



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



RENVILLE-SIBLEY
SEPTEMBER 2024 VOL. 25 NO. 5

COOPERATIVE CONNECTIONS



Crisp Breezes and Corn Mazes

Autumn Family Fun
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Any excess revenue is allocated back to the membership in the form of capital credits. This allocation is based on the amount of electricity each member consumed during the year. The 2023 allocation information will be located on the August statement. Past members who received electricity from Renville-Sibley in 2023 and no longer have an active service with us will receive their allocation notice in the mail.

When the co-op's financial condition permits, the co-op retires, or pays, the capital credits to members in cash. Allocating and retiring margins to members helps distinguish the difference

between cooperatives and other utilities. Renville-Sibley is proud to support our communities by putting money back into the local economy—and into the pockets of those we serve. The best way to ensure you receive this allocation when it is retired is to keep your mailing

A common question regarding the allocation and retirement of capital credits is whether this amount should be reported to the IRS. Renville-Sibley recommends members visit with their tax advisor on this matter.

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July Board Meeting Highlights

The July board meeting was held on Tuesday, July 23 at 2 p.m. All board members were present except Gary Peterson. Others present were CEO DeeAnne Norris, Gene Alex, and Amy Ervin.

The board reviewed and approved the following items:

- Minutes of the June 25 board meeting
- Operating and disbursement reports for the month of June
- Capital Credits to Estates
- Safety Report for July
- Policy 425
- RSCPA Cogen Rules
- Distributed Generation Report Acknowledgements
- Allocation of 2023 Margin
- Minnwest Bank Authorized Signer Change
- Hometown Bank Authorized Signer Change
- Cooperative Network Board of Director Nomination and Voting Delegate and Alternate Voting Delegate
- CoBank Director Election and Nominating Committee Candidates

The board reviewed:

- Total new members
- Capital Credits Transferred
- Reports from staff members as to the activities in their department. Items in the reports include:
 - o High-level Statement of Operations review – YTD through June (unaudited)
 - o Organization activities
 - o East River update
 - o Basin Electric update
 - o NRECA update
 - o MREA update
 - o Linecrew work in progress, equipment update, and outage update
 - o Accounts Receivable
- Annual Meeting
- Farmfest
- Family-a-Fair

Please contact the Renville-Sibley office if you would like more information regarding the board meeting.

Notice:

The August board meeting will be held on
Tuesday, August 27 at 8 a.m.

The September board meeting will be held on
Tuesday, September 24 at 8 a.m.

COOPERATIVE CONNECTIONS

RENVILLE-SIBLEY CO-OP POWER

(USPS 019-074)

Board of Directors

Roger Manthei – Chair
Whitey Hinderman – Vice Chair
Wayland Zaske – Secretary/Treasurer
Jeff Boersma
Gary Eekhoff
Vicky Firlie
Alan Neyers
Gary Peterson
Helen Ruebel

Renville-Sibley Employees

Gene Alex – Line Superintendent
Brian Athmann – Journeyman Lineman
Shawn Beckler – Crew Chief
Mike Benson – Journeyman Lineman
Brad Braulick – Crew Chief
Nick Bruns – Technology Manager
Anthony Carruth – Journeyman Lineman
Amy Ervin – Member and Board Services Representative
Brayden Fischer – Journeyman Lineman
DeeAnne Norris – CEO
Clint Olson – Journeyman Lineman
Kathy Ridl – Accounting Clerk
Marc Snyder – Business Finance & Accounting
Jill Woods – Member Services Professional

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Web site: www.rscpa.coop

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WHEN THUNDER ROARS, GO INDOORS

Each year in the United States, there are about 25 million cloud-to-ground lightning flashes and about 300 people struck by lightning. Of those struck, about 30 people are killed and others suffer lifelong disabilities. Most of these tragedies can be prevented. When thunderstorms threaten, get inside a building with plumbing and electricity, or a hard-topped metal vehicle!

The National Weather Service collects information on weather-related deaths to learn how to prevent these tragedies. Many lightning victims say they were “caught” outside in the storm and couldn’t get to a safe place. Other victims simply waited too long before seeking shelter. With proper planning, similar tragedies can be avoided.

Some people were struck because they went back outside too soon. Stay inside a safe building or vehicle for at least 30 minutes after you hear the last thunder. While 30 minutes may seem like a long time, it is necessary to be safe.

Finally, some victims were struck inside homes or buildings while they were using electrical equipment or corded phones. Others were in contact with plumbing, outside doors, or window frames. Avoid contact with these electrical conductors when a thunderstorm is nearby.

AVOID THE LIGHTNING THREAT

- **Have a lightning safety plan.** Know where you’ll go for safety and ensure you’ll have enough time to get there.
- **Postpone activities.** Consider postponing activities if thunderstorms are forecasted.
- **Monitor the weather.** Once outside, look for signs of a developing or approaching thunderstorm such as towering clouds, darkening skies, or flashes of lightning.

- **Get to a safe place.** If you hear thunder, even a distant rumble, seek safety immediately. Fully enclosed buildings with wiring and plumbing are best. A hard-topped metal vehicle with the windows closed is also safe. Stay inside until 30 minutes after the last rumble of thunder. Sheds, picnic shelters, tents or covered porches do NOT protect you from lightning.
- **If you hear thunder, don’t use a corded phone except in an emergency.** Cordless phones and cell phones are safe to use.
- **Keep away from electrical equipment and plumbing.** Lightning can travel through the wiring and plumbing if your building is struck. Don’t take a bath or shower, or wash dishes during a storm.

Source: National Weather Service



Power Line Safety “Don’t Fly Kites Close to Power Lines”

Lillee Pannell, Age 11

Lillee Pannell cautions kite flyers to be careful around power lines. Great advice, Lillee! Hobie’s parents are Scottie and Kimberly Pannell, members of Southeastern Electric Cooperative.

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.

Summertime SWEETS

SUMMER FRUIT TART

Ingredients:

1 refrigerated pie crust
1 egg white, lightly beaten
1/3 cup sugar
2 tbsps. cornstarch
1/2 tsp. cinnamon
1/4 tsp. ginger
2 cups sliced peeled peaches,
(about 3 peaches)
1 cup blueberries
1/2 tsp. vanilla extract

Method

Preheat oven to 425 degrees. Prepare crust as directed on package. Place on foil-lined 12-inch pizza pan. If necessary, press out any folds or creases. Brush crust with about 1/2 of the beaten egg white. Mix sugar, cornstarch, cinnamon and ginger in medium bowl. Add fruit and vanilla; toss gently. Spoon into center of crust, spreading to within 2 inches of edges. Fold 2-inch edge of crust up over fruit, pleating or folding crust as needed. Brush crust with remaining egg white. Bake 20 minutes or until crust is golden brown. Cool slightly before serving.

McCormick

RHUBARB PIE

Crust

1-2 cups flour
1/2 stick butter or margarine
1/4 cup water

Add ingredients and knead to complete a pie crust. Amounts will vary due to humidity. Knead dough into pie pan and poke holes into the bottom as needed. You may make creative edges as you wish, however it is not necessary.

Pie

3 tbsps. butter or margarine
1 cup sugar
3 eggs, separated
2 tbsps. flour
1/8 tsp. salt
2 1/2 cups rhubarb
Smucker's Caramel Sundae Syrup

Soften butter or margarine and stir together with the sugar, egg yolks, flour and salt. Beat egg whites until stiff. Add rhubarb and fold in the egg whites. Add the filling to the 8-inch unbaked pie crust. You may add a drizzle of Smucker's sundae syrup for additional flavoring before baking. Bake in oven set at 400 degrees until golden brown. You may also add more Caramel syrup to pie after baking for ultimate effect.

Lisa Soukup (Kummer)
Tea, S.D.

PEACH DELIGHT

Ingredients:

1/2 cup butter, melted
1 3/4 cups flour
Pinch of salt
2 tbsps. sugar
2 cups water
2 cups sugar
4 tbsps. cornstarch
3 oz. package peach jello
1 tbsp. butter
10 fresh peaches

Method

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Combine butter, flour, salt and 2 tbsps. sugar. Mix and pat in 9x13 inch pan which has been sprayed with Pam. Bake for 15 minutes. Let cool when done baking. Combine 2 cups sugar and 2 cups water. Whisk in 4 tbsps. cornstarch until smooth. Cook until thickened in the microwave – stirring often. Remove from microwave and add 1 tbsp. butter and package of peach jello (do not add any water). Stir until dissolved and let cool. While cooling, dip fresh peaches in hot water and plunge in cold water bath. Remove skins and pits. Place back in cold water until all peaches are peeled. Drain peaches, slice into bite size pieces and mix into cooled peach glaze. Carefully pour the glaze over the crust and chill until firmly set. May be served with whip cream. You can substitute strawberry jello and sliced strawberries in place of the peaches. This makes a delicious cool summer dessert.

Shirley Fletcher
Rapid City, S.D.

Please send your favorite 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 2024. All entries must include your name, mailing address, phone number and cooperative name.



Renville-Sibley Co-op Holds Annual Meeting



Amy Ervin
Member and
Board Services
Representative

Renville-Sibley's 86th Annual Meeting was held on Tuesday, July 23rd at the Renville-Sibley Cooperative Power Associations headquarters in Danube. Drawings for early bird prizes were held

at 5:45 pm. Board Chair Roger Manthei presided over the meeting. Director Gary Eekhoff gave the invocation. Secretary/Treasurer Wayland Zaske read the notice of the meeting. CEO DeeAnne Norris and Wayland Zaske reviewed the results of the 2023 audit. Information on the district elections was presented by Director Whitey Hinderman.

The guest speaker for the evening was Ryan Breitbach, President of Breitbach Construction. Ryan presented on the new facility and explained to those in attendance what the process of

building the new facility looked like; from designing, to bidding the work, to the construction itself. He also shared a timelapse video of the construction progress. A virtual tour of the facility created by RSCPA employees was also presented.

Directors Vicky Firlie and Helen Ruebel announced the scholarship awards. The Scholarship Committee selected Lauren Dolezal for the \$1,000 Basin Scholarship. Also selected by the Scholarship Committee as the winner of the Renville-Sibley \$1,000 scholarship was Briana Roche. The remaining scholarships were selected through a random drawing of the remaining applicants and each received a \$1,000 scholarship. The winners were Katelyn Beranek, Lydia Nachreiner, Drew Revier, and Sawyer Erickson.

Whitey Hinderman announced the results of the elections. Directors elected to serve a 3-year term were as follows:

District 1 – Alan Neyers
District 2 – Helen Ruebel
District 3 – Gary Peterson

Drawings were held for the remaining prizes before the meal was served. Miss Becky's Catering prepared and served a delicious meal following the meeting.

Thank you to all who took the time out of their busy schedules to attend Renville-Sibley's 86th Annual Meeting!

Prize winners were as follows:
(red = kid's gifts)

Early Bird Gifts: Presented by Director Alan Neyers and Kathy Ridl

1. \$25 Energy Gift Certificate – Mike Jakel
2. Single Serve Coffee Maker – Dave Lang
3. LED Capture the Flag – Maverick Brown
4. \$25 Energy Gift Certificate – Lyle Witte
5. Oriole Orange & Jelly Feeder – Lyle Black
6. 165' Laser Distance Measuring – Ramona Warner
7. \$25 Energy Gift Certificate – Ronald Kopacek



Remaining Member Gifts: Presented by
Directors Alan Neyers and Jeff Boersma

1. \$25 Energy Gift Certificate – James Santjer
2. CO2 Alarm-Battery – Greg Erickson
3. \$25 Energy Gift Certificate – Jeff Bratsch
4. Battery Daddy – Michael Johnson
5. \$25 Cenex gift card – Aryln Zietz
6. \$25 Energy Gift Certificate – Don Schroeder
7. X Hose Pro Extreme 50' – Dave Muench
8. \$25 Energy Gift Certificate – David Fischer
9. Egg Bite Maker – Louise Kiecker
10. \$25 Energy Gift Certificate – Rocky Pietig
11. 10 X 50 MM Porro Binoculars – Dennis Honzay
12. Inflatable Lawn Darts – Levi Swanson
13. \$25 Energy Gift Certificate – Patricia Serbus
14. \$25 Cenex gift card – Mark Kubesh
15. 8 volt 3/8" Drill with 10 bits – Dale Prah
16. Swiffer Power Mop Kit – Donald Lee
17. \$25 Energy Gift Certificate – Jeff Lingl
18. Cooler on Wheels – Robert Gummert

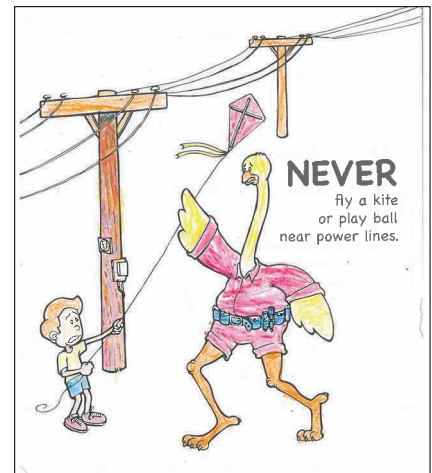
19. Fun Hopper – Dalton Brown

20. \$25 Cenex gift card – Harvey Mathiowetz
21. \$25 Energy Gift Certificate – Jim Knutson
22. Solar Wind Chimes – Ron Kluver
23. \$25 Energy Gift Certificate – Jeff McColley
24. Alien Tape – Peterson Partners
25. Slip N Slide Double – Leo Nelson
26. \$25 Energy Gift Certificate – Russ Nere
27. \$25 Cenex gift card – Charles Firl
28. Tree House 4 pk Path 10 lm – Dale Kiecker
29. \$25 Energy Gift Certificate – Danelle Borth
30. \$25 Energy Gift Certificate – Mark Chan
31. DD Express lithium Hand Vac – Janice Olsen
32. Solar ionic MTN Wedge – Justin Jakel
33. East River Gift (Electric Lunch Box) – Kent Wiethoff

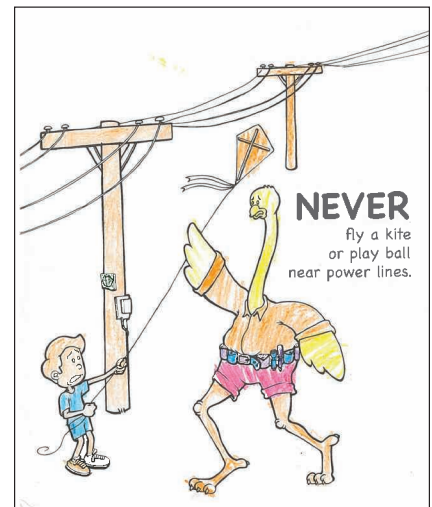
Coloring contest winners were as follows:

- 5 – 8 years old: Maverick Brown
- 9 – 12 years old: Dalton Brown

The winners received a \$10 Dairy Queen gift card.



Dalton Brown's color contest drawing.



Maverick Brown's color contest drawing.



CRISP BREEZES AND CORN MAZES

A broken-down 1950s-style Chevrolet pickup welcomes visitors to the Back Forty Beef corn maze. *Photo submitted by Back Forty Beef.*

Celebrating Autumn on the Family Farm

Frank Turner

frank.turner@sdrea.coop

The first signs of autumn sweep across the plains as daylight dwindles and treetops wither into amber. For some, the nostalgia of fall is evoked by the first crisp breeze at a football game or the taste of a freshly picked apple from the orchard. But for Clint and Kelly Brandlee, Lake Region Electric members living in rural Pierpont, the magic of the harvest season begins with the opening of their family-owned corn maze.

The Brandlee family homesteaded their land in 1886 on the western edge of the Coteau Hills, an area characterized by rolling hills, fertile ground and native pastures. With deep roots extending through five generations of ranching and farming, Clint and Kelly's daughters, Jaycee

and Kylie, represent the sixth generation on the farm.

Over the years, the family has maintained their commitment to traditional farming values while embracing innovation. In 2020, Clint and Kelly

transformed their operation into a direct-to-consumer agriculture business, launching Back Forty Beef, LLC. Their new venture allowed them to provide locally raised beef at a fair price while giving customers the opportunity to see



Back Forty Beef hosts a number of family-friendly events including duck races. *Photo submitted by Back Forty Beef.*

how their animals and crops are raised, from farm to table.

“During the pandemic, people were looking for a direct source for their beef, and we wanted to provide that,” Kelly said.

Through Back Forty Beef, Clint and Kelly supplied their area with local beef and discovered new ways to engage their community. Just last year, the two started an annual tradition by planting a 12-acre, agriculture-themed corn maze as a way to bring something new to their part of the state. In just a year, the maze has become a hub for families to come together and celebrate agriculture and the harvest season.

“We wanted to do something really fun and get families outside in northeastern South Dakota during the fall, and what better way to do that than through a corn maze?” Kelly said. “It’s a way for us to share our passion for agriculture and our story. As a population, we are getting two to three generations removed from the farm. There is less of a connection to rural life, so any time we can provide people an opportunity to get out onto the farm and learn something, that benefits the whole of agriculture.”

This fall, Clint and Kelly are again inviting their surrounding communities to visit their homestead and explore this year’s newly designed maze. The maze is set to be open to the public every weekend after



A bird's-eye view of last year's Back Forty Beef corn maze. Photo submitted by Back Forty Beef.

Labor Day to the last week of October. The theme is pollinators, featuring images of a corn cob, flower, bee and barn. Several twists and turns will be embellished with fun facts about pollinators and crop production in South Dakota, making it an educational experience for all ages.

Along with the corn maze, Back Forty Beef is planning to incorporate other family-friendly activities, including duck races, farm animal exhibits, farm basketball, a straw mountain slide and more. Back Forty Beef will also host a farm store where customers can buy everything from local pumpkins to their homegrown beef.

Other local businesses are also joining

in the fun. A different local food truck is scheduled to attend each weekend during the open season, and local businesses are offering small discounts and deals for participants who complete the maze.

“There are checkpoints in the maze, and each checkpoint is equipped with a fun fact and a partnered local business,” said Kelly. “For example, Dairy Queen is offering a buy one, get one free offer for those who hole punch their card at their checkpoint and read the fun fact about pollinators and production agriculture.”

Clint and Kelly’s efforts to engage the community have resulted in a community that engages with their business. Like many other direct-to-consumer operations, Back Forty Beef has its own website and online shop for its brand of beef, dairy products, merchandise and even hand-poured tallow candles. The Brandlee family has also found success through their beef subscription club where boxes are regularly delivered to the doorsteps of customers every month. Whether it’s through the corn maze or the subscription beef boxes, Kelly said the local community has fully embraced Back Forty Beef.

“We had a lot of people who attended that had never done a corn maze before, so a lot of people were excited to do something new and different,” said Kelly. “We had a great turnout to our maze last year, and that’s why we decided to do it again.”



Owner-operators of Back Forty Beef, Kelly and Clint Brandlee and their two daughters, Jaycee and Kylie. Photo submitted by Back Forty Beef.

Beyond opening the box: Take steps to operate a generator safely

When the electricity goes out, your initial thought might be to run to the local hardware or big box store and buy a generator. However, using a generator should not be taken lightly, since it can be dangerous and even life-threatening if used incorrectly. There are several steps you should take before ever starting one up. 963400

But first, homework

Before purchasing a generator, the first step is to research the best option for your home and budget. The second, and more important step, is to educate yourself on how to use one safely.

Homeowners can choose from two types of generators: standby and portable. Standby generators are installed directly into the home's electrical system and are typically powered by natural gas or propane. These generators start

automatically when the power goes out.

A portable generator is usually gas powered and is, well, portable. You can power appliances by plugging them into it. Your generator should have more output than the wattage of the electronics plugged into it. This way, the generator can create the extra electricity it takes for the initial power surge. Make sure there is nothing plugged into the generator when turning it on.

Safety tips

When you refuel a portable generator, make sure the engine is cool. Keep children and pets away from the generator, as it could burn them.

Generators pose electrical risks, especially when operated during inclement weather. Use a generator only when necessary during wet conditions. Protect the generator by operating it

under an open, canopy-like structure and on a dry surface where water cannot form puddles or drain under it.

Generators can be deadly

Carbon monoxide fumes emitted by the gasoline engine on the generator can be deadly. Always operate your portable generator outdoors at least 20 feet from your home.

Misusing a portable generator or using a standby generator that is not installed correctly (and does not meet the electrical code) can cause backfeed, which puts others in danger. Backfeed happens when a generator feeds electricity back through a home's electrical system and meter into the power lines. To prevent this dangerous scenario, standby generators should have a transfer switch installed by a licensed professional. Do not plug a portable generator directly into a home outlet or electrical system.

Instead, use a properly rated extension cord to plug appliances into an outlet on the generator for power.

When not in use

Operate your generator once a month for 10 minutes to ensure it is running properly. Keep your generator well maintained and follow all manufacturer's instructions. Have a standby generator installed in an easily accessible, weatherproof area.

For more electrical safety information, visit SafeElectricity.org.

What is a **TRANSFER SWITCH**?



A transfer or throw switch is an essential mechanism that safely shuts off power to the electrical grid before backup power is used. This switch is sometimes referred to as a double-throw switch, as it controls two separate circuits.

The switch's job is to safely transfer power from its primary source to a backup power source, enabling users to maintain power during an outage. It works by connecting a generator to your home's main circuits to provide backup power.

Properly installed transfer switches are essential because they prevent dangerous backfeed into the power grid, which endangers utility workers and others.

Make sure your permanent generator and switch are installed according to code and working properly. Never plug a portable generator into a wall outlet, as this can cause backfeed.

Learn more at:

**Safe
Electricity.org®**

Standby Generator – Keep Safety in Mind When Using Standby Generators

While owning an emergency generator comes in handy during an extended power outage, you must consider the following.

To safely use standby generators, operate them only in well-ventilated areas outdoors so emissions can't enter your home. In addition, always turn off a generator when refueling it, and store gasoline, diesel fuel, or propane outside of living areas. Plug appliances directly into a generator or use an extension cord. Do not try to power a home's wiring by plugging the generator into a wall outlet.

A permanently installed standby generator for a home or business requires a transfer switch to isolate it from the power grid. The main breaker on an electric



panel does not qualify as a transfer switch under the National Electrical Code.

Transfer switches are critical for two reasons:

- They prevent the backflow of current across distribution lines that could electrocute lineworkers trying to restore power during an outage.
- They protect the generator from damage when electric service has been restored.

The installation of a standby generator should be done by a licensed electrician and must comply with the National Electrical Code as well as state and local codes.

Energy Star Rebates

Renville-Sibley offers rebates to members who purchase the following Energy Star-certified appliances for their home: refrigerator, freezer, dishwasher, clothes washer, clothes dryer, dehumidifier, central air-conditioner, room air-conditioner, and LED light bulbs.

To qualify for the rebate, the unit must be currently Energy Star certified. Occasionally, Energy Star changes their qualification of what is certified. Therefore, what was Energy Star certified last year or even last month, may or may not be currently Energy Star certified due to a change in the requirements. Renville-Sibley would like to remind members to verify that the appliance they are purchasing is currently Energy Star certified by visiting the Energy Star

website www.energystar.gov.

Once on the website, click on the Find Products tab at the top of the page and then click on the appliance you are interested in purchasing. Next, click on "Explore Models" and search by the brand of the appliance you are purchasing. Renville-Sibley also uses this website to verify that the appliance is currently Energy Star certified before issuing the rebate. This website has a host of other information to assist members in becoming energy efficient.

Rebate forms can be found on Renville-Sibley's website <https://www.rscpa.coop/energy-star-rebates>. Rebates must be submitted within 90 days of purchase. Please contact the office if you have any questions on rebates or on Energy Star products.

FOR SALE:

Grass fed, grass finished beef. Burger-Individual Cuts-Quarters-Halves when available. Call for pricing.

Dave Pastoors
Olivia, MN 56277
320-522-4851

10 5x5 round oats bales and 10 bales of grass hay stored inside.

Bob Gummert
Renville, MN 56284
320-212-4725

OUTAGE REPORT:

Affecting 10 members or more

Date: 6-13-24
Time off: 9:58 AM
Time on: 10:02 AM
Substation: Kingman
Cause: Other Prearranged

Date: 6-13-24
Time off: 11:06 AM
Time on: 11:12 AM
Substation: Emmet
Cause: Other Prearranged

Date: 6-13-24
Time off: 11:19 AM
Time on: 11:32 AM
Substation: Emmet
Cause: Other Prearranged

Please contact Renville-Sibley's office for more details about these power outages.

RODEO CHAMPIONS

Short Go Finalists Win Touchstone Energy Shirts During the State Competition in Ft. Pierre

Jocelyn Johnson

jocelyn.johnson@sdrea.coop

South Dakota's electric cooperatives united in celebrating rodeo on June 15 during the state high school competition in Ft. Pierre, S.D. Cowboys and cowgirls competed in events that mimic the daily chores of a typical rancher, racing to place in the Short Go.

Short Go state finalists earned the coveted Touchstone Energy shirts that mark them as the top competitors of a beloved rural pastime. After a season of competing, the visual representation of wearing this shirt is

more than a fashion statement.

"These shirts are almost like a trophy," said Kylee Ellerton, a member of Black Hills Electric Cooperative in Custer, S.D. "It's something you can keep and look back on to remember."

Ellerton earned the Short Go shirt, sponsored by Touchstone Energy electric cooperatives. She won 10th place in goat tying at state.

"My grandpa and dad grew up rodeoing," Ellerton said. "So, I got started in rodeo pretty young."

High school rodeo events began in 1949, and by 1951, South Dakota was among five states that established the National High School Rodeo

Mataya Ward keeps her eyes on a goat she tied during the Short Go.
Photo credit: Charles Minor

Association.

It's a shared heritage for many in the state, and electric cooperatives have a 22-year history of celebrating rodeo by sponsoring the Touchstone Energy Short Go Shirt program. More than \$150,000 has been given to this program since 2002, and these funds are used to honor the contestants who make it to the Short Go round



Photo credit: Charles Minor



Kailey Deknikker rounds a Touchstone Energy barrel during the state Short Go in barrel racing.
Photo credit: 4-C Photography

of the state finals competition in their respective events.

Kailey Deknikker, member of Southeastern Electric Cooperative in Lennox, S.D., has a passion for rodeo and wishes to go as far as she can in the sport. She will be attending Mitchell Technical College this fall for business management and joining

the college rodeo team in barrel racing and pole bending.

“The shirt shows that your hard work paid off,” explained Deknikker after placing in the Short Go and winning a Touchstone Energy Short Go shirt. “It shows your accomplishment.”

Decknikker placed 7th in barrel

racing after running a time of 18.246 seconds in the 1st Go, 17.802 seconds in the 2nd Go, and 18.078 seconds in the Short Go.

Leighton Sander, a member of Black Hills Electric Cooperative in Custer, S.D., won 6th place in the bareback riding Short Go competition. Sander works with his family on a cow/calf operation outside of Custer, S.D.

“There’s some pride that goes with wearing that Short Go shirt,” said Sander. “You go to a rodeo and see a couple people wearing those shirts outside of the high school season, and you think, ‘they must have been good enough to make it to the Short Go – I better watch that guy.’”

Sander explained that his draw to one of the toughest events in the sport of rodeo is the adrenaline rush. He hopes to use his bareback riding skills in future horse training efforts while noting, “being able to stick to a horse is important.”

“I don’t know how to explain it,” Sander said. “It’s super scary before you start, but once you climb into that chute and they open up the gate, it’s like eating your favorite cake.”



Finalists wear Touchstone Energy Short Go shirts. Photo credit: Charles Minor

Operation Round Up

The Renville-Sibley Cooperative Power Association Charitable Trust met in July to review Operation Roundup grant applications. The board reviewed the applicants and awarded two (2) grants of \$1,000 each to non-profit and community organizations. The first recipient was SWWC Foundation for Innovation in Education. SWWC foundation supports regional student enrichment events for students in RSCPA's service territory. The second recipient was Blue Star Mothers of America Chapter MN 1. This organization creates care packages for deployed military and supplies items needed for veterans at our local VA

homes. All funds for Operation Round Up are placed in a trust fund separate from the cooperative accounts. The next application deadline is October 1, 2024. If your non-profit organization has a project or event that would benefit the community, Operation Round Up funds may be available to help your group reach its goal. The next meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held on October 15, 2024. Applications for donations can be found at rscpa.coop/operation-round. Contact the office at 320-826-2593 for more information.

Comparative Report			
	Current YTD	One Year Ago YTD	10 Years Ago YTD
Average # of Consumers	1,880	1,879	1,914
kWhs purchased	11,001,745	6,795,951	7,795,640
Cost of purchased power	\$722,830.50	\$400,868.82	\$419,063.28

FREE Want Ad Service

Members can submit ads for the following categories: Giveaway, For Sale, For Rent, and Wanted. Ads should be or are limited to no more than 15 words and must be received by the first of the month to be included in the following month's newsletter. Renville-Sibley reserves the right to edit content or exclude ads due to space restrictions. Ads will be run one time only unless resubmitted. Please complete the following information and mail it to the Renville-Sibley Cooperative Power, PO Box 68, Danube, MN 56230.

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone number: _____
Ad to be placed (limit of 15 words per ad)

Type of ad: ☐ Giveaway ☐ For Sale ☐ For Rent ☐ Wanted

WHERE'S THE NUMBER?

Last month RSCPA member found their member number in the newsletter. Congratulations! The value of the energy credit will start over at \$15. Another number has been hidden in this newsletter. If you find your number and call the office by the 3rd of September, you will receive this credit on your electric statement. Good luck in your search!

REMINDER

Renville-Sibley encourages any member planning on making changes to their service in 2024 or 2025 to please contact the office as soon as possible. In order to complete these projects on time, material may need to be ordered well in advance as often there is extended lead time to get the appropriate material. In addition, crew time will be scheduled in the order projects and materials are received.

THANK YOU

Thank you for selecting me as the recipient of your scholarship. It will help towards my tuition at SDSU this Fall. I am looking forward to furthering my education in agriculture. I appreciate this scholarship very much and the difference it will make in my future. – Drew Revier

OPERATION ROUND UP

Thank you for your Operation Round Up donation. We used the donation to upgrade the sand in our arena. Not only does it look beautiful, it is now safer for our members to ride in. Your support to our program is very much appreciated. – Redwood County 4H Horse Project

Unclaimed Capital Credits

Listed below are Renville-Sibley members who were mailed a capital credit check in December of 2017 and have either not cashed the check or the check was returned to our office due to an old address. If you know the correct address

or telephone number for these members, please contact Renville-Sibley Co-op Power at 800-826-2593. If no contact is made with these members, the money is paid out to students through our scholarship program.

ALARCON, JOSE
BELLIG, RANDY
BERNARDY, DEBRA
BITKER, JANET
BLUE, SHANNON
BLUE, THERESA
BRELJE, JERRY
CARLSON, DUSTHAN
CHAPMAN, BRENT
COLUMBUS, CLYDE
COLUMBUS, GLEN
DECLERCQ, JAMES
DRIGGINS, DUANE
ECKLAND, STEVE
EVANS, LEAMON JR
FLORES, BRYAN
FRIESE, RANDY
GARZA, JAVIER
GNEISS VALLEY AGGREGATES
GOEPFERICH, GREG
HACKER, CECILIA
HALE, TIM
HELMUTH, WILLIAM JR
HILLESHEIM, CHRISTINE
HOLSTAD, JAMES
JAEGER, MIKE
JAHNKE, DEB
JANSSEN, REBECCA
JENSEN, DORIS M
JONES, LARRY
KANNIAINEN, ROBERT
KEMNITZ, LARRY
KNUTSON, ERVIN
KOHLE, DARWIN
LARSEN, DAVID
LUEDTKE, WARREN
MALLON, MIKE

MARTI, JON
MARXEN, BILL
MCGOWAN, DENNIS
MILROY, SALLY
MORARIE, MARK
MORAWITZ, KATHY
NEUBECK, CHARLES DSR
OLIVIA CANNING CO
PETERSON, TOM
PRIBBLE, RONALD
RADDATZ, MARJORIE
REGNIER, TONYA
REID, MARY
RESEMIUS, STEVE
ROBERTSON, DON
ROEBKE, ALAN
RUTER, ED
SALINAS, ERASTO JR
SCHNEIDER, MARK
SCHULTZ, LEE
SCHWEISS FARM INC
SJOLIE, KEITH
SMITH, ARCHIE
SMITH, KORY
SMITH, MICHAEL
SMITH, MICHAEL I
SOWDER, J B
STOMBERG, LOREN
SWENSON, BRYAN
TREVINO, OSCAR
VICK, SCOTT
WHITELEY, JAMES J
WOLD, NANCY
WURZBURGER, HARV

Mission Statement

Renville-Sibley Cooperative Power Association will provide efficient, reliable electric energy and services to enhance the quality of rural living.

Nondiscrimination Statement

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 administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). 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 online 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 form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

REGISTER TO WIN!

Bring this coupon and mailing label to the Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives booth at Dakotafest or the South Dakota State Fair to win a prize!

Your Phone Number: _____

Your E-mail Address: _____



Photo Credit: SDStateFair

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.

AUG. 28-SEPT. 2
South Dakota State Fair
7 a.m.-8 p.m.
Huron, SD
www.SDStateFair.com

SEPT. 1
Studebaker Car Show
10 a.m.-3 p.m.
Custer, SD
605-673-2244

SEPT. 2
Hidewood Valley Steam Threshing Show
Starts at 1 p.m.
Clear Lake, SD
605-881-8405

SEPT. 6-7
Ribs, Rods & Rock n' Roll
Vermillion, SD
www.sdbbq.us

SEPT. 8
Homesteader Day
1-4 p.m.
Valley Springs, SD
Beaver Creek Nature Area

SEPT. 12-15
South Dakota Film Festival
Downtown Capitol Theatre
Aberdeen, SD
605-226-5494

SEPT. 13-14
Black Hills Polkapalooza
Each Night at 4-10 p.m.
Palmer Gulch
Hill City, SD
605-574-2525

SEPT. 13-14
Holiday Arts Fall Craft Show
Davison County Fairgrounds
Mitchell, SD
605-359-2049

SEPT. 14-15
2024 Kuchen & Harvest Festival
Delmont, SD
605-928-3792

SEPT. 17
EV Expo
W.H. Lyon Fairgrounds
Sioux Falls, SD

SEPT. 20-22
South Dakota Festival of Books
Various Locations
Brookings, SD
605-688-6113

SEPT. 27-29
Coal Springs Threshing Bee and Antique Show
Meadow, SD
605-788-2299

OCT. 5-6
Run Crazy Horse Marathons
Crazy Horse
605-390-6137
www.runcrazyhorse.com

OCT. 5-6
Magic Needlers Quilt Show
Codington County Extension Complex
Watertown, SD
605-881-3273

OCT. 5-6
The Black Market
Saturday 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Sunday 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
W.H. Lyon Fairgrounds
Expo Building
Sioux Falls, SD
605-332-6004

OCT. 6
Giant Pumpkin Festival
Bentley Memorial Building
Bison, SD
Enter Pumpkins by 11:30 a.m.
605-244-5475

OCT. 10-11
Rural Women Conference
The Lodge of Deadwood
Deadwood, SD
SouthDakotaWomeninAg.com

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