



SOUTHERN PINE CONNECTION

News & Notes from Southern Pine Electric

Jordan retires after 30 years as manager

After 30 years as Southern Pine Electric's General Manager and Chief Executive Officer, Don Jordan recently announced he will retire from those duties effective May 1, 2017.



"It has been my pleasure to be a part of providing quality electric service to the members of Southern Pine," Mr. Jordan said. "There were many decisions that had to be

made during the time I have been manager. My focus in making those decisions has always been to do what is best for members and employees. Quality service at the lowest cost has been the mission. I am satisfied this mission was accomplished."

With an emphasis on providing the best services available to members, he established a strong infrastructure capable of providing all the electrical needs of the Cooperative's 11-county service area and placed Southern Pine as one of the top electric distribution cooperatives in the nation.

Mr. Jordan has been instrumental in bringing

new businesses to Southern Pine's service area by obtaining zero-interest loans through government programs and also promoted existing businesses' expansion and growth. An open-door policy and desire to hire new employees with fresh ideas and knowledge of ever-changing technology have provided

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ed Southern Pine with a well-prepared staff and stable work force for the future.

Under Mr. Jordan's leadership total miles of line grew from 8,467 to 10,320. Total utility plant went from \$65 million to \$401 million. While basically maintaining the same number of employees at 245,

margin and equities grew from \$25 million to \$257 million and total consumers from 42,391 to 66,515. Total kilowatt-hours sold climbed from 855 million to 2 billion. Southern Pine opened four district offices, a branch location and will soon complete construction of a new campus that will include a warehouse, general services building, district office and a new headquarters building.

Practicing and preaching good stewardship of resources is second nature to him and, as a result, he leaves a legacy of a well-managed, financially sound cooperative that exemplifies his mission of making life better for the employees and members of Southern Pine.

"I want to thank the Cooperative's Board of Directors for providing wisdom and guidance. I also want to thank all the employees for their support and hard work to accomplish the cooperative's mission," Mr. Jordan said.

Career & Accomplishments

- Joined Southern Pine Electric in 1980
- Named General Manager and Chief Executive Officer in 1987
- Past president and member of the Jones County Junior College Foundation Board
- Past member of the Mississippi Partnership Board of Directors
- Past member of the Mississippi Economic Development Council
- Member of the Cooperative Energy Board of Directors
- Past president and member of the Electric Cooperatives of Mississippi

- Chairman of the Action Committee for Rural Electrification (ACRE) Board for Mississippi
- Recipient of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Administration (NRECA) William F. Matson Award
- Member of Taylorsville First Baptist Church

Family

- Mr. Jordan and the late Suzanne Eaton Jordan are the parents of four children. They have eight grandchildren.

Beef & Poultry Expo Coming

Southern Pine Electric is proud to be a sponsor of the annual Magnolia Beef & Poultry Expo in Raleigh. This year's event is 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. April 6 at the Smith County Agricultural Complex. The expo will feature live animal exhibits, speakers and giveaways. Admission is free and the public is invited.

The agriculture complex is located at 131 Oil Field Road off Highway 35 South.

Be sure to visit the Southern Pine booth and register for a Yeti beverage tub to be given away!

Efficiency Tip

Air dry clean dishes to save energy. If your dishwasher does not have an automatic air-dry switch, turn off the dishwasher after the final rinse and prop the door open slightly so the dishes will dry faster.

Southern Pine Electric has more energy efficiency tips at www.southernpine.coop. Check them out!

Hear thunder? Head for cover!

When thunderstorms are rolling your way, stay safe with these helpful tips from the American Red Cross:

- Listen to local news or NOAA Weather Radio for emergency updates. Watch for signs of a storm, like darkening skies, lightning flashes or increasing wind.
- Postpone outdoor activities if thunderstorms are likely to occur. Many people struck by lightning are not in the area where rain is occurring.
- If a severe thunderstorm warning is issued, take shelter in a substantial building or in a vehicle with the windows closed. Get out of mobile homes that can blow over in high winds.
- If you can hear thunder, you are close enough to be in danger from lightning. If thunder roars, go indoors! The National Weather Service recommends staying inside for at least 30 minutes after the last thunder clap.
- Avoid electrical equipment and tele-



phones. Use battery-powered TVs and radios instead.

- Shutter windows and close outside doors securely. Keep away from windows.
- Do not take a bath, shower or use plumbing.
- If you are driving, try to safely exit the roadway and park. Stay in the vehicle and turn on the emergency

flashers until the heavy rain ends.

Avoid touching metal or other surfaces that conduct electricity in and outside the vehicle.

- If you are outside and cannot reach a safe building, avoid high ground; water; tall, isolated trees; and metal objects such as fences or bleachers. Picnic shelters, dugouts and sheds are NOT safe.



BE PREPARED BEFORE A STORM STRIKES

In the event of a power outage, be prepared by keeping the following items in an easy-to-find emergency supply kit.



■ WATER

Three-day supply, one gallon per person per day.



■ TOOLS

Flashlight, extra batteries, manual can opener, battery-powered or hand-crank radio, NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert.



■ FIRST AID KIT AND PRESCRIPTIONS

First aid supplies, hand sanitizer and at least one week's supply of prescriptions and medications for the family.

Learn more at www.ready.gov



Source: American Red Cross, Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Non-Discrimination Statement

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Send your completed complaint form or letter by mail to U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.