FESTIVE SAFETY TREES

Asplundh folks in the field are known for coming up with creative ways to communicate the importance of safety. We thought you would enjoy seeing a couple of festive ‘safety’ trees that have turned up in offices during the holiday season.

 Supervisor Reggie Charlesworth of the Mick Kavran Region sent in this photo of the “Safety Christmas Tree” he has created for the past three years with the help of a traffic cone. Office Manager Katie Gunn and Office Assistant Britnie Keller help him decorate the cone which greets employees and visitors to their office in Kenmore, Washington.

 Office Manager April Capps in the Doug Smith Region said she wanted something festive for their office in Garner, North Carolina, but didn’t want anybody to forget about safety. So she decorated a little tabletop tree with Asplundh promotional items, orange “Safety First ... No One Gets Hurt!” bracelets and a squeezzy traffic cone on top!
The busy holiday season is upon us and before the New Year begins, it’s a good time to reflect on the milestones our company marked in 2011. After a little more than a year in our new roles — and thanks to the great work of our employees — we are seeing the results of changes initiated in 2010.

One of the most exciting milestones is the fact that Asplundh and its subsidiaries now employ over 30,000 men and women in the United States, Canada, Australia and New Zealand. Despite a weak economy, Asplundh invested in more field management personnel in 2010 to help expand vegetation management operations, improve safety and maximize the value of our services to our customers, old and new. Our operations and customer base steadily grew and by mid-August of this year, the 30,000 mark was exceeded.

This kind of growth means more opportunities for advancement for experienced, high-performing employees. But with this growth also comes an increased responsibility to maintain a strong safety record, control costs and continue to provide outstanding customer service. It will be a challenge, but we know our team can do it!

Although our company has already established a strong safety culture, with the advice of DuPont Sustainable Solutions group, our company recently restructured our Safety Management Process to be more regionally-driven and flexible. As a result of this initiative, the ownership of Asplundh’s safety performance now lies within each of us in the field and Home Office. The Corporate Safety Department staff will continue to provide the expertise, training support and tools that our regional operations need to work safely. However, the responsibility for maintaining low incident rates will be in the hands of the people whose health and safety are at risk, not some centralized corporate department. By involving every Asplundh employee in the Safety Process, from the newest groundperson to the highest level of management, we will continue to outperform the industry in lower incident frequency and severity.

We have also introduced a new word into our Asplundh vocabulary — SafeProduction — which is meant to reinforce a concept that has been an unwritten expectation in our operations all along. It may be hard to believe it at first, but safety and productivity go hand-in-hand. We have come to understand that a safe operation is often the most productive, and with the personal commitment that it takes to work safely and productively comes a greater degree of quality. Now that we have placed more control and responsibility in the hands of our regional operations, SafeProduction is not merely a concept or expectation. It’s becoming a reality!

Responding to storm emergencies is also not just a concept for Asplundh and UtiliCon companies. In this issue of The Asplundh TREE magazine, you’ll read about the thousands of tree workers, linemen and patrollers who assisted dozens of utilities and municipalities in recovering from Hurricane Irene and a freak snowstorm in the Northeast on October 29. Working long hours safely and efficiently while away from home is never easy for our employees and their families. But we are a company that takes pride in helping customers in a big way in any emergency. We sincerely appreciate the safe and professional manner in which our crews responded to these storm events and especially thank those customers who released our personnel to assist other utilities in need.

As we look ahead to 2012, our strategy for maximizing the value of our company’s services depends on applying best practices in safety, fleet management, personnel training and advancement, environmental stewardship and technology. We certainly value our customer relationships and we aim to prove every day that their trust in Asplundh is worthwhile and well appreciated.

To all of you and your families, we wish for a safe and happy holiday season and all the best in the New Year!
You may have heard the phrase SafeProduction, but do you know what it means? Do you know what it means to you, every day, working in the field?

SafeProduction is not really a new concept, although the phrase certainly is. From the field perspective, SafeProduction is really just working safely, efficiently and producing high-quality work, every day. Production and safety can’t be separate. If you sacrifice safety to produce more, the injuries, outages and property damage will cancel out any gains that you thought you may have made. One incident can negate an entire career of work, including ending your life!

Some, in the past, may have thought that safety is just something that the former Safety Department did. Some might have said, “That’s the Safety Department’s job!” This thinking may have led some to believe that we don’t “own” our personal safety. If we all want to go home every night, that means each of us must take responsibility for our own safety, as well as the safety of those around us.

Safety is integral to the way that we work. It isn’t something external to operations. It isn’t something that you can add to what you do. Safety is a measure of how well you do what you do. SafeProduction recognizes that your active involvement in safety and the daily work plan are the key to top-quality work and business success. We can achieve a high level of performance and go home safely when we:

• Continually learn about what works and what doesn’t work. We must apply lessons learned and use best practices.
• Adopt a SafeProduction mindset every day, even when no one is looking. It takes a personal commitment and a vow not to be that person in the injury report.
• Become actively involved in promoting a safe workplace and having each others’ back. When your gut tells you something just isn’t right, have the courage to say something or act. And when someone speaks up, say, “Thanks, got it.”

Our new emphasis on SafeProduction is even evident in how we refer to the newly reorganized safety department: Asplundh Safety Operations. The role of our Safety Operations staff includes:

• Safety Expertise/Industry Best Practices
• Trend Analysis and Reporting
• Coaching and Training
• Communication
• Compliance (external)
• Interface with Safety Leadership Teams

To summarize, SafeProduction is the new philosophy in our culture. Our operations are focusing on Safety and Production together, not as separate concepts or goals. Guided by management and with the support of Asplundh Safety Operations, SafeProduction leads to continual improvement, added value for our customers and everyone going home safely.

As an example of how the role of safety from the corporate level has changed, here’s a picture of some training I conducted recently in the Pacific Northwest, demonstrating new rigging gear, such as the Rigging Kit, and advanced climbing techniques. You’ll also notice some items that we’re beginning to implement, such as an adjustable false crotch, various lanyard configurations and a different climbing helmet.

It’s not very often that an airplane pilot has to make an emergency landing on a highway, but that’s what happened right in front of Foreperson Kevin Bailey and his family this past summer as they drove along Kentucky Route 60. Thanks to the Decisive Driving skills of Kevin and his wife, Stephanie, they sized up the situation with enough time to safely move their vehicle all the way over to the guardrail as the plane whizzed by and landed. RSS Mike Meador of the Larry Kirk Region thought their response was a prime example of “Expand your look ahead capacity. Plan your escape route. And take decisive action.” As a result, no one was hurt. Good job!
SAFETY TRAINING AND RECOGNITION

Safety expertise is meant to be shared so for the past two years, Asplundh has provided a chain saw safety and tree felling course for Xcel Energy linemen in the Mountain Division. RSS Clint Baron of the Will Willis Region coordinated the training which was held on August 31 near Keystone, Colorado. In addition to Clint, the instructors for the class were Asplundh District Area Manager David Fulford and General Forepersons Bob Formhals and Shane Vosberg. Operations Manager Gary Holmes of the Xcel Energy Mountain Division reported many positive comments from the participants including: “I learned so much. Anyone who operates a chain saw should take this course.” Thanks for sharing!

ASPLUNDH CLIMBERS COMPETE

Tree climbing competitions are held throughout the various chapters of the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) each year. Some statewide Lineman’s Rodeos offer competitive tree climbing events, too. Asplundh climbers who take the time to practice specific events and learn to compete against the clock are often very successful. Perhaps more importantly, they and their families have a great time watching and cheering on the climbers!

At the 2011 Midwest ISA Tree Climbing Competition in June, Asplundh fielded four competitors from the Kevin Dove (now Adam Larson) Region, all from Iowa. Trimmer Josh Hodson earned third place in the throw line event and placed ninth out of 35 competitors overall. Foreperson Mike Sedam beat his personal best time in the secured foot lock event by seven seconds this year and received the “Spirit of the Competition” award for his contagious positive attitude. Foreperson Ryan Lewis competed for the fifth year in a row and earned 14th place overall. Trimmer Trainee Jake Roberts, who was only 18 years old with six months of Asplundh experience under his belt at the time, competed for the first time this year and placed 21st. He says he is hooked!

In addition to family and friends, these fine competitors were supported by fellow co-workers who helped with judging or technical support at the event: Supervisor (now Manager) Adam Larson, General Forepersons Mike Christianson and Wesley Tregilgas, and Foreperson Butch Christianson.
Hurricane Irene, which made landfall in North Carolina on August 26, moved up the East Coast and evolved into a powerful, rain-soaked tropical storm in parts of New England by August 28. Due to the dense population all along its path, power outages numbered in the millions. Over 1,400 Asplundh crews were mobilized, making Irene the largest storm response for the company since the winter storms of early 2010.

The Asplundh Storm Center started mobilizing crews as early as August 22 for Florida Power & Light, who managed to dodge the bullet on this one! However, there were 29 other utilities and municipalities from North Carolina to New England who didn’t get so lucky. The largest number of crews were sent to National Grid in Long Island and Massachusetts, as well as Connecticut Light & Power.

Eleven different Asplundh management regions received outside tree crew assistance for their utility customers from 44 different Asplundh regions and ArborMetrics Solutions, Inc. Our crews traveled from as far away as Nebraska, Kansas and Texas, as well as Nova Scotia, Canada. Approximately 3,800 employees left their homes and families for a week or more to help utilities clear many massive, over-mature trees that had fallen on power lines and roads. The rigging required to safely remove or lower limbs was challenging and at times, called for the assistance of a crane.

A tidal wave of thank you notes from utility personnel and their customers showed that the extra effort and attention paid to safety by our crews was appreciated.

**Early Snow Wreaks Havoc In The Northeast**

Only two months after Irene pounded the Northeastern U.S., a heavy, wet snow on October 29 weighed down trees that still had most of their autumn foliage, pulling down power lines and snapping utility poles. Some areas in New York and Massachusetts received

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**Cranes, like this more than 100-ft. one in Manhasset, New York, were in great demand as high-risk trees were identified as too unsafe to climb. Here, a removal had to be expedited to protect a LIPA line along a heavily-traveled road.**

**The amount of rain that Irene brought caused widespread flooding and temporarily closed the New Jersey Transit line, a major commuter railroad. Shown here is an Asplundh Railroad Division lift and chipper crew patrolling for trees and limbs on the tracks.**

**The tangle of trees and wires after Irene passed through the Philadelphia area required a major cooperative effort between tree and line crews. Here, a digger derrick supports a toppled tree as Asplundh tree crews remove limbs threatening the PECO lines below.**

**The flooding of the Schuylkill River after Irene’s rains caused this PECO H-frame north of Philadelphia to tilt over. Asplundh crews from the Larry Gauger Region had to take a boat over to the island to clear trees from the area before the line crews could repair the poles.**

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**Hurricane Irene’s winds and torrential rains hammered Long Island in New York, bringing down massive trees like this one, as well as the Long Island Power Authority (LIPA) lines which are operated by National Grid. More than 250 tree crews were dispatched to assist National Grid and the local Brian Fuge crews on Long Island.**
over 20 inches of snow and power outages in the Northeast once again numbered in the millions.

Asplundh sent over 500 crews to assist 13 utilities, all of whom had been seriously affected by Irene in late August. Approximately 2,000 employees came from 26 states and two Canadian provinces to assist the local crews of five management regions in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, New York, Connecticut, Massachusetts and New Hampshire. Our AVMS system on Monday, October 31, two days after the storm, registered over 800,000 miles driven as crews responded to the storm. This was about 300,000 more than a normal Monday!

Fortunately, another excellent safety record made sure that everyone made it back home without incident.

**CO-OP CORNER**

Millions of trees in Texas this year not only suffered from a devastating drought, but wildfires in September burned or damaged thousands more, along with over 1,600 homes in the Bastrop County wildfire alone!

Thousands of Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative members lost power as the Bastrop wildfire burned utility poles, transformers and thousands of trees along more than 300 miles of right-of-way. All available Gene Blount Region crews, plus 40 additional crews from neighboring Asplundh regions, responded immediately to assist Bluebonnet in making the area safe and removing fire damaged trees so the lines could be rebuilt.

While the fires were still burning, Bluebonnet requested help in assessing and prioritizing which fire-damaged trees had to be removed. ArborMetrics Solutions, Inc. was able to provide them with professional arborists to quickly and efficiently handle this task.

Although a wildfire is not a typical “storm,” Asplundh’s emergency resources are always ready to help!
integrated vegetation management (IVM) is a relatively new term, but the use of herbicides for utility right-of-way (ROW) management has been consistently researched for nearly 60 years on the Game Lands 33 project near State College, Pennsylvania. Asplundh has been the application partner in this project since 1953 and the data collected by academic researchers has consistently proven that proper herbicide use is not only a safe and effective ROW management technique, it also creates good wildlife habitat.

In an effort to test the validity of data collected in the Game Lands 33 project, PECO (formerly Philadelphia Electric Co.) joined with Asplundh, the Pennsylvania State University, Dow and other cooperators in 1986 to initiate a similar research project on a stretch of transmission line ROW in Green Lane, Pennsylvania. The idea was to replicate the study in a location with different climate, soil and a variety of trees, plants and wildlife. Being located closer to a highly populated suburban and urban area was an added variable. Would the results be the same?

To achieve results with integrity, the Green Lane project was modeled upon the design of the late Dr. William Bramble and Dr. William Byrnes, noted forestry and wildlife professors who conducted the research on Game Lands 33 during their time at Penn State University and later, Purdue University. In 1987, the torch was passed for plant and wildlife research to Dr. Richard Yahner, a professor of wildlife conservation in Penn State’s School of Forest Resources. For almost 25 years now, he has conducted numerous studies of animals and plants at both Game Lands 33 and Green Lane. He measures and reports on their response to the ROW management practices on the test plots.

At Green Lane, five different treatment methods are studied — Hand Cutting, Mowing, Mowing with Herbicide (a.k.a. Cut Stubble), Foliar Herbicide and Stem Vice President Joe Lentz, who manages Arborchem Products Division, jumped in with the crews from the Larry Gauger Region to conduct one of the stem foliar treatments at Green Lane in September 2010.

Foliar Herbicide. As expected, animal populations and plant diversity vary according to the plant succession stage created by the treatment method.

“Both Green Lane and Game Lands 33 are providing utilities, foresters, wildlifers and the general public with solid information on the long-term response of wildlife and plants to right-of-way management practices,” explained Dr. Yahner who has recently begun work on another replication of the study in Lake County, Illinois on a ComEd ROW.

Continued on page 9
**NEWLY-ELECTED VICEPRESIDENTS**

**Brian Fuge**, manager of Asplundh vegetation management operations on Long Island in New York, was elected vice president in October. He reports to Sponsor/Vice President Larry Moore, who made the announcement at the Asplundh Managers’ Meeting in early November.

Brian first started out on an Asplundh tree crew on Long Island in 1976, advancing to foreperson four years later. In 1982, he left to work for another tree service until 1990 when he returned to Asplundh as a general foreperson. Brian was promoted to supervisor in 1997 and was named manager of Asplundh’s tree crews working on the properties of National Grid (Keyspan) and various municipal accounts in 2003. In addition to several courses in arboriculture, he successfully completed ASTP in 1994 and the Professional Management Development Program in 2004. Brian has received corporate recognition for safety performance and special projects.

**Larry Gauger, Jr.**, manager of Asplundh operations in southeastern Pennsylvania, was recognized on November 2 at the Asplundh Managers’ Meeting for his election to vice president by Sponsor/Vice President Doug Gober.

Larry got his start on an Asplundh tree crew in 1990, working on the property of PECO Energy in his home state of Pennsylvania. He advanced to foreperson the following year and in 1996, he accepted a promotion to general foreperson on the property of ComEd in the Chicago, Illinois area. Three years later, Larry was promoted to supervisor and in 2004, he was named manager of Asplundh operations there. In 2005, he was given added management responsibility for operations on the property of PECO in Pennsylvania. Larry’s responsibilities changed in 2010 in order to temporarily manage additional contracts in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. Larry is an ISA Certified Arborist and has earned corporate awards for outstanding leadership, safety performance and storm response.

**Ralph Guadagno**, manager of Asplundh vegetation management operations in Eastern Massachusetts, Vermont and Maine, was unable to attend the Asplundh Managers’ Meeting in early November where Sponsor/Vice President Larry Moore announced his election to vice president. Storm work prevented Ralph from receiving public recognition there.

Ralph joined the company in 1991, working on a tree crew in Pennsylvania and later, in his home state of New Jersey. He transferred to Florida in 1994 with a promotion to general foreperson and three years later, advanced to supervisor. In 2003, Ralph came back up north as a manager responsible for overseeing Asplundh tree crews on the properties of various investor-owned, municipal and cooperative utilities, and telecommunications accounts in New England. A graduate of Albright College in Pennsylvania, Ralph is an ISA Certified Arborist and has received corporate awards for sales growth, safety performance and storm response.

**Bob Ray, Jr.**, manager of Asplundh Brush Control Co. (ABC) operations in the Northeast and Middle Atlantic states, was recognized on November 2 at the Asplundh Managers’ Meeting for his election to vice president by Sponsor/Vice President Larry Moore.

Bob joined ABC in 1987 as a foreperson in his home state of New York with 10 years of experience in both transmission and distribution line clearance. Three years later, he advanced to general foreperson and in 1997, Bob was promoted to supervisor, overseeing right-of-way clearing and maintenance projects from New York to Florida. In 2004, he was named manager of ABC operations serving electric and gas utilities and municipal accounts throughout the Northeast and Middle Atlantic states. Over the years, Bob has increased ABC’s expertise in managing environmentally-sensitive projects. He successfully completed Asplundh management training programs in 1996 and 2004 and has earned corporate recognition for safety performance.

**Mike Zehler**, manager of Asplundh vegetation management operations throughout most of New York state, was also unable to attend the Asplundh Managers’ Meeting in early November where Sponsor/Vice President Larry Moore announced his election to vice president. Storm work prevented him from receiving recognition from his peers there.

A 35-year Asplundh veteran, Mike started out on a tree crew in his native state of New York. Within two years he became a foreperson and was promoted to general foreperson in 1990. Mike advanced to supervisor in 2003 and a year later, he was promoted to manager. He is responsible for overseeing Asplundh tree and spray crews working on the properties of National Grid, Energy East and various municipal accounts throughout New York. He successfully completed Asplundh management training programs in 1992 and 2004 and has earned corporate recognition for safety performance and storm response.
NEW MANAGERS

Jeff Ness, former supervisor in northern Illinois, was promoted in August to manager of Asplundh operations there. The Jeff Ness Region is sponsored by CEO Scott Asplundh.

Jeff first joined an Asplundh tree crew in his home state of Illinois in 1987 and he advanced to foreperson three years later. In 1992, due to contract changes, he worked the next seven years for other line clearance contractors. Jeff returned to Asplundh in 1999 and worked as a general foreperson until 2002 when he was promoted to supervisor overseeing distribution line clearance crews working in the Central Region of ComEd, west of Chicago, Illinois. As a manager, Jeff is responsible for all Asplundh vegetation management operations on the property of ComEd. He is an October 2001 graduate of ASTP and has been an ISA Certified Arborist since 1997. Jeff has earned corporate awards for safety performance and storm response.

Tim Walsh, former corporate safety compliance and training manager, was named Director, Safety Operations in July. He reports to President George Graham.

Tim brings to the company over 20 years of advanced education, production tree work experience and training expertise in safety, health and compliance. He now leads the Safety Operations staff in providing a range of support services to regional vegetation management operations throughout the country. Tim is a Certified Treecare Safety Professional and an ISA Certified Arborist. He has been actively involved in the Accredited Standards Committee for ANSI Z133.1 since 2001. Tim earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees in urban forestry from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, and a master’s degree in ergonomics from the University of Massachusetts-Lowell.

Ryan Swier, former supervisor in the Larry Gauger Region in Pennsylvania and New Jersey, advanced to manager of Asplundh line clearance operations in parts of New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania in August. He reports to Sponsor/Senior Vice President Gregg Asplundh.

Ryan started with the company in 1991 in Pennsylvania working on a tree crew during summer breaks from college. In 1994, he came to work full-time with Asplundh after earning a bachelor’s degree from Kutztown University. Ryan transferred to Illinois in 1997 and advanced to general foreperson the following year. He was promoted to supervisor there in 1999 and four years later, he came back to Pennsylvania with a promotion to Field Personnel Manager of Training and Development. In 2009, he decided to return to the field as a supervisor in the Gauger Region and now, as a manager, he is responsible for overseeing Asplundh vegetation management operations for various investor-owned, cooperative and municipal accounts in parts of New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania.

Juan Angel Garza, former general foreperson in Florida under Manager Ronnie Collins, advanced to supervisor there in April. The Collins Region is sponsored by Senior Vice President Matt Asplundh.

Angel first came to work in the company’s meter reading operations in Texas in 1998 and then worked for a short while in the street lighting division. He joined an Asplundh tree crew in 1999 and has remained in vegetation management ever since. In 2002, Angel transferred to Tennessee and advanced to general foreperson. He oversaw Asplundh tree crews working for utilities in various parts of the U.S. for the past several years, but made his home in Florida in 2006. As a supervisor, Angel oversees line clearance crews working on the properties of Progress Energy and Lakeland Electric in Florida, as well as various utilities in other states. Angel is a 2004 graduate of ASTP.

Matt Kirk, former superintendent in eastern Tennessee under Manager Chris Wilburn, was promoted to supervisor there in July. Senior Vice President Chris Asplundh, Jr. sponsors the Wilburn Region.

Matt began following in the footsteps of his father, Vice President Larry Kirk, when he first joined an Asplundh tree crew in 2002 to work during summer breaks from college. He came aboard full-time in Virginia in January 2007 as a foreperson and then permissions person before his promotion to general foreperson in December 2008. Matt transferred to the Wilburn Region in Tennessee almost two years later and now, as a supervisor, he oversees Asplundh tree crews working for various cooperative and municipal accounts in eastern Tennessee. He earned a bachelor’s degree from Ferrum College in Virginia and is a 2009 graduate of ASTP.

NEW SUPERVISORS IN THE FIELD
Adalberto Mancera, former general foreperson in northern Illinois, was promoted to supervisor there in May and works under Manager Jeff Ness. The Ness Region is sponsored by CEO Scott Asplundh. Ada joined Asplundh in Illinois in 1999 as a foreperson with three years of prior line clearance experience. He advanced to general foreperson the following year. As a supervisor, his responsibilities include overseeing Asplundh distribution line clearance crews working on the property of ComEd in its Northwest Division, outside of Chicago, Illinois. Ada is a December 2004 graduate of ASTP and is preparing to take the ISA Certified Arborist exam.

Saul Mancera, former general foreperson in northern Illinois, advanced to supervisor in May and works under Manager Jeff Ness. CEO Scott Asplundh sponsors the Ness Region. Saul started out on an Asplundh tree crew in the Chicago area in 2000. After approximately two years, he became a foreperson and by 2004, he was promoted to general foreperson. Saul’s responsibilities as a supervisor include overseeing Asplundh distribution line clearance crews working on the property of ComEd in its Central Division, right in the city of Chicago. He is an April 2005 graduate of ASTP and is awaiting the results of his recently completed ISA Certified Arborist exam.

Jim Richards, former regional safety superintendent in Pennsylvania, was promoted to field supervisor in parts of New Jersey in December under Manager Ryan Swier. The Swier Region is sponsored by Senior Vice President Gregg Asplundh. A Philadelphia native, Jim first came to work full-time for Asplundh in the Willow Grove Home Office in 1996. After almost 10 years of working on the administrative side of Asplundh, Jim decided to transfer into the field and began working on a tree crew in Michigan. In 2007, he was promoted to general foreperson and the following year, he transferred back to southeastern Pennsylvania. Jim took on RSS duties there in the Larry Gauger Region in 2010. Now, as a supervisor in the Swier Region, he oversees Asplundh crews working on the properties of Public Service Electric & Gas and FirstEnergy/Jersey Central Power & Light. Jim is a 2009 graduate of ASTP and is an ISA Certified Arborist and Utility Specialist.

Earnest Riddle, Jr., former regional safety superintendent in the Larry Gauger Region in southeastern Pennsylvania, was promoted to field supervisor there in March. Vice President Doug Gober sponsors the Gauger Region. Earnie first came to work on an Asplundh tree crew in the Philadelphia area in 1978, following in the footsteps of his father who is now retired from the company. In 1982, he left the company to become a machinist, but returned in 1991 as a top climber and by 1993, he had been promoted to general foreperson. Earnie took on RSS duties in the Gauger Region in April 2010 and now, as a supervisor, he is responsible for overseeing Asplundh crews performing transmission and emergent tree work on the property of PECO. Earnie is an ISA Certified Arborist and First Aid/CPR instructor. He is a 1994 graduate of ASTP and participated in the first General Foreperson’s Professional Development Program in 2005.

J. Doug Thompson, former general foreperson in southern Ohio under Vice President Dave Sachs, was promoted to supervisor in the same region in June 2011. The Sachs Region is sponsored by Senior Vice President Gregg Asplundh. Doug began working for Asplundh as a work planner in Ohio in 2001 with two years of prior line clearance experience. Two years later, he advanced to a general foreperson. As a supervisor in the Dave Sachs Region, his responsibilities include overseeing Asplundh line clearance, spray and specialized equipment crews working on the property of AEP Ohio in the Athens and Chillicothe Districts. Doug is a May 2006 graduate of ASTP and holds a West Virginia herbicide applicator license.

Continued from page 6

“The Green Lane PECO right-of-way test area continues to provide valuable insight on control methods available for right-of-way management in southeastern Pennsylvania,” says Alex Brown, Manager, Vegetation Management for PECO who recently inspected the treatment plots at Green Lane. “Environmental stewardship is a priority for PECO and has become a prominent part of utility practices. The ability to draw upon 25 years of local scientific research provides excellent value.”

Asplundh is pleased to continue to play a role in furthering this research to demonstrate the safety and effectiveness of IVM on utility rights-of-way, as well as the long-term benefits it brings to wildlife and their habitats.
Mary DiNezza, who worked in the Willow Grove Home Office in Pennsylvania, passed away on September 13 at the age of 65. Mary came to work for Asplundh in the Executive Area in February 1989 and worked her entire career as an executive assistant under Chief Financial Officer and Secretary-Treasurer Joe Dwyer. She retired from the company in October 2010.

Mary is survived by her husband, Roland; sons Michael and Anthony, who works in the Customer Field Liaison Department; two daughters-in-law Marianne and Kelly, who works in the Human Resources Department; a nephew, Jim Richards, who is an Asplundh field supervisor, and his wife, Jenn, who works in the Affirmative Action/Immigration Compliance Department; a brother, Marty; and nine grandchildren.

“Mary always had a smile on her face and a kind word to offer,” wrote Joe in the announcement of her passing. “She will be dearly missed.”

Retired Foreperson John P. Serrill passed away on October 17 at his home in Warminster, Pennsylvania. One of Asplundh’s earliest employees, John first came to work on a tree crew in Pennsylvania in 1936. He worked his way up to foreperson, but then left to serve in the U.S. Army during World War II. John returned to work as a climber in 1946 and advanced to foreperson two years later. The remainder of his career until his retirement in 1980 was spent working on the property of PECO (then Philadelphia Electric Co.). He is survived by two daughters, Barbara and Janet; three grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. He touched the lives of many and will long be remembered!

Continued on back cover
It is always a pleasure to recognize selfless, courageous and skilled Asplundh employees whose good deeds recently earned them Silver Merit Award pins. Two of the events described on these pages involved vehicle crashes, a risk that all of us are exposed to on a day-to-day basis. The other situation was something very few of us are prepared to encounter. Would you be able to react quickly and effectively?

**Foggy Morning Truck Crash**

On October 20, 2010, General Foreperson Eddie Briscoe of the Jerry Kensinger Region and AEP/SWEPSCO Senior Resource Analyst Jerry Huckabee were traveling along Highway 82 in northeastern Texas, enroute to a planned work site. Suddenly, through the dense morning fog, they witnessed a tractor trailer truck clip another truck which then hit a cattle trailer. The trailer tipped over and cattle got out, wandering across the road. One of the big rigs stopped just 15 feet from a house!

Eddie and Jerry were able to stop quickly, turn on their flashers to warn drivers as they approached the scene, and call 911. After a quick discussion, they decided to split up. Jerry began flagging down traffic while Eddie went to check on the victims and administer first aid until an ambulance arrived. Fortunately, no one was seriously injured in the incident.

AEP/SWEPSCO Reliability Manager James Bass presented Good Samaritan Awards to both Eddie and Jerry saying, "You are not only a hero to the victims of the accident, but to SWEPSCO and AEP, too." Asplundh Manager Jerry Kensinger also expressed his pride in their swift actions when he presented a Silver Merit Award to Eddie on behalf of Asplundh. Congratulations!

**Capsized Rafters Rescued**

On June 22 in Reno, Nevada, Foreperson Richard Blair and Climber Alberto Campos of the Will Willis Region were pruning trees along NV Energy lines. The backyard in which they were working backed up to the Truckee River, a popular river for whitewater rafting trips in the spring and summer. The river also has a reputation for causing massive flooding in the cities of Reno and Sparks.

While working in the backyard, both Richard and Alberto suddenly noticed personal belongings floating downstream, ahead of two rafters who had capsized. Alberto quickly handed his pole pruner to Richard who called to the two men to try to swim toward them. He was able to safely swing each of them to shore. They were out of breath and extremely grateful for the rescue.

Gerald Fassett, Vegetation Manager for NV Energy, wrote to Asplundh Supervisor Ed Boyd to describe the crew’s efforts to avert a potentially life-threatening situation. He asked Ed to, "... extend a word of thanks to Richard and Alberto for exhibiting bravery and quick thinking during such a crisis. Thank you, guys, for going above and beyond, and acting on a moment’s notice."

Asplundh was pleased to do just that by presenting specially-designed Silver Merit Award pins to Richard and Alberto.
In order for the Asplundh Tree Expert Co. and its subsidiaries to achieve operating and financial goals, it is essential that all company directors, officers and employees conduct business within the framework of the law and in accordance with good business ethics.

Asplundh is committed to compliance with all federal, state and local laws and regulations. To address certain business ethics issues, our General Business Policies were updated in 1993 and each year, we like to highlight some specific points that may not be clear in other company manuals.

- All employees should avoid any activity, investment or interest that might reflect unfavorably upon the integrity of themselves or Asplundh. While on the job, employees have the duty to act in the best interest of the company.
- Customer entertainment and gifts should be reasonable and kept within the customers’ codes of conduct. Asplundh employees and immediate family may not accept gifts or favors of any significant value from any supplier or customer.
- Employees may not financially influence anyone in either the private or government sector. Personal contributions by employees to political parties or candidates are permitted, however corporate funds or resources may not be given to any political party or candidate for political office.
- Each employee has an individual responsibility to safeguard confidential information that has been obtained on the job. Confidential information includes: proposed or advance plans, service contracts, construction of facilities, earnings, dividends, personal information on other employees, managerial or organizational changes, and customer information.

- All internal reports, statements, records and business transactions handled by Asplundh employees should be prepared honestly and with care, and should present an accurate and complete picture of the facts.

The spirit and intent of these policies are fully supported by Asplundh’s Board of Directors and corporate management. Any violation of these policies will lead to disciplinary action up to and including termination.

If any employee is unsure whether certain conduct is illegal, unethical or a violation of these policies, he or she should seek guidance from a supervisor. If the question cannot be adequately answered, it should be referred to the Personnel Department or Legal Department. These departments are also responsible for investigating suspected violations of these policies.

Asplundh’s Board of Directors, officers, corporate management and all employees are bound by these policies for the greater good of the company. Please respect these policies and let them guide you in your day-to-day activities.

**AN EVERYDAY GUIDE TO BUSINESS ETHICS**

**First Aid Rendered At Car/Deer Incident**

During the Hurricane Irene storm response, Asplundh mobilized hundreds of crews including Safety Compliance Officer and Trainer Susan Hunt of the Doug Smith Region in North Carolina. In the early morning of September 2, she was driving to a storm damage patroller assignment near Sanford, New York for NYSEG. Trimmer/Climber Stephan Locklear, who is her son, was also traveling with her as a storm damage patroller.

Up ahead on the highway, Susan saw two vehicles pulled over with people standing and talking nearby. They flagged her down as she slowly passed by, so she turned around to see how she could help. It turned out that one of the cars had hit a deer and the airbag had deployed. The driver of the damaged vehicle, a 76-year-old gentleman, had a few obvious cuts and bruises. Being a First Aid/CPR Instructor, Susan immediately got her first aid kit while Stephan controlled the traffic. The passersby had already called 911. As she administered first aid and spoke calmly with the victim, Susan noticed that he began to shake and his speech was almost incoherent. The fire department arrived within 15 minutes, but it wasn’t until an EMT arrived about 35 minutes later that Susan turned over care of the gentleman to someone else.

As it turned out, the victim had chest and shoulder injuries from the airbag and spent several weeks in intensive care. But Susan’s prompt and appropriate efforts prevented any further injuries. Her skills, quick action and caring attitude well deserve a Silver Merit Award.
Letters and telephone calls were received complimenting the following forepersons and their crews working on the property of the utility or organization listed below the employees' names. This listing covers all Orchids that were received in the Corporate Communications Department between May 21 and November 14, 2011. For their outstanding job performance or special volunteer efforts, we say ...

Thank you and congratulations!

From a letter to AEP/SWEPCO Utility Forester Preston W. Smith regarding General Forepersons Terry Holbrook and Devon Wilson and their crews, who work in the Jerry Kensinger Region of Arkansas:

“... We extend our sincere and grateful thanks to you, your staff and the entire ‘cutting crew’ for a very professional job. We were treated with utmost respect and courtesy by each and every one of them. They were all exemplary. Please let them know of our appreciation of their expertise from start to finish. It was an honor and pleasure to have met them.”

Stephen and Frances Miller

From a letter to General Foreperson Jeremy McGonigal of the Dan Duncan Region, regarding his crews’ work for Connecticut Power & Light (CP&L):

“... The day before work was to be done on my property, I met with Thomas Kempesta and later with Brent Allen. I expected this meeting to be hostile and confrontational. ... First, the conversation was extremely cordial. ... The ground crew also added to my confidence. Their professional removal of branches, limbs and trunks [was] impressive. You are fortunate to have representatives like [them].

Captain Ronald Wojcik

Orchids

From a letter to General Foreperson Chris Johnson, Foreperson Todd Pozniak and Assistant Pesticide Applicator Amy Wellman, British Columbia Railway Co.

CALIFORNIA

John Beal and Trimmer Jim Watson,
San Diego Gas & Electric
Utility Tree Service General Foreperson James Boylen, Foreperson Danny Godwin and Trimmer Dave Madsen, Pacific Gas & Electric
Utility Tree Service General Foreperson James Boylen, Foreperson Justin Steiner and Apprentice Thomas Sixberry, Pacific Gas & Electric
Utility Tree Service General Foreperson James Boylen and Foreperson Christopher Wood, Pacific Gas & Electric
Utility Tree Service General Foreperson Al Kirchner, Foreperson Steve Smedley and Apprentice Luke Kopp, Pacific Gas & Electric
Utility Tree Service Forepersons Miguel Michel and Jose Santana, and Trimmers Juan Gomez, Pacific Gas & Electric

From a letter to General Foreperson Steve Kershman, Foreperson Ed Smith and Crew, Xcel Energy

GENERAL FOREPERSONS

General Foreperson Steve Kershman, Foreperson Ed Smith and Crew, Xcel Energy

ALABAMA

General Foreperson Shane Bivins and Crew, Huntsville Utilities
Michael Rodgers and Trimmers Brad Hogan and Michael Silas, Alabama Power Co.
Jared Myrtle and Groundperson Nicole Campeau, Lac La Biche County

ALBERTA

Jared Myrtle and Groundperson Mike Lachimia, Salt River Project

ARKANSAS

General Foreperson Dave Brower, Foreperson Ismael Garcia and Trimmer Jaime Venzor, Salt River Project
Groundperson Mike Lachimia, Salt River Project

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Mike Ferrier, Trimmer Joe Palmer and Apprentice Kyle Temple, BC Hydro
Neil Grundy and Crew, BC Hydro

CALIFORNIA

General Foreperson Chris Johnson, Foreperson Todd Pozniak and Assistant Pesticide Applicator Amy Wellman, British Columbia Railway Co.

GENERAL FOREPERSONS

General Foreperson Jeremiah Sparacio, Forepersons Kenny Garrison, Ryan Katsares, John Root, Joshua Sparacio and Sean Stacy, Climbers Mike Briggs, Caleb Hogan and Nick Parson, and Groundperson Chris Isbell, for their cooperation with wildlife biologists to be aware of western red bats while performing their pruning and removal work, Pacific Gas & Electric

COLORADO

District Area Manager David Fulford, RSS
Clint Barron, General Forepersons Bob Formhals and Shane Vosberg, for the chain saw training program they led for Xcel Energy, Xcel Energy

GENERAL FOREPERSON

General Foreperson Steve Kershman, Foreperson Sergio Peralta and Crew, Xcel Energy

CONNECTICUT

General Foreperson Jeremy McGonigal and Forepersons Brent Allen and Tom Kempesta, Connecticut Light & Power

From a letter to General Foreperson Steve Kershman, Foreperson Ed Smith and Crew, Xcel Energy

GENERAL FOREPERSONS

General Foreperson Steve Kershman, Foreperson Ed Smith and Crew, Xcel Energy

From a letter to General Foreperson Chris Johnson, Foreperson Todd Pozniak and Assistant Pesticide Applicator Amy Wellman, British Columbia Railway Co.

From a letter to General Foreperson Jeremy McGonigal of the Dan Duncan Region, regarding his crews’ work for Connecticut Power & Light (CP&L):

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Captain Ronald Wojcik

The Asplundh TREE
Autumn/Holiday 2011 13
Robert Schuller, Matt Wicklund and John Wilson, Trimmer Aaron Scatena and Groundperson Steve Young, Connecticut Light & Power
Erik Steins and Groundperson Jeremiah Masso, Westfield Gas & Electric

FLORIDA
General Foreperson Noah Barker, Forepersons Mike Blakely, Mauricio Calles and Rob Little, Journeymen Moises Cuadrado and Tomas Salazar, and Apprentice Zendel Rock, Florida Power & Light

General Foreperson Dan Cannon, Forepersons Mike Blakely, Mauricio Calles and Rob Little, Journeymen Moises Cuadrado and Tomas Salazar, and Apprentice Zendel Rock, Florida Power & Light

General Foreperson Lee Lewis and Crews, Progress Energy
General Foreperson Mike Lucas, Journeymen Thomas Ellenburg and Groundperson Nick Seaman, Florida Power & Light
Mike McGuire and Crews, Florida Power & Light

General Foreperson
Eline Noel, Forepersons Jean Chery and Jean Malbranche, and Journeyman Maxo Noel, Florida Power & Light
Mike Patterson and Groundperson Josh Payne, Florida Power & Light
ArborMetrics Solutions, Inc. Work Planner Sergio Romero, for his polite, friendly and professional demeanor while working with a home owner in the Winter Park area, Clay County Electric Co-op.

GEORGIA
Permissions Person Darrell Pye, Georgia Power Co.

ILLINOIS
Mike Coers and Trimmer Dusty Crabtree, MidAmerican Energy
General Foreperson Jose Hernandez and Crews, ComEd
General Foreperson Doug Leaf, Crew Leaders Mike Kuter and Rich McCoy, and Trimmers Joel Andrews and Brent Bauer, ComEd
Wayne Roberts and Trimmer Jake Roberts, MidAmerican Energy
Work Planner Dave Rodman, Forepersons Curt Hall and Nic Stanton, and Trimmers Cody Bateman and Logan Lear, MidAmerican Energy
Crew Leader Santos Trujillo and Trimmer Jesus Capetillo, ComEd

INDIANA
Shawn Atwood, for his leadership and problem-solving skills while working in the Columbus area, Duke Energy
General Foreperson Steve Perdue and Crews, Duke Energy
General Foreperson Ricky Sizemore, for his helpful knowledgeable interaction with a home owner, Duke Energy

IOWA
Trimmer Jason Beymer, MidAmerican Energy
Dustin Biddle and Bill Oleson, and Crews, MidAmerican Energy
James Blake and Lorimer Christianson, and Trimmer Tim Buell, MidAmerican Energy
James Blake and Rob Philipsen, and Trimmers Guillermo Flores and Jeremy Smith, MidAmerican Energy
Philip Boesenbreg and Trimmer Ivan Kleinmeyner, MidAmerican Energy
Chris Brown, Ryan Lewis and Matt Pregan, and Trimmers Nathan Dailey, Brandon Madren and Rick Neil, MidAmerican Energy
Kelvin Cooper, for his excellent trouble-call response, MidAmerican Energy
General Foreperson Gabe Jones, Forepersons Corey Campbell and Josh Harter, and Trimmers Jeff Cates and Shane Powers, MidAmerican Energy
General Foreperson Gabe Jones, Forepersons Jason Mohr and Steve Schlief, and Trimmers Doug Hansen and Bill Hogan, MidAmerican Energy
Ryan Lewis and Trimmer Nick Miller, MidAmerican Energy
Nate Logemann and Trimmer Jason Beymer, MidAmerican Energy
Eric Nelson and Brandon Rodasky, and Trimmer Matt Stephens, MidAmerican Energy
Brandon Sutton and Trimmer Billy Walker, MidAmerican Energy
Work Planner Robert Thompson, Foreperson Bobby Bailey and Trimmer

From an e-mail to General Foreperson Jose Hernandez of the Jeff Ness Region regarding the work of his crews for ComEd in Illinois:

“... The way you trimmed our trees was exactly as you outlined [during] our visit. I just want to remind you that the previous tree trimmers had completely hacked and almost killed all of [the] trees behind our house. ... I do want to congratulate you on your customer service and your ability to resolve all of my anxiety that I had in regard to the trimming of our trees. The extra effort of meeting with me on Monday went beyond the call of duty to get the job done. ”

Kerry Burkoth

From an e-mail to MidAmerican Energy in Iowa concerning the work of a Kevin Dove Region crew in Iowa:

“I wish to compliment the tree service MidAmerican Energy employed to trim trees close to the power lines at my home. They could see that I was not happy about the trees being trimmed, but they worked with me to see that I was happy about it. ... They were polite, did a good job ... and saw to it that I was satisfied. NO OTHER power company tree service has done that before. ... The foreperson was Nate Logemann and the trimmer was Jason Beymer.”

Cassy Boyer
Doug Miller,
MidAmerican Energy

KANSAS
General Foreperson Tom Bair, Foreperson Timothy McKinney and Crews,
City of Kansas City
Supervisor Ed Bradshaw,
General Foreperson Jeff Link, Foreperson Ted Batson and Crew,
Panhandle Eastern Pipe Line
RSS Mike Edgecomb and Crew, for handling a home owner’s complaint professionally and promptly, Westar Energy
General Foreperson Ron Hatter, Foreperson Jairo Lara and Crews,
Westar Energy
General Foreperson Jeff Link and Crews, for their outstanding safety and work performance,
Panhandle Eastern Pipe Line
General Forepersons Josh Magrath and Dan Moreno,
Foreperson Tim Plake and Trimmer Aaron Dryer, for receiving compliments on their driving skills,
Westar Energy
General Foreperson Charlie Mott, Forepersons Allen Coffman, Dave Loomis and Nieves Padilla, and Crews,
Westar Energy

Omar Perez and Trimmer Artis Washington,
Westar Energy
General Foreperson John Wright, Forepersons Jeffery Graham and Philip Icenhour, and Crews,
Westar Energy

MAINE
Allen Harris and Crew,
Central Maine Power Co.

MARYLAND
General Foreperson James Baxter, Forepersons Erasmo Ortiz, Noe Ramos, Jason White and Mike Zilonis, and Groundpersons Jose Reyes and Ramon Sosa,
Potomac Electric Power Co.
General Foreperson Huguer Benitez, Forepersons Erasmo Ortiz and Noe Ramos, and Crews,
Potomac Electric Power Co.
Bill Smith, Frank Vitalone, Jr. and Lee Vonwald, Trimmer Joe DiPrimo and Journeyman John Hymer,
Potomac Electric Power Co.

MASSACHUSETTS
Richard Gleason and Crew,
Town of Belmont
General Foreperson Pete Powers and Crew,
Unutil

MICHIGAN
Mike King, Steve Ryckman and Pat Sheets, and Journeyman Micky Bassett,
Tri-County Electric

MINNESOTA
Gene Becker and Miguel Gomez, and Journeymen Bryan Boogaard, Nick Czech and Karen Davtyn,
Xcel Energy
Scott Benz and Ryan West, and Trimmers Jon Pirotter and Humberto Romero,
Xcel Energy
Erik Herberg and Steve Hovland, and Trimmers Matt Busho and Bryan Switzer,
Xcel Energy
Jason Kube and Trimmer Charles Schneider,
Xcel Energy
General Foreperson Randy Lother, Foreperson Nathan Anaruk, Trimmers Daniel Gregoire and Joseph Mobley, and Journeyman Robert Ewer-Gurtz,
Koch Pipeline
Bill Robison and Trimmer Luis Gomez,
Xcel Energy
Bill Robison and Trimmer Steve Sipe,
Xcel Energy
General Foreperson Dave Tronson, Foreperson Shawn Abrams and Journeymen Sebastian Alvarado and Alex Kovidy,
Xcel Energy

MISCELLANEOUS

MISSISSIPPI
Dwayne Mack, Robert Rogers, David Simpson and Lance Vaughn,
Trimmer Mark Bryant and Groundpersons Richard Richardson, Charles Rodriguez and Kareem Williams, Coast Electric Power Assoc.
David Todd, for handling a difficult situation calmly and professionally, Mississippi Power

MISSOURI
Asplundh Brush Control General Foreperson John Adams, Assistant General Foreperson Jason Lukefahr and Crews,
Northeast Missouri Electric Power Coop.
Corie Hancock, Jake Prescott and Shane Swartz, and Crews,
Columbia Water & Light
General Foreperson Jim Pecoraro, Foreperson Jason Albers and Journeyman David Simpson,
Cuivre River Electric Coop.
General Foreperson Jim Pecoraro, Foreperson Joe Flake, Journeyman Daniel Gsell and Groundperson Daryl Blanner,
Cuivre River Electric Coop.
Journeyman Jason Smith, Boone Electric Cooperative
Shane Swartz and Trimmers Russell Heatherman and Eddie Spicer,
Columbia Water & Light

From a letter to the Mel Riley Region office in Lenexa, Kansas about Supervisor Ed Bradshaw,
General Foreperson Jeff Link,
Foreperson Ted Batson and crews work for Panhandle Eastern Pipe Line:
“Our [company’s] objective is to monitor the work and safety procedures of contractor employees and crews in order to promote a safe working environment. ... Overall, the safety and work performances, the sign-in process and the use of personal protective equipment met or exceeded our company’s requirement. Asplundh is a far cry from the other group that did our spraying. We are very well pleased with the crew that visited our sites.”

Mickey Inmon, Environmental Health & Safety Coordinator

From an e-mail to Vice President Mike Smith in Mississippi regarding the work of crews under Forepersons Dwayne Mack, Robert Rogers, David Simpson and Lance Vaughn:
“... David and his crew were the most professional crew I worked with in a long time. ... They had your company and Coast Electric in mind. In fact, the lady that owned the store where they ate said that they were so polite and showed respect for the store, its customers and the property. She was impressed to say the least. ... They were great!”

Alan Moran, Sr., Sr. Engineering Tech., Coast Electric Power Assn.
From a letter to the Home Office in Willow Grove, Pennsylvania concerning the work of Mike Zehler Region Foreperson Allen Ruffles and crew who work for NYSEG:

“... I planted the Ginkgo trees 30+ years ago and Allen Ruffles knew that I was very proud and attached to them. [He] said he would do his best to save the shape of the tree when he was trimming it. This is one of the reasons I hold both of the Asplundh crews in high esteem... They are fine representatives of Asplundh... Your employees left the sites where they trimmed the trees in perfect shape.”

John J. Bancroft

From a letter to Vice President Barry Suddreth regarding the work of Groundperson Gary Kelly in North Carolina:

“Upon being notified that Laurens Electric [Cooperative] was planning on cutting the right-of-way behind my house, I was not looking forward to their working in my yard. I have lived here for 33 years and have numerous ornamental and hardwood trees. Many of them I planted myself and had them shaped and pruned just like I wanted them. Much to my delight ... Gary Kelly worked in my yard for about a day, cleaned it up and left it in much better condition that I thought possible.”

Gary French
General Foreperson Kenny Pierce, Foreperson Rudy Burris and Trimmers Kraig Long and Cory Riley, AEP Ohio
Permissions Person Bob Sutton and Crew, AEP Ohio
Trimmer Anthony Traylor, for his excellent notification skills, Dayton Power & Light
General Foreperson Dave Vilvens and Crews, Duke Energy

OKLAHOMA
Asplundh Brush Control Foreperson Carl Hollenbach, for helping to coordinate a safety dinner, Great Southwestern Construction
General Foreperson Shannon Moore, Foreperson Leonard Jumper and Crew, AEP/PSO
Foreperson Art Sands, for coming to the aid of a woman who was having difficulty getting her elderly mother into their car for a doctor’s appointment, AEP/PSO

PENNSYLVANIA
Senior Vice President Chris Asplundh, Jr., for donating items to the Somerset Rural Electric Cooperative’s employee outing to benefit the American Cancer Society’s Relay for Life, Somerset Rural Electric Coop.
Office Manager Liz Bolger, Supervisors Mark Lohse, Brian McBraithy and Pat Pinelli, General Foreperson Dennis Fosbenner and Crews, for their professional service and quick response to work requests, Verizon
Supervisor Bill Crouse, General Foreperson Randy McQueeney and Forepersons Andy McCracken, Keith Troutman and John Troutman, FirstEnergy/Penelec
General Foreperson Bill Curran and Crews, PECO
General Foreperson Bill Curran, Foreperson Reggie Dickerson and Crews, PECO
General Forepersons Carlos Delatorre and Crews, PECO
Supervisor Mark Lohse, General Foreperson Eduardo Perez, Foreperson Angel Bravo, Climbers Candido Cineros, Bartolo Gonzalez and Mauro Norio, and Groundperson Juan Muniz, for volunteering their time to remove two high-risk trees threatening the outdoor flight cages at Aark Wildlife Rehabilitation and Education Center in Chalfont, PECO

Tom Marx and Karl Schaeffer, and Crews, PPL Electric Utilities
Ralph Rivera and Chris Wood, and Crews, PECO

SOUTH DAKOTA
Mike Harrington and Crew, City of Sioux Falls

TENNESSEE
David Cleek and Mike Falin, Trimmers Bobby Flanary and Anthony Sloan, Apprentice Christopher Atwood and Groundperson Blakely Parrish, AEP/Appalachian Power Co.

TEXAS
General Forepersons Jose Barrera, Sr. and Robert LeBlanc, and Forepersons Baltazar Diaz and Jose V. Lopez, for volunteering their time to clear tree limbs and vegetation back from an entry road to the Girl Scouts of Greater South Texas’ Camp Green Hill, AEP Texas and Nueces Electric Co-op.
General Foreperson Eddie Briscoe, for helping victims of a bad traffic accident on a foggy morning along Highway 82 in Texas, AEP/SWEPCO
General Foreperson Jose Garcia, Foreperson Francisco Flores and Crews, CenterPoint Energy

General Foreperson Peter Ibarra, Foreperson Ernesto Guzman and Crews, Austin Energy
General Foreperson John Hohensee, Forepersons Hugo Almanza, Bernardino Lopez, Jimmy Paz and Efran Saldana, Journeyman Tim Hernandez and Permissions Person Matthew Glass, Austin Energy

VIRGINIA
General Foreperson Tony Garst, Foreperson David Henley, Trimmers Brandon Campbell, David McFall and Jason Peters, and Apprentice Kenneth Knott, AEP/Appalachian Power Co.
Curtis Haskell, Trimmer Charles McNear and Journeyman Emil Travis, for coming to the aid of a gentleman who lost his footing and fell on a rocky and steep section of an access road, Allegheny Power

WASHINGTON
General Foreperson Keven Moore, Foreperson Mark Meister and Trimmer Ben Bidwell, Puget Sound Energy
Francisco “Poncho” Rodriguez and Crew, Snohomish County PUD

From a letter to the Home Office in Willow Grove, Pennsylvania complimenting the work of Foreperson Mike Harrington and crew from the Keith Erickson Region in South Dakota:

“... We are pleased to have Asplundh as our tree trimming contractor this year. It has been a couple of years since Asplundh has had the contract. Mike Harrington is the gentleman doing the trimming, as he has in the past. Mike is very cordial and does an excellent job for the City Light Department.”

Terry Adams, Engineering Tech., Sioux Falls Municipal Light & Power

From an e-mail to Vice President Mick Kavran regarding the work of General Foreperson Keven Moore, Foreperson Mark Meister and crews for Puget Sound Energy (PSE) in Bellingham, Washington:

“... I built a home adjacent to a PSE lot and numerous Cottonwood trees on that lot were threatening my home. ... Under these trees were some fine specimens of native trees. ... Your employees were so cautious and careful during the cutting down of the 70’ tall Cottonwoods that 90 percent of the desirables were saved. Quite unbelievable how talented, skillful and caring these guys were.”

Eric McCracken
From a letter to Supervisor Rickey Smith of the Barry Suddeth Region in South Carolina regarding the storm restoration response of his crews after a hailstorm in June:

“On behalf of the City of Rock Hill and the Rock Hill Utilities Department, I want to thank you and your staff for your invaluable support during the recent storm. Your employees’ professional pride and desire to help our community was evident through their quick response and tireless determination. We want your staff to know how much their efforts meant to us and how grateful we are.”

James G. Bagley, Jr., Asst. City Manager, City of Rock Hill, SC

From a letter to the Joe Schneider Region in Wisconsin about the storm restoration work performed by Forepersons Derek Berg and Brian Morin in July:

“We are Kenosha residents who were deeply impacted by the storm and subsequent power outage that occurred on July 1. ... We wanted to send along our great appreciation for the very professional and courteous service that these two young men provided at a very stressful time. ... They took the time to plunk our yard so as not to damage the grass. ... We cannot say enough good about these two guys.”

Jim Peterson and Sue Smith

Steve Thompson and Crew, Puget Sound Energy
Ron Walker, Trimmer Jesus Galvez and Apprentice Brandon Tinker, Benton County PUD

WEST VIRGINIA
General Foreperson James Torok, Forepersons Mark Carney and Dan Stevey, and Trimmers Kenny Menendez and Roger Whippy, AEP/Appalachian Power Co.
Supervisor Mike Woldorf, General Foreperson Sammy Roy, Foreperson Jerry Rexrode and Crews, for volunteering their time to install and take down decorative banners for the 75th annual Mountain State Forest Festival in Elkins, Allegheny Power

WISCONSIN
Walter Burns and Barry Haff, and Crews, Wisconsin Public Service

April 2011 — Tornadoes
President George Graham, Jr., General Forepersons Charles Fowler, Johnnie Garrell, Thomas Horner, Mack Jones, Terry McDaniel and Dallas Moore, and Crews, for their outstanding work and high level of professionalism while supporting the storm restoration after the April 16 tornadoes and severe storms, Progress Energy (NC and SC)

May 2011 — Storms
General Foreperson Chris Wicklund, Foreperson Nate Caron and Crews, for a job well done helping to remove tree limbs downed by a late Spring storm, Connecticut Light & Power
Rich Holstein and Trimmer Jack McDonald, for their polite demeanor while doing a great job during the flash flood restoration, Village of Bridgeport (OH)
General Foreperson Rickey Smith and Crews (NC), for their desire to help, professional pride and quick response after an unexpected late Spring hailstorm, City of Rock Hill (SC)

June — Tornado
General Foreperson Brian Hinds, Forepersons Jake Salls and Erik Steins, and Crews, for their workmanship and dedication that allowed most customers to have power again within 48 hours of storm restoration work, Westfield Gas & Electric (MA)

June and July Summer Storms
Trimmers Joel Andrews and Brent Bauer, for politely and cordially conducting their storm restoration work efficiently and professionally in the Rockford area, ComEd (IL)
General Foreperson Bart Elliott and Efrain Hernandez, and Crews (IL/OH), for working safely and providing excellent line clearance support to the storm restoration work in the Waukegan area, ComEd
Trimmers Ernest Faudel and Randy Lamb, for their timely response in the emergency restoration efforts after the June 21 storm, City of Des Plaines (IL)
Foreperson Jesse Roberson and Trimmer Zach Sloan, for performing storm restoration work in the Rock Island area while being very careful not to damage a home owner’s flower beds, MidwestAmerican Energy (IL)

General Foreperson Gabe Jones, Foreperson Steve Schrief and Trimmer Doug Hansen, for doing a great job removing storm-drowned trees and limbs from a home owner’s property in Humboldt, MidwestAmerican Energy (IA)
Permissions Person Jason Waugh, for responding quickly and working efficiently and safely in the Ida Grove and Charter Oak territories in the aftermath of a summer storm, MidwestAmerican Energy
Travis Clarksean and Jose Swalve, and Trimmers Rob Curry and Jose Navarro, for their quick response to help clear lines after a severe summer storm downed trees and limbs on to power lines, City of Delhi (MN)
Supervisor Wes Washek, General Foreperson Glenn Erickson, Foreperson Cliff Larson and Trimmer Tom Surdey, for their expert assistance in the restoration efforts after a severe summer storm caused widespread damage just before the July 4 holiday, East Central Energy (MN)
Derek Berg and Brian Morin, for their courteous service and the care they took not to damage a home owner’s lawn while performing line clearance work after the July 1 storm in Kenosha, WE Energies

August — Summer Storms
Nate Logemann and Trimmer Jason Beymer, for doing a great job while out finishing up storm tickets from an early August storm in the Council Bluff area, MidwestAmerican Energy (IA)
General Forepersons Herb Babb, Ron Hatter, John Lehmann, Jeff Link, Charlie Molt, Tracy Schmidt, Jesse Villalobos and John Wright, and Crews, for their safe and professional work after two back-to-back storms hit the central and northeast regions, Westar Energy (KS)
Supervisor Wayne Bailey, General Forepersons Mike Cardell, Scott Dahl, Larry Mensing, Chad Metsala,
Mike Palmer, Chris Pearson, Ken Steinke, Dave Tronson, Bob Turner and Pat Warren, and crews, for their safe and outstanding response to eight storms, which fell mostly on weekends, between May and August, Xcel Energy (MN)

General Foreperson Randy Brabham, Foreperson Ronald Smith and Journeymen Stephen Bennett, for their dedication, professionalism and work ethic during the Hurricane Irene storm restoration, National Grid (NY)

Mark Keller and crews, for the pleasant and courteous service they gave during the storm restoration work, PPL Electric Utilities (PA)

Allen Damon and Groundperson Jason Boyd, for their hard work and patience during the storm restoration work in Vermont, Central Vermont Power

Vice President Ralph Guadagno, and crews, for their tremendous assistance after Hurricane Irene, Central Vermont Power

General Foreperson Darwin Beahm, Forepersons Billy Hosafllock, Edwin Peters and Toney Woods, and crews, for working safely and efficiently and treating home owners with respect during the storm restoration, Dominion Virginia Power

From an e-mail to the Home office in Willow Grove, Pennsylvania commending the storm restoration work of the crews under General Foreperson Randy Brabham and Forepersons Stephen Bennett and Ronald Smith from the Don Redden Region in Louisiana following Tropical Storm Lee in September:

“I would like to thank your team that came out and cut the tree off of our power line. They were so quick to respond. I really appreciate the fact that your guys are out in the storms taking care of us. Thanks again for your service.”

Rebecca Knapp

From a letter to RSS Bob Jernigan of the Dave Sachs region regarding the work of General Foreperson Tom Lacy and crews during the Snowtober restoration in New Jersey:

“... I had the pleasure and privilege of dispatching and working with your [General Foreperson] Tom Lacy and his crews. ... I worked with these gentlemen for three days as they struggled with unfamiliar territory and many blocked roadways hindering their way to the job sites. They persevered and worked long hours. I was told that they even encountered a bear. ... These gentlemen are a credit to Asplundh.”

Roberta Salvatore, Account Executive, Jersey Central Power & Light

Permissions Person Roger Semeraro, for his excellent leadership and customer service skills, Connecticut Light & Power

General Foreperson Mark Johnson and crews (VA), for their hard work restoring power to a home in Longmeadow that had been out for five days, Northeast Utilities (MA)

General Foreperson Bruce Lee and crews, for their diligent routine line clearance work, which a resident of Deering, New Hampshire believes prevented widespread power outages, Public Service Co. of NH

General Foreperson Tom Lacy, Forepersons Glenn Fisher, Jon Gibson, Larry Hayslip and Dave Kuhn, and crews (OH), for their good humor and willingness to go the extra mile during the storm restoration efforts, FirstEnergy/Jersey Central Power & Light (NJ)

David Johnson and Cloyd Varner, Trimmers Daniel Bozette, Brian Kulp, Martin Miranda and Ramon Woolridge (PA), for their professionalism and attention to safety during the storm restoration work, ConEdison (NY)
SERVICE ANNIVERSARIES
July – December

40 YEARS

Alan Davidson
Shop Manager
Railroad Division
Mississippi

Lamar Henderson
General Foreperson
Alabama

Dave Molettire
Foreperson
Pennsylvania

Daniel Craig
Journeyman
Pennsylvania

Dossie Davis
Foreperson
North Carolina

35 YEARS

Marvin Alexander
General Foreperson
Texas

Gary Bennett
Supervisor
Procurement Services
Willow Grove

Steve Kirk
Foreperson
Wisconsin

Jeffrey Lopeman
General Foreperson
Minnesota

Danny Rampani
Vice President
Hawaii

Doug Smith
Vice President
North Carolina

Mike Zehler
Vice President
New York

David Baumgartner
Trimmer
Michigan
### 30 Years

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ira Adams</td>
<td>Permissions Person</td>
<td>North Carolina</td>
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<tr>
<td>James Ambrose</td>
<td>Permissions Person</td>
<td>Ohio</td>
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<tr>
<td>Buddy Baker</td>
<td>Supervisor</td>
<td>West Virginia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Randy Beemer</td>
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<td>Asplundh Brush Control Co.</td>
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### 25 Years

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<tr>
<td>Gregg Asplundh</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Kyle Baur</td>
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<td>Les Colby</td>
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<td>Lorrie Davis</td>
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<td>James Richter</td>
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<td>John Rodgers</td>
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<td>Jeffery Stuettgen</td>
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<td>Steven Swartzell</td>
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<td>Pat Taylor</td>
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<td>Melvin Wright</td>
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### 20 Years

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<td>Matt Asplundh</td>
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<td>Clyde Bowen, Jr.</td>
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<td>Eric Bradshaw</td>
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<td>Jane Burns</td>
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<td>Gregory Cantrell</td>
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<td>Terry Clark</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Coffman</td>
<td>Manager</td>
<td>Oklahoma</td>
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The annual Tour des Trees bike ride raises money for the Tree Research and Education Endowment Fund (TREE Fund), as well as increasing awareness of the importance of proper tree care. This year, the Tour started on October 2 in Virginia Beach and traveled 500 miles throughout the state of Virginia, ending at American University in Washington, DC on October 8.

Although Asplundh is a major sponsor of this annual TREE Fund event, three Tour riders from the company this year also raised over $10,000 combined to support the TREE Fund’s research and scholarship grants. Writer/Editor Kristin Wild of Corporate Communications in Willow Grove has been a full-Tour rider/support person for 12 years now. Senior Vice President Steven Asplundh rode with the Tour for one day, as he has done each year for the past six years, and General Foreperson Jess Nesbitt of the Dave Puckett Region in Ohio participated for the first time this year. All three met or exceeded their minimum fundraising commitments — all for a great cause and good exercise!
**CREWS & NEWS**

**WILD ASPLUNDH**

**Giving Safe Shelter to Wildlife in Need**—The Aark Wildlife Rehabilitation and Education Center in Chalfont, Pennsylvania treats about 5,000 orphaned and injured native animals each year. Hurricane Irene toppled a walnut tree at the center, which came to rest precariously above the outdoor flight cages. With its annual open house quickly approaching, Aark Volunteer Lou Erlich contacted Writer/Editor Kristin Wild at the Home Office on October 12 to ask for help. Within two days, Vice President Larry Gauger had sent a crew to work under Supervisor Mark Lohse and General Foreperson Eduardo Perez. They carefully removed the uprooted tree, making the area safe for man and wildlife once again.

**Bears to Bucks in Colorado**—General Foreperson Jimmy Babb and his crews in the Mel Riley Region of Colorado have seen some interesting critters while working on Blackhills Electric property in the Cañon City area. (Top L): In August, Foreperson Aaron Davis was just getting ready to prune a pear tree when they realized that the tree was occupied — by a black bear! The crew contacted the Colorado Department of Wildlife and let the bear experts handle the situation. (Top R): Foreperson Brian Brewer found a way to make our brush remediation operations even greener — by using buck power!

**Asplundh Has Gone to the Dogs!**—It seems as though canines can't resist the “Orange Army.” Sammie, a sweet black lab, is Executive Assistant Theresa Madey’s sister-in-law’s dog. Theresa jokingly put an Asplundh ball cap on Sammie, but he now considers it “his” hat. Sammie even understands the command “get your hat,” and will retrieve the ball cap to be placed on his head. Theresa works for Sponsor/Vice President Larry Moore in the Home Office in Willow Grove, Pennsylvania. Foreperson Carl Musselwhite of the Eugene Wyatt Region in Florida was sharpening his chain saw on the tailgate of his truck when he heard a noise in the cab. He found a German Shepherd staring back at him from the driver seat. Carl, minus his K-9 chauffeur, works on Florida Power & Light property.

**AWARDS & REWARDS**

**Collins Region Crews Earn Praise for Working “Smarter Not Harder”**—For the second time in a row, crews from the Ronnie Collins Region in Florida have finished an 18-month trim cycle early for the City of Tallahassee Utilities. Manager of Electric T&D Gary Oberschlake and Utility Arborist Perry Odom sent a letter to CEO Scott Asplundh praising the Region’s safe and efficient work, noting that, “the men in the orange shirts deserve a lot of the credit for working smarter, not harder.” Despite several storm restorations out of town, “they still managed to complete the cycle within five days of exactly 18 months.” To thank his crews, General Foreperson Cliff Richardson (inset, L) treated his crews (top photo) to lunch and presented Trimmer Cory Crum (inset, R) with a Cabela’s gift card for his outstanding work performance.

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**ISACERTIFICATIONS**

Congratulations to the following Asplundh employees who studied hard to earn their ISA certifications:

**ISA Certified Arborist®**
- Amber Carthey
- Lorimer Christianson
- Gabe Jones
- Randy Jones
- Mick Linxwiler

**ISA Certified Arborist Utility Specialist™**
- Troy Rentfrow
- Kevin Richter
- Dave Rodman
- Nicholas Stanton

**ISA Certified Arborist®**
- Amber Carthey
- Lorimer Christianson
- Gabe Jones
- Randy Jones
- Mick Linxwiler

**ISA Certified Arborist Utility Specialist™**
- Troy Rentfrow
- Kevin Richter
- Dave Rodman
- Nicholas Stanton
The General Foreperson Training Program (GFTP) was held on March 7-11 at the Home Office in Willow Grove, Pennsylvania. Led by Joe Lee, Manager of Field Personnel, the attendees were (back row, L to R): Rigo Saucedo, California; Greg Layfield, West Virginia; Miguel Alvarez, Jr., Illinois; Mike Bailey, Ohio; and Bob Forstburg, Jr., Pennsylvania. In the front row were (L to R): Richard Blair, Nevada; Mark Brillo, Oklahoma; Todd Hilton, North Carolina; Steve Bennett, Connecticut; Jesse Martin, Ohio; Ramcon Dolce, Florida; and Carlos Cruz, Louisiana.

The General Foreperson Training Program was held August 1-5 by Field Personnel Manager Joe Lee. Conducted in Willow Grove at the Home Office, the participants were (seated, L to R): Chris Hall, Pennsylvania; Eric Dennison, Ohio; Stan Cokosky, Pennsylvania; Jody Cantrell, Alabama; and Larry Hanna, Maine. In the back row were (L to R): Scott Alger, New York; Jeremy McGonigal, Connecticut; Ken Hale, Virginia; Tim Dunham, Michigan; Ron Stayton, Oregon; and John Skinner, Ohio.

On August 16-19, the Management Leadership Academy (MLA) was held in St. Louis, Missouri. For this particular meeting, Chuck Hitzemann and Denny Leach of Positive Growth International focused on salesmanship and leadership principles to help this group of supervisors and managers be even more successful in their operations. The participants were (kneeling, L to R): David Fulford, Colorado; Ray Seaman, Asplundh Brush Control, Michigan; and Marc Salvatore, California. Standing in the back row were (L to R): Bodie Miller, Oregon; Ed Bradshaw, Kansas; Adam Larson, Nebraska; Rickey Bailey, Alabama; Jeff Ness, Illinois; and Les Parsons, Ohio.
September GFTP—On September 12-16, Field Personnel Manager Joe Lee led a group of employees through the General Foreperson Training Program. Held at the Home Office in Willow Grove, Pennsylvania, the graduates were (back row, L to R): Humberto Gallegos, Texas; Wil Wood, New Mexico; Dave Nicholas, Pennsylvania; Dave Sliwinski, Pennsylvania; and Brian Hartmann, Illinois. Seated in the front row were (L to R): Julio Saldana, California; Chris Totten, New York; and David Rudd, Oklahoma.

Asplundh Assists Herbicide “Summer Camp”—General Forepersons John Cottrell and Richard Varner, along with Forepersons Brad Lipscomb and Carl Vest of the Dave Puckett Region, joined American Electric Power and Allegheny Power in leading an herbicide application field demonstration for West Virginia University forestry majors. The eager students spent June 1 at an industrial park in Westover, West Virginia learning about herbicide applications and utility line clearance techniques. The Dave Puckett Region crews demonstrated high- and low-volume herbicide applications and answered numerous questions from the 40 participants about herbicides and their environmental impact.

Crews Get “All Hands” On For OPPD Training—Each year, Omaha Public Power District (OPPD) sponsors a training day for the line clearance contractors that work on their property. Crews from the Kevin Dove (now Adam Larson) Region of Nebraska participated in the training on October 4. The crews brushed up on proper arboricultural pruning methods during an outdoor presentation led by OPPD foresters at a local park. The crews also refreshed their knowledge of electrical line hazards during a demonstration conducted by OPPD linemen in a special trailer.

Annual Meeting Focuses on GFs Success—On October 20, general forepersons from the Dave Sachs Region in Ohio, Indiana and Michigan gathered together for their annual meeting. The meeting opened with a talk by guest speaker Scott Bennett, Manager of Forestry Operations for AEP/Indiana Michigan Power. The group also listened and learned from informative presentations given by speakers from the Home Office in Willow Grove, Pennsylvania, including Sponsor/Senior Vice President Gregg Asplundh and Technical Services Vice President Jim Orr, who is shown in the photo above demonstrating some of the many useful features of the AVMS system.

Baton Rouge, Louisiana—Equipment Training and Inspection Supervisor Greg “Dirt Buzzard” Homiller traveled to Louisiana this past June and held back-to-back Aerial Lift and Equipment Inspection classes for crews from both the Mike Smith and Don Redden Regions. The first session was held on June 15 in Baton Rouge for crews under General Forepersons Charles Adams, Randy Brahmann, Gary Landry, Carolyn McNabb, Juan Servin, Robert Simmons and Rondal Warren. These folks work on the properties of Entergy, DEMCO, Cleco and Washington-St. Tammany Electric Cooperative.

Lafayette, Louisiana—The “Dirt Buzzard” held an additional Aerial Lift and Equipment Inspection training on June 16 in Lafayette, Louisiana. Crews from the Don Redden and Mike Smith Regions eagerly gathered around Greg as he imparted some of his vast knowledge of proper lift and equipment inspection techniques. He is shown above, safely harnessed into the boom while standing on top of the chip box, pointing out areas of interest during the demonstration. These folks work under General Forepersons Ray Felt, Jeffery Gatlin and Raphael Venable on Entergy property.
## 30-Year Watches

▲ Foreperson Ray Bain (L) received a hearty handshake of appreciation and a specially-engraved watch from Vice President Doug Smith (R) for 30 years of dedicated service. Ray joined Asplundh in January 1981 as a groundperson. He currently works as a foreperson under General Foreperson Dallas Moore, overseeing a crew on the property of South River Electric Membership Corporation (SREMC) in Dunn, North Carolina. Ray has worked with SREMC for 27 of his 30 years.

▲ Foreperson Frank Devine (center) was surprised when Vice President Larry Gauger (L) and General Foreperson Bill Curran (R) asked him to come down from his 100’ Hi-Ranger life so they could congratulate him for 30 years of loyal service. Larry thanked Frank as he presented him with a specially-engraved watch. Frank has worked his entire career on PECO Energy property in Pennsylvania, where he performs corrective and emergent work, and serves as shop safety steward for the region. Bill also leads a training crew for new employees, making sure they learn the Asplundh “Better Way” right from the start.

▲ All hands were on deck for a luncheon in honor of Asplundh Brush Control (ABC) General Foreperson Randy Beemer (center) for 30 years of service. Duke Energy Foresters Nate Matthews (second from L) and Paul Zurcher (far R) joined ABC Supervisor Jean Labrie (far L) and Vice President Mike Gordon (second from R), who presented Randy with a specially-engraved watch. Randy, who’s worked most of his career in Indiana on Duke Energy property, joined an Asplundh Tree Expert Co. crew in July 1981 in Indiana. He moved over to ABC in March 1992 to oversee right-of-way and pipeline vegetation management crews working in Ohio, Michigan, Kentucky, Illinois and Delaware.

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▲ Vice President Eugene Wyatt (R) and Supervisor Emilio Perez (L) paid a special visit to Foreperson Odilon Julme (center) on the job and presented him with a specially-engraved watch to mark his 30th anniversary with the company. Odilon has worked his entire career on Florida Power & Light property in the Fort Lauderdale and Miami areas, where he continues to build his reputation as a dedicated employee and great worker.

▲ Manager Robert Coffman (R) presented General Foreperson John Mitchell (L) with a specially-engraved watch and a handshake of appreciation for his 30 years of loyal service. John joined Asplundh the day after his 18th birthday and has been working hard in the Oklahoma City area ever since. He spent most of his career working on manual and aerial lift line clearance crews for Oklahoma Gas & Electric, but John can currently be found on Oklahoma Electric Cooperative property.

▲ On August 17, Sponsor/Vice President Doug Gober (L) treated Vice President Keith Erickson (R) and his wife, Denise, to dinner to celebrate Keith’s 30 years of service to Asplundh. After the meal, Doug presented Keith with a specially-engraved watch to thank him for his hard work and longevity. “Orange blood” runs in Keith’s family — his father, Paul, was also a vice president of the company. Keith began his Asplundh career in August 1981 on a tree crew in Minnesota. He rose through the ranks and moved to Wisconsin in 1995 with a promotion to supervisor. In 2002, Keith returned to Minnesota where he advanced to manager of crews on the properties of Xcel Energy, Connexus Energy, Great River Energy and Black Hills Power in that state, as well as North and South Dakota. He was recognized again in 2003 when he was elected vice president by the Board of Directors.
Halie Wetherington, the 7-year-old daughter of Michelle and Sam Wetherington, played second base for the Madison County All-Star Cowgirls softball team this summer in the 8-and-under league. She played for the Madison County All-Star Cowgirls softball team this summer in the 8-and-under league. She was one of the youngest to participate in the Babe Ruth State Tournament this July in Ponte Vedra, Florida. Halie had a total of 7 RBIs and placed 5th out of 20 contestants in a “Catch ‘em Stealing” contest.

Dad Sam works as a trimmer in the Ronnie Collins Region on Talquin Electric Cooperative property in Florida.

Halie Wetherington

Home Office Employees of the Month—Since July, five Home Office employees have been presented with the Employee of the Month Award for outstanding performance and service to the field. The winners are (standing, L to R): Cindy Lee of Information Technology, who won in July; Margie Gabage of Procurement Services, who was recognized in August; and Trusha Patel of Accounts Payable, who was honored in September. Seated are (L to R): Jane Backofen of Human Resources, who earned the award in October; and Jennifer Bowes of Customer & Field liaison/Billing Input, who was named the November winner. Congratulations to all!

Family Album

Congratulations to Tasha Leeann Burdette-Dixson, the daughter of Kelly and Johnny Wilson, who graduated from Mountain Grove High School in Mountain Grove, Missouri on May 13, 2011. She is currently attending Everest College in Springfield, Missouri, majoring in business administration. Johnny is a general foreperson in the Jim Winemiller Region. He oversees crews working on the property of LaClede Electric Cooperative in Missouri.

A Little Spray Keeps the Weeds Away—And the power flowing reliably! General Foreperson Kevin Kasal of the Kevin Dove (now Adam Larson) Region snapped this photo in April of Spray Applicator Jeremy Smith performing a bare ground herbicide application to a MidAmerican Energy substation in Grimes, Iowa. The herbicide will keep all vegetation from growing near the high-voltage conductors and transformers at the substation, helping to ensure reliable and safe delivery of electricity to MidAmerican Energy’s customers. The project was completed safely, professionally and without incident.

Home Office Honors

Big Job Requires Two Cranes—On May 31-June 2, crews under Supervisor Robbie Adkins and General Foreperson Mark Johnson of the Larry Kirk Region used two cranes to remove trees damaging a historic stone wall that lines the Blackwater Creek for the City of Lynchburg, Virginia. One crane was used to hoist the workers, who attached slings from the crane to the trees, then cut them from a man basket. The second crane was used to lift the limbs over the stream to the parking lot where City of Lynchburg employees loaded them into their trucks to be hauled away. To make the work more interesting, the temperature was in the low 90s, the trees were poison ivy-covered, and there was a recreation area and skateboard park adjacent to the work area. All work was completed safely and without incident.

On the Job

Home Office Honors

FAMILY ALBUM
With the wild and rugged scenery of Quake Lake, Montana all around him, Foreperson Chris Rose stands atop the remains of a large, dead pine that was threatening a Northwestern Energy power line below it.

After several days of storm work in the Northeast following Hurricane Irene, Asplundh crews from the Gene Blount Region in Texas leave New York City behind as they cross the mighty George Washington Bridge with Old Glory flying above them.

During an icy cold day of storm work, Foreperson Jesse McClure carefully saws away a snow-covered pine tree that toppled into a Duke Energy line near Reidsville, North Carolina.

Asplundh Railroad Division General Foreperson Jerry Thiessen, Jr. operates a hy-rail Jarraff to skillfully saw limbs overhanging the Iowa Interstate Railroad in Pottawattamie County, Iowa.
It’s time once again to unveil the winners of the Corporate Communications Department’s annual photo contest, Shoot Out 2011. Almost 160 entries were sent in from around the world by 43 camera-toting Asplundh employees, family members and customers.

With $750 in prize money on the line, our judges had to carefully and patiently evaluate each and every photo until they were able to finally select the top four entries in two categories.

Please join us to thank the following judges for taking on this challenging, but rewarding task: Photographer Marc McCaron from McCaron Creative in Philadelphia, President George Graham, Jr. and Operational Support Manager Victor Sirvydas of the Technical Services Department, who also gave each entry a safety inspection prior to judging.

Keep shooting all those Work-Related and Nature subjects you see and be sure to mark your calendar for next year’s Shoot Out and Wall Calendar deadlines.

Entries should be e-mailed to: corpcomm@asplundh.com. Remember, no cell phone photos or negatives, please!

Wall Calendar Deadline: July 6, 2012
Shoot Out Deadline: September 28, 2012

1ST PRIZE – Matthew “Stumpy” Alexander
Auckland, New Zealand

The dramatic skyline and harbor of Auckland, New Zealand appear to glow after a spectacular fireworks display to celebrate the start of the 2011 Rugby World Cup.

2ND PRIZE – Grace Dove
Fairfax, Iowa

The sparkle and splash of summertime fun is captured in this image of her husband, Kevin, doing a cannonball into the St. Croix River near Stillwater, Minnesota during the dog days of summer in the Upper Midwest.

3RD PRIZE – Rich Ouellet
Wallingford, Connecticut

Wondering about that bright red buggy next to him, a curious young Clydesdale horse pokes his head out of a beautiful stable in Woodstock, Connecticut.

HONORABLE MENTION – Christine Bauer
Southampton, Pennsylvania

Despite the coastal fog, the famous Lone Cypress in Pebble Beach, California is seen here miraculously growing out of a rocky pedestal, the center of attention along a wooded path to it.
Retirees HONORED

Retirement celebrations and news from recent retirees!

At a retirement dinner in her honor on June 9, Direct Deposit Specialist Becky Fayette (center) gave a farewell hug to her boss, Payroll Manager JoAnne Howell (right) and her retired boss, Al Jordan. Family, friends and co-workers from the Asplundh Home Office in Willow Grove, Pennsylvania gathered at Mike’s Bar and Grill in Warminster to wish her well in her retirement after almost 30 years with the company. Becky first came to work for Asplundh in 1981 in the Human Resources/ Benefits Department. After leaving for a short while, she returned in 1986 to work in the Customer Field Liaison Department and 10 years later, transferred to the Payroll Department as a direct deposit specialist. We hope she enjoys good health and happiness in her retirement!

Here’s a blast from the past from retired Supervisor Harold Rinehimer of Nescopeck, Pennsylvania who sent us this photo of an Asplundh crew on storm work for Pennsylvania Power & Light in 1955 after Hurricane Hazel. A 46-year Asplundh veteran, Harold thought some of us newcomers might enjoy knowing that these men mostly wore high-top boots to prevent scraped up shins and all the ropes were natural hemp. You see, synthetic fiber ropes were not readily available and the insulated Asplundh aerial lift was not even designed until 1958! Thanks, Harold, for reminding us of the progress we’ve made.

During last spring’s turkey hunting season, Trimmer Tom Ertl of the Joe Schneider Region proudly posed with a turkey he shot in Kewaskum, Wisconsin. With humor, General Foreperson Tim Guetzke recently wrote, “It was the first Tom for Tom. It weighed 22 lbs. and the beard was 10 inches long. That’s the turkey’s beard, not Tom’s!” After a nine-year career with Asplundh in Wisconsin on the property of WE Energies, Tom retired in November. Let’s wish him many more years of happy hunting and good health in his retirement!