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NEWS

MEMBER NEWSLETTER

November 2016

Manager's Message

Dear Members: _____ *by Marlene Morss*



Annual Budget Time

It is hard to believe that the end of 2016 is fast approaching and it won't be long and we will be facing the beginning of a new year. With that in mind, High Plains Power is planning for 2017 by preparing the annual budget. Tri-State has announced that they will have a rate increase and with High Plains Power Cost of Service Study results, it is pretty certain that High Plains Power will have a rate increase as well. As of this publication we have not completed the budget so I do not have the final calculations of what the rate increase will be. Please remember, with Tri-State being 81% of our total costs, we don't have too many things that we can adjust. In other words for every \$1.00 of revenue, 81¢ go to Tri-State and 19¢ is the amount High Plains Power has to operate the system.

We are scrutinizing those operating costs that we can control and as I indicated earlier this year, since the downturn in the economy, we reduced our 2016 operating budget by about 5.5%. A good portion of this reduction was accomplished through reducing staff through at-

tribution. We had a number of employees who have retired and we did not replace some of those positions at this time. We still need to be able to maintain and provide our Member/Owners with reliable service so the challenge is having the personnel to perform this task safely and proficiently without compromising your service.

November 11th marks Veterans Day and we need to take the time to say thank you to the men and women who have served or who are serving in the U S Armed Forces. We owe a great deal of gratitude to the many soldiers that defend our great country.

Those of you in the farming industry, I hope you have a safe and successful harvest. A big thanks goes out to you, as well, for all that you provide for our country.

I wish you and your families a Happy Thanksgiving. We all have so much to appreciate. Thank you for allowing us to serve you.

One last thought...remember to exercise your right to vote on November 8th!

***Happy Thanksgiving
High Plains Power
will be closed
November 24th & 25th.***

Daylight Savings time ends November 6th. Remember to set your clocks back. This is also a good time to check your smoke alarms and change the batteries in them if necessary.



Jesse Lohmiller (foreground) and Eric McDonald replace service conductor that was torn down by a falling tree.

Veterans Day 2016

We celebrate the 11th of November as Veteran's Day but do you know the story of Veterans Day?

On June 28th, 1919 World War One officially ended with the signing of the Treaty of Versailles in France but seven months before that date the Armistice of Compiegne ended the fighting along the western front

of hostilities between the Allied powers and Germany and her allies. The Armistice of Compiegne was an agreement to end fighting prior to a peace agreement between the warring countries and was only one of the armistices signed during and after World War One. The Armistice of Compiegne was to begin on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month and was commemorated as Armistice Day on the following year to remind

people of all nations of the terrible cost of war. Armistice Day is still celebrated by several countries and is celebrated as Remembrance Day in the UK when two minutes of silence are observed at eleven AM on the eleventh of November.



Armistice Day was celebrated in the USA until 1954 when Congress rededicated November 11 as Veteran's Day to honor veterans of World War Two and Korea as well as veterans of the first World War. In 1968 Veteran's Day was assigned by the Uniform Holiday Bill to the fourth Monday of October to ensure a three-day weekend for federal employees. However, the bill was not universally well received and many

States opted to observe Veterans Day on its original date.

In 1978 the historical importance and significance of the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month was recognized and returned to its

proper place on the calendar by law signed into effect by President Gerald Ford.

What's the difference between Memorial Day and Veterans Day?

Memorial Day is a day for remembering those who died in battle or from wounds suffered in battle. Veteran's Day is a day to honor the living veteran for his or her service in the military whether in war or peace.

This November 11th let us all remember and recognize our veterans for their sacrifice and service to our country. Thank you for your service, Veterans!



Marlene Morss visits with Gary Starkey as Kevin Gordon and Tyler Cox begin "pot holing" to locate buried utility cables. The vacuum trailer uses a high pressure water jet to blast through layers of dirt and gravel while the large suction hose vacuums the debris up and into the large holding tank mounted on the trailer. Vacuum digging saves an enormous amount of time and labor over the traditional shovel method of locating and greatly reduces the risk of damage to power cables, communication cables, water or gas lines or other buried facilities.



Steffes Time of Use Storage Heat News

With the retirement of Scott Peterson this summer, High Plains Power has been left without a Time of Use storage heat technician. To help our members, HPP offered training from Steffes' Technical Manager at our facility in Riverton. Participants were trained in troubleshooting and repair of the various types of storage heaters sold in the area. Technical resources and access to repair parts were also made available.

For all future maintenance needs, please contact one of the following licensed electricians:

Betts Electric

Terry Betts 307-856-2713

Cell 307-850-7018

Electrical Dynamics Inc.

307-856-4677

Homespun Electrical

Jesse Dorothy 307-851-2079

Steffes has an excellent customer support site on the Internet. Owners' manuals, repair and troubleshooting manuals and technical support over the phone are all available on their website at www.steffes.com



HAPPY *Thanksgiving!*

*From Everyone at High
Plains Power, please
enjoy a safe and bountiful
Thanksgiving!*

High Plains Power

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and comments are welcome.

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