

Niobrara Electric Association

25th year 7th Issue

August 2013

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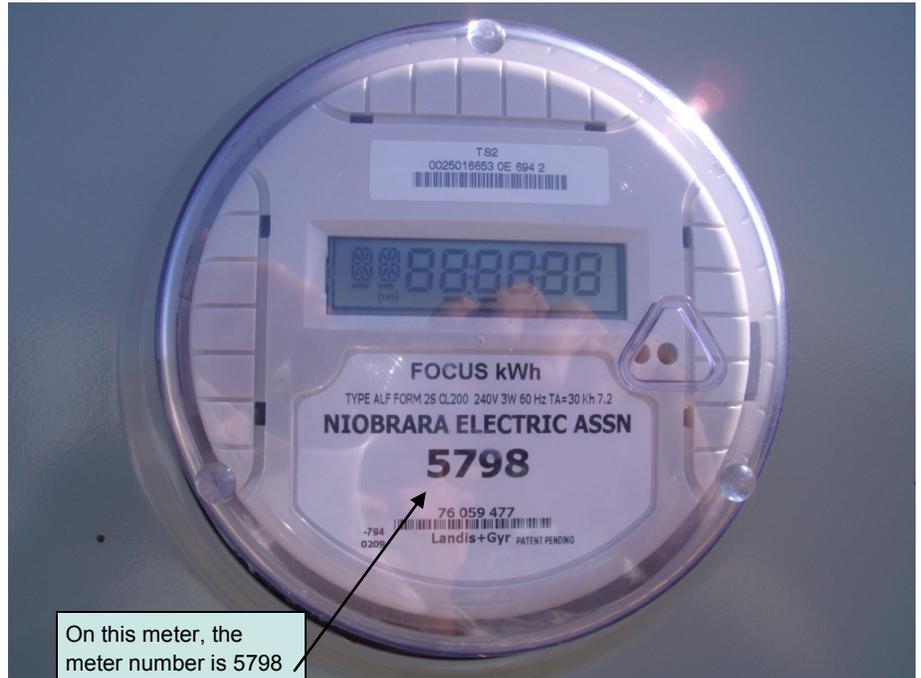
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Congratulation NEA Journeyman/Meter Tech Brandon Arnold and wife, Jennifer, on the birth of their second child, Cannon Arnold.



Descriptions for each of your services is helpful and if you currently do not have descriptions for each of your services, we encourage you to call in with them so they can be properly entered into the computer system. However, even more important for timely and accurate response to outages and service calls, is knowing your meter number.

Your billing statement(s) have individual meter numbers on them. Also, the number can be found on the meter's face. Familiarize yourself with your meter numbers and please use the number when calling in an outage or service request.



On this meter, the meter number is 5798 and can be clearly seen on the "meter face." Many of the meters will have a four digit number, as this one does. However, you may find longer numbers.

Two New Linemen Join the NEA Crew

Welcome Justin Huston (left) and Jared Damron (right).



NEA is pleased to announce our line crews are now back to normal working size, after having been short handed for a couple of years, with two men again in Harrison and six men now in Lusk.

Justin has settled in the Harrison area and is stationed out of the outpost shop in Harrison. Jared is joining the Lusk community and is stationed out of the Lusk shop. Both gentlemen have attained their Journeyman cards and are excited to begin new chapters in their lives doing the work they enjoy.

Please continue to contact the NEA office with current cell phone numbers and other contact information. Our attempts to contact you are only as good as the information we are provided.



Congratulations to Rick Scott on passing his second year Apprentice Lineman course.

Rick now enters into his third year and level of apprenticeship training. Testing and field work will continue to increase in difficulty as he continues, but Rick is up to the challenge, has performed well thus far, and is eager to see it through to completion.

According to Line Superintendent Rick Bridge, "Ricky is doing a nice job for NEA and is good with hands-on-work."



It is still Summer, but all too soon August will be gone, kids will be back in school, and Fall projects will be demanding attention. As Fall sets in projects tend to accumulate so, if you will be needing the services of our electricians for any of your projects, please contact NEA as soon as you have your plans together so you can get scheduled. The same holds true for projects concerning our line crew, as jobs often bunch up in the rush to get it done before winter weather begins.

Upcoming news...

We hope to bring you news in the September issue of a new option in bill payment. We are pursuing Electronic Funds Transfer as an option, as many of you have asked for more ways to pay your bills.

Currently, we are in the set up and trial stage. If all goes well, you will be reading more information about this form of payment next month.

Also, new sections of line are planned for Fall construction. One large and important rebuild will be done from Lusk to Manville. This much needed project stems from the line being a main tie line, with 50 years of age on it. The new line will also have heavier conductors for better supply to the increasingly large loads around the Shawnee area.



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Touchstone EnergySM

Office Hours

Monday—Thursday

7:30 am—5:00 pm

Fridays 7:30 am—
4:00 pm

Electricians Department

7:00 am—5:30 pm (M-F)

Outages1-800-322-0544
or 307-334-3221

Phones are answered 24 hours a day. Phones will be answered by Niobrara Electric Association during office hours and the Niobrara County Sheriff's office will take all other calls and dispatch NEA personnel.

SUMMER ELECTRICAL SAFETY 101!

- Kids love climbing trees in the summer, but they should never climb trees that are too close to power lines. Even if the tree isn't touching the line, the extra weight from someone climbing the tree could cause a branch to touch a line.
- When trimming trees look up! If a tree is near a power line please call your local electrical utility and they will trim the tree for you.
- Keep all electrical toys and appliances away from water. This means pools, sprinklers, etc.
- Make sure electrical connections to your pools and hot tubs are fully grounded.
- Play with kites, model aircraft, and other airborne toys in wide open places away from power lines.
- Always be aware of power lines. It is all too common for tractors, bailers, and other equipment to be driven through them. If this does happen, call your local utility immediately!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

District

John Hester	1	Keeline, WY	President
Andy Barnette	2	Lusk, WY	
David Keener	3	Marsland, NE	Sec./Treas
Bill Wilson	3	Harrison, NE	
Jack Hammond	1	Lance Creek, WY	
Jim Dunn	3	Harrison, NE	
Kenny DeGering	2	Lusk, WY	
Andy Greer	1	Lance Creek, WY	
JD Wasserburger	2	Lusk, WY	Vice President

Boardroom News

June Board Meeting

- Manager Ceaglske reported on various topics including the following: hiring new linemen, NRECA prepayment, maintenance around the campus, the house project, and OneOk.
- Attorney John Skavdahl discussed collection issues, letters of credit, and progress on the CoBank loan for the NRECA prepayment.
- Line Superintendent Rick Bridge reported that there were no accidents, near misses, or lost time incidents for the month. He discussed AED purchase and radio tower issues.
- Director Greer discussed WREA issues.
- Director Keener reported on NREA & Midwest issues.