




Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 
The power of human connections

NEWS

MEMBER NEWSLETTER

September 2017

Manager's Message

Dear Members: _____ *by Marlene Morss*



It is hard to believe that the 2017 summer is about over. By the time this article is out, we should have all survived the solar eclipse. (I am writing this article on August 8th and have no idea on what to expect of August 21st.)

Budget Time

With the end of summer, it is also time for High Plains Power as well as Tri-State Generation and Transmission to start preparing the 2018 budget. When Tri-State completes and has their budget approved in September, High Plains Power can then complete our budget process. We will be taking our plan to the High Plains Power Board of Directors for approval at the November Board meeting. Since about of 84% of every dollar that we spend goes to Tri-State it is important that they complete their budget before we can finalize ours.

Rules and Regulations

We have completed the re-write of our Rules and Regulations and have presented them to the Wyoming Public Service Commission at an open hearing meeting on

July 6th. I am happy to announce that they have been approved by the Commission. High Plains Power Staff and the Wyoming Public Service Commission Staff have spent a considerable amount of time on this process and it was a learning experience for both entities. Thank you to everyone for all the time and effort spent on this project!

Audit

Auditors from DeCoria, Maichel and Teague completed the annual audit in July and it went well. Financial records, statements and practices were reviewed and discussed. Every July we have an audit performed by a 3rd party. The company will be presenting the audit to the Board of Directors at a meeting this Fall at which the Board will review and approve the audit.

This Labor Day I would like to thank all the hard-working women and men of High Plains Power who are dedicated to your cooperative. It is through their hard work that High Plains Power can operate smoothly and efficiently.

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Hunting Season!

Plan your hunts with care. Inform someone of your plans, where you plan to hunt and when you expect to return.

Prepare emergency items to take along. Fire starters, emergency shelters, water, dry clothing, etc.

Enjoy Outdoors Wyoming!

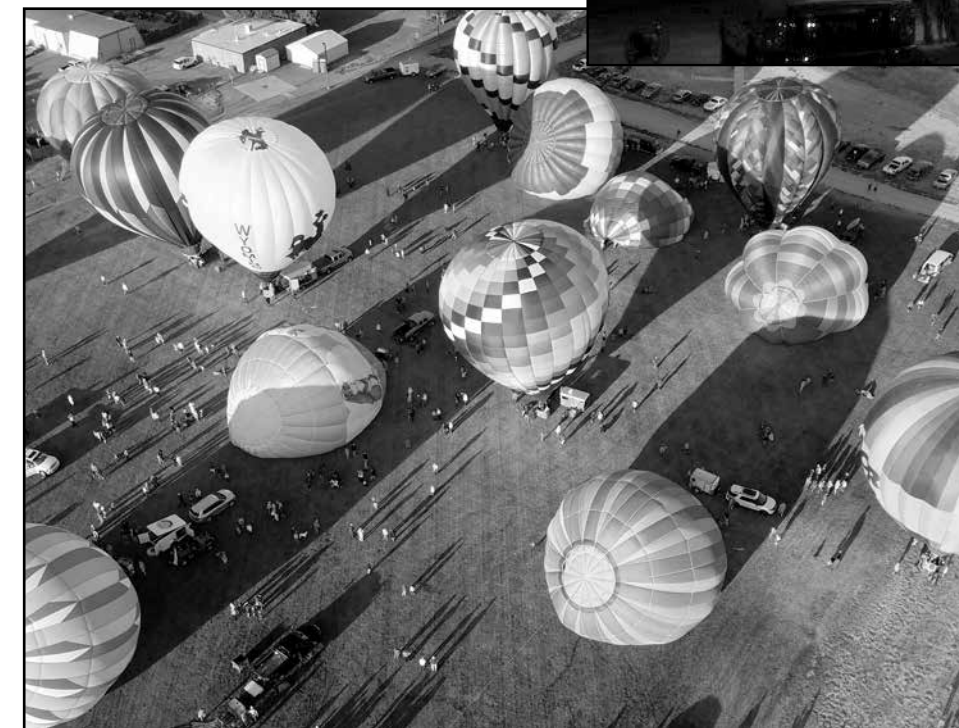




Taylor Aldous (center) pilots the Touchstone Energy Balloon while Trapper Bradshaw (left) and Ross Smith (right) enjoy the view. Trapper and Ross are HPP linemen who volunteered to help with the launch and retrieval of the balloon.

Touchstone Energy Cooperatives Balloon Pilot Taylor Aldous

In 1996 at the age of 11, a family friend brought Taylor on a hot air balloon flight over Scottsdale; this was the beginning of his passion for hot air ballooning. Due to the FAA minimum age requirements for the stages of ratings, Taylor had time to perfect his skill. At age 14, he began flight training and by age 16 Taylor earned his private flight rating. From that time, he began competing in various hot air balloon events across the US. Two years later, he earned his commercial pilot rating and his career began to soar. Flying over 18,000 passengers in more than 36 states - Taylor has also flown balloons for Dodge, Wendy's, RE/MAX and Sanderson Volvo. Attending college, he received his degree in Science and Aviation Technology and his private and instrument fixed wing ratings from the University of Central Missouri.



In the night glow event, participating balloons remain tethered to ground for the stunning visual effect!

Tri-State Generation and Transmission sponsored the Touchstone Energy Cooperatives balloon for this years Riverton Rendezvous event. Thank you Tri-State!

BEAN BAG DROP

Taylor piloted the Touchstone balloon to win the Bean Bag Drop Event in which each pilot tries to steer to a target dropped by the host town balloon. The pilot who can drop his bean bag closest to the target takes home the prize.



Ainslee Watson enjoyed the sights at the Riverton Rendezvous Balloon Rally. Ainslee is the granddaughter of High Plains Power employee and proud grandmother Debbie Watson.

High Plains Power

NEWS

is an official publication of High Plains Power, Inc., PO Box 713, Riverton, WY 82501.

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This is a monthly publication made available by High Plains Power, Inc., with the Wyoming Rural Electric News. Ideas, questions and comments are welcome.

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