



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 
The power of human connections

NEWS

MEMBER NEWSLETTER

July 2016

Manager's Message

Dear Members: _____ *by Marlene Morss*



As stated last month Scott Peterson retired June 1st. As many of you know, he was the “go to” person for the ETS heating units. We are planning on having Steffes come to Riverton to put on a training session for area contractors so they can serve the needs for the heaters. Steffes is the manufacturer of the ETS units and are very willing to offer the training. Once the training is completed this fall, we will provide a list of the contractors as well as their contact information.

As I get more informed with the final numbers I will pass this on to you.

High Plains Power has a new safety demonstration trailer! Thanks to mechanic, John Magnan who has done a fantastic job of doing the fabrication. The old demo trailer was cumbersome to set up—it took almost a full hour to prepare for a demonstration and we also had to make sure we had a place to connect for the trailer. The new demo trailer takes very little time to set up and it is self-contained so it can be set up almost any where. As part of community commitment we are available for safety demonstrations for schools, fire departments, emergency personnel or any other group. If you are interested in scheduling a safety demonstration please contact us.

Tri-State has provided very preliminary numbers, but it looks like their rate increase will be in the 7-8% range. A lot of the increase stems from regulatory compliance issues. And as in the past, it will be necessary for High Plains Power to pass on this rate increase to our members.

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**Independence Day
July 4th
High Plains
Power will be
closed.
Celebrate Safely!**



John Magnan with his creation.

Sid McDonald Retires



Sid admires his retirement gift from the employees of High Plains Power.



The Thermopolis crew presented Sid with this beautiful one of a kind memento to commemorate his years of service.

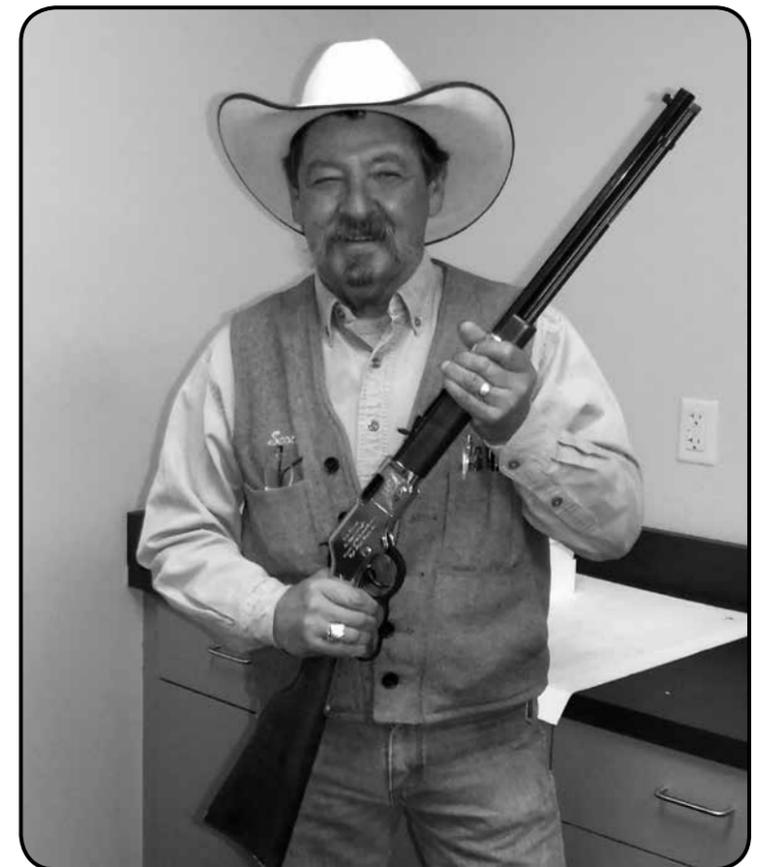
Scott Peterson Retires

Scott Peterson retires after 29 years of service to High Plains Power. Scott plans to participate in Wild West Shows and demonstrate his incredible shooting prowess with his Henry Repeater. Adios Scott!

Time of Use Storage Heater News

With the retirement of Scott Peterson, at the first of June, High Plains Power will no longer have a Time of Use storage heater technician. HPP is however providing training and resources to area electrical contractors to fill the gap in service.

Training will be provided in August and a list of qualified electrical contractors will be made available to all Time of Use members.



Stoney Point Upgrade



Dubois area foreman, Doug Cooley, supervises as new power and communications cables are installed at Stoney Point as part of a system upgrade. The original high voltage direct burial cable has come to the end of its serviceable life and is being replaced with a better insulated jacketed cable in conduit which should result in a much longer life span.

Parting Thoughts From Sid McDonald

My Dad once told me my life was going to be like an adventure, and he was certainly correct. I grew up around linemen and knew that after high school that would be a career to suit me for my adult life. I liked being outdoors, working with equipment and loved math which all fit well with line work, but after high school there were no openings for an apprentice. I fell back on another passion to guide elk hunters the entire season, taught skiing the rest of the winter and then in the spring was offered an apprenticeship at Garland Light & Power.

I worked for Garland for 2 years and was offered a job at Hot Springs County REA. Garland was an excellent opportunity for me with really good teachers, but Hot Springs offered a more diverse system to learn the trade. I started with the discussion I would be reviewed on my job perfor-

mance every six months.

Well a lot of six months went by and no review, but they kept giving me a check every two weeks so I continued to go to work. I started chasing a young lady, convinced her to marry me and still chase her after forty-one years. Sherry helped me study through my apprenticeship and I did break out to become a journeyman in 1976. The adventure continues as I became a lineman. I also became a Dad in the same year.

In 1977 we had our second daughter and still no review. I did keep quiet and in 1983 they decided I needed to run a crew and made me a foreman. I remained as a foreman until in 2010. I applied to be the Operations Manager and was selected, again I was told there would be a six month review. I seemed to hide well as once again have been a lot of six months go by and still no review.

I have always enjoyed a challenge, but had no idea of what I had gotten myself into, but I had accepted the job and have tried each day to uphold the responsibilities required for this job. I have been very fortunate to have worked with what I feel are some of the best in this business. High Plains Power will always hold a special place in my heart, but after forty plus years, tis time to continue my adventure.

I thank HPP for allowing me to work with the best of the best, we have excellent members and some of the finest people in the trade working here at HPP. I will miss the challenges, members and people I have worked with for so many years, but now is time for me to go to retirement before I do get caught and need to be reviewed. Thanks for the lifelong adventure!

Sid

High Plains Power

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