

THE NEWSBOY

News for Members of San Luis Valley Rural Electric Cooperative



URGDC Whatever It Takes.

Mike Hurst, President
Shon Davis, Vice President
Cheryl Jones-Seneff, Secretary
Suzanne Benton, Treasurer
Tom Slade, BOD
Forrest Neuerburg, BOD
Ruth Carapella, BOD
TJ Brown, BOD
Marty & Bonnie Asplin, Economic Development Team

One by one businesses began to leave local towns, while stories of criminal activity began to emerge. What would become of our beautiful Valley and the small towns the dot the Rio Grande? Would this be our future? No jobs, no commerce and no place to raise a family?

From these bleak times, the URGDC has emerged as a bright spark. Initially, formed over 10 years ago as a pro-business voice for the Village at Wolf Creek project, their influence has been much greater. It's 7 a.m. in the remod-
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“We’re a coalition of people who believe in possibilities. - Forrest Neuerburg”

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Linemen Achievement

San Luis Valley Rural Electric Cooperative is proud to announce Jacob Cadwell and Ubaldo (Baldo) Aguilera received their Mesa Hotline School Journeymen Certification in February. Baldo journeyed out in the summer of 2014. Jacob and Baldo came to the REC directly out of line school. Baldo joined us in the fall and Jacob followed in December. Both are committed members of the line crew and active members in the organization.

Jacob and Baldo have successfully completed four years consisting of on-the-job training plus additional coursework, in order to achieve their journeymen linemen status. These guys have put in a lot of hard work, come rain or shine to reach their goals and provide our communities with the standard of service offered by SLVREC.

SLVREC is proud to recognize them for their achievements and honored to have them as part our team.



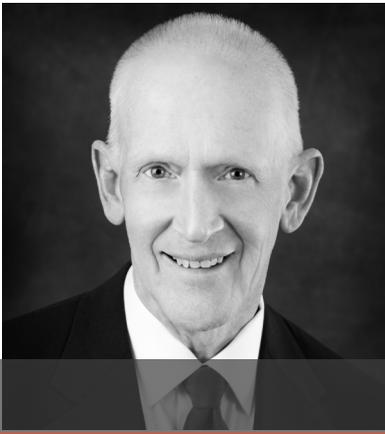
Nomination Positions are Available

SLVREC will hold the cooperative's Annual Meeting on June 9th, 2015. We would like to encourage all members to attend.

In 2015, the positions for Member at Large and Rio Grande County, Districts 1 and 7 will be open. Currently, Mike Rierson is Member at Large and Carol Lee Dugan is the current representative for Rio Grande County.

If you are interested in running for either directors seat, please contact SLVREC to obtain a copy of the nomination petition and to get information on important deadlines. Petitions must be signed by at least 15 members in good standing.

Information regarding the election process is available in the cooperative's bylaws at www.slvrec.com. You may also stop by SLVREC's office in Monte Vista to pick up a copy of the bylaws and a nomination petition or call customer service to have copies mailed to you.



LOREN HOWARD

Considering All Options

Some months ago, SLVREC started a campaign called “What Ever It Takes” to promote a belief with employees and members that the cooperative, your cooperative, will work with diligence, effective communication, leadership, responsiveness and innovation to do our part in making the San Luis Valley a great place to live, work and play. In our campaign of “What Ever It Takes”, it is important to maintain an ever present self evaluation process to ensure you are not just doing everything right, but first doing the right things. Doing the wrong thing perfectly right is worse than doing nothing.

In October, I attended the Solar Power International (SPI) conference and the Colorado Rural Electric Association’s Energy Innovations Summit (EIS). Both of these events provided valuable knowledge and insight in current and future technologies for the production of electricity. SLVREC is a member of Tri-State Generation and Transmission and gets almost all of its electricity from Tri-State. Tri-State owns and operates thousands of megawatts of electric generation and from my perspective does a great job of operating in a changing and increasingly complex industry. Tri-State recognizes the risk of fossil fuel based generation and also continues to diversify its portfolio with renewable energy production. It is also incumbent on SLVREC to assess for itself future generation options and challenges and so the SPI and EIS were great opportunities to stop and learn what might be on the horizon and what is currently available in the generation of electricity.

SLVREC had intended to conduct a charette, an event to fully explore, on solar this

past October, but realizing that the SPI conference was occurring at almost the same time, the charette was postponed to the spring of 2015. Attending the SPI conference was an opportunity to talk with, listen to and interact with many of the businesses active in the solar energy industry. The time spent at the conference will be invaluable to conducting our own event to fully consider solar energy, what is its current state and what will likely be its future state. The CREA EIS was also very informative on current energy innovation efforts such as carbon capture and sequestration and energy storage.

History, even recent history, abounds with examples of businesses and individuals that become so focused on what they do, that “change” just leaves them in the dust, just ask Kodak or a Swiss watch maker. SLVREC in its campaign to do “What Ever It Takes” is also continuing to ask what is changing and what do we need to do to adapt. We are working incredibly hard to do things right and to ensure we are doing the right things. Electricity generated by the wind, the sun and other new technologies are changing our industry’s landscape (pun intended). We are staying with it.



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URGEDC continued

eled dining room of the Windsor Hotel in Del Norte, Colorado. While most people haven't had their first cup of coffee, the URGEDC are energetically making plans for Valley change. The energy of the group is surprising and dynamic. This isn't just another business meeting. "We're infectious, and we know we have the right people to make changes" said Tom Slade, HOA President of South Fork Ranches. "We love this area and want to see it succeed". The URGEDC Board members believe that if it's not them, then who? Under this mission, the group created a Public Private Partnership (PPP). To date 24 Valley businesses have contributed to funding a team to oversee Economic Development. Marty and Bonnie Asplin enthusiastically have taken on this role. Mike Hurst, President of Del Norte Federal Bank and President of URGEDC explains that the goal of this PPP is to "create a one-stop shop for businesses or people moving to the area". "What is the red tape, what are the

obstacles, and how can we help?"

One cannot help but be inspired by the picture they paint. Full retail shops, year round tourism and e-commerce. "A place where families stay, live and thrive," says Cheryl Jones-Seneff, Secretary for URGEDC and Key Accounts Executive with SLVREC.

We are watching a Renaissance occur in the small town of Del Norte that will hopefully expand to other surrounding communities. The Windsor, Three Barrel, and various main street shops have begun drawing people to the town.

SLVREC selected URGEDC as this month's Whatever It Takes organization because they are bucking the status quo in the face of adversity. They are passionate and relentless in their mission in creating new outlets for businesses and families.



CONSERVATION CORNER

Know Your Meter

The basic unit of measure of electric power is the Watt. One thousand Watts are called a kilowatt. If you use one thousand Watts of power in one hour you have used a kilowatt-hour (kWh). Your electric utility bills you by the kWh.

The standard electric power meter is a clock-like device driven by the electricity moving through it. As the home draws current from the power lines, a set of small gears inside the meter move. The number of revolutions is recorded by the dials that you can see on the face of the meter. The speed of the revolutions depends on the amount of current drawn; the more power consumed at any one instant, the faster the gears will rotate.

When reading an electric meter, read and write down the numbers as shown on the dials from right to left. When the pointer is directly on a number, look at the dial to the right. If it has passed zero, use the next higher number. If the dial has not passed zero, use the lower number. Record the numbers shown by writing down the value of the dial to your extreme right first and the rest as you come to them. Should the hand of a dial fall between two numbers, use the smaller of the two numbers.

Note that some newer electric meters use digital displays instead of dials. The difference between one month's reading and the next is the amount of energy units that have been used for that billing period. <http://energy.gov/energysaver/articles/how-read-your-electric-meter>



RECIPES OF THE MONTH

INGREDIENTS

- 1 5-6 lb corned beef, with packet
- 2 lbs small red potatoes
- 1 lbs carrots, peeled and cut in half
- 1 onion, peeled
- 1 head cabbage, divided into 6 wedges

CORNEBEEF AND CABBAGE

Fill a large stock pot with enough water to cover corned beef. Place beef, and contents of seasoning packet if included with purchase, in stock pot and bring to a simmer. Cook for 2 to 3 hours, until a toothpick or wooden skewer can be inserted easily into the meet.

Preheat oven to 200 degrees. Remove beef from water and place in roasting pan with a ladle of cooking liquid. Place in oven to keep warm.

INGREDIENTS

- 1 1/2 cups flour
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 1/2 tsp kosher salt
- 1/4 tsp baking soda
- 1 stick unsalted butter, at room temperature
- 3/4 cup packed light brown sugar
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/4 cup powdered sugar
- 2 large egg yolks
- 1 large egg
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 8 oz Reese's peanut butter cups, coarsely chopped (about 11 full sized ones)
- 1/3 cup coarsely chopped pretzels
- flaky sea salt

REESE'S PEANUT BUTTER CUP PRETZEL COOKIES

Place racks in upper and lower thirds of oven. Preheat oven to 375F. In a large bowl, whisk together flour, baking powder, kosher salt, and baking soda. Set aside. Beat butter with brown sugar, sugar, and powdered sugar for 3-4 minutes, until light and fluffy. Add egg yolks, egg, and vanilla and beat for an additional 4-5 minutes, scraping down the sides as needed. With mixer on low, add dry ingredients, beating just until combined. Use a spatula to fold in pretzels and chopped Reese's peanut butter cups. Spoon rounded tablespoonfuls of cookie dough onto 2 baking sheets lined with parchment paper. Leave 1 inch between cookies. Sprinkle cookies with sea salt. Bake cookies for 10-12 minutes, rotating pans halfway through, just until golden brown on the edges. Allow cookies to cool slightly on baking sheets before transferring to wire racks to cool completely.

- 1/16 teaspoon - dash
- 1/8 teaspoon - a pinch
- 3 teaspoons - 1 Tablespoon
- 1/8 cup 2 tablespoons (= 1 standard coffee scoop)
- 1/4 cup - 4 Tablespoons

- 1/3 cup - 5 Tablespoons plus 1 teaspoon
- 1/2 cup - 8 Tablespoons
- 3/4 cup - 12 Tablespoons
- 1 cup - 16 Tablespoons
- 1 Pound - 16 ounces



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March 2015



9HealthFair

OWN YOUR HEALTH

The 36th annual Monte Vista 9Health Fair is coming soon!
April 10th & 11th 7-11 a.m. each day

We are excited to announce our NEW LOCATION:
Monte Vista High School 295 E Prospect Ave

Another big change:
FASTING IS NOT REQUIRED FOR BLOOD SCREENINGS
Check with your medical provider for recommendations as some tests are affected by not fasting.

As always, drink plenty of water.

In addition to several free on-site screenings, the following tests are available to participants 18 years and older.

BLOOD CHEMISTRY	\$35
BLOOD CELL COUNT	\$20
VITAMIN D SCREENING	\$45
HEMOGLOBIN A1C	\$30
COLON CANCER KIT	\$30
PSA (men only)	\$30

For more information or to register online go to
www.9HealthFair.org

Local Contact: Mary 850-1302

To volunteer at the fair: Nancy 580-5427

SLVREC's offices are open from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
on Monday through Thursday.
Offices are closed Friday through Sunday.

ENERGY ASSISTANCE

866-HEAT HELP (866-432-8435)

<http://www.energyoutreach.org>



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SCHEDULED MEETINGS

Board Meeting March 31st @ 9:30 am.

The Board of Directors meet the last Tuesday of each month unless otherwise stated. Members are welcome.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider