

COOPERATIVE CONNECTIONS

Let's Go Fly a Kite

**Brookings Kite Festival
Creates Excitement**

Pages 8-9

Cooperative Metering

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Photo Credit: Visit Brookings



Line Crew Activities



Gene Alex
Line Superintendent

Greetings from Renville-Sibley!

I would like to update you on the latest activities and projects our line crews have been working on this year, as well as our plans for the remainder of 2024.

Our lineworkers use an overhead line patrol app during the winter months. This app helps us gather information on broken conductors, poles, insulators, wires, trees, and leaning poles, and we track issues that need repair.

STAR Energy Services conducts our below-ground pole testing. We are in the sixth year of a 10-year pole inspection plan, with the rejection rate holding at around a 3% average. Our goal is to test approximately 1,700 poles in 2024, primarily using a ranger or other 4-wheeled off-road vehicles. The inspector will be in Flora, Beaver Falls, and Henryville townships this year. Please call the office if you have any questions during this process.

We completed a biannual inspection of all line regulators in February. A line regulator maintains proper voltages to your service, boosting voltage if needed or holding it back if the transmission system is too high. We rely on East River Electric for any regulator repairs.

This spring, we also conducted our annual inspection of equipment. Federal requirements mandate that trucks over 26,000 pounds, as well as any trailer combined with these trucks, undergo DOT inspections.

Our 2024 system projects include a 3-mile overhead-to-underground conversion on Renville County Rd #6, south of Renville. Another project involves upgrading 3 miles of overhead line to underground, starting at the Henryville substation and heading west. The Henryville substation, located south of Danube, sustained damage in the May 2022 storm. In May, our lineworkers completed a 2.7-mile overhead-to-underground project in the Sacred Heart area.

In late May, our lineworkers, along with the East River line crew, performed upgrades in the Henryville Substation. We will be adding two electronic breakers, while East River will install Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) equipment for remote line monitoring.

We have received several member requests for service upgrades. If you are considering a service upgrade, please contact us as soon as possible. Transformer lead times are 30 weeks for single-phase and around a year for three-phase units. Underground cable and overhead wire lead times are still 40 weeks. Material lead times may vary depending on your project. We will review your project and return a quote as soon as possible, though we may have some questions during this process. For instance, we might need to know how much load you are adding to an existing system, whether you are moving or building a new service, or who your electrician is. The Minnesota Electrical Inspector must visit the site if there are any changes or alterations to the service. The quoting process can take up to three weeks or longer, depending on equipment quotes from our vendors.

We have a contracted locating service for our underground utilities. If you wonder, "Why didn't the lines get marked in my yard?" It is because Renville-Sibley owns the lines from the distribution system to the meter, while members own any lines after the meter. It is the member's responsibility to locate the lines on their side of the meter. Member-owned locating requests should be handled by your chosen electrician. Additionally, always call Gopher State One Call (GSOC) at least 48 hours before any excavation. The GSOC phone number is 1-800-252-1166 or visit www.gopherstateonecall.org.

Have a safe and wonderful summer!

Notice:

The June board meeting will be held on
Tuesday, June 25 at 8 a.m.

The July board meeting will be held on
Tuesday, July 23 at 2 p.m.

Renville-Sibley Invites You to Our Rescheduled 86th Annual Meeting

Save the Date! Renville-Sibley's 86th Annual Meeting is rescheduled for Tuesday, July 23, 2024 at Renville-Sibley's Headquarters in Danube. The meeting will begin at 6:00 p.m. with an early bird drawing for the door prizes at 5:45 p.m. The format of the meeting will be similar to the way we've had it in the past. Upon the meetings conclusion, we will hold a drawing for the remaining prizes and a delicious meal will be served by Miss Becky's Catering. Please watch for a postcard that will be sent to all members the last week of June. Be sure to bring the postcard to the meeting as it will serve as your registration for the door prizes and your energy credit.

A \$15 energy credit attendance prize will be given to members (one credit per member) who attend the annual meeting. All members are encouraged to attend the 86th Annual Meeting of Renville-Sibley Cooperative Power Association.

COOPERATIVE CONNECTIONS

RENVILLE-SIBLEY CO-OP POWER

(USPS 019-074)

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Web site: www.rscpa.coop

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10 ways to prepare your home for Summer Vacation

Once you have packed your bags, get your house ready for vacation too.

1. Set or program your thermostat to 85 degrees.
2. Unplug small appliances and electronics.
3. Turn your natural gas water heater to low.
4. Turn off your electric hot water heater.
5. Use light timers or smart lighting.
6. Ensure your sump pump is operational.
7. Clean out your refrigerator.
8. Pause your mail.
9. Make sure doors and windows are locked.
10. Let a neighbor know your plans.

Safe Electricity.org®



Fireworks Safety

Summer is synonymous with barbecues, parades and fireworks. The National Safety Council advises everyone to enjoy fireworks at public displays conducted by professionals, and not to use any fireworks at home. They may be legal but they are not safe.

Every year, thousands of people are injured badly enough to require medical treatment after fireworks-related incidents, with many of the injuries to children and young adults. While the majority of these incidents are due to amateurs attempting to use professional-grade, home-made or other illegal fireworks or explosives, less powerful devices like small firecrackers and sparklers can also cause significant injury.

Additionally, fireworks start an average of 19,000 fires each year.

Fireworks Safety Tips: If You Choose to Use Legal Fireworks

If consumer fireworks are legal to buy where you live and you choose to use them, be sure to follow the following safety tips:

- Never allow young children to handle fireworks
- Older children should use them only under close adult supervision
- Never use fireworks while impaired by drugs or alcohol
- Anyone using fireworks or standing nearby should wear protective eyewear
- Never hold lighted fireworks in your hands
- Never light them indoors
- Only use them away from people, houses and flammable material
- Never point or throw fireworks at another person
- Only light one device at a time and maintain a safe distance after lighting
- Never ignite devices in a container
- Do not try to re-light or handle malfunctioning fireworks
- Soak both spent and unused fireworks in water for a few hours before discarding
- Keep a bucket of water nearby to fully extinguish fireworks that don't go off or in case of fire
- Never use illegal fireworks

Better yet, grab a blanket and a patch of lawn, kick back and let the experts handle the fireworks show.

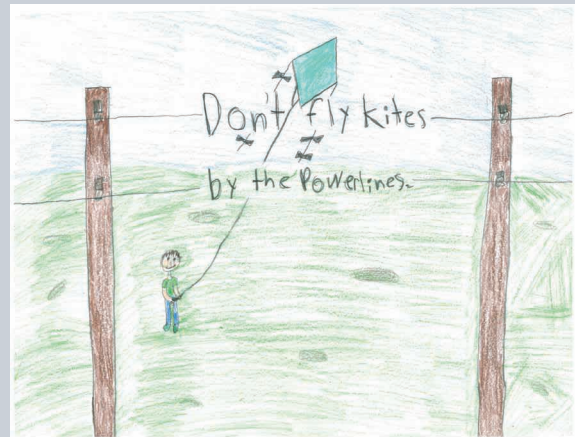
Sparklers Are Dangerous

Every year, young children can be found along parade routes and at festivals with sparklers in hand, but sparklers are a lot more dangerous than most people think.

Sparklers burn at about 2,000 degrees – hot enough to melt some metals. Sparklers can quickly ignite clothing, and children have received severe burns from dropping sparklers on their feet. According to the National Fire Protection Association, sparklers alone account for more than 25% of emergency room visits for fireworks injuries. For children under five years of age, sparklers accounted for nearly half of the total estimated injuries.

Consider using safer alternatives, such as glow sticks, confetti poppers or colored streamers.

Source: National Safety Council



**“Let’s Go Fly a Kite Up to
the Highest Heights.”**

Eldon Femrite, Age 12

Eldon Femrite warns readers to not fly kites by power lines this summer. Eldon’s parents are Jody and Rosemary Femrite, members of Codington-Clark Electric.

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.

DELICIOUS Desserts

NO CHURN ICE CREAM

Ingredients:

2 cups heavy cream
14 oz. sweetened condensed milk
Other mix-ins as desired

Method

In a mixing bowl, whip heavy cream until stiff peaks form.

Mix in sweetened condensed milk and any flavors/mix-ins you like (strawberries, Oreos, lemon, vanilla extract, etc.).

Pour into loaf pan and freeze until solid (2+ hours).

Kayla Beaner
Centerville, S.D.

CINNAMON PECAN PIE

Ingredients:

1 refrigerated pie crust, (from 14.1-oz. pkg.)
3 eggs, lightly beaten
1 cup firmly packed light brown sugar
1 cup light corn syrup
2 tbsps. butter, melted
1 tsp. cinnamon extract
1 1/2 cups pecan pieces

Method

Preheat oven to 350°F. Prepare pie crust as directed on package for one-crust pie using 9-inch pie plate.

Mix eggs, sugar, corn syrup, butter and cinnamon flavor in large bowl until well blended. Stir in pecans.

Pour into crust. Bake 50 to 55 minutes or until knife inserted halfway between center and edge comes out clean. Cool completely on wire rack.

McCormick.com

RHUBARB PIE

Ingredients:

Crust

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

Pie

3 tbsps. butter or margarine
1 cup sugar
3 eggs, separated
2 tbsps. flour
1/2 tsp. salt
2 1/2 cups cut rhubarb
Smucker's caramel sundae syrup

Method

Crust: Add ingredients and knead to complete 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: 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 until golden brown. You may also add more caramel syrup to pie after baking for ultimate effect.

Lisa Kummer Soukup
Tea, 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.

WATER SAFETY FILL-IN-THE-BLANK

Summer means fun in the sun and spending time in the water to cool off. But remember, electricity and water never mix! Read the safety tips below and fill in the blanks with the correct choice from the word bank.



Psst! Check your work in the answer key.

1. When possible, use _____ operated or rechargeable devices when you're near water sources like a swimming pool.
2. If you hear _____ while swimming, go inside until storms have passed.
3. Never bring _____ devices near a swimming pool or other body of water. Devices should be kept at least 10 feet away from water sources.
4. All outdoor electrical outlets should be covered and kept _____.
5. Never handle electrical devices if you are _____ from swimming or other water activities.

WORD BANK

thunder

wet

battery

dry

electrical



Answer Key: 1) battery 2) thunder 3) electrical 4) dry 5) wet

Minnesota's Extreme Heat Law

Minnesota Statute 216B.0975 requires that “a utility may not involuntarily disconnect residential services in affected counties when an excessive heat watch, heat advisory, or excessive heat warning is in effect and has been issued by the National Weather Service.”

Renville-Sibley will continue to make efforts to stall involuntary disconnection of our members' electric service for non-payment and will continue to provide our members with past-due account opportunities to work out a feasible payment schedule. However, in order to construct a payment plan, members must contact Renville-Sibley ahead of time to make payment arrangements and to sign a payment agreement.

Renville-Sibley does not want to interrupt service to any member at any time, but in a cooperative, all members are affected by those whose electric bills remain unpaid. To ensure fair and equitable rates for all our members, those members with past-due accounts that neglect to contact the office to make mutually agreed payment arrangements or members who fail to meet agreed-upon payment arrangements will have their electric service disconnected once the excessive heat watch, advisory or warning has expired.

For energy assistance, please contact:

Minnesota Valley Action Council

800-767-7139 (Toll-Free) or 507-345-6822 (Mankato)

Prairie Five Community Action Council

320-269-6578 (Montevideo) or 800-292-5437

United Community Action Council

507-537-1416 (Marshall)

320-235-0850 (Willmar)

320-523-1842 (Olivia)

Renville-Sibley Offers a Variety of Payment Options to Members

Renville-Sibley members have a variety of options available to pay their monthly electric bills. Located in the center of the homepage of Renville-Sibley's website www.rscpa.coop is the SmartHub Pay Portal. In the upper right-hand corner, you will find the PayNow option. The difference between these two options is the SmartHub application requires a username and password and will give more account information such as view and manage your usage tool, billing and payment history, the ability to manage the contact information, set up account notifications along with the option to make a payment or set-up autopay. The PayNow option can be accessed by entering the account number and last name. The only option available on this site is to make a payment on the account.

Along with the traditional payment method of mailing or dropping off a check, Renville-Sibley offers an automated pay-by-phone option which is available in both

English and Spanish. Members can call 855-939-3674 to make a payment on the account, update the phone number or update bank draft information.

More and more members are setting up their accounts for automatic payment on the 3rd. This convenient service can be set up by completing an in-house form that allows Renville-Sibley to deduct the balance from either a checking or savings account on the 3rd of each month. Members also have the option to set up automatic payment in SmartHub. Through SmartHub, members can select the payment source to be either a checking or savings account or a credit card.

Also available to the membership is budget billing. Members on budget billing pay the budget amount, which is the average bill calculated over the past 12 months factoring in any rate increases for the next year if applicable. Budget billing is great for members who experience a higher electric bill during the winter months and want to level their payments throughout the year. All accounts in the budget payment plan must be paid in full each year with the August 3rd payment. The new budget amount begins with the next bill. Anyone interested in budget billing should contact the office to determine what their monthly budget amount will be and to get signed up for the program.

KITE FESTIVAL



Photo Credit: Visit Brookings

Let's Go Fly a Kite

Shannon Marvel

shannon.marvel@sdrea.coop

The sky becomes more of an art canvas during the Brookings Kite Festival. For the last 25 years, kite fliers from across the country gather to let their art take flight at the festival.

One of those artists is Mike Gee of North Dakota.

“We go down there to Brookings and really like the kite flying field there. It’s just nice to come down and fly kites with friends who also enjoy flying kites,” Gee said.

Gee flies what’s called “show kites”, which are big, inflatable kites that can span 20 feet across the sky.

There are other kites flown during the festival, including soft kites, stick kites and sport kites.

A sport kite is one that is attached to two or four lines. Often they’ll be flown in teams and perform maneuvers in the sky.

“If you talk about crazy kites, there’s a wide variety. There are so many different creative people building things in creative ways,” Gee said. “It is definitely an art. It’s what you put on the canvas that makes it special.”

The kites are typically made with nylon, sail making cloth that doesn’t stretch.

“You can’t just go to the fabric store and buy tent fabric. We have a couple different weights of fabrics we use. And you need that tail on there to keep the kite stable,” Gee said.

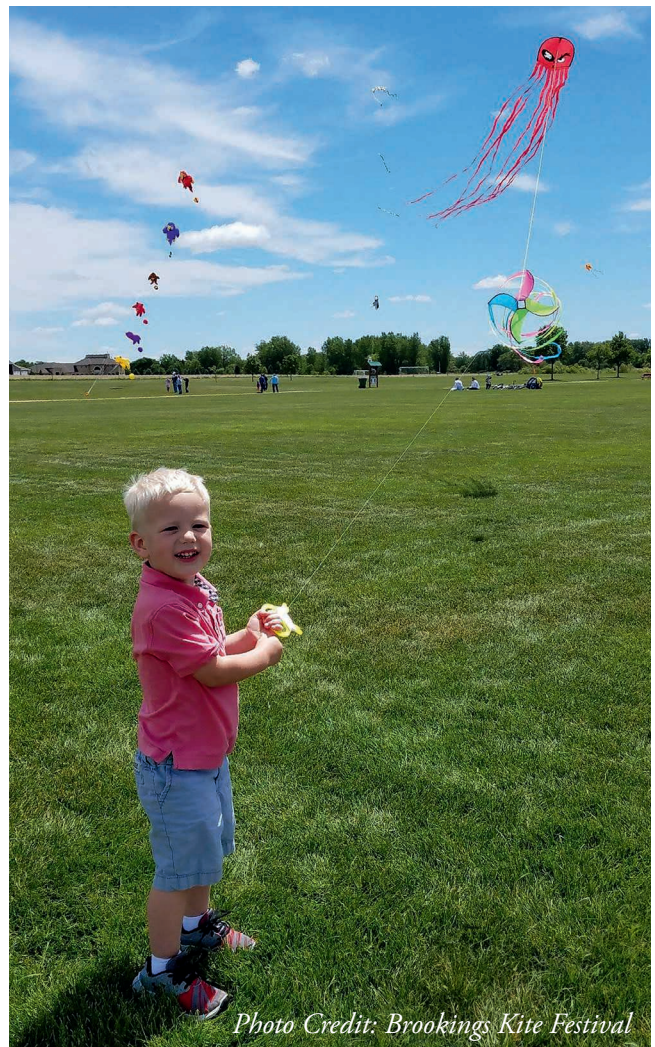


Photo Credit: Brookings Kite Festival



Photo Credit: Brookings Register

Sally Damm Norby, of the Brookings Optimists Club, said the festival got its start when Lynn Versher, former director of the South Dakota Art Museum, approached Optimist member Bill Flynn about creating a joint effort to bring big kites to Brookings.

“This volunteer organization aims to make a positive impact on the lives of youth and communities. The Brookings club’s primary focus is on advancing the opportunities and programs for youth events that are encouraging with exceptional supportive outcomes. The Brookings Optimist Kite Festival offers a comprehensive learning experience that incorporates expressions of culture, science, creativity, civic involvement, and is

environmentally friendly,” Norby said.

Youth are encouraged to come down and learn how to make a kite of their own, with professional guidance.

Gee said he encourages visitors to come up to kite fliers to ask questions or strike up a conversation.

“One thing I really like about kite flying is it seems like no matter who you talk to on the field, someone can relate to an experience of flying a kite,” Gee said. “When we start flying kites, it brings back memories of when other folks were kids flying kites. It’s kind of emotional for some people.”

This year’s event will take place on June 22-23 at the Fishback Soccer Park in Brookings.

Gee said this location is a safe spot to fly kites, and well away from any electrical line hazards.

“If you’ve flown kites long enough, you have a story about power lines. When you hit a line, you call the power company, and they advise you of what to do. The best thing to do is avoid those wires. I always think, ‘If my line breaks, which way is my kite going to go and what’s over there,’” Gee said.

Gee encourages visitors to come down to the Brookings Kite Festival with their lawn chairs and blankets and stay for more than just a half hour.

“The thing is when the wind changes direction or speed, the kites change. There’s just so much going on throughout the day. You’ve really got to sit back and pay attention,” Gee said.



Photo Credit: Visit Brookings

Hiring a Home Improvement Contractor?

Selecting the Right One is Key

Taking on significant home renovations or upgrades can be challenging, especially when selecting the right contractor for the job. Choosing the wrong one can result in disastrous consequences, including extensive damages, insurance loss and even injuries.

Here are some tips to help you select the right one for the job. 780700

Craft a detailed plan

Before starting any home improvement project, it is crucial to have a detailed plan in place. The more detailed your plan, the more precise your cost estimates will be.

Know your material costs

Since 2020, building material prices have surged by 35.6%. Understanding material costs before seeking a quote will reduce the risk of sticker shock.

Obtain referrals

When searching for a contractor, always ask for references. Referrals from friends, coworkers and family members can provide insight. Additionally, consider seeking recommendations from neighbors, local hardware stores and past real estate agents.

Interview several contractors

To ensure that you choose the right general contractor for your home improvement project, it is important to interview a minimum of three candidates. During this process, use a checklist and ask each contractor numerous questions, including whether their business is licensed and insured.

Before hiring someone, check with your local municipality to learn about necessary licenses. Additional questions for prospective contractors may include:

- What is your experience with this type of project?
- Can you provide references from previous clients?

- What is your timeline for completing the project?
- What is your process for communicating with clients?
- What is your approach to solving problems and handling unexpected issues?
- How do you handle change orders or additional work requests?
- What is your payment schedule and method?
- What does your contract include? (See next section.)

Again, be sure to verify that prospective contractors have appropriate insurance and licenses, as well as a clear contract outlining the project scope, timeline, budget and any other important details.

Contract and ground rules

Here are some important elements that should be included in a contract:

- Business name and contact information of the contractor.
- Contractor's insurance and licensing details.
- A highly detailed description of the work to be completed, including a timeline and schedule.
- A materials list (including model numbers) and who is responsible for providing the materials.
- Payment terms: Expect to put down a deposit before work begins. Certain states have restrictions on the size of the down payment for home improvement contracts. Check your state's laws and requirements before agreeing to a downpayment amount.
- Required permits and who is responsible for securing them.
- A process for handling changes and disagreements.
- A termination clause to protect both parties.

Obtain lien releases and receipts

To prevent a mechanic or construction lien from being placed on your property, request copies of receipts for all materials and lien releases from the general contractor and all subcontractors. This is especially important if your contractor fails to pay their subcontractors or suppliers, as attempts to collect the debt may result in the sale of your home to cover the unpaid amount.

Hold onto your wallet

Delay making the final payment until you are fully satisfied with the finished work and have received lien releases and receipts. This should be outlined in your contract and payment schedule to avoid any misunderstandings or disputes.

Co-ops In the Classroom Visits Area School



Amy Ervin
Member and
Board Services
Representative

Tuesday, May 21st was a fun day as Renville-Sibley Linemen Brayden Fischer joined Jennifer Gross from East River Electric in the 5th and 6th grade classes at St. Mary's School in Bird Island to bring the Co-ops in the Classroom presentation. This program helps students recognize where electricity comes from and ways to conserve electricity.

The most important lesson though is to teach the students to respect and be safe around electricity. Jennifer explained the relationship between East River Electric and Renville-Sibley Co-op Power. For those of you that may not know, East River is responsible for delivering the power over the transmission lines to our substations. They also provide

other services to our cooperative such as load management and IT services.

The hour-long presentation began with a discussion on static electricity, protons, neutrons, and most importantly electrons. We also discussed what materials are conductors and insulators of electricity. The best way to learn about static electricity is by using the Van de Graaff generator. This is always electrifying! Most students think it is fun to get their hair to stand up and to shock a fellow student. After this shocking experience, we reminded the students that this is static electricity, and this type of electricity does not power our daily electrical needs. 780700

We asked the students how the power they use is generated. With a little help, most classrooms could name the following major energy sources: hydro, wind, solar, natural gas, nuclear, and coal. The students had a chance to generate power by pedaling a bicycle that powered a display board with light bulbs and a few other appliances. This was easy when there were not many appliances plugged in. As more items were added in, this task became more difficult. The point of this experiment was for students to understand the

more items they use that demand electricity, the more the powerplants must work to provide for their needs. This led to the discussion of conserving electricity.

I am thankful that the schools allow us to share the story about electricity.



Brayden Fischer, Renville-Sibley linemen showing the students some of the Personal Protective Equipment our crews are required to use.

SAVE THE DATES

- **Farmfest** – Morgan, Minn.
August 6–8
- **Family-a-Fair Night at the Renville County Fair** –
Bird Island, Minn.
August 8

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

OUTAGE REPORT:

Affecting 10 members or more

Date: 4-7-24

Time off: 8:20 AM
Time on: 8:40 AM
Substation: Henryville
Cause: Transmission

Date: 4-7-24

Time off: 8:23 AM
Time on: 12:43 PM
Substation: Henryville
Cause: Lightning

Date: 4-8-24

Time off: 1:45 PM
Time on: 2:22 PM
Substation: Henryville
Cause: Other Prearranged

Date: 4-15-24

Time off: 12:12 PM
Time on: 12:20 PM
Substation: Emmet
Cause: Other Prearranged

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



COOPERATIVE METERING

Roger Lawien

More than 40 cooperative linemen and metering specialists gathered in Pierre for South Dakota Rural Electric's Meter School. This two-day gathering offers the opportunity to enhance skills, build a community of professionals, and learn the nuances of metering. As our need for more energy continues to grow, so does how we properly meter consumption.

Modern electric meters do much more than keep track of the electricity we consume. Correct electric metering is also essential for grid reliability and stability. Accurate measurements aid your cooperative in identifying and addressing issues such as voltage fluctuations or load imbalances promptly.

This proactive approach enhances the resilience of the electrical grid, reducing the likelihood of outages and ensuring a continuous and reliable power supply. At its core, accurate metering ensures fair and precise billing, preventing financial disputes and establishing trust between cooperatives and members.

From an economic standpoint, correct electric metering plays a pivotal role in resource allocation allowing member owned cooperatives to better understand consumption patterns, enabling them to optimize energy distribution and invest strategically in infrastructure development. This, in turn, leads to more efficient operations, cost savings, and improved overall service quality.

Precise metering supports energy conservation.

Members can sign into their account online, view consumption. Armed with accurate usage data they are empowered to make informed decisions about their energy consumption. This encourages responsible energy usage practices, reducing waste and lowering overall demand.

Metering guru and instructor John Pollard said it best. "These training schools are important. Metering is a craft handed down from generation to generation. With the advances of solid-state metering, these students are the supreme candidates to lead us into the future."

Your electric cooperative is your partner in getting it done!



2023 SDREA Meter School Instructors Photo by Roger Lawien

What is a Smart Meter?

A smart meter is a common term for Automated Metering Infrastructure, or AMI. These are connected devices that transmit information back to the electric utility's meter data management system and the information collected is used primarily for billing and outage response purposes. Smart meters started to be installed about 25 years ago. Individual utilities have different aged systems, but all electric cooperatives in South Dakota have two-way communication with every meter in the system.

What advantages do Smart Meters bring?

Before smart meters were installed, customers were required to read their own analog meter and report their monthly usage for billing purposes, or a utility employee would physically travel to every home, farm or business in their large service territories to read usage data. Smart Meters take the burden off customers and employees, saving time and money for all consumers. In some cases, the aggregated energy usage information from their home can be visible to the customer via the Internet or a phone application.

- Smart Meters can be used to pinpoint exact locations of power outages more quickly by transmitting an “out of power” notification, meaning a faster response time to outages.
- Smart Meters allow information to be shared with individual consumers about their energy usage – allowing them to find energy efficiency opportunities or potential problems in their home.
- Smart Meters improve electric service reliability and power quality. Information obtained from the automated meters often identifies problems that can be repaired before they cause an outage.
- Information can be used by engineers to more effectively and appropriately size lines and transformers, saving the cooperative and members money.

What information does a Smart Meter record?

Automated meters record an electronic kilowatt-hour (kWh) reading, the date and time of energy usage, the overall peak demand of the electric account, if the meter has been tampered with, and the number of times the meter has experienced a loss of power.

Security of information

Electric cooperatives do not sell or share consumer data. Cooperatives abide by all laws regarding the privacy, protection and disclosure of personal information. The meters and associated communications systems are equipped with security features to prevent unauthorized access.

Are there potential health impacts from a smart meter?

Research conducted by the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI), the Utilities Telecom Council (UTC) and other similar groups have shown no health impacts from automated meters. The radio frequencies emitted by digital meters are well below the maximum recommended in federal guidelines. A digital meter equipped to send and receive data has an RF density hundreds of times lower than the RF density of a cell phone, and the meters are installed on the outside of homes or buildings.

Happy Independence Day!

Renville-Sibley's office will be closed
Thursday, July 4, in observance of
Independence Day.

Be safe and enjoy your holiday!



Comparative Report

	Current YTD	One Year Ago YTD	10 Years Ago YTD
Average # of Consumers	1,880	1,879	1,914
kWhs purchased	15,704,881	15,688,877	9,995,828
Cost of purchased power	\$1,050,540.96	\$1,003,199.38	\$701,767.70

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 did not find their member number in the newsletter. The value of the energy credit will be increased to \$120. Another number has been hidden in this newsletter. If you find your number and call the office by the 1st of July, 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.

OPERATION ROUND UP

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 July 16, 2024. The deadline for applications is July 1.

Applications for donations can be found at rscpa.coop/operation-round. Contact the office at 320-826-2593 for more information.

Thank You Notes

A huge thank you to all our generous donors! Thanks to your support, the after-prom event was a huge success, and the kids had an amazing time. We couldn't have done it without you!

– MACCRAY After Prom Committee

Thank you so much for selecting me as a recipient of your scholarship. This scholarship will help me with my tuition, and it will help me pursue a degree in radiography at Riverland College. Thank you!

Katelyn Beranek, Scholar of the Month

April Board Meeting Highlights

The May board meeting was held on Thursday, May 30 at 8 a.m. All board members were present. Others present were CEO DeeAnne Norris, Attorney Jeff Whitmore, and Amy Ervin.

The board reviewed and approved the following items:

- Minutes of the April 23 board meeting
- Director Compensation – increased regular board meetings from \$250/meeting to \$300/meeting and \$300/meeting – board chair to \$350/meeting – board chair. Increased other meetings from \$225/day to \$300/meeting and virtual meetings from \$50/hour to \$50/hour with a maximum of \$300/day
- Board Committees
- Annual Meeting is set for Thursday, March 27, 2025 at the Redwood Area Community Center
- Board meeting dates and times from June 2024 to December 2024
- Board meeting dates and times from January 2025 to December 2025
- Officer Appointments of the Cooperative
- Operating and disbursement reports for the month of April
- Capital Credits to Estates – none this month
- Safety Report for May
- CFC and CRC Annual Meeting Voting Delegate and Alternate Voting Delegates
- Minnesota Rural Electric Trust Voting Delegates
- East River Annual Meeting Voting Delegates
- Basin Electric District 1 Caucus Voting Delegates

The board reviewed:

- Conflict of Interest Disclosure
- Minnesota Electric Cooperatives' Commitment to Transparency & Accountability
- Cooperative Attorney Report
- 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 April (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
- Legislative Update from MREA
- Finance & Audit Committee Meeting

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

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: _____



Aug. 24
2024 McCrossan Boys Ranch Xtreme Event Rodeo
McCrossan Boys Ranch Campus
Sioux Falls, SD
605-339-1203

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.

JULY 5-7 **Badlands Astronomy Festival**

10 a.m.-11:30 p.m.
Ben Reifel Visitor Center
Interior, SD
605-433-5243

JULY 7-12 **Deadwood 3 Wheeler Rally**

All day
Deadwood Event Complex
Deadwood, SD
800-274-1876 ext 1103

JULY 13 **Sanford Lab Neutrino Day**

9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Sanford Lab Visitor Center
Lead, SD
605-722-8650

JULY 14-18
Dakota 600
8 -11 a.m.
Black Hills National Forest
Rapid City, SD
605-645-1756
dakota600.com

July 19
Zucchini Fest
5 p.m.
Main Street
Bristol, SD
605-590-0000

JULY 19-20
Farley Fest
All day
Lake Farley Park
Milbank, SD
605-432-6656

JULY 19-20
Cookin' on Kampeska
All day
Admission \$10
Stokes-Thomas Lake City Park
on Lake Kampeska
Watertown, SD
605-886-5814

JULY 26-28
Clear Lake Days
ClearLakeDays.com
Clear Lake, SD

JULY 26-28
Bruce Honey Days
5k walk/run, parade, cookouts, craft show, 3-on-3 basketball tournament, street dance and more.
Jay Street
Bruce, SD
605-627-5671

AUG. 6-8
Minnesota Farmfest
Gilfillan Estate
Morgan, MN

AUG. 6-8
IDEAg's Farmfest
8 a.m.-4 p.m.
Redwood County, MN
651-316-4369

AUG. 7-9
Renville County Fair
Renville County Fairgrounds
Bird Island, MN

AUG. 8
Renville County Family-a-Fair Night (Renville-Sibley Cooperative Power Association Members)
Renville County Fairgrounds
Bird Island, MN

AUG. 11
Czech Heritage Festival
Bechn, MN

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