.

We have a great organization that will do just fine as we go forward. We have plenty of challenges and there will be rough spots in the road, but I think we're going to do just fine. A number of years ago, I was riding along in my car, and at the time I had teenage kids. One of them was driving and I was sitting in the back seat. They had command of the radio so they selected what we would listen to, and instead of a sports event or country-and-western music, which would have been my choice, they had music of their own taste. A song came on that I thought was particularly interesting: "The Future's So Bright, I Gotta Wear Shades." And that might not be quite the case for AEP, but I'm very optimistic about our future. I think that we will have plenty of challenges, plenty of opportunities, but I look forward to it with relish because we're going to have an exciting time in the years ahead. □



If Btu tax enacted

W. Va., Kentucky, Ohio to lose 73,000 jobs

West Virginia would be the state that would suffer the greatest impact from the Clinton Administration's proposed Btu tax, and Kentucky would be the third most affected state, according to studies released last month.

Together, West Virginia, Kentucky, and Ohio would lose more than 73,000 jobs if the Btu tax is enacted — more than one-sixth of the approximately 415,000 jobs that are expected to be lost nationally, the studies indicated.

West Virginia would likely lose an estimated 23,800 jobs, or 3.9 percent of its total 1990 employment. Its job-loss percentage would be nearly 10 times greater than the national average (0.4 percent) and the largest of any state, according to the study, "The Proposed Energy Tax: An Economic Assessment of its Impact on West Virginia and the United States."

The study was released May 3 in Charleston by Appalachian Power Company at the Btu Tax Summit organized by the West Virginia Chamber of Commerce.

The energy tax, the report said, would slow economic growth by raising prices and hurting the competitiveness of American exports. It would cost West Virginia about 3,600 coal-mining jobs and nearly 20,000 jobs in service industries. In addition, it said, the energy tax is extremely regressive, costing low-income groups a greater percentage of income than the affluent.

"Clearly, other states are not being asked to bear the burdens that West Virginia would bear under an energy tax," said William J. Lhota, executive vice president-operations for the AEP Service Corporation.

"We share the President's vision of a country taking serious steps toward cutting the federal deficit," Lhota said. "We share his goals of creating new jobs, especially good-paying private sector jobs that support families and build communities."

However, Lhota pointed out, the manufacturing industries that have become staples of West Virginia jobs rely on

energy. In addition, he said, "The phase-in of the Btu tax would coincide with the heaviest costs our electric customers face as we comply with new amendments to the federal Clean Air Act.

"We can tell you what would cost a lot fewer jobs in West Virginia: a steadily controlled, reduced level of government spending. This does not mean actual spending cuts, just lower increases than are currently projected in the federal budget. We believe this is possible."

"We at Appalachian Power Company are particularly concerned about the effect that the energy tax will have on our customers — not only at home with higher costs, but also at their workplace," said Thomas A. Rotenberry, Appalachian Power vice president. "Tragically, this tax puts jobs at risk in our coal mines, oil and chemical refineries and the energy-intensive factories."

"The energy tax leads to tax-induced higher production costs which affect output, investment and employment — and these effects are most dramatic in states which produce the most energy or use the most energy," said the report, prepared for the West Virginia Chamber by Appalachian Power, Wheeling Power Company, and the AEP Service Corporation.

Energy-intensive industries contribute more than 60 percent of all West Virginia's manufacturing output and employ more than half of all West Virginia manufacturing workers.

Job losses in Kentucky

Kentucky would lose an estimated 25,700 jobs — 1.7 percent of its total 1990 employment — if the Btu tax is enacted, according to a similar report commissioned by the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce and prepared by Kentucky Power Company and the AEP Service Corporation.

At a May 4 press conference in Frankfort, Ken Oilschlager, president of the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce, said, "The fact that Kentucky specializes in

manufacturing results in energy being more critical to Kentucky's product than to that of many other states."

Kentucky's percentage of job losses would be four times greater than the national average, the study indicated. The state currently ranks third in the production of coal and 15th in petroleum manufacturing. Kentucky's coal-mining industry would lose 12.3 percent of its job base, while petroleum manufacturing would lose 6.9 percent and services would lose 2.5 percent.

Ohioans would pay \$1.3 billion

A new energy tax would put approximately 24,200 jobs at risk in Ohio, the Ohio Inter-Agency Task Force on Proposed Energy Taxes said in an economic analysis released on May 10.

Ohio businesses and consumers would pay \$1.3 billion under the energy tax proposed by the Clinton Administration. The Task Force, led by top Ohio public officials in the energy, environmental and regulatory arenas, also includes a broad section of private-sector businesses and trade groups representing agriculture, manufacturers, gas and electric utilities, mining and petroleum companies.

Using a computerized economic model to simulate the effects of the proposed energy tax, the Task Force found that Ohio could lose six times as many jobs under an energy tax as it would under equivalent levels of reduced government spending. The nation could lose four times as many jobs.

The Task Force also found that the energy tax would hit Ohio's coal and petroleum industries hardest, but that job losses would spread to the construction, trade and service industries.

Ohio Gov. George V. Voinovich established the Inter-Agency Task Force on Proposed Energy Taxes to evaluate the impact of proposed energy taxes on Ohio consumers and employers.

"Our analysis shows Ohioans cannot afford to be spectators in the energy tax debate," said Ohio Public Utilities Commission Chairman Craig A. Glazer, co-chair of the Task Force. "All Ohio-

ans share the President's goals of deficit reduction, economic growth and energy efficiency. But the Congress needs to realize this proposal will have a substantial negative effect on Ohio's economy."

To compile the Task Force report, W. Lee Hoskins, president of The Huntington National Bank and former president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland, supervised a team of research economists using a computerized economic model to simulate effects of the proposed energy tax.

Hoskins said that potential economic dislocations resulting from enactment of an energy tax "could actually result in an increase in the federal deficit, rather than a reduction.

"The study suggests reduced government spending is more balanced and does far less damage to the economy, while providing the same benefits for cutting the deficit," Hoskins concluded. □

APCo places Va. rate increase in effect under bond

On May 4, Appalachian Power Company placed in effect new rates for electric service for its Virginia retail customers.

Appalachian asked the State Corporation Commission in December for permission to put the increase in effect on January 3, but the SCC suspended the company's request through May 3.

For a residential customer using 1,000 kilowatt-hours of electricity, the increase amounts to \$4.05 a month.

The increase is subject to final approval by the SCC. If it is concluded that the revenues received from the increase should be reduced, Appalachian will refund the amount disallowed.

A hearing on the rate increase is set for July 6. If approved, the requested increase would provide the company with about \$31.4 million in additional annual revenues. □

London fishing access site dedicated

A new fishing access site at the London Lock and Dam on the Kanawha River in West Virginia was dedicated on May 12. The new facility, located immediately below the hydroelectric

generating station on the Handley side of the river, is the final of three fishing access sites constructed by Kanawha Valley Power as part of a hydroelectric power relicensing process. The other sites at Winfield and Marmet were completed in 1986.

Kanawha Valley Power, a subsidiary of Appalachian Power, built the London facility in cooperation with the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources (DNR) to provide anglers with safe and easy access to the prime fishing area below the dam. The developments include a stairway to the river and fishing piers with handrails.

Thomas A. Rotenberry, Appalachian's West Virginia vice president, noted that the company's purchase of extra land allows a much improved access to the site. The new London facility cost \$166,000; all three fishermen's access facilities to the Kanawha River cost nearly \$500,000.

"This is another good example of industry and government working together for the benefit of our state's citizens and natural resources. We commend Appalachian Power for their cooperation in this and the other two previous projects," said Ed Hamrick, director of the W. Va. DNR □



Thomas A. Rotenberry, Appalachian Power's West Virginia vice president (left), and Ed Hamrick, director of the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources, are pictured following the dedication of the new fishing access site at the London Lock and Dam.

New boat dock at Camp Kilowatt



A new lighted boat dock, with a capacity for 12 boats, has been completed at Appalachian Power's Camp Kilowatt on Smith Mountain Lake. The camp is open to any active or retired employee of the AEP System, immediate family and guests, on a first come, first served basis.

Worker study finds no EMF/cancer link

The *Wall Street Journal* called it "a study with broad implications for the electric utility industry."

The research, published in the March issue of *Epidemiology*, found no evidence of an association between contact with electric and magnetic fields (EMF) and cancer deaths among more than 36,000 employees of Southern California Edison. The study also failed to find elevated cancer levels in a subset of nearly 12,000 employees classified as having above average occupational exposure to EMF.

Researchers from Southern California Edison working with the UCLA Department of Epidemiology (statistical population research) reported there is, "no consistent association between either work in electrical occupations or magnetic fields measured in the work environment and death from all cancers combined, leukemias, brain cancers, or lymphomas."

The effort included a series of analyses of 36,222 male and female workers employed for at least one year from 1960 to 1988. Management personnel were not included.

Principal investigator Jack Sahl, a senior research scientist and the manager of occupational research for Southern California Edison, explained that his study made four improvements over existing EMF occupational research.

- All personnel from a well-defined work environment were included. The study focused on craftspersons including lineworkers, splicers, welders, machinists, technicians and substation operators.

- Researchers used total occupational health history records of both living and deceased subjects. In past occupational studies, researchers relied on job titles from death certificates or the recall of spouses for deceased employees.

- Unlike previous occupational studies, actual measurements of magnetic fields were performed in the workplace. Employees wore personal exposure meters to accurately determine their exposure.

- State-of-the-art methods of analysis were used to reach the conclusions. The improved data mentioned above was integrated to develop a more comprehensive analysis than had been done in previous occupational EMF research.

The researchers noted several weaknesses in their study.

They reported that since cancer is a rare disease, there was a statistically small number of cancers among the study group. In addition, other potential causes of cancer in the work environment were not evaluated. Finally, the study only addressed the question of dying of cancer. However, other studies being conducted throughout the world are focusing on other aspects of cancer.

According to Sahl, "No one study can produce all the answers. So although this is a comforting study, it does not change our company's policy of supporting further EMF research."

Researchers feel that as studies improve, stronger relationships between an agent and illness become more apparent if a true association exists. "We were surprised that after improving on the methodology of earlier stud-

ies, we didn't find a stronger relationship to leukemia and other cancers."

Sahl also said, "This weakens the argument that there is a connection between EMF and cancer in the work environment."

Dr. David Savitz, an epidemiologist at the University of North Carolina, also was surprised by the study's findings. He was quoted in the *Wall Street Journal* as saying that Sahl's team did a "well-designed study" and that "this moves my thinking a little bit in the negative direction (no EMF/cancer association)."

Savitz is leading an Electric Power Research Institute-sponsored occupational research effort involving workers from five utilities that is expected to be completed early in 1994. The results of another occupational study, conducted jointly by the state-owned utilities in Canada and France, are expected to be announced later this year.

According to Sahl, "These studies are already in progress so we don't expect that our improved methodology could influence their design. I do hope, however, that our study makes a contribution to the science by influencing the studies' analysis techniques." □

Pulaski observes safety milestones



T&D Superintendent Joe Weddle, left, and Engineering Technician Marcie Quesenberry try on hats which were given to Pulaski Division employees during recent breakfasts to recognize two safety milestones. On January 21, employees eclipsed the 1,500,000 safe work hour mark. This milestone followed the completion of three years without a disabling injury as of December 14, 1992.

Couple has enough mugs for 600 coffee breaks



Mary and Charles Hamblin have filled the walls of their St. Albans home with coffee mugs, which they started collecting about five years ago.

Asking Charles and Mary Hamblin if they have any coffee mugs is like asking if there's sand at Myrtle Beach.

The St. Albans couple is awash in a sea of more than 600 mugs. They have mugs in the living room, mugs in the kitchen, and mugs in the bedroom. If their coffee mugs were laid end to end, they might stretch out their front door, around the house a couple of times, and then back inside.

"About five years," said Mary Hamblin when asked how long she and her husband Charles, a retired Charleston groundman, have been collecting them. "Probably that long or longer," added Charles.

The Hamblins got started in mug collecting through their daughter in Ohio. She works in advertising there and receives coffee mugs as promotional items from businesses. "She gets mugs from radio stations and newspapers, and she gives them to me. That's how I got started," Mary said. "I never dreamed about collecting — I never collected anything else. We got started on this accidentally, but we love it now."

She and Charles also find coffee mugs at yard sales and flea markets. Other family members and friends also stay on the lookout for unusual mugs to give them. (One of their daughters, Ellie Young, is a junior clerk in Charleston.)

With 40 grandchildren and great-grandchildren, the Hamblins have plenty of help searching for coffee mugs. "The kids, when they go out, they'll find them and bring them to me," Mary said. "My doctor's wife gets medical cups for me all the time."

The Hamblins have 600 mugs hanging on the walls of their home. "Most of what's not hanging are duplicates. I've got two big box loads of them up in the attic that are duplicates of what I've got down here," she said.

Among their most unusual mugs are those that change their designs when hot liquid is poured into them. To demonstrate, the Hamblins poured hot water into a mug that has a picture of a military aircraft on it. In a few seconds, the image of paratroopers jumping from the plane could be seen.

The Hamblins display their coffee mug

collection by type. One wall is devoted to mugs that advertise medical products, another is for mugs from various newspapers, radio, and TV stations across the country. Another wall is for mugs that advertise household products such as Morton salt or Hershey's chocolate.

In the kitchen, a wall is set aside for mugs from banks and restaurants. They also have mugs from area churches.

Mary said she doesn't have a favorite mug. "I like all of them," she said. About twice a year she takes them down and cleans them.

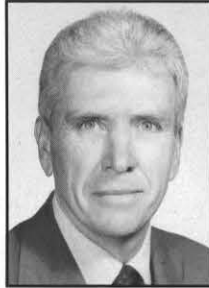
She said she and her husband never drink from their mugs. "We have other cups for that."

One day, she said, a man came to install a new stove in their home. He looked around and saw all the coffee mugs. "He said, 'I was going to ask for a cup of coffee; but, since you don't have any cups, I won't ask,'" she remembered with a smile. □

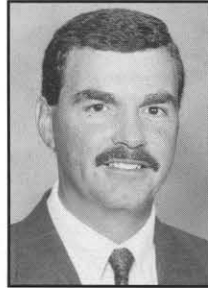
Story and photo courtesy Ben Calwell, Charleston Gazette-Mail Metro.

Promotions

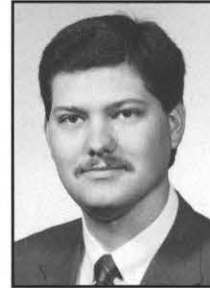
Ray Vest, Beckley administrative assistant, was promoted to economic development consultant, GO Executive, Beckley, on May 1. He holds a bachelor of science degree in social studies from West Virginia Institute of Technology. He also has attended the West Virginia College of Graduate Studies.



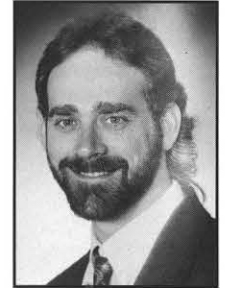
Vest



Jefferson



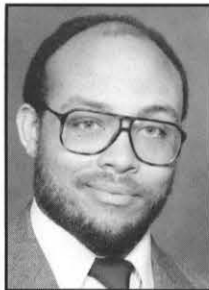
Lively



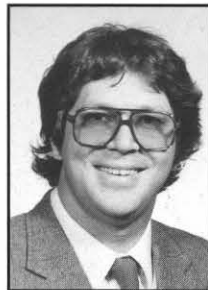
Helsel

Ron Jefferson, Fieldale line mechanic A, was promoted to line crew supervisor nonexempt on April 17. He holds a bachelor's degree in business administration from Averett College.

Rodney Lively, Beckley electrical engineer I, was promoted to power engineer on May 1. He holds a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering from West Virginia Institute of Technology.



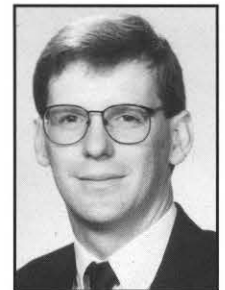
Campbell



Rogers



Poff



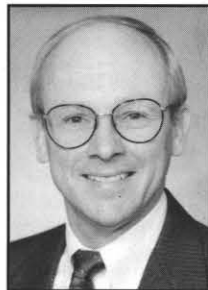
Fleming

Todd Helsel, Williamson line mechanic A, was promoted to line crew supervisor nonexempt on April 10.

Mike Campbell, Roanoke electrical engineer senior, was promoted to engineering supervising engineer on May 1. He holds a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering from Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University.



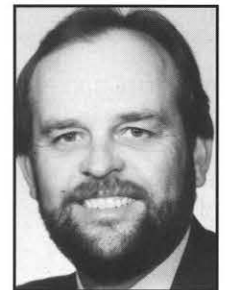
Fite



Bailey



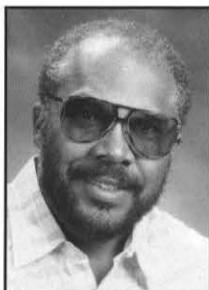
Ellars



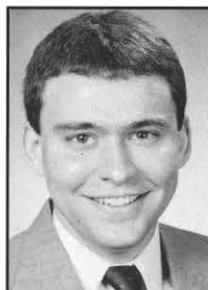
Bibbee

Jeff Rogers, Beckley electrical engineer II, was promoted to electrical engineer I on May 1. He holds a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering from West Virginia Institute of Technology.

Ralph Poff, Jr., engineering technologist supervisor, was promoted to hydro electrical supervisor, GO Hydro, Roanoke, on March 1. He holds an associate in science degree in engineering technology from Virginia Western Community College.



Nowlin



Hitt

Robbie Fleming, plant engineer I, was promoted to plant engineer senior at John Amos Plant on April 1. He holds a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering from West Virginia Institute of Technology.

Ron Fite, Williamson engineer I, was promoted to electrical engineer senior on March 1. He holds bachelor of science and master of science degrees in electrical engineering from the University of Kentucky.

Tom Bailey, Jr., systems and procedures supervisor, GO Accounting, Roanoke, was promoted to senior systems analyst, Information Systems Department, AEP Service Corporation, Columbus, on June 1. He holds a bachelor of science degree in business administration from Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University.

Dan Ellars, plant engineer II, was promoted to plant engineer I at John Amos Plant on April 1. He holds a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering from West Virginia Institute of Technology and a bachelor of science degree in business administration from West Virginia State College.

Chuck Bibbee, Charleston line mechanic A, was promoted to St. Albans line crew supervisor nonexempt on April 3.

John Nowlin, Christiansburg line mechanic A, was promoted to line crew supervisor nonexempt on April 24. He holds a certificate in electronics/electricity from New River Community College and is working toward a degree in management at Radford University.

Mike Hitt, plant engineer II, was promoted to plant engineer I at Mountaineer Plant on March 1. He holds a bachelor of science degree in mechanical engineering from West Virginia Institute of Technology.

Abingdon

Melvin Leaman from line mechanic B to line mechanic A, Marion.

John Amos

Greg Casto from utility worker to coal handler.

Mike High from maintenance mechanic B to maintenance mechanic A.

Beckley

Debbie Edwards from customer services representative C to customer services representative B, Oak Hill.

Bluefield

Lynnette Childress from customer services representative D to customer services representative C.

Walter Graham from line mechanic C to line mechanic B, Tazewell.

Darrell Havens from line mechanic C to line mechanic B.

Stanley Ennis from station mechanic C to station mechanic B.

General Office

Stephen Coll from transmission mechanic B to transmission mechanic A, GO T&D Transmission, Bluefield.

Timothy Parsons from transmission station mechanic B to transmission station mechanic A, GO T&D Station, Kenova.

Claude Farmer, Jr., from transmission mechanic B to transmission mechanic A, GO T&D Transmission, Bluefield.

Carla Ralston from junior clerk, GO Purchasing, to junior stenographer, GO T&D Transmission, Roanoke.

John Lackey from transmission station mechanic B to transmission station mechanic A, GO T&D Station, Marmet.

Glen Lyn

Ricky Miller from maintenance mechanic B to maintenance mechanic A.

Rick Ould, Jr. from maintenance mechanic B to maintenance mechanic A.

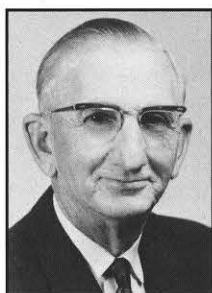
Kevin Cottle from maintenance mechanic C to maintenance mechanic B.

Lynn Morgan from instrument mechanic C to instrument mechanic B.

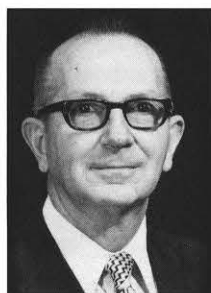
Huntington

Karen Ramey from customer services representative D to customer services representative C. □

Friends We'll Miss



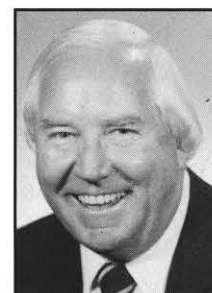
Vaught



Hoffman



Johnson



Jividen



Trumbo



Stone

Ulysses K. Vaught, 89, retired purchasing and stores director, GO Purchasing, Roanoke, died May 2. He was employed in 1922 as a helper at Kentucky Power's Sprigg Plant and retired in 1968. Vaught is survived by his wife Jessie, P. O. Box 804, Richfield, Salem, Va.; two daughters; and one sister.

Charles Thomas Hoffman, 70, retired assistant shift operating engineer at Philip Sporn Plant, died April 30. He began his career in 1950 as a laborer and elected early retirement in 1983. Hoffman is survived by his wife Marjorie, Box 381, New Haven, W. Va., and one son.

James W. Johnson, 76, retired Kings-

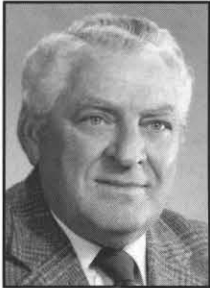
port T&D clerk senior, died April 16. He began his career in 1948 as a laborer and retired in 1978. Johnson is survived by his wife Vera, Route 11, Kingsport, Tenn.; and two sons.

Lendon R. Jividen, 65, retired Charleston marketing and customer services representative, died May 12. He was hired in 1948 as a rural sales representative B and elected early retirement in 1987. Jividen is survived by his wife Jo Anne, 1230 Payne Avenue, Dunbar, W. Va.; one son; one daughter; and five sisters.

Wilson Z. Trumbo, 78, retired Kingsport personnel director, died April 23. He was employed in 1938 as a clerk and retired in 1980. Trumbo is survived by one son and one daughter

George W. Stone, Jr., 66, retired Lynchburg T&D clerk, died May 15. He was hired in 1945 as a draftsman junior and elected early retirement in 1989. Stone is survived by his wife Martha Jeannine, P. O. Box 97, Madison Heights, Va.; one son; one daughter; and three grandchildren. □

Retirements



“My job was working with customers, and I really enjoyed that,” said **A.C. ‘Bud’ Hutton, Jr.** A marketing and customer services representative senior in the Washington County area of

Abingdon Division, he retired June 1 after more than 45 years’ service.

Bud began his career in 1947 as a meter reader junior for Holston River Power Company, a predecessor to Appalachian Power. The following year he was promoted to clerk junior in what was then Appalachian Power’s Abingdon District. He advanced through several positions before transferring to the Customer Services Department in 1955, where he spent the remainder of his career in various assignments.

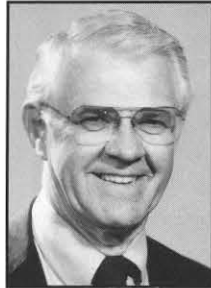
“I can remember when the first experimental heat pump was installed in Abingdon. They were hard to sell at first, but they’ve been greatly improved,” Bud recalled. Now there are more than 9600 heat pump customers in the division.

Bud added, “I was born and raised here in Abingdon, and this is where we’ll stay in retirement. I enjoyed working for Appalachian and have no regrets. The employees were always very nice.”

Bud and his wife Lola have two sons and four granddaughters. His hobbies include hunting, fishing, and gardening. Bud served with the U. S. Army in the European Theatre during World War II and is a member of the VFW. □

“It has been a great experience as far as I am concerned. Once I got here, I never considered going any place else,” said **Nelson Lam** about his 32-year career with Appalachian Power.

“I was raised on a farm in the Shenandoah Valley, and I loved it,” Nelson recalled. “But after I went in the



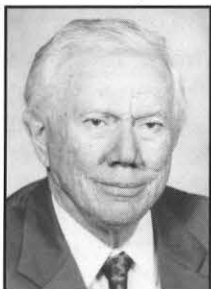
Air Force, I began to think differently about life and how things would be. After I got out of service, I went to National Business College in Roanoke on the GI Bill.”

After graduating from NBC with an associate in arts degree in accounting, Nelson went to work as an invoice and order clerk in the Accounts Payable Section of General Office Accounting. He advanced through several positions before being promoted to classification supervisor in 1968 and held that position until electing early retirement on June 1.

“I enjoyed solving problems in accounting,” Nelson added. “I always enjoyed working with the field people and had great cooperation with them. I even had a great relationship with our vendors.

“Now Madeleine and I will be free to just lock the door and go. We enjoy traveling and hope to visit my niece in Amsterdam again next year. I enjoy golf and fishing and, of course, the farm. My son-in-law’s parents own a dairy near Troutville, and I’ll probably be involved there from time to time. We have two daughters, and the oldest lives in Macon, GA, so we’ll be going down there some.”

A member of the Cloverdale Church of the Brethren, Nelson teaches an adult Sunday School class and is vice chairman of the Ministry Commission. □



“I’ve enjoyed it all,” said **Bob Lowther** about his 36 years with Appalachian Power. “I have worked with residential customers over the years and been involved in station and plant

work as well. Not only have I seen how

electricity is used by the customers but also I have been involved in the generation of it and all points in between.”

Bob began his career in 1957 as an engineering aide in the Charleston Meter Department following graduation from West Virginia Institute of Technology with an associate of science degree in industrial electricity. He became the first building supervisor in Charleston Division in 1965 and moved to General Office T&D Measurements, Charleston, in 1970 as a meter engineer senior. “Both of those jobs I started on April Fool’s Day,” he said with a laugh.

Bob, who elected early retirement on June 1, said, “I have some ‘honey do’ repair work to do until my wife Jean (Charleston clerical supervisor-T&D) retires in August. I want to get that out of the way so that we can ‘bug out.’ Our big thing at first will be visiting relatives and children. I also want to try fishing again.”

The Lowthers, who attend Calvary Baptist Church, have one son, two daughters, and four grandchildren. Bob served with the U. S. Air Force in the Occupation Forces in Japan. “I got there a month before the police action in Korea started,” he recalled. □



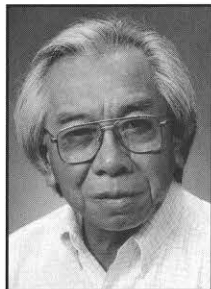
“I have given the work force 100 percent. Now it’s time for me to relax and enjoy life if the Good Lord sees fit,” said **Corintha Hawkins**. She was a customer services representative B in

St. Albans before electing early retirement on June 1.

Corintha added, “If I had it to do over again, I would come right back to Appalachian Power. I have had wonderful supervisors and enjoyed my work and my co-workers. Every last one of my customers were wonderful, too, and I’ll miss them. I’m just so thankful.”

Corintha’s retirement plans include

"doing all the things I couldn't because I worked. I want to do some volunteer work, spend some time with my eight grandchildren, travel, and get more active in my church." Corintha currently is treasurer of the usher board and secretary of the deaconess board at Ebenezer Baptist Church in West Charleston. She enjoys sewing and cooking and already has trips planned to the Bahamas, California, and Las Vegas. □



"I'm retiring from Appalachian Power but not from inventing," Bluefield Drafter **Jaime Patena** told the *Illuminator* shortly before his retirement on June 1.

Actually it was one of Jaime's inventions which led to his 12+ year stint with the power company. Before that, he worked in aerospace for the Advanced Technology Division of American Standard in the Silicon Valley, California.

Jaime explained, "I have a patent on a system for modular buildings. I met Gary Shrewsbury from West Virginia when he was in California during the Vietnam War. He later came back to California on vacation and wanted me to build a dog kennel for him at Flat Top. I built the kennel in California, shipped it here, and put it up. We liked the area here so well that we stayed."

Jaime added, "It was beautiful working for Appalachian. The people here are wonderful. I wish the company the best of luck and hope that the retirement checks will keep coming!"

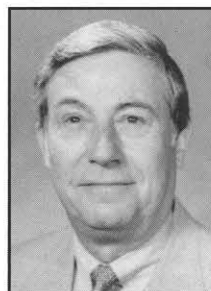
Jaime plans to move back to California, "San Francisco where my son and two grandchildren are," he said. "I'm going to take a slow drive back, taking in all the sights along the way."

Jaime said he may go to the Philippines "because that's where my folks were from and I have never been there. Actually, I'm going to get the lay of the

land and see if I can get all of the parts built for a job I have over there."

Jaime built the San Francisco Pavilion at the World's Fair in Osaka, Japan, in 1970. "We were fortunate to win the bidding, and they sent me," he said.

Jaime served in both the U. S. Merchant Marines and Army during World War II. □



"My desire was to work for the power company or the N&W Railway, so I aggravated O. C. Caldwell to death until he gave me a job," recalled **E. T. 'Shorty' Jones, Jr.**

Shorty began his career in 1950 as an office messenger in Roanoke Division and advanced through several positions, including credit supervisor and office supervisor. He transferred to GO Marketing and Customer Services in 1981 and was promoted to customer services manager in 1985.

"It has been a good 42 years; I have been very fortunate," said Shorty, who elected early retirement on June 1. "There have been tremendous opportunities for people who wanted to work and do a good job. We're paid a fair salary for the work we do, and I feel like our benefits are tremendous."

He added, "The people in Appalachian and all of the AEP companies are just fantastic. I have seen a lot of progress made in the realm of information systems, such as meter reading. The opportunity to work on the development of the MACSS project has been very enlightening although I won't be here to see it go on line."

Shorty's retirement plans include playing a lot of golf and traveling some. "JoeAnne and I will continue going to Myrtle Beach each year," he said, "and this September we're taking a trip to Branson, Missouri. I also want to spend a lot more time in church activities." He

currently teaches a Sunday School class and sings in the choir at Bonsack Baptist Church. The Joneses have one daughter and one granddaughter. □

Weddings

Parker-Harley



Marianne Harley to **Scott Parker**, November 28. Scott is the son of Gordon Parker, general services manager, GO General Services, Roanoke.

Preston-Cumbow



Penny Renee Cumbow to Ronnie Byrd Preston, November 27. Penny is the daughter of James Cumbow, Abingdon line construction and maintenance representative.

Skeens-Jones

Avis V. Jones to **James A. Skeens**, assistant shift operating engineer, Glen Lyn Plant, April 16. □

Who's News

Abingdon

Jim Farmer, Lebanon area supervisor, was presented an award for outstanding service to the Lebanon Lions Club.

Freddie, daughter of Phyllis Williams, Gate City customer services representative B, was named a national award winner in mathematics by the United States Achievement Academy. □

John Amos



Chris, son of Wy Jean Sharp, plant clerk A, was second chair in the snare drum percussion section of the 56th annual All-Kanawha County Junior High School Band. □

Bluefield

Mary, daughter of Gary Cunningham, Princeton area T&D scheduler, was inducted into the National Honor Society at Athens High School.

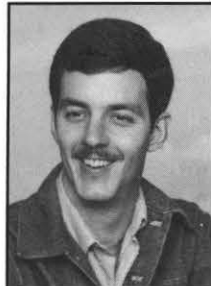
Pfc Russell Shrewsbury has been decorated with the Army Achievement Medal, awarded to soldiers for meritorious service, acts of courage, or other outstanding accomplishments. The son of Sherrie Shrewsbury, Princeton customer services representative A, Russell is an equipment records and parts specialist.



Lauren, daughter of Kenneth Green, engineering technologist I, was selected to participate in the Children's All-State Chorus at Oglebay Park, Wheeling, W. Va.

Natalie and Heidi, daughters of Alex Yazdani, electrical engineer senior, placed first for piano playing in the Clinch Valley District cultural arts competition. □

Central Machine Shop



Thomas Salisbury has been named the Moreno Valley (California) Police Department's officer of the year for 1992. He is the son of Dave Salisbury, retired machinist 1st class. □

Charleston

John Coleman, engineering technician senior, and his wife **Evelyn** were elected to the City of Dunbar's Democratic executive committee. John is a former city councilman.

Mo Ahangardezfooli, Montgomery area supervisor, was elected president of the Montgomery Rotary Club. □

General Office

Clayton Preas, engineer I, GO Marketing and Customer Services, Roanoke, next month will become president-elect of the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air Conditioning Engineers. He will become president in July 1994.

Tom Rotenberry, vice president of Appalachian Power, GO Executive, Charleston, has been elected to three-year terms on the Charleston Area Medical Center board of trustees and Camcare board of directors.

Scott Icard, governmental affairs manager, GO Executive, Charleston, has been appointed to the board of directors of the Ohio-West Virginia YMCA.

John Vaughan, retired president of Appalachian Power, was appointed chairman of the board of directors of Community Hospital of Roanoke Valley. He also is on the board of Carilion Health System.

The Virginia Chamber of Commerce has named **Joe Viperman**, president of Appalachian Power, a member of Virginia's Emissaries, its volunteer marketing and advocacy group of corporate executives.

Phil Ross, right of way maintenance coordinator, GO T&D Distribution, Charleston, was elected the utility representative on the West Virginia Urban and Community Forest Council.



Shannon Mowry, daughter of Carol Canode, secretary-stenographer, GO T&D R/e & R/w, Roanoke, was elected vice president of FHA/HERO for the State of Virginia. A sophomore

at Lord Botetourt High School, she will represent Virginia at the national convention in California this summer.

Steve Ferguson, allocation analyst senior, GO Rates & Contracts, Roanoke, qualified to participate in the 1994 Boston Marathon. He ran the 26 mile 385 yard Shamrock Marathon in Virginia Beach in 3 hours 10 minutes. □

Lynchburg

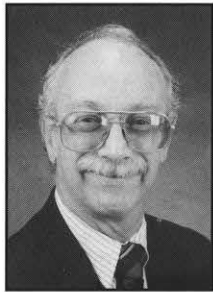


Joni, wife of Ray Foster, line mechanic B, won first place in the Women's Division in the 10K Race to Cure Cancer. □

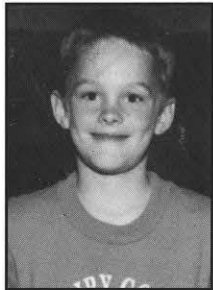
Glen Lyn

Lauren, daughter of Rick Ould, Jr., maintenance mechanic A, won third place in the elementary division of the Virginia School Boards Association Blue Ridge Regional Art Contest. □

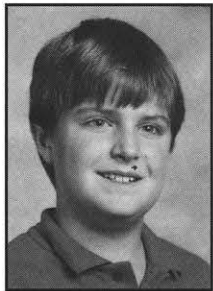
Kingsport



Harold Gillenwater, safety and training coordinator, was elected president-elect and program chairman of the Northeast Tennessee Chapter, American Society of Safety Engineers.



Will, son of Roger Hubbard, line mechanic A, was named most valuable player in the Sullivan Recreational 6-8 year old Basketball League. He is a rising third grader at Sullivan Elementary School.



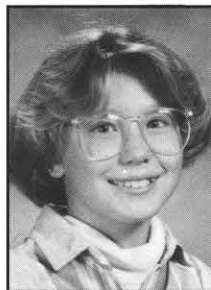
Josh, son of Buford Quillin, marketing and customer services representative senior, received an honorable mention in the Gravely Elementary School Science Fair for a telegraph he built. His project also was entered in the Upper East Tennessee Science Fair. □

Distinguished Patrick Countian



In honor of his great accomplishments, Joseph H. Vipperman, president of Appalachian Power, was selected as Distinguished Patrick Countian for 1993 by the student body of Patrick County High School, Stuart, Virginia. The award was presented to Vipperman, a Stuart native, by Amy Grant in an assembly at the high school on May 20.

Mountaineer



Denise, daughter of Human Resources Supervisor Kurt Dailey, won second place in the regional history competition and fifth place in the state.

Lori, daughter of Bruce Adams, stores attendant, finished third in the Point Pleasant Junior High School spelling bee and advanced to the county level. She also was elected vice president of her seventh grade class.

Michael, son of Bruce Adams, competed at 115 lbs. for the Point Pleasant Junior High School wrestling team, which went undefeated and won the prestigious WSAZ Invitational Wrestling Tournament in the Junior High and Middle School Division. □

Pulaski

Brittany Anne, daughter of Galax Area Supervisor David Wright, was selected Providence Elementary School princess. His wife **Terri** was elected president of the Providence Elementary School PTO for the 1993-94 school year. □

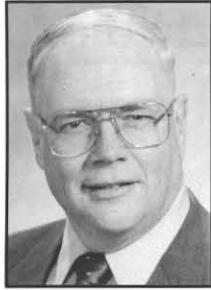
Service Anniversaries



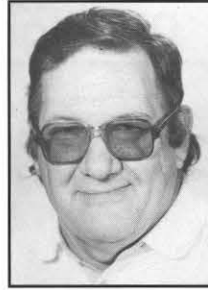
Joan Baird
cust. serv. rep. A
Pt. Pleasant
40 years



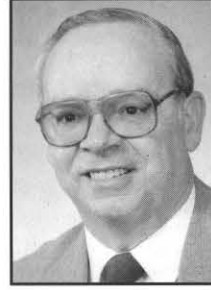
Fred Austin
line crew supv.
Lynchburg
30 years



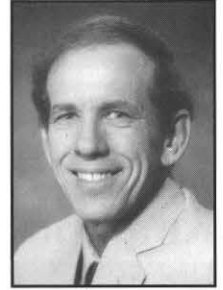
Wayne Adkins
plant manager
John Amos
25 years



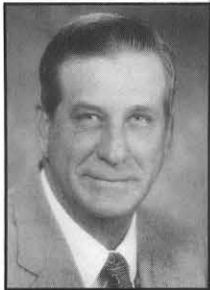
Ted Pendleberry
hydro mechanic A
KVP-Marmet
25 years



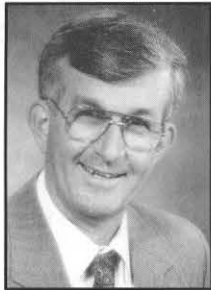
Jimmy Cox
plt. office supv.
Clinch River
25 years



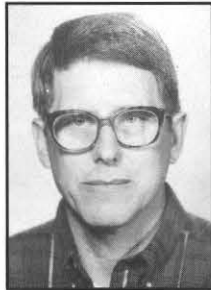
Roger McComas
trans. sta. mech. A
GO-Huntington
25 years



Warren Miller
reg. chief op.
GO-Huntington
25 years



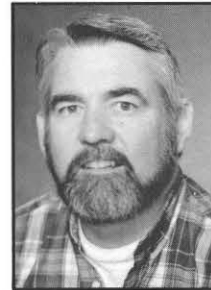
Dwight Kirby
control elec. A
GO-Huntington
25 years



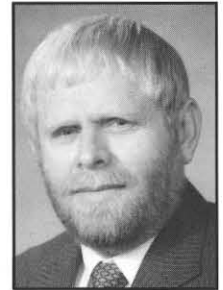
James Paul
trans. mech. A
GO-Turner
25 years



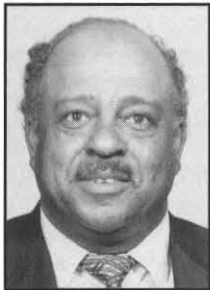
Shirley Garman
T&D clerk A
Roanoke
25 years



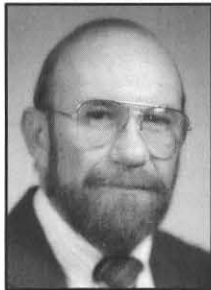
Dave Baumgardner
control elec. A
GO-Roanoke
25 years



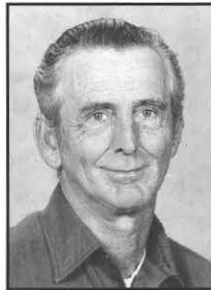
Steve Keaton
trans. sta. supv.
GO-Bluefield
25 years



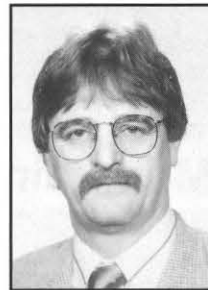
Jimmy Johnson
collector
Pulaski
25 years



Bill Hensley
general servicer
Lynchburg
20 years



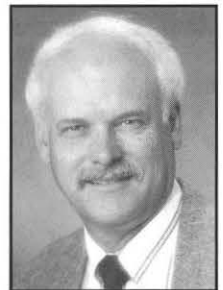
Larry Blain
auto. mechanic A
Pt. Pleasant
20 years



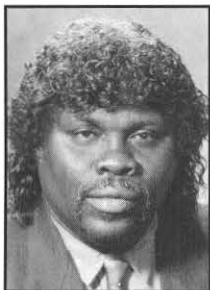
Bob Spencer
equip. insp. supt.
CMS
20 years



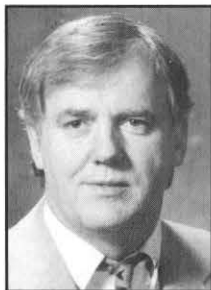
Janie Ollie
sr. data entry op.
GO-Roanoke
20 years



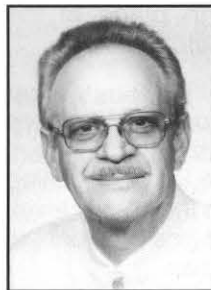
Tom Thompson
meter elec. A
Huntington
20 years



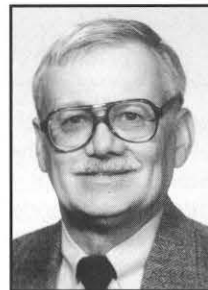
Thomas Cooper
coal equipment op.
Kanawha River
20 years



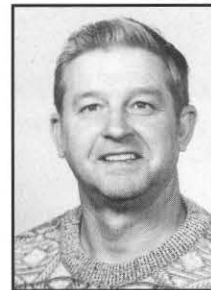
William Richards
maint. mech. A
Kanawha River
20 years



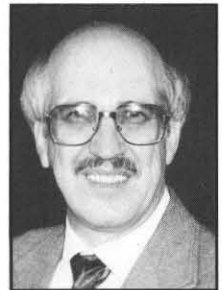
Duaine Cowley
maintenance supv.
John Amos
20 years



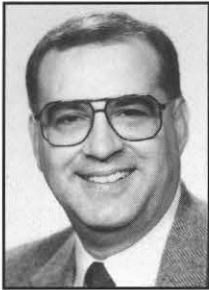
Joe Tolley
maintenance supv.
John Amos
20 years



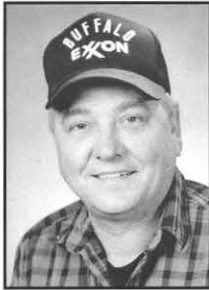
Tommie Bell
maintenance supv.
John Amos
20 years



Gary Doss
collector
Logan
20 years



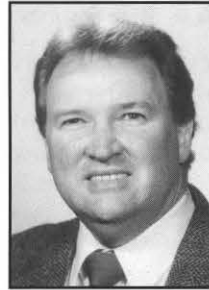
Carlton Asbury
production asst.
CMS
20 years



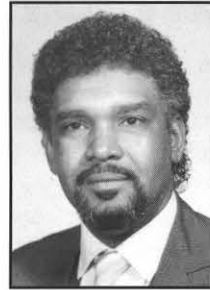
Ebby Riffle
ind. hyg. tech. sr.
Mountaineer
20 years



Pete Carter
maint. mech. B
John Amos
20 years



Gary Clark
maintenance supv.
John Amos
20 years



John Hall
collector
Beckley
20 years

Abingdon

15 years: **Helen Findley**, customer services representative A. 5 years: **Jimmy Quillen**, meter reader, Gate City. **Stephen Lowe**, area T&D scheduler, Marion.

John Amos

20 years: **Greg Dunlap**, maintenance mechanic A. **John Birchfield**, maintenance mechanic A. **Don Parsons**, maintenance mechanic B. **Ronnie Freeman**, maintenance mechanic B. **Arnold Beller**, maintenance mechanic B. 15 years: **Freddy Sisk**, control technician senior. **Mary Cash**, custodian. 5 years: **Robert Phelps**, equipment operator C.

Central Machine Shop

20 years: **Jay McClung**, production supervisor. 5 years: **Jackie Adkins**, NDE inspector 1st class. **Tom Stump**, machinist 2nd class.

Centralized Plant Maintenance

15 years: **Billy Whittington**, maintenance mechanic-welder.

Charleston

10 years: **Sandra Wright**, customer services representative B. **Calvin Woods**, meter electrician B.

Clinch River

15 years: **Russell Ferguson**, maintenance mechanic B. **Ronald Harrison**, stores attendant.

General Office

25 years: **Lee Westmoreland**, operation coordinator, System Operation, Roanoke. 15 years: **Bill Crawford**, customer services coordinator, GO Marketing & Customer Services, Roanoke. **Shelia Farmer**, human resources clerk A, GO Human Resources, Roanoke. **Lisa Lackland**, senior clerk, GO General Services, Roanoke. **David McElraff**, regional dispatcher, System Operation, Abingdon. **Thomas Runyan**, station operator A, System Operation, Huntington.

Huntington

15 years: **David Radcliff**, meter reader, Milton. **Bill Bradford**, electrical engineer senior. 5 years: **Tim Hamlin**, station mechanic C. **Jeff Hutchison**, customer services assistant.

Kanawha River

15 years: **Paul Galloway**, maintenance mechanic A. **Sandra Pritchard**, tool crib attendant. **Clyde May**, equipment operator A. **Randy Kitchen**, unit supervisor.

Mountaineer

15 years: **Carl Pettry**, plant stores assistant senior. **Bill McCarley**, stores attendant.

Pulaski

10 years: **Danny Cronk**, line mechanic B, Christiansburg. 5 years: **Bill Shannon**, electrical engineer senior.

Roanoke

15 years: **Harold Foster**, automotive mechanic A, Fieldale. 5 years: **Robert Wilson**, marketing and customer services advisor, Fieldale. **Lloyd Bridges, Jr.**, line mechanic C, Rocky Mount.

Philip Sporn

15 years: **Richard Connolly**, equipment operator A. **Daniel Harvey**, maintenance mechanic B. 10 years: **Jerry Morgan**, maintenance mechanic B. 5 years: **William Wallace**, plant engineering technologist I. □

Births

Abingdon

Kelley Jean, daughter of **Mary Seneker**, electrical engineer senior, April 4.

John Amos

Sarah Marie, daughter of **Larry Harrison, II**, chemist senior, April 19.

Ashley Dawn, daughter of **Donald Stanley**, maintenance mechanic C, April 22.

Charleston

Katelyn, daughter of **Timothy Hall**, electrical engineer II, March 23.

Eric, son of **Eric Beane**, St. Albans line mechanic B, April 2.

David Brown, Jr., son of **Elisa Russell**, customer services representative C, May 5.

General Office

Jessica Lynn, daughter of **James Snead**, engineer senior, GO T&D Electrical Engineering, Roanoke, and **Cassandra Snead**, former secretary-stenographer B, GO T&D Telecommunications, Roanoke, March 4.

Sarah Elizabeth, daughter of **James Edward Sorrell, Jr.**, engineer II, GO Hydro, Roanoke, April 24.

Huntington

Steven Michael, son of **Steve Newman**, Milton line mechanic C, April 6.

Logan-Williamson

Austin Terry, son of **Terry Dempsey**, Logan line mechanic C, March 26.

Mountaineer

Christian Lee, son of **Jim Amsbary**, equipment operator C, March 12.

Brian Joe, son of **Alice Weiss**, plant clerk B, May 1.

Roanoke

Samantha Danielle, daughter of **Brent Washburn**, Rocky Mount custodian, April 9.

Philip Sporn

Elijah Riker Gage, son of **Kelvin Honaker**, maintenance mechanic B, April 13. □

He can't resist the call of the quail

Bob White. Bob White. The quail call often echoes through Fred Erwin's backyard and even his garage over and over and over again.

Fred, retired Huntington meter reader, has been raising quails for about two years now, and he has 300 of them and more than 800 eggs.

He's thinking about getting into the quail business in a big way. His problem is finding a market for the Bob White and Pharaoh quails he raises on the 18 acres he owns.

"Right now it's a hobby. They're more or less a conversation piece. They're pets pretty much," Fred said.

"I'm just learning. I've been doing it for about two years. There's nobody around here who can tell me anything about raising and selling quails," he said.

"I'm experimenting. I'm doing fair. I'm getting about 45 eggs a day. I have them in all sizes. It occupies my time," he said.

Fred got a license from the West Virginia Department of Natural Resources that allows him to sell the quails, but he's prohibited from selling them 'dressed' to local restaurants or grocery stores.

"I've called around. To do that, I would need 100 a week and they would have to be inspected by the state. I could raise 11,000 in a year, but where could I sell them?" he asked.

Tom Dotson, a district biologist with the West Virginia Department of Natural Resources, said there is a market for "cage-raised quail, but it's a very limited market."

The market would be to those hunters who want to train their bird dogs, he said.

Dotson said quails raised in captivity don't survive in the wild. He said clean-farming, pesticides, and several bad winters back-to-back in the late 1970s have really cut back on the wild quail population. Clean-farming is the practice of plowing most open farmland, leaving the quails no place to live.

"They're in no danger of being extinct, but I don't expect them to ever be back again in the numbers there were before," he said.

Fred got his start in the quail business when he bought 100 eggs and put them in an incubator. Seventy-eight of those hatched.

He's had some ups and downs in his career.

He was keeping 21 young quails in a trailer on his property. One day the quails just disappeared. Later, he found a big, black snake that managed to get into the trailer and feasted on the quails.

Recently a dog got into one of his cages outside and killed 17 Bob Whites, he said.

The Bob Whites produce white eggshells that take 23 days to hatch; the eggs of the Pharaohs are speckled light to dark brown and hatch in 17 days, he said. The Pharaohs seem to be a hardier breed and are full grown in two months, compared to the four months for the Bob Whites to develop, he said.

Fred has sold quails to folks who would like to have them on their farms. He charges about \$3 a piece.

Feeding the quails is an expensive proposition. "It costs me an arm and a leg to feed them," he said.

Game bird feed for the quails costs \$10 a bag, and he's using about four bags a week right now.

He doesn't know how long he can stay in the quail business.

"I might have to quit," Fred said. □
Story and photo courtesy The Herald-Dispatch.

ILLUMINATOR



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