



As this hits your mailbox, summer is just around the corner! This spring's weather had been uneventful, but then last evening, the winds hit! I have heard we had 90 mph wind gusts in Wheatland! Trees went down in the cemetery and other places around town, and a semi was blown over on the Mariposa Street overpass. We lost power lines across the system. We should never get too complacent with the weather in the region!

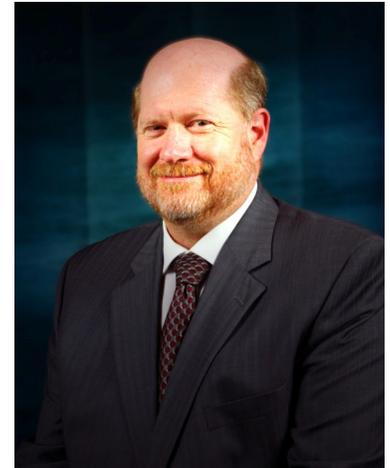
On the COVID-19 front, the REA is doing well. We have seen impacts to some of our work loads, and we are expecting more impact, but so far, we are doing well. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we have had the lobby closed. Hopefully, by the time you receive this, we will have it open and be able to see everyone again! Through it all, we have been able to keep the lights on, stay on top of maintenance, and even complete some projects.

One of the biggest projects we have completed this year has been to rebuild five miles of distribution line along Pioneer Road. This line was originally built in the early 50's, and like everything else, lines age and need to be replaced from time to time. This line has served well over its life, but needed to be upgraded to carry the new loads. This rebuild reduced energy losses on the line, and increased the amount of load which the line can serve. The rebuild also replaced several old failing poles to improve safety and reliability of the line. This is only a portion of the line which ties the Chugwater and Grayrocks substations together. The rest of this tie-line is in need of attention, and we are scheduling a section each year for the foreseeable future, but we have a long way to go!

On to the issues at Tri-State Generation and Transmission. As you recall from my previous articles, two Tri-State members are attempting to withdraw their memberships, and have contested the cost of buying out of their contracts. The two members have filed their cases with the Colorado Public Service Commission (CPUC). Tri-State has filed its methodology for determining the buyout cost with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). The cases at the CPUC and FERC are essentially competing cases, and the determination of the case can have a significant impact to the remaining members of Tri-State, including Wheatland REA. We are continuing to provide support and input where we are allowed. The CPUC has denied our motion to intervene, and even denied the Wyoming Attorney General's motion to intervene. The Colorado General Assembly has submitted a letter to the FERC encouraging the FERC to allow the CPUC to make the decision - a decision which, of course will not take into consideration the best interests of Wyoming and the members here. To counter the Colorado General Assembly letter, many Tri-State members have sent their own letters to the FERC. This is a battle, and we are doing our best to support you, the member-owners of Wheatland REA.

I was recently asked if we are involved in giving input to Tri-State, and working to keep energy prices lower. I will tell you that we are very involved at Tri-State! Jack Finnerty is your Board of Director's representative to the Tri-State Board of Directors, and Jack is well respected there and has a voice that is heard. As I mentioned above, we are providing input, and even leading some of the battles, to ensure your interests are considered. We stay involved everywhere we can to make sure we have input at all levels of Tri-State.

As always, it is a pleasure to serve you! As we recover from the current pandemic and return to some sense of normalcy, please stop in to see us and let us know of any questions or concerns you may have. We are here to serve you! Stay safe and stay well!



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CLOSED Friday**

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From the Office of RKA....

Well, hasn't this been quite the "jumble" of a year so far for 2020? Hopefully we are all finding some normalcy in our lives with the trees and grass growing and getting green, warmer weather, planting flowers, and people out and about on bikes, scooters, boats and any other mobilization devices.

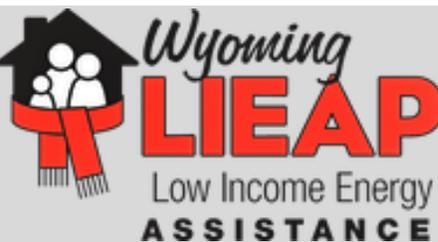
Last month, I spoke about the COVID-19 pandemic and the effects and changes that it has had on our cooperative. Well, it is a new month, and even though some of the State's orders have either been lifted or reduced, we are still in the "change" mode, and looking for solutions for different situations which arise. Everyday I tell myself that I must think outside the box, which makes decision making less stressful and easier to handle.

The entire staff at the co-op is back together on our summer hours of Monday-Thursday, 7:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Although we are full staff, we are still following the "social distancing" guidelines and cleaning/disinfecting around the office.

If you plan to come into the office, we ask that you please wear a mask. If you do not have one, there will be a station with masks at the front door, please put one on before entering. There will also be hand sanitizer available for you. If you need to take care of other business matters besides paying your bill, we are requesting that you set up an appointment with the employee you need to speak with. The offices will not be open to traffic throughout the building. Our restrooms will remain closed to the public until further notice. Our primary concern is the safety of both our employees and our members.

This is the time of the year when we get ready for our annual audit, which will be at the end of this month. This year's audit will be a little different (can you imagine?) as most of the documents, financial statements, etc. will be provided digitally. It will still be intense and thorough, as in past audits.

So, our social distancing at home has been, of course, fishing. I have been spending quite a bit of time at Glendo. I am not sure why because that is a very frustrating lake to fish. One day, you can jig and catch a few, the next day, you jig and cannot catch anything, so you must change your presentation. Maybe, that is why I keep going back... a little competitiveness, maybe?!?!? And do not ask my husband, nor my son, about that! The RN in my life is doing well (again, knock on wood) and keeping busy. I keep reminding her that she could be a private nurse for a large part of her family, and again, she hangs up on me!! I just do not get it!!! LOL!!



Wyoming has received \$2.4 million in emergency supplemental funds appropriated in the CARES Act to help prevent, prepare for, and respond to the home energy-related impacts of Covid-19.

For information call: 1-800-246-4221, or visit [www.lieapwyo.org](http://www.lieapwyo.org)



That's correct. It's time for the annual fireworks display, brought to you by the Wheatland Volunteer Fire Department (WVFD)! Fireworks sold at the WVFD stand (by the Sinclair gas station, on the west side of exit 78) pay for the explosive showcase we all enjoy every 4th of July. It is truly one of the best displays in the region! If you purchase fireworks this year, please buy them at the WVFD stand. This is an excellent outdoor activity for "social distancing"!

**The fireworks stand will be open June 27th - July 3rd, from 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.**



**4th of July**  
**It took courageous men and women to give us the freedoms we enjoy today.**  
**On this day, we celebrate our freedom.**



It's time for our annual calendar contest for the Wheatland REA 2021 calendar. This year we want to highlight the beautiful sunrises and sunsets we have in Wyoming. Of course, there are a few rules. The contest is open to REA members only, photos must be from within our service territory. The prize for the calendar cover picture is a \$25 gift card. If your picture is chosen for one of the monthly pages, you'll win a \$10 gift card. The contest ends July 24th. We look forward to seeing your entries!

**Pictures must be 300dpi at 8.5" X 11".**



Mom had May 10th.

Dad has June 21st.



So wash his truck, mow the lawn, and throw a feast on the grill!  
**HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!**



*If you need a grill for that feast...*

**CHECK THIS OUT**



**MECO Electric Grill**

**\$259**

*(In Stock and Ready to GO!)*



Patrick Kernan, Wheatland High School senior, is the recipient of one of the MBPP/Laramie River Station \$1500 scholarships given this year.

**Congratulations Patrick!**

## Our 2020 Scholarship Winners

- \$1000 BEPC/Wheatland REA: Madison Wright
- \$500 Tri-State G&T/Wheatland REA: Danielle Brow
- \$500 Tri-State G&T/Wheatland REA: Brock Tamlin
- \$200 Tri-State G&T Directors: Keagen Ramsey
- \$200 Tri-State G&T Directors: Kobey Preuit
- \$200 Tri-State G&T Directors: Loren Mann
- \$200 Tri-State G&T Directors: Nicole Sagner
- \$200 Tri-State G&T Directors: Todd Paisley
- \$200 Wheatland REA Managers & Directors: Gage Brown
- \$200 Wheatland REA Managers & Directors: Natalie Iacovetto
- \$200 Wheatland REA Managers & Directors: Patrick Kernan

**Congratulations!**

**We wish you the very best, no matter where life's journeys take you!**

**THE REA IS WORKING ITS NORMAL SUMMER SCHEDULE THE WEEK OF THE 4TH OF JULY. MONDAY-THURSDAY, 7:00 A.M. - 5:30 P.M.**

