



# APDA Southwest Wire

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## Next APDA Meeting

The Fall 2006 meeting will be held mile high in Denver, Colorado on September 19-21, 2006. For information, check the APDA website or contact Michele Wynne at (310) 341-9072.

## APDA Dues

Time to pay your 2006 APDA membership dues. The dues are \$21/year. For more information, contact Sandy at [SDeweese@nevpa.com](mailto:SDeweese@nevpa.com).

## Contact Us

[www.apdasouthwestarea.org](http://www.apdasouthwestarea.org)

## A Message From the President

By Jesus Martinez, Southwest Area President

I would like to thank all of our member organizations that turned in their membership dues for 2006. Currently, we are nearing 400 APDA members for the Southwest Area. For those organizations still needing assistance with our membership process, please e-mail an area officer for immediate assistance.

The Spring 2006 meeting in San Diego, California was a big success. We had over 35 members in attendance for our business meeting and over 50 attendees overall. The training provided was excellent and provided members in attendance with many hours of EOPS training. I would like to thank all of our sponsors and speakers for helping us to provide our members with a quality program. Above all, I would like to commend our Southwest Area Vice President – Michele Wynne for her efforts in planning and coordinating our spring meeting.

On behalf of our southwest area members, I would like to congratulate our Southwest Area APDA Scholarship winners: First Place Janice Unrast, daughter of Daniel Unrast and Runner Up Jeremy Miller, son of Robert Peter Miller. I would like to thank all of our applicants and wish you all great success in your future studies.

Finally, I would like to remind our members that our Fall 2006 Southwest Area APDA meeting will be held in Denver, Colorado September 19-21, 2006. Please assist your fellow officers in making this meeting a huge success. Our goal is to have all of our member organizations represented. I look forward to working with all of you toward achieving our goal.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jesus Martinez  
Southwest Area  
APDA President

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## Spring 2006 Meeting Offered Training

The Spring 2006 meeting was held March 8<sup>th</sup> through the 10<sup>th</sup> at the Catamaran Hotel in Mission Bay San Diego. 43 delegates representing 25 companies attended the meeting. The meeting program included a golf tournament, guest speakers, 10 hours of training and a banquet. Between activities delegates, speakers and their companions relaxed at

the **Tesla Forecasting** sponsored hospitality suite.

**Shell Trading (Corel Energy)** hosted the pre-meeting golf tournament at the Riverwalk golf course. The winning group of McCartney, Byrnell, Shipe, & Pike shot an eight under par 64! Rod Byrnell from British Columbia had the longest drive. Closest to the pin honors go to Steve Groeneveld from APS.



The meeting began on Thursday with presentations on the new Operator Recertification process by Michele Wynne, Bob Schwermann from SMUD provided an update on the organizations coordinating the electric market rules. This was followed by an update on the California ISO market by J.P. Harper of The Structure Group.

The APDA business meeting was held after lunch. voltage collapse training followed the meeting. The training was provided by Robin Podmore of Incremental Systems and Matt Sadinsky of SOS International.

Friday as always was Training Day. Steve Blume of Applied Professional Training, Inc provided emergency related training on backup control centers and the transmission characteristics impacting reliability.

**Applied Professional Training** sponsored publication of the training notes.

APDA Scholarship Raffle was held during the banquet on Friday. Will and Rene Casias from PNM held the winning grand price ticket and received two airlines tickets donated by **Southwest Airlines**.



A big thank you goes out to our meeting sponsors. Tesla Forecasting again sponsored the hospitality suite. Applied Professional Training printed name tags and the meeting training manual. Shell Trading (Corel Energy) sponsored the golf tournament. Southwest Airlines provided the scholarship raffle grand prize.



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## APDA Awards Two Scholarship

Each spring, the Southwest and National scholarships are offered to high school graduating seniors of APDA members. This year we have two winners.

For 2006, the first place award of a \$1,000 scholarship goes to Janice M. Unrest daughter of APDA member Daniel R. Unrest of AEPSCO. The second place award of a \$500 scholarship goes to Jeremy M. Miller son

of APDA member Robert Peter Miller of WAPA-SNR. Congratulations to both Dan and Jeremy.

A reminder that the Southwest Scholarship is open to graduating high school seniors of APDA members in good standing. All SW members are also eligible to apply for the National Scholarship. Check the SW and National website for more information.

As many of you know, the Scholarship is funded through a raffle at the Spring and Fall SW meetings. The items raffled are donated by our companies and interested vendors. Other vendors, including Tesla Forecasting, have assisted through the purchase of raffle tickets.

Application for the 2006 scholarship must be postmarked by April 10, 2006 and received by April 15th. See website for application and rules.

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## Southwest Area Trustee Report

By Darlene Wright

The National Fall 2005 meeting was held Sept. 14 through 16 in Wenatchee, Washington.

The new Treasurer is still in the process of getting all the accounts and paperwork transferred over from the past Treasurer, so no Treasurer's report was given at this time.

The National officers received a note from James Ford to let them know that none of the system operators in the New Orleans, Biloxi, or Gulf Port areas lost their lives when hurricane Katrina hit, but some lost everything else. The National approved donating \$5000 to help System Operators in the affected areas. The Southeast Area Trustee, Dan Bucklen, will take care of submitting the money to the SE Area APDA officers.

Michele Wynne has volunteered to be the National Log Editor. Discussed putting the Log on-line including a directory of member's names and the company they work for, but no contact info. Any contact can be made through the Area's Secretary.

The National will be buying APDA banners for the Areas. SE Area Trustee is working with Ambassador at Large Larry Bellnap on finding a place to get them made.

There was a discussion on how to handle the membership status of APDA Life Members who have retired from one company and then gone back to work for another utility. Would they then have to pay dues again? The whole premise of having Life Members be dues exempt was because of the lower income most would have after retiring. On the other hand, once a member retires and gets their Life Member status and plaque, would it be fair to revoke it? How would this be kept track of? The National was leaning more towards allowing them to keep their Life Member status in whatever Area they retired in, but they wanted to hear from the Areas about it.

A discussion was brought up about how APDA could assist in promoting the System Operator career to the younger population. Perhaps by being a contact point and/or providing resources when requested, and attending events where different careers are presented to high schools, etc. A committee was formed to start studying careers in System Operations. So far, Matt Sadinsky & Robin Podmore from SOS International, and Michelle Wynne, Southwest Area Vice President, have

volunteered for this committee.

The next National APDA Meeting will be held in Calgary, Alberta Canada during the second week of June, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene Wright - Southwest Area Trustee

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## Fall 2006 Meeting in Denver

The Fall 2006 APDA meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn Denver City Center on September 19 through the 21, 2006. The program is still in its initial stages. So far we have lined up the following activities:

- Team Building session on Wednesday for early arrivers
- Thursday's activities in the APDA Business meeting. We are also planning a special presentation.
- Friday is Training Day. This time we will focus on the new Cyber Security Reliability Standards.

Hotel registration information is posted on the website:

<http://www.apdasouthwestarea.org/>

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## Spring 2007 Meeting in Arizona

The Spring 2007 meeting is scheduled for May in the Phoenix area. The meeting is being hosted by APS, SRP and Tucson.