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Dudek turns over the reins in Jewett City



Dudek, circa 1959

*Community
salutes
long-time utility
chief*

For a modest man, Joe Dudek found it hard to avoid the spotlight on May 2, as officials came out to dedicate the sparkling new wastewater treatment plant that has risen on the shores of Quinebaug River in Jewett City, Conn. Congressman Rob Simmons, joined by state and local legislators and other officials, all paid tribute to Dudek and his “bulldog” determination to see the plant’s financing and construction through to completion, despite innumerable problems and setbacks along the way. The ceremony, on the steps of the plant’s control building, provided a fitting opportunity for public recognition of Joe Dudek’s service to the Jewett City Department of Public Utilities, which officially ended on May 20th, 45 years after it began.

He finds it hard to believe that nearly a half-century has come and gone since he strapped on his hooks and began climbing poles for the small community light department. The son of a self-taught electrician, Dudek was born just a few years after electricity was brought to his parent’s farm in Griswold. While in grammar school, he developed an interest in electricity himself while helping his father do electrical work. He studied electricity while attending the Norwich Regional

Technical School, and followed that up with active duty in the U.S. Army, where he was able to take additional courses in electricity.

While doing contract work in his hometown, he visited the local light department to get an electrical permit, and left with an offer of employment. This was in 1960, when the department had four employees. In addition to line maintenance, Dudek read meters, prepared bills, and came to know virtually every family in the community. In those days, he recalls, many electric meters were located inside homes, and so houses were left unlocked for the meter men. He would often find people sleeping peacefully in their bedrooms while he read the meter in the hall and left a bill behind. Many times the bill was paid at the light department office before he would finish his daily route.

In 1977, the department Superintendent died suddenly of a heart attack. The Light Commissioners asked Dudek and his good friend and fellow lineworker Henry “Bud” Ouillette to keep the department running. Shortly after, Dudek became the new superintendent. Ouillette went on to become one of the Department’s long-time Commissioners.

The Borough of Jewett City fell into serious financial problems in the early 1990’s due in large part to the Borough’s

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Call for nominations

The NEPPA Nominating Committee is seeking nominations for awards of recognition to be made by NEPPA during its annual conference in August. Each year, the association seeks to recognize individuals who have made contributions to their utilities, communities, and to public power. To help identify these individuals, we need the member's help.

The award categories are as follows:

Person of the Year for sustained, outstanding service and contributions to NEPPA and to public power

Francis "Skip" Willey Individual Achievement Award for an employee of a NEPPA system who demonstrates a professional commitment to public power through personal development and participation in NEPPA's educational programs and other association activities

Distinguished Service for outstanding service to a NEPPA utility

NEPPA Service for significant contributions to the association

Commissioner Service for Commissioners or elected Light Board members who have provided outstanding leadership to their public power systems for three full terms or at least 10 years

Century Award for member systems celebrating their 100th anniversary during the year

The committee welcomes written nominations for any of these awards, along with a brief description of the individual's contributions or achievements. Please feel free to nominate more than one individual for Distinguished Service, NEPPA Service, or Commissioner Service, as multiple awards can be made in these categories.

Please mail or fax nominations to the NEPPA office, c/o Award Nominations, by no later than June 17. 100 Medway Road, Milford, MA 01581. (FAX: 508-482-0932).

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The Northeast Public Power Association is an organization representing and serving consumer-owned electric utilities in New England.

Dr. Barrett, Norwich Commissioner, dies at age 83

Dr. Frederick C. Barrett, a local physician, husband of 60 years and father of 16 children, died on April 23. He was 83.

Dr. Barrett, a longtime resident of Norwich, served as Commissioner of the Norwich Board of Public Utilities for 30 years and as its chairman for 10 years. He served on the Connecticut Municipal Electric Energy Cooperative Board and was active in NEPPA, attending the annual conference regularly with his wife Elizabeth.

He was born in Milton, Vt. on July 24, 1921, the son of the late Lawrence and Irene (Hammel) Barrett. He graduated from Milton High School, St. Michael's College, and the University of Vermont College of Medicine. He completed his residency at Cambridge City Hospital in Cambridge, Mass., and served active duty in the U.S. Army from 1943-1949, as a physician practicing anesthesia, dermatology, and internal and general medicine. He was honorably discharged with the rank of Captain.

He began his family practice in Jewett City in 1949 and relocated to Norwich in 1959. During his years as a family doctor he delivered more than 2000 babies. In 1984, he was named Family Doctor of the Year by the Academy of Family Physicians. The Academy praised him as a "...family man who practices medicine with quality and dignity." In 1998, he was named by the Academy as a "Super Hero of Family Medicine." He retired from family practice in 1989. He accomplished much in his lifetime and had numerous community affiliations.

Dr. Barrett is survived by his wife, Elizabeth (Brigham) Barrett, and 13 children and 19 grandchildren. He is also survived by a brother and a sister. He was predeceased by three children and one brother.

Donations in his memory may be made to the Joslin Clinic for Diabetes, Joslin Place, Boston, MA and the Edmundite Community at Enders Island, Mystic, CT.

William O'Connor, Jr., former NEPPA President, dies



O'Connor
(NEPPA file photo)

William F. O'Connor, a long-time official with the Taunton Municipal Light Plant and President of the Northeast Public Power Association in 1978, passed away in March after a long illness. Mr. O'Connor was hired in 1973 by TMLP as a chief accountant, and was promoted to assistant general manager of the utility in 1980. Among other projects, Mr. O'Connor was responsible for a \$24 million bond issue in the mid-seventies for the construction of one of Taunton's generating units. He retired from Taunton in December of 1985.

As president of NEPPA, Mr. O'Connor also served as acting executive director of the association, managing day-to-day affairs while the Board searched for a permanent chief executive.

He was born in Providence, R.I. and was a graduate of Bryant College. He was also a Navy veteran of World War II. He was married to the late Elaine Maher and leaves 5 children, 14 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren.

Around New England

BELD Broadband contracts for better spam control

In an effort to provide better and faster e-mail service to subscribers, BELD Broadband has contracted with Message Labs and MCI to pre-scan all e-mail for viruses and spam. Before making the switch to Message Labs, BELD Broadband's mail servers were unable to consistently deliver messages in a timely manner due to extraordinary levels of spam e-mail, according to Network Engineer Brett Markham. The new system

is configured so that only e-mail that has already been reported as spam is actually deleted—that amounts to 85 percent of all incoming e-mail, Markham said. Any other e-mail that is suspected of being spam is saved in a queue on Message Labs' servers. Subscribers receive a daily report of e-mails that are being saved on the server for them to either retrieve or delete.

Littleton Light & Water holds annual senior breakfast

Approximately 150 senior citizens streamed into the Russell Elementary School gym to a festive lunch provided courtesy of the Littleton Electric Light and Water Departments. Department workers were serving the entrée.

Savas Danos, general manager of the departments, greeted guests to this 14th annual luncheon, and explained that it was the tenth in which he was involved. Curtis

Lanciani, the former general manager, was responsible for initiating the event, which was organized this year by Jennifer Pederson, customer services specialist, with help from all the staff. Danos said that it was a small way to give something back to Littleton and Boxborough seniors, in recognition for all the work they poured into these communities throughout their lives.

To learn more about utility customer programs offered by NEPPA members, go to www.neppa.org and click on utility programs.

Holyoke G & E opens fish lift

In late April, the first American shad fish of the season were lifted in the new fish elevators at Holyoke Gas and Electric Department's (HG&E) Barrett Fishway. Last year, over 190,000 American shad were given a lift over the Holyoke Dam to continue their upstream spawning runs. Traveling in tandem with these were nearly 60,000 sea lamprey, and smaller numbers of gizzard shad, striped bass, blueback herring, and Atlantic salmon. HG&E recently completed an ambitious renovation project to install new fishlifts that improve the facility's fish-lifting capacity, provide improved trap & haul capabilities, and new advanced counting & monitoring

facilities.

"We invite everyone to join us this season to view the fruits of our labor," said James Lavelle, HG&E manager.

On Mother's Day, all mothers visiting the Fishway received a free carnation and free films and children's activities were part of the opening day.

In late May, the HG&E held the annual shad derby. At this annual event, the region's fished the waters of the Connecticut River by the Holyoke Dam in a contest to catch the largest shad. Hundreds of entrants competed for a variety of prizes.

Around New England

Japan's Hokuriku Electric Visits NAED



Japanese visitors with NAED employees Robert Ellston, interim general manager; William Hunt, system engineer; Chris Mitchell, information systems manager; Robert Gauvin, business manager; Martha McKenna, communications coordinator; and Eric Parrish, project manager.

Representatives from Hokuriku Electric Power Company, located in Toyama, Japan, visited the North Attleborough (Mass.) Electric Department this past April. Industry associates from Sumitomo Corporation, NEC Corporation and IGI Group joined Hokuriku's corporate leaders.

Hui Pan, PhD, Chief Economist for Information Gatekeepers Inc. (IGI), organized the visit to the U.S. "Hokuriku Electric decided to visit NAED because they heard of the exceptional reputation NAED has in customer service and in

deploying cutting edge fiber optic technologies," he said. "Hokuriku Electric was very grateful for the warm reception by the entire electric department."

In addition to discussing technology, the meeting included a presentation on the 111-year history of NAED and an explanation of the concept of public power customer-owned utilities. The visitors indicated that they agreed that goals of excellent service, economical rates and high reliability are key elements to customer satisfaction in any country in the world.

"NAED's experiences in customer care, new service offerings and fiber optic network deployment, which were shared with Hokuriku during the meeting, will prove highly valuable to the Japanese visitors in their future business developments," Pan added.

New England represented at NRECA conference



WEC's Landfill Methane Project in Coventry, Vt.

Four New Englanders attended the National Rural Electric Cooperative Associations 2005 Connect Conference & Expo. The event, which was partnered by Touchstone Energy Cooperative, provided an opportunity for cooperative marketing, communications and member service professionals to discover new ideas and strategies, consider new angles and connect with colleagues from

across the country.

Charles McAlpin of Eastern Maine Electric Cooperative, Inc, Clint Hutchins of New Hampshire Electric Cooperative, and Mary Harrington of NEPPA attended

two and a half days of general sessions, as well as break out sessions on issues including web design, anger management, media management and customer service innovations through technology.

Avram Patt, general manager of Washington Electric Cooperative in Vermont, participated on a panel on renewable energy and the challenge of getting customers to buy green power if it's offered. Patt described the process that led to the development of WEC's Landfill Methane Project in Coventry, Vt. and forecasted that by 2006 WEC's power supply will be approximately 50 percent from renewable generation sources and that that percent will increase over the next several years.

Dudek

Continued from page 1

sewer department, which had failed to make debt payments on a federal loan for a sewer separation project.. In 1996, local voters approved a merger of the sewer department with the light department, and Dudek and his staff and Commissioners were handed the job of straightening out the sewer department's finances and establishing up-to-date procedures for billing, collections and the management of its business affairs.

In the early 1990s, the state imposed a moratorium on sewer hookups due to an outdated and inadequate treatment plant. This was the catalyst for a long and difficult process of securing political support to finance and build the new facility that was dedicated last month. The project, which will cost over \$19 million when completed, is financed from a multiplicity of state and federal loans, grants and payments from neighboring communities. For Joe Dudek, it represented one of the biggest challenges in his career, which he met with his usual determination and persistence.

A few years after he started working at the light department, he married his wife Sandy and they raised four daughters and now have two grandchildren. They will celebrate their 40th wedding anniversary this year.

Dudek developed a love and fascination for mechanical tools, machines, and building things from his father. During the 1960s, they constructed a shop building behind his house, which contains an extensive collection of belt-driven machinery powered by a refurbished diesel engine.

Dudek builds furniture, repairs antiques, and fabricates his own machine parts for engines and equipment. He also maintains a large Christmas tree farm on his property,.

Looking back, Joe Dudek is quietly proud of his accomplishments, and is especially proud to have worked in public power for his entire career. More than anything, he will miss the people that he has come to know through his involvement in state and regional public power organizations.

"As an active member, committee chair, Director and former President of NEPPA, Joe Dudek will leave a legacy of leadership and commitment to public power in New England that is unmatched," said NEPPA Executive Director Patrick Hyland. "NEPPA has been enriched greatly by his presence, and will miss his warm and friendly manner and his incredible people skills."

Equipment Available

Cable for sale

Mansfield Electric Department

We have 9 reels of Hendrix Spacer Cable that we would like to sell.

Cable Description: 15A336Spacer
#336 AL 019X H19-PACT- RHL Grnd
Power
.075" HMW
.075" BTRHDPE

Reel Size: 58 x 32 x18

Quantity: 3 reels @ 500 ft. ea., 3 reels @ 5200 ft. ea., 3 reels @ 5300 ft. ea.

Please contact: Bruce Dyke

Mansfield Electric Department

Tel: (508) 261-7395

Fax: (508) 261-7451

Email: bdyke@mansfieldelectric.com

Employment

New Hampshire Electric Cooperative Marketing Manager

New Hampshire Electric Cooperative (NHEC) is the largest electric cooperative in New England serving 117 towns in the scenic lakes and mountains region of New Hampshire. NHEC's headquarters is situated in the college community of Plymouth.

NHEC has an opening for a marketing manager. A bachelor's degree in English, Journalism, Marketing or Communications is required. Master's degree a plus. A minimum of five to seven years working experience in marketing, newspaper, radio or public relations desired. Ability to develop, plan and schedule market research and analysis required. Should be an excellent communicator and have ability to develop and implement marketing plans and conduct public relations campaigns. Demonstrated experience in leadership and teamwork required.

NHEC offers an excellent compensation and benefits package. If you are interested in this career opportunity, please forward your resume to Jacalyn Thompson, Human Resources Manager, 579 Tenney Mountain Highway, Plymouth, NH 03264 or thompsonj@nhec.com. EOE

Reading Municipal Light Engineering & Operations Manager

E & O Manager will provide supervision and leadership for Line, Engineering, Metering and Substation areas of the utility. This position will have ultimate responsibility for ensuring that the reliability of the electric system is at its highest level while staying within an annual budget, which will be developed and maintained. We are seeking someone with a positive attitude, a promoter of employee development and safety-oriented practices and a

willingness to pursue new technology. Excellent written and verbal skills are needed for communication with internal and external customers.

Successful candidate will have a BS in Electrical Engineering with 5-7 years proven experience as a Senior Manager in the operations area of an electric utility. Thorough working knowledge of electric distribution line construction and maintenance (35/13.8kv) and substations (115/35/13.8kv) is essential. Construction Supervisor's license is preferred.

Reading Municipal Light First Class Lineman

Applicant must possess the following: Demonstrated ability to perform all overhead and underground operations and maintenance work on distribution system including pole setting, conductor and conduit installation, transformer and switching equipment connection and other work associated with energized construction and maintenance as performed by fully qualified first-class line-workers.

Successful candidate must have demonstrated experience working the energized lines up to 34.5kV (using hot sticks and safety equipment). Also, demonstrated experience working with de-energized construction work up to 115 kV. Must have strong commitment to pursuing safety standards and equipment for personal protection and that of co-workers. Team oriented and cooperative attitude is essential. Effective communication skills are required. Minimum qualifications require a high school diploma or GED and valid Massachusetts Commercial Driver's License. Must qualify to obtain hoisting license. Familiarity with RMLD territory is a plus. AFSCME union contract hourly wages range from \$26.88 first step to \$32.82 top step. Rate is based on prov-

en experience as a first class lineworker.

Qualified candidates should send their resume to Beth-Ellen Antonio, Human Resources Manager, Reading Municipal Light Department, 230 Ash Street, Reading, MA 01867, email: bantonio@rmlld.com or by fax to (781) 942-2409.

Paxton Municipal Light Line Worker (First or Second Class)

The Town of Paxton Municipal Light Department has a position opening for Lineworker. Will consider First or Second Class applicants. Seeking a self-motivated individual with certified journeyman training, capable of working in a small department team environment. The successful candidate will work under the daily direction of a crew leader and will be expected to perform all phases of distribution work including general line construction, substation/distribution maintenance, and working on energized conductors and equipment up to 13,800 volts. Must be available for on-call rotation nights and weekends.

Residency within a specific geographic area required. Must hold or be able to obtain a valid Massachusetts Class B CDL drivers license and hydraulic hoisting license. This position falls under the Department of Transportation drug testing requirements.

Paxton Municipal Light Department offers a competitive benefits package and is an EOE. Please send resumes Attn: D.Dillman, Paxton Municipal Light Department, 578 Pleasant Street, Paxton, MA. 01612

Employment advertising in News Line is \$30 with a maximum of 50 words or is free to NEPPA members. Deadline for the next issue is June 23.

APPA holds Spring Issue Roundtable

NEPPA Communications Director Mary Harrington attended a Spring Issues Roundtable at the American Public Power Association office in Washington, D.C.

Major challenges identified by utility communicators and customer service personnel

- RTO costs and issues
- Power supply contracts and negotiations
- Fiber optics and broadband access
- Dealing with the vocal minority
- Start-up costs involved in creating an

on May 13. The meeting focused on issues common to managing, strategy development, budgeting for and staffing the communications/marketing function for community and state-owned electric utilities.

Participants also discussed problems citing substation and transmission lines and the often-lengthy permitting process necessary when building anything that involves trees and neighborhoods. Communicating with customers during crises such as hurricanes, as well as communicating rate increases was also addressed.

"Good will in the bank doesn't necessarily soften the blow of rate increases," said one participant. "With the cost-of-living rising, local utilities become a sounding board for disgruntled rate payers."

Alan Richardson, president and CEO of APPA, briefed the group on the develop-

ment of the "Public Power is Good for Business" campaign. He pointed out that APPA's priorities this year are to demonstrate to policymakers business support for public power, support efforts to implement change at the FERC, protect and advance public power system interests in broadband services, and address critical workforce issues. He also reviewed some of the highlights of the energy bill that is slowly moving through Congress.

Joe Nipper, senior vice president of APPA and Grassroots Coordinator Courtney Hunter reviewed APPA's "Public Power is Good for Business Campaign" and asked for advice for the APPA staff on the kind of communications support utilities need and use to participate in this campaign.

The meeting wrapped up with a discussion on public ownership issues. Winter Park, Florida recently became a public power city and other communities across the country are thinking about creating public power systems or joining an existing one through annexation. While the failure of electricity restructuring efforts, combined with a new appreciation for local control, is pushing some communities in this direction, some cities strapped for money are eyeing their public power systems as a possible asset for sale.

Public Power is Good for Business Campaign

- Reaching out to Members of Congress to help them understand public power and why it is good for the economy and the country.
- Reaching out to customers and asking members to submit names of key accounts who are willing to share their experience partnering with a public power utility.
- Reaching out to town or city officials, prominent members of the community and local activists to gain support for the public power agenda.
- Reaching out to the media and helping them understand public power's role in the community and in economic development.

APPA's Customer Connections Conference will be held on October 22 - 26, 2005 at the Hyatt Regency Crown Center, Kansas City, Mo.

For more information, Email: customerconnections@appanet.org or call 202/467-2958.



Annual Conference 2005

Welcome to Newport, Rhode Island!

Founded in 1639, this charming seaport combines the preservation of the past with an infusion of the present. The city is a virtual arts and cultural mecca. Art galleries, shops and world-class restaurants of varying style flank cobblestone streets and historic structures. Some of the best seafood in New England is caught right offshore and Newport restaurants and their chefs offer their specialties up nightly. Steak and seafood are the most popular offerings, but smaller bistros offer more creative fare. Most restaurants serve until eleven nightly and the dress is casual.

The Newport Art Museum, Museum of Newport History and numerous others offer sculptures, painting, photographs and every medium of art in between. At the entrance of the harbor stands Fort Adams, which offers tours and it is a real living museum. The Museum of Yachting offers a collection of America's Cup yachts. Don't miss the International Tennis Hall of Fame or the most famous of all Newport attractions, the Newport Mansions. Most are maintained and cared for by the Preservation Society of Newport County. A few, however, are independently owned and offer a more personal glimpse into life in the Gilded Age. Newport mansions are open to the public and offer tours throughout the day.

We look forward to seeing you in Newport!

August 14-17
Marriott Hotel
Newport, R.I.

NEPPA 2005 Annual Conference Registration Form

Utility/Company: _____

Full Address: _____

Phone: _____

Please indicate name as it should appear on name badge: _____

1. Delegate: _____ 3. Delegate: _____

1. Guest: _____ 3. Guest: _____

2. Delegate: _____ 4. Delegate: _____

2. Guest: _____ 4. Guest: _____

Please note: All children must be registered in order to attend meal functions. Also, please indicate age(s) of children to assist with program planning. **Hotel reservations must be made directly with the Newport Marriott (401) 849-1000.**

FEES PER PERSON: (All meals except Sunday dinner and Monday lunch included. Does not include lodging)

Membership Type	Until July 15th	After July 15th
NEPPA Member Utility and Corporate Members*	\$475	\$525
NEPPA Associate Member	\$550	\$600
Non-members	\$650	\$700
Guests	\$150	\$150
Children (age 12 and over)	\$ 75	\$ 75
Honorary Members	\$ 0	\$ 0

*Corporate members receive one complimentary registration.

Note: Single day rate is \$250, including receptions and meals

PAYMENT (please check one)

check enclosed please invoice separate bill for guests Please provide billing address(es)

Credit card payment: MC VISA AMEX

Card # _____ Expiration date: _____ Total \$ _____

Card holder name: _____ Card holder signature: _____

Mail credit card receipt to _____

RETURN TO:

Northeast Public Power Association; 100 Medway Road, Suite 201, Milford, MA., 01757, or Fax: (508) 482-0932

CANCELLATION POLICY:

Conference cancellations received in writing by August 5 will be entitled to a full refund. Cancellations after August 8 will be subject to a prorated refund based on any costs incurred by the Association. Hotel cancellations are the responsibility of the individual and must comply with hotel policies.

Note: Any questions, special dietary needs, or accommodations for disabilities, please call Sheila Boone at (508) 482-5906.

NEPPA Annual Conference 2005 Program Highlights

Sunday, August 14

Welcoming Reception, Newport Marriott
(Children's activities and entertainment nearby)

Monday, August 15

Opening Ceremonies

Future Directions in the U.S. Electric Power Industry

Dr. Roger Gale, *GF Energy LLC*

Investing in your Workforce: Your Leadership Legacy

Janine Moon, *CompassPoint Coaching*

Public Power's Future

William Gallagher, *Vermont Public Power Supply Authority*
Chair-Elect, APPA

(Afternoon free for golf tournament and sightseeing)

Reception and Clambake – Newport Yachting Center

Tuesday, August 16

Energy Legislation in the 109th Congress

Deborah Sliz, *Morgan Meguire LLC*

Discussion Roundtables:

The Evaluation of Management Performance

(for Governing Board members)

Jeff Tarbert, *American Public Power Association*

Managing your Human Resources

(for Utility Managers and Supervisors)

Janine Moon, *CompassPoint Coaching*

Public Power's Response to the Florida Hurricanes

Barry Moline, *Florida Municipal Electric Association*

Scott Edwards, *Littleton Electric Light and Water Department*

Planning For Retirement

Donald Sowa, *Sowa Financial Group*

Broadband over Powerlines: Opportunities for Public Power

Dennis Melton, *Hometown Connections*

Annual Business Meeting

Reception and NEPPA's 40th Anniversary Party Banquet

(Children's activities and entertainment nearby)

Wednesday, August 17

Farewell Breakfast and Conference Adjournment



Committee Meetings

June 16

Public Communications
NEPPA Office, Milford, Mass.
10:00 a.m

July 8

Executive
10:00 am
NEPPA Office, Milford, Mass.

June 7

Board of Directors
1:00 pm
Holiday Inn
Boxborough, Mass

Upcoming Events

June 7 – 8

Expo & Operations Conference
Holiday Inn
Boxborough, Mass.

September 10

Annual Lineworker's Rodeo
North Beach
Burlington, Vt.

July 11

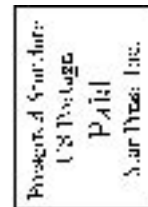
Benevolent Fund Golf
Tournament
Sterling Country Club
Sterling, Mass

October 3 – 5 Fall Session

Public Utility Management Program
New England Center
Durham, N. H.

June 24

Customer Service Roundtable
Reading Municipal Light
Department
Reading, Mass.



August 14 – 17

Annual Conference
Marriott Hotel
Newport, R.I.

September 9

Customer Communications
Workshop
VPPSA
Waterbury, Vt.

