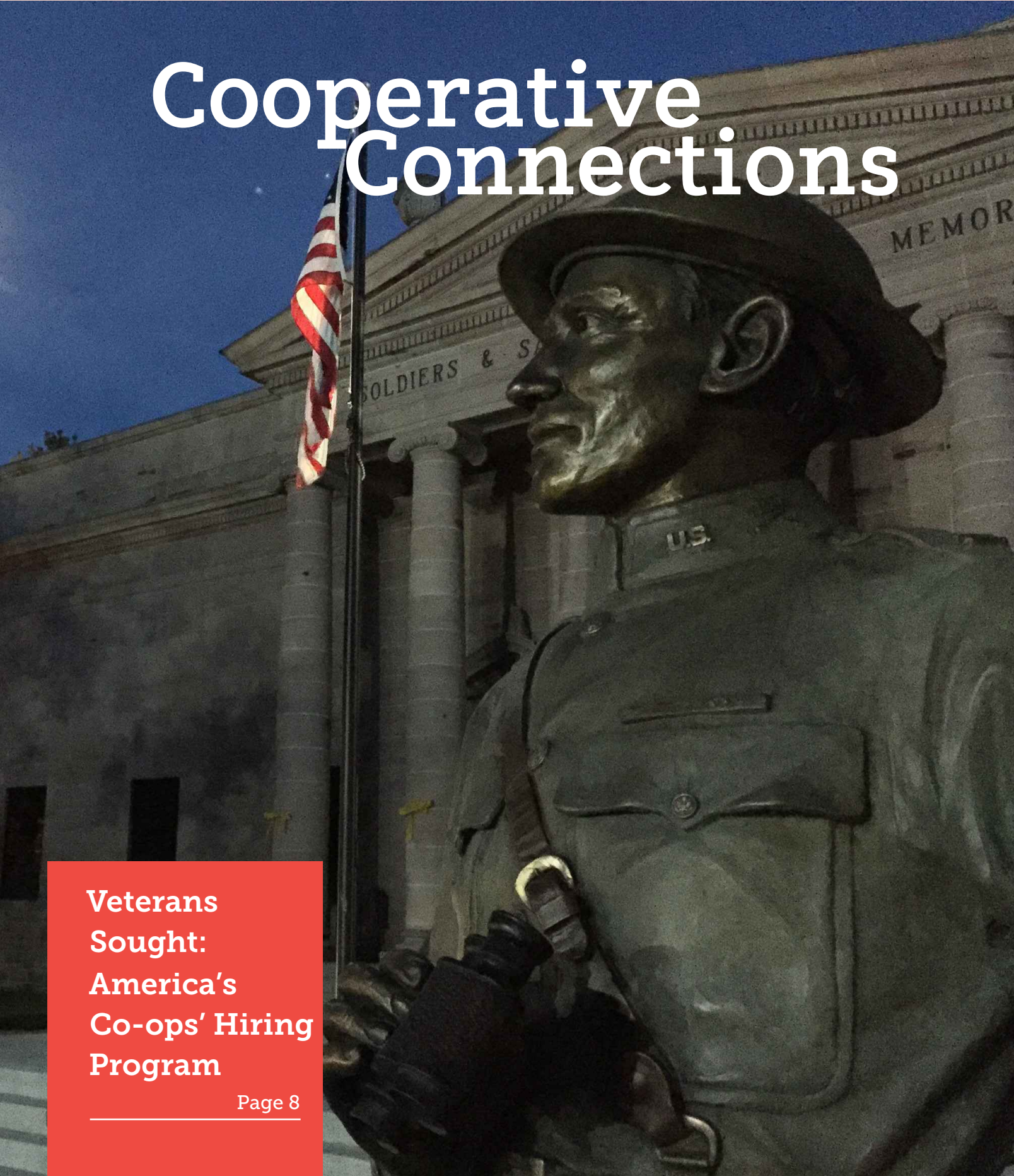


Cooperative Connections

**Veterans
Sought:
America's
Co-ops' Hiring
Program**

Page 8



We are Thankful for Your Membership



DeeAnne Newville, CEO

dnewville@renville-sibley.coop
Phone: 320-826-2593 or
Toll Free 800-826-2593

“Feeling gratitude and not expressing it is like wrapping a present and not giving it.”

In the spirit of this quote by author William Arthur Ward, I'd like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude for your membership in our electric cooperative. Because of your connection to Renville-Sibley Cooperative Power Association, we are able to make our community a better place.

During this season of giving thanks, I think it's important

to let you and other members know just what an impact you have on our co-op and the greater community, likely in ways you may not even realize. When you attend co-op events, alert us to problems and provide suggestions, you help us improve operations and programs allowing us to better serve the larger co-op membership.

As part of the cooperative business model, one of our core principles is “Concern for Community.” While our priority is always to provide safe, reliable and affordable energy, we view our role in the community as a catalyst for good.

Our cooperative supports local communities by volunteering our time, hosting Family-a-Fair night, participating in Farmfest, and making donations to local organizations and events. Through the

Rural Electric Economic Development (REED) Fund, Renville-Sibley has been involved in programs that promote growth and contribute to the community.

We work closely with our local schools to provide safety demonstrations and award college scholarships, including the Scholar of the Month program. Renville-Sibley also participates in an annual Youth Tour where we take our community's brightest young people to Washington, D.C., for a week-long immersion to experience democracy in action. The trip is inspirational for many students and we are both humbled and honored to be a part of this leadership development journey. Ultimately, the larger community benefits from these programs because of you! You empower the co-op through your membership and through your participation in and support of these programs.

We are thankful that our co-op board members carve out time to attend important training sessions, participate in planning meetings and keep abreast of industry trends. This investment in time results in better informed advisors that serve the co-op's interests in a way that our members expect and deserve.

On a more personal note, we appreciate the countless acts of kindness our line workers and other employees receive when they are working in severe weather and dangerous conditions. Our employees are thankful for your patience and consideration when we are trying to restore power during challenging situations.

Renville-Sibley was originally established 80 years ago to bring electricity to our area when no one else would. The cooperative is a reflection of our local community and its evolving needs. Together, let's continue making our corner of the world a better place. We can't do it without you, and for that, we're thankful for your membership.

NOTICE

Renville-Sibley's office will be closed on Monday, Nov. 12, in observance of Veteran's Day.

The office will also be closed on Thursday and Friday, Nov. 22 and 23, in observance of Thanksgiving Day.



Renville-Sibley

Cooperative Connections

(USPS 019-074)

Board of Directors

- Roger Manthei - Chair
- Philip Nestande - Vice Chair
- Alan Neyers - Secretary/Treasurer
- Steve Benson
- Matt Haubrich
- Whitey Hinderman
- Gary Peterson
- Helen Ruebel
- Wayland Zaske

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 - Operations Assistant
- Anthony Carruth - Journeyman Lineman
- Amy Ervin - Consumer Accounts Representative
- Brayden Fischer - Journeyman Lineman
- Cindy Mertens - Administrative Services Manager
- DeeAnne Newville - CEO
- Brandon Ochs - Journeyman Lineman
- Clint Olson - Journeyman Lineman
- Lenae Wordes - Communications Manager

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Web site: www.renville-sibley.coop

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



HEAT CREDIT BEGINS

Renville-Sibley Co-op Power Association

renville-sibley@renville-sibley.com

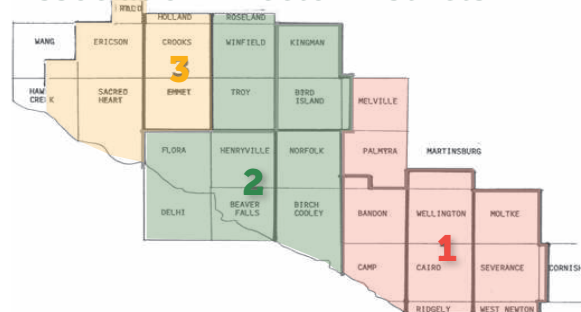
Members who have electric heat (metered with a separate sub-meter) pay only \$0.059/kWh for energy used to heat your home/shop during the months of October through April. This lower rate will be reflected starting with the November statement. If you have a separate breaker for your heat meter, please remember to turn it on or you will be billed at the regular energy rate. If the majority of your home is heated with electric heat and you are not on our metered electric heat rate, please contact the office for more information. 609500

Co-op Seeks Nominating Committee Members

Renville-Sibley is looking for members who would like to serve on the cooperative's Nominating Committees. Nominating committees (one for each director district) will be meeting in December or January and will be looking for candidates to run for the board of directors. Candidates chosen by the nominating committee will be put on the ballot. A member may also appear on the ballot by petition of 10 or more members residing in such district. The candidates for each district will be voted for at the annual meeting.

If you would like to be on one of the

Renville-Sibley Cooperative Power Association Director Districts



Nominating Committees, if you would like to be considered as a candidate or if you know of someone that you would like to be considered as a candidate, please let us know by calling Lenae at 800-826-2593.

Halloween Safety Tips

Are your Halloween traditions a trick or a treat? The following helpful tips will let you know if real danger is lurking in your Halloween décor.

Trick:

- Costumes can catch fire! Avoid costumes with billowing or long trailing fabric. If you are making your own costumes, choose fire-resistant materials.
- Never use electrical products outdoors that are marked "for indoor use." You could get shocked – or worse!
- Avoid using dried flowers, corn stalks, hay or crepe paper in your festive decorations. These items are highly flammable and could even be ignited by heat from a nearby light bulb or heater.
- Never block exits or escape routes.

Treat:

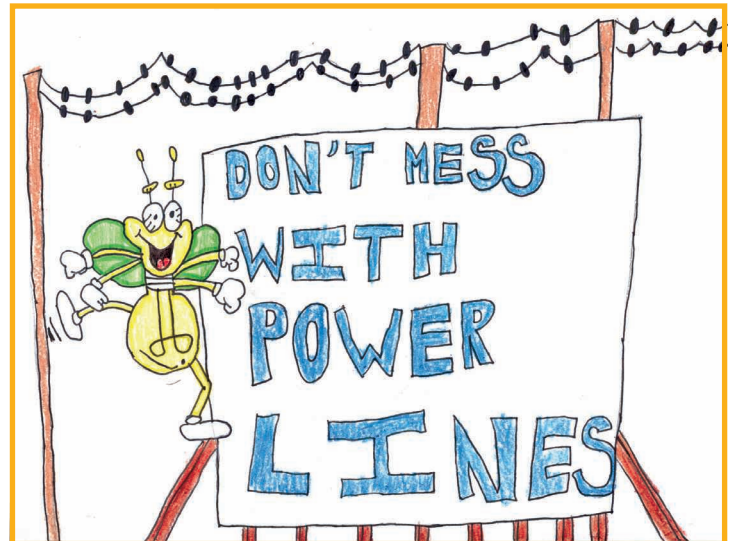
- Inspect all electrical decorations and extension cords before use. Discard any that have cracked, frayed or exposed wiring.
- Outdoor electrical decorations are increasingly popular. To reduce your risk of shocks, ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs) should be used wherever water may come into contact with electrical products. Replace traditional receptacles with GFCIs or use a portable one.
- Use only electrical lights and decorations that are approved for safe use by a nationally tested laboratory such as UL, Intertek (ETL) or CSA.
- Always turn off electrical decorations and extinguish any open flames before leaving home or going to bed.
- Use a flashlight or battery-operated candles in a jack-o-lantern. If you must use a real candle, use extreme caution as it can start a fire or burn someone.
- Curiosity leads to many things, not all of them safe. Protect children by installing tamper resistant receptacles in your home. This permanent, cost-effective solution prevents injuries and deaths caused by the insertion of foreign objects into outlets.

Source: esfi.org



VISIT VOTE.COOP TO LEARN HOW TO BECOME A CO-OP VOTER.

KIDS CORNER SAFETY POSTER



"Don't mess with power lines."

Jackson Baumgarn, 8 years old

Jackson is the son of Casey and Anne Baumgarn, Webster, S.D.

They are members of Lake Region Electric Association, Webster.

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.

Crock Pot Creations

3-Bean Crockpot Casserole

1/2 lb. bacon	1/2 cup brown sugar
1/2 lb. hamburger	1/2 cup ketchup
1 cup chopped onions	1 can pork and beans
1/2 tsp. salt	1 can lima beans
2 T. vinegar	1 can kidney beans
1 T. prepared mustard	

Brown bacon until crispy. Brown hamburger with the onions. Combine all ingredients in a crock pot. Cook on LOW for 3 to 4 hours.

Mary Ellen Luikens, Tea, SD

Triple Chocolate Surprise

1 (18 oz.) chocolate cake mix	3/4 cup oil
8 oz. sour cream	4 eggs
1 pkg. instant chocolate pudding	1 cup water
	1 cup chocolate chips

Combine all ingredients. Spray crock pot with no stick cooking spray. Pour mixture into pot. Cook on LOW 6 to 8 hours.

Betty Klingbile, Wall, SD

Juanita's Crockpot Peanut Clusters

1 (16 oz.) jar salted peanuts	4 oz. German chocolate bar, broken into pieces
1 (16 oz.) jar unsalted peanuts	3 lbs. almond bark, broken into pieces
1 (12 oz.) bag semi-sweet chocolate chips	

Layer ingredients in crock pot in order given. Cook on LOW for 3 hours. DO NOT OPEN. After 3 hours, stir and cook an additional 5 minutes. Turn off crock pot and let cool at least 15 minutes. Stir and spoon heaping spoonfuls onto waxed or parchment paper. Let sit until set.

Marcia Broone, Rapid City, SD

Slow Cooker Chicken Rice Curry

4 bone-in chicken breasts, halves (about 2 lbs.), skin removed	1 medium Golden Delicious apple, unpeeled, cored and coarsely chopped
1 T. McCormick® Curry Powder	1/4 cup raisins
1 pkg. McCormick® Chicken Gravy Mix	1/4 cup McCormick® Onions, Chopped
1 (14.5 oz.) can chicken broth	2 McCormick® Bay Leaves, broken in half
1 medium red bell pepper, cut into 1/2-inch pieces	1/2 tsp. McCormick® Garlic Powder
	1 cup instant rice

Rinse chicken and pat dry. Cut each breast half into 2 pieces. Sprinkle chicken with curry powder. Gradually stir gravy mix into broth in slow cooker until well blended. Add seasoned chicken and remaining ingredients except rice; stir well. Cover. Cook 8 hours on LOW or 4 hours on HIGH. Gently stir in rice. Cover. Cook 15 to 20 minutes longer on HIGH or until rice is tender. Remove bay leaves before serving. Makes 6 servings

Nutritional Information Per Serving: Calories 296, Total Fat 4g, Cholesterol 78mg, Sodium 600mg, Protein 35g, Carbohydrates 30g, Dietary Fiber 2g

Pictured, Cooperative Connections

Crockpot French Dip Sandwiches

3 lb. roast, beef or pork	1 (10 oz.) can beef broth
1 (10 oz.) can French onion soup	1 (12 oz.) can beer
	Swiss cheese

Cook above ingredients in crock pot on LOW for 7 hours. Shred meat with fork. Let set 30 minutes. Fill buns (I use steak buns). Top with Swiss cheese. Use the juice in crock pot for dipping, if desired.

Jane Ham, Rapid City, SD


Please send your favorite holiday, soup or brunch 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 2018. All entries must include your name, mailing address, telephone number and cooperative name.

Unclaimed Capital Credit Refunds

Listed below are names of former members who have unclaimed capital credit refunds from Renville-Sibley. If anyone has information regarding these individuals, please contact the cooperative at 800-826-2593 or renville-sibley@renville-sibley.coop.

Alarcon, Jose	Donner, Jason	Harris, Karen	Larson, Paul H	Olivas, Jose	Seehusen, Douglas H A
Allen, Richard J	Dosseth, Steven	Heimerman, James	Leenerts, Vernon	Olson, Scott	Sjolie, Keith
Baker, Jim	Driggins, Duane	Helmuth Jr, William	Lilja, Lorin	Olson, Allen	Smith, Kory
Barajas, Ramon	Dugan, Marilyn	Helmuth Sr, William	Lothert, Dennis S	Panitzke, Doug	Smith, Michael
Bauer, Al	Duis, Bonnie	Hill, Catherine S	Luepke, Kathy	Peterson, Tom	Smith, Archie
Baumann, Alex	Dyer-Bennet, Barbara	Hillesheim, Christine	Luluquisin, Genever	Pomeroy, Randy	Sommers, Corey
Baune, Michael	Eckland, Steve	Hillmann, Todd	Lund, Shawn	Prescott, Larry	Sowder, J B
Beager, Todd	Edwards, John	Holstad, James	Luterra, Markael	Pribble, Ronald	Spath, Beulah
Bellig, Randy	Elsing, Tracy	Hulmes, Elaine	Mahoney, Rita	Raddatz, Marjorie	Squibb, Rafe
Bernardy, Debra	Evans Jr, Leamon	Hunter, Chad	Mallon, Mike	Raddatz, Elvira	Stark, Wayne
Bitker, Janet	Evridge, Charles	Jaeger, Mike	Marti, Jon	Raske, Rebecca	Swanson, Jim
Blackwell, Jeremy	Fischer, Gerald	Jahnke, Debra	Martin, Jerry	Regnier, Tonya	Swanson, John
Blue, Shannon	Flores, Bryan	Jansen, Maureen	Marxen, Bill	Reid, Mary	Swenson, Bryan
Blue, Theresa	Foley, Matt	Janssen, Rebecca	Maurer, Corky	Renville, Renee	Swenson, Dan
Borth, Rueben	Fredrickson, Cary	Jensen, Deryl	Mcdonald, Gerald	Resemius, Steve	Thorne, James
Bourne, Randy	Friese, Randy	Jensen, Doris M	Mcgowan, Dennis	Ridler, Patrick	Thune, Lorelyn S
Boyum, Dwayne	Friese, Lynn	Johnson, Jo	Meier, Alvin	Robbins, Ryan	Timgren, Ronald
Bray, Edith	Gabrielson, Gary	Johnson, Wesley M	Menz, Jeremy	Rocha, Jorge	Trevino, Oscar
Bray, Ed	Garza, Javier	Johnston, Michael L	Meyer, Martha	Roebke, Alan	Valentin, Karl
Brelje, Jerry	Gilchrist, Mark	Jones, Darlene	Mikosch, Jeff	Rood, Dan	Volkman, Adam
Burdick, Donald	Goepferich, Greg	Jones, Larry	Milroy, Sally	Ruter, Ed	Wallin, Linda M
Carlson, Dusthan	Grejtak, Francis	Kading, Helen	Minkel, Keith	Salinas Jr, Erasto	Whiteley, James J
Chapman, Brent	Grunke, Keith	Kanniainen, Robert	Morarie, Mark	Sanchez, Tracy	Wiederich, Randy
Chapman, Jeannie	Gudgel, James	Keiper, Dewayne	Morawitz, Kathy	Sanders, James	Wiekling, Bob
Columbus, Clyde	Guimond, Brent	Kemnitz, Larry	Mulligan, Tom	Schickert, Diane	Willing, Stephen R
Columbus, Glen	Gurtz, David	Kiecker, Lois	Mulligan, Ron	Schmidt, Jeffrey M	Wold, Dennis
Culbertson, Janet M	Haase, Linda	Kiecker, Amber L	Nelson, Brittany	Schmidt, Charles	Wold, Nancy
Declercq, Dennis	Hale, Tim	Klinger, Ronald E	Nelson, James E	Schnitzler, Bob	Wolter, Don
Declercq, James	Hanson, Erland	Kohler, Darwin	Nesburg, David	Schonert, Jim	Wood, Roger
Declercq, Robert	Hanson, Denise	Kordovsky, Dan	Nesburg, Lila M	Schultz, Lee	Woodford, Dean
Declercq, Jim	Hanson, Mark	Kormendy, Clarice M	Neubeck Sr, Charles D	Schweikert, Kathy	Wurzburger, Harv
Degrote, Lowell	Hanson, Lori	Kurth, Matthew P	Ninneman, Jim	Schweiss Farm Inc,	Young, Robert
Disney, Patrick	Haring, Kevin	Larsen, David	O'Brien, Ben	Schwitters, Mark	Zachow, Ammie

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month



Spending more time in the kitchen during the holiday season? Here's one way to be more energy efficient: Unplug small kitchen appliances, like toaster ovens and microwaves, when not in use. You could save \$10 to \$20 per year.

Source: U.S. Department of Energy

Comparative Report			
	Current (through Aug. 31)	One Year Ago (through Aug. 31)	10 Years Ago (through Aug. 31)
Average Number of Consumers	1,882	1,886	1,965
kWhs Purchased	114,664,013	99,824,840	98,398,784
Cost of Purchased Power	\$6,750,042.37	\$6,046,804.18	\$3,212,425.84

Scholar of the Month

Congratulations to Faustino Salinas from Renville County West for being selected as the September Scholar of the Month.

Salinas was nominated because he is always striving to do well in both the classroom and his extracurricular activities. Faustino is respectful, courteous and always positively encouraging his classmates and teammates.

More information on the Scholar of the Month program can be found on our website www.renville-sibley.coop under the Customer Service tab.



Faustino Salinas
Renville County West

Back-the-Pack Donation

All over the United States groups are starting programs to provide food for children experiencing hunger. One way this is accomplished is by providing meals on weekends and breaks during the school year. Renville County Back-the-Pack is a non-profit group providing meals to children throughout Renville County. The "Pack Shack," located in Olivia, is the base of operations where food is stored and packed in bags to deliver to school districts. Currently, this program provides food for up to 200 students in five school districts including Cedar Mountain, GFW, BLH, BOLD and RCW. Meals that are provided include two breakfast, two lunches and two snacks. The cost per bag is \$4 and weighs 3.5 lbs or less. The food is obtained from Second Harvest Heartland, local grocery stores, and donations throughout the County. Funding for this program comes from grants, individual donations, businesses and churches. Through a matching grant program with Basin Electric, East River Electric and CoBank, Renville-Sibley Co-op is proud to turn our \$1,000 Back-the-Pack donation into a donation of \$3,500. Our thanks to the many volunteers who spend countless hours making this program a success.



Thank you...

Thank you for your time in coordinating the grants for our program. I know from experience the work it takes to make these things happen. These grants will allow us to purchase food for 35 children. FANTASTIC! Your organization is doing a world of good.

Betsy Hennen, Renville County Back-the-Pack Program

Thank you so much for the REA's generous donation to the Danube Historical Society for our building project. It is wonderful to have the support of our local businesses. We were glad the board members were interested in coming to visit our museum. Thanks again.

Suzie Lueck, DHS Treasurer

Outage Report

affecting 10+ members

Date:	8-3-18
Time off:	7:52 p.m.
Time on:	10:21 p.m.
Substation:	Henryville
Cause:	Substation out - lightning
Date:	8-6-18
Time off:	7:21 p.m.
Time on:	8:52 p.m.
Substation:	Henryville
Cause:	Insulator failed
Date:	8-14-18
Time off:	9:38 a.m.
Time on:	10:52 a.m.
Substation:	Birch Cooley
Cause:	Scheduled outage
Date:	9-17-18
Time off:	3:29 p.m.
Time on:	4:03 p.m.
Substation:	Honner
Cause:	Power supplier - tree in the line
Date:	9-25-18
Time off:	1 p.m.
Time on:	2 p.m.
Substation:	Henryville
Cause:	Scheduled outage

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

Mark your calendar!

Renville-Sibley will be hosting our annual Christmas Open House on Thursday, Dec. 6 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.



Military veterans meet with electric co-op leaders at a Veterans in Energy event. Veterans in Energy is a professional development group that was formed through NRECA's Serve Our Co-ops; Serve Our Country initiative to help veterans transition into the energy workforce after they've been hired at electric cooperatives.

An Electric Co-op Mission to HIRE VETERANS

Paul Wesslund

NRECA

Electric cooperatives are working to make even better use of a powerful source of energy – military veterans.

“Veterans, active military and their spouses are some of our greatest assets as employees,” says Michelle Rostom, director of workforce development for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA). “They are mission-driven. When we think about providing safe, reliable and affordable power, we know our veterans – whatever their job – are focused on making sure we are operating safely and that we are creating a reliable electric network for co-op members.”

Rostom spends a lot of her time getting more veterans hired by electric co-ops in her role as program manager for NRECA's initiative called “Serve Our Co-ops; Serve Our Country.”

The program launched in January 2016 “to honor and employ veterans,” said Rostom.

Since then, the program has been forming a coalition of co-ops and other groups to focus attention on the benefits of hiring veterans and to actually hire more veterans.

In announcing the program, Jim Matheson, CEO of NRECA,



An NRECA Commemorative Coin Recognizes veterans hired through the Serve Our Co-ops; Serve Our Country program. On the Cover: A statue of South Dakota Gov. Leslie Jensen, who was governor in 1937-1939, stands in front of the Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Building in Pierre. Jensen served in both WWI and WWII.

said, “Our military veterans deserve our unending gratitude for their service to our country, on Veterans Day and every day. Veterans possess many of the qualities sought by electric co-ops, including a deep commitment to service and an uncompromising work ethic. More than 200,000 service members transition out of the military to civilian life each year and we’d like to tap into that talent to help fill the thousands of co-op jobs opening up.”

Hiring veterans is certainly a decent thing to do, but Rostom lists why it makes business sense as well.

“They understand their role and they go out and execute it,” she says. “They bring leadership skills, they work in teams and look out for each other in that kind of ‘brotherhood.’ They work in all types of weather. They are disciplined. They show up on time. Those are professional competencies that not every job applicant brings with them, but you find them in the military.”

The initiative grew out of broader strategic planning by NRECA. That plan envisioned that 25,000 jobs at electric co-ops would need to be filled in the next few years.

“We are racing to make sure we have the right talent applying for our jobs,” says Rostom.

Part of that work has been developing and distributing information to bring attention and advice aimed at connecting veterans with co-op jobs. A series of three checklists published by the program helps guide electric co-ops in setting up a veteran hiring effort. The checklists show co-ops how to recognize veterans, contact groups in their communities for broad-based effectiveness and bring attention to the skills and abilities veterans offer.

Some of those skills and abilities might not be immediately obvious, says Rostom, like what they learn by having to change their job and their residence every few years.

“They are trained to learn,” she says. “They change jobs every couple of years, so they learn to adapt.”

Serve Our Co-ops; Serve Our Country also started a group called “Veterans in Energy,” a professional organization to go

beyond hiring, by helping veterans transition into the energy workforce.

Military spouses make up another often-overlooked resource, says Rostom.

“You’ll get resumés for a spouse and they will have big gaps in their experience,” she says. “They’ve put their career path

Our military veterans deserve our unending gratitude for their service to our country, on Veterans Day and every day.

on hold to follow their spouse around the world with the military, so don’t just discount that resumé.”

Rostom says, “They’ve had to move their family probably 10 times over the past 15 years, so they have to plan, they have to find housing, find schools, medical care – and they’re doing that without their spouse there, who is deployed somewhere. Often, they are volunteering, so they are community-focused, which is what we look for in the co-ops. In working with

groups of volunteers, they are managing people, they are probably managing a budget, they are securing vendors for events. There are a lot of skill sets that they bring.”

Rostom continues, “Many are working on a degree while they are moving around the world. They are a phenomenal group of untapped talent we should consider. When you see that resumé, it doesn’t say military spouse, but I think it should. It totally changes the game – it shows the potential employer why their career has been put on hold. They are smart, educated, they are project managers, they work with diverse groups of people. They’re an untapped group of talent that we don’t always think about.”

Through Serve Our Co-ops; Serve Our Country, electric co-ops are better positioned to increase their veteran workforce and support local veteran communities. To learn more about the program, visit www.servevets.coop.

Paul Wesslund writes on consumer and cooperative affairs for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the national trade association representing more than 900 local electric cooperatives. From growing suburbs to remote farming communities, electric co-ops serve as engines of economic development for 42 million Americans across 56 percent of the nation’s landscape.



Photo by NRECA

September Board Meeting Highlights

The August board meeting was held on Monday, Sept. 24, at 8 a.m. All board members were present. Others present were CEO DeeAnne Newville, Gene Allex and Lenae Wordes.

The board reviewed and approved the following items:

- Minutes of the August board meeting
- Operating and disbursement reports for the month of August
- Safety report for September
- Voting delegates for the Mid-West Electric Annual Meeting
- Brady, Martz & Associates Audit Engagement Letter

The board reviewed:

- List of new members and capital credits transferred
- Reports from staff members as to the activities in their department. Items in the reports include:
 - High level Statement of Opera-

tions review – YTD – August 2018 (unaudited)

- Organization activities
- East River update
- NRECA update
- MREA update
- KRTA data
- Line crew work in progress and pending work
- Accounts receivable
- Christmas Open House
- Operations Round-up
- Upcoming meetings were discussed.

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

Notice: The October board meeting will be held on Monday, Oct. 29, 2018, at 8 am. The November board meeting will be held on Monday, Nov. 26, 2018, at 8 a.m.

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 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 there was a typo with the number in the newsletter. The number hidden was not an active member number. The correct number has been hidden in this newsletter with the credit increased by \$10 for a value of \$80. If you find your number and call the office by the 5th of November, you will receive this credit on your electric statement. Good luck in your search!



Mission Statement:

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



For Sale:

1970 Ford Cabover 2-ton truck, 361 cu. in steel box and hoist, needs battery and brakes. \$600
Lowell Kiecker, Fairfax, MN
507-430-117

Snow blower - hook on to tractor. Walk by snow blower - TORO name, oil heater and wood stove.
Elsie Heutinck, Olivia, MN
320-523-1705 (M-F 6-10 pm)

House on 1.6 acres northeast of Sacred Heart, '02 Monte Carlo
113,000 miles, best offer on both
Henry Buffington, Sacred Heart, MN
320-330-4871

350 International tractor with bucket and blade
Claudia Kokesch, Franklin, MN
507-430-2852

REVO Electric Scooter, new batteries, \$450 OBO, **Maxima Electric Scooter,** lights, turn signals, \$900, both good shape
Gene Wolling, Franklin, MN
507-227-6641

OFFICIAL NOTICE



DON'T LET MONEY GET SUCKED OUT OF YOUR WALLET

Safe Electricity

SafeElectricity.org

Ghouls, goblins and ghosts might be scary, but they aren't nearly as scary as a high electric bill. There may be electronics in your home sucking power out of your outlets and money out of your wallet, even when they aren't in use. Televisions, computers, DVD players, cable boxes with DVR, cell phone chargers, printers and game consoles are just a few of the culprits that unknowingly suck energy. Over time, the cost adds up.

Safe Electricity has some tips to help you stop energy vampires in your home:

- When possible, unplug electronics that you are not using.
- Plug electronics into a power strip and turn the power strip off when items are not in use.
- Purchase smart power strips for your computers and televisions. These devices sense when the computer or television is sleeping or off. The smart strip cuts off power to related electronics, such as DVD players, video game consoles and printers.
- Buy low-standby products. Most ENERGY STAR®-endorsed products draw smaller-than-average amounts of electricity when turned off.
- Avoid electronics with unnecessary features as these might use more energy.

For more energy efficiency tips, visit SafeElectricity.org.

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(3) Free or Nominal Rate Copies Mailed at Other Classes Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail)		0		0	
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c. Total Print Distribution (Line 15f) + Paid Electronic Copies (Line 16a)		▶		▶	
d. Percent Paid (Both Print & Electronic Copies) (16b divided by 16c × 100)		▶		▶	
<input type="checkbox"/> I certify that 50% of all my distributed copies (electronic and print) are paid above a nominal price.					
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18. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner Communications Manager				Date 09-25-18	

I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).

Lend Your Voice to Rural America

In 2016, rural America played a big part in our national elections – 500,000 MORE rural voters went to the polls than in 2012. This is an incredible story, as many in small towns and communities across our country went to the polls to ensure their voices were heard and elected officials took notice. But, elections matter EVERY year.

2018 will be no different and electric cooperatives have the opportunity to play a vital role in encouraging rural voter turnout and engaging on issues that matter most to us. This year, we must build on the momentum we started in 2016, to join with 42 million members of electric cooperatives around the country and remind our elected officials that rural issues matter.

Electric co-ops are not-for-profit energy providers that are owned by the members they serve. They provide coverage for 88 percent of our nation’s counties. They are a foundation in their communities and their members can make a difference in lending their voices to issues like rural infrastructure and broadband and maintaining access to affordable, reliable electricity.

To ensure that all electric co-op members do continue the

drumbeat that started in 2016, the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) will continue the successful Co-ops Vote program. This is a non-partisan initiative that remains quite simple at its core: to ensure that members are registered to vote and they go to the polls for every election and to ensure rural issues remain part of the national discussion.

By participating in the Co-ops Vote program in 2018, co-op members continue to send a resounding message that all candidates – at all levels – will need to put rural America’s concerns front and center in order to earn our vote. We proved in 2016 that with millions of electric co-op members speaking out with one voice, we can have a major impact in making our top issues part of the national conversation.

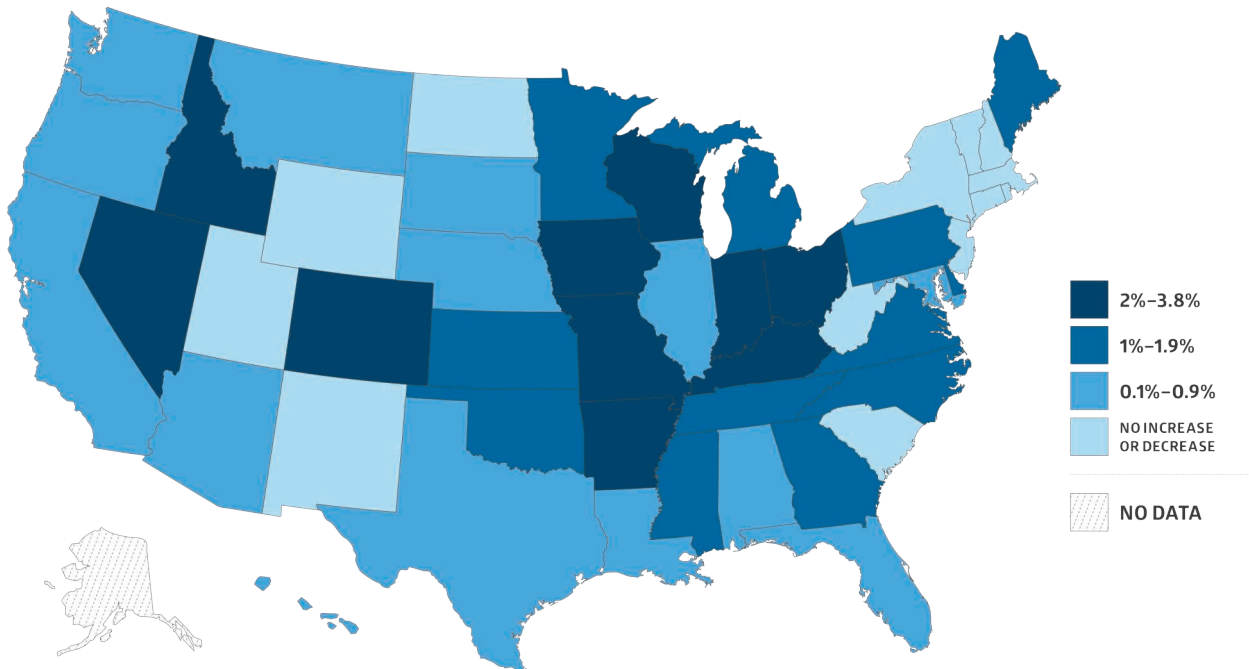
Everyone, regardless of their political beliefs, are encouraged to join America’s electric cooperatives in this national effort. Let’s continue to stand up for the priorities of the rural electric co-op community – it’s more important now than ever. Learn more at www.vote.coop.

CO-OPS VOTE 2016 RURAL TURNOUT



RURAL VOTE vs. URBAN VOTE

This data demonstrates where rural counties had a higher voter percentage turnout in 2016 than their urban and suburban counterparts.



CO-OPS VOTE

A PROGRAM OF AMERICA'S ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES
VOTE.COOP



America's Electric Cooperatives understand what's important to our homes and our communities, and we understand that registering to vote and voting in every

election is vital to protecting our way of life. So is building relationships with elected officials, so they understand the unique issues we face.

Co-ops Vote is designed to boost voter turnout, develop relationships with candidates and elected officials, and ensure that issues that matter in rural America are heard everywhere, from local councils all the way up to the U.S. Capitol.

Co-ops Vote provides the tools to help build those relationships and educate co-op employees, directors and consumer members prior to hitting the polls for every election.

Please join us, and make sure our elected leaders know that we expect them to represent all the people electric cooperatives serve. Learn more at vote.coop.

Follow **CO-OPS VOTE** on social media and stay updated



@CoopsVote

WHAT IS CO-OPS VOTE?

Co-ops Vote is a non-partisan campaign focused on enhancing the political strength of electric cooperatives through relationship building and voter engagement. The main goal of the campaign is to boost voter turnout in cooperative areas, making sure that our members exercise one of their most basic rights - the right to vote. Working in collaboration with states and local co-ops, this effort will educate and engage candidates and voters on important issues like:

- Expanding broadband coverage throughout rural America.
- Ensuring continued access to reliable electricity.
- Promoting the work of co-ops within the communities they serve.

AMERICA'S ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES

- ✓ **833** distribution and **62** G&T cooperatives, a total of **905** co-op members.
- ✓ Serve a total of **42 million** people in **47 states**.
- ✓ Generate 5% of the total electricity in the United States.
- ✓ Own and maintain **2.6 million miles** or **42%** of the nation's electric distribution lines, covering **56%** of the U.S. landmass.
- ✓ Serve **19 million**, businesses, homes, schools, churches, farms, irrigation systems, and other establishments in **88% of US counties**.



WHY IS THE CO-OPS VOTE PROGRAM IMPORTANT?

- We must elect public officials who identify with America's Electric Cooperatives and will vote to support the issues important to 42 million electric cooperative members across the nation.
- Electric cooperatives are a trusted resource in the communities we serve. Voters want to hear from community leaders (like electric co-ops) about important issues.

For more information on **Co-ops Vote** please visit vote.coop or cooperative.com/coopsvote.

Are You Interested in a New Adventure?

Renville-Sibley Cooperative Power Association is beginning to plan for the 81st annual meeting of the membership that will be held March 28, 2019 at the Island Ballroom in Bird Island, Minnesota. Three (3) directors will be elected during that time, each for a three-year term.

The First District, consisting of the townships of Cornish, Severance and Moltke in Sibley County; the townships of Ridgely and West Newton in Nicollet County; and the townships of Cairo, Wellington, Martinsburg, Camp, Bandon and Palmyra in Renville County is represented by Alan Neyers, Whitey Hinderman and Philip Nestande. Whitey Hinderman's term will expire in 2019.

The Second District, consisting of the townships of Honner and Delhi in Redwood County, and the townships of Beaver Falls, Flora, Henryville, Birch Cooley, Norfolk, Melville, Bird Island and Kingman in Renville County is represented by Helen Ruebel, Wayland Zaske and Matt Haubrich. Wayland Zaske's term will expire in 2019.

The Third District, consisting of the townships of Roseland and Holland in Kandiyohi County, Rheiderland in Chippewa County and the townships of Troy, Winfield, Emmet, Crooks, Sacred Heart, Hawk Creek, Ericson and Wang in Renville County is represented by Steve Benson, Gary Peterson and Roger Manthei. Steve Benson's term will expire in 2019.

As stated in the Renville-Sibley bylaws, the following is the Qualifications and Tenure for the position of Director:

- Each director shall be a member of the Cooperative and shall be elected by the members within their respective district at the annual meeting of the members for a term of three years. No member shall be eligible to become or remain a director or to hold any position of trust in the Cooperative who is not a bona fide resident in the area served by the Cooperative, or who is in any way employed by or financially interested in a competing enterprise or a business selling electric energy or supplies to the Cooperative, or a business primarily engaged in selling electrical or space heating/cooling appliances, fixtures, or supplies to the members. When a membership is held jointly by two or more persons, including husband and wife, only one of such joint tenants may be elected a director, provided, however, that neither one shall be eligible to become a director, unless all shall meet the qualifications herein set forth.

Director qualifications required for service to the cooperative shall include:

- A. Must be an individual and must be at least 18 years of age.
- B. Must be competent and able to execute a contract.
- C. Must not have been convicted of a felony or gross misdemeanor during the preceding 5 years prior to becoming a director for the Cooperative or during the period while serving as a director.
- D. Must have a high school diploma or equivalent.
- E. Must make a reasonable effort to become and remain knowledgeable about special issues regarding electric cooperatives by attending training, workshops and seminars.
- F. Must attend at least three-fourths (3/4) of all monthly scheduled board meetings during any twelve (12) month period.

Upon becoming a candidate for and/or to remain a Director, an individual must

complete an annual conflict of interest disclosure form, approved by the Board of Directors. All Directors and/or Director candidates must comply with or meet the following conflict of interest qualifications:

- A. Shall not be a close relative of an existing Director, employee, agent or representative of the Cooperative other than an existing Director who will cease being a Director upon the candidate assuming office;
- B. Within 5 years immediately prior to becoming a Director, shall not have been a Cooperative Officer, employee, agent or representative of the Cooperative or any subsidiary or affiliated company;
- C. Shall not be employed by, materially affiliated with, nor share a material financial interest with any current Director;
- D. Shall not be engaged in any business, nor employed by, nor materially affiliated with, nor have a material financial interest in any individual or entity that:
 1. Is regularly, directly, and substantially competing with the Cooperative or any other entity that the Cooperative controls or in which the Cooperative owns a majority interest (Cooperative Subsidiary).
 2. Is regularly selling goods and services to the Cooperative or the Cooperative Subsidiary.
 3. Possesses a substantial conflict of interest with the Cooperative or the Cooperative subsidiary.
- E. A former Director is ineligible for employment by the Cooperative for five years following the end of the tenure as a Director.

As a Director, the member agrees to:

- Abide by, promote and uphold the Articles of Incorporation and By-laws, both of which can be found on our website, and Policies of Renville-Sibley Cooperative Power Association.
- Attend regular and special Board meetings of the Cooperative.
- Attend, when appointed, committee meeting of the Cooperative.

If anyone should decide to seek candidacy for the board of directors, there are many rewards to be enjoyed when elected. A director has the opportunity to demonstrate their leadership quality and increase

their knowledge within the cooperative business environment and the electric industry. As a director, this person could play a significant role in the future development of Renville-Sibley Cooperative Power Association.

A director also has a very important responsibility which is to uphold and abide by the bylaws of the cooperative. Directors are to act as the trustees for the assets of the cooperative and are assigned the duties of formulating, approving and reviewing the policies that provide guidelines for the cooperative.

The board is responsible for sending representatives to the affiliated association meetings that often include voting requirements. They include East River Electric Power Cooperative, Minnesota Rural Electric Association, Basin Electric Power Cooperative, National Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation, CoBank, Cooperative Network and the National Rural Electric Association.

Directors attend seminars and meetings of several organizations to learn about the industry. Directors are asked to lobby and remain informed on legislative issues that could impact this industry and/or the cooperative way of doing business. The Board meets monthly and reviews financial reports, work plans, annual audits, planning documents and evaluates the cooperative operations while approving budgets and purchases.

Most of all, a director should be available to visit with their constituents and have a genuine spirit of helping others at all times.

Board meetings are typically held on the last Monday of every month, beginning at 9:00 a.m. in December, January and February and beginning at 8:00 a.m. the rest of the year. The estimated time needed to be committed annually is approximately 30 days which includes monthly meetings and committee assignments. Directors are compensated per diem for their time as well as all personal expenses.

If you are interested in becoming a candidate for the Renville-Sibley Board of Directors, contact the Renville-Sibley office at 1-800-826-2593 before Dec. 20 for further information.

What is the true impact livestock development could have on our region?

How can farm families and communities take advantage of these new opportunities?

What is the most economically feasible and environmentally sound path forward?

These and other important questions will be discussed at the first:

LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT SUMMIT

Hosted by your local Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives

NOVEMBER 15, 2018
SDSU CAMPUS, BROOKINGS, S.D.

South Dakota and southwestern Minnesota farm families as well as community leaders who are interested in learning more about emerging livestock development opportunities are encouraged to attend.



Featured Speaker

Barry H. Dunn, PhD
President, South Dakota State University



Panel Discussions

Economic Impact
Young Farmers and Agribusinesses
Financing
Siting, Zoning and Permitting



Networking

Talk with industry experts and other livestock developers

TO REGISTER: visit www.yourcooppower.com/LivestockSummit
COST: FREE! Please RSVP before November 1

Together we are
**RE-ENERGIZING
LIVESTOCK
DEVELOPMENT**



Keep
an eye
on us!

Something
EXCITING
is coming!

October 20

SD State High School Boys and Girls Cross Country Meet, Yankton Trail Park, Sioux Falls, SD

October 20-21

South Dakota State and National Corn Husking Contest, State is on the 20th and National on the 21st, 9 a.m., Flandreau, SD

October 26-27

Harvest Halloween, Yankton, SD, info@harvesthalloween.com

October 26-27

Deadweird, Deadwood, SD, 605-578-1876

October 26-28

ZooBoo, Sioux Falls, SD, 605-367-7003

October 26-28

Autumn Festival, An Arts and Crafts Affair, Sioux Falls, SD, 402-331-2889

October 27

Scare in the Square, Rapid City, SD, 605-716-7979

October 27

ZOO BOO, Watertown, SD, 605-882-6269

October 27-28


Dakota Territory Gun Show, Davison County 4-H Grounds, Mitchell, SD, 605-630-2199

November 1-3

South Dakota Local Foods Conference, Brookings, SD, Contact 605-681-6793 or SDSPAinfo@gmail.com

November 8-10

Ringneck Festival and Bird Dog Challenge, Huron, SD, 605-352-0000



October 20-January 6:
Pheasant Hunting Season,
Statewide, Pierre, SD,
605-223-7660

November 9

Hairball, Deadwood Mountain Grand, Deadwood, SD, 605-559-1188

November 10

Sisseton Area Merchants and Crafters 21st Annual Holiday Extravaganza, Sisseton, SD, 605-698-7425

November 10

Mountain West Beer Fest, Rapid City, SD, 605-343-6161

November 15-December 18

Black Hills Christmas Tree Permit Season, Custer, SD, 605-673-9200

November 16-17

Holiday Arts Christmas Craft Show, Masonic Temple, Mitchell, SD, 605-359-2049

November 17-18

Winterfest: A Winter Arts Festival, Aberdeen, SD, artscouncil@nvc.net

November 20-December 26

Christmas at the Capitol, Pierre, SD, 605-773-3178

November 23-24, Dec. 1-2, 8-9, 15-16, 22-23

1880 Train Holiday Express, Hill City, SD, 605-574-2222

November 29-30

Festival of Trees, Lead, SD, 605-584-2067

December 1

Christmas Stroll and Holidazzle Parade, Spearfish, SD, 605-717-9294

December 1-2

Living Christmas Tree, Aberdeen, SD, 605-229-6349

Dec. 1, 7-8, 13-15, 20-21

Strawbale Winery Twilight Flights, Renner, SD, 605-543-5071

December 8

Community Christmas Musicale, Eureka, SD, 605-284-2161

December 8

Frontier Christmas, Lake City, SD, 605-448-5474

December 8-9

Black Hills Cowboy Christmas, Lead, SD, 605-584-2067

December 9

REO Speedwagon, Deadwood, SD, 605-559-0386

December 14

A Green Dolphin Jazzy Christmas Concert, Spearfish, SD, 605-642-7973

December 15-March 31

South Dakota snowmobile trails season, Lead, SD, 605-584-3896

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.