



BLACK FOREST CHAPTER OF AARP #1100

"To serve, not to be served"

Chapter Web Site: <http://aarpchapter1100blackforest.weebly.com>

July 13, 2022

High Voltage Dangers Demonstrated (Author: Stan Beckner)

A Mountain View Electric Association Team, led by Jason Matzke, North Operations Superintendent, provided AARP Chapter 1100 with a series of demonstrations & a narrative discussion on the dangers & safety measures associated with downed electrical wires. The MVEA Team used their specially rigged trailer to graphically show the devastating effects of High Voltages on tissues similar to those in the human body. The 8 June program at the Black Forest AARP meeting was especially appreciated since most of the Chapter members live in areas which have seen downed power lines due to storms. It was however, a good lesson for anyone who might come upon an accident or situation where downed power lines are a factor. The basic safety rule is that a power company must be called before approaching any power line that is down, whether it appears dangerous or not. The MVEA program & demonstration is available to area youth & adult groups. Call 719.494.2622 & talk to Jason or Avery if you are interested in scheduling a demonstration.

The Chapter business meeting focused on the upcoming activities including the Chapter's 50th Anniversary celebration starting at 1 pm on August 10th in the Black Forest Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall. All friends of the Chapter, & current & past member families, are invited to attend. Activities will include a presentation by AARP CO recognizing the occasion, a review of the chapter history, and a personal recognition of all octogenarian Chapter members present. Cake & ice cream will be served.

The next Chapter meeting will be the annual picnic at the Black Forest Regional Park on July 13th. Call Candace at 314.330.0411 for more information.



Apprentice Lineman Wyatt Farnum, demonstrates what happens if a downed energized 7200v power line, which has fallen across a vehicle, is provided a path to ground by an unsuspecting rescue person who touches the car. **Lesson: Always call the power company before approaching any downed power line.**



The MVEA team including Cory Anderson, South Operations Superintendent, conducts a comprehensive demo for AARP Chapter 1100 members using their specially rigged High Voltage Demonstration Trailer equipment.

Prayers and Pledges!! Pastor Jeff led us in prayers, & we all say the Pledge with great pride & feeling that the United States is still the best country. Birthdays celebrated: Electa Beckner, Shirley Karlstrum & Helen Von Gunden. Anniversaries celebrated: Lori & Jim Belk, Ray & Lin Rozak & Sue Fletcher.

We have new members - Mark & Jan Doughty. Welcome to the club - we're glad you joined and hope you enjoy yourselves.

Our Guests are from the Mountain View Electric Association (MVEA): Cory who is up from southern Colorado, Jason is the Superintendent & Wyatt is a 3rd year apprentice. They are here to show us what happens if you touch a live wire. They had a high voltage trailer parked outside that replicates what happens to you when you touch a downed wire. They used a hot dog to represent the human muscle, when the wire hits the hot dog it exploded - pieces went flying & it smelled. Then they used a grapefruit, because it is the consistency of a heart. After touching it for about 2 seconds the outside looked OK but when they cut it open you could see a burn through the center of the grapefruit. That is what your heart would look like. If you are burned by a wire, when released from the hospital you have to scrub the dead burnt skin off your body. If these descriptions don't get it through your head not to touch downed wires I guess nothing will.

If you are trapped in your car with a wire laying across it Stay Put! Your car & the area around it is electrified to about 7200 volts. Wait for the electric company to get you out. If people want to help you yell at them to stay away, not to touch the car. Never, Never hesitate to call the electric company if your power goes out, you could be the only one to call.

The clothing they wear is rated by the voltage of what they are working on, their rubber gloves get thicker as the voltage goes higher & once a week the gloves are sent where they are washed & inspected for any damage. Any damaged glove cannot be used, they are replaced for their protection. All of their clothing is FR rated, the shirts cost \$110, the jackets \$300. The MVEA pays for their clothing. When working on very high voltage vaults the clothing is bomb squad quality. Nobody likes rate increases but when you think about the safety of these men, the prices of the equipment & the clothing protection they need, it's worth it. The Chapter presented the firemen a Certificate of Appreciation for taking the time to show us the damage a downed power line can do.

The July picnic is planned and looking like a really good time as usual. The fried chicken, side dishes, desserts & of course the members will make it great. **DON'T FORGET TO BRING WHITE ELEPHANT ITEMS FOR THE BINGO GAMES!!!!**

Miss Hidy has planned an octogenarian celebration for our members on August 10th, seems like a really great way to tell all these people how appreciated they are. *(Helen: we normally don't have a Chapter meeting in August but this year we are. Hope to see you there.)*

Silver Key had an Expo at the Antlers Hotel on June 15th - AARP had a table set up with information pamphlets & freebies. The hall was packed with tables of other organizations, it was quite impressive & very informative. We talked to a lot of people, many did not know that we are a local Chapter & (we hope) will give some thought to coming to a meeting & maybe join. (See pictures below.)

The Black Forest festival is August 13th, and there is much to be done. Thanks to Jim & Lori Belk for the use of their tent so we are not baking in the sun. We hope to have a nice display with many with many things to sell.



The Chapter would like to extend our thanks to our President, Candace Lehmann, Linda & Ray Rozak & Electa & Stan Beckner for volunteering to work our Chapter table at the **Silver Key Senior Summit** event on 15 June at the Antlers Hotel. The free breakfast was good too. We saw some old friends & met & talked to several potential new Chapter members. Hopefully more of you will be able to work upcoming Chapter events such as our Annual Chapter Picnic, 50th Anniversary Celebration, & our booth at the Black Forest Festival. *More information will be coming on these upcoming Chapter events.*

2022 is the centennial year
for the Black Forest Log School
and celebrations are planned to
mark the occasion



BLACK FOREST
LOG SCHOOL
CENTENNIAL
QUILT SHOW
&
FUNDRAISER

Black Forest Community Club
12530 Black Forest Rd.

Sept. 10 — 5pm-7pm • Sept. 11 — 10am-4pm
Admission is \$5.00

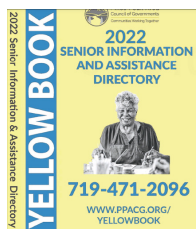
Deadline for quilt submissions is August 10.
A submission form can be obtained on the
website at *bflogschool.com*

Other celebration activities are still in the
planning stages - please check the website
for more details. or contact
Suzanne Stauber - 719-495-3107

AMAZON IMPOSTER SCAMS

With more people shopping from home than ever before, many consumers rely on delivery services like Amazon for some of the products they used to buy at store. Reports of scammers posing as the Amazon customer support have increased significantly over the past few years. Here are some tips for avoiding Amazon impostor scams:

- ◇ Beware of unsolicited phone calls claiming to be from Amazon alerting you of a “problem” with your account. Never provide these callers with account information or access to your computer, phone or tablet.
- ◇ Don't click on links in text messages that claim to be from Amazon.
- ◇ Understand what emails & other correspondence from Amazon look like & when you might receive them. If an email looks suspicious or claims you purchased an expensive item that you didn't, don't take the chance of clicking on a link or following its instructions.
- ◇ Protect your Amazon username & password. Do not provide that information to anyone. Change your password regularly.
- ◇ If you are ever in doubt about correspondence you receive from Amazon, login to your account at www.amazon.com to verify the legitimacy of the message.
- ◇ If you are attempting to contact customer support do not trust a simple internet search. Only use contact information found on the Amazon website.
- ◇ Be prepared to spot scammers using similar tactics posing as other common or essential businesses and delivery services like grocery stores, Wal-Mart, FedEx, UPS, USPS, PayPal and Netflix.
800-222-4444 www.aarpelderwatch.org



INFORMATION: If anyone would like to download a copy of the 2022 Senior Information & Assistance Directory (the yellow book) it is available at www.ppacg.org/yellowbook

CHAPTER COMMITTEES

Health Care: Wash your hands. Waldo has a list of members willing to loan walkers, etc. so if you need one, or have one to loan, please contact him. If you have questions check with Waldo.

Sunshine: Electa sent Get Well cards to Carol Jaworski, Bev Schaab, Waldo Pendleton, Shirley Karlstrum and Max Stucky. (Electa is the Sunshine Committee & can be reached at 596-6787. Please call her directly so she doesn't hear about a member second hand.)

Visit the Chapter website at <http://aarpchapter1100blackforest.weebly.com/> so you too can see the latest Chapter information & upcoming events. **THIS IS ESPECIALLY USEFUL NOW.**

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