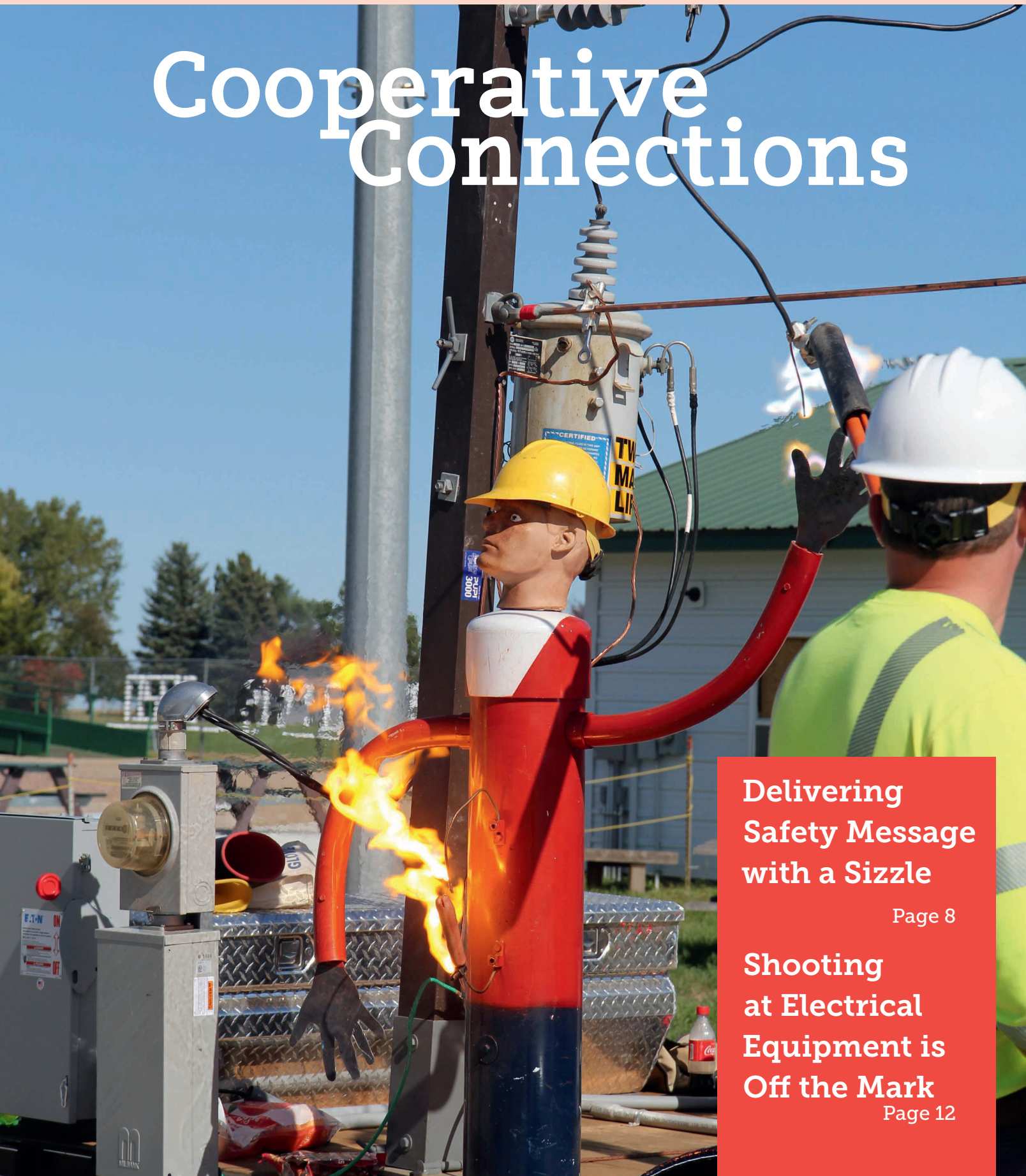


Cooperative Connections



**Delivering
Safety Message
with a Sizzle**

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**Shooting
at Electrical
Equipment is
Off the Mark**

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Providing The Latest Tools and Technology

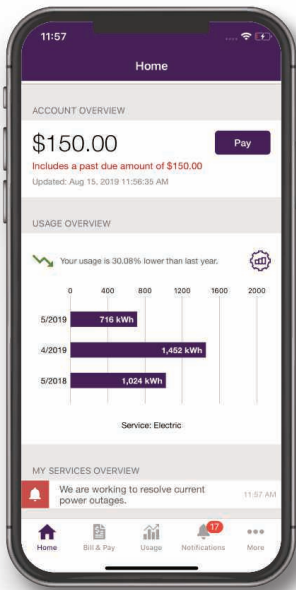
Co-op Tech Talk



Ben Dunsmoor

bdunsmoor@northernelectric.coop

This fall, a newly designed SmartHub app (pictured below) will be pushed out to all users.



Electric cooperatives were formed in South Dakota more than 70 years ago. When co-ops were established there was no electricity in rural areas of the state. Just think about that for a minute. If you know someone who is older than 70 years old, they probably did not have electricity as a child if they grew up in the country.

Times have changed.

Today, electric co-ops not only have the infrastructure and power supply to accommodate the large loads of a modern farm or ethanol plant, but your co-op is also providing the latest technology to give members the power to control their electric use, manage their accounts, and make wise energy decisions. Let's take a look at a few of the programs offered by Northern Electric Cooperative.

SmartHub

SmartHub is your co-op's account management app. This app can be downloaded on your smartphone and you can use this app to pay your bill, set up automatic payments or monitor your yearly, monthly, or daily electric use. Yes, just by logging into the app you can look at how much electricity you used yesterday and then compare it to historical data for your account.

This fall, a newly designed SmartHub app will be pushed out to all users. The new app design will show your electric usage right up front on the home screen along with any account balances and notifications from Northern Electric Cooperative. You can also log in to SmartHub on your laptop or desktop computer. Simply go to www.northernelectric.coop and click on the 'new user' link to register for an account. If you do not have a SmartHub account right now, you will want to sign up because you do not want to miss the updated app.

Third-Party Irrigation and Grain Bin Management Technology

Northern Electric Cooperative and our wholesale power supplier East River Electric Power Cooperative have successfully integrated the co-op's load management system with several third-party companies that have developed smart management applications for grain bins and irrigation. Load management gives members the opportunity to save money by avoiding electric use during periods of high demand throughout the month. The new third-party management systems allow farmers to monitor grain bins, grain drying, and irrigation systems from their smart devices. By integrating load management, users can also use these new systems to manage the electricity they use to dry grain or irrigate crops. Northern Electric Cooperative offers rebates to install this technology. Call the co-op at 605-225-0310 and ask for a member services representative for more information.

These are just a few ways your co-op is implementing the latest technology to benefit the membership. The co-op exists to provide reliable electricity at an affordable cost and technology is allowing us to carry out that mission in new, efficient, and exciting ways.



(USPS 396-040)

Board President: Donna Sharp

Board of Directors

- Nolan Wipf – Vice President
- Ron Kaaz – Secretary
- Josh Larson – Treasurer
- Fran Esser
- Victor Fischbach
- Todd Hettich
- Mark Sumption

CEO/General Manager: Char Hager – info@northernelectric.coop

Chief Financial Officer: Cathi Podoll

Operations Manager: Jerry Weber

Manager of Member Services: Russel Ulmer

Manager of Information Technology: Derek Gorecki

Communications Director: Ben Dunsmoor - bdunsmoor@northernelectric.coop

Executive Secretary: Kay Albrecht

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Postmaster: Please send address changes to Northern Electric Cooperative Connections, PO Box 457, Bath, SD 57427; telephone (605) 225-0310; fax (605) 225-1684

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Northern Electric Cooperative's regular board meeting was held September 19, 2019, at the headquarters in Bath with all directors present. As the first order of business, the Board approved the August 22, 2019, minutes and August expenditures. The Board then reviewed and accepted monthly reports by management.

East River Director Mark Sumption reported on actions taken by the East River Board at the September annual & regular meetings. South Dakota Rural Electric Association Director Nolan Wipf reported that the next SDREA board meeting will be held September 26-27 in Pierre. Directors Francis Esser, Mark Sumption and General Manager Char Hager reported on the 2019 East River Electric Annual Meeting, held September 4 in Sioux Falls. Directors Ronald Kaaz, Nolan Wipf, Mark Sumption, Francis Esser, General Manager Char Hager and Communications Director Ben Dunsmoor reported on the 2019 NRECA Regional Meetings, held September 10-12 in Milwaukee, WI.

Manager's Report

General Manager Char Hager's report to the board included the following items:

- Update and discussion on development projects.
- Legal and Legislative Report.
- Evaluation of the cooperative's 2019 Annual Meeting held September 5 and discussion on next year's meeting.
- Reminder that the 2019 Basin Electric Annual Meeting will be November 6-7 in Bismarck for directors attending.
- Reminder that the 2019 Mid-West Electric Consumers Association annual meeting will be December 9-12 in Denver, CO for directors attending.

- Reported that the 2019 Annual Legislative Issues Forum will be held October 29 in Aberdeen.

Board Report

The board considered and/or acted upon the following:

1. As part of the annual Board reorganization, the Board elected officers as follows: President Donna Sharp, Vice-President Nolan Wipf, Secretary Ronald Kaaz, and Treasurer Josh Larson. Annual signature and transaction authorizations were also approved.
2. Approved the date and time of the next regular board meeting for 8:30 A.M. on Thursday, October 24, 2019.
3. Set the 2020 Annual Meeting date for Tuesday, September 22, to be held in Aberdeen.
4. Approved payment of legal fees for Harvey Oliver in the amount of \$2,652.38.
5. Approved third quarter requests for capital credit retirements of \$22,678.04.
6. Approved Work Order Inventories #19-08 for \$43,197.77 and deficit #19-08MC for -\$30.00 to be submitted to the Rural Utilities Service for reimbursement from loan funds for electric plant construction already completed.
7. Approved resolution to authorize execution for RUS Form 595 Financial Requirement and Expenditure.
8. Approved a donation of \$1,000 for Homes are Possible, Inc.
9. Approved a donation of \$500 for Ipswich Tiger Post Out of School Program.

Talk to your director or co-op manager if you have questions on any of these matters.

Financial Report	August 2019	August 2018
kWh Sales	20,175,078 kWh	22,904,761 kWh
Electric Revenues	\$2,066,540	\$2,257,843
Total Cost of Service	\$2,078,903	\$2,246,959
Operating Margins	(-\$12,362)	\$10,884
Year To Date Margins	\$360,293	\$309,158

Residential Average Monthly Usage and Bill

	August 2019	August 2018
Usage	1,298 kWh	1,349 kWh
Cost	\$170.22	\$175.63
Cost per kWh	.1311 per kWh	.1302 per kWh

Wholesale power cost, taxes, interest, and depreciation accounted for 81.1% of NEC's total cost of service.

Electrical Safety Tips to Help Protect Homes and Businesses

Every year, electrical equipment, wiring, appliances and tools cause injuries and fires at both homes and workplaces.

Paying close attention to the condition of electrical equipment and taking appropriate and prompt action to correct electrical problems can help to ensure your safety and the safety of those around you.

Below are guidelines to help identify and reduce electrical hazards.

Electrical Outlet Safety

- Avoid overloading outlets with too many appliances, and ensure that electrical loads are appropriate for the circuits.
- Unplug appliances when they are not in use to conserve energy, as well as minimize the opportunities for electric shock or fire.
- Use outlets instead of relying on extension cords and power strips. Consider having additional permanent outlets installed where needed.
- Use Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters (GFCIs) in wet/damp areas like kitchens, bathrooms and outdoors.

Electrical Cord Safety

- Inspect electrical cords to ensure that they are not frayed, cracked or damaged.
- Do not place electrical cords in high traffic areas, under carpets, or across doorways where they pose a potential tripping hazard or could be easily damaged.

Certification and Awareness

- Ensure that all electrical products and equipment are certified by a nationally recognized testing laboratory, such as Underwriters Laboratories (UL), and read the manufacturer's instructions carefully.
- Allow only trained and qualified electrical workers to perform work on electrical equipment.
- Be aware of signs of electrical problems such as flickering lights and/or buzzing, sizzling or humming sounds from electrical systems.

Source: acadiainsurance.com



KIDS CORNER SAFETY POSTER



"Never jerk cords out of the outlets; grip the plug only."

Traci Tschetter, 8 years old

Traci is the daughter of Ryan and Elaine Tschetter, Revillo, S.D. They are members of Whetstone Valley Electric Cooperative, Milbank, S.D.

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.

Slow Cooker Sensations

Slow Cooker Egg Casserole

1 (32 oz.) bag frozen hash browns	1-1/2 cups shredded Cheddar cheese
1 lb. ham, cooked and cubed	12 eggs
1 onion, finely chopped	1 cup milk
1 green pepper, chopped	1/2 tsp. salt
1 T. olive oil	1/2 tsp. pepper

Spray inside of slow cooker with cooking spray. In a small frying pan, saute onion and green pepper in oil until tender. Cool 10 minutes. Place 1/3 frozen hash browns in slow cooker. Add 1/3 ham, onion and green pepper mixture and cheese. Repeat layers, ending with cheese. In large bowl, beat eggs, milk, salt and pepper until well blended. Pour over hash browns. Cook, covered, on LOW for 10 to 12 hours or overnight until casserole is set and eggs are thoroughly cooked. Serves 12.

Mary Jessen, Holabird, SD

Cream Cheese Chicken Taquitos

2 boneless chicken breasts	8 oz. cream cheese
1 tsp. chili powder	1/3 cup water
1 tsp. garlic powder	1/2 cup shredded cheese
1 tsp. cumin	12 6-inch flour tortillas

Combine chicken, chili powder, garlic powder, cumin, cream cheese and water in slow cooker. Cover and cook on LOW for 8 hours or 4 hours on HIGH. Place 1/4 cup chicken mixture into each tortilla. Top with 1 to 2 T. shredded cheese. Roll tightly and place in a single layer on greased baking sheet. Bake at 400°F. for 10 minutes or until tortillas are slightly browned and cheese is melted.

Cortney Reedy, Tea, SD

Pork Sausage and Rice

2 boxes Uncle Ben's Wild Rice	1 (8 oz.) can of mushrooms
1 lb. seasoned pork sausage	1 (10.5-oz.) can cream of mushroom soup

Prepare Uncle Ben's rice as directed. Brown pork sausage. Combine all ingredients in slow cooker. Cook on LOW for 3 to 4 hours.

Robert Bernhardt, Aberdeen, SD

Slow Cookers Tamale Pie

2 lbs. lean ground beef	1 (4 oz.) can chopped green chiles
1 pkg. McCormick® Slow Cookers Chili Seasoning	1/2 cup water
2 (14.5 oz. each) cans stewed tomatoes, cut-up	Topping:
1 (14.5 oz.) can kidney or pinto beans, drained and rinsed	1 (8.5 oz.) box corn muffin mix
	1/2 cup shredded Cheddar cheese

Cook ground beef in large skillet on medium-high heat until no longer pink; drain. Place in slow cooker. Add Seasoning Mix, tomatoes, beans, chiles and water; mix well. Cover. Cook 8 hours on LOW or 4 hours on HIGH. For the Cornbread Topping, if using low setting, increase to HIGH. Prepare corn muffin batter as directed on package. Drop batter by spoonfuls on top of simmering chili. Cover. Cook 30 minutes longer or until toothpick inserted into center of cornbread topping comes out clean. Sprinkle with cheese. Makes 10 servings.

Nutritional Information Per Serving: Calories 362, Total Fat 14g, Cholesterol 89mg, Sodium 9340mg, Protein 26g, Carbohydrates 33g, Dietary Fiber 4g

Pictured, Cooperative Connections

Mississippi Pot Roast

1 3 to 4 lb. chuck roast	1/4 cup butter
1 pkg. ranch dressing mix	4 to 5 pepperoncini peppers with some juice
1 pkg. au jus gravy mix	

Place roast in slow cooker. Sprinkle dressing mix and au jus mix on top. Place peppers on top of the mixes; add butter. Cook on LOW 8 hours. *Note: Do not add any water or broth to this. It will make enough liquid as it cooks.*

Jean Osterman, Wheaton, MN

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 2019. All entries must include your name, mailing address, telephone number and cooperative name.

More Than 400 Attend 2019 Annual Meeting

New District 2 Director Seated During 72nd Annual Meeting

Ben Dunsmoor

bdunsmoor@northernelectric.coop

The 2019 Northern Electric Cooperative Annual Meeting provided hundreds of co-op members and their guests with a free meal and an update about the operation of the cooperative. The meeting was held on Thursday, September 5, at the Aberdeen Civic Arena and Theatre.

More than 400 attendees were served a meal that was catered by Big Fella's Bar and Grill of Aberdeen. Members were also given the opportunity to engage with different co-op employees and departments which had displays and information set up throughout the evening. Members of the Northern Electric line crew gave kids and adults a glimpse of what it is like to work for the co-op by offering them bucket truck rides outside the arena.

Northern Electric General Manager/CEO Char Hager and Board of Directors President Donna Sharp gave the 165 registered members in attendance updates about the co-op during the business meeting. Retired board members Wayne Holt and Randy Kienow were recognized for their years of service during the meeting.

Sharp was unopposed and re-elected to her third term on the board of directors during the business meeting. Nolan Wipf of Hitchcock was also unopposed and was re-elected to his second three-year term. Todd Hettich of Mina, South Dakota,



The 2019 Northern Electric Annual Meeting was held at the Aberdeen Civic Arena and Theatre on September 5.



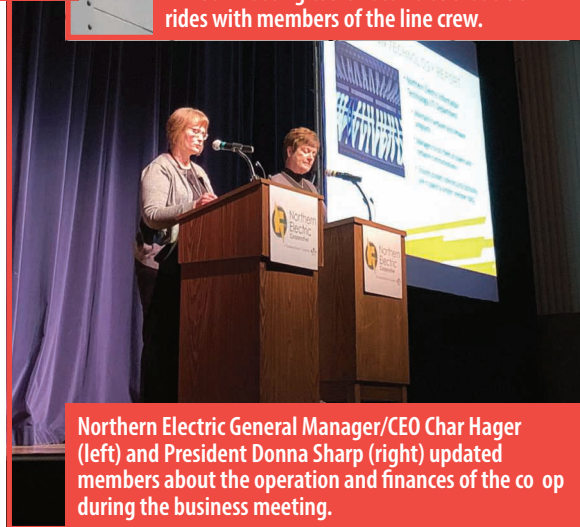
More than 400 members enjoyed a free meal catered by Big Fella's of Aberdeen.



Kids who attended the 2019 Northern Electric Annual Meeting could receive bucket truck rides with members of the line crew.

was officially seated as the new director for District 2 because he was the only member to submit a qualifying petition for the position.

Several prizes were given away to attendees following the business meeting. Darwin and Mary Bettmann of Aberdeen won the grand prize which was a \$200 bill credit.



Northern Electric General Manager/CEO Char Hager (left) and President Donna Sharp (right) updated members about the operation and finances of the co op during the business meeting.

Co-op Board of Directors Elects Three New Officers

The Northern Electric Cooperative Board of Directors elected three new officers during its September meeting.

Donna Sharp of Bath, who represents District 5, was re-elected to serve as president. Sharp was elected to serve her third term on the board during the 2019 Annual Meeting. She has been serving as the president of the board of directors since 2017.

Nolan Wipf was elected to serve as the new vice president of the Northern Electric Board of Directors. Wipf takes over as the vice president after serving as secretary of the board. Wipf is from Hitchcock and also serves as Northern Electric's representative on the statewide South Dakota Rural Electric Association (SDREA) Board of Directors.

Directors elected Ron Kaaz to serve as the new secretary of the co-op board. Kaaz is

currently serving his first term after he was seated on the board in 2018. Kaaz is from rural Aberdeen and represents members in District 3.

Josh Larson of Columbia was elected as the Northern Electric Cooperative Board of Directors Treasurer. Larson was elected to the board in 2017 and is also currently serving his first term. Larson represents members in District 4.



Donna Sharp
President
Bath, SD



Nolan Wipf
Vice President - SDREA Rep.
Hitchcock, SD



Ron Kaaz
Secretary
Aberdeen, SD



Josh Larson
Treasurer
Columbia, SD



165 members registered for the 72nd Northern Electric Annual Meeting and more than 400 members and guests were served a free meal at the Aberdeen Civic Arena.



Dakota Energy lineman Brandon Moore draws an arc on the high voltage demonstration as DEC's Greg Palmer explains the dangers of getting close to electrical equipment.

CO-OPS DELIVER SAFETY MESSAGE

High Voltage Trailer Brings Safety Messages to Local Communities

Brenda Kleinjan

editor@sdrea.coop

The hum of electric current arcing can be heard split seconds before the eye registers the glowing arc on the wire and the flames shooting from the ends of a grapefruit attached to a human-like model of the rural electric cooperatives' high voltage demonstration trailer.

As the hum subsides and the gasps of Miller High School students dwindle, Dakota Energy Cooperative's Greg Palmer continues his explanation of electricity's need to find a path to ground.

"This will show you what would happen to your body



Moore shows the scorched insides of a grapefruit that had been used on the high voltage demonstration trailer.

Photos by Brenda Kleinjan/SDREA

“This will show you what would happen to your body internally if you were to come in contact with 7,200 watts of electricity.”

internally if you were to come in contact with 7,200 volts of electricity,” said Palmer, who works out of the Huron, S.D.-based cooperative’s Miller office. Palmer, along with lineman Brandon Moore were part of the Miller High School FFA Chapter’s Ag Safety Day in early October.

The duo used a newly constructed demonstration trailer used by South Dakota’s electric cooperatives to deliver safety messages to student groups, community groups, fire departments and others across the state. The co-ops have been using one trailer for more than two decades and this fall added the second trailer to the safety fleet.

Moore continues the demonstration, draws an arc on the example power lines.

“Electricity travels at the speed of light – you can’t just let go,” explains Palmer. “You can’t see it, you can’t smell it. The only time you see it is when something bad is about to happen.”

Moore removes the grapefruit from the demonstration trailer and cuts it in half.

With this grapefruit, it looks normal from the outside, you can see where the electricity went in and out. But when you cut it open, you see what it does to the inside of the body – it chars everything,” Palmer explains.

“You’ve heard the same story before: don’t climb on the green boxes, don’t fly kites near power lines. But especially this time of year, be aware of where power lines and underground boxes are located,” Palmer said.



Employees at Moreau-Grand Electric helped construct the state’s second High Voltage Demonstration trailer used by South Dakota electric cooperatives.

Photo by Roger Lawien/Moreau-Grand

“This morning we changed a pole because someone ran into it with a (silage) chopper and broke it off,” Palmer said.

Palmer went on to explain that if an accident like that happens and the power line comes in contact with the equipment or tractor, the best plan is to stay in the tractor or piece of equipment until the line can be de-energized.

For information about bringing this safety demonstration or other safety demonstrations to your school, community group or fire department, contact your local electric cooperative.



Miller High School students examine the insides of a hotdog held by Dakota Energy’s Greg Palmer. The hotdog is used as an example of what an electrical contact can do to human muscle. On the Cover: Flames shoot out the ends of an energized hotdog as Brandon Moore guides an electrical current into the demonstration unit to show the impact an electric contact has on the human body.



Northern Electric Cooperative Customer Service Representative Diann Brenner (right) talks with high school students about the career opportunities available at the co op during the 'Career Here!' career fair in Redfield on September 19.



A high school student at the 'Career Here!' event pictures what it would look like to be a lineworker.

Career Here! Focused On Keeping Youth In Community

Ben Dunsmoor

bdunsmoor@northernelectric.coop

More than 250 area students from five different high schools learned about the career opportunities that are available in their hometowns during the second annual Career Here! event September 19. The event was held in Redfield and featured displays and information from 30 different area businesses and technical schools. It is organized to show high school students that there are quality careers available in their backyards.

“Many students move away to complete a college education or to work and do not come back simply because they are unaware of the career opportunities that exist right here at ‘home,’” Grow Spink Inc. Executive Director Gianna Lantero said.

Grow Spink partnered with Beadle and Spink Enterprise Community (BASEC), On Hand Development, the Redfield School, Redfield Parks & Rec, Lake Area Tech, the Northeast South Dakota Area Health and Education Center, and community member Margot Gillette to put on the event for the second straight year.

Northern Electric Cooperative has participated in Career Here! during the first two years. Northern Electric discusses all the potential careers that are available at the cooperative. High school students can learn what it takes to become a lineworker but they also discover that there are careers in accounting, member services, information technology, dispatch, and marketing available at electric cooperatives across the state.

“We want students to form those connections with local businesses in the hope that they will return once their education is complete.”

“This is a hands-on experience so there is a lot to do and see,” Lantero said. “It is a chance for students to interview

businesses on the opportunities that exist within their companies such as job types, scholarships, and internships. We encourage students to visit with businesses that they would not normally be interested in. From the feedback we have received, they have been surprised at the information they were provided and were able to form new connections.”

High school students from Redfield, Northwestern, Hitchcock-Tulare, Wolsey-Wessington, and Miller participated in the event this year. According to Grow Spink, 68 percent of the students who attended the Career Here! event said they would come back to work in the area if there were careers available.

“We want students to form those connections with local businesses in the hope that they will return once their education is complete or even stick around to work right after high school,” Lantero said. “This event is important for students to come to more than once. They need to be reminded often of the opportunities that exist within the area.”

Opportunities that are available in their own backyards and are on display for the students who attend Career Here!



Northern Electric Cooperative Director Vic Fischbach (second from left) presents three co-op donations to Kathy Larson (second from right), Craig Oberle (right), and Ryan Brick (left) for the Mellette Community Center.

Co-ops Donate To Mellette Project

New Community Center Set To Open In October

Mellette will open its new community center in October following more than three years of planning and fundraising. The Mellette Community Development Foundation started working on the project in 2016 and construction of the new 5,000 square foot facility will be completed this fall.

The building is being constructed next to the post office on Main Street in Mellette and will replace the old Legion Hall. The Legion Hall was built in 1948 and was not equipped to host most community functions. The new facility will include a kitchen, bathrooms, and a large open area for events such as graduation parties, charity fundraisers, weddings, and various

community gatherings.

The cost of the new Mellette Community Center is \$730,000. The project is being partially funded with a state Community Development Block Grant which will match up to \$307,000 in local donations from individuals and businesses. Northern Electric Cooperative has teamed up with wholesale power providers East River Electric Power Cooperative and Basin Electric Power Cooperative to donate more than \$5,000 to the project. The most recent donation was made at the end of September. The Mellette Community Development Center has received more than \$225,000 in total donations since the project began three years ago.



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We are dedicated to supporting small business in rural communities. Providing tools, technology and economic development resources to keep hardworking men and women moving things forward is one of our top initiatives. Nothing makes us stronger than your local success.

Together we are

**RE-
ENERGIZING
RURAL**



Don't Shoot!

Vandals and Errant Shots Wreak Havoc with Equipment

Brenda Kleinjan

editor@sdrea.coop

"You get really cold weather and the line tightens up and that's when you'll see those weak spots break."

With fall comes an increase of outdoor hunting activities.

One thing not on any responsible hunter's bag list is electrical equipment.

The irresponsible actions of those firing the shots can have costly – and untimely – consequences for electric cooperative members.

Shots fired at electric equipment can cause immediate, noticeable damage, often times causing for emergency, after-hours dispatch of crews to locate and repair the problem disrupting power to members.

Other times, the damage weakens a line or piece of equipment. Time, weather or storms can cause the weakened area to fail, likely at an inconvenient time for members.

"It never comes at a convenient time," said Dale Schwagel, line superintendent at Traverse Electric Cooperative in Wheaton, Minn., of when the damage occurs...and when past damage usually surfaces.

"You get really cold weather and the line tightens up and that's when you'll see



Fall decor at some South Dakota electric cooperatives carry an important safety reminder about not shooting at or near power lines.



Bullet holes caused by vandals riddle a co op transformer.



Routers are being installed at Traverse Electric Cooperative in Wheaton, Minn., as part of a system-wide meter upgrade.

When vandals target power lines and electrical apparatus, system reliability is at stake.



A newly installed router at Traverse Electric Cooperative in Wheaton, Minn., was destroyed by a vandal's bullet, causing more than \$1,600 in damage.

those weak spots break,” said Schwagel.

The co-op has been relatively vandal-free for the last several years.

However, this summer the co-op encountered damage to newly installed routers which are part of a system-wide meter upgrade.

Schwagel estimates the cost of the damage will total more than \$2,500 once labor is tacked on to replacing the \$1,600 piece of equipment.

“Shooting this piece of equipment is a cost to the co-op and the members. Ultimately that’s where the costs go,” said Schwagel.

If you see damage to co-op equipment, report it to the co-ops so repairs can be made.

Home Heating Help Available For Winter

South Dakotans who need help paying their heating bills this winter can request energy assistance from the Department of Social Services (DSS). Energy Assistance can help low-income families pay for heating costs; however, the assistance does not cover all costs associated with heating. Funds for the Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) are distributed on a first-come basis for meter readings from October 1 – May 15.

To be eligible for the South Dakota DSS Low Income Energy Assistance Program

households must:

- Complete the DSS Low Income Energy Assistance Application
- The total gross income of the household must not exceed maximum income guidelines. (chart below)
- The applicant must be responsible for paying the home heating costs.

DSS also has an Energy Crisis Intervention Program (ECIP) that is available from October 1 – March 31. This program offers income-eligible households emergency

assistance if they have a disconnection notice for their heat source or an eviction notice if the heat bill is included with rent.

For more information – or to obtain an application for LIEAP – contact DSS:

- **Website:** <http://dss.sd.gov/economicassistance/lowincome.aspx>
- **Phone:** 1-800-233-8503

LIEAP applications can also be picked up at one of the Northern Electric Cooperative offices in Bath or Redfield.

2019-2020 Heating Season LIEAP Income Limits	
Household Size	Maximum 3-Month Income
1 Person	\$5,464
2 Person	\$7,398
3 Person	\$9,332
4 Person	\$11,266
5 Person	\$13,199
6 Person	\$15,133
7 Person	\$16,836
8 Person	\$17,210
9 Person	\$17,944
10 Person	\$19,601

Source: South Dakota Department of Social Services



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Person with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, 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:

Mail:
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of Asst. Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410

Fax:
(202) 690-7442; or

Email:
program.intake@usda.gov

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**ADDING A NEW
GRAIN BIN?
MAKE THE
SAFE CALL.**

Contact your local Touchstone Energy Cooperative before you add, move or upgrade any building on your farm. It's the best way to stay safe around power lines and comply with any regulations.

**RE-ENERGIZING
FARM SAFETY**



STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION
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15. Extent and Nature of Circulation	Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
a. Total Number of Copies	4,820	4,827
b. Paid Circulation		
(1) Paid Outside-County Mail Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541	1,413	1,404
(2) Mailed In-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541	3,251	3,265
(3) Paid Distribution Outside the Mails Including Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Paid Distribution Outside USPS	0	0
(4) Paid Distribution by Other Classes of Mail Through the USPS	0	0
c. Total Paid Distribution	4,663	4,669
d. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution		
(1) Free or Nominal Rate Outside-County Copies included on PS Form 3541	77	78
(2) Free or Nominal Rate In-County Copies included on PS Form 3541	80	80
(3) Free or Nominal Rate Copies Mailed at Other Classes Through the USPS	0	0
(4) Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail	5	5
e. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution	162	163
f. Total Distribution	4,825	4,832
g. Copies not Distributed	45	45
h. Total	4,870	4,877
i. Percent Paid	97%	97%
16. Electronic Copy Circulation		
a. Paid Electronic Copies	0	0
b. Total Paid Print Copies	4,663	4,669
c. Total Print Distribution	4,825	4,832
d. Percent Paid	97%	97%
17. Publication of Statement of Ownership will be printed in the November 2019 issue of this publication.		
Ben Dunsmoor, Editor		9/25/2019

October 19

4th Annual Fall Festival, East Pierre Landscape and Garden Center, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Pierre, SD, 605-224-8832

October 19-January 5

Pheasant Hunting Season, Statewide, Pierre, SD, 605-223-7660

October 25-27

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

October 25-27

ZooBoo, Great Plains Zoo, Sioux Falls, SD, 605-367-7003

October 26

ZOO BOO, Bramble Park Zoo, Watertown, 605-882-6269

October 26

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

October 31-November 2

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

November 1-2

First Chance Bonanza, PRCA Rodeo, Brookings, SD, www.suttonrodeo.com

November 2

Fall Fling Craft/Vendor Fair, Dakota Christian School, Corsica, SD, 605-243-2211

November 8-10

Christmas at the Barn by Front Porch 605, Groton, SD, 605-216-4202

November 9

Team Turton's Ninth Annual Little Black Dress Event, 5 to 9 p.m., Gym, Turton, SD, 605-460-6153



Photo courtesy: Harvest Halloween

November 9

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

November 9

Hairball, Mitchell, SD, 605-995-8430

November 15-December 18

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

November 16

Christmas Craft Fair, Legion Hall on Main Street, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Free admission, Tripp, SD, Contact Becki Hauser at 605-480-3009

November 22-23

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

November 22-January 5

Winter Wonderland, Sioux Falls, SD, 605-275-6060

November 23-24

Winterfest: A Winter Arts Festival, Aberdeen, SD, 605-226-1557

November 26-December 26

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

November 29-30

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

November 30

Holiday Celebration and Winter Market, Rapid City, SD, 605-716-7979

December 6-7

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

December 7

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

December 7

Holidazzle Light Parade, Spearfish, SD, 605-717-9294

December 7-8, 14-15, 21-24 and 27-28

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

December 14-15

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

December 15-March 31

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

January 7-9

Dakota Farm Show, Vermillion, SD, 800-873-1411

January 16-17

Media One Funski, Sioux Falls, SD, 605-339-0000

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.