

Big Skylights



An internal newsletter of the STATEWIDE ASSOCIATION OF MONTANA RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES

A report from your Chief Executive Officer Dave Wheelihan

January 11, 2007

Valley Board Seat Filled

Fort Peck Resident Gary Meyer has been appointed to fill the board seat for District Seven. Gary and his wife Bonnie have resided in Fort Peck for eleven years and are thoroughly enjoying being part of the community. Bonnie is employed by the Fort Peck Credit Union and Gary fills his time helping with rural mail route deliveries, jamming with local musicians, and is the current Secretary Treasurer for Fort Peck Paleontology. Gary brings a wealth of Cooperative knowledge to the table having worked for Nemont telephone for 32 years and Mid Rivers Telephone in Circle for seven. Gary says "since retiring from Nemont in May of 2006 he has missed being involved." Gary got to know his predecessor Ron Wallem very well and feels that even though he believes no one can ever replace Ron, he is willing to dedicate the time to becoming an educated informed board member.

Job Market

Engineering/Operations Manager

Hill County Electric Cooperative (HCE) has an opening for an engineering and operations manager. A bachelor's degree in electrical engineering or related field or a minimum of 10 years of progressively responsible experience in all aspects of electric line construction and maintenance is required. A four-year college degree is preferred and applicants must have supervisory experience. An excellent benefits package is offered. An application and resume with three (3) references should be submitted to: Job Search, P.O. Box 2330, Havre, MT 59501-2330. Interested persons may call 406-394-7804 or 877-394-7804 to obtain an application and complete job description. The review of applications will begin Jan. 3 and will continue until the position is filled.

Journeyman Lineman

McCone Electric Co-op., Inc., is currently seeking a qualified applicant for a journeyman lineman position. The reporting position is in Jordan, Mont. Jordan is an area rich in hunting and fishing opportunities with access to public lands. Jordan is within easy driving distance to Fort Peck Lake, Hell Creek Marina and the famous Missouri Breaks. Mountains and great skiing are only a three-hour drive from this location. The successful applicant must possess a valid Montana commercial driver's Class A license (or be able to obtain one within 90 days of the hiring date) and join the local IBEW union. Successful candidates must pass a pre-employment drug test and physical. The successful applicants must also be able to deal with co-workers and consumers in a courteous and professional manner. McCone Electric has an excellent benefits program. A McCone Electric Co-op., Inc., job application is required and may be obtained from McCone Electric at PO Box 368, Circle, MT 59215. This position will remain open until filled. Call for applications at (406) 485-3430 or e-mail Larry Schmidt (lschmidt@mcconeelectric.coop).

CALENDAR

January

16	MECA Legislative Briefing Session	Helena, MT
16	Council of Cooperatives Legislative Dinner	Helena, MT
26	ERO Workshop	Las Vegas, NV

February

5-8	New & Emerging Technologies Conference	Orlando, FL
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March

2	Upper Missouri G & T Annual Meeting	Sidney, MT
2	Vigilante Electric Cooperative Annual Meeting	Dillon, MT
10	Flathead Electric Cooperative Annual Meeting	Kalispell, MT
13	Mid-Yellowstone Electric Cooperative Annual Meeting	Hysham, MT
13	Yellowstone Valley Electric Cooperative Annual Meeting	Huntley, MT
17	Missoula Electric Cooperative Annual Meeting	Missoula, MT
20-22	NRECA Annual Meeting	Las Vegas, NV
24	Lincoln Electric Cooperative Annual Meeting	Eureka, MT
30	Sun River Electric Cooperative Annual Meeting	Fairfield, MT