



NUTSEA

NATIONAL UTILITY TRAINING & SAFETY EDUCATION ASSOCIATION
SAFETY • SKILL • SERVICE

February 23, 2015

Hello Everyone,

I wanted to let you know your Board has just returned from Boise, Idaho after a very productive planning meeting. We were welcomed by our host, Mr. Will Hart, Executive Director of the Idaho Consumer Owned Utility Association and sponsor, Mr. Aaron Howell, President of Northwest Lineman College.

Our host state, along with the NUTSEA Board, has put in place all the elements of a great conference. This year we are making changes to the conference format. Presently we are arranging and putting together eight breakout sessions with a wide variety of topics and presenters that will benefit all. In addition we will have time set aside for round table discussions. The keynote speaker is in place along with four more top notch speakers from across the nation. Every minute of the 73rd Annual NUTSEA Conference will be filled with topics and speakers that will educate, inspire and motivate.

I want to encourage you to start planning now as you will not want to miss this conference. Boise is a beautiful place and we are fortunate to have a great group hosting us there. I've had the pleasure to work alongside these amazing people for several months and the planning for this conference started nearly two years ago. The foundation is set to make this the best NUTSEA event ever.

If you've never been to Boise, you need to see the beauty and explore the history there. I promise you there is more in Boise, Idaho than just potatoes! We are excited to tell you that through the negotiations of our host, rooms will be made available to members and their guests for the reduced price of only \$109.00 per night at The Grove Hotel (www.grovehotelboise.com), the location of our conference. From The Grove, you can easily and safely walk to many fine dining establishments, stores and attractions. If you drive or take a taxi, the options available to you are unlimited. Just the views are worth the trip. Practically everyone has heard of the Oregon Trail. You can actually still see the wagon ruts cut into the earth where thousands of wagon trains traveled west looking for a new beginning. The area offers golf, fishing, hiking, shopping, jet boats on the river, long distant shooting, art, entertainment, and fine dining. A drive through the Sawtooth Mountain Range offers incredible vistas and overlooks, with raging rivers and rock formations. You will not run out of things to do.

I traveled to Boise back in June, 2014 to meet with our Idaho host, and Linda and I couldn't wait to return and share our experiences with the rest of the Board. After just a few days in Boise all of us are excited about the conference and the chance to return in September. We have been assured that the weather in September in the Boise area is wonderful.

We still have much to do and will continue to work at making everything as perfect as possible for you when you arrive in September. We are working to expand the events and options available for your guests, while we are enjoying our conference. That is very important to this Board and we want your guests to be as impressed with the event as I'm sure you will be. We are located very close to Boise State University. Some of you will recognize the famous "Blue Field".

The Broncos will be playing at home the weekend of our conference but the exact details are not yet set. Some of you may want to plan ahead and make that a part of your trip. It's definitely something I'll keep an eye on.

It is an honor for me to announce that during the planning meeting in Boise, the Board reviewed a list of members that had retired in recent years. The Board voted to include two, Mr. Danny Hayes of Tennessee and Mr. Glenn Smith of Virginia, as Honorary Members. Both of these gentlemen are great examples of who we as trainers and educators should strive to be, always putting every effort into preparing us to be better informed with the knowledge of our industry.

I would like to encourage you to send in photos from our conference in Colorado and we'll get them posted on our "New Web Site" at www.nutsea.org. The site is now up and running and will be updated regularly. You can now renew your annual membership dues there, and we will provide you the option to sign-up for the 2015 NUTSEA Conference as well. Posted are two great videos about Boise, so if you haven't taken a look, please do so. The current committees and Board members are listed as well, so if we can ever be of help to you please don't hesitate to contact us. We have created a Members Only section that will be password protected, and as soon as we complete a few more details, Donna Cavanaugh will send the password to the membership via email. Included in the Members-Only section will be a detailed membership contact list for your convenience, as well as presentations from the conferences as they become available.

NUTSEA has an updated Facebook page where you'll be able to find updates and conference information, as well as other items. Check it out and let us know what you think. The Board is excited to provide the membership with both the revised web site and Facebook page, due to the hard work of our IT committee and Donna Cavanaugh, our administrative assistant. We want to thank you, the membership, for allowing us the opportunity to serve the NUTSEA organization. It is a task not taken lightly and one that we all take pride in. Working on your behalf is a responsibility that each of us are committed to, and we will do our best for you. You deserve nothing less. In addition to other emails and phone calls exchanged between Board members, your NUTSEA Board meets at least monthly by conference call to stay informed and discuss all conference planning and other business of the organization. Keep an eye on the web site, Facebook and emails from Donna for more information about our September conference in Boise, Idaho. It will be the premier event to attend in 2015 for our industry. Bring the family and enjoy the area. See you there!

Bobby Love, Chairman

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