

THE NEWSBOY

News for Members of San Luis Valley Rural Electric Cooperative

“It’s a great relationship to have with the community.”

Thank a Lineman

In the dark, early-morning hours, there are men in hard hats, boots and pole-climbing gear dutifully working. They work in the cold, in the snow and even the star-speckled nights. They work to get the power back on so our members can wake up to lights and warm homes. These are the linemen of REC.

On April 10, we take a moment to say thank you for their commitment to our community. Recently, we took time to get the perspective of these men. What does being a lineman really mean to them?

For Ryan Christensen, it means being part of a trade that requires a skill set not everyone has. “You develop a special bond and closeness with the crews.”

“It’s the sacrifice you and your family make when you are a lineman,” says Randy Magnuson. “You have to answer that call, no matter what time it is. It’s a whole family commitment.”

Baldo Aguilera really feels that being a lineman has shaped him into who he is today. “It helps shape maturity, and we all realize what a great job it is.”

“The pride that comes from seeing all those lights come back on!” says Jeff Henderhan. “When they come up like bright spots on the Valley floor, that’s a good feeling. It’s a great relationship to have with the community.”

For this selfless commitment to REC and our community, we thank our linemen!

THIS ISSUE

[Thank a Lineman](#)

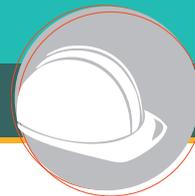
[Company News](#)

[Loren Howard](#)

[Spring Safety](#)

[Recipes](#)

APRIL 2017 | VOLUME 42 | ISSUE 4



AMENDED AND RESTATED BYLAWS OF SAN LUIS VALLEY RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

ARTICLE II - MEETINGS OF MEMBERS

Section 7. Voting. Each member shall be entitled to one vote upon each question submitted to a vote at a meeting of the membership. All questions, to the extent permitted by law, shall be decided by a vote of the majority of the members present. Each member entitled to vote in the election of directors shall vote at the annual meeting or by mail, but not both. Mail voting shall be in writing on ballots provided by the Cooperative. The mail ballot shall be voted by the member, placed in a special envelope provided for the purpose so as to conceal the marking on the ballot, deposited in a return envelope which must be signed by the voting member, and mailed back to the Cooperative. A mail ballot received in a signed return envelope but without a secrecy sleeve or inner envelope is nonetheless valid and shall be counted. Directors shall be elected by a plurality vote of the members. If a member returns a mail ballot, the member shall not be entitled to vote for directors at the meeting. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if the number of people nominated for directors is less than or equal to the number of vacancies, the Board of Directors may determine to eliminate the mail vote for that election and have the directors elected by the members present at the meeting of the members. The board of directors is given the authority to change this bylaw to comply with future changes in Colorado law.

ARTICLE III - DIRECTORS

Section 3. Election and Term of Office. At the annual meeting of the membership, Directors shall be elected by a simple plurality vote from the membership of the Cooperative to serve for a period of four (4) years or until their respective successors have been elected and qualified. The Directors shall be elected by districts which shall be composed of the following:

- District No. 1 - Rio Grande County
- District No. 2 - Costilla County
- District No. 3 - Saguache County
- District No. 4 - Alamosa County
- District No. 5 - Conejos County
- District No. 6 - Mineral/Hinsdale County
- District No. 7 - Member-at-Large

At the annual meeting beginning in 2017, directors shall be elected from Districts No. 3 and 5. Thereafter, one or two directors shall be elected at each annual meeting so that each district has director elections every four years. The rotation for the second year shall be an election for District No. 6, for the third year for Districts No. 1 and 7, for the fourth year for Districts No. 2 and 4, and for the fifth year the cycle begins again for Districts No. 3 and 5. Thereafter, the rotation of elections shall continue in the same sequence.

ARTICLE VIII - INDEMNIFICATION AND LIMITATION OF LIABILITY

Section 11. Limitation of Liability. A director or officer is not liable in that capacity to the Cooperative or its members for any action he or she takes or omits to take as a director or officer if, in connection with such action or omission, he or she performed the duties of the position in compliance with the provisions of Section 7-108-401, C.R.S. In addition, a director or officer shall have the benefit of the same limitations on personal liability for any injury to persons or property arising out of a tort as set forth in Section 7-108-402(2), C.R.S., and such shall not restrict other common-law protections and rights that a director or officer may have, or restrict the Association's right to eliminate or limit the personal liability of a director to the Cooperative or to its members for monetary damages for breach of fiduciary duty as a director as set forth in the Articles of Incorporation of the Cooperative.

Action item that will be included for vote in the 2017 REC Annual Report.



LOREN HOWARD

80th Annual Meeting

We are nearing that time of year again! This year, we usher in our 80th year of lighting the way as your cooperative. Not only have we been the electric cooperative of the San Luis Valley since 1937, but we have also made strides in the field of fiber-optic connectivity and are now embarking on a solar project with a commitment to renewable energy as well as to our members.

The Annual Meeting will be held at the Student Union Building (SUB) on the Adams State University campus, June 13, 2017. Registration will open at 5:30

p.m. with the determination of quorum and start of the business meeting at 7:00 p.m.

There will be an array of appetizers to begin the evening, and door prizes will be handed out. In addition, we have several guest speakers lined up with information on the energy industry. We look forward to seeing you all at this very important gathering of the cooperative membership.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Cole Wakasugi, President
719-379-2629

Carol Lee Dugan, Vice President
719-852-5412

Scott Wolfe, Secretary
719-852-0966

Mike Rierson
719-754-2588

Rick Inman
719-658-2455

Eleanor Valdez
719-274-5680

Keenan Anderson
719-992-1857

Email: power@slvrec.com

Your email will be forwarded based on the direction you provide in your subject line.

CEO

Loren Howard
719-852-6630

SLVREC Office (toll free)
800-332-7634

SLVREC Office (local calls)
719-852-3538

PUBLISHER'S STATEMENT

The Newsboy (publication #551-450) is an official publication of the San Luis Valley Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.; 3625 US Hwy 160 W, Monte Vista, CO 81144. The Newsboy is published monthly for SLVREC's members. Periodical postage paid at Monte Vista, CO 81144. Subscription price \$20/year.

Postmaster, send Form 3579 to NEWSBOY, P.O. Box 3625, Monte Vista, CO 81144-3625.

© 2017 San Luis Valley Rural Electric Cooperative. All rights reserved.

 www.facebook.com/SLVREC

 www.twitter.com/SLVREC



Spring Safety



When temperatures begin to rise, outdoor areas begin to fill with both children and adults enjoying the weather. Take time to explain to your kids how to be safe around electricity before they head outdoors. A review of outside electrical safety can mean the difference between an enjoyable spring day outdoors and life-threatening electrical injuries.

“As spring arrives, it’s a good time to remind children of electrical hazards, as they’ll typically be spending more time outside,” says Amber Sabin, Safe Electricity Advisory Board member. “It’s easy for the electrical equipment that we see every day to fade into the background, but it’s important to always take safety precautions around it.”

Safe Electricity provides the following tips to share with kids when having a conversation about how to stay safe around outdoor electrical equipment.

- Always stress the importance of safety around electrical substations. Never enter an electrical substation for any reason. Even if a pet has entered inside or a ball goes over the fence, do not go in. Call the electrical utility for help. Substations should only be entered by professionals.
- Kites should only be flown during good weather conditions and in large, open areas like a park or a field. Always look up and check for the location of overhead power lines and other electrical equipment, so that you can be sure to fly kites far away from them. A kite string can conduct electricity from an overhead line directly to the person on the ground.
- Before climbing a tree, check that the tree and its branches are not located near any overhead power lines. Climbing a tree in contact with a power line can energize the tree with electricity and lead to electric shock or death.
- Never throw objects at power lines.
- If you ever see downed electrical wires, stay far away. Call 911 to have the utility notified. Downed lines do

not have to be arcing or sparking to be carrying electricity and be very dangerous.

- Do not play with, tamper with, or open outdoor electrical boxes. They contain electrical equipment for underground service to homes and businesses.
- Check the forecast before going outside. Do not plan outdoor activities if a thunderstorm is expected because there is no safe place from lightning when you are outside. It is important to follow the advice of the National Weather Service: “When thunder roars, go indoors.”

In addition to talking to your children about outdoor safety, there are also steps parents and caregivers can take to help ensure safe outdoor play.

- Make sure all outdoor outlets are equipped with ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs) to help prevent electric shock.
- Keep all long handled tools out of reach of children, so they will not be tempted to reach for or accidentally hit an overhead power line.
- Pay attention to trees and power lines. Do not plant trees near them, and if there is a tree that has grown into a power line, make sure to call a professional to trim the tree.





RECIPES OF THE MONTH

INGREDIENTS

- 1 pound fresh chorizo link sausage, casing removed
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 large yellow onion, chopped (about 2 cups)
- 2 medium carrots, chopped (about 1 cup)
- 1/2 pound small red potatoes, chopped
- 3 garlic cloves, minced
- 1 teaspoon paprika
- 1 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1 tablespoon tomato paste
- 2 (15-oz.) cans great Northern beans, drained and rinsed
- 1 (32-oz.) container reduced-sodium chicken broth
- 1/2 cup fresh parsley leaves, chopped

Chorizo and White Bean Soup

Cook chorizo in a Dutch oven over medium-high, stirring constantly, until browned and crumbled, about 8 minutes. Drain well on paper towels. Wipe Dutch oven clean.

Heat oil in Dutch oven over medium-high. Add onions and next 5 ingredients, and sauté until tender, about 5 minutes. Stir in tomato paste and cook 1 minute, stirring often.

Increase heat to high. Add beans, chicken broth, and chorizo, and bring to a boil. Reduce heat to medium-low, and simmer, stirring occasionally and skimming off any fat from the top, 20 minutes. Stir in parsley and serve immediately.

INGREDIENTS

- 6 large egg yolks
- 1 cup (7 oz.) granulated sugar
- 1/2 cup (2.25 oz.) all-purpose flour
- 1/4 teaspoon table salt
- 3 cups half-and-half
- 2 tablespoons (1 oz.) salted butter
- 1/4 teaspoon coconut extract
- 3 teaspoons vanilla extract, divided
- 3 cups heavy cream
- 1/2 cup (2 oz.) powdered sugar
- 1 (11-oz.) package vanilla wafers
- 6 small ripe bananas, sliced 1/4 to 1/2 inch

Coconut-Banana Pudding

Whisk egg yolks in a medium bowl until thick and lemon colored (about 1 minute).

Stir together sugar, flour, and salt in a large heavy saucepan; gradually whisk in half-and-half. Whisking constantly, bring mixture just to a boil over medium (about 8 to 10 minutes). Remove from heat.

Gradually whisk about one-fourth of hot sugar mixture into yolks; gradually add yolk mixture to remaining hot sugar mixture, whisking constantly. Return to heat; cook over medium, whisking constantly, 1 minute. Remove from heat, and whisk in butter, coconut extract, and 2 teaspoons vanilla extract. Transfer to a medium bowl and place plastic wrap directly on warm filling; cool completely (about 2 hours).

Beat cream and remaining 1 teaspoon vanilla at medium-high speed with an electric mixer until foamy; gradually add powdered sugar and beat until medium peaks form.

Reserve 12 vanilla wafers. Arrange half of remaining wafers in 1 layer in the bottom of a 3 1/2- to 4-quart bowl. Top with half of banana slices, half of custard, and half of whipped cream. Repeat layers once. Top with crumbled reserved wafers.

Periodical Postage
Paid at Monte Vista, CO



POWERING A VITAL VALLEY

P.O. Box 3625
Monte Vista, CO 81144

April 2017

Celebrating

80 Years



POWERING OUR COMMUNITY

SLVREC's office is open from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Monday through Thursday.
The office is closed Friday through Sunday.

ENERGY ASSISTANCE
866-HEAT HELP (866-432-8435)
www.energyoutreach.org

SCHEDULED MEETINGS
Board Meeting—April 25 @ 9:30 a.m.
The Board of Directors meets the last Tuesday of each
month unless otherwise stated. Members are welcome.

This institution is an equal opportunity employer.

Your Touchstone Energy[®]
Cooperative 

