



Not All Superheros Wear Capes

April 18th marks Lineman Appreciation Day. It is with great pride that we honor the linemen of SLVREC, both past and present. The pioneering spirit of the REC is ever present in our committed line crews that work in all weather conditons to bring our members the level of service and power they have come to expect. These men serve the San Luis Valley proudly with over a 150 years of combined experience. From all of us here at San Luis Valley Rural Electric we thank you for your dedication and service! Linemen: Ubaldo Aguilera, Charlie Booth, Jacob Cadwell, Ryan Christensen, Troy Golden, Jeff Henderhan, Ruben Heredia, Shan Hunter, Terryl Jensen, Jed Larsen, Randy Magnuson, Marvin Martinez, Ray Martinez, Shawn McKibbon, Ronnie Spencer, Kurt Taffin, Wade Warman, Ben Osburn, Jordan Barbosa, and Rudy Vialpando.

We truly appreciate all of the people of the REC and what they bring to SLVREC as a whole.

THIS ISSUE

Lineman Appreciation

Welcome Our New Employees

Loren Howard

High Bill Changes

Recipes of the Month

APRIL 2015 | VOLUME 40 | ISSUE 4



Welcome Rudy Vialpando and Jordan Barbosa

SLVREC has welcomed two new linemen to the crew. Rudy joined us in December of 2014 from Foothills Energy Services. He attained his certification from Trinidad State Junior College and has already melded in to SLVREC as an active member on the Safety Committee. He is willing to add valuable input and shows a great level of commitment to his position.

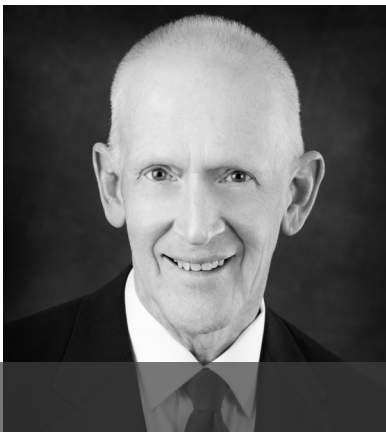
Jordan is a Valley native and also joined SLVREC from Foothill Energy Services in January of this year. Jordan attended Colorado Mesa University. He is looking to make a positive contribution to the REC and is passionate and excited about continuing his education as well as garnering experience from his current position.



Welcome James Romero and Mary Davis



Customer service has also added two new faces to their ranks. SLVREC is pleased to announce the addition of James Romero and Mary Davis to our stellar customer service team. We have expanded the customer service team to a total of six to maximize efficiency for our members and new Ciello customers. James came to us from Rio Grande Savings and Loan. He has a degree in finance from ASU and has enthusiastically joined the team. Mary Davis joined us from Davis Engineering, where she was part of their accounting and administration team. Mary is bringing her genial way to the front office of SLVREC. Welcome to our new team members!



LOREN HOWARD

The EPA and You

The Environmental Protection Agency's new rules on carbon emissions, i.e. the Clean Power Plan (CPP) as it is known, will have an impact on electric generation in the coming years and the CPP will impact you, the consumer, on two fronts. The cost of electricity will likely increase as a direct result of the CPP and the reliability of the delivery of electricity to you will be challenged.

The EPA strategy to reduce carbon emissions is focused around four efforts. The first strategy is to decrease the heat rate of coal fired electric generators. Heat rate is the measure of how much fuel it takes to make a unit of electricity, usually expressed in millions of BTU's per megawatt hour. The goal of the strategy is to improve the heat rate by 6%. The second strategy is to increase the percentage of electricity produced by natural gas fired generation to 70%. SLVREC receives all of its electricity from Tri-State G&T whose mix of generation is currently 50% coal, 20% renewable, and 30% natural gas. Completing all proposed nuclear projects and avoiding retirement of 6% of the existing nuclear fleet is the third strategy in EPA's plan. The last strategy proposed by the EPA is to increase energy efficiency by 1.5% per year for 10 years thus reducing the consumption of kilowatt-hours by consumers by 15% over and above the current energy efficiency reduction efforts.

There is much debate in the electric industry about each of the strategies EPA has proposed. Most coal fired power plants have already decreased heat rates on electric generation over the past years in order to lower costs. So, there may not be any ability to improve heat rates or the improvements would be so costly that they are not economically possible. Increasing the percentage of electricity produced by natural gas will be a capital intensive effort

and would likely leave many tens of millions of dollars in coal fired generation as stranded assets that would have to be written off the books. Constructing new nuclear plants in spite of the streamlined permitting process continuities to be a public reaction challenge.

The implementation of the CPP is the responsibility of each state. In Colorado, the Department of Public Health and Environment (CPHE) is responsible for crafting its own plan to implement the CPP regulations. Usually, when CPHE constructs plans to implement federal regulations, the Colorado state legislature has some ability to weigh in on CPHE state implement plans. Because the CPP regulations fall under a different section of the Clean Air Act, CPHE's plan might not have legislative oversight. The Colorado legislature is currently considering introducing legislation that would require CPHE's plan to implement the CPP be reviewed by the Colorado Public Utilities Commission and the state legislature.

Developing an effective state implementation plan in response to federal environmental regulations is always a difficult task. No doubt, CPHE will carefully craft a plan that meets the federal requirements and considers the impact on Colorado's electric generating plants, but allowing the Public Utilities Commission to provide input and guidance on electric generation and transmission impacts would seem a reasonable effort.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Scott Wolfe, President
719-852-0966

Cole Wakasugi, Vice President
719-379-2629

Ernie Ford, Secretary
719-588-0255

Carol Lee Dugan
719-852-5412

Mike Rierson
719-754-2588

Rick Inman
719-658-2455

Eleanor Valdez
719-274-5680

E-mail power@slvrec.com

Your e-mail will be forwarded based upon the direction you provide in your message.

CEO

Loren Howard
719-852-6630

SLVREC Office (toll free)
800-332-7634

SLVREC Office (local calls)
719-852-3538

STATEMENT OF PUBLISHER

The Newsboy (publication #551-450) is an official publication of the San Luis Valley Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.; 3625 US Hwy 160 W.; Monte Vista, CO 81144. *The Newsboy* is published monthly for SLVREC's members. Periodical postage paid at Monte Vista, CO 81144. Subscription price \$20/year.

Postmaster, send Form 3579 to NEWSBOY, P.O. Box 3625, Monte Vista, CO 81144-3625.

© 2013 San Luis Valley Rural Electric Cooperative. All rights reserved.



www.facebook.com/SLVREC



www.twitter.com/SLVREC



COMPANY NEWS

High Bill Changes

In an effort to streamline processes and reduce costs within the REC, a new procedure has been put into place to deal with high bill questions. We no longer have an energy specialist but these questions will be handled by our extremely competent customer service team. To reduce costs to the member base a serviceman will not automatically be sent out. If customer service determines that there is a discrepancy in the energy usage a serviceman will be sent with a \$100 trip fee or time and mileage, whichever is more. In the event a serviceman does go out they will be able to check the meter point and will not be doing in-home inspections. SLVREC would highly recommend that an electrician

be called to check any additional in-home concerns that the home owner might have, as our servicemen are not certified electricians.



REMINDERS

**There is still time to petition on the SLVREC Board of Directors if you have interest! The deadline for this is April 27th and information can be found on our website at www.slvrec.com, under the About Us tab and Annual Meeting tab. The seats open are Member at Large and Rio Grande county.

**The Annual Meeting will be held on June 9th at Alamosa Rodeway Inn formerly known as Inn of the Rio Grande. Check-in will commence at 5:30 p.m.

**To help increase efficiency in customer service, we have implemented a telephone menu to accurately get members to the correct department.

Through the use of technology and AMI meters customer service will be able to do meter interval readings, daily readings and on-demand readings. These steps will greatly increase efficiency in determining where the problem of a high bill may lie and what the proper course of action is.

SAN LUIS VALLEY
RURAL ELECTRIC CO-OP™

Name Changes

As we round into irrigation season you will need to contact customer service if you are leasing a new circle this year, have an upgraded or plan to upgraded your service. To ensure accuracy in the name change process we will need the **meter number**. We will also require the information on the responsible billing parties for that meter number. Please call customer service for any additional information. 719-852-3538



RECIPES OF THE MONTH

INGREDIENTS

2 oz vodka
1/2 oz Rose's® lime juice
1/2 oz vermouth
lime peel
ice

APRIL RAIN COCKTAIL

Pour Vodka, Vermouth and Rose's lime juice into shaker over ice. Shake with care not to bruise. Strain into chilled cocktail (martini) glass. Garnish with lime peel (zest).

INGREDIENTS

1 (1-lb.) package ground pork sausage
1/2 cup thinly sliced onion (about 1/4 medium onion)
1/3 cup chopped green bell pepper
1 1/2 cups (6 oz.) freshly shredded sharp Cheddar cheese
1 tablespoon all-purpose flour
1 (9-inch) frozen unbaked deep-dish piecrust shell
2 large eggs
1 cup evaporated milk
1 tablespoon chopped fresh flat-leaf parsley
3/4 teaspoon seasoned salt

SAUSAGE AND CHEESE QUICHE

Preheat oven to 350°. Brown sausage in a large skillet over medium-high heat, stirring often, 8 to 10 minutes or until sausage crumbles. Remove from skillet; reserve 1 Tbsp. drippings in skillet. Sauté onion and bell pepper in hot drippings over medium-high heat 3 minutes or until tender. Stir together cheese, flour, sausage, onion, and bell pepper. Place piecrust shell on a baking sheet, and spoon mixture into piecrust. Whisk together eggs and next 5 ingredients in a bowl until smooth; pour over sausage mixture. Bake at 350° for 35 to 40 minutes or until golden brown and set.

INGREDIENTS

1 prepared 8 inch pie crust
3 eggs, beaten
2/3 cup packed brown sugar
1/2 cup white sugar
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
2 tablespoons butter, melted
2/3 cup rolled oats
2/3 cup shredded coconut

MOCK PECAN PIE

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). In a medium bowl combine eggs, brown sugar, and white sugar. Beat well. Stir in vanilla extract and melted butter or margarine. Mix thoroughly. Fold in oats and coconut. Pour into pie shell. Bake in preheated oven for 30 minutes. Cool before serving. Top with whipped cream if desired.



PO Box 3625
Monte Vista, CO 81144

April 2015

Periodical Postage
Paid at Monte Vista CO



SLVREC's offices are open from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
on Monday through Thursday.
Offices are closed Friday through Sunday.

ENERGY ASSISTANCE

866-HEAT HELP (866-432-8435)
<http://www.energyoutreach.org>

SCHEDULED MEETINGS

Board Meeting April 28th @ 9:30 am.
The Board of Directors meet the last Tuesday of each
month unless otherwise stated. Members are welcome.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider

Free Clinic on Eviction Process

Who:

For landlords, property
owners, property
managers, attorneys,
and others interested
in learning more about
the eviction process



***Presented by the 12th Judicial District
Access to Justice Committee***

When:

April 24, 2015
12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Where:

San Luis Valley
Behavioral Health
Center
8745 CR 9 South
Alamosa, CO 81101

FREE presentation on the legal process
landlords must follow in an eviction.
Presentation will cover the basic steps and
requirements with a panel discussion to
follow. Panel members will include attorneys,
judges, court personnel, property managers
and law enforcement.

Lunch will be provided!

Sponsored by Century Property Management

**SEATING LIMITED—PLEASE RSVP BY
APRIL 17, 2015**

For more information or to register please contact
Kim Cortez at:
(719) 589-7652 or 12selfhelp@judicial.state.co.us



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative
The power of human connections®