



Bryan Texas Utilities

205 East 28th Street • Bryan, TX 77803

email: ContactBTU@btutilities.com

Hours of Operation

Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Board of Directors

- Mr. Carl L. Benner, Chairman
- Mr. Chris Peterson, Vice Chairman
- Mr. Paul Turney, Secretary/Treasurer
- Mr. Art Hughes, Ex-Officio
- Mr. Flynn Adcock
- Mr. David Bairrington
- Mr. Bill Ballard
- Mr. Ben Hardeman

General Manager

Gary Miller

Group Managers

- Larry Gurley
- Randy Trimble
- David Werley

Division Managers

- James Bodine
- Bill Bullock
- Shawndra Green
- Michael Hering
- Ken Lindberg
- Vicki Reim
- Scott Smith
- James Tanneberger

Doug Lyles, Chief Risk Officer/Controller

City of Bryan

- Kean Register, City Manager
- Joe Hegwood, CFO
- Bernie Acre, CIO



Board Meeting Notes

The BTU Board of Directors met on Monday, July 7, 2014 and discussed the following topics:

Financial

Gary Miller, BTU General Manager, presented the proposed FY15 Operating and Maintenance budgets for all divisions of BTU. All department budgets remain unchanged from previous budget discussions. The Board approved the budgets.

David Werley, BTU Group Manager of Business and Customer Operations, introduced Max Bernt of New Gen Strategies and Solutions, LLC. Mr. Bernt led a detailed discussion of the Total Cost of Service Study (TCOS) and an overview of the proposed rate ordinance. Further discussion will occur at the next Board meeting.

Joe Hegwood, Chief Financial Officer for the City of Bryan/BTU, opened discussion concerning additional TCOS charges that necessitate a change in regulatory charges that will result in an overall average rate increase of approximately 1%. The Board approved the rate change to become effective August 1, 2014.

Operations

John Fontenot, BTU Compliance Officer, presented the results of the 2014 Texas Reliability Entity (TRE) Compliance Audit. The audit covered BTU's function as a Generation Operator, Generation Owner, Transmission Operator, Transmission Owner, Load Serving Entity and Distribution Provider. BTU passed all audits with no violations or concerns and TRE praised BTU for several industry leading practices.

Randy Trimble, Group Manager of Transmission and Distribution, discussed the safety statistics for the previous month, which stated that BTU had no at-fault vehicle incidents and no lost time accidents, which gives BTU an overall 5.13 incident rate for the year.

Mr. Trimble shared the June SAIDI and SAIFI reports. The outages that occurred in the city system were due to animal contact and rural system outages were weather related.

Do your part to help conserve water!
 Plant in the fall and spring when your new plants require less watering.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

- Billing/Collections/Connects (979) 821-5700
- Electrical Outage/Lines Down (979) 822-3777
- Distribution/Line Design (979) 821-5770



Employee Spotlight

Lee Glidewell

SCADA Administrator



Story by Gina Florence.

Photos by Ryan Stout.

When a friend recommended to Lee Glidewell that he apply for an open position as a SCADA administrator at BTU, he had never heard of SCADA. It's an acronym for Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition, which is a computer system for gathering and analyzing real time data.

Bryan Texas Utilities (BTU) uses SCADA systems to map out the power grid and to help pinpoint power outages that can be relayed to dispatch for efficient power restoration. SCADA is also needed to collect data from remote terminal units (RTUs) to show what energy has been transferred back and forth from the Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT) power grid.

While Lee was not familiar with SCADA, he was skilled with computer networking infrastructures, building hardware, and software programming. He got his start at a computer company when he was 19 years old, a departure from his studies in criminal justice. When changes were imminent at his former company, he knew he needed to look elsewhere and his job search landed him on the BTU website.

"I saw BTU had a job opening for a dispatch

position. I wanted to be somewhere stable and thought BTU would be a good place for me," Lee said. "I knew the hiring manager, and he thought I'd be better suited for the role of SCADA administrator."

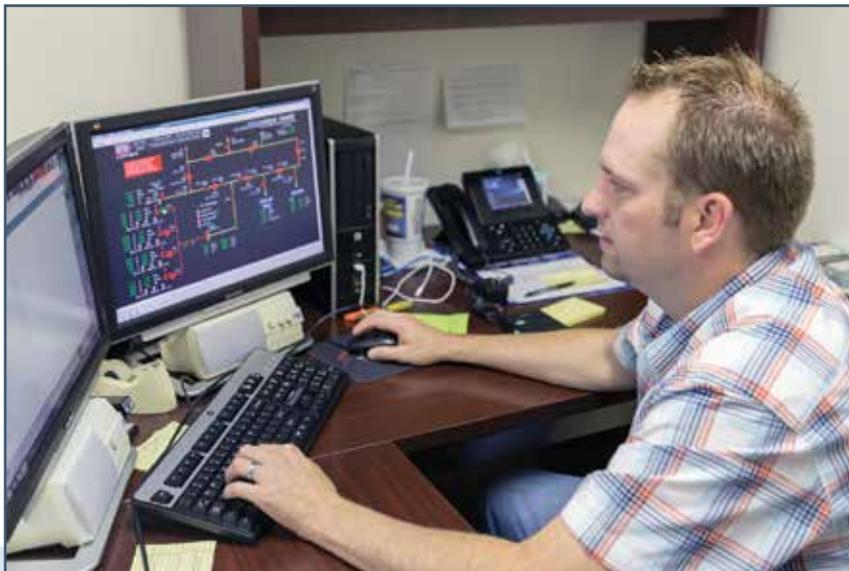
Shortly after being hired in December 2012, Lee was sent to Ontario for a weeklong training program. He spent about forty hours learning the SCADA software that week. In addition to training opportunities, Lee has had his co-workers to learn from as well.

"Coming in blind was a bit overwhelming at first, but Steve Ingram is my go-to guy. He's been doing this for years and he's always willing to help me out." The training allows for Lee and his coworkers to keep their skills up to date with the latest in technology.

Most of the time Lee spends his days at his desk in the BTU office. However, he spends about ten percent of his time in the field answering calls requiring his expertise. "Everyone helps each other out. All of our departments are interconnected, so it's good to know we can rely on each other."

Lee was drawn to BTU because of the stability and the closeness among the co-workers. "I really liked the atmosphere here. I feel like I left a close group at my previous company to join another close group."

Family is really important to Lee. When he is not at work he is spending his time at his home in Caldwell, with his wife, three kids, and three dogs. "The way I describe my family is 'mayhem-ish' because it's so loud. We spend all our time outside and we have lots of family around. I traded hunting several times a week to spend more time with my kids, and I wouldn't have it any other way."



BTU's Powertown Demonstration Teaches Children Safety Around Power Lines

Story by Gina Florence. Photos by Ryan Stout.

In a classroom with more than 30 elementary-to-high school-aged students, a BTU Energy Accounts Manager asks, "Who here knows what BTU is?" Hands wave in the air and one young child shouts out, "You take care of our electricity!"

A series of queries follows as the children eagerly try to answer first.

- "Who discovered electricity?" (*Benjamin Franklin, 1752, while flying a kite.*)
- "Can you live without electricity?" (*The most common answer was "yes," but they don't want to.*)
- "Who likes to climb trees?" (*Roughly 80 percent of students in the room.*)

This kicked off the electrical safety presentation with Powertown, BTU's high voltage demonstration model.

BTU began using Powertown in January to teach children that the key to safety is to use electricity wisely, be aware of their surroundings, and to use

proper precautions around power lines. Powertown shows electrical hazards in real-life scenes through a tabletop village with a street scene and an agricultural field. Electrical safety is a top priority for BTU, and this demonstration is one of a dozen this year designed to educate about the power of electricity.

For each presentation, BTU Energy Accounts Managers lead the children in a variety of scenarios with which they are familiar, from flying kites to climbing trees. When the model is energized, the account managers are able to captivate the children with sparks, pops, and sizzles. The first electrical arc sparked when a kite hit the power line on the table, and gasps rose through the room. A few students even let out, "it's so cool!"

One girl asked why the voltage was so high on the model. Adam Snidow, a BTU Energy Accounts Manager, answered, "To show better examples of the arcs. Also, the voltage is roughly the same as the



power lines within the city.”

Safety remained the focus of the demonstration throughout the half-hour. The children were able to try on the gloves that BTU linemen wear to keep them safe in the field. Adam also wore the same gloves while using the demonstration table.

The Energy Account Managers described what a substation is and what one looks like. They explained that if one of the children is playing outside and a football is tossed into the gated area, they should not climb the fence to retrieve it. Instead, they advised the children to call the police who can then contact BTU to send out a lineman dressed in safety gear.

They also showed different types of transformers and instructed the children to not go near one if it is open and that they should not try to close it. Again, they advised that the children should notify police who can alert BTU of the issue.

While the main demonstration focused on power lines, substations, and transformers, the conversation also included hazards inside the home. According to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, 70 percent of child-related electrical accidents occur at home when adult supervision is present.

This entertaining and engaging educational presentation on electrical safety allowed the children to ask questions of the experts, learn hazards associated with power lines and think about ways they could save power by turning off game systems and lights.



2014 Youth Tour Provided Three Area Students the Trip of a Lifetime

Story by Sara Sherman.

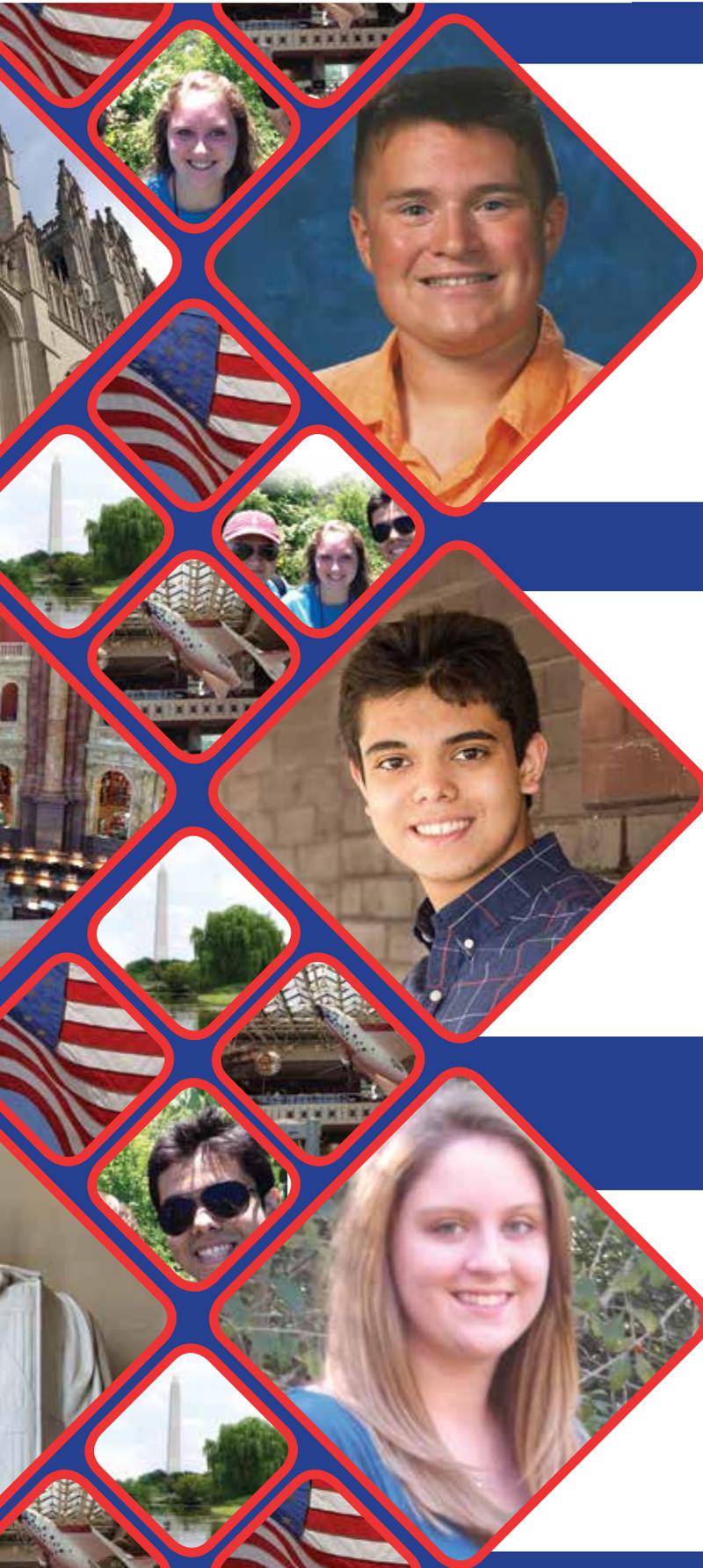
Bryan Texas Utilities (BTU) proudly selected and sent three local high school students—Dalton Jones, Eric Pillai and Kimberly Wagon—to Washington, D.C., as part of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association’s (NRECA) annual Government-in-Action Youth Tour. For this year’s competition, hopeful participants wrote an essay describing what life would be like without electricity and submitted a letter of recommendation from an educator.

The winners received an expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C. with 1500 other students and chaperones from across the country, from June 12-20, 2014. While there, they enjoyed a truly unique opportunity to learn about the U.S. government and tour our nation’s capital. They share what the trip meant to them on the following page.

The Government-in-Action Youth Tour developed from comments that Senator Lyndon B. Johnson made to the NRECA in 1957. The NRECA started the tour in 1964 and, every summer since then, participating states have sent students to Washington, D.C. to learn more about and witness first-hand how our government works. The students sponsored by BTU have consistently been incredibly thankful for this rare opportunity.

BTU’s involvement in the Youth Tour trip would not be possible without the coordination of Paul Buckner, a BTU Energy Accounts Manager, who is eager to continue his support and assistance for the 2015 Youth Tour contest and trip. Paul explained, “BTU is pleased to support the Government-In-Action Youth Tour program and provide area youth the opportunity to learn how our government works in what is truly the trip of a lifetime.” For more information about the Youth Tour program and next year’s competition, please visit www.btutilities.com or contact Paul by calling (979) 821-5859 or by email at pbuckner@btutilities.com. Bryan Texas Utilities looks forward to next year’s Youth Tour.





Dalton Jones

Dalton Jones, a freshman at Texas A&M University, was specifically touched by the National Cathedral. “The National Cathedral was such a dynamic structure on the outside, but the best was found in the beautiful interior with all the stained glass windows, a donated moon rock from Apollo 11, artwork from famous artists and the various carvings and sculptures.” Dalton’s advice to the students who plan to apply for the contest next year is, “Do it! Enter the contest. It’s a trip of a lifetime! It’s the best trip I have ever been on and I learned so much while having so much fun with the other winners! It truly was the time of my life.”

Eric Pillai

As an incoming junior at A&M Consolidated High School, Eric Pillai participates in his school’s Debate, Interfaith and Writing clubs. His favorite aspect of the trip was meeting his congressman, Bill Flores. Eric elaborated: “He was a very gracious host, and meeting him provided a valuable insight about government and really helped me to view politicians as human beings instead of vague figures in a far away capital. I am now able to see politics as a process that I can actually influence and take part in, rather than just something static from which I am removed.” Eric states he would love to do the trip again if he had the opportunity.

Kimberly Wagon

Kimberly Wagon is a junior at Bryan Collegiate High School. She shared that her favorite part of the trip was getting to see the Lincoln Memorial. She elaborated, “This trip made me realize history is very important and appreciate our nation’s government more than I ever did! I recommend all students who want a chance to make great friends from all over the country participate in BTU’s Youth Tour Competition. Be sure to enter early and take your time on the essay.”

BTU Honored for Outstanding System Achievement

For the second time this year, Bryan Texas Utilities has been honored with a prominent award. The Texas Public Power Association (TPPA) presented BTU with a System Achievement Award on July 23, 2014, at their annual meeting. This award honors member utility systems that are widely recognized in the public power field, have enhanced the prestige of public power, and have improved service to customers. BTU's General Manager, Gary Miller, accepted the award on behalf of the organization.

"It is definitely an honor to be recognized by TPPA for this year's System Achievement Award," said Gary. "BTU employees work hard every day for the citizens of Bryan and the Brazos Valley. This award is truly a recognition of their hard work to make the BTU system as efficient, reliable and customer friendly as possible."

To be considered for the award, a system must be widely recognized in the public power field, must have acted to enhance the prestige of public power and must have been a leader in improved service to customers.

BTU has previously been recognized for its reliability and for its customer service initiatives. In March 2014, BTU was the only utility in Texas, and one of only 29 of the nation's 2,000 public power utilities, to earn the "Reliable Public Power Provider (RP₃) Diamond Award" from the American Public Power Association.



Dr. Thomas Wallis Named Superintendent of the Year

The Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) named Bryan ISD's Dr. Thomas Wallis the Region 6 Superintendent of the Year for 2014. His distinction will now place him in the running for the statewide honor, which will be announced at this year's Texas Association of School Administrators/TASB convention on September 26, 2014, in Dallas.



The Superintendent of the Year award has recognized outstanding Texas administrators for 30 years. The award is based on leadership in several areas, including student performance, administration and school climate, school board and superintendent relations, school improvement, school and community relations and management of finances, facilities, instruction, students and personnel. Dr. Wallis was nominated for the award by the Bryan ISD board of trustees with a unanimous vote.

"I'm honored that the accomplishments of our students and district employees were recognized in this special way," Dr. Wallis said. "The success of a superintendent and his or her district largely comes from the efforts of students and a staff of dedicated people. I'm pleased to work with people who place children first, always."

Dr. Wallis joined Bryan ISD in July 2011, having previously served as the Superintendent of Palestine ISD. Region 6 covers the following 15 counties: Austin, Brazos, Burleson, Grimes, Houston, Leon, Madison, Milam, Montgomery, Polk, Robertson, San Jacinto, Trinity, Walker and Washington.

TEXAS REDS

Steak & Grape
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SEPTEMBER 27- 28

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texasredsfestival.com

Wine



Steak



Music

