



# Save the date *Annual meeting*

**Tuesday, June 6, 2017**

**Stanley High School gymnasium, Stanley**

- Guest speaker
- Member gifts
- Raffle prizes
- Kids' movie
- And more...



## In this issue:

- Holiday Lights Drive
- Be prepared for winter weather
- Meeting minutes, and more!

# MWEC sponsors Spring Lake Park Holiday Lights Drive



This year, Mountrail-Williams Electric Cooperative (MWEC) sponsored an event night as a sponsor of the Spring Lake Park Holiday Lights Drive. The cooperative employees were at the park with a magic show and worked at the main gate. This year's sponsored event was Magician Kameron who entertained both adults and children with his talents. He performed two shows that left everyone intrigued and made sure everyone left with a smile.

Employees worked at the main gate to raise money for Youth Education on Stage (Y.E.S.). A portion of the money made from entrance fees will go to help the Y.E.S. program.

Youth Education on Stage is the brainchild of Jack Dyville and B. Michael Quale and started back in 1985. This long-running nonprofit theater for the youth of the Williston Basin has provided opportunities for many students who have

gone on to receive degrees in theater and music in colleges across the United States. In addition, many of the alumni have pursued professional theatrical careers as well as have become arts teachers and professors.

Over the years, Y.E.S. has presented at least one production each summer and many Christmas seasons.

In 1999, Y.E.S. was honored to become the first youth theater in North Dakota to compete and win the award for best play from the American Association of Community Theatre in North Dakota. They competed against six community theaters made up of adult casts with their beautiful presentation of Stephen Schwartz's "Children of Eden." In addition to being named as the overall best production, Thomas Golden was named best actor for the role of God and Courtney Bratlien was named best actress for Eve. Additional awards went to Director-Choreographer Jack Dyville and scenic recognition to Matthew Olson and Jeff Olson. They went on to regional competition in Kansas, where they received the outstanding ensemble award and once again scenic recognition to the father and son team, the Olsons.

In 2003, founders Dyville and Quale were honored with the prestigious Governor's Award in Arts for their dedication and continued success with Youth Education on Stage. During the summer of 2005, the theater welcomed back many alumni to participate in a full-scale Broadway presentation of "Cats" for the 25th anniversary.



Co-Founder Bruce Michael Quale was honored for his unselfish devotion to the arts of Williston by winning the 2012 Western Star Award presented by the Williston Area Chamber of Commerce.

And recently, Dyville saw three of his latest scripts produced off-Broadway in New York City, which all had their world premiere at Y.E.S." "Eek! A Mousical," which played three months at Stage 72 and "A Mermaid's Tale," which ran

eight months at the same theater. Both were written with composer/co-lyricist John Stutte. In addition, "A Hansel & Gretel Christmas" ran 10 weeks at New York's Roy Arias Theatre. This latest script has been published by Brooklyn Publishers and, along with 12 other Dyville pieces, is currently available for production. ■

Old Man Winter has definitely shown his presence this year in North Dakota. Many areas throughout the state have seen records broken for snowfall and it looks like there is more to come.



BE PREPARED FOR WINTER

WEATHER

*continued on next page*

Mountrail-Williams Electric Cooperative would like to remind our members to always prepare for inclement weather. Here's how you can prepare for winter storms:

## Know the terms

Know the terms used to describe changing winter weather conditions and what actions to take. These terms can be used to determine the timeline and severity of an approaching storm.

- **Advisory:** The National Weather Service (NWS) issues a winter weather advisory when conditions are expected to cause significant inconveniences that may be hazardous. If caution is used, these situations should not be life-threatening.
- **Watch:** The NWS issues a winter storm watch when severe winter conditions, such as heavy snow and/or ice, may affect your area but the location and timing are still uncertain. A winter storm watch is issued 12 to 36 hours in advance of a potential severe storm. Tune in to NOAA Weather Radio, local radio, TV or other news sources for more information. Monitor alerts, check your emergency supplies, and gather any items you may need if you lose power.
- **Warning:** The NWS issues a winter storm warning when 4 or more inches of snow or sleet are expected in the next 12 hours, or 6 or more inches in 24 hours, or a quarter inch or more of ice accumulation is expected. The NWS may also issue a warning if the storm is expected to hit during high-traffic times, like

rush hour. Stay indoors, and keep warm and dry. Minimize driving.

## Assembling emergency supplies

You may be without power and heat for several days. Have a family discussion; think through what three days without power, water or heat would feel like. Gather the basic supplies your family would need if grocery stores and other services are unavailable, if power, water and gas is interrupted, or if you cannot leave your home. Be sure to review your emergency supplies every fall. Basic emergency supplies should include the following, most of which you probably already have in your home.

- **Water** – Ensure you have at least 1 gallon of water per person per day for at least three days. (Store a longer than three-day supply of water, if possible). An average person needs to drink about 3/4 of a gallon of fluid daily. Individual needs vary depending on age, gender, health, level of activity, food choices and climate. You may also need stored water for food preparation.
- **Food** – Store at least a three-day supply of nonperishable food for members of your household, including pets. Consider special dietary needs (such as infant formula). Include a non-electric can opener for canned food
- **Flashlight, radio and cellphone charger** – You will need to be able to charge these items without electricity. Your flashlight and radio should be either hand-cranked or battery-powered, and stored with extra

batteries. Your cellphone charger should be hand-crank, solar or able to be charged from a car outlet.

- **Medical** – Include first aid kit, prescription and non-prescription/over-the-counter medications, and medical supplies
- **Sanitation** – Pack supplies for sanitation, such as hand sanitizer, towelettes, paper products, diapers and plastic bags, for use when water resources are limited.
- **Assistive technology** – Include battery backup power for power-dependent mobility devices, oxygen and other assistive technology needs.
- **Extra clothing, blankets and sleeping bags** – Dress in layers to keep warm if you lose power. Ensure you have enough clothing, hats, mittens, and blankets or sleeping bags for everyone in the house.
- **Items for snow and ice** – Stock up on rock salt to melt ice on walkways or sand or kitty litter to improve traction and snow shovels or other snow removal equipment.
- **Wood** – Store a supply of dry, seasoned wood if you have a working fireplace or wood-burning stove with a safe flue or vent.

If you do experience an outage, make sure to contact MWEC at 1-800-279-2667. If possible, please have your account or meter number available to help better serve you. ■

# ADVISORY - WATCH - WARNING



## MWEC accepting applications for scholarship program

Each year, Mountrail-Williams Electric Cooperative (MWEC) gives one, \$1,000 scholarship to a dependent of a member. Basin Electric Power Cooperative, our power generation cooperative, provides the funds to all of its member co-ops.

Applicants must be high school seniors enrolled or planning to enroll in a full-time course of study at an accredited two-year or four-year college, university or vocational/

technical school.

Scholarship recipients will be chosen based on a combination of SAT/ACT scores and overall grade point average, work experience, participation in school and community activities, a personal statement of career goals, a written recommendation by a third party and an essay on the topic, "Describe how a strong and united cooperative community supports and serves your hometown."

Applications are available at [www.mwec.com](http://www.mwec.com), at any of our three locations, or by emailing [jessicam@mwec.com](mailto:jessicam@mwec.com)

All applications must be submitted no later than **Feb. 22, 2017**, to:

**Mountrail-Williams  
Electric Cooperative  
Attn: Jessica George  
P.O. Box 1346  
Williston, ND 58802**

-or-

**[jessicam@mwec.com](mailto:jessicam@mwec.com) ■**

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## REASONS TO LOVE your co-op



**1** Cooperatives are **owned by the members**, who actively participate in setting policies and making decisions. Members have equal voting rights and elect their representatives to the board of directors.

**2** COOPERATIVES CARE FOR THEIR COMMUNITIES. Your cooperative employees are involved in the community; they live and work here. Your cooperative supports local endeavors with grants, loans and volunteer time.

**3** **Neighbors helping neighbors.** Electric cooperatives help each other during power outages to restore power as quickly as possible.

**4** **Power of the people.** North Dakotans worked together to bring the brilliance of light to homes, farms and businesses across the state by forming cooperatives.

**5** NOT MAKING A PROFIT. Cooperatives are nonprofit organizations, which means they operate only to provide a service, not to make money for investors. Any margins are returned to the members.

**6** **Cooperatives care for our youth.** Your electric cooperative provides scholarships and sponsors the Youth Tour to Washington, D.C., to develop young leaders in our communities.

**7** **Cooperation among cooperatives.** Cooperatives serve their members most effectively and strengthen the cooperative movement by working together through local, national, regional and international structures. This means you have a voice on the state and national level, too.

**8** **Cooperatives care for the environment.** Basin Electric Power Cooperative has invested more than \$1.5 billion in emissions control technology.

**9** **Cooperatives are innovative.** Your electric cooperative continually implements the latest technology to better serve its members at the lowest cost possible.

**10** **We're here when you need us.** Whether it's restoring power after a Christmas storm or answering a question about saving energy, your cooperative is here to serve you.



# *Snowmobile with care*



Sledding across the snow in a roadside ditch is how many snowmobilers find their fun. But remember, power lines and poles are located along those same roadside ditches. Often, poles are reinforced with guy wires which extend some distance from the poles. They may not be easy to see from a speeding snowmobile, especially on a dark, winter night or when they are buried under snow.

While you are snowmobiling this winter, always ride at a speed at which you can stop quickly. Ease up on the throttle, especially when near any objects.

Know your riding area, too. Watch for guy wires, fences, underground junction boxes or other hazards.

Mountrail-Williams Electric Cooperative cares about your safety

**MWEC** Mountrail-Williams  
Electric Cooperative  
Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

**Regular board meeting  
Dec. 28, 2016**

**Directors present:** Hartsoch, Johnson, Lalim, Haugen and Lynne.

**Directors not present but participating by phone conference:** Grant, Sorenson and Bratvold.

**Directors absent:** Jorgenson.

**Others present:** Manager Haugen, attorney Eiken, in-house counsel Ellis and staff members.

As a result of heavy snows and winds, some board members participated by conference call. The meeting was called to order at 9:35 a.m. Minutes of the Nov. 30 board meeting were approved as presented. The agenda for the meeting was approved as presented.

**Attorney's report:** Attorney Ellis discussed efforts being made to satisfy the compliance reporting requirements. She also discussed the status of substation acquisitions in both counties. There was also a general discussion on policies related to service and meter deposits along with disconnect practices.

**Financial reports:** Jay Lux presented the financial and operating report for the year to date through Nov. 30. Operating revenues are \$212,293,790, the total cost of electric service is \$186,582,669, the operating margins are \$25,711,121, and the total margins are \$28,939,900. TIER is 3.09, the equity level is 30.04 percent and OTIER is 2.86.

**Special equipment/work orders:** The board approved the closeout

of the following special equipment/work order:

Closeout 650 .....	\$2,919,456.78
TOTAL.....	\$2,919,456.78

**Capital credit retirements:** The board approved the retirement of the following capital credit accounts:

Joe Scanlan estate

**Audit services:** The board agreed to sign an agreement with Eide Bailly to prepare the audit of the business records of the cooperative for the operating year 2016.

**Deferred revenue:** To follow up previous board discussions, the board adopted the a resolution related to the revenue deferral plan.

**Manager's report:** Manager Haugen reported the corrected load forecast had been submitted to Basin Electric Power Cooperative and has been accepted. There have been no lost-time accidents in the past month. He reported the new bucket truck will soon be delivered. He showed photos of equipment failures in the last month. He reported the system as a whole has stood up very well during the recent adverse weather conditions.

He presented the final revisions to Rate Class 66, which was then approved by the board.

He also presented a plat of the Plaza substation, showing how the equipment within this substation has been assigned in regards to SPP, Basin Electric and general services.

The revenue chart was shown for the year with a breakdown

for commercial loads, gas plants, residential and other uses. He also had a cost breakdown for SCADA operations in conjunction with Verendrye Electric Cooperative.

**Meeting reports:** Director Grant reported on the North Dakota Association of Rural Electric Cooperatives (NDAREC) and notice of its upcoming annual meeting scheduled for Jan. 17-18 was presented. The annual meeting of the Rural Develop Finance Corporation will be Jan. 18, immediately following adjournment of the NDAREC annual meeting.

Written reports were presented from Upper Missouri Power Cooperative and Basin Electric. A separate written report of the Basin Electric meeting was submitted by Blaine Jorgenson.

**Adjournment:** There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. ■

**MOUNTRAIL-WILLIAMS  
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE**

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DIRECTORS

- Roger Sorenson..... Chairperson
- Robert Grant ..... Co-chairperson
- Blaine Jorgenson .....Secretary
- Cheryl Hartsoch .....Treasurer
- Nick Haugen..... Director
- Larry Johnson..... Director
- Warren Bratvold..... Director
- Aaron Lynne ..... Director
- Garrett Lalim ..... Director
- Neff, Eiken  
& Neff, PC.....Project Attorney
- Dale Haugen .....General Manager

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New Town.....(701) 627-3550  
WATS.....(800) 279-2667

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