



Minnesota Municipal Utilities Association

## 2019 Technical & Operations Conference



The T & O Conference is a not-to-be-missed event for Managers, Crew Leads, Lineworkers and others. This is the perfect venue to join fellow public power professionals to hear interesting speakers on timely topics, participate in discussions, share ideas and connect with friends old and new.

This year's Conference features dynamic presentations and thought provoking speakers, such as:

- > Jay Gubrud—who will challenge everyone to eliminate the everyday roadblocks to success, while honoring the differences that make us unique
- > and Bruce Stumpe, along with his wife Darla, who will share his personal story of complacency which led to an unfortunate accident
- > and more!

Many of last year's attendees rated the T & O Conference a "10" overall and one summed it up with this comment:

*"I felt the information provided pertained very well to my job as a manager, but also for the lineworkers that attended with me."*

**Join us  
December 3-5 for the 19th annual  
T & O Conference**

## 2019 T & O Conference Program Details

### General Sessions

#### Jumping In the Driver's Seat!

Jay Gubrud, Jay Gubrud, Inc.

This presentation can help “steer” you into position to fully realize your outstanding contributions to your employer, family, and community. Having an innate sense of personal responsibility is required in all aspects of our lives.

*Jumping In the Driver's Seat* will motivate you to improve leadership skills and relationships in order to cultivate effective teams. It can help increase your personal effectiveness as you:

- Gain tips for being a better leader & keys for creating a culture where employees don't want to leave
- Learn how to appreciate the unique contribution of each of your employees
- Discover practical communication skills for rewarding relationships and more!

#### Department of Labor & Industry Adopts MMUA's Standards of Apprenticeship

Rick Martagon and Jeremy Parker, Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry

Earlier this year MMUA worked in partnership with the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry to develop an updated Line Work Apprenticeship Standard. The Standard is *the* state program that an Apprentice must complete in order to obtain their Journeyman Lineman license.

Rick and Jeremy will offer information on the Apprenticeship Standard and we'll delve into the benefits of MMUA's On-Site Apprentice Lineworker Training Program and how it can help grow your utility's linework crew.

#### The Power of A Minute

Scott Meinecke, Iowa Association of Electric Cooperatives

In today's hectic world we often lose track of time. We are continually trying to multi-task just to keep our heads above water! This program will help you focus on the true value of a minute as it pertains to getting our brothers and sisters home.

#### Complacency—One of Safety's Worst Enemies

Bruce Stumpe, Association of Missouri Electric Co-ops

It's easy to become comfortable in our day-to-day tasks. Becoming too comfortable, however, can lead to complacency which, in turn, could derail your career and your life.

After Bruce's electrical contact with 7200 volts in 2009, he realized he was that guy who had become too comfortable in his daily job duties.

Complacency not only affects you but also your family and coworkers. Bruce will be presenting with his wife, Darla. They will share Bruce's unfortunate accident; how it changed their lives and how it affected their family as well.

#### MMUA Update

MMUA Staff will cover a variety of pertinent “hot topic” issues.

*Afternoon educational program is divided into two tracks:*

- Manager Track
- Crew Leader/Foreman Track

### MANAGER Track

#### How Safe Are You, Honestly?

Scott Meinecke, Iowa Association of Electric Cooperatives

When asked how safe your crews are we will always give the OSHA recordables as our gauge for performance. Honestly, does the lack of accidents really prove your crews follow all the safety rules? How do we gauge and reward performance?

This program will give you an opportunity to participate in identifying factors that affect safety in the workplace and guide you in addressing issues that could lead to a significant injury or fatality.

#### Open Forum Discussion on Mutual Aid

Mike Willetts, Minnesota Municipal Utilities Association

Learn about the deployment of crews from Minnesota to Florida at the end of August. The crews arrived at the pre-staging area in Florida but ultimately—and fortunately

for the requesting utility, Kissimmee Utility Authority—Hurricane Dorian didn't cause damage and our crews were released back to Minnesota.

Please plan to attend and share any comments you have to improve the process. Topics to be discussed include:

- The process; what happens once we receive a request for mutual aid
- Suggested packing checklist
- Pre-staging

### **Emergency Communications—It's Important!**

Jim Stromberg, ARMER Radio System

Communication systems are critical for any utility. But during a mutual aid event, communications can take on new challenges. MMUA recently met with the Department of Public Safety on the use of their ARMER (Allied Radio Matrix for Emergency Response) radio system. Learn about the benefits of the ARMER Radio System and how it can help improve communications during a mutual aid event.

### ***CREW LEADER/FOREMAN Track***

### **Hands-Free Law & How It Applies to Your City/Utility**

Ryan Mihalak, MMUA

The attempt to curb distracted driving has now moved to the prohibition on hands-free cellphone use while driving. However, for municipalities and utilities, this poses a legitimate issue – how do we address compliance without compromising customer service? In this session, we'll take a brief look at the history, ways to comply and what this means for you and your utility!

### **Infrared Inspection—Why It Should Be Part of Your Maintenance Program**

Daryl Androli, Missouri River Energy Services

- Infrared use & benefits
- Costs associated with purchase, training & warranties
- Tips and tricks for taking a good image
- Arcing, Corona & Tracking
- What is Partial Discharge Testing and how can it help determine a growing issue?

### **LED Lighting Application & Performance**

Carol Tigges, Border States Electric

Hear about the latest trends and improvements in LED lighting and the potential cost savings that your utility may achieve when you upgrade to LEDs.

### **The Transformer Purchase—Understanding Costs & Losses**

Ken Gunnufsen, Howard Transformers

- Understanding Total Operating Cost (TOC)—What is it? How can I reach it?
- Transformer specifications, standards, sizes
- Copper vs. aluminum windings
- How will tariffs affect the market?

### **Vendor Product Showcase, Reception & Trade Show Wednesday, December 4**

Whether you're looking to connect with a current supplier or sourcing new equipment or services, this is the place where it can happen!

### **HOTEL INFORMATION**

#### **Best Western Plus Kelly Inn**

Address: 100 4th Avenue South, St. Cloud

Phone: 320-253-0606

MMUA has secured a reduced room rate of \$99 per night + tax. Please call the hotel directly and ask for the MMUA room block or reserve online at <http://tinyurl.com/2019-TandOreservations>

*Make your hotel reservation today/as soon as possible as availability is limited and cannot be guaranteed.*

The hotel block closes on November 15, 2019, however, the hotel may continue to accept reservations after the cut-off date on a space available basis, at prevailing rates.

### ***Optional Evening Event***

Taproom Tour at Pantown Brewing Company

Tuesday, December 3 | 5:00-8:00 PM

Register today to join us as we visit a local establishment with a unique name and history. We'll hear from Pantown's head brewer about their process, enjoy pizza and wings, two beverage tokens & for those interested, play a fun game or two of cornhole.

Registrations accepted on a first come basis. Limited to first 35 people. Cost is \$30 per person & includes transportation. Must also be registered for T & O Conference to attend. Separate registration required. Use [registration form](http://www.mmua.org/event/brew-tour-2019) or register online at [www.mmua.org/event/brew-tour-2019](http://www.mmua.org/event/brew-tour-2019)

## 2019 T & O Conference Schedule of Events

### Tuesday, December 3

- 12:00 Noon Registration Opens
- 1:00 - 1:15 Welcome & Opening Remarks
- 1:15 - 2:45 **Jumping In The Driver's Seat!**  
Jay Gubrud, Jay Gubrud, Inc.
- 3:00 - 4:00 **Department of Labor & Industry Adopts MMUA's Standards of Apprenticeship**  
Rick Martagon & Jeremy Parker,  
Minnesota Dept. of Labor and Industry
- 5:00 - 8:00 (Optional) Taproom Tour at Pantown  
Brewing Company - busing provided;  
space limited; separate registration fee

### Wednesday, December 4

- 8:30 - 11:20 **The Power of a Minute**  
Scott Meinecke, Iowa Association of  
Electric Cooperatives
- 11:30 - Noon **Apprentice Lineworker & Rodeo  
Recognitions**  
Mike Willetts and James Monroe, MMUA  
Don Harbuck, Northwest Lineman College
- Noon - 1:00 Luncheon

Afternoon program divided into two tracks.

#### Manager Track

- 1:00 - 2:30 **How Safe Are You, Honestly?**  
Scott Meinecke, Iowa Association of  
Electric Cooperatives
- 2:45 - 3:15 **Open Forum Discussion on Mutual Aid**  
Mike Willetts, MMUA
- 3:15 - 4:00 **Emergency Communications—  
It's Important!**  
Jim Stromberg, ARMER Radio System
- 4:00 - 4:45 **Vendor Product Showcase**
- 5:00 - 7:00 **Reception & Trade Show**

### Crew Leader/Foreman Track

- 1:00 - 1:45 **Hands-Free Law & How It Applies to  
Your City/Utility**  
Ryan Mihalak, MMUA
- 1:45 - 2:30 **Infrared Inspection—Why It Should Be  
Part of Your Maintenance Program**  
Daryl Androli, MRES
- 2:45 - 3:15 **LED Lighting Application & Perfor-  
mance**  
Carol Tigges, Border States Electric
- 3:15-4:00 **The Transformer Purchase—Under-  
standing the Costs and Losses**  
Ken Gunnufsen, Howard Transformers
- 4:00 - 4:45 **Vendor Product Showcase**
- 5:00 - 7:00 **Reception & Trade Show**

### Thursday, December 5

- 8:30 - 9:45 **Complacency—One of Safety's Worst  
Enemies**  
Bruce Stumpe, Association of Missouri  
Electric Cooperatives & Barb Stumpe
- 10:00 - 10:30 **Mutual Aid & Communications  
Roundup**  
Mike Willetts, MMUA
- 10:30 - Noon **MMUA Update** - MMUA Staff  
*Conference adjourns at noon. Schedule subject to change.*

#### REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Registration fee is \$465 per person if registered by November 7. Registration fee covers tuition, materials, refreshment breaks, lunch on Wednesday and admission to the Reception and Trade Show.

*Please note:*

- Registration fee increases \$50 on Nov. 8.
- Deadline to register is November 15.
- Cancellations are subject to a \$30 charge per person if received by 4:30 PM on November 15. No refunds issued after November 15.

Must be MMUA member to register for this event.

**Date: December 3-5**

**Location:** Best Western Plus Kelly Inn  
 100 4th Avenue South  
 St. Cloud, MN 56301  
 Phone: 320-253-0606

**Attendee Information**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

(3) Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

(4) Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Utility Information**

Utility/Co. \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**PHOTOGRAPHS:** By registering for this event, I/we, the individual(s) named above, authorize Minnesota Municipal Utilities Association (MMUA) to photograph me at this event and to use such photographs in any MMUA marketing materials (both electronic and print). I understand that I will not be paid for giving this consent.

**QUESTIONS:** Please contact Theresa Neddermeyer at 763-551-1230 or email [tneddermeyer@mmua.org](mailto:tneddermeyer@mmua.org)

**Registration Fee** (on/before Nov.7)

Member - \$465 per person

Must be MMUA member to attend.

*Note: Registration fee increases \$50 per person on November 8. Deadline to register November 15.*

Registration Fee \$ \_\_\_\_\_

X Number of Attendees \_\_\_\_\_

Total Due \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment Options**

- Check Payable to MMUA
- Bill Utility/Company
  - Purchase order \_\_\_\_\_
- Credit Card
  - Visa    MasterCard    Discover

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Name as it Appears on Card

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Cardholder's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Credit Card Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Expiration Date      CVV (Code on Back)

**REFUND:** MMUA will issue a refund (less \$30 processing fee per person) provided MMUA is notified of the cancellation by 4:30 p.m. on November 15, 2019. *No refunds after Nov. 15.*



Register online: [www.mmua.org/event/TandO-2019](http://www.mmua.org/event/TandO-2019)  
 Register by mail: Minnesota Municipal Utilities Association  
 3025 Harbor Lane North, Suite 400  
 Plymouth, MN 55447-5142  
 Register by email: [tneddermeyer@mmua.org](mailto:tneddermeyer@mmua.org)  
 Register by fax: 763-551-0459



# Taproom Tour Registration Form

4418B

Tuesday, December 3, 2019 | 5:00-8:00 PM

**Location:** Pantown Brewing Company  
408 37th Avenue North  
St. Cloud, MN 56303

## Attendee Information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

(3) Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

(4) Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## Utility Information

Utility/Co. \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

## Pantown Brewing Tour Fee

\$30 per person

Fee includes bus transportation, two beverage tokens, pizza & wings.

Note: Registration limited to first 35 people. Must also be registered for T&O Conference. Deadline to register Nov. 15 or when sold out.

Registration Fee \$ \_\_\_\_\_

X Number of Attendees \_\_\_\_\_

Total Due \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## Payment Options

- Check Payable to MMUA
- Bill Utility/Company
  - Purchase order \_\_\_\_\_
- Credit Card
  - Visa    MasterCard    Discover

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name as it Appears on Card

\_\_\_\_\_  
Cardholder's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Credit Card Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Expiration Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
CVV (Code on Back)

**SUBSTITUTIONS AND REFUNDS:** Substitutions are accepted at no additional cost. If requesting a refund, MMUA will issue a refund (less \$5 processing fee per person) provided MMUA is notified of the cancellation by 4:30 p.m. on November 15, 2019. *No refunds after November 15.*

**QUESTIONS:** Please contact Theresa Neddermeyer at 763-551-1230 or email [tneddermeyer@mmua.org](mailto:tneddermeyer@mmua.org)



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3025 Harbor Lane North, Suite 400  
Plymouth, MN 55447-5142  
Register by email: [tneddermeyer@mmua.org](mailto:tneddermeyer@mmua.org)  
Register by fax: 763-551-0459

