

Sioux Valley Energy

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

September 2020 Vol. 21 No. 5

# Cooperative Connections

Co-ops support H.S. events Page 8

Young adults forge the future of cooperatives Page 12

# Serving Our Members During Trying Times



Tim McCarthy, GM/CEO

tim.mccarthy@siouxvalleyenergy.com

A lot has changed over the last four months but the one thing that is NOT different is Sioux Valley Energy's commitment to its members. That commitment includes providing safe and reliable electricity, regardless of health, social or economic issues that stem from the COVID-19 pandemic. Sioux Valley, like other companies, has altered its work practices to ensure that we can continue serving you even during these trying times.

So, what has changed and how has it allowed us to continue to provide safe and reliable electricity?

**1. We closed our offices to public access.** This step was taken early on to help reduce opportunities for the virus to spread into SVE facilities. Prior to any pandemic, we had set up a system that allowed for 24/7 member service phone support via our dispatch center and a variety of bill-pay options to make contact-less transactions easier and safer for both employees and members.

2. Our line workers are maintaining separate crews with less co-mingling of work projects.

This helps keep the crews in small groups during the workday. If there were to be a positive COVID test result amongst one of the line workers, it would likely be isolated to that specific crew. This helps reduce the chances of transmission to a larger number of employees which is especially important given that we are an essential service provider. If you see our crews out and about, please keep your distance from them as they are trying to maintain the CDC's recommended social distance of 6 feet whenever possible.

**3.** Many of our office employees are now working from home and we are having them return to work in phases, depending on local disease spread and infection rates. Our goal is to limit congestion and transmission touch points within the workplace. For years we have been preparing our network system and our employees to work from home to provide an even higher level of service for our members during inclement weather. While we would not have anticipated having our employees work from home during a pandemic, it has proved to be quite seamless for our members and productivity has not suffered. Employees who have returned to work within the offices must adhere to strict social distancing, masking and cleaning protocols. We have also required all our outside vendors and contractors to follow safety procedures as well.

**4. We have set up a system for contact-less water heater purchases.** Our members can still purchase a water heater from the Cooperative without any face to face contact with our employees. Sioux Valley Energy technicians and electricians are still going into homes when necessary for load control installations and submetering work, however, they are wearing masks and gloves at all times and maintaining a six-foot distance from other people.

**5.** The Sioux Valley Energy Board of Directors has continued its meetings through electronic delivery. This has allowed for uninterrupted governance of Cooperative business. In fact, nearly all our meetings for employees are now electronic as well, with very little face-to-face interaction (again, to reduce the opportunity for the virus to spread).

**6. We have canceled all our in-person member events and meetings for the year.** This did pose some difficulties with our director elections given the limits within state law and our bylaws. However, we were able to hold those elections via phone, albeit not an ideal situation. That is why the Board of Directors is currently reviewing the bylaws. Any proposed changes would have to be approved by the membership.

These are just a few of the work adjustments we have made during the COVID-19 pandemic and they were made with both our members and employees in mind. We need a healthy workforce to continue providing the exceptional service our members expect! We would like nothing more than to "go back to normal" but until that time, we will continue to find new ways to serve our members, even during the most trying times.

Finally, as a reminder, our crews are doing a lot of line work this time of year. Sometimes they are in the ditch or on the side of the road doing that work. Please, please, please...slow down and move over for our crews! Stay safe and enjoy the rest of your summer.

# Sioux Valley Energy <sup>Cooperative</sup> Connections

(USPS No. 497-440) General Manager/CEO: Tim McCarthy

Editor: Carrie Vugteveen

#### Board of Directors President:

Allan Weinacht, Colton, S.D. Vice President: Gary Fish, Brandon, S.D. Secretary: Allan Kooima, Volga, S.D. Treasurer: Dave Daniel, Wentworth, S.D.

#### Directors:

Don DeGreef, Brookings, S.D. Mark Rogen, Garretson, S.D. Dan Leuthold, Ellsworth, Minn. Bruce Martinson, Jasper, Minn. Gregg Johnson, Pipestone, Minn. Rodney DeMent, Humboldt, S.D. Lucas Roskamp, Edgerton, Minn.

SIOUX VALLEY ENERGY COOPERATIVE CONNECTIONS is published monthly by Sioux Valley Southwestern Electric Cooperative, Inc., PO Box 216, Junction Hwy 34 & 77, Colman, SD 57017, for its members. Customers subscribe to the publication as part of their electric cooperative membership. The purpose of Sioux Valley Energy Cooperative Connections is to provide reliable, helpful information to Sioux Valley Energy customers on matters pertaining to electric cooperatives and better living.

Subscription information: Electric cooperative members devote not more than 50 cents from their monthly electric payments for a subscription. Non-member subscriptions are available for \$12 annually. Periodicals Postage Paid at Colman, SD 57017 and at additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: PO Box 216, Colman, SD 57017.

#### How to contact us: Phone: 1-800-234-1960 e-mail: sve@siouxvalleyenergy.com Website: www.siouxvalleyenergy.com

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its agencies, offices and employees, and institutions participating in or administrating USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, age or disability. Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found on-line at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\_filing\_cust. html, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed complaint form or letter to USDA by:

 (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20250-9410
 (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or
 (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov

Sioux Valley Energy is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



### Give us a "Follow" Social Media Expanding

Sioux Valley Energy's social media channels are expanding. The Co-op has now added Instagram and Vimeo to its social media lineup which already included Facebook and Twitter.

Social media posts range from outage information to energy efficiency tips and recipes to employee features. Give us a "follow" at the @handles below!



## Survey Says...

Several hundred Sioux Valley Energy members received a postcard in the mail or email in August seeking their input on the work their co-op is doing. If your household was one of these, please take a couple of minutes to go on line and fill out the survey before Aug. 28.

Each survey or email had an ID on the front of the card which the member must enter in the on line survey. For those not filling out the survey before the



Questions? You can always call us at 800-234-1960.

deadline, follow up calls will be made beginning Aug. 31.

#### SAFETY TIPS

# Recreational Boating: Stay Safe on the Water

With more than 11 million recreational vessels registered in the U.S., millions of Americans are enjoying time on and in the water.

Each year, roughly 4,000 boating incidents occur, causing more than 2,500 injuries and about \$46 million in property damage. Stay safe by being prepared and using the appropriate equipment, whether enjoying a ride on a motorized boat, paddling a kayak or wakeboarding.

Life jackets are at the core of safe boating, whether using a motorized or non-motorized vessel. The U.S. Coast Guard reports 76 percent of boating deaths in 2017 were due to drowning, and 84 percent of the victims were not wearing a life jacket.

While regulations on life jacket use vary from state to state, the Wear It program of the National Safe Boating Council promotes boating safety by encouraging boaters to wear life jackets any time they are on a boat, motorized or non-motorized.

Good swimmers still need life jackets. When people fall off a boat, they may become disoriented, injured or unconscious. Life jackets can keep victims' heads above water so they can breathe and be rescued more easily. Every child should wear a life jacket at all times when boating.

Choose the right life jacket for the activities you will be doing. Double check to make sure the life jackets are U.S. Coast Guard approved and fit correctly:

- Make sure the jacket is a proper fit for your size and weight
- Make sure the jacket is properly fastened
- Hold your arms straight up over your head, ask a friend to grasp the tops of the arm openings and gently pull up; make sure there is no excess room above the openings and that the jacket does not ride up over your chin or face.

The National Safe Boating Council encourages following these boating safety tips to help minimize risks:

- Take a National Association of Boating Law Administrators safety course
- Be familiar with the boating state laws
- Know the "Rules of the Road"
- When operating a motorized boat, know about carbon monoxide; this odorless, colorless poisonous gas is emitted by all combustion engines and onboard motor generators.

# Taggart, Schmidt win Glenn English scholarships

Anneliese Taggart of Vermillion recently landed a \$10,000 scholarship award presented by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA).

Carter Schmidt of Colman also won a \$1,000 scholarship through the Glenn English Youth Tour Alumni Scholarship program.

Taggart and Schmidt were participants in the 2016 NRECA Washington Youth Tour. Taggart was sponsored by Clay-Union Electric Corp., while Schmidt was sponsored by Sioux Valley Energy.

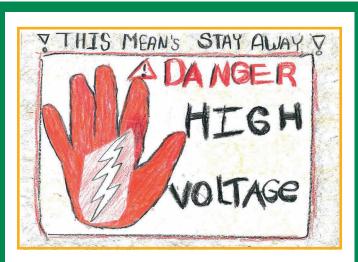
Taggart was elected by her peers to join the Youth Leadership Council. She participated in a grassroots panel discussion at NRECA's Annual Meeting last year and also helped teach a course called "Bridging the Gap" to encourage young adults to vote.

Now in its fifth year, the Glenn English National Cooperative Leadership Foundation has awarded nearly \$100,000 in scholarships to NRECA Youth Tour alumni.

The Glenn English scholarships are one of the few sources of private scholarships for college students. Applicants are required to have completed one year of college as a full-time student.

Glenn English, former CEO of NRECA, spent his career championing the co-op business model and fighting to improve the quality of life for all Americans. A native of Oklahoma, he served 10 terms in Congress.

## KIDS CORNER SAFETY POSTER



#### "Danger! High voltage! This means stay away!"

#### David Biggins, 10 years old

David Biggins is the son of Jessy and Katie Biggins. They reside in Gregory, S.D., and are members of Rosebud Electric Association.

Kids, send your drawing with an electrical safety tip to your local electric cooperative (address found on Page 3). If your poster is published, you'll receive a prize. All entries must include your name, age, mailing address and the names of your parents. Colored drawings are encouraged.



#### **Mashed Potatoes with Kale**

4 med. potatoes

1/4 c. grated cheese (cheddar or Colby)

2 Tbs. butter 1 Tbs. milk or cream

1-1/2 c. chopped raw kale, mid-ribs removed

Peel potatoes if desired, cut into chunks, boil until tender, about 15-20 minutes. Drain, mash and add remaining ingredients. Stir until well combined. Serve with sea salt and pepper. *Mary Jessen, Holabird, SD* 

#### Cabbage Salad Bowl

4 cups shredded cabbage	1/2 tsp. salt
1 c. shredded carrots	2 Tbs. sugar
2 Tbs. tarragon vinegar	1/2 c. light raisins
1/4 c. mayonnaise	1/4 c. orange juice

Soak raisins in orange juice while preparing vegetables. Combine cabbage, carrots, sugar and salt in a bowl. Add mayonnaise along with raisins and juice. Toss lightly. Refrigerate until time to serve. Serves 8. *Verna Knapp, Waubay, SD* 

#### **Balsamic Vegetable Salad**

3 lg. tomatoes, wedged	1/4 c. balsamic vinegar	
3 med. cucumbers, peeled, halved and sliced	3 Tbs. water	
	1 envelope Italian dressing	
1/2 c. olive oil	mix	

In a salad bowl combine tomatoes and cucumbers; in another small bowl whisk oil vinegar, water and dressing mix. Pour over vegetables and toss to coat. Yields: 6 servings. *Jane Barthel, Elkton, SD* 

#### Rhubarb Upside Down Cake

Yellow cake mix

3-4 c. sugar

4-6 c. rhubarb, chopped

1 pint whipping cream

Mix cake mix as directed. Put in a 9x13-inch pan. Mix rhubarb with sugar; pour over cake. Pour whipping cream over mixture and bake at 350 for 30-45 minutes. *Shirley Dreher, Clark, SD* 

#### **Zucchini Dish**

1/4 c. cooking oil	1/2 med. green, red or	
1 lb. unpeeled thinly sliced zucchini	yellow pepper cut in thin strips	
1 lg. carrot, coarsely shredded	1/4 tsp. dried basil, crushed	
	Dash of pepper	
1 lg. onion, chopped	1/2 c. taco sauce	
3/4 c. chopped celery	2 tsps. prepared mustard	
1/2 tsp. garlic salt	2 medium tomatoes, cut in wedges	

RECIPES

Heat cooking oil in a 10-inch skillet. Add sliced zucchini, shredded carrot, chopped onion, chopped celery, pepper strips, garlic salt, basil and pepper. Mix well, cook covered, over medium-high heat 4-5 minutes, stirring occasionally. Combine taco sauce and mustard: stir into vegetables. Add tomato wedges, cook uncovered, 3-5 minutes or till heated through. Makes 4-6 servings. Optional: sprinkle with shredded cheese of your choice. *Rachel Breczinski, Marshall, MN* 

#### **Stuffed Cherry Tomatoes**

24-28 cherry tomatoes 1 package (8 ounces) cream cheese, softened	1 medium cucumber, peeled and diced		
	2 teaspoons minced dill		
2 tablespoons mayonnaise	fresh dill, for garnish		
3 green onion stalks, diced			
Cut thin slice off top of each tomato. Scoop out pulp. Invert tomatoes			

Cut thin slice off top of each tomato. Scoop out pulp. Invert tomatoes on paper towel to drain. In medium bowl, combine cream cheese and mayonnaise until smooth. Stir in cucumber, green onion and dill. Spoon mixture into tomatoes. Top with fresh dill. Refrigerate until ready to serve. *www.culinary.net*.

Please send your favorite pasta recipes to your local electric cooperative (address found on Page 3). Each recipe printed will be entered into a drawing for a prize in December 2020. All entries must include your name, mailing address, telephone number and cooperative name.

# DON'T BECOME A VICTIM Scams Heat Up as Temps Rise

SCAM

Sioux Valley Energy warns members to be aware of potential electric utility scams this summer. Director of Customer and Employee Relations, Debra Biever, says scammers can strike any time of year but they seem to increase during months that have more extreme temperatures. "Unfortunately, these criminals play on people's concern of having their air conditioner or heat turned off during the summer or winter months."

Some of the common electric utility scams include a caller claiming to be an employee of Sioux Valley Energy. The caller will often demand immediate payment over the phone and do so in a very threatening manner which can be intimidating for unsuspecting victims. Biever said most recently, SVE received a report from a member who had an unknown person stop at their home in an unmarked vehicle asking for payment on their electric bill. "When the member became suspicious, they went inside and called Sioux Valley Energy only to learn that it was a scam. The unmarked vehicle drove away."

Don't fall prey to a utility scam. Members should be aware of the following red flags to avoid becoming a victim:

# A CALL DEMANDING IMMEDIATE PAYMENT OVER THE PHONE.

Sioux Valley Energy will never demand immediate payment over the phone. Members will have significant advance notice if their electric bill is past due. Never give your bank account or credit card information over the phone. If the caller asks you to pay with a pre-paid debit card or wire them money, HANG UP IMMEDIATELY and call SVE directly at 800-234-1960.

# A CALL ASKING FOR PERSONAL BANKING INFORMATION TO PROCESS A REFUND.

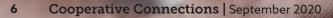
If you overpay on your electric bill, it will be posted as a credit for use on future electric bills. SVE will never call and ask for personal banking information to process a refund.

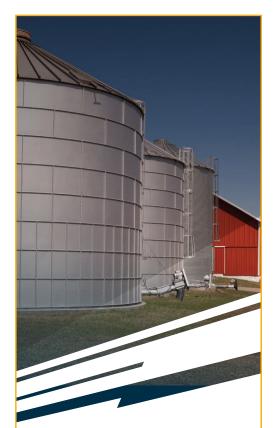
# AN UNEXPECTED VISIT FROM SOMEONE IN AN UNMARKED VEHICLE.

Sioux Valley Energy's vehicles that are used for operations or member services are all clearly marked. SVE employees will also have easily identifiable clothing with the cooperative logo clearly displayed. A new scam involves people going door to door claiming to be a "representative" of your electric utility selling products or services that are not associated with the cooperative.

Biever says if there is ever any doubt on the validity of a call or personal visit regarding your electric bill or other utility-related programs and services, members should contact Sioux Valley Energy directly, "Give us a call so we can verify that information for you. Scammers are criminals who can be very devious and convincing. We want our members to always error on the side of caution and call us directly to question anything that seems suspicious."

For more information on consumer scams, visit the Federal Trade Commission Scam Alert website at https:// www.consumer.ftc.gov/features/scam-alerts.





ADDING A NEW GRAIN BIN? MAKE THE SAFE CALL.

Remember to contact Sioux Valley Energy prior to adding more motor load to your existing grain handling or storage system!

Make the Safe Call.







### Operation Round Up® Spotlight: Crooks Flag Football League

Exhilaration and joy will fill the air this fall at Sunset Park in Crooks, S.D., as the Crooks

Flag Football League starts its 2020 season of play for 275 elementary-aged children.

The league, established in 2013, started with 14 kids. As of this summer's registration deadline, 275 are signed up to hit the gridiron. Practices began this summer and the first games are Aug. 22. The league has two divisions, a K-1 Division and a 2-4 Division, based on the grade each participant is entering. Games are held on three fully-lit fields, complete with Daktronics scoreboards. The season concludes Sept. 26.

A grant from the Sioux Valley Energy Operation Round Up<sup>®</sup> program helped fund a cedar message center at the park.

"Sioux Valley has been so generous to us both with grants and time!" organizers wrote on their Facebook page this summer. "If not for them, it's questionable if the lights would be up."

Other improvements undertaken this summer included the installation of a flagpole and the purchase of an AED.



Funded with Sioux Valley Energy Operation Round Up® monies, the message center at Sunset Park in Crooks, S.D., keeps the 275 players and families involved with the Crooks Flag Football League informed.

Find more information on CFFL online at www.crooksflagfootball.com and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/crooksflagfootball

#### About Operation Round Up®

Now in its 20th year, the Sioux Valley Energy Operation Round Up® program provides funding to local non-profits and communities. Since 2000, members and employees have awarded more than \$1.8 million to worthwhile causes throughout the cooperative's service territory. The concept is easy...participating members agree to have their electric bill rounded up to the next highest dollar and that money is collected for Operation Round Up.

The Sioux Valley Energy Customers' Trust Board of Directors meets quarterly during the months of March, June, September and December to approve applications. Applications can be found on the Sioux Valley Energy website at: https://www.siouxvalleyenergy.com/my-community/operation-roundup. Email completed applications to Debra. Biever@siouxvalleyenergy.com or FAX it to 605-256-1693. To mail the application, please send it to: Sioux Valley Energy Customer's Trust, PO Box 216, Colman, SD 57017.



7

#### TAILGATING TOGETHER

Sioux Valley Energy donated food and helped raise more than \$3,000 for booster clubs in Brandon, Hartford and Pipestone, MN.

# Local Co-op Events Provide Fun, Food and Festivities for Sports Fans

#### **Ben Dunsmoor**

**Contributing Writer** 

In northwest South Dakota, clashes on the football field between rival schools are the main attractions on Friday nights. It is where community members can count on connecting with friends and neighbors. It is also a place where high school sports fans can count on seeing employees from Grand Electric Cooperative cooking up a pre-game meal.

"We see people of all ages at the tailgate parties," Grand Electric Cooperative Marketing/Tech Specialist Rachel Eggebo said.

The Bison based cooperative began hosting block parties in the summer months nearly 20 years ago to reach out to the community. In 2009, Grand Electric transitioned to serving up brats, hot dogs, and chips before high school football games to reach families that were busy attending school activities. The co-op says it has been a great way to serve the community and show support for local schools.

"It gives us an opportunity to show our membership that we are there for them. Occasionally, it might be the only time we have to communicate with our busy members," Eggebo said.

Grand Electric is taking a cautious approach to its tailgate parties this year due to concerns surrounding COVID-19. But, if the players are on the field, the co-op is committed to serving up free food at five different games this fall. Grand Electric will make some modifications to the tailgate parties by packaging the food and making it a "grab-and-go" style event for fans.

Grand Electric is not alone in its efforts to partner with local schools and reach out to the community with fun pre-game events. Butte Electric plans to host a tailgate party before the Belle Fourche and Spearfish game this fall. West River Electric holds a tailgating event before the Wall and New Underwood football game and sponsors a basketball tournament in Union Center every November.



Sioux Valley Energy in Colman is also on the tailgating bandwagon. Sioux Valley started hosting events before football games to help its local schools raise money.

"As school funding becomes tighter, booster clubs - and other school organizations run by parents - serve an important purpose," Sioux Valley Director of Communications and Government Relations Carrie Vugteveen said. "Sioux Valley Energy feels that supporting these efforts helps the co-op live out its guiding principle of 'commitment to community."

Sioux Valley hosted three tailgate parties in 2019 to raise money for booster clubs in Brandon, Hartford, and Pipestone, MN. Sioux Valley bought all the food and asked for a free-will

### TAILGATING TOGETHER



donation from fans during the meal. The three events raised more than \$3,000 combined for the booster clubs.

FEM Electric Association in Ipswich also partners with local schools to raise money during athletic events. FEM Electric donates 60 cases of bottled water to each school district within its service territory every year. The schools can sell the water in their concession stands and keep all the profits. Each water bottle has an electrical safety message printed on the label which translates into a big win for both the school and the co-op.

> The schools can sell the water in their concession stands and keep all the profits.

"We wanted to contribute something to help out the various school programs and at the same time get our safety message out to kids and everyone," Carol Schaffner with FEM Electric Association said.

Lyon-Lincoln Electric Cooperative in Tyler, MN, hosted a "Tailgating with Tesla" party before the Minneota and Canby football game last fall. The co-op partnered with a local youth group to host the event. The co-op bought all the food and the youth group kept all the proceeds from the tailgate party to help pay for a mission trip. It was an opportunity to raise money for a good cause and for Lyon-Lincoln Electric to showcase its Tesla and talk about the benefits of electric vehicles.

"These events are a win-win for the cooperative and the community," Lyon-Lincoln Electric Manager of Marketing and External Relations Brian Jeremiason said. "The co-op is able to deliver a message to a targeted audience and visit about other topics that community members may have. The community benefits by having a face-to-face opportunity to visit with their co-op."

Electric co-op participation in school events is widespread across South Dakota. Northern Electric Cooperative in Bath, Dakota Energy in Huron, Charles Mix Electric in Lake Andes, and Central Electric in Mitchell all participate in local homecoming parades. Lacreek Electric in Martin sponsors a t-shirt toss during basketball and football games. Dakota Energy also hosts "co-op night" during local basketball games. And, Central Electric hosts free popcorn nights at high school basketball and football games to promote electrical safety and give back to the school and community.

So, whether it is a tailgate party, a fundraiser, or a t-shirt toss, it is likely that electric co-ops will be supporting their was the co-op's lesia electric vehicle.

local schools and communities this fall and winter.

"High school sports are wonderful opportunities to reach out to our communities," Jeremiason said. "Young and old all attend and we can communicate with families as a unit which can be difficult sometimes with the busy lives most families are living."



### **Visit Co-op Connections Plus**

Take a moment to visit our new online companion to Cooperative Connections. Co-op Connections Plus is a YouTube channel that features a more in-depth treatment of stories appearing in this publication as well as other subjects of interest to rural South Dakotans.

Search for "Co-op Connections Plus" and you'll find videos on human trafficking, the State High School Rodeo finals and grain bin safety. Be sure to "like" and "subscribe."



9

# Don't Compromise Safety During Harvest **Staying Safe Out in the Field**

Awareness doesn't spread as fast as an electrical current, but a little goes a long way. Follow this advice to stay safe:

**SPOTTER.** Get a spotter to be sure you are staying at least 10 feet away from power lines on all sides, keeping in mind that field cultivators and sprayers can reach as high as 12 feet.

**STUDY.** Educate yourself on any new equipment you may have purchased recently. New equipment has higher antennas and wider attachments than ever before. What cleared in previous years may not in your new ride. Know what you're working with.

**SAGGING.** If you see a power line sagging on your property, contact Sioux Valley Energy to fix it. That's their job!

**SEARCH.** Sometimes trees or brush can make power lines difficult to see. Don't just glance up, really take a minute to search your surroundings when moving equipment.

Hitting a power line can be scary. In certain situations, there may be a lot of noise, which will likely cause you to instinctively runyou've got seconds to understand what's happening and respond appropriately. Do you know what to do if you come in contact with a power line?

**STAY PUT.** Unless there is a fire, you need to stay calm and stay

in the vehicle. Touching the ground and the vehicle at the same time (i.e. stepping out of the equipment) can be deadly. Don't risk becoming a conductor for the electricity to move from the vehicle to the ground through you, stay put. Even if it's loud.

CALL FOR HELP. Call for help from the vehicle if possible. 911 is a good place to start, especially if you don't know Sioux Valley Energy's phone number. If you don't have your phone, try radioing for help. If someone comes to assist you, they need to stay at least 30 feet away from the vehicle until professional help has arrived.

JUMP CLEAR. If there is a fire forcing you to leave, or you have no way of calling for help, jump clear of the equipment. Jump with your feet together and with your arms folded across your chest, as far away from the vehicle as possible. Be sure you are not touching the equipment and the ground at the same time. Then, shuffle (tiny, quick steps) away. The ground may be electrically charged in varying points surrounding the vehicle so quick, short, shuffle steps (never allowing your feet to break contact with the ground) are important.



#### ENERGY MAKEOVER SOLUTIONS

### Ready for a drive down electric avenue?

National Drive Electric Week is Sept. 26-Oct. 3. While COVID-19

restrictions don't currently allow for test drives of EVie, Sioux Valley Energy's all-electric Nissan Leaf vehicle, we hope to resume the drives when it is safe to do so. In the meantime, we have tons of information to share about EVie and her benefits.





#### Plug in!

One of the tools on our website allows you to calculate your potential savings. Go to www.siouxvalleyenergy.com/my-programs/electric-vehicles-evs-1 and click on the "Savings" tab. There, you can enter your daily miles driven, the price of gasoline, information about your current vehicle and also your electric rate to see what type of savings you could see by plugging in to a new electric vehicle.

#### Save Up with our Electric Vehicle Program!

- **Time of Use Rate (TOU):** Take advantage of off-peak rates for EV charging and whole home usage.
- **Sub-meter Rate:** Sub-meter your Level 2 Charger to take advantage of off-peak evening charging as low as 5.84 cents per kWh.
- **Rebates up to \$500** are available toward residential and business chargers.





#### Do you have questions?

Our website is loaded with information to help you learn more about how an electric vehicle could pencil out for your home or business. Check out www.siouxvalleyenergy.com/my-programs/electric-vehicles-evs-1 for comparisons on different vehicles, information on rebates and other incentives and even see where public charging stations are located in the area. Still have questions? Give Sheila a call at 800-234-1960 or email her at sheila.gross@siouxvalleyenergy.com.

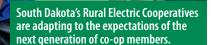
# Tell Me More!

- Heat Pump Rebate
- Electric Heat RateMarathon/
- Westinghouse Water Heaters
- Energy Audit
- Loan Program
- Electric Vehicle
- program Time of Use Rate SmartHub Account
- Tool Smart Thermostat
- Smart Inermostat
  Rebate
- Commercial/Ag LED Program
- Commercial Heat
- Rebates Irrigation Rebate
- Renewable Energy
- Credit Energy Saving Tips
- Interlock Kit/ Generator

#### Please contact me about the topics at left.

Name:
Address:
City, State, ZIP:
Account #:
Phone #:
Email:
Mail this form to: Sioux Valley Energy, PO Box 216, Colman, SD 57017

September 2020 | Cooperative Connections 11



# **NEXT GENERATION**

Young adults figure prominently in the future of the rural electric cooperative movement

#### **Billy Gibson**

GENERA

ON

**Contributing Writer** 

It's getting harder and harder to find people who can provide a first-person account of what it was like when electrical power came to their communities.

The nation's rural electric program sprang to life more than 80 years ago when an executive order by President Franklin Roosevelt created the Rural Electric Administration (REA). The REA issued low-cost loans that gave local communities the ability to build out power delivery systems to serve their own farms, homes and businesses.

But relatively few of the members served by those cooperatives today actually witnessed the transformation that took place when thousands of small towns and hamlets across the country began



enjoying the benefits made possible by electrical power.

Though many characteristics of electric co-ops have stayed the same – democratic control, focus on quality service, accessibility, commitment to community – other elements have certainly changed over the decades. For instance, some cooperative service areas that were once rural have become suburban as population centers have expanded into spaces that were once sparsely populated farms and fields.

Cooperatives are also taking advantage of modern technology to broaden their menu of services available to members, such as online account management systems, energy audits, pre-pay programs, automated meter reading, renewable power and more.

Yet another change is the generational shift taking place as older board directors, managers, employees and consumers are being replaced with younger folks who have different ideas, different approaches, different plans and different expectations.

In South Dakota, co-op leaders say the changing dynamics present an opportunity to bring innovative ideas and new concepts to the table – all centered around the ongoing mission to deliver power that is safe, reliable, affordable and accessible.

Evan Buckmiller is manager of Kingsbury Electric Cooperative (KEC) based in DeSmet. He is part of a group of younger general managers who have taken the reins at various electric co-ops in the state. He said that over the past decade KEC has seen a 100 percent turnover in personnel and that every current employee

#### **GENERATION SHIFT**

is under the age of 35. The result is a prevailing mindset that's not averse to searching for new ways to "work smarter."

"Our employees are constantly exploring new avenues to operate more efficiently and effectively," Buckmiller said. "They understand that the money people pay for power doesn't grow on trees. Our members expect value, and it's our job to make sure we're using the latest technology to minimize operating costs while improving service and convenience."

He said one advantage of having a younger work force is a greater acceptance of change, more flexibility and being open to new approaches to addressing issues.

"We've made wise investments in new equipment that we never would have considered in the past," Buckmiller said. "Our employees don't mind trying something new. They don't mind going through the training process. Having grown up in the internet age, they adapt well to learning things like new computer-based applications and software."

Some of those changes include a new barcoding program to track inventory, using iPads for preparing timesheets and taking service orders online.

Jay Spaans, manager of Douglas Electric in Armour, echoed Buckmiller's observations regarding younger employees. Two of his seven staff members are expected to retire in the not-too-distant future. They represent a combined 96 years of service.

"That's a lot of institutional knowledge





Kingsbury Electric Co-op Manager Evan Buckmiller leads a staff of young employees who understand the co-op's mission.

walking out the door, and as a manager you wonder if the next generation will be as dedicated to the co-op as them," Spaans said. "I'm sure that whoever we hire will have grown up with technology and will have new ideas. I see that as a benefit."

When it comes to engaging younger consumers, co-ops across the state maintain social media platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and others. West River Electric based in Wall, is representative of many South Dakota co-ops that use an array of digital tools to track the organization's member engagement.

Public Relations Manager Robert Raker said diversity and the strategic use of various social media channels is the key to making sure the lines of communication remain open across the age spectrum.

> "We use Facebook and our printed newsletter to appeal to our older members," he said. "We use Instagram and Tik Tok to reach our younger members, and we're beginning to deploy Linkedin to interact with our technology and business accounts."

There's even a specific approach to communicating internally, Raker said.

"We're using Snapchat to communicate with some of our crews in the field because One advantage of having a younger work force is a greater acceptance of change, more flexibility and being open to new approaches.

we've found that our young linemen prefer to use Snapchat rather than a conventional email account."

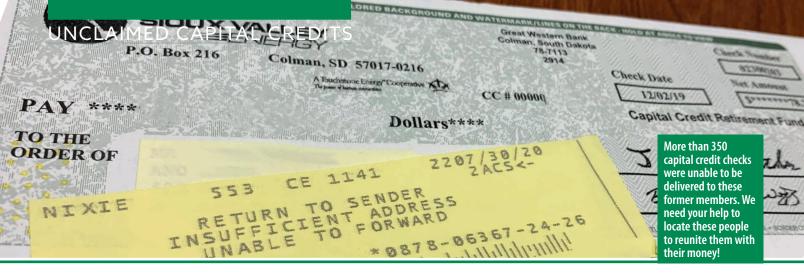
Chad Felderman, CEO/General Manager at Dakota Energy in Huron, said it's important for co-ops to balance their approach so that the interests of all age groups are taken into account.

Part of that strategy of fostering connectedness across generations is to get out of the office and meet members at events that attract a cross-section of people.

"In order to interact with all age groups, we have been present at sporting events, parades and event booths. It's more difficult due to the pandemic, but this is our goal," Felderman said. "This has allowed us to engage with members of all ages and creates an overall increase in knowledge of who we are and what services we provide. Utilizing Facebook, the website and text messaging has been a great way to inform members and makes us more visible in our communities."

Matt Klein, General Manager at Union County Electric in Elk Point, said he has noticed the older generation has been receptive to change, albeit at a more measured pace.

"In general, our older members want to come to the office and pay by check and get a receipt, while our younger members are more comfortable paying online, having us withdraw directly from their back account, or setting up recurring charges to their credit card," Klein said. "Now that we offer these other payment options, we are seeing more of the older generation using them. So they are clearly becoming more comfortable with this, but are a bit slower to adopt the change."



# We Have Money for These Former Members!

Each year when Sioux Valley Energy mails capital credit checks to former customers, some are returned because the person has moved. These checks were sent in December 2019 to members from 1994, 1995 and 2018. If you know any of the people on this list, please tell them to contact Sioux Valley Energy at 800-234-1960 to claim their capital credit check.

Abusham Christenh Diadmont CD	Dum nandran Mishaal Ciaux Falla CD	Flament in a 0/ Crain Chram Drandon CD	lloward Amul Illumboldt CD
Abraham, Christoph Piedmont, SD	Bumgardner, Michael Sioux Falls, SD	Elegant Inc %Craig Strom Brandon, SD	Havard, Amy L Humboldt, SD
Alberts, Kevin & Trudy Dell Rapids, SD	Burk, Brett & Jean Dell Rapids, SD	Ellwein, Peggy Egan, SD	Hegge, Justin Dell Rapids, SD
Alvey, Damon & Linda Scotland, SD	Burkholder, Brad Trent, SD	Evans, Tamara Biddle, MT	Heiser, Kurt & Wanda Buffalo, WY
Andera, Robert Arlington, SD	Burlog, Chris & Debbie Parker, CO	Evans, Randy & Denise Miller, SD	Henning, Daryl Hartford, SD
Andersen, Dotty Rocky River, OH	Burton, John E & Irene North Logan, UT	Ewert, Mike & Paula Hartford, SD	Hieb, Dale % Kathy Hieb Harrisburg, SD
Anderson, Carol Garretson, SD	Callahan, Maureen Aberdeen, SD	Fahey, Laura Crooks, SD	Hillman, Brad Canova, SD
Anderson, Patsy Sioux Falls, SD	Cameron, Ronald & Barbara Dell Rapids, SD	Fanning, Larry Sioux Falls, SD	Hinrichs, Marvin Hartford, SD
Arp, Daniel Luverne, MN	Carlson, Leroy Brookings, SD	Feldmann, Frank Emery, SD	Hodge, Mark Black River, NY
Bainbridge, Shirley Flandreau, SD	Carr, Todd & Bobbie Jo Yankton, SD	Fenner, Richard Renner, SD	Hofer, Michael & Penny Hinton, IA
Baker, Don Tea, SD	CDS Inc Brandon, SD	Feuerhelm, Marcella Edgerton, MN	Hofer, Shawn Sherman, SD
Bakken, Russell L & Debbie Oldham, SD	Cellco Partnership,	Flemming, Juanita Brandon, SD	Hoffman, J A Deadwood, SD
Ballantyne, Marvin Sioux Falls, SD	DBA Verizon Wireless Columbus, OH	Fockler, Bradley & Rita Goddard, KS	Hoiland, Eldon & Janice Williston, ND
Baltzer, Jason & Tyfany Baltic, SD	Chabane, Jackie Sioux Falls, SD	Folkerts, Jeff & Wanda Sioux Falls, SD	Holck, Neil W Sioux Falls, SD
Baltzer, Arnold & Nila Madison, SD	Church, W Todd & Ann K Spearfish, SD	Foos, Ronald L & Jeannie Sioux Falls, SD	Holm, Curtis & Pat Kent, WA
Bandstra, Ruth A Valley Springs, SD	Clarambeau, Shane Chamberlain, SD	Forman, Kurt & Lucia Brookings, SD	Houg, Alvin & Barbara Escondido, CA
Bangert, Arthur W Gillette, WY	Clark, Eddie & Melodie Hartford, SD	Foti, Steve & Cheryl Sioux Falls, SD	Howlett, Milo & Margo Sioux Falls, SD
Barron, Twyla Hartford, SD	Clark, Richard or Lila Clark Watertown, SD	Freeny, Colleen	Huebner, Tom & Jolene Sioux Falls, SD
Basart, Dave & Jodene J Sioux Falls, SD	Clem, Sam & Susan Sioux Falls, SD	DBA Moonlite Inn Bakersfield, CA	Hunter, Duane%Ann Marie Edgerton, MN
Bauer, Clarence & Darlene Brookings, SD	Colbeck, Teresa Rapid City, SD	Frias, Jaime Kaufman, TX	Husby, Lynn Sioux Falls, SD
Bechmann, Amber Brookings, SD	Collins, Todd & Nicole Sioux Falls, SD	Fritz, Jennifer Valley Springs, SD	Iron Power Inc
Bender, Hank & Violet Sioux Falls, SD	Conaway, Jay S Sioux Falls, SD	Fulton, Troy Cody, WY	%Dale Crandall Sioux Falls, SD
Bendt, Lee % Brian Bendt Sioux Falls, SD	Corner, Mark Bozeman, MT	G & D Harr Construction Sioux Falls, SD	Jackson, Kimberley Omaha, NE
Bendt, Steven & Dianne Viborg, SD	Cutshaw, David Brandon, SD	G T Construction Brandon, SD	Janssen, Ralland & Erin Bruce, SD
Berens, Sandra G Chancellor, SD	Danceland LLC	Gagnon, Virgil J Madison, SD	Jasper, David & Marche N. Charleston, SC
Berg, David J Baldwin, WI	%Tony Meyer Dell Rapids, SD	Gatchell, Dorian Mc Laughlin, SD	Jellesma, Donald Sioux Falls, SD
Berreth, Lillian Sioux Falls, SD	Davidson, William R & Rose Brookings, SD	Gibson, Deborah Madison, SD	Jemison,Patricia Sioux Falls, SD
Berry, Jaime & Sue Madison, SD	Dean, David Scott Penn Valley, CA	Gogolin, Kurt & Jolene K Huron, SD	Jensen, Delmar R & Nancy Hartford, SD
Biever, Tom & Linda Forest Lake, MN	Dels Quality Built Cabinets Inc Brandon, SD	Gould, Fran Sioux Falls, SD	Jet Burger Systems
Blades, Cynthia Sioux Falls, SD	Dickerson, Amy Sioux Falls, SD	Grangaard, Layth Sioux Falls, SD	Hardees-Brandon Madison, WI
Blanchette Jenny Brookings, SD	Dierks, Stacie Brookings, SD	Graves, Gary & Miriam Renner, SD	Johnson, Floyd & Gloria Egan, SD
Bohlke, Jody Sioux Falls, SD	Dirckx, Theodore	Greenwood, Harmen	Johnson, Diane Sioux Falls, SD
Bohner, Jerry & Susan G Peoria, AZ	Ardys Dirckx Payee Madison, SD	& Virginia Brookings, SD	Kahler, Dwight Brookings, SD
Boll, Brian J Humboldt, SD	Dixon, Tim & Crystal Mitchell, SD	Grevlos, Mike & Lisa Sioux Falls, SD	Kamphaus, Gene Nevis, MN
Borns, James Egan, SD	Draper, Thomas L Canova, SD	Griffith, Kevin & Sena Brandon, SD	Karban, Cherrlyn Lake Preston, SD
Bowersox, Sheri Valley Springs, SD	Drew, Don Volga, SD	Gronewold, Marlene D East Helena, MT	Kedik, Mike & Amy Garretson, SD
Braley, Douglas Bloomfield, NM	Drews, Gordon & Louise Hetland, SD	Gruener, Cindee Brookings, SD	Keyes, Jim & Melanie Tea, SD
Brandon, Art & Frame,	Dubs, Darryl Sioux Falls, SD	Gundvaldson, Neil & Linda J Brookings, SD	Kielhold, Steve
% Tim & Ann Mader Brandon, SD	Duffy, Brenda Sioux Falls, SD	Hallem, Mike Brookings, SD	DBA Cornerstone Landsca Sioux Falls, SD
Breaw, Charles Sioux Falls, SD	Dull, James Edgerton, MN	Hamann, Daryl D Luverne, MN	Kienzle, Beth Gillette, WY
Brendsel, Harold Colman, SD	Duncan, David Poway, CA	Hamler, Angeline R Sioux Falls, SD	Kjersted, Kendall & Susan Pinetop, AZ
Brewer, Myron T	Dunkelberger, Allen Hartford, SD	Harbage, James & Laura Kennett Square, PA	Knobloch, Kathy Colorado Springs, CO
& Lana D Colorado Springs, CO	Eads, Dick & Joann Viborg, SD	Hargens, Joyce Madison, SD	Knox Brothers Humboldt, SD
Brown, Herb & Laurie White, SD	Eastwold, Edward & Harriet Sioux Falls, SD	Hartog, Theresa Marietta, OK	Koenig, Rodney Brookings, SD
Budahl, Larry & Susan Sioux Falls, SD	Edmundson, Paul, C/O Lona	Hartung, Shane & Nancy Sioux Falls, SD	Komp, Joel T Brookings, SD
Buller, David L Brookings, SD	Edmundson Payee Sioux Falls, SD	Haugrud, Van Sioux Falls, SD	Koons, Jeffry Le Mars, IA
14 Cooperative Connec	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	<u> </u>	

Kosters, Jason Kreutner, Dale Krosschell, Kevin %Daryl Tinklenberg Lafrentz, Delmer Lahn, Kerry C Lammers, Ken Lammers, Ryker & Molly Landsman, Thomas Lane, Jennifer Langner, Charles & Ruth Larson, Charlene Lee, Troy & Shari Lemme, Jerry & Robin Leuning, Dean & Janelle M Lietz, James Like, James & Helen Lingle, Ken & Monique Lippert, Chris & Teresa Campbell Lockwood, William & Sandra K Looney, James Ludgate, Thomas B Lund, Scott & Tami Haugen-Lund Macklanburg, Lynette Madtson, Brian Marlette, Steve & Janice Marlette, Jeff Marsh, Diane Marten, Darrell C May, Steven May, Mike McCarthy, Collin & Kim McMullen, Mark McNab, Marjorie Mehlhaff, Harry C/O Janet Mehlaff Mesman, Arvin Mess, David Milda, Laurie Miller, Helen % Floyd Mundt Las Vegas, NV Mills, Richard Milner, Rick & Sandy Miyasato, Mona Monroe, Sally Murphy, Gerald Murray, Kathryn Myers, Jeff Myers, Charles Nelsen, Steven R Nelson, Kevin Nelson, Barry Nelson, Jerome Nelson, Steven D Nelson, Harry Niedert, Dean & Ann Lea Noel, Greg Norberg, Stanley A & Naomi D Nordquist, Kristi Noser, Joey Odegaard, Laverne % Ron Odegaard Ollerich, Robert Olson, Larry **Opland, Kelly & Ronelle** 

Baltic, SD Papka, Lynn & Jennifer Brandon, SD Phelan, Robert & Shirley Polzine, Edward Edgerton, MN %Doris Polzine Brandon, SD Ponto, Warren & Karen Sioux Falls, SD Poppen, Keith Reiles Acres, ND Poppens, Sandra Kirkland, WA Powers, Mark V & Mrs Pratsch, Jeff & Rhonda Holland, MN Brookings, SD Pridey, Rick K & Kindra Sioux Falls, SD Prince, Russ & Jennifer Rasmussen, Erik Sioux Falls, SD Reck, William E Viborg, SD Wentworth, SD Reuter, Randall & Darlene Sioux Falls, SD Rice, Craig & Debra Brookings, SD Ringsby, Evelyn Luverne, MN Robb, Erick Sioux Falls, SD Robbins, Trevor Mitchell, SD Roberts, Bobbie Roemen, Shelly Rogness, Evelyn Sioux Falls, SD Rumpy Construction Valley Springs, SD Sioux Falls, SD % Brian Hildebrandt Rush, David Sioux Falls, SD Rusten, Kristi Ruter, Kelly & Jodi Brookings, SD Saathoff, Douglas Garretson, SD Valrico, FL Savatski, Don Brookings, SD Schaefer, Bill Schiefelbein, Sue Sioux Falls, SD Sioux Falls, SD Schinderling, David Sterling, CO Schmaltz, Jay Wentworth, SD Schmeiser, Ernie Sioux Falls, SD Schmidt, Clement A Brookings, SD & Marlene N Worthington, MN Schnee Chassis Inc Schroeder, Rick & Nicole A Sioux Falls, SD Schuerman, Richard Edgerton, MN & Michele Schuerman, Todd & Beaver Creek, MN Marv Ann Flandreau, SD Searles, Tonva Volga, SD Selchert, Jim Severson, Marcene Brandon, SD Shiffer, Lori Flandreau, SD Shoemaker, Craig Brandon, SD Sieps, Roger D River Falls, WI Sioux Falls, SD Sievert, Mike Egan, SD Sik, Lvle Smedsrud, Howard Sioux Falls, SD Sioux Falls, SD Smith, Dawn V Beresford, SD % Bernard Smith Brookings, SD Smith, James T & Judith Sioux Falls, SD Smith, Mark R Snoozy, Shirley V Watertown, SD Solberg, Norris Jefferson, WII Songstad, Richard Madison, SD Sorenson, Timothy Ann Arbor, MI Sprock, Rhonda Starks, John & Joanne Sioux Falls, SD Stein, Steve Sioux Falls, SD Stein, Warren & Mary Sioux Falls, SD Steineke, John & Leah Sioux Falls, SD Stevens, Dennis C & Rita M Stofferahn, Karen Dell Rapids, SD Stoll, Mark Sioux Falls, SD Stuckenbroker, Sheila Trent, SD

Estelline, SD Sioux Falls, SD Brandon, SD Brookings, SD Aurora, SD Dakota Dunes, SD Flandreau, SD Oshkosh, WI Sioux Falls, SD Lead, SD Sioux Falls, SD Wentworth, SD Hartford, SD Sioux Falls, SD Richards, Kenneth & Linda Bridgewater, SD Sequim, WA Dayton, IA Saint James, MN Bigelow , MN Tea, SD Hills , MN Brookings, SD Flandreau, SD Sioux Falls, SD Santa Rosa, CA Dawson, MN Withee, WI Crooks, SD Sioux Falls, SD Madison, SD Nekoma, ND Redfield, SD Madison, SD Canton, SD Sioux Falls, SD Dalton City, IL Sioux Falls, SD Sioux Falls, SD Hawarden, IA Bruce, SD Colton, SD Madison, SD Dell Rapids, SD Egan, SD Astoria, SD Valley Springs, SD Hartford, SD Sioux Falls, SD Sioux Falls, SD Dell Rapids, SD Brookings, SD Rapid City, SD Sioux Falls, SD Rock Rapids, IA Albuquerque, NM Brookings, SD Sioux Falls, SD Dell Rapids, SD Sioux Falls, SD Phoenix, AZ Brookings, SD Luverne , MN

Stultz, Charlie & Deb Valley Springs, S Sudenga, Dan & Carla Swager, Gary Swanson, Dean Swenson, Jon Swenson, Glenda Swenson, Scott Talbott, Allen D & Mrs Talsma, Don Teut, Brian Thompson, Kim Thompson, Jack & Joann Thorn, Matt & Geri Thul, Brian W Thune, Helen Tobin, Kelly R Tobin, Steve & Justine Tyler Estate, Ralph C/O Marilyn Ronken Utech, Vic Valnes, Derek Van Essen Properties, % Jay Van Essen Vandenberg, Dennis E Vanderplaats, Marion Vanhecke, Dan Vanliere, John Vaughn, Dawn Venable, Corina Verbeski, Don & Annette Vickmark, Ryan Vig, Thomas Voeltz, Donald L

Brookings, S Council Bluffs, I Sturgis, S Lawton, I Dell Rapids, S Sioux Falls, S Deadwood, SI Yankton, S Sioux Falls, S Owatonna, M Sioux Falls, SI Trent, S Dell Rapids, S Flandreau, S Hobson, T Brandon, S Sioux Falls, S Sioux Falls, S

alley Springs, SD	Voigt, Michael	Columbia, SC
Madison, SD	Vostad Estate, Katherine	
San Diego, CA	C/O Lynn Vostad	Mitchell, SD
Sioux Falls, SD	Wabeke, Barbara	Pipestone, MN
Rock Rapids, IA	Wack, Donnette & Lindsey	Rockwall, TX
Egan, SD	Wagley, Michael	Luverne, MN
Rapid City, SD	Wagner, Joann	Pipestone, MN
Sheridan, WY	Warkenthien, Kimberely	Garretson, SD
Sioux Falls, SD	Watt, Duane	Ghent, MN
Sioux Falls, SD	Wehling, James E	Sioux Falls, SD
Renner, SD	Wehrkamp, Tracy	Sioux Falls, SD
White, SD	Weller, Bruce & Cindy	Sioux Falls, SD
Brookings, SD	Westall, Chantell	De Soto, KS
Council Bluffs, IA	Westra, Ken	Pensacola,FL
Sturgis, SD	Wieben, Chad Nor	th Mankato , MN
Lawton, IA	Wiese, Richard C	Ruthton , MN
Dell Rapids, SD	Wiese, Joel	Salem, SD
	Wilson, Janet	Brookings, SD
Sioux Falls, SD	Winterton Estate, D A	
Deadwood, SD	C/O Karel Amend	Hartford, SD
Yankton, SD	Wivell, Chuck & Sandra	Madison, SD
	Wold, Arnold	Winner, SD
Sioux Falls, SD	Workman, Allen A	Brookings, SD
Owatonna , MN	Worthington, June M	Sioux Falls, SD
Sioux Falls, SD	Wren, Kathleen	Morrow, OH
Trent, SD	Youel, Vernon	
Dell Rapids, SD	%Dorcas L Youel	Dell Rapids, SD
Flandreau, SD	Ziebarth Construction	-
Hobson, TX	(Dean Blase)	Madison, SD
Brandon, SD	Zobel, Robert	White, SD
Sioux Falls, SD	Zweep, James E	
Sioux Falls, SD	Sandy Zweep Payee	Sioux Falls, SD
Mitchell, SD		

# **Did You Know?**

Electric cooperatives have retired \$17 billion to members since 1988 -\$1.2 billion in 2018 alone. Because electric co-ops operate at cost, any excess revenues (called margins) are allocated and retired to members in the form of capital credits.

Source: National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance BILLION Corporation IN 2018 LION **SINCE 1988** 

Note: Please make sure to call ahead to verify the event is still being held.

South Dakota's Touchstone Energy<sup>®</sup> Cooperatives will not have a booth this year at the state fair due to COVID-19 safety concerns.

#### August 26-30

Corn Palace Festival, Mitchell, SD, www.cornpalace.com 605-995-8430

#### August 27

PRCA Xtreme Broncs Finals 7-9:30 p.m., Central States Fair, Rapid City, SD www.centralstatesfair.com

#### August 27-30 CANCELED

Annual Steam Threshing Jamboree featuring John Deere, Madison, SD 605-256-3644

#### August 28-29

Pioneer Museum Excess Sale 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Pioneer Museum, Hot Springs, SD 605-745-4616

#### August 29-30

Fall River Hot Air Balloon Festival, Municipal Airport, Hwy 79, Hot Springs, SD 605-745-4140

#### September 3-5

South Dakota State Fair: Perfect Vision of Fun, 1060 3rd St. SW, Huron, SD 800-529-0900 www.sdstatefair.com

#### September 6

Studebaker and Packard Car and Truck Show, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Custer, SD 605-718-7431



#### September 7

Hidewood Valley Steam Threshing Show, 1 p.m., 47326 183rd Ave., Clear Lake, SD, 605-881-8405

#### September 12

Central Valley Struttin' Gobblers NWTF Banquet, Dakota Plains Event Center Hartford, SD, 5:30 p.m. 605-941-4297

#### September 12-13

Fall Harvest Festival, Delmont, SD, 605-928-3792, www.twinriversoldiron.org

#### September 13 20th Annual Antique Tractor

and Car Parade, 1 p.m., Farmer, SD, 605-239-4498

#### September 19

Health Connect's Human Race, Elmwood Park, Sioux Falls, SD, 8 a.m. 888-761-5437

#### September 19

Health Connect Fair, Sanford Pentagon, Sioux Falls, SD, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., free lunch, door prizes and flu shots 888-761-5437

#### September 25-27

Coal Springs Threshing Bee Featuring Massey Harris Tractors, Meadow, SD, 605-788-2229

#### September 26 CANCELED 10th Annual ROCS Fall Festival, 9 a.m.to 2 p.m.,

Springfield, SD, 605-464-7379

#### September 26 Wheelin' to Wall, Wall Community Center, Wall, SD

#### **October 3 CANCELED** Hobo Marlin's Pumpkin Train

11 a.m., Madison, SD 605-256-3644

#### **October 7-8 CANCELED**

Energize! Explore Innovative **Rural Communities** Conference, Milbank, SD, https://extension.sdstate.edu

#### October 31-November 1

Dakota Territory Gun Collectors Assn. Sioux Falls Classic Gun Show, 3200 W Maple St. Sioux Falls, SD, 605-630-2199

> To have your event listed on this page, send complete information, including date, event, place and contact to your local electric cooperative. Include your name, address and daytime telephone number. Information must be submitted at least eight weeks prior to your event. Please call ahead to confirm date, time and location of event.