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January 2023

Tri-State Desk and Derrick

## Editor's Musings

For some time now, I've titled this section of the Tri-State News "Editor's Musings"; but just in case you haven't looked it up in the dictionary, to "muse" means to be in a state of deep thought or dreamy abstraction. Being in deep thought might be stretching it a bit for me, but to simplify—the Editor's Musings are my random and often unrelated thoughts which I hope will interest you, the reader.

I recently saw an article about a proposed windfall profit tax on crude oil production which brought back memories which I have sought to forget of my first assignment when I entered the oil industry. With no prior knowledge about oil production, my job consisted of substantiating my employer as an independent producer not subject to the 70% windfall profit tax levied on the value of oil sales exceeding \$12.81 per barrel and filing for refunds annually until the law was repealed in 1988. The windfall profit tax act gave me a job which in turn introduced me to Desk and Derrick, but it didn't produce the effect it promised and neither would enacting a similar tax today. To read more, check out this 2008 article by Josh Barro: [Windfall Profits Taxes: Still a Bad Idea | Tax Foundation](#).

As you know, the December Holiday Party was cancelled due to the weather and low expected attendance which means there are no December minutes in this issue. That makes your participation in this month's meeting even more important as we are on a timeline for organizing and advertising the Northeast Region Meeting being hosted by the Tri-State club May 17-20. Your ideas and input are needed in order to make this first-in-two-years in-person meeting meaningful, educational and inspirational. I forgot to mention we also want to make it fun for our club and for our "old" friends in the NE Region and the Association and the new friends I know we'll make.



Donna Hartig, Editor

P.S. French Lick is a really exciting venue.

Opinions expressed in this publication are exclusively those of the author and not necessarily those of the Association of Desk and Derrick Clubs or the Tri-State Club.

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### Contact the Editor:

Donna L. Hartig P O Box 5127, Evansville, IN 47716-5127

Phone: 812.618.8301



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5244 Sunnybrook Lane  
Wichita Falls, TX 76310  
940-781-9888 (cell) or 940-716-5103 (work)  
[bpappas1@ymail.com](mailto:bpappas1@ymail.com) or  
[Barbara@cobraogc.com](mailto:Barbara@cobraogc.com)

January 2023

To: ADDC Membership

Happy New Year! I hope my letter finds you in good health and happiness. Our organization starts a new year with a new ADDC Board and new ideas. In July 1951, the ADDC of North America was formed by signing the Articles of Association. The first four (4) Desk and Derrick Clubs signing the Articles were: New Orleans, Louisiana; Jackson, Mississippi; Los Angeles, California and Houston, Texas. The dream of our Founder, Inez Awty Schaeffer, became a reality. In 1977 the Association name was changed to “Association of Desk and Derrick Clubs”. Our Association has a rich and invaluable history in the energy industry for 72 years now, and I am excited and grateful to you, as members, to allow me the honor of serving as your 2023 ADDC President and lead our organization.

Thank you to the 2022 Board of Directors for their service to our great organization. It was a year of challenges and learning. As we ended 2022, ADDC had a membership count of 696, with 2 of those members being student members. Our focus this year is retaining and increasing membership. This cannot be done without you! You are Desk and Derrick, every voice, and every vote counts. ADDC belongs to you, and it is up to you what you want from our organization. The 2022 Board of Directors recently sent out a survey for your opinion and please know we are listening to what you had to say! One of the 2023 Board of Directors’ goals is to provide more educational opportunities to our membership and that means thinking outside the box for new and inventive ways—we have technology at our fingertips, and it is time for us to embrace it. The ADDC Budget and Planning Meeting slated for January 14, 2023, will be via Zoom, which will bring a cost savings to our Association. If you have any questions or concerns, please let your Regional Director know so we may address during our meeting.

I want to say “Thank You” to those who have served Desk and Derrick in various capacities in past years and say “Thank You” to those who are serving as an ADDC Committee Chairman or Region Representative, and individual club boards in 2023! Your time and skills are priceless and ADDC is appreciative of your efforts.

I want to close with a Leadership Quote, **“At the end of the day it’s not about what you have or even what you’ve accomplished. It’s about who you’ve lifted up, who you’ve made better. It’s about what you’ve given back.” – Denzel Washington**

**Greater Knowledge ~ Greater Service**

**Barbara Pappas**



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**Kelli Hiltbrand**  
2023 Northeast Region Director  
2892 State Route 39 NE New Philadelphia, OH 44663  
330-364-5811  
NortheastRD2023@gmail.com

January 2023

Happy New Year Northeast Region Members!

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season and that you were able to enjoy some time with your family and friends. The past few weeks have been a whirlwind for me. Holiday parties, inventory, year end tasks as well as hosting a Holiday Open House and Food Drive at our local humane society. Let's not forget to mention gearing up for my new role as your Northeast Region Director!

There are still a few committees needing region reps; Guidelines Review, Education/Certification, Membership, Public Relations, Leadership & Marketing. If you have a couple extra hours a month, we could really use your help. Our organization relies on our members to run properly and there are some great committee chairmen that will help guide you. Thank you to those members who have already stepped up.

The Budget & Planning meeting will be held via Zoom on January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023. If you have any questions or concerns you would like me to address, please send me an email at [NortheastRD2023@gmail.com](mailto:NortheastRD2023@gmail.com). Remember, I am here for you and to help your voices be heard.

Club Presidents, please remember to submit your ADO31 Form if you have not already done so.

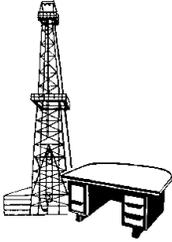
One of the things I am most excited for this year is having our first Northeast Region meeting in person since 2019. I hope many of you will consider joining us in French Lick, IN from May 17<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023. The Tri-State Club is in their third year of planning and I am sure they will do a wonderful job providing us with a fun, educational experience.

I am still getting used to the idea that I signed up for this job 😊. If you would have asked me when I joined Desk and Derrick if I ever thought I could do this, the answer would have been, "not a chance". I never thought I would even have stepped up to serve our club. Desk and Derrick has provided me with so many opportunities to learn and grow both personally and professionally. I want to thank you for choosing me to lead our region in the coming year.

I look forward to working with all of you this year and seeing what new and exciting things we can bring to ADDC to keep us a viable organization in the future.

Until next month,

*Kelli Hiltbrand*



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Tri-State Club President  
Countrymark Refining and Logistics, LLC  
6701 Lower New Harmony Road  
Mt. Vernon, IN 47620  
C: 812.270.2683  
michael.nelligan@countrymark.com

January 2023

Happy New Year! The Holidays are a great time to relax, regroup and get ready to tackle the New Year. I hope you all were able to do just that, while enjoying some time with friends and loved ones.

I am eager to see what this New Year will bring. I wish each of you the very best as we head into 2023.

I am excited for the many great things we will do as a club this year. The 2023 Northeast Region meeting in French Lick, IN will be a great time to show everyone the hard work we put in as a group. This could potentially be the last in-person Region Meeting, so it is up to us to make sure we send it out in the best way possible.

Don't forget to turn in your club dues! Renewal forms are due February 1, 2023. If you have anything I can help you with, please do not hesitate to reach to me any time.

Our next meeting will be held on January 19, 2023 at the CountryMark Pavilion. This meeting will be a combination of our Holiday Party along with planning for the Region Meeting. See you January 19<sup>th</sup>.

Yours truly,

*Michael Nelligan*



## Power Rangers – Battle for the Grid

Author: Donna L. Hartig



While I like to play games such as card games and especially Microsoft's Solitaire versions, I don't consider myself a "gamer" and don't have any kids or grandkids to educate me about the world of video games where the hero's battle the villains to save the world. But, while researching for industry related articles for this publication, I encountered an advertisement for a video game called "Power Rangers: Battle for the Grid" along with multiple news articles about several power outages caused by vandals attacking power substations. Putting two and two together to get seven, I began to wonder if there could be any inspiration from one to the other or is there something more sinister going on.

Scientists and the energy industry have long been concerned about the vulnerability of ours and the world's power grids, and these recent attacks have brought those concerns into sharper focus

Here's some of the news reports following two of these incidents:

On December 12<sup>th</sup> Frank Morris reported on his radio broadcast All Things Considered:

"When Moore County, N.C., suddenly went dark last Saturday night, Mayor Carol Haney was perplexed. There'd been no storm, no warning, just darkness on what had been a festive holiday season evening. It turned out a shooting attack on two electrical substations knocked tens of thousands of people off the grid for the better part of a week. "This beautiful part of the world gets sabotaged," said Haney. "So, it could happen to anyone. And that's probably the most frightening for everyone– that this could happen to anyone."

It could. Across the United States some 55,000 electrical substations are humming right now, mostly transforming high voltage from big power lines, into lower voltages for homes and businesses. Many of them are sitting ducks for saboteurs.

"The electric grid is the Achilles heel of the United States," says Mike Mabee, a self-described "grid-security gadfly" who pours over electric company data to highlight vulnerabilities. Like many, he's worried about Russian or Chinese cyberattacks, but Mabee says the easiest way to hurt Americans is something a lot less exotic, shooting up substations with widely available assault rifles.

Substations are soft targets, because the main components in them, huge voltage transformers, cool themselves with circulating oil. High-powered rifle rounds can easily pierce transformers, spring leaks, make them overheat and shut down. The bigger transformers are about the size of railroad boxcars. Carnegie Mellon University professor M. Granger Morgan says they aren't easy to replace. "We don't make many of them in this country, and there are long backlogs in getting new ones," says Morgan. The backlogs can stretch to 18 months, with price tags that can run into the millions of dollars. And, the cost to replace equipment pales compared to the potential toll of taking down the grid." *(And you thought the supply chain backlog for computer chips made in China was big problem!)*

You can read the whole article at: <https://www.npr.org/2022/12/09/1141937948/north-carolina-attacks-highlight-the-vulnerability-of-power-grids>

*(Continued on Page 6)*

*Power Rangers -Battle for the Grid (continued)*

In a separate article in the New York Post by Patrick Reilly on December 26<sup>th</sup>, Mr. Reilly wrote:

“A fourth Washington state electrical substation was found vandalized on Christmas after three others were attacked earlier in the day, leaving thousands without power, officials said. After the latest act of vandalism, more than 10,500 Puget Sound Energy customers were without electricity across the region by 7 a.m. Monday, KOMO-TV reported.

The suspects broke into a fenced area and vandalized equipment at the substation, causing a fire, according to the Pierce County Sheriff’s Office. Responders put out the fire and power was later restored, however no suspects are in custody, officials said. Earlier Christmas Day, thousands of residents woke up with no power after three other substations were vandalized in the early morning hours.

The first substation was vandalized at about 5:30 a.m. Sunday followed by a second substation, according to Tacoma Public Utilities. About 7,300 customers in an area southeast of Tacoma were affected.

Meanwhile, just before noon, Puget Sound Energy reported vandalism that had happened at about 2:30 a.m. Sunday caused a power outage at one of its substations. Roughly 7,700 customers lost power, but had it restored by 5 a.m., Puget Sound spokesperson Andrew Padula said. The company is investigating, along with authorities, and declined to comment further, according to Padula.



In all four cases, the sheriff’s office says someone forced their way into the fenced area surrounding the substations and damaged equipment to cause a power outage. It’s not clear at this time if all four instances are connected. Several power stations have been attacked in Washington and Oregon in the last month.”

<https://nypost.com/2022/12/26/fourth-electrical-substation-vandalized-in-washington-state/>

Terrorism or vandalism---what happening to our country and our world? I grew up in a world following WWII when kids could ride their bikes all around the neighborhood all afternoon as long as they were home by supertime, where neighbors were actually neighborly, and vandalism was tossing rolls of toilet paper into the trees in front of a rival’s (or someone you wanted to get to notice you)’s home. However, in our case vandalism was a win/win situation. The perpetrators got the pleasure of the deed, and we got a big paper grocery sack full of “the expensive brand”.

I realize the world has changed in the 65 plus years since those days---much of it for the better, but some of it unnecessarily for the worse. I don’t have the answers, and I doubt you do either, but that doesn’t mean we should stop trying to find a way to make it a better, kinder place.

***Kindness doesn’t cost a thing, but it is the richest gift you can give.***

**THANK YOU**

**TRI-STATE OFFICERS  
FOR VOLUNTEERING TO SERVE A SECOND TERM**

**LINDA HENNING  
FOR VOLUNTEERING TO SERVE AS A DIRECTOR**

**PHILIANA THOMPSON & ESTHER GREYEYES  
FOR HOSTING TWO ZOOM CLASSES  
ON HOW TO SUBMIT CONTEST ENTRIES  
IN THE NEW ELECTRONIC FORMAT**

**ALESIA CATO  
FOR HELPING SELECT THIS YEARS CONTEST ENTRIES**

**TRI-STATE MEMBERS WORKING TO KEEP OUR CLUB  
RELEVANT AND VIABLE**

\_\_\_\_\_ **FOR SUBMITTING ARTICLES**  
TYPE YOUR NAME HERE

**FOR THIS YEARS TRI-STATE NEWS**

Tri-State Desk and Derrick Club  
Serving Indiana, Illinois and Kentucky



Association of Desk and Derrick Clubs  
www.addc.org

The Tri-State Desk and Derrick Club was chartered in 2012 by the Association of Desk and Derrick Clubs for the purpose of educating its members and the general public about the petroleum and allied energy industries and their contributions to society. Meetings are held the third Thursday of each month. Membership is open to persons employed in or retired from the petroleum, energy and allied industries as well as individuals interested in increasing their knowledge about these industries. For more information about the Tri-State Club, contact Pres. Michael Nelligan, Countrymark Refining & Logistics, LLC, 6701 Lower New Harmony Road, Mt. Vernon, IN 47620 812.833.2526



# January 2023



Tri-Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1 	2	3	4	5	6	7 
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	<i>I have a dream!</i> 	17	18	19 20 Tri-State Meeting	20	21
22 	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

