



APDA Southwest Wire

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APDA Meetings

The Spring 2006 meeting will be held in beautiful San Diego, California on March 8-10, 2006. For more information, 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.

Contact Us

www.apdasouthwestarea.org

APDA Scholarship Program

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

First place was awarded to Jada Hollins. Jada is the daughter of Gary Hollins with the city of Glendale, CA. She is attending U.C. Davis. Jada is also the recipient of the National Scholarship Award.



Second place was awarded to Katrina Hall. Katrina is the daughter of Richard Hall with WAPA. She is attending the University of Colorado at Boulder.

Congratulations to both Jada and Katrina.

A reminder that the 2006 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.

At the Spring 2006 meeting in San Diego, we will have a new sponsor. **Southwest Airlines is donating two round trip tickets** to raffle for our Scholarship Fund.



The winner can use the tickets to travel to our Fall 2006 meeting in Denver.

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

Fall 2005 Meeting Offered Training

The Fall 2005 meeting hosted by **SMUD, WAPA, and NCPA** and co-sponsored by **The City of Riverside, CAISO** and **Tesla** was held in Sacramento, California on October 11-13. Members from more than a dozen companies received two days of speakers and training. On Speakers Day activities included presentations from sponsor Tesla Forecasting and our training vendors Electric Power Training Center

(EPTC) and Operator Educational Services-North America (OES-NA). Bill Ellard and Sanja Dutta provided an update on the status of system operator certification and Continuing Education Hours.

The training presentations included:

- NCPA on Off-Nominal Frequency Operations
- PG&E on WECC's 500 kV RAS
- EPTC on Switching
- OES-NA the NERC Standards that Address Reliability

Throughout the meeting, raffle tickets were sold to benefit the Scholarship fund. The grand prize winner was Jeff McDonald from IID. Jeff won a training certificate from EPTC. Jeff is shown accepting his certificate flanked by Bradley Nickell and Charlie Gray of EPTC with APDA President, Jesus Martinez, on Charlie's left.



Many thanks to SMUD, WAPA and NCPA for an excellent meeting.

A Message from the President

By Jesus Martinez, Southwest Area President

I would like to emphasize my sincere gratitude to all the member organizations of APDA in the southwest. The Southwest Area is currently comprised of over 375 members from over 30 companies stretching from California to Texas. During 2005, we have had two successful business meetings in Riverside and Sacramento with 16 hours of NERC CE training provided to all members in attendance. I would like to thank all the vendors who have assisted us by providing our members with excellent information and I look forward to working with all of you in the near future. Our meeting hosts and sponsors from the California ISO, NCPA, City of Riverside, SMUD, Tesla and WAPA-SNR should be commended for their efforts.

During the Fall 2005 meeting in Sacramento, Ca. the Southwest Area APDA members adopted the following goals for 2006:

1. Increase membership over 2005 levels by 10%.
2. Collect all 2006 membership dues by March 01, 2006.
3. Send out all 2006 membership cards by March 31, 2006.
4. Promote two successful meetings in 2006 (Spring & Fall).
5. Develop accurate contact person list by January 01, 2006.
6. Continue to provide scholarships for our youth in 2006.
7. Create and distribute a minimum of 2 newsletters in 2006.
8. Increase meeting membership to a minimum of 35 members per meeting in 2006.
9. Provide a minimum of 16 hours of NERC CE hours at meetings in 2006.
10. Have area trustee or other area officer attend all National meetings in 2006.

As President, I look forward to working with all of our members to achieve these goals during the coming year. I will be working with

your APDA contact person to keep all of you informed of the activities we have planned. For pictures of past meetings and new details of upcoming meetings, please visit the National APDA website at www.apda.org. I hope to see a minimum of 1 representative from each member company in the southwest at the Southwest Area Spring APDA meeting March 8-10, 2006 in San Diego, California. Please join your area officers in helping to make our spring meeting a huge success.

Electric Cooperatives Buy Aquila's Kansas Electric Network

From the Sunflower webpage

On September 21, 2005 Mid-Kansas Electric Company (MKEC), LLCs announced its proposal to purchase the Kansas Electric Network properties. MKEC is a coalition of six rural electric cooperatives serving in western Kansas who organized themselves for the purpose of acquiring the Kansas Electric Network. The cooperatives also own Sunflower Electric Power Corporation, a generation and transmission service provider.

The Kansas Electric Network, commonly known as WestPlains-Kansas, includes a customer base of 68,500 located in or near 176 communities in 32 counties in central and western Kansas. The Kansas Electric Network operates 1,083 miles of high-voltage transmission line, and 5,348 miles of distribution line. The network also includes 608 megawatts of natural gas, coal-fired and wind generating capacity at six central and western Kansas locations.

The Kansas Electric Network customers will receive retail electric service from MKEC through the six cooperatives that will provide both operations and maintenance services throughout the service area.

David Jesse, MKEC Board Member and CEO for Pioneer Electric Cooperative said, "We will be able to improve the reliability of the services provided, because we will have six co-ops and Sunflower to meet the needs of the Kansas Electric Network customers. If emergency repairs are needed during storm outages, we will have seven companies capable of supplying replacement parts and employees, if necessary."

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. 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.

Michelle 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 what to do about 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.

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

Editor's Note. We received the following email from a recipient of the Katrina donation:

Bob [Wesselink, APDA National President], just wanted to say how very much my family and I appreciate your warm regards and relief check. It has been probably the toughest thing we ever have had to endure, but your thoughtfulness has warmed our hearts. We will never forget,

Greg A. Marbury

Ocean Springs, Mississippi

Spring 2006 Meeting in San Diego

The Spring 2006 APDA meeting will be held at the Catamaran Hotel in Mission Bay, CA on March 8-10, 2006. The program is still in its initial stages. So far we have lined up the following activities:

- Team Building session for early arrivers
- Thursday's activities in the APDA Business meeting and a presentation on Market interfaces and commercial activities from Bob Schwermann from SMUD
- Friday's Training Day includes Backup Control Centers and Transmission Characteristics Impacting Reliability presented by Steve Blume from Applied Professional Training.

Hotel registration information is posted on the website:

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