

ROUGH RIDER NEWS

ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

SEPTEMBER 2017

WORK IT HOT OR GROUND IT DEAD

(See C6-C7)

Apprentice Lineman
Kaden Ficek

Roughrider Electric linemen attended Hotline School in July. By practicing simulated energized work using the most current techniques and technology, our linemen stay safe in the field when they work the lines "hot." Members, this prevents disruptions of power to your home, farm or business.

What's inside:

- Member feature: Baker Boy
- Sale and purchase of transformer benefits cooperative neighbors
- Farm safety around electrical infrastructure
- Meeting minutes and more

PHOTO BY CARMEN DEVNEY



PHOTOS BY GLASSER IMAGES

Baker Boy employee **Gene Sangraw** places dough pieces on the conveyor belt to form one long, continuous piece of dough. This particular dough is used for puff pastry products.

Baker Boy continues baking traditions with high-tech innovations

BY LUANN DART

A few years ago, Baker Boy President Guy Moos wondered if a workforce-intensive manufacturing industry and the oil boom could co-exist in Dickinson. Today, he believes the outlook of manufacturing in North Dakota is bright. And Baker Boy continues its 60-year niche in the community with the help of talented employees and high-tech automation.

This manufacturing company isn't about heavy metal and welding arcs. Rather, its foundations are flour, sugar and yeast.

Baker Boy was founded by Guy's father, the late Marvin Moos, who grew up in New Salem. He served as a baker in the U.S. Navy during World War II, then studied baking in

Minneapolis, Minn. Marvin opened his first bake shop in Hebron, then moved his shop to Dickinson in 1957, where he branched into other retail businesses, including "The Donut Hole" donut shop.

In 1979, the family began manufacturing dough products, utilizing 3,000 square feet in a 6,000-square-foot building in an industrial park in west Dickinson. With three full-time employees, including Marvin and Guy, the business initially sold frozen dough or donuts to its franchised "Donut Hole" donut shops.

"We quickly learned we're going to go broke if we don't start selling other products to other businesses, so we quickly added products to our product

line and started selling dough products to in-store bakeries and bakeries in the 200-mile radius," Guy says.

The business eventually expanded to its current 139,000 square feet and 200 employees. It distributes 270 different products in the Midwest and Northwest.

"We have a wide variety of items," says Carrie Zimmerman, Baker Boy's marketing manager. Products range from bread doughs to baked breads to donuts, sweet rolls and pastries to cookies and desserts. The products are sold wholesale as dough, par-baked or fully baked to bakeries, schools, restaurants and other retail outlets.

And this isn't Grandma's kitchen.

Baker Boy uses 300,000 pounds of flour each week, buying most of its flour from the North Dakota Mill. Yeast is purchased from a Wahpeton company, boxes from Fargo and Grand Forks companies and sugar from United Sugars.

That regional support also translates to supporting the local community.

"That is certainly one of our values is commitment to our community, to share our time and treasures. We can't expect to have great people working here unless we have a great community to live in," Guy says.

Baker Boy is not resting on its current formulas. It continually develops new products or improves current products, with about 90 percent of new product ideas coming from customer suggestions and about 10 percent from "inspiration," Guy says.

"Given the size of our company, we have one of the largest R&D departments, proportionately, in the industry. We have three people who work every day on creating new products or taking our existing products and making them better," Guy says.

The company also tries to be proactive in its ingredient choices, by avoiding as much artificial colors or flavors as possible.

“In the food industry, there’s a constant march to make products healthier and cleaner labeled and we’re certainly part of that, so we’re constantly working on different revisions to our product, always mindful of keeping the quality or better, but eliminating ingredients that people have a hard time pronouncing,” Guy describes.

Baker Boy is also forward-thinking in its automation, adding new equipment nearly every year to stay competitive, Guy says. About two years ago, it added frying capacity that can produce 44,000 mini-donuts an hour. By August, two giant mixers will be imported from Italy that can each mix about 950 pounds of dough at one time.

From robotic tray handling, to tunnel ovens to automated packaging, “we have a tremendous amount of automation,” Guy says.

Tunnel ovens from Italy utilizing a conveyor system are 13 feet wide and 65 feet long that can bake 120, foot-long baguettes each minute.

“You cannot create great careers in manufacturing unless you’re competitive, and we compete with some multi-billion dollar companies that are very automated as well, so we have to be constantly on the march of continuous improvement,” Guy says. Adding automation has helped the company compete by increasing wages and attracting a talented workforce, he says.

Operating all that massive equipment takes electricity. Roughrider Electric Cooperative, which serves Baker Boy, has worked with the company as it has expanded.

“Nothing works without electricity,



*Baker Boy employee **Sonia Mesa** monitors the mini donuts in the fryer, to separate them when they stick together or flip them when they don't flip on their own.*

and we use a lot of power and Roughrider has been a good partner. They’ve grown with us over the years. I remember more than a few transformers that we’ve had them upgrade,” Guy says. “Every step of the way, they’ve been there for us.”

Baker Boy has also found great support from the community of Dickinson, Guy says.

“It’s home. We stayed here because of the great people, the talented workforce,” Guy says. He describes a camaraderie with other manufacturers in the community, such as TMI, Steffes, Fisher Manufacturing and Killdeer Mountain Manufacturing.

“We really do cheer each other on,” he says. “The business community has been absolutely fantastic for myself and Baker Boy.”

Guy is most proud of Baker Boy’s people and its products.

“It takes talented people to make any successful company run,” he says. “One of the things I am really proud of is that out of the 200 people I get the opportunity to work with

every day, probably a third of them have been with us over 10 years. That makes it enjoyable. We have really talented people and that’s our number one asset.”

Baker Boy affectionately calls its products “Marvin’s best,” in honor of the company’s founder.

“We think he’s probably smiling down on us, really proud of the great products we produce every day,” Guy says. ■





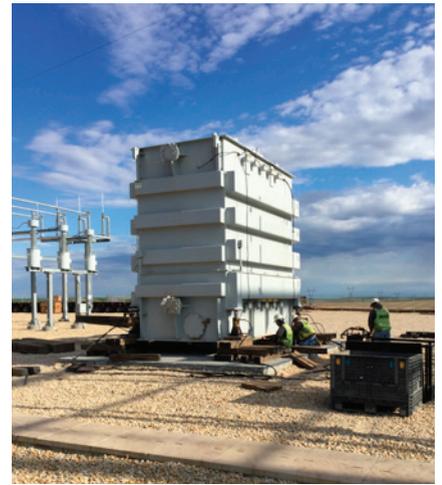
PHOTO BY JOE VOLK

"Dressed" with accessories and oil at the Rhame Substation prior to the move, the transformer weighs 306,900 pounds.



PHOTO BY DARREN STASTNY

Arriving at the South Heart Substation.



Unloading and assembling at the South Heart Substation.

Sale and purchase of transformer benefits cooperative neighbors

STORY BY CARMEN DEVNEY

How do you move a transformer that weighs 160,400 pounds “undressed,” without oil and accessories, from Rhame in the Slope Electric Cooperative service area to South Heart in the Roughrider Electric Cooperative service area?

Slowly and carefully — and with more than a little help from friends.

In June, linemen worked together to transport a large transformer from the Rhame Substation to the South Heart Substation.

Because there is an alternative transmission feed between power suppliers Upper Missouri Power Cooperative and Basin Electric Power Cooperative, the Slope system operates efficiently and reliably without the use of the spare transformer at Rhame.

With one similar in size in place at

South Heart, this spare, which is still in excellent condition, is needed by Roughrider. It will serve as a back-up in case the existing transformer fails or Roughrider crews need to perform maintenance. The sale and purchase of the transformer is a bargain for Slope and Roughrider respectively, and the cooperation between cooperatives will benefit the member-owners.

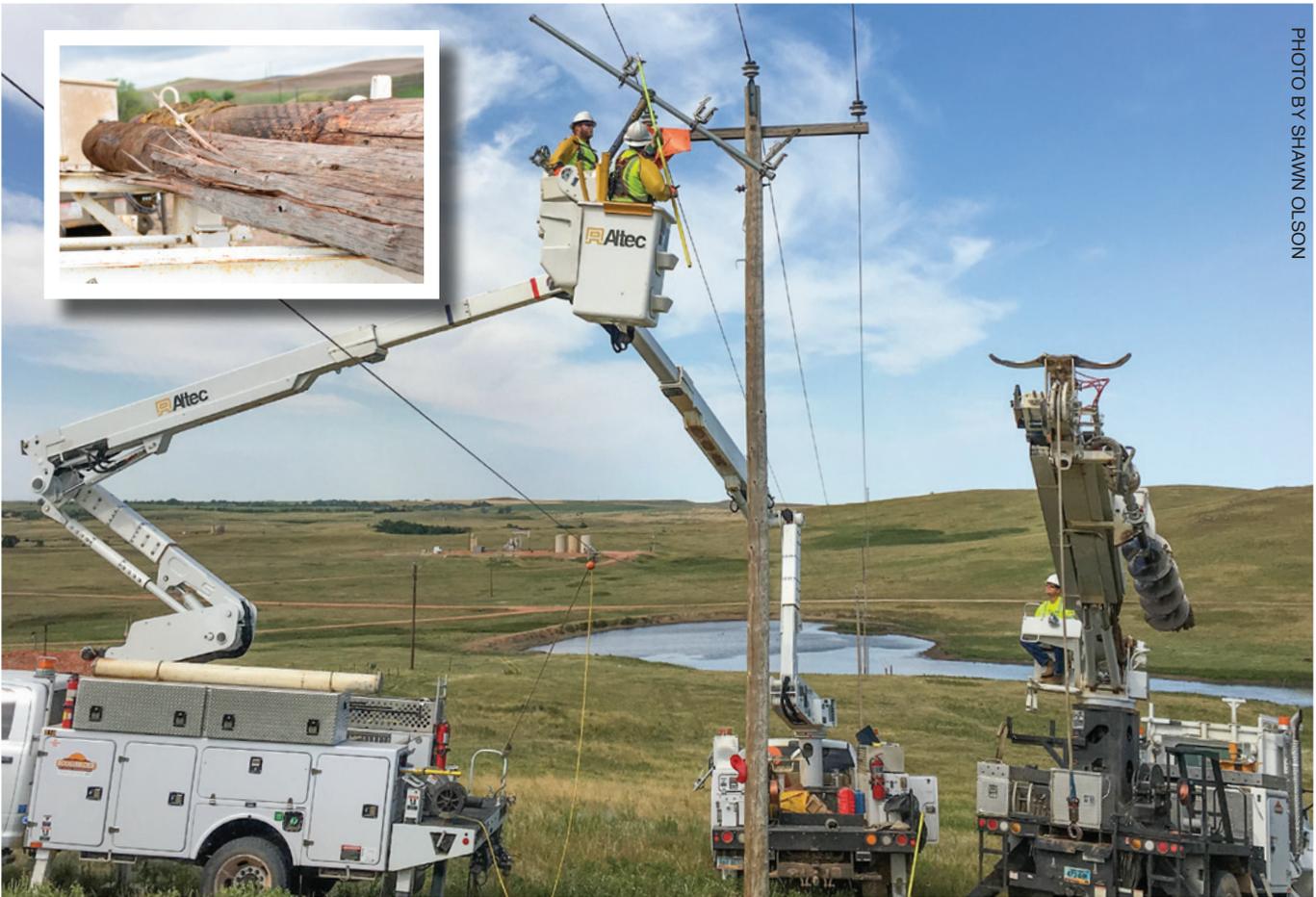
Moving the heavy transformer more than 80 miles required careful planning, said Joe Volk, transmission and substation maintenance manager for Innovative Energy Alliance Cooperative. Prior to the move, the unit was disassembled and the oil was drained on-site.

“Before oil can be pumped back in, the transformer must be placed under a vacuum for 24 hours to remove any moisture. Then, oil is pumped back in

through a filtration-processing system to protect against contaminants,” he said.

On moving day, 100-ton jacks lifted the transformer and hydraulically powered slide rails moved it. No cranes were used as part of the heavy-haul process. The transformer was transported on an 18-axle Goldhofer trailer.

Cooperation and communication were critical in moving the transformer. Roughrider and Slope worked with Van Dyke Bros., Inc. and Electro-Test & Maintenance, Inc. to plan and facilitate the relocation. The cooperative also partnered with Montana-Dakota Utilities, which assisted by lifting some overhead lines along the highway to accommodate the height of the 230/115-kilovolt transformer. ■



Roughrider Electric Cooperative linemen prepare to change out a damaged pole, working the lines "hot." We keep the lines energized, when possible, so our members have uninterrupted electric service. Replacing the compromised pole prevented a potentially lengthy outage. Pictured here are Linemen **Tyler Phelps** (left) and **Dion Gefre**, who are applying cover-up and grounding in the buckets, and **Mike Steier**, who is operating the digger.

What happens when you have an accident in the field and hit a power pole — and don't report it to your electric cooperative?

This compromised distribution pole would have eventually toppled and caused a power outage — or even worse — caused an injury. Thankfully, no one was hurt. A Roughrider lineman discovered the damage during routine line patrol and a four-man crew replaced the pole.

Members, your safety matters! If you see a damaged or downed power line or pole, do not assume it is de-energized. Keep a safe distance, and report it to Roughrider Electric by calling 1-800-748-5533 or emailing safety@roughriderelectric.com. If you send an email, please include the location, your name and contact information, and a photo if possible.

Working together helps ensure the safety of all!



Roughrider Journeyman Lineman **Kyle Irwin** (center)

BACK TO SCHOOL WORK IT HOT OR GROUND IT DEAD

STORY AND PHOTOS BY CARMEN DEVNEY



The job of an electric cooperative lineworker is to help build, maintain and repair the electric distribution system without disrupting the flow of power to its member-owners when possible. During the week of July 10 to 14, nearly 80 lineworkers from North Dakota's 16 electric distribution cooperatives including Roughrider Electric Cooperative went back to school to get a refresher course in the application of rubber goods and gloves to work on energized high-voltage power lines. They also practiced using personal protective grounds as part of the process of de-energizing a power line to allow repairs to be completed safely. While on the job, linemen have the option to work a power line hot or ground it dead.

Roughrider Working Foreman **Shawn Olson** (right)



Roughrider Journeyman Lineman **Tyler Phelps** (right)



Roughrider Journeyman Lineman **Tanner Goetz**

PHOTO BY JOHN KARY

Hotline School is hosted annually by the North Dakota Association of Rural Electric Cooperatives in Mandan, with support from vendors and manufacturers. The objectives are to network best practices amongst North Dakota lineworkers from apprentices to skilled leaders in the field; to learn practical skills and safe work procedures with hands-on instruction and demonstrations from experienced lineworkers; and to apply skills learned throughout six work stations under the guidance of skilled mentors. Education starts in the classroom and ends in the field with hands-on training and practice.

Four of the six stations required participants to practice various grounding scenarios to protect the lineworker. The other two stations included traditional hotline work situations that require the use of rubber gloves and cover-up to insulate energized lines and apparatuses.

Christina Roemmich, director of safety services for NDAREC, says linemen partake in safety and technical training throughout the year. Field training, in a controlled environment like hotline school, is the best time for linemen to apply the skills they have learned. “When an outage occurs or storm restoration is required, the linemen have practiced the skills needed to complete the job safely,” she says.

Several Roughrider Electric employees participated in this year’s hotline school including Working Foremen Billy Kummer and Shawn Olson, and Journeymen Linemen Dion Gefre, Kyle Irwin, Scott Leintz and Mike Steier, who served as instructors. Apprentice Lineman Kayden Ficek and Journeymen Linemen Tanner Goetz, Cody Hintz, Andrew McFarland and Tyler Phelps attended as participants. ■

Education, training and information is the fifth cooperative principle. In July, some Roughrider Electric linemen participated in Hotline School, hosted by the North Dakota Association of Rural Electric Cooperatives in Mandan. By practicing simulated energized work using the most current techniques and technology, our linemen stay safe in the field when they work the lines “hot.” Members, this prevents disruptions of power to your home, farm or business.



Roughrider Working Foreman **Billy Kummer** (right)

Report from
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
JULY 28, 2017

When, where and who: The Board of Directors met in Medora on July 28.

Board Member monthly report: Mr. Retterath recognized that it will be Mr. Baumgartner's last Roughrider Board meeting. The Board thanked Mr. Baumgartner for his service.

Agenda: The Board reviewed, amended and approved the meeting agenda.

Minutes of the previous meeting: The Board reviewed and approved the minutes of the June 30, 2017, meeting.

Co-General Managers' report: Chris Baumgartner and Don Franklund presented the managers' report.

Mr. Franklund reported there was an informal hearing with the Public Service Commission (PSC) regarding service area negotiations with Montana-Dakota Utilities on July 26, 2017. The PSC did not identify any issues with the proposed plan. There will be a formal hearing for approval of the plan by the PSC.

Operations and Construction report: Mr. Bentz referred the Board to his written report.

Members Services/Key Accounts report: Mr. Hibl referred the Board to his written report.

Chief Information Officer's report: The Board was referred to Mr. Dunbar's written report.

Mr. Franklund stated Roughrider is working on implementing new cyber security software. There will be new cyber security training in which the Board will be asked to partake.

Upcoming meetings: The next Board meeting was set for 10 a.m. CT on Aug. 25, 2017, at Roughrider's office in Hazen, N.D.

Other business: There being no other business, upon motion made, seconded and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned.



www.roughriderelectric.com

HAZEN OFFICE
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7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. CST Monday-Friday

Payments may be deposited in the deposit box by Roughrider Electric's main office entrance or in the drop boxes located at Krause's Super Valu in Hazen or Bronson's Super Valu in Beulah.

DICKINSON OFFICE
701-483-5111 or 800-627-8470
P.O. Box 1038, 2156 4th Ave. E.
Dickinson, ND 58602
8 a.m. – 5 p.m. MST Monday-Friday

Payments may be deposited in the deposit box west of Roughrider Electric's main office entrance or in the drop boxes located at Dickinson City Hall, or the north and south locations of Family Fare supermarkets.

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

- Roger Kudrna, President; Dickinson483-8377
- Darell Herman, Vice President; Beulah873-4371
- Troy Sailer, Secretary; Golden Valley948-2427
- Bruce Darcy, Treasurer; Golden Valley983-4222
- William Retterath; Center794-8729
- Arnold Kainz; Dickinson483-8207
- Dan Price; Hensler794-3779
- Greg Steckler; Dunn Center548-8122
- Callen Schoch; New England579-4395

MANAGEMENT

- Don FranklundGeneral Manager/CEO



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