



APDA Southwest Wire

November 2009

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Future APDA Meetings

Spring 2010 APDA Meeting co-hosted with NW in Vancouver, WA (near Portland, OR) May 25 - 28

2010 APDA Dues

APDA membership dues are \$21/year

APDA Scholarship

See SW and National websites for applications. New SW scholarship for college students available.

Contact Us

www.apdasouthwestarea.org

Newsletter Editor

Fall 2009 Meeting in Lake Tahoe

The California ISO hosted the Fall 2009 meeting in conjunction with the Northwest at Harrah's Hotel and Casino at Lake Tahoe, NV on September 16 - 17, 2009.

Wednesday was dedicated to NERC training. The morning session covered critical thinking and management of operations staff delivered by Richard Sikes of OES-NA. The material was enlivened with examples from the aviation industry and group discussions.

In the afternoon, Zack Allen from Bismarck State College covered a range of topics. He demonstrated some of the interactive learning tools in development at Bismarck. One topic of great interest was a short presentation on variable frequency transformers (VFT), a phase shifting transformer that can continuously adjust the phase angle. Hydro-Quebec installed one in 2004, a second was installed in Texas in 2007 and a third in New Jersey is scheduled for operation in late 2009.

Our time on Thursday morning was split between weather and voltage control. Tom Dunklee, a weather consultant, provided an excellent overview of the El Niño weather phenomenon and his weather prediction for late 2009. George Noller from SCE reviewed voltage control devices and methods and major voltage collapse incidents.

The SW Business meeting was held on Thursday afternoon. Pat McCormick, Area Secretary, read the minutes. Michele Wynne, Area Treasurer reported that as of September, the Southwest had 339 members.

Under new business, both the newsletter editor and the secretary will endeavor to publish their materials sooner. Gayle Taylor of Avista is the Area webmaster. Jeff Litticote will review the website content and provide changes to Gayle. Jesus reminded the membership that the Southwest is next in line to take on the National responsibilities. Larry asked for volunteers to host the Spring meeting. Several suggestions were put forth for follow-up.

Mark MacKenzie thanked Larry and the CAISO for hosting the meeting.

APDA SW Account Balance as of Sept 14, 2009	
General Fund	\$13,853.05
Promotional Fund	\$201.05
Scholarship Fund	\$7,013.39
Meeting Fund	-\$404.82

Letter From Your President

Hello and Happy Holiday Season to all our APDA members.

It is hard to believe it has been a year since the new set of officers took office and it has been a busy one. Along with daily business, your officers have been working to correct several issues.

The first and biggest are future meetings and I want to say we have been struggling to get meeting lined up. Normally we have meetings set up for two years or more in advance, but now we can't seem to get the next one set. I know that times are difficult and companies are cutting back, so we are trying to be creative.

We have teamed up with the Northwest Area in the past and the Fall 2009 meeting in South Lake Tahoe was a great example of how well this can work. I think everyone who attended had a good time and the training was well received. We will join with the Northwest Area again for the Spring meeting in Vancouver, Washington. With this said, we still need hosts for all future meeting starting in Fall 2010.

If anyone would like to step up, raise their hand and host a meeting, let one of the officers know, soon please. We could use the help. I would sure hate to cancel a meeting because we could not find someone to help host it.

The second issue we faced was the website. Our past Webmaster was sick and we need to find a new one, so the search was on. Gayle from the Avista was the NW Webmaster stepped up and is doing a great job of making sure the data we send her is put on the site in a timely manner. We also realized that the site needed a thorough going over and Jeff from WAPA Sacramento took charge and is working with Gayle to correct any and all issues. If you would like information added to the site, let one of us know.

You all know this organization has been around for more than 60 years and has had thousands of members, but right now we need just a few to step up help us out. Again, we need hosts for future meetings and in the not so distant future we will need a new slate of officers. If we can get enough, we might even bring the National Officers back to the Southwest Area.

The Holiday Season is upon us, Halloween just blew by and Thanksgiving and Christmas will be here soon. Let's make it a safe and happy time of the year. Remember to check the website for important information and future meetings dates and places and if you have any ideas or comments, let us know.

Bye for now.

Larry Bellnap, Southwest Area President

Southwest Scholarship News

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

For 2009, the first place award of a \$1,250 scholarship goes to Jessica M. Rivera granddaughter of APDA member James L. Jones from SW Transco. The second place award of a \$750 scholarship goes to Tracy A Fosterling step daughter of APDA member Lawrence Linsen of PNM - Reliability. Congratulations to both Jessica and Tracy.

A reminder that the Southwest Scholarship is open to graduating high school seniors of APDA members in good standing. They 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 2010 scholarship must be postmarked by April 10, 2010 and received by April 15th.

See website for application and rules.

Mark MacKenzie, APDA-SW Scholarship Chair

Southwest Area Member News

Company News.

WAPA-SNR are in the process of installing Ariva EMS. They hope to go live in October. WAPA and SMUD are collaborating to loop two SMUD lines through the Folsom substation. They also placed a new substation in service to serve Trinity County PUD customer load.

WAPA-Loveland developing long-term consolidation plans with WAPA-Phoenix.

California ISO is operating under their new MRTU market.

Riverside is going to two people per shift.

Transpower New Zealand is installing new Ariva EMS and Market software.

Retirements

Larry Belchef, a PNM system operator retired. He was a dispatcher for about 9 years.

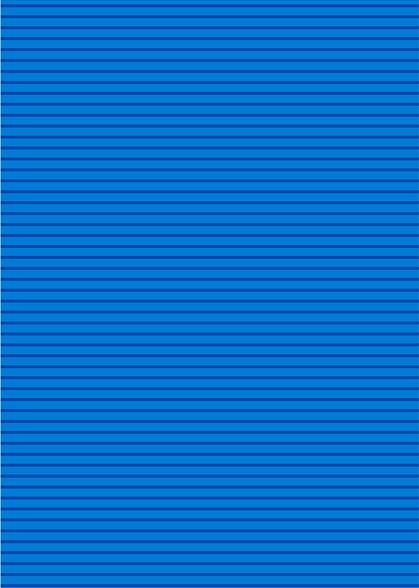
Bob Miller, WAPA-SNR Chief Dispatcher retired after 30 years with the Federal government. Bob was a long time APDA member and supporter.

Sickness and Deaths

Chuck Howell, long time APDA member and past Southwest President, passed away after a long fight with cancer. Jim Johnson and Gary Bradshaw from Riverside passed away.

National Meeting News

The Spring 2009 National Meeting was held in Atlanta Georgia on May 26, 2009. Jeanne Hunter from Southern Company Services was appointed chair of the National Scholarship Committee. The



membership voted to increase the National funding for CEH's at area meetings from \$500 to \$1,000 beginning with the Fall 2009 meetings. The \$1000 is in addition to the \$500 general meeting support that the National provides.

Future Meetings

The PacifiCorp will be hosting a joint NW/SW Spring 2010 meeting at Harrah's Hotel in Vancouver, WA May 25 - 28, 2010.

If you are interested in hosting a meeting in 2010 or 2011, please contact Larry Bellnap at LBellnap@caiso.com or Sandy Dewees at sdewees@nvenergy.com.