

THE PowerLines REPORT

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1 |  Get to Know Your COO

2 |  DMEA Board Elections

3 |  Spring Burning Safety

4 |  Connect With Elevate

February 2020

Get to Know Your Chief Operating Officer



Virginia Harman, Chief Operating Officer

Years with DMEA: Five

Education/experience: I have a bachelor's degree in communication. I have worked in the power industry since 2005.

What is DMEA/Elevate doing that you're most proud to be a part of?

The past five years at DMEA have been full of transformational work. I am extraordinarily glad to be part of the team that launched Elevate in order to bring an essential service to our communities. I am equally glad to have had the opportunity to work through a transition in power supplier to help better position DMEA for the rapidly changing future of our industry. I truly believe that what we are doing both with Elevate and in power supply is of great benefit to our communities and the owners of DMEA.

What motivates you to work hard?

I am motivated by a lot of things. I love to accomplish things, overcoming obstacles and tackling hard problems is motivating to me, so it's a good thing I work at DMEA! I am motivated by my faith, which teaches me to serve others. Working in a cooperative certainly fulfills my desire to serve. Finally, I am motivated by my family. I work hard so that my family can thrive and enjoy all the wonder and beauty around us.

What is your favorite family tradition?

Each year before Christmas, we build gingerbread houses with our boys. It is messy and fun. On New Year's Day we tear them apart and eat them. Even more messy and even more fun!

Where would we find you in your free time?

Camping, hiking, cooking, or soaking in a good hot springs with my family.

If you didn't work for DMEA what would you be doing?

I have always said that my dream job would be selling flowers on the side of a road in Hawaii. I am going to stick with that as my alternate reality.

What are you most thankful for?

I am most thankful for my salvation. God has seen me through so much in my life and has blessed me and my family in more ways that I can count. Anything that I am able to accomplish is thanks to Him.

What makes DMEA/Elevate special to you?

My co-workers; I know it sounds cliché, but I truly believe that we have a wonderful group of employees and board members at DMEA. It is a joy to work with competent, caring, dedicated people. That is what makes DMEA and Elevate special to me.

If you had to describe yourself in just one word, what would it be?

Short!



ARE YOU READY TO SERVE?

2020 Board of Directors Election

DMEA is a member-owned and locally controlled rural electric cooperative. So what does that mean? It means, you, our members own the cooperative and are responsible for governing it through an elected board of directors. Each year, you are tasked with electing three representatives from the membership to serve on DMEA's Board of Directors.

In 2020, District #6, District #7, and the North Region board seats are up for election. Eligible members who live in these districts may become candidates. If you are interested in running for an open seat, pick up your self-nomination packet beginning April 3. To confirm in which district/region you reside, call 877-687-3632.

KEY DATES

Friday, April 3: Nomination petition packets available.

Monday, May 4: Deadline to return nomination petition packets, including 15 member signatures and candidate profile information.

Monday, May 25: Ballots and candidate backgrounds mailed to DMEA members.

Friday, June 12: Postmark deadline for mail-in ballots.

Thursday, June 18: DMEA Annual Meeting. You may vote in person at the meeting if you did not vote by mail. The election concludes at the start of the business meeting and results are announced at the end of the meeting.



Best wishes, Randy!

Back in 1989, Randy Dworshak walked into DMEA not knowing he would enjoy a 30-year career as an electronic technician. Though the duties and departments changed over the next three decades, Randy remained working on all-things electronic.

When he started, he worked on radios, telephones, computers (which, at the time, amounted to only two!), reclosers, and regulator controllers. And, as technology changed, so did Randy's job. In the early 1990s, he had the pleasure of putting in a new radio system and building DMEA's first website and intranet with more than 255 web pages!

When Randy wasn't building our web pages or installing the new radio system, he maintained two-way radios, communications to substations, and electronic controls.

Personally, Randy enjoys hiking with his wife of 36 years, Roxanne, especially on the Black Canyon trails. In retirement, he plans on finishing his Jeep so he can enjoy more trail riding with Roxanne. With the extra free time on his hands, he also plans on traveling to visit family in Pueblo more often.

Randy wanted to make sure to shout out a big thanks his lovely wife for always being there for him and his two boys throughout the years. And we want to shout out to Randy for his 30 years of service and dedication. Please join us in wishing Randy the best in retirement!

CALLING ALL PHOTOGRAPHERS

Send us your photos for our monthly photo contest! This year's theme is outdoor activity. Photos must include at least one person enjoying the great outdoors. All photos must be in Colorado and reflective of the current season.

To submit your photo, visit www.elevateinternet.com/2020photocontest.



HOME PHONE IS HERE TO STAY

With 96% of us carrying around cell phones these days, you might think that a traditional telephone line in your home is obsolete. But, for many, there is still a need for a reliable and dependable home phone line.



SPOTTY CELL SERVICE



Cell service is spotty in rural Western Colorado. The elevation changes and sparsely populated cell towers often mean you can't guarantee adequate cell coverage even inside your own home. A landline gives you peace of mind—it's there whether you're dialing 911 or just want to catch up with friends.

REMOTE OFFICE



Do you work from home? A phone line with a clear connection is a must when communicating with your clients or the boss from afar. No more dropped conference calls or cutting in and out when presenting the case for your new ideas.

SOUND QUALITY



Don't take our word for it. Consumer Reports notes that the sound quality is better on a cordless home phone than even the best cell phones on the market. This is particularly important for people who suffer from hearing loss.

ELEVATE HOME PHONE

First line: \$30/month | Second line: additional \$20/month

Includes unlimited local and domestic long distance plus tons of free features like voicemail, call history, caller ID, call forwarding, and more.

ELEVATE™

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Turning on the center pivot from his phone

Monitoring soil moisture probes from the front porch

Making dad stream *Frozen* for the 1,237th time

Streaming music while working in the shop

Managing his co-op account online

Buying her first pony on the video auction

HOW DO YOU CONNECT?

WHAT'S CONNECTED IN YOUR HOME?

We all use the internet differently, whether it's for work, entertainment, or just making our lives easier. No matter how you use the internet, you need a connection that's fast and reliable.

Fast Internet | Simple TV | Reliable Home Phone

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FAST INTERNET ▶ (for real)




A Touchstone Energy[®] Cooperative 

Montrose Office

11925 6300 Road
Montrose, CO 81401
M, W, F; 8:00am-5:00pm
T & Th; 8:00am-6:00pm

Contact Us:

1-877-687-3632 | www.dmea.com |    

Read Office

21191 H 75 Road
Delta, CO 81416
M & W; 9:00am-4:00pm

Your Board of Directors:

Bill Patterson, District 1 *Kyle Martinez, District 2*
Brad Harding, District 3 *Ken Watson, District 4*
Chris Hauck, District 5 *Damon Lockhart, District 6*
Mark Eckhart, District 7 *Stacia Cannon, North*
Jock Fleming, South

DMEA Board Meetings are open to all members and are generally held on the 4th Tuesday monthly beginning at 3PM with the public comment period at 5PM. Call 970-240-1212 to confirm date, time, and location.

Recipes Info:

Submit recipes, including your name, address, and phone number to:

DMEA Newsletter
PO Box 910
Montrose, CO 81402

Or email your information to communications@dmea.com.

If your recipe is published, claim your prize by calling (269)598-9386 within 60 days.

DMEA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.

HOME COOKING



Overnight Caramel French Toast

Bette Behrens, Eckert



Ingredients:

1 stick butter
1 cup brown sugar
1 Tbs maple syrup
1 loaf French bread
1 1/2 cups milk
6 eggs
1 tsp vanilla
1/8 tsp salt
1 cup pecans

Directions:

Melt butter in a 9x13 pan. Mix in brown sugar and syrup in the pan with a fork. Add pecans. Lay french toast slices on top. Mix milk, eggs, vanilla, and salt until well blended, pour over top. Refrigerate overnight. Bake at 350° for 50-60 minutes until custard is set and tops of bread are lightly browned. Flip over onto plate and serve. Sprinkle with powdered sugar if you like. Serves 6-8.

WE'RE IN NEED OF YOUR RECIPES!

Submit your best recipe, along with your name, address and photo of your dish, to communications@dmea.com

If we print your recipe, you win a \$25 gift card.

10 SAFETY PRECAUTIONS THAT CAN SAVE YOU \$5,000

Controlled burns are an important tool in Western Colorado for managing and restoring natural areas. Delta-Montrose Electric Association asks that you take extra precautions when burning near power poles to prevent widespread power outages and incurring up to a \$5,000 repair bill.

- ▶ Secure necessary permits
- ▶ Cut all grass and weeds near power poles
- ▶ Remove all dead trees within 20ft
- ▶ Water area near the power poles
- ▶ Plan to finish burns before noon
- ▶ Continuously monitor weather before and during
- ▶ Do NOT burn in high wind conditions
- ▶ Never leave burn unattended
- ▶ Have a plan to put out your burn
- ▶ Don't be afraid to call 911

