

THE UTE LETTER

236 Edition of the Nebraska City Utilities News

August 2018

FROM THE DESK OF JEFF KOHRS:

First, we were saddened by the passing of Scott Shoemaker. Scott was a dedicated employee and was very interested and took a lot of pride in operating the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Scott's family. We will miss Scott very much.

I had an opportunity to watch some of Bryan's guys working on the water main west of 15th street on 1st Corso last week. It proved to be challenging just being able to locate the break. Great job guys sticking with it and getting it fixed.

It's great having Tony back after his absence. A quick thank you to Cathy Meyer & Diane James for stepping in and helping out while we had some vacations and absences during the last few weeks. It was a pleasure having you both here again.

School will have started by the time you read this, so please drive safely and use extra caution driving to and from work sites.

Remember to work safely and look out for each other. If you think something looks unsafe let your Supervisor or Superintendent know. Let's be careful out there.

SUPERINTENDENT OF OPERATIONS:

Dan Patton

The Tree Crew, Rob, and Jake have been clearing right-of-ways and trimming south of Palmyra to Bennett on the West Line. They are back in Nebraska City to take care of a few projects that need done for the Gas/Water Department and the Electrical Department to install new infrastructure. They also did some work along the Railroad Tracks north of the office under the 69kv lines with Railroads flagmen.

The power plants that NCU are partners in, OPPD NC2 and WEC2 both have experienced some operation issue. NC2 is back online at full capacity, WEC2 is in an outage doing turbine, boiler repairs, fans repairs, cleaning of the catalyst, and as much that they can do until everything is ready and tested before putting it back into service by August 31st.

Gary and Mike have been working communication issues, on the new SCADA system at the WTP and WWTP, on the documentations, and drawings. They both have been looking at and designing new communications for monitoring more of our sites, to get up to date, current time of events, changes of status, and to receive that information back at our offices. Gary has been very busy working on upgrading all of our Network Systems. Mike, the two Jeffs, and Travis have been working on some new controls, monitoring and alarming equipment at Plant Site 3 on Engines #11 and #12.

The 904 Substation Transformer has been repaired/rebuilt to our specifications. Jordan Transformer has completed, tested, and shipped back to the site.

NCU plans are to start in September on the upgrade in 904 Sub with 69kv Circuit Switcher, 25kv Breaker, New Control Building, new concrete pads, enlarge the substations area and fencing to adequately design all of the upgrades to be installed with the proper clearances. Jordan Transformer will come back to field dress, install all bushings and do the final testing on the transformer before it is placed back into service.

All of the summer help but one has returned back to college. We had a great bunch working for us this summer and we wish them all the best in their future endeavors. We hope to see some of them back next year, if it works out for them to return. (THANKS EVERYONE)

My condolences to the Shoemaker family. Scott will really be missed.

SERVICIE DEPT:

Mary Lynn Hall

The Service Dept is business as usual. We have had vacation time being used throughout our department this past month, and appreciate all the help we have received covering those days from the Electric Dept and the Gas & Water Dept.

The summer is winding down and school is starting soon. Watch out for increased traffic and those students walking to and from.

This edition of the UTE will certainly miss the continued Saga from the Kingdom of the Waste Water Treatment Plant. Scott will be missed. I pray for his eternal peace and happiness. Life is precious. We need to appreciate ours daily and give thanks.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAY'S

Rockie Bassinger	9-19-1955
Kathy Lechner	9-12-1972
Ken Parde	9-03-1964

SEPTEMBER WORK ANNIVERSARIES:

James Christolear	9-26-2016
Logan Crunk	9-09-2013
Sharon Crunk	9-25-1997
Brad Kingery	9-27-1993

ELECTRIC DEPT:

Carl Abbott

The summer has gone quick and school is starting shortly. Many projects that were scheduled for completion during the summer months have come to fruition. We still have many jobs in the wings, but we are steadily knocking them out in a timely manner. Our 2 interns Chase and Christian have left us to return to Northeast Community College for their 2nd year of enrollment. Hopefully, they had a great learning experience, and we certainly wish them the best of luck in their future lineman careers.

We are getting ready to start the Senior Housing Project here in Nebraska City. The cutover at the NC Public Schools office was a major job to have cleaned up. I appreciate the extra effort by everyone that worked hard. The mini excavator that we are currently leasing is a great addition and time saver for the type of underground projects that we do. The extra reach, ability to cross trenches and set cabinets is a huge time saver and frees up the trencher to start opening the trench. Howard has completed the infra-red study, so we will have some maintenance items to take care of. Todd has been busy filling in with service while Craig is on vacation, along with disconnects. Keep up the good work guys and remember to share your knowledge with the new guys and let them do some of the work. YOU are the ones that will make them more valuable to us in the future. Please remember to focus on the job and work safely all the time.

I would like to offer my condolences to the Shoemaker family. The loss of Scott was shocking. The NCU family will miss his Jolly and Happy demeanor. Scott was certainly one of a kind. He will be sorely missed not only as a co-worker, but a very good friend.

GAS & WATER DEPT:

Bryan Turner

First, I would like to extend our condolences to Scott Shoemakers Family and Friends, he will be greatly missed, I know we all enjoyed reading his monthly editions to this Newsletter. We will be ready to assist in any way needed over at the Waste Water Plant.

The guys have been busy. Dan's crew is just finishing up the new gas service to the Coop elevator in Syracuse and have up sized the regulators at the Border Station. Hopefully this should take care of the issues they were having last year during harvest. Ron's crew is getting ready to replace a 500' section of water main on 14th Street near the old Hospital that has caused us quite a few problems in the past. Tommy has been busy with the Lift Stations, keeping 9th St. running while we wait for its replacement and a burned up motor at Terra Oaks. Brad has been busy with locates as usual and keeping an eye on the contractors working in town. John has completed the cathodic protection for this year. Anodes have been installed in the problem areas and everything is looking good. Kenny has been busy with meter change outs and Shawn has been busy keeping the meters stocked and tested. Everyone stay safe out there and remember the kids are starting back to school this week so keep an eye out for them.

STORES DEPT:

Sharon Smulling

On behalf of the stores department, I would like to take this opportunity to bid a fond farewell to our fellow worker Scott Shoemaker. We will miss the "GREETINGS PEOPLE" as he walked down the hall, and of course his installments to the UTE letter from the "Kingdom".

Tony is back at 100%. We sure missed him, and glad that he is back. Thanks again to everyone that pitched in to help while he was recovering. It was greatly appreciated.

We hope to have a date in the near future for our stores inventory, just a heads up 😊.

I hear that the wasps are in high gear right now. We have plenty of spay to rid those nasty pests. Tony knows just were the spray is, just stop in and see him.

School is in session now, summer is over, bumper....watch out for the kiddos....

WATER PLANT:

Mark Lant

Hello NCU Family from us here at the Water Plant. We hope that you are all doing well and that your enjoying your summer. Things here at the Water Plant are running smooth. As always there is plenty to do, and currently we have pulled our H.S. #4 Pump and Motor to have them both looked over and freshened up. This pump is the smaller of two that we use to pump Water into the distribution system once it has been treated. It pumps around 2200 gallons per minute, and had developed a slight vibration. So, with the help of Layne Western, and a special thanks to the Electric crew for putting sleeves on the overhead power lines we are well on our way to getting repairs made. Thanks to Cathy Meyer for helping out while I was gone and on vacation, and to anyone who would like to see more of the beautiful Station Wagon we took on this year's trip you can check it all out on Facebook. "Lantpoonsvacation2018". Not on company time of course.

Casey also took some time off and stayed in the backwoods of Minnesota and believes he spotted bigfoot, although like many before him he brought back no proof. He also had a close call with a large snapping turtle, but thankfully came back with all his fingers. Steve is gone next, and it's hard telling what he will get himself into. I am sure Shane will be ready for a vacation soon also. Keep living the dream everyone, God Bless you and have a great August.

Employee Meeting



**Wellness Program/Health Insurance
Thursday, September 6, 2018
Rowe Public Safety building**

- 9:30-10:30 a.m.
- 11-12 p.m.
- 1-2 p.m.

Your attendance is highly recommended.

Spouses are encouraged to attend

Please sign up in Lori's Office for 1 of the 3 sessions available. Alternatively, contact Lori Neeman at 402 873-3353 or via email at neeman@nebraskacityutilities.com on which session you plan to attend. *By Tuesday, September 4th, 2018

Craig Johnson from Holmes Murphy will give an informative presentation on the City of Nebraska City/Nebraska City Utilities Wellness Program and the metabolic health screening process.

He will discuss the "participation base" incentives for Employee and Spouse as well as discuss future "outcome base" results and how this could effect premiums going forward if employees choose NOT to participate.



SUN. SEPT 2ND **“THE GENERAL”** **ANNUAL GOLF** **OUTING**

Join us for our 2nd Annual “The General” golf outing. This will be a day for us to come out and enjoy a nice, relaxing day of golf and fellowship. We won't keep score, but we will draw for winners. Tournament will be open to all current or former employees and spouses.

Question??? Contact John Hodges or Brad Kingery
(402-209-2233) — (402-650-1425)

2nd Annual

18 holes

2-Person Teams

Cold Beer

Good Times

**WILDWOOD
GOLF COURSE**

Social Hour: 12-1

Tee Off: 1pm

\$25/person for

Cart and Golf