



NUTSEA

NATIONAL UTILITY TRAINING & SAFETY EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

NUTSEA Newslines

Winter 2006

Inside this issue:

Vanderpool retires	2
Annual award winners	3
Hurricane relief	3
2006 Annual Meeting	4

Chairman's Comments

By Jerry Franklin

Serving as chairman of this organization is a great honor for me. I hope that, working together, we can continue to improve the NUTSEA organization and the services and benefits it provides to all members and the cooperatives we serve.



UPDATES

Since the NUTSEA Annual Meeting in September, **Mike Stamper** of Dairyland Power Cooperative in Menomonie, Wis., has been appointed to NUTSEA's 3year director's post. His appointment was made upon the recommendation of the Nominating Committee. Welcome aboard, Mike!

The NUTSEA website is now down for upgrading. If you have any information you'd like to see incorporated into the website, please contact NUTSEA's Executive Secretary **Melissa Robokoff** at mrobokoff@alaskapower.org.

We want to make the NUTSEA website a valuable tool to all NUTSEA members as they work to ensure the safety of electric cooperative employees and members across the country.

MEMBER SURVEY

The results of the Member Survey, conducted in July 2005, will be reviewed by the Executive Committee at its planning meeting in February in Oklahoma. At this meeting the Executive

Committee will discuss the most effective way to disseminate the information to NUTSEA members, focusing on how we can use it to make our organization more effective in introducing NUTSEA to new members and in determining how to make our organization more valuable organization to our industry.

NEWSLETTER

At the Executive Committee meeting in February, we will also be discussing the role of this newsletter and how to make sure our members receive it. I realize that some members like "printed paper copies" sent via "snail" mail while others prefer to receive their newsletters via e-mail. The e-mail copies, of course, save NUTSEA money, but we don't want to save money at the expense of failing to communicate.

Consequently, we need to know to your desires. There's no reason why we can't do both.

Once we get our website back up and functioning properly, we will post and archive the NUTSEA newsletter there, so you can read it at your convenience and you can also go back and see previous copies.

NUTSEA's RESAP delegate.

A new delegate will be voted on at the next Annual Meeting.

NEXT NEWSLETTER

You can expect to have your second newsletter for 2006 shortly after the NUTSEA's planning meeting in February.

ANNUAL MEETING

Mark you calendar now for the NUTSEA Annual Meeting scheduled for **Sept. 25-29** at the Renaissance Hotel in downtown Oklahoma City, Ok.

THANKS

Special thanks is extended to **Tom Johnston** and **Melissa Robokoff** at the Alaska statewide for their dedicated service to NUTSEA at the 64th Annual Meeting in Anchorage.



Leroy Vanderpool retires

From Rural Electric Magazine:

Fond Farewell

His colleagues of nearly a decade at East Central Energy, Braham, Minnesota have said farewell to Leroy Vanderpool, Loss Control Supervisor, who left the co-op recently after being diagnosed with Lou Gehrig's disease. A highly respected utility safety professional, Vanderpool in 2003 became the first person to receive two top awards from the

National Utility Training and Safety Education Association when he accepted both the Herman C. Potthast and Claude Frasier Awards. 'Leroy is one of the most knowledgeable electrical safety managers in Minnesota', Pat Whalen, Vanerpool's counterpart at Great River Energy (G&T), Elk River, Minnesota, wrote in a recent safety column. 'He is tireless in his efforts to promote safety, not only at East Central Energy but throughout the region

and on a national level as well.' At the co-op itself, colleagues reported Vanderpool's 'cheery attitude and superior professionalism at work will be sorely missed by all.'



Mrs. Bobbye Treadwell says Good-bye

After serving as NUTSEA's Administrative Assistant for 17 years, Bobbye Treadwell has passed the torch. At the Annual Conference in Anchorage, the membership presented Bobbye with an engraved clock and thanked her for her many years of

dedication and hard work for the organization. While it will not be easy to fill her shoes, the Board hired Melissa Robokoff to fill the position.

"Bobbye has done such a wonderful job mentoring and

showing me the ropes," Robokoff said. "She has limitless patience, which I sincerely appreciate."

We wish Bobbye the best of luck in the future. Thank you for all you've done for NUTSEA.

SAFETY PROGRAM

---LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA
April 4 and 5, 2006

The upcoming safety program hosted by Lift-It® Manufacturing promises to be one of the most extensive, ever offered. The two day seminar will feature two presenters with individual topic areas to help reduce risk exposure, contribute to more efficient operations and the identification of potential hazards common to the rigging and material handling and fall prevention industries.

Day One- April 4, 2006, features the synthetic sling safety program, presented by Mike Gelskey, president of Lift-It® Manufacturing. A Sling User class as well as a sling inspector class will take place. In addition a tour of the Lift-It production facility, featuring fabrication and testing demonstrations will also be provided. Fall prevention demonstrations presented by DBI/Sala will also be included during the factory tour.

Day Two- April 5, 2006 features sling and rigging training, presented by Don Pellow, Pellow

and Associates. The format will include basic and advanced rigging in a classroom setting, as well as hands on rigging in the afternoon session.

Early registrations are encouraged as the class size is deliberately limited for maximum benefit and participation. Contact Michelle Brown, conference coordinator at 323.582-6076 x 15 or by email at michelle@lift-it.com to secure your place. Registration forms can also be obtained from the Lift-It® website at WWW.LIFT-IT.COM.

NUTSEA Membership donates to Mississippi & Louisiana

The annual hard hat collection at the conference netted over \$700. The NUTSEA Board moved to round-up the donation to \$1000. \$500 was sent to Electric Power Associations of Mississippi and \$500 was sent to Association of Louisiana Electric Cooperatives.

The following is a letter from Hobson Waits, former Executive Vice President/CEO of Electric Power Associations of Mississippi.

"As the last light was turned on the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, it reminded us of the importance of electricity. As the last

emergency crew member loaded up and headed to a home many hundreds of miles away, it reminded us of the servant attitude we share with cooperative friends. When your relief check arrived, it reminded us of the compassion people demonstrate when people they do not know are hurting.

Your gift deserves more than a thank-you and we are very appreciative of the help shown to our employees during a most stressful time. In addition, our caring and giving has earned a special place in the hearts of all Mississippians.

On behalf of the deserving electric power association employees who will be recipients of your donation, I offer sincere appreciation for your act of kindness. Most likely you have not met any of these people, but they are co-op people--strong and determined to rebuild the electric distribution system.

Again, thanks for making life a little brighter for our suffering employees."

2005 Award Winners

At the awards banquet in Anchorage, NUTSEA acknowledged several members for their outstanding achievements. Winning the Ernest Shearer Award was Kenny Guffey, Safety & Loss Control Director, Oklahoma Association of Electric Cooperatives. The Ernest Shearer Award is presented annually to the Job Training and Safety Director/Instructor who best exemplifies enduring strength, leadership, devotion to duty, service, loyalty and achievement in the improvement, progress and success of NUTSEA.

The D.G. Anderson Safety Award was presented to Richard Piech, Golden Valley Electric Association, Alaska. This award is presented annually to a supervisor with a rural electric cooperative who has demonstrated significant achievements in line maintenance safety practices and/or training. The award is in honor of D.G. "Andy" Anderson who spent his entire working career in developing tools and working procedures for the electric utility industry. This award

is sponsored by the A.B. Chance Company

Robert Palmbo, Director, Training and Loss Control at the Michigan Electric Cooperative Association won the Claude Frazier Award. The Claude Frazier Award is presented to an individual as recognition for their contribution to safety and health excellence and stewardship. All NUTSEA members, past and present are



Pat Whalen (right) awards Bob Palmbo the Claude Frazier Award.

eligible to receive this award.

This award is sponsored by

the G&T section of NUTSEA.

The Herman C. Potthast Award is presented annually to the Job Training and Safety Instructor who has best attained

those qualities of dedication, leadership, cooperation and service that were exemplified by "Potty."

This award is sponsored by the Superintendents Section, Pennsylvania Rural Electric Association. It was presented to Jim Nevel, Manager of Regulatory Compliance at Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives.



Jim Nevel (right) receives the Potthast award from Dennis Corcoran.



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NUTSEA's 64th Annual Conference

Mark your calendar's now for NUTSEA's 64th Annual Conference. This year's meeting will be in held in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma at the Renaissance Oklahoma City Convention Center Hotel. Conference dates are 25-28 September, 2006.

The Renaissance is the newest hotel in OKC. It's located at the corner of Sheridan and Broadway Avenue in the heart of downtown Oklahoma City. A glass-enclosed skywalk connects directly to the Cox Convention Center. The hotel is within walking distance from the Ford arena, the Ballpark, and many local attractions, including Bricktown, the fastest growing entertainment district in the southwest.

More information on registration and program content will follow in July.



Do you have something you would like to contribute to the NUTSEA Newslines?

Forward your stories, ideas and/or pictures to Melissa at mrobokoff@alaskapower.org