

GPOWER LINE

Georgetown Municipal Light Department

Winter 2017

General Manager's Letter



It's hard to believe that 2016 is about to come to a close. The past year has been busy with the introduction of a new Commissioner, Mark Anderson, who has been a welcome addition to the utility.

We were honored to congratulate Georgetown Light Office Manager Karen Marchand, the recipient of the Carol A. Tracey Customer Service Award from the New England Public Power Association (NEPPA). We are also proud of our crews who go above and beyond the call of duty each day to provide all our customers with uninterrupted service, and extend our congratulations to three of our lineworkers who placed third overall at the recent New England Public Power Association (NEPPA) 10th Lineworkers' Rodeo.

We are also in our first full year of using our electronic mapping system which allows us to remotely access data in the event of an outage, making it easier to pinpoint the problem and address the issue. We conducted a town-wide electronic mapping of the electric system last fall, which involved recording the location of each pole, transformer, wire and related equipment on all streets throughout the community, and the entering the collected data into the system. Even though all outages were small and sporadic, the system has been a great help throughout the year.

This year, we have been hard at work to unbundle our rates which will be reflected in the new bills we hope to launch in the coming months.

As we get ready to welcome in a new year, we extend our thanks to our customers and best wishes for a happy and healthy holiday season.

Dave Schofield,
General Manager



Stay Warm this Winter

Before winter winds blow, there are several things you can do now to make sure you stay warm this winter:

- If you don't take your window unit air conditioners down for the winter, turn off the air vents and cover them up to keep cold air from blowing through the unit.
- Pipe insulation can prevent those cold drafts from coming up under the door. Pool noodles can do the same thing!
- Insulate outlets and switches to reduce energy loss. A large amount of cold air comes through those tiny spaces, especially in older homes.
- Get more out of your radiator by putting a reflective sheet behind it. It reflects heat back into the room and reduces heat loss.
- When you are home and awake, set your thermostat as low as comfortable, generally **68°F or below** in the winter. When you are asleep or out of the house, lower the setting by several degrees. Use a programmable thermostat to automatically adjust the temperature in your home.
- Cover drafty windows with a heavy duty, clear plastic sheet on the inside of window frames during winter months.



New England Public Power Association (NEPPA) 10th Lineworkers' Rodeo



General Manager Dave Schofield (right) congratulates Georgetown Light Lineworkers (from left) Jesse Cote, TJ Middleton and Chad Cunningham for their first-place finish in the speed climb and third place overall at the recent New England Public Power Association (NEPPA) 10th Lineworkers' Rodeo. Thirteen teams, representing Massachusetts utilities from Braintree, Georgetown, Hudson, Littleton, Mansfield and Middleton, as well as Norwich, Conn., Otsego, N.Y., and New Hampshire Electric Cooperative from New Hampshire, competed for awards and the opportunity to be the regional representative to the national APPA Rodeo.

Modeled after the International Linemen's Rodeo first held in the Midwest in 1984, the rodeo involves three-person teams that compete in six different events. Every event's primary purpose is to promote safe work practices.

Public Power Week

Location

Georgetown Light Office
94 Searle Street
Georgetown, MA 01833
Tel: 978-352-5730
Fax: 978-352-5733

Customer Service hours

Monday - Thursday
7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
info@georgetownlight.com

Emergency number

978-352-5730

Payment Options

Walk in payment
94 Searle Street

Payment online
www.invoicecloud.com/georgetownlight

Drop Box payment
Water Dept. parking lot -
corner of West St. and Moulton St.
Light Dept parking lot at
94 Searle Street

Holiday Closings

Christmas Day observed – Monday, December 26th

New Years Day observed – Monday, January 2nd

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – Monday, January 16th

Presidents' Day – Monday, February 20th

If you have an emergency, call
Georgetown Light at (978) 352-5730.

Commissioners

John Smolinsky, Chairman
Peter Dion
Mark Anderson

General Manager

David Schofield



During the Public Power Week open house at Georgetown Light, Georgetown residents Rosaleen and John Pete Zibel entered the raffle for a basket filled with energy saving materials and seasonal items. The couple also received a Georgetown Light bag from General Manager Dave Schofield (right) who also helped them with their entry and answered questions about the locally-owned, public power utility.

Georgetown Light Lineworkers welcomed local residents Margie Weaver, (front, center) and Jackie Brockelbank, (front, right) to the recent open house. The American Public Power Association-sponsored event celebrates the benefits of being a local-owned and operated public power utility.



During the Public Power Week celebration, General Manager Dave Schofield (left) and Light Commission Chairman John Smolinsky (right) welcomed Georgetown resident Cara Lane to the event.

Barbara Kochakian

Georgetown Light was saddened to hear of the passing of former AP Clerk Barbara J. Kochakian of Georgetown on October 12, 2016, at the age of 82. Barbara worked at Georgetown Light from 1989 until her retirement in 2000.

Barbara was an avid gardener and loved all kinds of flowers. She loved her home and enjoyed cooking and baking as well as spending time with her family and grandchildren. She loved to walk and was seen daily walking around town. She and Steve, her husband of 61 years, loved to camp and spent many years as seasonal campers in the White Mountains.

In addition to her husband, Barbara is survived by her sons Scott and his wife Lynne, and Robert and his wife Gail of Early Branch, SC; her brother Howard L. Hart, Jr.

and his wife Norma; her grandchildren Lauren E. Kochakian and her fiancé William Diener, Matthew R. Kochakian and his wife Wendy and granddaughter Emily J. Kochakian; as well as several nieces and nephews.

Donations in her memory may be made to the Alzheimer's Assoc. 480 Pleasant St. Watertown, MA 02472 or to Merrimack Valley Hospice, 360 Merrimack St. Bldg. 9, Lawrence, MA 01843.

