



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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## Board of Trustees

**President, Dennis Trujillo**  
**District 1** - Jemez Springs, Jemez Pueblo, Zia Pueblo, Surrounding areas

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**Secretary, John Ramon Vigil**  
**District 4** - Santa Clara Pueblo north to Medanales including Lyden & La Canova west of the Rio Grande River

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**Lucas Cordova, Jr., District 4** - Chili, Chamita & other areas from Santa Clara Pueblo north to Medanales including Lyden & La Canova west of the Rio Grande River

**Elias Coriz, District 5** - Chimayo & all other areas in Rio Arriba County east of the Rio Grande River

**Marcelina Martinez, District 6** - Santa Cruz & surrounding areas located in Santa Fe County

**Bruce Duran, District 6** - Nambe, Pojoaque, surrounding areas located in Santa Fe County

**Marissa Maestas-Muller, Trustee-At-Large** - represents the entire cooperative area at large



## JMEC Coverage In *enchantment* To Grow

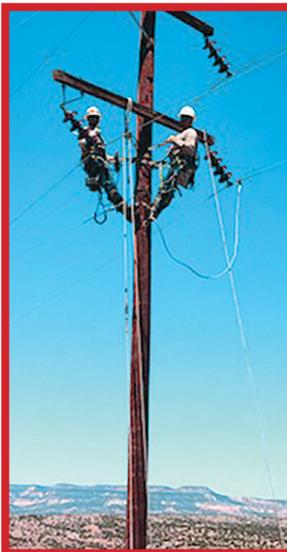
Among the many initiatives JMEC is pursuing is how we may more frequently and effectively meet our obligation to communicate with our members, without incurring burdensome costs to do so. Well, we learned late last year that JMEC could have more pages in this monthly *enchantment* magazine, including the cover story, without any additional charge from the statewide!

**The publication's staff told us we could have up to six, on occasion even seven, pages inside the magazine plus cover. The pages would be scattered throughout the magazine due to how the magazine is produced but easily identifiable as JMEC stories as they will have the same look and feel as what you have been reading on pages 16 and 17 in the center of the publication.**

There will be 10 issues of *enchantment* this year, down from 12 in the previous year. We have a lot of planning and preparation to do to be ready for when the JMEC expanded coverage begins. We are aiming to launch within the first half of this year.

This is exciting for us! The additional *enchantment* pages mean more opportunities to tell your stories, of the people and places of the JMEC service territory, as well as news you can use and news you should know. We will have the same challenges as far as scheduling since we must submit our stories a full month or more before *enchantment* magazine publishes so, news that is more time sensitive will have to be found elsewhere.

**February marks the one-year anniversary of JMEC's return to the pages of *enchantment*. We look forward to telling more of your stories and ours in this magazine's coming issues!**



**Expanded coverage in the monthly *enchantment* magazine will allow JMEC to tell more stories about our community, our members and our staff.**



## Employee Spotlight: George Valdez

When asked how long he has been with Jemez Mountains Electric Cooperative, Inc., George Valdez said, “Six years already,” like he could not believe how quickly the time has flown by! That could be because George, now in the maintenance department, has taken on multiple roles in these last few years.

**“I live nearby so I applied and started as a tree trimmer,” he said. After just six months, Valdez transitioned from that rugged outdoor work to serving as a meter reader which took him all over the JMEC service territory. “Sometimes I would read up to 400 meters in a day, in all kinds of weather,” he said. When reading meters for large power users he had some of his more memorable adventures, like hitching a ride with Santa Fe Ski personnel on a snowmobile to reach its ski basin meters or getting to the top of mesas when reading for cell towers.**

Valdez worked in the warehouse after that, prepping materials so that the linemen had what they needed as they went out for their workday. Coming to the maintenance department about a year ago, he takes care of the buildings and its people. In nominating him for this Employee Spotlight, it was said that, “George possesses the cooperative spirit in every task he has at JMEC, from respectfully folding the flags every evening to coming in early on days we have snow and ice to make sure it is safe for all of us. He always has a smile and a friendly word for employees and members when they come to the office.”

**Valdez lives in Chili and says when he is not working, he enjoys doing mechanic work and painting cars, riding his Harley and playing with his dogs Marley, Harley and Bonita.**

## A Valentine To Our Members

Our long histories have rooted us here or we have, for so many reasons, chosen the rugged beauty of northern New Mexico as our home. As such, we identify as a number of things – native, New Mexican, recent resident and more. For Jemez Mountains Electric Cooperative, Inc., we are grateful for all and especially so for our shared identity as JMEC members.

JMEC exists because of the initiative of its founders; because no for-profit utility would invest in the 4,000 miles of transmission and distribution lines needed to serve our membership that stretches across 7,000 square miles; and most of all, because our members make it possible.



**Your involvement and support are invaluable.**

**Hardly anyone wants to think too much about their utility but when we need you to, you step up! And when you do, it is with a desire to do what you understand to be the right thing for yourself, your family and our community.**

Membership has its privileges. For the JMEC team that includes a workday made better when longtime members, now friends, come into the office with a smile to do business; when members cheer on our linemen as they come into their neighborhood to trim trees or restore power; when we really, really need your support, as with reaching quorum at last summer’s special district meetings, and you come out for us.

For members, we hope you have a growing sense of belonging; that you understand and make the most of your influence that allows you to make a real difference in the service JMEC can provide; that you have fun when we get together with family and friends at the annual meeting and even learn a thing or two!

**We enjoy and appreciate our members. Thank you!**

