



the **Lakeview Light**

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The Newsletter of Lakeview Light & Power

Spring 2010

2010 Annual Meeting ~ Scholarships, Projects, Salmon Protection



The LLP Board (l-r): Pres. Paul Russell, Secy. Robert Estrada, Tom McDonald, Treas. Bob Schibig, GM Robin Rego, Atty. Durham McCormick and Linda McDermott. Not pictured: VP Gary Jones.

Nearly 250 people attended LLP's 88th Annual Meeting at Tyee School on March 16.

In his welcoming remarks, General Manager Robin Rego commented, with a chuckle, that the large turnout was because of the free CFL bulbs given to attendees, the cookies and door prizes.

"We come here to mix and mingle, meet, greet and eat," he said. He thanked the members of Lakeview Congregational Church for providing cookies for the Annual Meeting for so many years, and noted that proceeds from the cookie sales help send children to church camp every summer.

Board Member Linda McDermott presented scholarships to this year's winners.

Mr. Rego then introduced the LLP staff, calling the 26 full-time employees "the lifeblood of our organization. They all wear many hats as we keep the lights on for our customers." LLP serves 12,000 meters. "That's nearly one third of Lakewood and a portion of Parkland," he said.

He mentioned LLP's two wind projects – White Creek and Harvest Wind – and explained that, be-

cause of its relatively small size, LLP is not required to include renewable resources in its fuel mix. "So we sell the power from our wind farms to utilities that do require it, and we use that income to keep our rates stable," he said.

He called attention to a large bar graph that compared LLP's rates with those of Tacoma Power and Puget Sound Energy. "Tacoma Power's rates are 22 percent higher than LLP's," he noted. "And Puget's are 55 percent higher."

Mr. Rego mentioned maintenance projects currently being done, such as replacing old underground cable and relocating backyard transformers to the front rights-of-way along the streets.

President Paul Russell looked back at LLP's history, recalling that 63 years ago the Company purchased land on Pacific Highway SW across from the Sound Transit Station.

"Back then, the manager lived in a house on the property and was on duty 24 hours-a-day," he said. "And in that 63 years, our rates have only gone up one penny!"

He noted that BPA will have

a hard time this year because there is very low snowpack in the mountains.

LLP, however, is in good shape, he said. "The income from our wind projects helps us keep rates stable. And we are now selling renewable Green Power to our members at half the original cost."

This year's featured speaker was Terry Flores, Executive Director of Northwest River-Partners, a coalition of farmers, ports, tribes, large and small businesses and electric utilities. LLP is a long-time member of the organization.

Ms. Flores described the Columbia River system, the dams and the many ways in which the river is used every day – for transportation, commerce, fishing, tourism, irrigation and for the generation of power for the entire Northwest.

She spoke of the work River-Partners has done in its five-year history, especially in protecting endangered fish and wildlife. She emphasized that salmon protection comes with a high cost.

"Ratepayers invested \$940 billion through their power bills in

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Holiday Closures

Our office will be closed
the following dates:

Memorial Day – Monday, May 31
Independence Day – Monday, July 5

Annual Meeting *continued*

2008 alone," she said. "Approximately 20-30 percent of your power bill goes to salmon protection. You're making a really significant investment in protecting salmon and you should be very proud of that."

Many things affect the survival rate of salmon. In addition to the dams, ocean conditions, fishing (especially over-fishing) and the weather are all major factors.

If any of the dams were removed, she said, "...we'd lose a lot of our cheap power supply. And it would have a huge impact on our economy." All things considered, Flores said, "... our hydro dams are the most energy efficient, low-carbon-foot-print energy source, bar none."

As Matt Ricks announced the door prize winners, church members sold the remaining cookies. Cookie-bakers Don and Georgette Nunez estimated that the group had baked 150 dozen cookies. "That means church camp this summer for a lot of happy kids," Don Nunez said.



Scholarship winners (l-r): Bethany Nguyen, Pax Magaway, Rica Bejarin and LLP Director Linda McDermott

Extra Savings While Funds Last!

Selected energy-efficient refrigerators and clothes washers qualify for Washington State "Cash for Appliances" rebates. Visit www.cashforappliances.wa.gov for details.

Project Help

Many customers are still struggling to pay their power bills. Project Help lends a hand to our customers-in-need.

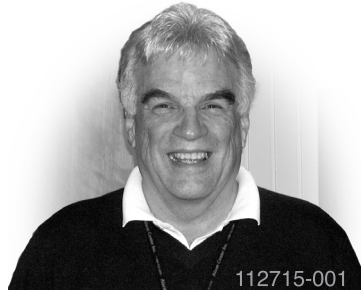


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This year, through Feb. 28, we have received \$674.15. Please consider making a contribution. Just fill in the box on your enclosed statement.

As always, we thank you for your support!

Welcome our new staff members ~ Bob Truesdell & Scott Manning



Bob Truesdell, our new Financial Controller, worked in manufacturing, aerospace, the Tacoma Zoo and a local construction firm before joining LLP.

Bob and his wife Karen have two grown sons and two grandchildren who also live in the area.

The Truesdells love to travel, and have even been to an elephant roundup in Thailand.

Bob also collects antique clocks. "We have more than 40 clocks," Bob said. "I think my wife would probably call it my obsession. I love the old wood and the ornamentation and I enjoy repairing them."

He enjoys working at LLP, he said. "It feels like a real family place. It's small enough that you can get to know everyone. The staff is very professional and accepting of new people."



Scott Manning, our new lineman, came to LLP from Potelco Construction, where he had a similar position.

Scott and his wife, Paula, recently celebrated their 16th anniversary. The Mannings have two daughters – 15 year-old Alison and 13-year-old Alexsi. Both girls are very involved in activities at Curtis High School. Alison is a cheerleader and dancer; Alexsi plays in a select soccer league.

The family enjoys skiing in the winter and taking out the boat in the summer. "With such active kids, I spend a lot of time playing chauffeur, too," he said.

Scott likes working at LLP. "Construction is totally money-driven," he said. "LLP is customer-service driven."

Please say 'Hello' to Bob and Scott when you see them.

Find Your Account Number, Win \$20

In each issue of *The Lakeview Light*, we hide five randomly chosen account numbers (like 12345-678). If you find yours, call us at 584-6060 before the next edition is published and you'll receive a \$20 credit on your next bill. Good luck!

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**Lakeview
Light** is written and
designed by **Sunburst Studios**

Please send comments or
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