



## **News Release**

### **NINE TEAMS AND TWELVE INDIVIDUALS WIN AWARDS AT NATIONAL LINEWORKERS RODEO**

WASHINGTON, D.C., March 19, 2011—Nine teams and twelve individuals won awards at the American Public Power Association’s eleventh annual Public Power Lineworkers Rodeo, held March 18-19, in Nashville, Tenn., in conjunction with APPA’s annual Engineering & Operations Technical Conference.

Fifty five teams and 76 apprentices from not-for-profit, community-owned electric utilities across the nation participated. The “rodeo” is a series of competitive events demonstrating the safe work practices that lineworkers must carry out at their utilities.

There are two levels of competition within the rodeo—journeyman and apprentice. The journeyman teams consist of three members—two climbers and a ground person—and can include an optional alternate. A qualified journeyman has more than four years of experience within the electric utility trade. An apprentice line worker has four or fewer years of experience.

The awards honor lineworkers’ expertise, and the events are judged based upon safety, work practices, neatness, ability, equipment handling, and timely event completion. All safety rules established by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration and the APPA Safety Manual were observed during events. Winners are:

#### **Apprentice – Overall**

- First Place – Mike Buckner, Colorado Springs, Colo., Utilities
- Second Place – Michael McLaughlin, Nebraska Public Power District, Columbus, Neb.
- Third Place – Jerry Perkins, Piqua, Ohio, Municipal Power System
- Fourth Place – Tom Bisgrove, Colorado Springs, Colo., Utilities
- Fifth Place – Cody Roberts, Nashville, Tenn., Electric Service

#### **Apprentice – Conductor Tie-In**

- First Place – Chris Miles, Sacramento, Calif., Municipal Utility District
- Second Place – Benjamin Ray, Austin, Texas, Energy
- Third Place – Tyson Lingerfelt, North Carolina Association of Municipal Electric Systems

#### **Apprentice – Cross-Arm Relocation**

- First Place – Rorry Malia, Sacramento, Calif., Municipal Utility District
- Second Place – Chris Miles, Sacramento, Calif., Municipal Utility District
- Third Place – Chance Grimes, Lakeland, Fla., Electric

-more-

**Apprentice – Hurtman Rescue**

First Place – Chris Miles, Sacramento, Calif., Municipal Utility District

Second Place – Justin Hirschi, Sacramento, Calif., Municipal Utility District

Third Place – Brent Foxhoven, Lincoln, Neb., Electric System

**Apprentice – Framing Event**

First Place – Chris Miles, Sacramento, Calif., Municipal Utility District

Second Place – Tyson Lingerfelt, North Carolina Association of Municipal Electric Systems

Third Place – Jerry Perkins, Piqua, Ohio, Municipal Power System

**Apprentice –Written Test**

First Place – Mike Buckner, Colorado Springs, Colo., Utilities

Second Place – Michael McLaughlin, Nebraska Public Power District, Columbus, Neb.

Third Place – Nathan Janssen, Marshall, Minn., Municipal Utilities

**Journeyman -- Overall**

First Place – Sacramento, Calif., Municipal Utility District, Cayleb Bowman, Todd Prangley, Matthew Wilson

Second Place – TID, Turlock, Calif., Aaron Baker, Steve Johnson, Dustin Krieger, Mark Pickens

Third Place – Kissimmee, Fla., Utility Authority, Steve Bray, Dustin Kelley, Chris Ketner, David Wolfe

Fourth Place – Nashville, Tenn., Electric Service, Tommy Barksdale, Bill Brasswell, Steven Stubblefield, Don Wheeler

Fifth Place – Santee Cooper, Moncks Corner, S.C., Drew Jordan, Joe Sawyer, Chad Williams

**Journeyman – Alley Arm Insulator Change-Out**

First Place – Sacramento, Calif., Municipal Utility District, Cayleb Bowman, Todd Prangley, Matthew Wilson

Second Place – TID, Turlock, Calif., Aaron Baker, Steve Johnson, Dustin Krieger, Mark Pickens

Third Place – North Carolina Association of Municipal Electric Systems, Chris Bosnick, Keith Gaskins, Mike Harper, Connie McGowan

**Journeyman – Double Cross-Arm Event**

First Place – Modesto, Calif., Irrigation District, Doug Cameron, Scott Dutey, Robert Higgins, Victor Madrigal

Second Place – Lafayette, La., Utilities System, Colby Boggs, Ron Credeur, Dustin Viator

Third Place – Santee Cooper, Moncks Corner, S.C., Drew Jordan, Joe Sawyer, Chad Williams

**Journeyman – Hurtman Rescue**

First Place – Sacramento, Calif., Municipal Utility District, Cayleb Bowman, Todd Prangle, Matthew Wilson

Second Place – Lincoln, Neb., Electric System, Wesley Gyhra, Rick Hasenpflug, Andrew Rolf

Third Place – Modesto, Calif., Irrigation District, Doug Cameron, Scott Dutey, Robert Higgins, Victor Madrigal

**Journeyman – Double Dead-End Four-Suspension Insulator Change-Out**

First Place – Sacramento, Calif., Municipal Utility District, Cayleb Bowman, Todd Prangle, Matthew Wilson

Second Place – North Carolina Association of Municipal Electric Systems, Chris Bosnick, Connie McGowan, Mike Harper, Keith Gaskins

Third Place – Santee Cooper, Moncks Corner, S.C., Chad Bellamy, Kyle Powell, Blake Ward

**Journeyman – Vertical Top Pin Change-Out**

First Place – Sacramento, Calif., Municipal Utility District, Cayleb Bowman, Todd Prangle, Matthew Wilson

Second Place – Greenville, N.C., Utilities Commission, Ryan Hardee, Mark Howery, Brian Small, Kevin Willoughby

Third Place – Kissimmee, Fla., Utility Authority, Steve Bray, Dustin Kelley, Chris Ketner, David Wolfe

For further information about APPA and the Lineworkers Rodeo, visit [APPAnet.org](http://APPAnet.org).

###

Contact: Tobias Sellier, APPA Senior Communications Specialist, 202/467-2927.

*APPA is the national service organization for the nation's more than 2,000 community- and state-owned electric utilities serving 46 million people.*