

SPD Newsletter

CELEBRATING 80 YEARS OF LIGHTING THE WAY

Series 33, Issue 3
March 2016

We Weathered The Storm

The “Blizzard of 2016” will likely be one for the history books! It was undoubtedly an event that brought our daily activities to an inconvenient halt.

One of the most remarkable aspects of this storm at Southern Power District was that power outage numbers were very low, especially considering the severity of the storm. With over 18 inches of snow reported in some areas along with 50-mile-per-hour winds, we knew there was the possibility of lengthy outages covering large regions. In the end, our most significant outage occurred in a large portion of Franklin County, but thankfully power was restored within just a few hours. Overall, fewer than ten customers were without power overnight, and they were brought back into service the following morning as roadways were cleared.

There were likely a combination of factors that kept outage numbers low. The weather conditions did not include ice, so accumulation on the lines was minimal. Additionally, we feel that proactive efforts to trim problematic trees throughout the District added to the power reliability throughout the storm.

For the outages we did experience, there is no doubt the determined and efficient response from our linemen was the greatest factor in keeping everyone warm and safe during this dangerous storm. We extend a heartfelt thank you to the men who braved the blizzard conditions to restore service to our customers.



80th Anniversary Cookbook

We have an exciting project underway in recognition of our 80th year of service to the customers of Southern Power District. Recipe entries are rolling in for our upcoming special edition cookbook, which will be published later this year. We would love to see YOU as a recipe contributor in the cookbook!

If you look at Page 4, where we typically publish recipes each month, you will find a blank recipe entry form. Share with us your favorite recipe and return it with your bill payment, or mail it to LeAnne Doose at Southern Power District. You may also submit your recipe(s) online. Visit www.southernpd.com and click on the cookbook icon.

If you are interested in getting your hands on one of these special edition cookbooks, we are expecting to have them ready for distribution in October, which is the month of our 80th Anniversary. We will share with you the process for distributing these booklets in a future newsletter edition, so be watching!



Round-Up Program Gives A Boost to Local Robotics



On February 9th, we had the pleasure of stopping by Adams Central Wallace Elementary School to make a special surprise presentation to a lunch room full of excited students! Thanks to the contribution of customers participating in Southern's Operation ROUND UP program, a big check was presented to a group of very smart kids!

The Robotics Club is new to Adams Central Wallace Elementary School. The purpose of this group is to teach kids a basic understanding of electronics, and how energy is used to maneuver active robots with computers. Robotics projects can be costly, but that burden has been eased with the presentation of a \$1,260 check for the club.

On behalf of the students at Wallace Elementary, we extend a big thank you to the customers of Southern Power District for making this presentation possible.



Pictured above are students who are actively participating in the Robotics Program at Wallace Elementary School. Also pictured from left to right are LeAnne Doose, Southern Power District, Allyson Bohlen, Wallace Elementary School Principal, and Mark Utter, Operation ROUND UP Board Member.

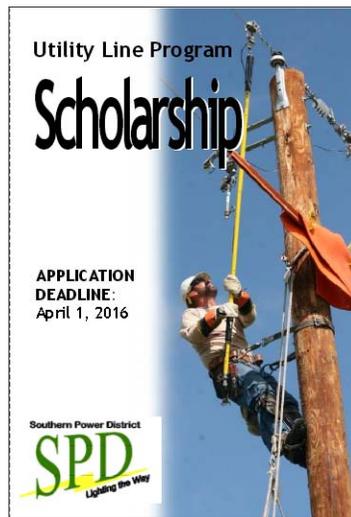
Scholarship Program Deadline April 1st!

The application deadline for Southern Power District's Utility Line Scholarship Program is April 1st, just a few weeks away!

Current high school students who reside in Adams, Franklin, Hall, Hamilton, Kearney, Merrick or Phelps Counties are eligible to apply.

The scholarship is valued at \$1,000, and is awarded on an annual basis to an individual who plans to attend an accredited school to begin a two-year utility line program. Half of the scholarship is paid upon the successful completion of the first year of the utility line study program. The second half is awarded following graduation. Applicants also are required to work a 12-week summer internship with Southern in cooperation with the school attended.

Applications are available on Southern's website at www.southernpd.com, at our main office in Grand Island, or at any of Southern's Service Centers.



Update Your Contact Information

Included in this month's billing statement is a form that needs your attention. Please take a look at this form, review your billing statement, and make sure we have current contact information for your account(s). Current contact information is essential for efficient service.

And if you so choose, please take a look at the reverse side of this form. The information and form provides you with an opportunity to decline the receipt of mass communication, typically provided in automated phone calls or emails. Most often this information is provided for load management customers, and occasionally, planned outages are communicated by mass email.

Please take a few moments to update your contact information and if you require updates, return the form with your payment. You may also provide these updates on the SmartHub account management program.

Outage to Report? Close Your Apps, Give Us A Call!

Social media has been an excellent tool that we use to provide you with up-to-the-minute information during power outages. But we want online viewers to remember that this is to be considered a supplemental source for information, and is NOT a tool for reporting outages.

Southern's social media pages, including Twitter and Facebook, are managed by just one person. As such, it is truly impossible to manage outage reports received in tweets or posts. The pages are monitored constantly, but it is entirely possible such posts would not be seen all 24 hours of the day. Additionally, the pages are monitored by Southern's Public Relations staff member, and that individual does not have access to your account information.

All outages must be reported by picking up the phone and calling 888-484-2470, or your local Southern Power District service office. Customer Service staff or call center personnel are ready to take your call 24 hours a day, seven days a week. They are also the staff that has access to your account information, and can facilitate the dispatch of personnel to handle your outage call.

Meanwhile, we hope you will find the supplemental information we provide on our social media pages to be beneficial during large outage events. Join one or both of our social media pages and stay informed!

For Online Account Access, Sign Up for Smart Hub

For convenience in managing your Southern Power District account(s), you'll want to consider Smart Hub. This account management option allows you to go "paperless" with your billing. The web and mobile SmartHub app allows you to view your billing, usage and payment history; submit your meter reading(s); and pay your bill with debit/credit cards or electronic check with NO FEES.

If you are interested in utilizing this account management system, signing up is easy. Go to www.southernpd.com and look for the SmartHub logo on our home page. You can add the mobile app to your smart phone and have access to your account on the go. Android or iOS users, you can also scan the appropriate QR code and get started now!

iOS
Users



Android
Users



Employee News

We have lots of great news to share with the addition of some new employees and transitions for others. We recently had two familiar faces to our team join us as permanent employees. Andrew Yockey and Andrew Daily are now permanent members of our team of linemen, with Yockey working on our District Construction Crew and Daily joining our Holdrege Crew.

Two brand new faces have also joined our roster of employees. John Gits was added to our District Construction Crew, and Jason Heck joined our team as a Storekeeper in our Grand Island warehouse.

And finally, long-time SPD lineman John Ott, who most recently served in our Central City service area, recently began a new role in his career, and will serve as the District's meter technician in our Grand Island office.

Congratulations to these men for your new roles at Southern Power District.



ANDREW YOCKEY



JOHN GITS



JOHN OTT



ANDREW DAILY



JASON HECK



BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

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Neal F. Niedfeldt

SERVICE CENTERS:

Grand Island (308) 384-2202
Central City (308) 946-2964
Franklin (308) 425-6217
Hastings (402) 751-2535
Holdrege (308)-995-5112
Toll Free 1-888-484-2470

GENERAL OFFICE:

384-2350 or 1-800-652-2013

CUSTOMER SERVICE

381-5942, 1-800-579-3019

ON THE WEB AT:

www.southernpd.com

This newsletter is published as a service to Southern Power District's customers.

Comments or questions?

Contact: LeAnne Doose, editor
(308) 384-2350, 1-800-652-2013
PO Box 1687
Grand Island, NE 68802-1687



RECIPE SUBMISSION FORM

CATEGORY (Circle One):

- Appetizers & Beverages
- Soups & Salads
- Vegetables & Side Dishes
- Main Dishes
- Bread & Rolls
- Desserts
- Cookies & Candy
- This & That

RECIPE TITLE: _____

SUBMITTED BY (Your Name): _____

CURRENT HOMETOWN & PHONE #: _____

INGREDIENTS:

- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 8. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 9. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 10. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 11. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 12. _____ |
| 6. _____ | 13. _____ |
| 7. _____ | 14. _____ |

DIRECTIONS:

- Print NEATLY in ink. One recipe per form.
- Your recipes should fit into the categories listed at the top of this form.
- If more room is needed, attach separate sheet to recipe form.
- Write legibly, as this will greatly reduce errors.
- List all ingredients in order of use in ingredients list and directions.
- Include container sizes, e.g., 16-oz. pkg., 24-oz. can.
- Keep directions in paragraph form—not in steps.
- Use names of ingredients in the directions, e.g., "Combine flour and sugar." DO NOT use statements such as, "Combine first three ingredients".
- Include temperatures and cooking, chilling, baking, and/or freezing times.
- Be consistent with the spelling of your name for each recipe you contribute.
- Any special recipe notes (anything other than ingredients, directions, contributor name, serving size or recipe title) should be kept as a separate comment on the bottom of this form, as they may not be included.

Clip and submit your recipe, to Southern Power District, Attn: LeAnne, at PO Box 1687, Grand Island, NE 68802-1687. Additional recipes can be submitted on a separate sheet of paper. Please include information for all fields listed on this form. You may also visit www.southernpd.com and complete the recipe entry online.