



Ryan Schilreff
General Manager



CO-OP NEWS

MAY 2016



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GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

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May through September
Office hrs: 6:30–5:00, Mon.-Thu.



October through April
Office hrs: 7:30–4:00, Mon.-Fri.

Board of Directors

Jack Preston
President

Dewey Hageman
Vice President

Clay Peterson
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Spring Storms

As I write this article, it's the afternoon of Wed., March 30th and it is snowing like crazy. We are experiencing several outages caused by ice buildup on our lines in the western part of our service territory near Hartville, Wyo.

This storm has also caused the high voltage lines that supply power to Wyrulec's distribution system to go down, creating a significant outage that we have no control over.

This same time last Wednesday, Mother Nature sent us a severe storm that damaged our lines in the eastern part of our service territory near Banner County, Neb., causing several outages.

Inclement weather can cause it to be pretty intense here at your cooperative, as the wind, ice, and snow do not mix well with our electric lines.

Many of the operations crews worked

23 hours straight to restore power to our members.

I can't tell you how proud I am of your cooperative staff and the way they have responded to these storms to restore power. To give you an idea of what kind of conditions we were dealing with and the effect these storms were having on our lines, we have posted a short video on our website. To view the video, go to our web page located at www.wyrulec.com.

We want to thank all of our members who were without power for your patience. Please continue to call us day or night if you are experiencing trouble with your service or if you see any unsafe conditions. If you experience your electricity going on and off during a storm, please make sure you take precautions to turn off or unplug your

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Reminder: As of May 2nd, Wyrulec Company hours will change for the summer to 6:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

Budget Billing Agreements due

Budget Billing Plan Agreements are due in the Wyrulec office by **May 31**. Please talk with Colleen if you have any questions, 307-837-2225. *Marsha Anderson*

**Wyrulec Company
will be closed on
Monday, May 30,
for Memorial Day**

Spring Storms

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appliances so they are not damaged.

John Markham We have no control over the weather and many times we have to wait until conditions improve before we can make the proper repairs to restore power safely.

Yard lights vs Street lights

Recently, I have been asked the difference between a yard light and a street light and why Wyrulec can't repair yard lights. Wyrulec defines a street light as a light that is wired before the meter and is the property of Wyrulec. Wyrulec has a street light rate filed with the Wyoming Public Service Commission in which we bill the members in that rate class a monthly flat fee for the light and kWh usage. If any issues occur with the light, Wyrulec will repair or replace the light at no additional cost to the member. Since the street light is wired prior to the meter and is the property of Wyrulec, any work performed on the light falls under the National Electric Safety Code (NESC), which your Wyrulec crews have been trained in and follow on a daily basis.

Wyrulec defines yard lights as any light located and wired beyond Wyrulec's "Point of Attachment" which remains the property of the member. The "Point of Attachment" is defined as where the cooperative's facilities end and the member's begin. The point of attachment in most instances is the bottom of the meter or the main breaker located below the meter. Equipment located beyond our point of attachment is regulated under the National Electric Code (NEC).

The National Electric Code defines

the rules and regulations that licensed electricians must follow during their course of work. With the exception of one employee, your cooperative's crews are not licensed electricians and therefore are not licensed to work on equipment that is beyond our point of attachment and regulated by the National Electric Code.

Wyoming state statute does allow Wyrulec to make repairs beyond the point of attachment in an emergency situation but we must contact the state electrical inspector's office no later than 5 days after the repair.

In the past and at the request of the member, we have tried to help fix the yard lights by changing the bulb or photo cell when we were in the area to save the member money.

In many instances the problem is something other than the bulb or photo cell which required the member to call an electrician to fix the problem. In this situation, the members can incur two sets of charges,

one from Wyrulec and one from an electrician.

If you would like to keep your yard light and you start experiencing problems you will need to call an electrician to make any repairs or replacements.

If you would like to move to a street light rate, Wyrulec will install a new light or replace a yard light in need of repair with a street light. **The light must be located on the meter pole.**

This is a very simple process and all that is required is a signed contract for the street light rate which is a flat monthly fee of \$12.88.

The \$12.88 monthly charge covers all the kWh usage and covers any repairs or replacements of the light in the future. *Casey Stenson*

For more information or any questions, please contact us at your convenience. As always, you can reach me at the office by calling (307) 837-2225, on my cell at (307) 575-2435, or email me at rschilreff@wyrulec.com.

Congratulations are in order!

In January, Miles Duffy accepted a new position at Wyrulec as Management Trainee. As part of Wyrulec's succession planning, it was decided to create a position for someone to start training under the Operations Manager, Joe Kinnan. Duffy is currently in his fourth and final year of the Apprentice Lineman program which he will continue until he earns a Journeyman Linemen certification.

Duffy graduated from the University of Wyoming with a Bachelor's in Business Administration in 2011. In July of 2012, Duffy



Miles Duffy

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Congratulations are in order!

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heard of an opening at Wyrulec Company. He applied, interviewed, and was offered the Groundsman position. By the end of the year, Duffy entered into the Apprentice Lineman program.

Miles Duffy is no stranger to the electric cooperative world. Miles' father, also a lineman, is currently employed by Powder River Energy Corporation. Watching his father throughout the years, Duffy was aware of

the physical demands that a linemen's job entails.

Miles, along with his wife Sharlet, his daughter Annabelle, and son William enjoy living close to family in the area. This was one of the reasons that attracted Miles when making his career move.

When asked for his advice for youth, Duffy said, "Strongly consider higher education after high school, whether that be college, vocational, or trade school... it's worth the time and money spent!"

Arrants promoted to Lead Lineman

Deaver Arrants began his career in the electric industry almost 17 years ago as an Apprentice Electrician. A recent graduate of Mid Plains Community College,

Arrants received his Associates Degree in Applied Science and accepted an Apprentice Electrician position in Gering, Neb. A year later he entered into the Apprentice Lineman program after taking a position with Chimney Rock Public Power in Bayard, Neb. There he worked as an Apprentice Lineman and Electrician for almost 3 years.

Arrants completed the Apprentice Lineman program to achieve his journeyman lineman certification at Powder River Energy in Gillette, Wyo.

This is no ordinary feat! The Journeyman Lineman program consists of four years of course-

work, 8,000 work hours and professional experience, and the knowledge to pass a credentialing exam. Deaver Arrants worked as a Journeyman Lineman for three years before being promoted to Crew Chief and eventually he worked as a Substation Technician for Powder River.

Arrants accepted a lineman position with Wyrulec Company in August of 2014. Deaver, along with his wife Ashlee and his son Gunnar, made the move to Torrington to be closer to family and friends in Nebraska. Arrants was recently promoted to Lead Lineman.

"It's a great job," said Arrants. "Especially if you enjoy working outdoors."

Congratulations, Deaver!



Deaver Arrants



Sean Malcom

Malcom chosen to represent Wyrulec on D.C. Youth Tour

Sean Malcom of Hartville, Wyo., has been selected by the Wyrulec Board of Directors to represent Wyrulec Company at the National Rural Electric Cooperative Associa-

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Malcom to represent Wyrulec on Youth Tour

Continued from previous page — Malcom's Youth Tour in Washington, D.C., June 9-16, 2016. Malcom will join more than 1,500 students from across the United States to take part in this week-long, all-expense paid trip!

The opportunity to participate in NRECA's Youth Tour is open to students who live on Wyrulec lines. Students must first be selected to attend NREA's Youth Energy Leadership Camp. Each spring, Wyrulec accepts applications from area high school freshmen, sopho-

mores, and juniors interested in attending Energy Camp at Halsey, Neb. After attending camp, students are eligible for Youth Tour, which is sponsored by Wyrulec Company.

Students have been attending Youth Tour since the late 1950s. It is a week spent learning about the government, American history, and the electric cooperative world. The mission of this trip is to help young adults understand the importance of the electric

industry as it relates to rural communities and to help these students realize the significance of having an active voice in our democracy.

The tour includes a day spent exploring Capitol Hill and the Library of Congress. *Michael Hoehn* Meetings are scheduled for the students with Senators Barasso and Enzi and Representative Lummis. Another day is declared NRECA Youth Day in which the students from all 50 states gather for a

morning of speakers, a Congressional Simulation, and other social activities. Included in the schedule are tours of museums, monuments, and memorials.

Wyrulec would like to congratulate Sean Malcom for being selected to represent Wyrulec and the state of Wyoming on the Youth Tour! For additional information on NRECA's Youth Tour, please visit our website at www.wyrulec.com or call our office at 307-837-2225.

Youth Energy Leadership Camp ❖ July 11-15, 2016

Deadline is fast approaching... **R.S.V.P. by May 20th** to Wyrulec Company

For students who are currently in 9th, 10th or 11th grade

Great food ▲ Kids rule ▲ *W.A. Gross* ▲ Leadership is encouraged ▲ Be inside
▲ Practice running a business ▲ Dance ▲ Climb a power pole ▲

Camp takes place at Halsey, Nebraska

2016 Youth Energy Leadership Camp R.S.V.P. Form

Name _____ Age _____ Current Grade _____

Address _____ Phone number (____) _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Name of parents or guardian _____

Sponsoring rural electric system _____