



And the wild weather continues! If you have lived in this region of the country for any length of time, not much with the weather should surprise you. Piles of snow one week and 80 degrees the next! While some welcome the moisture, I am sure there is some frustration with the overly wet fields. We all know this will change soon. Welcome to Wyoming weather!

As I write this, it is the first week of June. The front page of today's newspaper featured an article remembering the 75th anniversary of D-Day, the invasion of Normandy, on June 6, 1944. For any of you who have read many of my rambling articles, you know I am a supporter of our military folks. D-Day is one of the momentous points in military history. The significance of this battle cannot be forgotten! The magnitude of planning, logistics, commitment, and sacrifice preserved the freedoms of not only this country, but the free world! I had relatives in the South Pacific at that time, but I am not aware of any direct relatives that participated in D-Day. I am sure some of you had relatives that were involved. Regardless of where and when their (or your) service occurred, thank you!



This brings us to the celebration of Independence Day on July 4th! The day we declared our nation's independence from tyranny! I know you will receive this article after the holiday, but I hope as you enjoyed the fireworks and festivities, you remembered what the celebration was truly about and what has gone into maintaining those freedoms, be it war or peace. We must be diligent in maintaining our freedoms. We also must study this history and learn from it, or, as it has been said, "Those who fail to learn from history are doomed to repeat it". I hope you had a great Independence Day!

We received some great news recently. Three of our REA members are being inducted into the Wyoming Cowboy Hall of Fame! Dale Robbins in Albany County, Dan Kirkbride in Laramie County, and our Board member, Jack Finnerty, from Platte County are all recognized for their contributions to Wyoming! One of the goals of the Wyoming Cowboy Hall of Fame is "to preserve, promote, perpetuate, publish and document Wyoming's rich working cowboy and ranching history through researching, profiling, and honoring individuals who broke the first trails and introduced that culture to this state." While I have met Dale and Dan, I do not know them as well as I know Jack. He is truly a man of character. The first time I met Jack, I could tell he said what he meant and meant what he said. There is no hesitation with him; you know where you stand. When you shake Jack's hand, you know that is his word! When my wife met him, she too commented on this, as well as his manners, as he tipped his hat when he greeted her. A courtesy not seen very often these days. If the other inductees from across the state are even close to Jack's character, this is a very well deserving class for the Hall of Fame! Jack, Dale, and Dan, thanks for your contributions to the history and culture of this great state!

Looking back over this month's message, I see that I have not mentioned anything about the electric industry. I guess that is not all bad, as it means that right now, there is nothing serious hanging out there that will impact you, our member-owners. There are several details we are engrossed in, i.e. new loads coming to the area, short and long-term plans, on-going projects of tree trimming and pole inspections, line extensions, a few legislative issues we are working on getting in front of, and as in everything we do, working to ensure your dollars are spent in the most effective ways. Overall, these are things we do daily to take care of your REA.

It is always a pleasure to serve you, our member-owners! Please let us know if you have any questions. Again, congratulations to Dale, Dan, and Jack for your contributions! Recognition well deserved!

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From the desk of RKA...

I sincerely hope everyone had a great 4th of July holiday! Let's not forget the reason for July 4th and embrace our freedom and independence that we sometimes take for granted.

This month we are having our annual audit. As soon as the audit is completed, an extensive report will be submitted to the Board of Directors for approval. Once approved, I will be able to share the report with you. I want to reiterate that the audit is a very important part of the cooperative. It is designed to protect you, the member, to make sure we are keeping accurate records and reports and also assure that your assets are protected.

I just returned from Wisconsin, where I participated in the MIP (Management Internship Program). MIP is an extensive two-week course that is an in-depth analysis of the functions and processes of cooperative management. At the end of the two weeks, I will be required to present a project that applies some of the MIP classroom experience to issues at my own cooperative. I think the most important part of this training is meeting new people who work in the cooperative world. It is nice to discuss different issues and situations with them. You usually find that they've experienced some of the same problems, and are very willing to share ideas and solutions. It is a great network!

I have been asked to participate in a financial advisory council for Tri-State Generation and Transmission, our G & T provider. Every year, we receive their annual report on their financials. It is quite a bit of information, and in reviewing it, I have felt somewhat overwhelmed. In our initial meeting, their CFO, Mr. Pat Bridges, presented their current financials, along with their budget and future forecast. When it was explained to me, it was very interesting and made total sense. Tri-State is dealing with a lot of happenings, i.e. contract issues, a committee to review opening current contracts, and new legislation in Colorado which will affect coal-fired power plants they currently own. Even in all the chaos and conflict, Tri-State continues to stay true to the cooperative principles. As a cooperative, we have to appreciate that they are keeping with the principles we all strive for.

Fishing seems to be the "theme of the day" on my home front. If you thought that the weather in June was a little off, so was the fishing. One day, we could catch everything, and the next day, we wouldn't catch a thing. I've run a couple of 5k's and actually made it. Hopefully, I can get through a few more before the summer is over.

Until next month....



TIME-OF-DAY MEMBERS!

On September 1, 2019 the winter schedule of on-peak/off-peak hours resumes. These hours will be in effect until December 31, 2019. If we receive no changes from Tri-State, this schedule will continue until April 30, 2020.

The On-Peak hours:

12:00 pm (noon) until 10:00 pm

The Off-Peak hours:

10:00 pm until 12:00 pm (noon)



GOOD LUCK!

**From Wheatland REA
to this year's FFA
and 4-H participants
at the county fair.**



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\$cholarship Winners!

Wheatland REA Board Members awarded scholarships to the following:

<i>Drake Admundson</i>	<i>\$200.00</i>	<i>Katie Currier</i>	<i>\$200.00</i>	<i>Elyse Rutherford</i>	<i>\$200.00</i>
<i>Colton Caves</i>	<i>\$200.00</i>	<i>Savannah Ervin</i>	<i>\$200.00</i>	<i>Peyton Call</i>	<i>\$1,000.00</i>
<i>Rhett Cotterman</i>	<i>\$200.00</i>	<i>Kye Hicks</i>	<i>\$200.00</i>	<i>Savannah May</i>	<i>\$1,000.00</i>



- Left: Jack Finnerty (Secretary/Treasurer) presented Peyton Call with the Tri-State G&T Scholarship. Peyton also received the Wyoming Rural Electric Association Lineman's Scholarship.
- Right: Bob Brockman (President) presented Savannah May with the Basin Electric Power Cooperative Scholarship.



Chugwater Chili Cook-Off 2019



Tri-State G&T and Wheatland REA are very proud to be sponsors of this year's Chugwater Chili Cook-Off. This was the 34th annual Cook-Off. Jack Finnerty (REA Board of Directors) and Lee Boughey (Tri-State Senior Manager, Communications/Public Affairs), present a check to Kimberly McBryant (Chair, Chugwater Chili Cook-Off), to help them continue this great family event. The event brings people from all over to compete in the competition, to see whose chili is the best.

