



Southern Pine Electric Power Association

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Robert Lang retires as co-op's field supervisor

Robert Lang, of Monticello, retired March 16 after a career spanning more than 41 years at Southern Pine Electric Power Association.

Southern Pine hired Lang on July 20, 1964 to work as a groundman on a line crew working in the Georgetown and Taylorsville areas.

Two years later Lang began moving into jobs carrying more responsibility and requiring more skill. After working two years as an apprentice lineman, he was promoted to journeyman lineman, a job he held for four years.

As a lineman, Lang helped build new power lines, maintain and repair existing lines, and rebuild lines damaged by storms, vehicle accidents or other causes. Like all Southern Pine linemen, he was subject to being called out to restore power during outages at any time of day or night.

Lang worked as a lineman four years before accepting the position of serviceman for the Morton area. Southern Pine servicemen often are the first to respond to "trouble calls," when members report problems with their electric service. Many times the serviceman can resolve the problem himself, without calling out a line crew.

Lang served Southern Pine members in the Morton area for some 16 years before he transferred to Lawrence County.

In 1992 Southern Pine organized its 11-county service area into four districts, each with its own office, warehouse and crews. Lang accepted the job of field supervisor for the New Hebron district.

Lang's new duties included supervision of the district's line and right-of-way crews, the serviceman and the contract meter readers.

"The people I worked with were just all like family," Lang said.

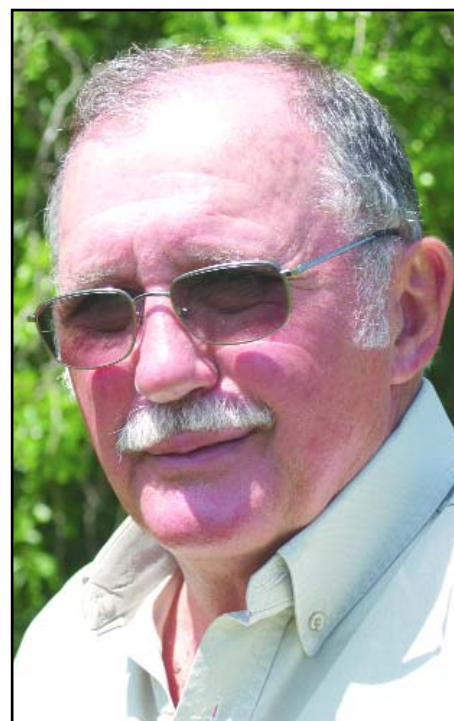
"Everybody was concerned about providing good service to the members, and they were always willing to go the extra mile," he added.

Lang said he will miss his co-workers but will be busy in retirement.

"I have plenty of cows and plan to work around the place—and keep up with the grandkids," he said.

He and his wife, Carolyn, a registered nurse at Lawrence County Hospital, have two sons, Dwane and Cobby, and three grandchildren, ages 7, 9 and 11. He enjoys watching them play in team sports.

Southern Pine is grateful for Lang's long years of dedicated and competent service to its members. We wish him and his family many years of happiness in his retirement.



Robert Lang

We make electrical safety a year-round commitment

You already know that Southern Pine Electric Power Association works hard to deliver reliable electric service to more than 63,000 members in central and south Mississippi.

But you may not know that we work equally hard to teach our members (and our employees) about electrical safety.

May is national Electrical Safety Month, but Southern Pine's commitment to electrical safety is maintained year-round. In fact, nothing is more important to your coopera-

tive than the safe use of electricity.

To get our safety message to as many audiences as possible, Southern Pine sponsors free safety programs for schools, youth groups, civic clubs, firefighters and other types of groups and organizations. Our safety advisors use a tabletop model to effectively demonstrate the dangers of contact with power lines, which can cause serious injury or death.

We make sure our line workers are fully versed in electrical safety and the latest safety regulations and

equipment. We hold monthly safety meetings devoted to safety topics directly related to their daily duties.

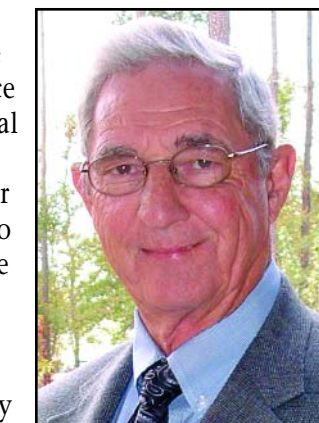
In the field, crew leaders and foremen conduct tailgate safety sessions with all crew members before they begin work at a job site. Foremen take seriously their obligation to keep their workers safe and the job site as free of hazards as possible.

As the nation's electric power industry observes Electrical Safety Month, we hope you will take a few minutes to make sure your family

understands the importance of electrical safety. Teach your children to respect the invisible power of electricity and to stay away from all power lines and substations. Don't let them play around electrical outlets or pull on electrical cords.

Neither should children climb trees that have power lines running through them. And remember, ladders and power lines are a deadly mix. Never raise a ladder—or any object—into the air near a power line. Should the ladder be blown or fall onto the line, the person holding it could be seriously injured, if not killed. Instruct everyone in your household to stay far away from a downed power line. If you see a damaged or downed line, immediately call the Southern Pine district office that serves you. We'll send a crew out to repair the line safely and quickly.

To arrange a safety demonstration for your school or group, call Southern Pine's Marketing Department at (601) 785-6511 or (800) 231-5240.



By Don Jordan

Parish named to Southern Pine board

Billy R. Parish, of Prentiss, has been named to Southern Pine Electric Power Association's board of directors. He represents Southern Pine members in Jefferson Davis County.

Parish is president of the Regions Bank branch in Prentiss and was named 2005 Regions Commercial Banker of the Year. He also owns a pine tree farming operation.

He is a graduate of the Louisiana State University School of Banking, the University of Mississippi School of Banking and the University of Southern Mississippi, where he majored in business administration. He attended Prentiss High School.

Parish is active in several profes-

sional and service organizations on the state and local levels. He is a member of the Prentiss Rotary Club, Jefferson Davis County Chamber of Commerce, Mississippi Poultry Association and Jefferson Davis County Forestry Association.

He serves on the Jefferson Davis County 4-H Advisory Board and is an American Cancer Society Relay for Life Team Member.

He and his wife, Sally, are members of Prentiss Baptist Church, where he



Billy R. Parish

serves as a deacon and a member of the choir.

The Parishes have three children, Scott, Chad and Lee, and four grandchildren.

Parish fills the position on the Southern Pine board held previously by Billy Harvey, who recently passed away.

Southern Pine's directors, elected by the membership at the association's annual meeting, set policies and establish the

business structure of the electric cooperative.

WE'RE SERVICE PROUD

How to reach Southern Pine

Taylorsville Headquarters:

601-785-6511 or
800-231-5240

Hattiesburg branch:
601-264-0185

Newton District Office:

601-683-2200 or
800-698-9573

New Hebron District Office:

601-694-2711 or
800-698-9571

Brandon District Office:

601-824-7070 or
800-698-9574

Find Southern Pine online at
www.spepa.com

Here's a full load of energy-saving ideas.



There are lots of ways to save energy. In winter, wear warm clothing indoors and lower your thermostat setting. In summer, wear cool clothing and raise the thermostat setting. When it comes time to do laundry, use the cold or warm water cycle on your clothes washer. Then clean the lint filter with each dryer load. And make sure that the dryer vent to the outside is not blocked by lint. Contact Southern Pine Electric Power Association for more information on energy management.



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Legislature commends Electric Power Associations of Mississippi



Southern Pine Electric Power Association General Manager Don Jordan and representatives of other electric power associations in Mississippi accept a resolution adopted by the Mississippi House of Representatives and Senate. The resolution commends the Electric Power Associations of Mississippi and their cooperative colleagues for their commitment, diligence and a job well done in restoring power to the citizens of Mississippi following Hurricane Katrina.

Memorial Day



Southern Pine Electric Power Association's offices will be closed Monday, May 29, in observance of Memorial Day. A dispatcher will remain on duty to assist members experiencing service problems.