



Watts New

May, 2015

Barb Moody, Editor

From The Desk Of... *Don Smith, Manager*

As I write this and look out my office window in early April, I see GREEN! The leaves are popping out and the grass is greening. I see folks watering their lawns as I walk to and from work, although I have not noticed anyone mowing their lawns so we are not yet fully into the growing season, but... we are definitely into Spring! From the information I have seen, most of our area is a little behind in moisture for the year, however, we know how fast that can change, up or down! The Farmers' Almanac for our region predicts that the month of May will be mostly wet, with showery, stormy, and thunderstorm conditions for most of the region. We will wait to see what the year will bring!



The coming of Spring also means the end of the school year, which is just around the corner. As a reminder, be especially alert for kids running around and enjoying the out-of-doors. Being aware of the kids and their safety ties in with Electrical Safety Month in May. Whether at home or at work, we all need to be careful and ensure we end the day the way we started. Please use safety precautions in all of your activities, whether working or playing. I really wish I had been aware of safety measures when I was younger and not considered myself "10 feet tall and bulletproof"! According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration there were nearly 150,000 lightning strikes in Wyoming in 2012 and there were 287 people across the United States killed by lightning from 2006-2014. PLEASE be careful when you are out and about! Lightning is nothing to mess with! The same can be said for our power lines. Some of the transmission lines in our territory carry 345,000 volts, and even the distribution lines can be as high as 34,500 volts. Needless to say, just getting anything close to power lines with this kind of voltage can be deadly! While most of the lines around our area are overhead, we do have some underground lines, so make sure you call for underground locates before you dig for anything. Even if you're planting a small tree or building a backyard fence, these lines can be just as dangerous as the overhead lines.

Over the last few years the REA office has operated on four 10-hour days each week during the summer months. This year we are going to try something new. Monday through Thursday we will be open with full staffing 10 hours a day, from 7:00 to 5:30, and on Friday our office will be open eight hours, from 8:00 to 4:30, however the line crew will not be available. Our goal is to make sure we provide service to everyone who needs to visit the office, whenever they need it, as well as to operate the line crews as efficiently as possible. Our linemen have their 40-hour work week completed prior to Friday. Please schedule any work you need done, such as service disconnects or connects, so we can accomplish this for you by the close of business on Thursday. If you need routine work done on Friday, you will be charged at the overtime rate for it. Outages are handled on Friday the same as Saturday and Sunday, so if you have a problem don't hesitate to call, we are here to help. If you have any questions or concerns please give us a call.

On the operational side of things, we continued to receive new service requests throughout the winter. Additionally, the oil pumping stations continue to inquire about increasing their electric requirements. We have also received questions regarding members bringing in more solar and wind power for personal use as well as having excess for sale. We continue to help each member with the best information we have at the time and planning for the future.

As always, it is great to be here in Wheatland and to serve you, our member-owners. Please let us know if you have any questions, comments or concerns. Also, please feel free to stop in and say hi, we are always here for you!



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Association
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Wheatland, WY 82201
www.wheatlandrea.com

(307) 322-2125
(800) 344-3351

OFFICE HOURS
Monday - Thursday
7:00 AM - 5:30 PM
Friday
8:00 AM - 4:30 PM

OPERATIONS HOURS
Monday - Thursday
7:00 AM - 5:30 PM
Friday
CLOSED

OUTAGES-OPEN 24/7

OUTAGE PHONE NUMBERS

(307) 322-2125
(800) 344-3351
24 hours a day

STAFF

Donald E. Smith
General Manager

Jeff Dirks
Line Superintendent

Rhonda Apodaca
Office Manager

Jason Wright
Asst. Line Superintendent

Al Teel
Member Services

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From the Office Manager-Rhonda K. A.

May 2015-Is it really the fifth month of 2015? With May, comes spring, Mother's Day, graduations, Memorial Day, end of school, etc. Weren't we just celebrating New Year's?!?!?!?

With spring comes the planting and watering of lawns and trees. Since April did not bring enough showers, I have been watering my bushes and trees for about a month already. It will really be interesting to see how irrigation goes, as our winter was pretty lean for moisture.

As we head into May, it is time for our annual audit. Each year we are audited based on our fiscal year which means the auditor reviews our books from June of last year to May of the current year. The audit not only reviews our financial status and statements but also provides us with guidance in rules and regulations for accounting in a distribution cooperative. Trust me, when I say that I always thought all accounting was the same, I was wrong. But in accounting for an electric cooperative, the only thing that is the same is that a "debit is a debit" and a "credit is a credit".

I always like to remind our members about what our website has to offer. Please take a look at it. Not only do we provide important information, we also have on-line bill pay, products and services and other helpful links. I always like to promote our on-line bill pay because it is so easy to pay your electric bill, at your convenience, from home.

May brings us to our summer hours for the office. This year we will be open every day from 7:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday and on Friday from 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. We feel it is important to provide the best customer service we can for our members. Any questions about this schedule, please give me a call!

As summer approaches and the weather becomes more favorable, we will plan certain outages for areas where we might have to do repairs or additional work. When planning these, we always contact the members that will be affected. During the last few planned outages we tried to contact members using the telephone numbers that we had on file. Unfortunately, we were unable to contact a few of the members because we didn't have their correct telephone numbers. PLEASE, make sure that you notify us if you change your telephone number or disconnect your land line. We would like to have the most current number on file for you.

So as we go into the summer, my daughter made it through her 1st year of college...or should I say that her mother made it through!! My son will be starting his senior year in college which just doesn't seem possible either. Our two dogs are still healthy and carefree!

Please let me know if you have any questions or suggestions...stop by, I will buy you a cup of coffee.

Until next month....

www.wheatlandrea.com

RKA

SUMMER HOURS BEGIN MAY 4TH!
LINEMEN: 7:00 AM TO 5:30 PM MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY
OFFICE: 7:00 AM TO 5:30 PM MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY
OFFICE ONLY: 8:00 AM TO 4:30 PM ON FRIDAY



STILL NEED
YOUR PHONE
NUMBERS!!!



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CONSOLIDATED MANUFACTURING ENTERPRISES (CME): 10% off in-store items except welders, gases, cylinders, and coolers (not valid with other offers). We are fully equipped and capable of performing a variety of services. 2556 South St., Wheatland, 307-322-1803 or visit us at: www.cmewy.com. M-S 8:00AM to 5:00PM, closed Sunday.

COUNTRY GIRLS EMBROIDERY: 10% off purchases of \$50.00 or more. 1160 Hwy 313, Chugwater, 307-630-3999, M-S 8:00AM to 5:00PM.

DRUBE SUPPLY/HARDWARE HANK: 15% discount on all Carhart Clothing. 609 16th St., Wheatland, 307-322-4808, M-F 8:00AM to 6:00PM, Sat. 9:00AM to 6:00PM. Sun. 1:00PM to 4:00PM.

FRENCHMAN VALLEY COOPERATIVE: \$.03 discount per gallon of gas or diesel at the pump. You must show your card to the clerk prior to fueling. \$25 gift card with the purchase of four new tires. Located on the southwest corner of 16th St. and South St. Full service gas station, propane outlet, products and services for the agricultural customer. 305 16th St., Wheatland, 307-322-2988.

HOBO'S CLOSETS: 10% discount on room rent for six months with a six month agreement, plus one month rent free if pre-paid for six months. Total equals more than 1 1/2 months free for a six month agreement. Must present your Connections Card. We offer clean, dry and secure inside storage with 24-hour, 7-day access. 1001 14th St. Wheatland, WY. Call: 307-322-9554 or 307-241-0427 for appointment.

HOWSHAR HARDWARE: 10% off all VALSPAR paint. 18 S. Wyoming Ave., Guernsey, 307-836-2611, M-F 8:00AM to 5:00PM, Sat. 8:00AM to 4:00PM.

LARAMIE PEAK MOTORS: 5% discount on all mechanical repairs-parts and labor. Offer not available on already discounted menu priced maintenance items. Cannot be combined with other promotional offers. Present Co-op Connections card at time of service write up. 2305 16th St., Wheatland, 307-322-2355 or visit us at: www.laramiepeakmotors.com. M-F 7:30 AM to 6:00 PM, Sat. 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM.

MICKE'S FAMILY RESTAURANT: 10% discount on Wednesday's "all you can eat" chicken fried steak. Free coffee, tea or soda with the purchase of a meal. Fresh soups and salads made in-house. Please present Co-op Connections Card at time of purchase. 302 B St., Glendo, WY, 307-735-4616, 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM (winter) and 7:00 AM to 10:00 PM 7 days per week.

MUREL'S GREAT TREASURES: 10% off any purchase when you present your Co-op Connections Card. 717 9th St., Wheatland, 307-331-4140, M-S 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM, Closed Sunday.

PICTURE THIS PHOTOGRAPHY: \$25.00 off your photographic disc when you present your Co-op Connections Card. Open by appointment...nights and weekends, will travel. Located in Wheatland, Call 307-331-3385, or email us at gqarton@wyoming.com.

REGISTER CLIFF PHARMACY: 15% discount on all non-prescription items (excludes "Simply Creative" items). 437 W. Whalen, Guernsey, 307-836-9270, M-Thur. 9:00AM to 5:30PM, Fri. 9:00AM to 3:00PM.

ROY'S TREE SERVICE: 10% discount on all jobs. 473 Reservoir Rd., Wheatland, 307-241-0042, 24-hour emergency service.

SHERARD REALTY, INC.: For sellers-1/2% off listing commission. For buyers-\$100 in Platte Co. Pride Certificates. Be sure to present your Co-op Connections card. Southeast Wyoming's #1 real estate brokerage, located at 1560 Johnston St., Wheatland. Hours are M-F 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM. Email us at office@sherardrealty.com or call 307-322-2222 anytime. See our listings at www.sherardrealty.com.

SIMPLY CREATIVE: \$5.00 discount on purchases of \$30.00 to \$50.00, and \$10.00 discount on purchases over \$50.00. 855 Gilchrist St., Wheatland, 307-322-0918, M-F 9:00AM to 6:00PM, Sat. 9:00AM to 4:00PM.

SOUTH STREET PHARMACY: 15% discount on all non-prescription items (excludes "Posie Patch" items). 1456 South St. Wheatland, 307-322-2486, M-F 8:30AM to 5:30PM, Sat. 9:00AM to 1:00PM. Closed Sunday.

TACO JOHN'S: Free Churro with any combo meal when you present your Co-op Connections card. Wheatland's "West-Mex" fast food restaurant at 1457 South St., 6:00 AM to 10:00 PM (summer) and 6:00 AM to 9:00 PM (winter) every day. 307-322-4058.

TEEL GUN WORKS: \$25.00 discount on purchases over \$500; \$50.00 discount on purchases over \$1500. 59 14th St., Wheatland, 307-331-0319, Open evenings and by appointment or 24/7 at www.teelgunworks.com.

THE PIE TIN BAKERY & CATERING: Either free delivery (up to 100 miles) or free qualified dessert (up to 300 people) for full service catered events. Large Parties or Dinner for Two. Wheatland, 307-331-9000.

SUMMER HOURS BEGIN MAY 4TH!

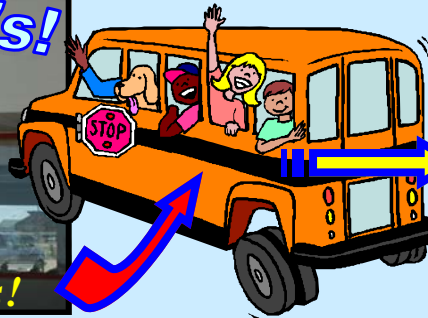
LINEMEN: 7:00 AM TO 5:30 PM MONDAY - THURSDAY
OFFICE: 7:00 AM TO 5:30 PM MONDAY - THURSDAY
OFFICE ONLY: 8:00 AM TO 4:30 PM ON FRIDAY

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Thank You, Arby's!



For providing Kid's Meals for each of our 558 contestants!



SCHOOL'S OUT!

Last day of school is; May 27th.

Please watch out for our children, because sometimes...

THEY DON'T!

THE 2015 1st Place Drawings belong to:

KINDERGARTEN: Tayen Wakkuri

FIRST GRADE: Tripp Vigil

SECOND GRADE: Abad Luna

THIRD GRADE: Matthew Wakkuri

FOURTH GRADE: Hadley Paisley

FIFTH GRADE: Meile Chebotarev

SIXTH GRADE: Khayla Otero

2015 POLE TESTING UPDATE

Pole testing starts about the 1st of June.

This year's circuits are:

West Circuit, Wheatland Substation

North Circuit, Goodrich Substation

CALL IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS!

Call before you DIG!!

You never know what's down there!



May Is Electric Safety Month!

BURN FUND RAFFLE

Tickets for this year's "Cody Hot Line School Burn Victims' Fund" will be sold at: Cody Hot Line School, also by planning committee members, and at Wheatland REA.

You may purchase tickets at the Wheatland REA office.

All proceeds benefit the "Cody Hot Line School Burn Victims' Fund"

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THE REA Office is CLOSED ON MEMORIAL DAY, MAY 25TH



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