

Employee Profile — Ben Hardwick

A US Marine veteran of three tours in Iraq, Ben Hardwick isn't that interested in sharing war stories. Instead, he'd rather tell you about his job with Salem Electric, his career goals and what a single 26 year-old guy does for sport these days.

Ben and his older sister were raised in Salem. His father, also born in Salem, has worked for PGE as a truck operator and wireman for more than 30 years. Outdoor activity runs deep in the Hardwick family; Ben happily recalls camping with his parents in Eastern Oregon as well as numerous

hunting and fishing trips with his dad.

While at Sprague High School, Ben was a wide receiver on the football team that went to the state finals and finished second. In the high jump, the six-footer cleared the bar at 6'4" and placed fifth in Oregon that year.

After discharge from active duty in the Marines, Ben set his eye on settling back in Salem. "I was looking for linework," he says "my dad always enjoyed the work and he encouraged me to apply. Plus, I wanted a job with some physicality and one that would allow me to be outdoors."

Ben got the call from Salem Electric last year after he answered a newspaper ad. He was hired as a groundman in August and revels in the job so far. "I work with a small, tight-knit group of people," he said of the line crew he's assigned to. "I enjoy the camaraderie."

Attaining a promotion in his line of work depends on getting an apprenticeship position to become a lineman.

Ben is determined but patient: "I'm learning a lot and have a lot still to learn," he says.

Staying in top physical form is important to Ben, so he's often found working out at an athletic club. "I also play city league softball in the spring and flag football in a league every fall," he adds.

And then there's the ever-alluring Oregon outback where Ben continues to pursue the elusive trout, deer and elk. "I really like camping and there is no end of places to go in the Northwest," he says.

About his return from the war-torn Middle East, Ben did offer this about his homecoming: "I must say that — as a veteran — I have received a great welcome back in the states." After having heard about how difficult it was for returning vets after the Vietnam War, Ben said his reception...the thanks and recognition he got from Oregonians...was very appreciated.

It's very likely that with his grit, physical abilities and ambition, he'll eventually achieve the seniority needed for the apprenticeship program. Hopefully his career at Salem Electric is so satisfying to him that 30 years from now he'll be counseling his own kids likewise. ■



AARP Driver Safety Program

AARP's Driver's Safety Program is a two-day, eight-hour course (4 hours each day) of classroom instruction that refines existing driving skills and develops safe, defensive driving techniques for experienced drivers 16 and older. The American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) provides trained volunteer instructors.

Three courses will be held at Salem Electric, 633 Seventh Street NW. The two-day courses are listed below:



DATE – COURSE #1	DAY	TIME
September 9	Wednesday	8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
September 10	Thursday	8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
DATE – COURSE #2	DAY	TIME
September 15	Tuesday	8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
September 16	Wednesday	8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
DATE – COURSE #3	DAY	TIME
November 17	Tuesday	8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
November 18	Wednesday	8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

The cost is \$14 per person, but with proof of membership number, AARP members receive a \$2 discount.

For registration and information call Helen or Debbie at Salem Electric at 503 362-3601.

Participants are requested to park along the street, leaving Salem Electric's visitor, member,

and employee parking available for normal business use. Participants should enter through the board room gate to the right of the main entrance in front of the building. ■

Your Board of Directors



JERRY BERGER, President

Jerry retired as the President of Chemeketa Community College after working in the education field since 1962. Jerry lives in West Salem and has been a Salem Electric member since 1972.

He was first appointed to the board in February 2002, and has served as Vice-President and President. He monitors the activities of the American Public Power Association.

Your Board of Directors *CONTINUED*



JEFF ANDERSON, Vice-President

Jeff works for the United Food and Commercial Workers Union Local 555. He has been a Keizer resident and Salem Electric member since 1978.

He was first elected to the board in 1985 and has served as Secretary/ Treasurer, Vice-President and President. He monitors the activities of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.



CARL BEACH, Secretary/Treasurer

Carl retired after 38 years in banking. Carl lives in Keizer and has been a Salem Electric member since 1960.

He was first appointed to the board in February 2002, has served as Secretary/Treasurer and monitors the Public Power Council and the Northwest Public Power Association.



ALICIA BONESTEEL, Director

Alicia is a homemaker and lives in West Salem. She has been a Salem Electric member since 1949.

She was first elected to the board in 1987 and has served as Secretary/

Treasurer, Vice-President and President. Alicia is a member of Oregon Rural Electric Cooperative Association board and serves as a mentor for the Leadership Youth Program. She also monitors activities of the American Public Power Association.



JIM DYER, Director

Jim is retired from the State of Oregon. He lives in Keizer and has been a Salem Electric member since 1969.

Jim was first appointed to the board in

December 1994 and has served as Vice-President and President. He is a member of the Northwest Public Power Association's (NWPPA) Government Relations Committee and monitors the activities of NWPPA.



PAUL ENNOR, Director

Paul is a Salem native. He retired from the Oregon Department of Forestry in 1999 and is currently employed part-time by Lead Solutions as a Lead Paint inspector. Paul lives in West Salem and has been a Salem Electric member since 1977.

He was first appointed to the board in November 2001 and has served as Vice-President and President. He monitors activities of the Northwest Requirements Utilities.



JOE VAN METER, Director

Joe retired as the Training Director for the Oregon Youth Authority and is currently a Training Consultant. Joe lives in Keizer and has been a Salem Electric member since 1981.

He was first appointed to the board in January 2004, has served as Vice-President and President, and monitors the activities of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association and the Oregon Rural Electric Cooperative Association. ■

Conserving Energy in the Laundry Room

TO DO LIST:

- ✓ Wash laundry in cold water instead of hot. Hot water only needs to be used for very dirty loads.
- ✓ Wash and dry only full loads. The machine uses about the same amount of water whether you wash a full load or just one item.
- ✓ Clean the lint filter after every load. Clogged filters drive up drying costs.
- ✓ Check your dryer exhaust vent. Make sure the damper opens and closes freely. If it doesn't close tightly, outside air is getting into your house through the dryer and you will need to replace or repair it.
- ✓ Dry clothes outside in good weather. Sunlight is free.
- ✓ If there is a moisture sensor feature on your dryer, use it so that you won't over-dry your clothes.
- ✓ Buy an ENERGY STAR-rated washer. Qualifying washers use about one third the water and half of the electricity of standard washers.

Contact our office for information about appliance rebates which include ENERGY STAR-rated clothes washers. Visit salemelectric.com and select "Energy Conservation" for appliance program details. ■

Air Conditioning Season is Here!

If you're tired of unattractive, noisy AC window units and want to save money on your utility bill all year, we want to help you pay for an upgrade!

We'll help qualified members upgrade to a ductless heating and cooling system that uses a fraction of the electricity and provides more comfort than other systems. If you currently have zonal heat or a forced-air electric furnace you may be using more energy than is needed to heat your home. Eligible homeowners will receive a \$2,250 rebate when they install a system before September 30, 2009, plus an additional federal tax credit is available (30% of the total cost, up to \$1,500). Learn more at energystar.gov.

Why upgrade to a ductless heating and cooling system?

- Systems come standard with air conditioning — no more window units!
- You could save up to 35% annually on your heating bill!
- You will experience a more comfortable home!
- Easy, low-cost installation

- \$2,250 utility rebate for qualified installations
- Up to \$1,500 Federal tax credits available for some systems

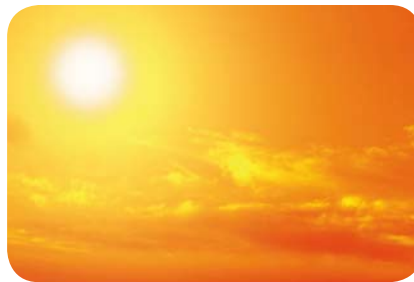
And, if that's not enough, Salem Electric offers a low-interest loan too! To make this program easier for our members, we're offering a 5% interest loan as an option instead of \$750 of the total rebate.

How do you know if you qualify for rebates?

To qualify for rebates, your home must have the following characteristics:

- Currently using electric baseboard heaters, wall units, ceiling units, or forced-air electric furnace as your primary source of heat.
- There is not a natural gas line running to your home.
- You have occupied your home for at least a year.

For additional questions or more information, please contact our Member Services Department at 503 362-3601 or se@salemelectric.com to learn more. ■



from JUNE 23, 2009



Presented by:

Carl E. Beach,
Secretary/Treasurer

AUGUST 2009

Member Assistance Program:

There were 1,189 members assisted through the Salem Electric Heating Assistance Program in 2009. The \$180,000 budget was spent by mid-March and an additional \$75,000 was approved by the board to assist additional members through the end of the program (April 30).

Meter Reading Accuracy:

In 1982 Salem Electric had approximately 12,000 meters which were read by two meter readers using hand-marked cards. Those readings were then hand-entered into our system. Today we have nearly 18,500 meters, still read by two meter readers, who now use an electronic system to record and compare usage. This has resulted in minimal meter reading errors. In 2008 and 2009, meter reading accuracy is near 99.95%.

SE Website:

After months of work the new website is live. The new site is easy to navigate with links for safety, conservation, the environment and youth. There are quick connections to contact us and to pay your bill.

Board Action:

The board approved the following:

- The board voted to approve a \$3,000 donation to the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) International Foundation. Funds are used to aid in the installation and repair of electrical equipment in third world countries.
- The board reviewed the various board representative appointments to industry organizations and board committees. After some minor adjustments to the committee assignments — President Berger made the appointments.
- A \$4,000 donation was approved to the Oregon Action Committee for Rural Electrification (ACRE). Contributions are used to protect electric cooperative interests in Oregon and nationwide.
- After a lengthy and in-depth discussion, the board voted to approve an increase in the amount of environmentally-preferred power (EPP) Salem Electric purchases from BPA. SE currently purchases 1.8 aMW of EPP. The increase will raise SE's purchase to 2.34 aMW or 6.2% of SE's total load, for an annual cost increase of \$50,000.

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

August 25 September 22 October 27

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jerry Berger President	Jeff Anderson Vice-President	Carl Beach Secretary/Treasurer	Alicia Bonesteele Jim Dyer	Paul Ennor Joe Van Meter
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All board meetings are held at 7 PM at Salem Electric, 633 Seventh Street NW, Salem, Oregon

PAUL ENNOR, Director



Four Myths about Electric Power

After recently attending an industry-related annual meeting I came away with some valuable information that seemed appropriate to share with our members. Listed below are four myths about electric power that may answer some questions. I hope you find it as interesting as I did.

1 The Northwest has plenty of electricity; we don't need more.

The truth is the Federal power system, largely hydroelectric dams, currently generates about the same amount of electricity used by the public utilities of the Northwest like Salem Electric. Investor-owned utilities like PGE and Pacific-Corp already generate their own electricity, much of it from carbon generating sources. Economic and population growth in the future will demand more electricity than those dams can supply. More electricity generating plants will be needed to supply that electricity. There will be upward pressure on rates to pay for those new facilities and there will be great political pressure from various interest

groups pressing to see their solution adopted.

2 Wind power can supply all our future needs.

Not true! I wish that it were. The truth is that within the Bonneville system, wind farms operate at about 21% of rated capacity because the wind is variable and does not blow all the time. Worse, the wind tends to blow the most when the power is needed the least and vice versa. Last winter there was one 14-day period when there was no wind generation in the Northwest at all. So as you can see, wind has to be backed up by other full-time power sources such as hydroelectric, combustion turbines, coal, nuclear, etc., or the light switch in your house would only work on windy days.

3 Solar power is the answer to our future needs.

Not true again! Though it is more predictable than the wind, solar power is affected by clouds and only generates power when the sun is shining. So once again, solar must be backed up with some other generating source, or you could only

turn your lights on when the sun is shining. There is currently no reliable, affordable battery technology available on a utility-sized scale that can save solar power for dark periods and oddly enough, many people like to turn their lights on after the sun goes down.

4 We can remove dams; we don't need the power they generate.

It's been postulated that the dams on the Snake River could be removed to help the salmon without impact to the electric grid in the Northwest. This is most certainly not the case. Those four dams are what are called peaking resources. They are turned on and off as needed. They are needed to back up those wind farms that only work when the wind is blowing. When the wind stops the Snake River dams switch on to keep your lights burning. Remove those dams and the wind farms become unusable without some other source of generation, like natural gas turbines, a coal plant or a new nuclear facility. ■

PAUL ENNOR
Director

Opinions expressed in "News and Views" are those of the writer and not necessarily those of the board unless otherwise indicated.

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