



# PARK SPARKS

OCTOBER 2019

PARK ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

 Touchstone Energy Cooperatives

## PARK ELECTRIC 80TH ANNUAL MEETING



FRIDAY, OCTOBER  
25TH AT THE  
PARK COUNTY  
FAIRGROUNDS.  
DOORS OPEN AT  
10:30, MEETING  
STARTS AT NOON

## TOP 10 REASONS TO ATTEND THE ANNUAL MEETING:

1. Learn about the health of YOUR Electric Cooperative
2. Meet your neighbors
3. Meet your board of trustees
4. Have a fantastic free lunch
5. Hear about Stillwater Mine and its operations from our guest speaker
6. Win great raffle prizes
7. Get a \$5 bill credit
8. Meet the new General Manager Matt Haggerty
9. Enter your college student in the Luck of the Draw \$1,000 scholarship drawing
10. Vote for your board of trustees



## Managers Comments *by Matt Haggerty*

Now that fall is setting in, I want to remind you it's time for our annual meeting. This year's meeting will be on October 25th. Since this will be my first annual meeting at Park Electric, I would like to invite you to stop in and say hello. One of the parts of my job I enjoy the most is meeting the membership.

I would like to let you know about a few of the things that are on the agenda for this year's meeting.

The membership will be voting for trustees in District 2 and 7. On August 20, 2019 I met with the Nominations Committee. The committee nominated two candidates for District 2; Mike Warren who currently is the board trustee for this district and Dan Skattum who lives in this district. For District 7, Perry Anderson, the current trustee in this District, was nominated.

We will have Randy Weimer from Stillwater Mine as a guest speaker. He will be giving an overview of what's going on at the mine and their history.

Stillwater Mine is one of many reasons for the success Park Electric has had. Stillwater Mine is one of our largest loads in the membership.

For my part I will be giving an in-depth look at our five-year work plan. I will outline the expected work to take place and how it will benefit the membership. Also, you will have a chance to ask any questions you may have.


Over the last year our line crews have focused on

installing electricity to new members. In fact, at the time of writing this article we have added 38 services and 11 miles of distribution lines. To fill in the gaps of time between customer work orders we have a very active maintenance program. As many of you already know, we test our poles for decay on a set rotation. Our crews changed out around 35 poles this summer. We tested most of these poles during

early spring and a few in June. The results showed the need to replace a small percentage of these poles due to core rot at the base of the pole. Replacing these poles helps ensure the integrity of our system and it reduces the chances of unplanned outages.

We have seen an overall reduction in outages compared to previous years. Many of the outages we had in early spring were in the Pine Creek and Chico areas south of Livingston. Almost all of these outages were scheduled by NorthWestern Energy (NWE). This past year NWE has been working on the first section of a two-year plan of rebuilding their transmission lines between Livingston and Chico. Upon completion of the new transmission line this region should see improved reliability.

Our line crews spend a fair amount of time installing bird guards on transformers, trimming trees, and replacing underground cables. All of these continue to improve our system reliability. That's all for now. I look forward to meeting many of you on October 25th at our annual meeting.

**By the Community  
CO-OPS  
For the Community**

**October is National Co-op Month.**  
Electric co-ops are proud to power more than 20 million American homes, businesses, farms and schools in 48 states.

## Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Heating requires more energy than any other system in your home, typically making up about 42% of your energy bill. With proper equipment maintenance and upgrades like additional insulation and air sealing, you can save about 30% on your energy bill.

Source: [energy.gov](http://energy.gov)

