

CURRENT CONNECTION

June 2017

www.calhounrec.coop

Calhoun County REC

Rockwell City, IA 50579 • (712) 297-7112 • (800) 821-4879

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



To appoint nominating committee

Excerpts from bylaws

The following is the process involved in the nomination of Calhoun County REC members for election to the Board of Directors. Three directors will be elected at the 81st Annual Meeting which will be held on September 7, 2017. Section 3. It shall be the duty of the Board to appoint, not less than 40 nor more than 90 days before the date of a meeting of the members at which directors are to be elected, a committee on nominations, consisting of three members from each district from which a director is elected. No members of the Board may serve on such committee. The committee shall prepare and post at the principal office of the Cooperative at least 30 days before the meeting, a list of those candidates nominated from each district from which a director is to be elected. The committee is encouraged, but not required, to nominate at least two candidates for each director to be elected.

Any fifteen (15) or more members from a district from which a Director is to be elected, acting together, may make other nominations for Director from their district by petition not less than 20 days prior to the meeting and the Secretary shall post such nominations at the same place where the list of nominations made by the committee is posted. TL258

Congratulations Graduates!

Congratulations to the winners of our Calhoun County REC \$500 scholarships!

Brandon Assman is the son of Brad & Trisha Assman and a senior at South Central Calhoun. Brandon plans on attending Northwest Iowa Community College in Sheldon.

Kennedy Stern is the daughter of Ken & Kasey Stern and a senior at Southeast Valley. Kennedy plans on attending Morningside College in Sioux City.

Logan Fonken is the son of Jim & Pat Fonken and a senior at South Central Calhoun. Logan plans on attending The University of Iowa in Iowa City.

We want to congratulate all seniors from the surrounding areas and wish them great success in their future endeavors.



Brandon Assman



Kennedy Stern



Logan Fonken

Happy Father's Day!! REC Employees are Dads too



Chad Krukow



Doug LeMonds



Jared Kuhlert



Ben Wiederin



Bret McAlister



Keaton Hildreth

*Not pictured
are Line
Superintendent
Mike Terwilliger
and Accountant/
Office Mgr Rob
Peterson*

Calhoun County REC Board Approves Allocation to Members

Patronage allocation for 2016 has been applied to all Calhoun County REC member-owner's patronage accounts that received service in 2016. A message will appear on a future energy bill identifying your 2016 allocation.

Deferred patronage allocations are revenues exceeding the operating expenses of the Cooperative that are shown on the books as margins. This is allocated back to the member-owners as patronage and is in proportion to the amount you paid to the Cooperative for electric service in 2016.

At the present time, the patronage has no cash value and cannot be used in payment of electric bills or any other bill owed to the Cooperative. Even if you move off the lines, the patronage cannot be paid to you until that year is approved by the Board of Directors to be refunded.

The only time patronage can be refunded, other than the Board of Directors approving a scheduled year, is if the owner becomes deceased. The executor would need to complete the required paper work. Estates are usually refunded in July and December when approved by the Board of Directors.

Please keep the Cooperative informed when you have a change of address, this way any patronage checks will come directly to you.

SAVE THE DATE: Annual Meeting Set for September 7th

Calhoun County REC's Annual Meeting will be held at the Calhoun County Expo Building located in the city park in Rockwell City on Thursday, September 7, 2017. The general business session will be called to order at 6:30 p.m. In addition to reports being presented that cover our 2016 operations, a major item of business will be the election of three directors to serve a term of three years each. Directors whose terms expire at the Annual Meeting and are eligible for re-election in September are:

District #1 – Jim Miller District #3 – Jason McKenney District #5 – John Wahl

A nominating committee will be named at the June board meeting and given the task of nominating qualified candidates to run for each of these positions. Once the slate of candidates is chosen, members will be given the opportunity to vote by mail or at the Annual Meeting, September 7th. A detailed explanation of the nominating and election process will be provided in the next newsletter.

Calhoun County REC Advocates for Co-op Member-Owners in Washington, D.C.

Calhoun County REC CEO Roxanne Carisch, along with more than 35 other representatives from Iowa's electric cooperatives, recently returned from a successful trip to the nation's capital. While in Washington, D.C., the advocates attended high-level briefings on key issues impacting the electric industry and met with Iowa's Congressional Delegation to discuss priorities. While many issues were discussed, Iowa's electric co-ops focused on the key issues of the President's budget proposal.

In meetings with the Senate Agricultural Committee and USDA Rural Development officials, Iowa electric co-op advocates talked about the importance of the Rural Economic Development Loan & Grant program (REDL&G) and how these investments have improved the quality of life in the rural communities we serve.

Key issues were discussed with the staff of Iowa's six Congressional offices. Information was provided on the following issues:

- **Farm Bill Reauthorization**
- **REDL&G Funding at Risk**
- **Rural Utilities Services (RUS) Investments in Secure, Reliable Infrastructure**
- **Geothermal Tax Credits**

The advocacy fly-in was a valuable opportunity to connect with elected officials and share rural concerns. "I believe the staff of Iowa's Congressional Delegation now have a better understanding of how legislation and regulations being discussed in Congress would affect the affordability and reliability of electricity in Iowa," remarked Roxanne Carisch, CEO Calhoun County REC.



CEO Roxanne Carisch with Senator Joni Ernst in Washington D.C.

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

BLT PASTA SALAD

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 (16 ounce) package medium seashell pasta
- 1 pound sliced bacon
- 1 1/2 cups light Ranch-style salad dressing
- 1 small onion, chopped
- 2 tomatoes, chopped

DIRECTIONS:

1. Bring a large pot of lightly salted water to a boil. Add the pasta, and cook until tender, about 8 minutes. Drain, and rinse under cold water to cool.
2. Meanwhile, cook the bacon in a large deep skillet over medium-high heat until browned and crisp. Remove from the pan and drain on paper towels.
3. In a large bowl, stir together the Ranch dressing, onion, and tomatoes. Mix in the cooled pasta. The pasta will absorb some of the dressing, so don't worry if it seems like too much. Refrigerate for several hours or overnight. Crumble bacon over the top just before serving.



Cost-of-service study underway

Calhoun County REC's current rate structure, established on Jan. 1, 2015 has allowed us to meet our financial obligations and provide members with safe, reliable and affordable power for several years. Your Board of Directors recognized that due to rising costs with wholesale power a rate change will be necessary.

In August of 2016 a 10% increase in wholesale power cost was implemented by our Super G&T Basin Power Electric. This was due to market conditions that dramatically changed since the power supplier set its 2016 rate, lower than anticipated member sales, decreased revenue from non-member sales, added costs to operate generation facilities and generation and transmission investments needed to reliably serve memberships. 11C34EA

The staff has been working with a third party consultant to conduct a cost-of-service study (COS). The cost-of-service study is generally recognized as an important rate making tool that ensures a utility's rates reflect the cost of providing service to a variety of account classes (e.g. farm, residential and commercial). The goal is to design a rate structure that ensures Calhoun County REC's cost of providing service is covered and everyone pays their fair share.

As a not-for-profit cooperative, we don't raise rates to generate

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Donations received by the Calhoun County Fair Board

Each year Calhoun County REC donates to the Calhoun County Exposition. This year the co-op was able to receive matching donations from two of our partners, Basin Power Electric and CoBank. "We are dedicated in demonstrating our "Commitment to Community" as one of our Touchstone Energy core values," explains CEO Roxanne Carisch.



(l to r) Adm Mgr/Mbr Srv Rep Keaton Hildreth, Fair Board members Amanda Johnson, Sara Gemberling and Hillaree Meyer

SPOT YOUR NUMBER

Larry Riblet called in and received a **\$10** credit for spotting his location number in last month's newsletter. Dave Pudenz and Rodney Grodahl missed their opportunity to receive a **\$10** electric bill credit.

Don't forget to read the newsletter and check for your location number. If your location number is spotted, call Calhoun County REC by the 15th of the month and receive a **\$10** credit on your next electric bill.

** Location numbers are located on billing statements. **

PRIVACY POLICY

• **Our Commitment to Privacy**

At the Calhoun County REC, confidentiality is very important to us. As we continue to improve and expand our services and delivery channels, we recognize our customers' need and desire to preserve their privacy and confidentiality. Calhoun County REC recognizes the trust you have placed in us and are committed to safeguarding the privacy of our customer's information. The following policy affirms our continued commitment to preserving customer confidentiality.

• **The Information We Collect**

We receive and retain information about our customers through many sources:

- Information we receive from you on applications or other forms;
- Information about your transactions with us, our affiliates or others; and
- Information we receive from a consumer-reporting agency.

• **The Way We Use Information**

We limit the use and collection of nonpublic personal information to that which is necessary to maintain and administer financial services. We do not share this information with outside parties unless:

- The information is provided to help complete a customer initiated transaction (such as credit reporting agencies, document processing companies, etc.);
- The customer has requested it;
- The disclosure is required by law (e.g., subpoena, investigation of fraudulent activity, etc.); or
- The disclosure is required by banking regulation (e.g., Fair Lending Reporting Act, Home Mortgage Disclosure Act).

• **Limiting Employee Access To Information**

Calhoun County REC limits employee access to customer information to those with a business reason for knowing such information. All of our employees are educated on the importance of confidentiality and customer privacy. Any employee that violates the financial privacy of our customers will be subject to appropriate disciplinary measures and possible termination.

• **Protection of Information via Established Security Procedures**

To prevent unauthorized access, maintain data accuracy, and ensure the correct use of information, we have put in place appropriate physical, electronic, and managerial procedures to safeguard and secure the information.

• **Maintaining Accurate Information**

We have established procedures so that our customers' financial information is accurate, current and complete in accordance with reasonable commercial standards. Calhoun County REC will respond to requests to correct inaccurate information in a timely manner. At the Calhoun County REC, we value our customer relationships. We want you to understand how we use the information you provide and our commitment to ensuring your personal privacy. If you have any questions about how Calhoun County REC protects your information, please contact us at (712) 297-7112 or 800-821-4879. You can email us at info@calhounrec.coop. 19W35GA

Cost-of-service study underway

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profits. We raise rates simply to cover the cost of doing business and only when absolutely necessary. Your Board of Directors and staff at Calhoun County REC will work with our consultant and keep you informed when a new rate structure and possibly a rate adjustment are needed in the future.

**The Calhoun County REC
office will be closed
Tuesday, July 4th to observe
Independence Day.**

**For outage and emergencies
only call 712-297-7112
or 800-821-4879**



Calhoun County REC

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



-- Directors --

Jim Miller, President	Fonda
Terry Finley, V. President	Auburn
Jason McKenney, Secretary	Somers
John Wahl, Treasurer	Rockwell City
LaVerne Arndt	Sac City
Beryl Birkland	Gowrie
Ron Hanson	Pomeroy

-- Office Hours --

Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

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e-mail: info@calhounrec.coop

www.calhounrec.coop

After 4:30 p.m. call 800-821-4879

or 712-297-7112

for outages and emergencies only.

This institution is an equal
opportunity provider and employer.