



Member Owned ~ Service Proud

Carbon Light Lines

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



100 E. Willow Ave. • Saratoga, WY 82331-0579

307.326.5206 / 800.359.0249

www.carbonpower.com

September 2014



JERRY RABIDUE
District 2 Director

Board Actions July 2014

Approved Department Production and Financial Reports.

Approved the RE Magazine advertisement costs for the purpose of seeking a new General Manager.

Approved Director Jacobsen as the voting delegate for NRECA's 2014 Region 7 Meeting in Omaha, Nebraska.

Approved Work Order Inventory #509 for \$108,615.69.

Approved Director Rabidue as the voting delegate for Basin Electric's 2014 Annual Meeting and Director Clifton as the alternate voting representative.

Find Your Name Win a \$10 credit!

Look for your name somewhere in these four pages of the Carbon Light Lines in *astericks* and claim a \$10 credit on your electric bill by calling Carbon Power & Light.

Electricity Remains a Good Value

IN TODAY'S WORLD, YOU WON'T FIND MANY ITEMS THAT COST LESS THAN \$10. YOU CAN PURCHASE A GALLON OF MILK, TWO GALLONS OF GAS OR A BIG MAC® MEAL FROM MCDONALD'S. BUT DID YOU KNOW THAT AN AVERAGE DAY'S WORTH OF ELECTRICITY COSTS LESS THAN \$4 FOR CARBON'S RESIDENTIAL MEMBER-OWNERS?

Even in our country's shifting energy climate, electricity remains a good value. In fact, electricity has the lowest cost per day of any of the items listed above. And not all of those items are necessary for daily life!

Think about your daily necessities (electricity and gasoline, to name a couple), and then think about the cost of the special treats we allow ourselves to purchase on a weekly basis (maybe even on a daily basis for some items!). We don't often question the cost of a Big Mac® meal – it costs just under \$3 more to buy a Big Mac® meal than it does to purchase a day's worth of power. And yet, we frequently become upset if our electricity rates rise.

It makes sense; we have become increasingly reliant upon electricity. Electricity has, for many of us, gone from a luxury commodity to a necessity and an expectation. We expect the lights to come on when we flip the switch, and we expect our power to stay on during the best and worst conditions. How else would we keep our food fresh, our homes cool in the summer or warm in the winter? It is easy to cut a Big Mac® out of your spending routine here and there to save a few dollars. But we cannot simply cut electricity out of our budgets if times get tough or we decide that we want to scale back our spending in order to save.

Perhaps that is why it is so upsetting to us when our rates increase, even if only in small increments. It is nearly impossible for us to think about what our lives would be like if we did not have electricity. If at times it doesn't seem that electricity is affordable, remember – even as the demand for electricity grows – annual cost increases still remain low, especially

when compared to other consumer goods such as medical care, education, gasoline and, yes, even Big Macs®. Electricity is still a great bargain. Carbon is very committed to making sure that you and your family always have safe, reliable and affordable electric service in your home.

So the next time you crave a Big Mac®, remember your electric bill, and think about what a great deal you're getting for your dollar!

THE VALUE OF Electricity

\$6.61 average cost of a Big Mac meal

\$3.71 average daily cost of electricity

Calculated on a daily basis using Carbon Power & Light's average residential kWh's and costs for 2013.

Charles Larsen

GENERAL MANAGER'S COLUMN



Saratoga Franchise Fee: As I reported during the June Annual Meeting, the Town of Saratoga was proposing to include a four (4) percent franchise fee, with its renewal of our franchise agreement. Since that time, I am happy to say that during their July 15th Council meeting the Mayor and the Town Council unanimously agreed that implementing a franchise fee at this time would not be in the best interest of the local businesses and members of the community.

The new draft franchise agreement does include language that would allow the Town during the second year of the Ten (10) year agreement to review/consider a franchise fee if it is warranted. The approval of this draft agreement will adhere to the required three (3) readings before the public. On behalf of our Member-Owners in Saratoga, I applaud the Mayor and the Council for making this decision. I equally applaud all of our Member-Owners within the Saratoga Community that stepped up and voiced their concerns associated with the proposed fee...it was a great "Cooperative" effort.

County Fairs: By the time you receive this newsletter the Albany and Carbon County

Fairs will be all wrapped up and put away for another year. Each year during these events, Carbon's Board of Directors select a representative from the Board to attend the respective livestock auctions at each Fair. Those Board representatives serve as Carbon's buyers at the Fair. As we have done for many years Carbon purchases a beef at each of these sales. During our Annual Meeting in June, door prizes consisting of beef packages were drawn for and

I EQUALLY APPLAUD ALL OF OUR MEMBER-OWNERS WITHIN THE SARATOGA COMMUNITY THAT STEPPED UP AND VOICED THEIR CONCERNS ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROPOSED FEE...IT WAS A GREAT "COOPERATIVE" EFFORT.

awarded to attending Member-Owners. Once this year's beef are purchased and processed Carbon's Employees will deliver those beef packages to those lucky winners. This is just one of the many "commitments" we have made to the communities we serve...helping our young 4-H and FFA members and giving something back to those we serve.

EPA Rules: In recent newsletter articles and articles in the WREN magazine you have been provided information related to the Environmental Protection Agency's proposed rules regarding greenhouse gas emissions from power plants. Based on information included in the National Rural Electric Association's "News Briefing"; as of this date several states are suing the Environmental Protection Agency "to block forthcoming regulations

imposing new limits on greenhouse gas emissions from power plants." The states – West Virginia, Alabama, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Nebraska, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Wyoming and Indiana – argue that "the Clean Air Act prohibits the EPA from regulating emissions from existing sources.

Not sure what happened to this summer but, it was just here a minute ago and now it's almost all but gone. I hope you all had some time to enjoy it.

As always...thanks for being there for us.

Chuck

EMPLOYEE SERVICE

8 CO-OP EMPLOYEES WERE RECOGNIZED FOR YEARS OF SERVICE

Carbon Power & Light is fortunate to employ dedicated professionals who do their best to keep the cooperative operations efficient. A total of 27 full-time employees cover over 1,900 sq. miles of energized lines for 4,000 Member-Owners like yourself. Congratulations to these eight employees.



Kelby Lang
Saratoga Journeyman Lineman
5 years



Laurie Johnston
Billing Clerk
5 years



Tom Westring
Saratoga Journeyman Lineman
10 years



Marcy Knotwell
Staff Assistant
10 years



Larry Bouse
Rock River Maintenance Foreman
10 years



Bill Dahlke
Meter Technician
30 years



David Cutbirth
Director of Operations
35 years



Chuck Larsen
General Manager
35 years

New Hire



Matt Drake is Carbon Power & Light's new Saratoga groundman apprentice. Originally from Michigan, Matt moved to Wyoming seven years ago and resides in Saratoga.

Matt has enrolled in the Merchant Job Training & Safety Program which is a comprehensive four year power-line training program for electric utility personnel. After passing the final exam, Matt will obtain his certification of successful completion of the program.

Matt, a recent newlywed, enjoys snowmobiling, camping and hunting.

Loyalty CONNECTIONS

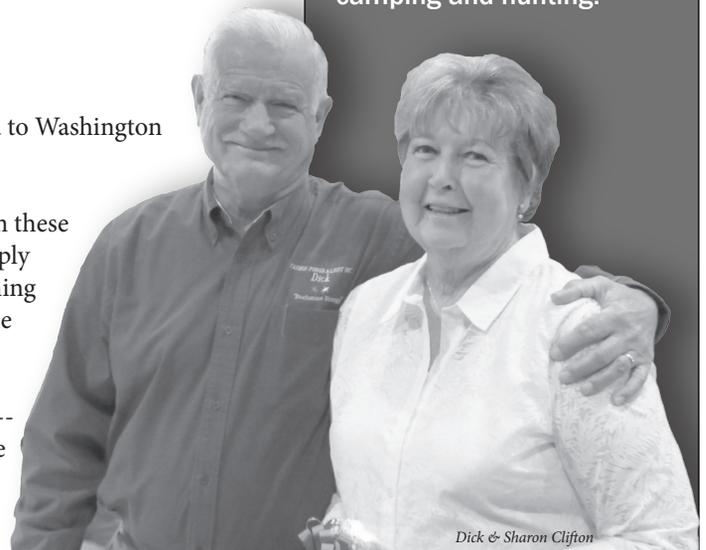
Loyalty is a prized virtue -- to country, family, faith, even the schools we attend. We keep those ties strong throughout our lives.

At Carbon Power & Light, our loyalty lies within the communities we serve and live. We are all Member-Owners of Carbon Power & Light; a Member-Owned, Service-Proud cooperative.

We take our roles in our communities seriously. That is why we offer scholarships, and send high school students to Youth

Leadership Camp and to Washington D.C.

We don't participate in these kinds of activities simply because it's the nice thing to do. We do it because we remain loyal to our Members, our neighbors, our home -- and a mission to make life better in the areas in which we serve.



Dick & Sharon Clifton

