

Sheridan Electric Cooperative

# LiveWire

Sheridan Electric Cooperative - Medicine Lake, Mont. 406-789-2231

## WHAT'S INSIDE?

- Annual meeting highlights
- Water heater components
- Statistical report

## Annual meeting highlights

BY SCOTT WESTLUND

The 2016 annual meeting is now in the books and we look toward 2017. These are some highlights from the meeting.





# The components of your water heater

BY SCOTT WESTLUND

**H**eating water for your homes and businesses is one of the top five uses of electricity anyone can have. The components of a water heater (tank type) are so basic that you would be surprised.

This is a cutaway illustration of a Marathon water heater that your cooperative markets for you. As you can see, there are very few parts to this unit, thus it is easy to install and troubleshoot. If you were to list the basic parts, your list would consist of:

- One top and one bottom element
- One top and one bottom thermostat
- A drain valve at the bottom
- A pressure relief valve at the top

Your water heater normally is a 220-amp power source. With this, each thermostat is powered and tied into your elements. The thermostats work together to keep your water hot. The top element does the majority of the work when maintaining the temperature desired. When the temperature is reached, it will turn off and the bottom one will start to maintain the temperature.

Of all these simple parts, the best maintenance anyone can do to with their water heater is to turn it off and drain it once a year, as this pulls any contaminants, such as iron buildup and other minerals, away from the elements. ■



## It's scholarship time

**E**very year, one of Sheridan Electric Cooperative's goals is to assist in the development of young people by investing in their continuing education.

Scholarships are the fundamental beginning to helping young folks attain their goals after graduation. This enables them to give back to the communities what the communities have invested. These young folks are our future and our legacies, so these basic functions of your cooperative not only support the region, they also develop leaders for the future governance of the cooperative.

This year, Sheridan Electric Cooperative will have the Sheridan Electric scholarship (which is targeted to members' children only), the Lineworker Scholarship (both member and non-member children within the

service territory), and the Electrician Scholarship (both member and non-member children within the service territory).

We also facilitate the Basin Electric Power Cooperative and Montana Electric Cooperatives' Association (MECA) scholarship, which is also targeting Sheridan Electric member young people.

In late October, Scott Westlund will be meeting with this target audience and personally talking to students about the opportunities offered through the scholarship program.

These scholarship forms will also be available on the cooperative website at [www.sheridanelectric.coop](http://www.sheridanelectric.coop). ■

# Lighting to be given away

In the spirit of efficiency, Sheridan Electric Cooperative is giving away compact fluorescent lights (CFLs) each month. Each month's winner will receive 24 new CFL bulbs. A CFL produces the same amount of light for less than half the cost. The bulbs also produce about 75 percent less heat, so they are safer to operate. They can also last up to 10 times longer than the standard incandescent bulb. You could save \$80 a year by switching to CFLs throughout your home!

So this month, take a moment to complete and mail the coupon. Maybe you'll be this month's lucky winner and save on your energy costs. Good luck! ■

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Account number: \_\_\_\_\_

Congratulations to **Ron Dahle** for winning this month's light giveaway.



## Sheridan Electric Cooperative STATISTICAL REPORT

	September 2015	September 2016
Total miles of line	2,810	2,833
Consumers billed	3,048	3,083
Kilowatt-hours purchased	8,550,572	8,967,782
Kilowatt-hours sold	8,343,320	8,247,610
Average KWH per residential consumer	813	822
Average bill per residential consumer	\$90.85	\$105.00
Cost of purchased power	\$419,734	\$534,366
Margins year to date	\$2,982,743	\$2,617,859

### LINE DEPARTMENT STATS

	September 2015	September 2016
Weather	6	9
Age or deterioration	0	3
Animals and public	5	3
Power supplier	0	0
Equipment	10	0

### SUMMARY OF WORK COMPLETED

	September 2015	September 2016	Year to date
Pole installations	17	16	106
New construction	13,721 ft.	451 ft.	47,411 ft.
Miles driven	24,642	27,731	165,530
New accounts	12	5	40
Accounts retired	0	3	27

### SHERIDAN ELECTRIC CO-OP

Medicine Lake, Mont. 59247  
406-789-2231

#### TRUSTEES

Wayne Deubner, President..... Brockton, Mont.  
 Rod Smith, V. President..... Dagmar, Mont.  
 Rob Rust, Sec. .... Alkabo, N.D.  
 Kerrey Heppner, Treas..... Plentywood, Mont  
 Alan Danelson, Trustee ..... Scobey, Mont.  
 Andrew Dethman, Trustee ..... Brockton, Mont.  
 Rick A. Hansen, Trustee ..... Froid, Mont.  
 Warren Overgaard, Trustee ..... Westby, Mont.  
 Harlan Skillingberg, Trustee..... Plentywood, Mont.

#### EMPLOYEES

Rick Knick ..... Manager  
 Riley Tommerup ..... Office Mgr./Accountant  
 Scott Westlund ..... Marketing/Member Service Manager  
 Pam Lund ..... Billing Supervisor  
 Jamie Ator ..... Accountant  
 Lisa Salvevold ..... Office Assistant  
 Torie Waller ..... Work Order Clerk  
 Kory Opp ..... Line Superintendent  
 Bryan Lenz ..... Line Foreman  
 Nick Oelkers ..... Staking Tech  
 Tim Ereth ..... Operator/Utilityman  
 Josh Johnson ..... Electrical General Foreman  
 Tom Hinds ..... Electrical Foreman  
 Steve Augustine ..... Line Sub Foreman  
 Tristan Ereth ..... Apprentice Electrician  
 Ronnie Gillett ..... Journeyman Lineman  
 Dan Roeder ..... Journeyman Lineman  
 Shawn Sansaver ..... Journeyman Lineman  
 Josh Marottek ..... Apprentice Lineman  
 Bill Baillie ..... Apprentice Lineman  
 Josh Ming ..... Apprentice Lineman  
 Jim Bakken ..... Material Specialist  
 Vicky Haddix ..... Custodian

OUTAGES • CALL 24 HOURS A DAY

406-789-2231

OFFICE HOURS: 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Monday through Friday

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative