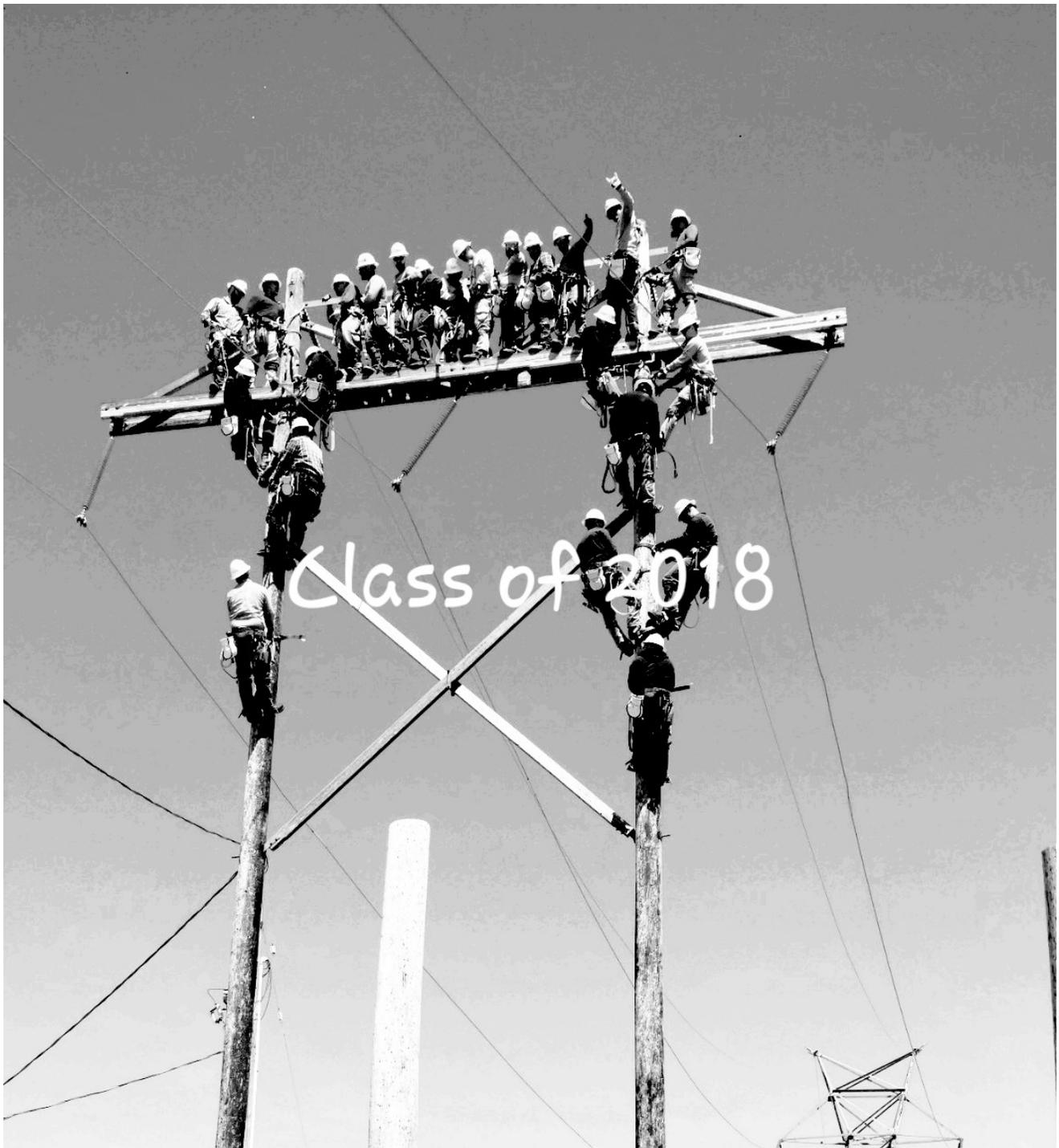


LIVE WIRE

THE ILLUMINATING COMPANY ALUMNI CLUB NEWSLETTER

Volume 27, 4th Quarter



Human Resources Service Center 1-800-543-4654

The Human Resources Service Center (HRSC) is there to help you with:

- Address changes
- Marital status changes
- Dependent changes
- Beneficiary changes
- Direct deposit
- Request for forms
- Death notification
- Pension checks and related tax forms
- Deductions, including benefits, W-4, state tax
- Pension plan provisions
- Benefits plans—enrollment and forms request

Hours are 7:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Please have your Social Security number available when you call.

After business hours or during high-volume calling periods, you may leave a message on the HRSC voicemail and a Human Resources service assistant will call you back—usually within 24 hours.

Recent Retirees

| | |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| Raymond Anzalone | Jay Morris |
| Paula Blott | Kenneth Murphy |
| David Blount | Louis Nosko |
| Arthur Boedecker | Laura Novy |
| Martin Bolan | Steven Ouellette |
| Brian Bowens | Albert Pompeo Jr. |
| William Bruce Jr. | Rodger Riggs |
| Eileen Buzzelli | Leonard Robinson Jr. |
| Thomas Carlson | Robert Sambor |
| Creston Corder | Louise Savel |
| John Couchey Jr. | Mark Schroeder |
| Pamela Creasy | Eric Sheck |
| James Edwards | Brian Shollenberger |
| Robert Giroski | Joyce Smith |
| Thomas Hanuschak | Richard Stevens |
| Cynthia Headen | Paula Sutkowski |
| Tamara Hearn | Cynthia Telling |
| Calvin Heintz | William Torres |
| Roy Hoertz | Russel Tubbs |
| Jeffrey Johansen | Richard Weis |
| Gary Kiszak | Timothy Wojtowicz |
| David Klesch | Kenneth Yager |
| David Marton | Gerald Zemlicka |
| Nick Mastropietro | |

**SAVINGS PLAN/PENSION
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS
1-800-982-3451**

LIVE WIRE Retiree Newsletter

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LIVE WIRE is published quarterly (January, April, July, October). Send communications to The Live Wire, c/o Christine Rosenberger, 76 S. Main Street, 18th Floor, Akron, Ohio 44308.

There are no subscription rates. LIVE WIRE is published free of charge for retirees to provide information about the Company and the utility industry, along with other news of interest or entertainment value to this group.

Readers are encouraged to submit stories, articles and photos. Materials must be received by the tenth of the month prior to publication. By-lined columns reflect the opinions of the writer and not necessarily those of the Company. If you have comments, news items or photos for publication, contact LIVE WIRE at the above address.

Entered as bulk mail at Akron, Ohio. Postmaster: send address changes to the above address.

Death Notices

| | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|---------|
| Paul Supan | Brooklyn District | 3/22/18 |
| Edmund Dembrowski | Brooklyn District | 6/25/18 |
| Richard Hardy | Ashtabula Plant | 6/29/18 |
| Walter Faflick | Industrial Ener | 7/10/18 |
| Paul Klonowski | Miles | 7/19/18 |
| Richard Edge | Sys Const/Maint | 7/21/18 |
| Robert Arnold | Brooklyn Svc Ctr | 8/12/18 |
| Clarence Detray | Davis-Besse | 8/18/18 |
| Dennis Scherf | T&D Engineering | 8/20/18 |
| John Montanaro | Eastern District | 8/21/18 |
| Martha McArdle | Union Relations | 8/23/18 |
| Rex Rutledge | Davis-Besse | 8/28/18 |
| Raymond Krasnodembski | Cleve East Ops | 9/03/18 |
| William Perko | Info Systems | 9/09/18 |

All Good Things Must Come to an End...

We all know life brings changes as the days go by and the years move on—some changes we like and others we may not appreciate as much.

It is with mixed emotions that I must let you know that the upcoming January 2019 issue of the *Live Wire* publication will be the last. This was not an easy decision, but with so many people using social media, the internet and email these days to keep in touch and up-to-date, it's time to put the *Live Wire* to bed.

As published last quarter—and repeated on this page (see article to the right), the Retiree Website is up and running. Please check it out and be sure to let other retirees you may stay in contact with know about it. On this site, you will find all of the Company information you need and then some.

I want to thank all retirees who have contributed over the years by sending in articles, tidbits, funnies, stories and pictures. Again, you'll be receiving one more, last issue in January.

Thank you ~ your Editor.

Retiree Website

What can you find at www.FEretirees.com?

Have you checked out the new retiree website yet? On this site, you can find:

- Selected recent company news articles
- A list of recent retirees, updated quarterly
- Links to useful resources such as:
 - ◇ 401(k) savings and pension plan websites
 - ◇ Human Resources Service Center contact information
 - ◇ Frequently asked retiree questions and answers
- Access to:
 - ◇ Smartmart™ by FirstEnergy e-commerce website
 - ◇ FirstEnergy merchandise online store
 - ◇ Perkspot.com special discounts
- A Contact Us page to:
 - ◇ Ask questions
 - ◇ Offer comments
 - ◇ Update email contact information

And a new “CONNECTIONS” tab where you can connect with other Company retirees or even set up your own group.

Try it out—we think you'll like it!

CHANGE OF ADDRESS REQUEST FOR FORMER EMPLOYEES

I hereby request that you change my mailing address. I understand that this request only changes my home address. Please **CIRCLE** Pension, Savings or both:

PENSION

SAVINGS

EFFECTIVE DATE: _____

NAME: _____

SOCIAL SECURITY NO.: _____

OLD ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

NEW ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

NEW PHONE NO.: _____

This new address is to remain in effect until my written authorization of another change is received in the Human Resources Department, Employee Benefits Section, FirstEnergy Corp.

SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____

RETURN TO: **FirstEnergy Corp.
Human Resources Dept.
Employee Benefits Section
2800 Pottsville Pike
Reading, PA 19612-6001**

Each and All

By Hal Lammel

Olmsted Falls was originally part of the French colony of Canada (New France), which was ceded in 1763 to Great Britain and renamed Province of Quebec. In the late 18th century, the land became part of the Connecticut Western Reserve in the Northwest Territory, then was purchased by the Connecticut Land Company in 1795. In 1806, the vast tract of land comprising present-day Olmsted Falls, North Olmsted and Olmsted Township, was purchased for \$30,000 by Aaron Olmstead, a wealthy sea captain.

Today, the town keeps its charming covered bridge and archaic shops by controlling building along the banks of the Rocky River and Plum Creek. It also is physically crossed by two major railroads—CSX and Norfolk. The town strives to keep the lingering noise from trains at a minimum as it does from the overhead passage of flights from Cleveland Hopkins International Airport. The

Olmsted Falls City School District has a high rating within the State of Ohio.

In the 19th century, Olmsted Falls felled and milled the surrounding woods for its lumber; the constant noise of a sawmill was the price one put up with in a sparsely populated area. Lumber cut into boards were then shipped or dragged by wagon to be sold in Cleveland. One time, someone had the brilliant idea to make a raft of the boards and float it down the west branch of the Rocky River. While they succeeded to get it to Lake Erie, they lost the valuable lumber when a south wind sprang up and blew them north toward Canada. The men with their poles to push the raft along the shoreline were at the mercy of the elements and decided to swim for their lives. Even though all survived, the valuable lumber was never seen again.

Perhaps it floated ashore in Ontario or even Ashtabula or Erie. Probably some person who never labored for the lumber ended up with a free gift. Today, we could compare such a find to

(Continued on page 5)

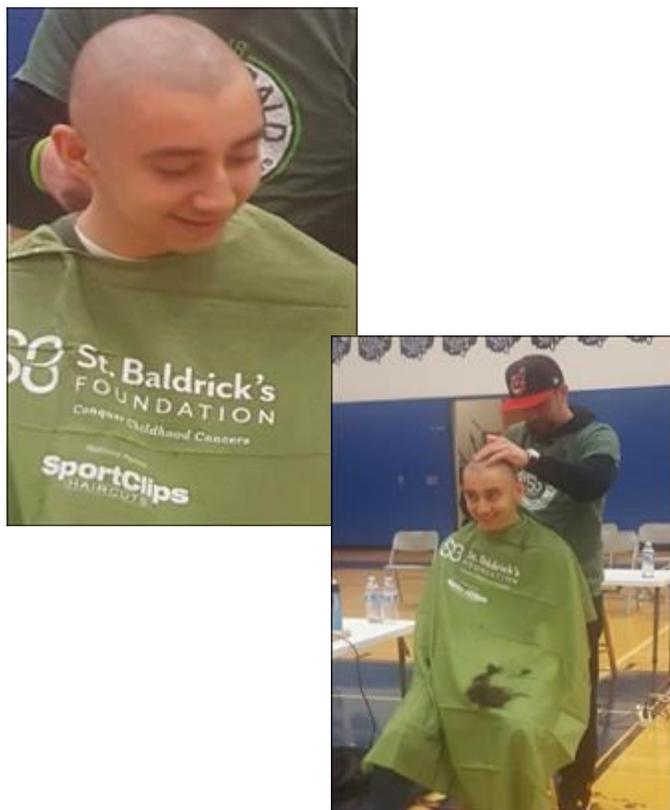
St. Baldrick's Foundation

By Mike Patena

Our grandson, Josh, was able to reach his fundraising goal and couldn't have done it without your support! Because kids with cancer often lose their hair during treatment, "shaves," including my grandson, showed their support by shaving their heads voluntarily, and inspired friends and family to donate money to support childhood cancer research. As the largest private funder of cancer research grants, St. Baldrick's is working to give kids with cancer their best chance at long, healthy and happy lives.

As promised, attached are pictures of my grandson having his head shaved at Brunswick High School. We couldn't be more proud of him! We wish to thank the members of Post 703 for their generous donation which contributed to Josh taking 7th place out of 82 participants!

Josh couldn't "Rock the Bald" without your support! Thanks for helping kids with cancer and making more research possible.



(Continued from page 4)

finding a winning lottery ticket. Nowadays, all the noise is no longer made by a sawmill supplied with power from the current of the river. Today, trains and airplanes and the Ohio turnpike supplant what the old sawmill used to be, namely a noisy affair.

Jerry Labanc lives not far from me in Olmsted Township. We both worked for The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company. He remembers his father advising him in his youth: "This life you have now is not all there is, find out what you enjoy doing and make it your endeavor." Having spent his summers on his uncle's farm, he fell in love with nature and the outdoors, so it is interesting to note that after his retirement he bought a sawmill under an open shelter in his backyard and rips all manner of boards and lumber for his friends and neighbors. With his little dog under his arm he doesn't seem like a person that handles lumber weighing, at times, hundreds if not thousands of pounds. He is a master rigger to be able to slice and dice not only old cedar poles, but other quality wood such as black walnut, pin oak, maple and other types of timber. All four of his buildings including his house are sided with boards he himself milled.

In describing Jerry, I can only quote a fellow employee who describes him as a cut above the rest. Sincere and friendly, helpful and talented, he made a very good lineman and later a foreman. A lover of nature, he plants his garden yearly and freely shares his crop with all who so desire it. He told me I'm a farmer at heart. At present he is involved in training young men to become linemen. He is proud of what he does; he is also aware that he has an impact on many people. We talk of firemen and policemen serving the community, yet the young men he is training will serve the community in a way never thought of. They don't get the credit they deserve, yet each and every one of them fight the elements and risk falling or electrocution on a daily basis.

They do this not just for a paycheck, but also to make life more comfortable for their fellow man. When LeBron is scoring points and we sit in our

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Two Men from Ohio

by Gertrude A. Karafa

The good natured, cigar smoking, 25th President of the United States (1897-1901), William McKinley, was born in Niles, Ohio, in 1843. He was the most popular president since Abraham Lincoln. In 1852, the family moved to Poland, Ohio. He went to public schools and enjoyed outdoor life such as fishing, swimming, and riding horses. When he was 17, he enrolled in Allegheny College in Meadville, Pennsylvania, but left college due to illness. He did not return to college because of finances. His family lost everything in the panic of 1857.

He taught in a country school briefly and, when the Civil War broke out in 1861, he enlisted as a private in the Union Army. He served at the battle of South Mountain and at Antietam. Antietam is known as one of the bloodiest battles fought during the Civil War and happened in 1862 at Antietam Creek near Sharpsburg, Maryland. His commander was Rutherford Hayes, another famous Ohioan who served as governor of Ohio and also became the 19th President of the United States.

In 1897, President and Mrs. McKinley went to a reunion in Fremont, Ohio (Rutherford Hayes' hometown) for the soldiers from the Twenty-Third Ohio Volunteer Infantry Regiment. McKinley made some emotional comments at the gravesite of his wartime commander, Rutherford Hayes, who died in 1893.

In 1876, McKinley won election to the House of Representatives and he was a staunch supporter of businesses. In 1878, he made a speech before Congress saying that we should take care of our own nation and her industries.

McKinley was Governor of Ohio from 1892-1896. His campaign started in Niles, Ohio (where he was born) and there was a huge tin arch across the central thoroughfare that said "Protection is Prosperity." While he was governor, his evenings were spent with his wife, Ida, while she crocheted slippers that she gave to friends and to people in

need that she heard about. It was felt that his evenings belonged entirely to her and that she insisted on that. A ritual between the two became well known in Columbus, Ohio. When he got to his office, he would turn and doff his hat toward the hotel room window across the way. She then would wave a handkerchief to him. Every afternoon at exactly 3:00 p.m., he stepped outside and repeated the hat salutation. Again, Ida waved back with her handkerchief.

In 1894, about 200,000 miners in Ohio went on strike in response to the United Mine Workers telling them to walk off their jobs. The strike shut down railroads and factories dependent on coal. Local sheriffs asked Governor McKinley to send out militia troops to maintain and restore order during the strike. He sent out about 3,000 troops and he also sent troops out later in the year to protect train service during a railroad strike. Once the strikes were over, he got funds and provisions to places where miners were in serious financial need as a result of the strikes. McKinley was thought of as both tough and compassionate.

McKinley was a caring and devoted husband to his wife, Ida, who was somewhat of a complex person. When he was a congressman, Ida would call him out of meetings for minor things such as needing his opinion on her clothes. She had epilepsy and other health issues. She did not use the color yellow for her clothes. She liked blue, thinking of it as a soothing color. She wore small bonnets, feeling there was less pressure on her head and that way she would not have as many headaches. She also wore her hair loosely and this was called the "shingle bob." The hairstyle became popular with the ladies, but they did not realize why the President's wife opted for this style.

President McKinley had breakfast with her every morning at 8:30 and, whenever possible, he had lunch with her. President McKinley often went to church alone since Ida did not like to go out on Sunday mornings. Ida did not want her husband to run for a second term saying he had already done enough for the country. They had two daughters and both died before the age of five. Ida McKinley was only 59 years old when she died.

On September 4, 1901, the President arrived at the Pan-American Exposition in Buffalo, New York, where he planned to announce a new trade initiative. There were displays of technological wonders such as the X-ray machine. The advent of alternating current allowed transmission of electricity through long-distance power lines. The exposition grounds were illuminated since power was brought to Buffalo from turbines at Niagara Falls, about 25 miles away. Under McKinley, the country was embracing technology and there was expansion and wealth. Exposition leaders chose a special day to recognize President McKinley.

Twenty-eight year old Leon Czolgosz arrived at the Pan-American Exposition on August 31, 1901. He was born in Michigan to a poor immigrant family and attended public schools there. In 1893, he was working at a wire mill in Cleveland. He was painfully shy, led a solitary lifestyle, and did not socialize with fellow workers. Wages were cut, there was a strike, and Czolgosz lost his job. At the time, there was a lot of tension between workers and employers about working conditions and fair pay. Czolgosz was troubled by the disparity between the rich and the poor. Czolgosz got his job back the following year by using a different name. He started having breathing problems and strange palpitations. He went to doctors. but it is not clear what the real issue was.

In 1898, he quit his job and moved into a room with his brother on the family farm in Warrensville, Ohio. His father wanted to own land and so the extended family pooled their money and bought 55 acres. There was a large house, a small pond, and a barn with cows. He did not participate in doing the farm chores and his brothers and sisters soon realized he had no intention of doing any work. His stepmother did not appreciate his lazy ways and his siblings said the only thing he was suffering from was self-pity. If his stepmother was in the house, he would not eat with the family, but instead ate alone in his room. He did hunt and fish and take after the rabbits on the land with a pistol and slept under a shade tree. He spent time reading radical works and turned to socialist and anarchist teachings that were apparently inspiring to him.

He heard a lecture by Emma Goldman, a well-known anarchist, who advocated assassination of all rulers everywhere. Czolgosz decided to do something heroic for his cause. At the exposition, he came up with a devious plan. He wrapped a pistol in a handkerchief and pressed it against his chest to look like an injury.

The newspapers had published the fact that McKinley would be at the Temple of Music and would meet members of the public there at 4:00 p.m. McKinley liked to meet with people individually and even developed his own handshake called the “McKinley grip” so his hands would not cramp. This famous handshake also meant he could usher through as many as 50 people a minute.

On September 6, 1901, Czolgosz stood in the President’s receiving line along with other constituents, and when McKinley reached out to shake the unbandaged hand, Czolgosz pressed the concealed revolver against the President’s chest and shot him twice. The President was taken to the hospital emergency room. He did not recover from his wounds and died on September 14, 1901. After a brief trial Czolgosz was sentenced to death. He was executed in the electric chair at Auburn State Prison in Auburn, New York, on October 29, 1901.

Two men from Ohio made history. One gave to the country. The other took away from the country.

FirstEnergy Common Stock Dividend

On September 18, 2018, The Board of Directors of FirstEnergy Corp. declared an unchanged quarterly dividend of 36 cents per share of outstanding common stock. The dividend will be payable December 1, 2018, to shareholders of record at the close of business on November 7, 2018.

**THE ILLUMINATING COMPANY
6896 MILLER ROAD
BRECKSVILLE, OHIO 44141**

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comfortable home in front of our TV, the lineman is maintaining the distribution system that makes all the electrical appliances in our house work. There is a certain satisfaction that one gets from turning the power back on after an outage. As the lights twinkle on, one knows everything is back to the way it ought to be. Little children can now go to sleep in peace and mom and dad can finish the chores and get ready for the next day.

When I started as a lineman back in 1969, people used to come out and actually thank you for doing your job and that made us really feel good. Today, society has changed, as many take their conveniences for granted. They are irritated and ask when will my lights come back on? I do recall that during some storms linemen have worked for thirty straight hours before going home totally spent and exhausted.

Jerry answered such inquires with, we are working on it now, we will have your lights on shortly.

Reminds me of what Hedy Lamar said: “no matter how people treat you be nice to them anyways.” When asked what do you want to do with your life, his answer was quick and to the point. I want to make life a little better for other people!

Therein lies the crux of the matter, that giving, giving of yourself and sharing what we have as far as our time and knowledge, is the surest way to satisfaction. Though none of us are perfect, we can all impact others by being a little kinder. I have a friend who spends her spare time in volunteering and helping less fortunate people in the community. That and her family is her drive in life. Adhering to the age-old standards of being polite and helpful! If we find a person like that, let us enjoy their company. For one can truly say there is more happiness in giving than receiving.

Ralph Waldo Emerson put it this way:

Nor knowest thou what argument
Thy life to thy neighbor's creed has lent:
All are needed by each one,
Nothing is fair or good alone.