

Success for CCECA's Member Appreciation & Annual Meeting!

The 87th Annual Meeting of the Members of Calhoun County Electric Cooperative was held on September 7, 2023. Members were invited to the Cooperative's office from 5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. to enjoy a Member Appreciation Event and then a short business meeting began at 6:30 p.m. for those interested.

Members were greeted by employees and directors, followed by a meal of steak sandwiches and hamburgers that were grilled by the Calhoun County Cattlemen. Members and their families were encouraged to participate in the family fun with bucket rides, LED Lucy's photobooth, and strawberry-banana smoothies provided by Stay Grounded Caffe.

Prior to the annual meeting, each member was mailed an Annual Report, which can also be viewed online at www.calhounrec.coop.

One of the primary pieces of the Annual Meeting is the Board Elections. This year, members in District 1, District 3, and District 5 could vote by mail-in ballot or by bringing their ballot to the meeting. Jim Miller (District 1), Jason McKenney (District 3), and Steve Boedecker (District 5) were elected to serve a three-year term on the Board of Directors.

Thank you to all members who participated in the democratic process of your annual meeting.



Do You Mail in your Monthly Payment?

Please double check that your return envelope matches the address below.

Calhoun County ECA
PO Box 312
Rockwell City, IA 50579-0312

Tired of sending a check each month? How about receiving a paper bill? Scan the QR code to see what your options are for paperless statements, notifications, and automatic payments.



SCAN ME

Dobson Pipe Organ Builders Receives Rural Economic Development Loan



Dobson Pipe Organ Builders LTD. was founded in 1974 with the mission to construct the finest pipe organs for churches, schools, public spaces and private individuals. Since their opening, Dobson's has built, shipped, tuned, and installed 99 specialty organs. Of these 99 organs, 97 of them are scattered across the United States from California to Delaware.

You might be thinking, if there are 99 organs total, where are the other two located? Uniquely enough, one of the organs is located at Merton College in Oxford, England, and the other is located at St. James' Church - King Street, in Sydney Australia. To say this small-town business is busy is an understatement, as they are continuously handcrafting these organs even after being displaced by a fire that consumed their building in 2021.

CCECA is happy to announce that this small-town business has chosen to keep their business in Lake City. Thanks to the partnership between CCECA and the Iowa Area Development Group (IADG), Dobson Pipe Organ Builders LTD received a check for \$1,500,000 on August 28, 2023. The business plans to rebuild on the original site located at 200 N Illinois Street in Lake City.

Funding provided for this project was made possible by the Rural Economic Development Loan. The Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant programs provide funding for rural projects through local utility organizations. The USDA provides zero-interest loans to local utilities which they, in turn, pass through to local businesses (ultimate recipients) for projects that will create and retain employment in rural areas.

Groundwork has begun on the new building, and we are excited to see the finished product. The rebuild is estimated to be completed in August 2024.

For more information on Dobson Pipe Organ Builders LTD, please visit their website at: www.dobsonorgan.com.

CCECA NEWS

Shine the Light returns to Lohrville

For the second year in a row, members of the Lohrville Visions Project were nominated by the member-owners of Calhoun County Electric Cooperative to receive the Shine the Light award that is sponsored by



the Touchstone Energy Cooperative of Iowa during the month of June. The purpose of the Shine the light contest is to take notice of the local volunteers that are making a positive difference in their communities. This year's nominees were Ann Gemberling and Mike Moran.

While neither of these individuals received the \$2,500 reward offered through the shine the light contest, CCECA would like to congratulate and thank them for the hard work they are doing in Lohrville.

Welcome to the Calhoun County Business Park

If you've traveled to the corner of Highway 20 and Highway 4 outside of Rockwell City, then you might have noticed a bright new change to the landscape. The placement of a new sign that reads, "Calhoun County Business Park," was welcomed by the park's development team on August 18, 2023. It captures the partnerships between Calhoun County Electric Cooperative Association, Corn Belt Power Cooperative, and Calhoun County Economic Development Corporation, and is a big step forward for the growth and development of the Business Park. It not only puts Calhoun County on the map locally, but it offers a national reach for industries looking to expand and operate on an easily accessible highway system.



Iowa Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

The 2023-2024 Low-income Home Energy Assistance Program has been established to help qualifying low-income Iowa homeowners and renters pay for a portion of their primary heating costs for the winter heating season. The assistance is based on household income, household size, type of fuel, and type of housing. If you are not sure where to apply, please visit <https://humanrights.iowa.gov/dcaa/shere-apply> to contact your local community action agency, Dial 2-1-1, or write to: **LIHEAP, Iowa Dept. of Human Rights, Capital Complex, Des Moines, IA 50319**

Where to apply for temporary financial assistance:
LIHEAP
Iowa Department of Health & Human Services
Capitol Complex
Des Moines, IA 50319

WHEN TO APPLY:

- **Elderly (60 & over) and/or disabled:**
October 1, 2023 to April 30, 2024
- **All other households:**
November 1, 2023 to April 30, 2024

WHAT TO TAKE:

- **Proof of Income** (for all household members age 18 and over) Depending upon your household income type, income documentation from the past 30 days, the last 12 months, or last calendar year, whichever is easier or more beneficial for you.
- **Proof of Social Security Numbers for ALL household members** (documentation required)
- **Most recent heat bill**
- **Most recent electric bill**

WAGE EARNERS:

Please bring copies of your check stubs for the 30-day period preceding the date of application, or a copy of your most recent federal income tax return.

FIXED INCOME:

This income may include: Social Security Benefits, Supplemental Security Income, Veteran's Assistance, Unemployment Insurance, and pensions. Please

bring copies of your check stubs from the previous 30 days.

SELF-EMPLOYED/FARMERS:

Please bring a copy of your most recent federal income tax return.

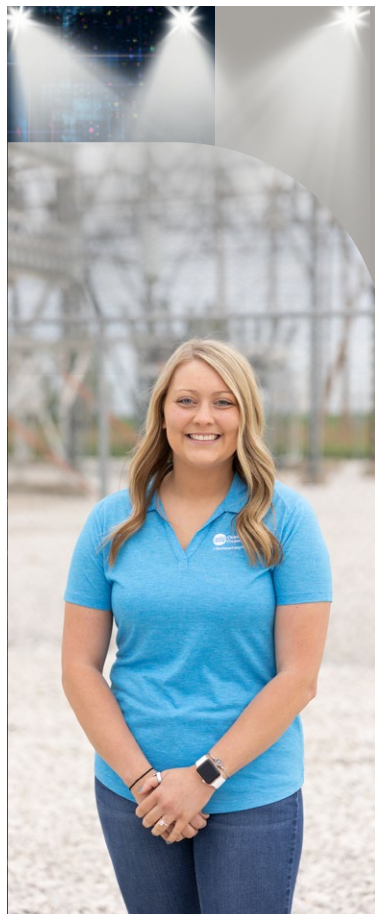
If you receive alimony or child support, it will also need to be verified.

Additional income not listed here may be required.

Income Maximums

Household Size	Annual Gross Income
1	\$29,160
2	\$39,440
3	\$49,720
4	\$60,000
5	\$70,280
6	\$80,560
7	\$90,840
8	\$101,120

For households with more than eight members, add \$10,280 for each additional member.



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Tell us about your family -

I am just recently married to my husband Lance. We live on an acreage near Rockwell City with our dog, Derby!

What does a Member Accounts Manager do at CCECA?

As a Member Account Manager, I am responsible for the monthly billing and accounts receivable process and new services inquiries.

What are you most excited to work on or experience in your new roll?

I am excited to continue to learn about the power industry.

What food could you eat everyday?

Wings or Huhot!

Rachel Sedlacek
Member Accounts Manager

October is National Co-op Month

It might not come as a surprise to our members that Co-ops come in all shapes and sizes. From Co-ops who employ hundreds of people, to Co-ops like ours that employ 11, we all strive for the same common goal of providing affordable and reliable energy for our local communities. This October, as we celebrate Co-op Month, we're focusing on the three ways "Co-ops Grow" for their members.



Co-ops Grow Communities: Co-ops help communities grow by promoting economic empowerment, fostering community engagement, and supporting the unique needs of co-op members. "Concern for Community" is one of our core principles—and being community-focused is essential to everything we do.

Co-ops Grow Together: Co-ops are all about cooperation, not competition. That's why electric co-ops work together to share lessons learned, successful strategies and better ways to serve our members. We're better when we grow together!

Co-ops Grow Tomorrow's Leaders:

Electric co-ops serve as fertile ground for growing tomorrow's leaders through a variety of youth engagement programs. Whether through school demonstrations, community events or the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour program, we're committed to providing opportunities for local youth to learn and thrive in our community and beyond.

Co-ops Grow for You: At Calhoun County Electric Cooperative, your satisfaction is our number one goal. It's why we were formed many years ago to fulfill a uniquely local purpose. We've come a long way since then, and your needs continue to evolve. That's why we'll never stop growing for you!

October Member Challenge

1. Name one fun activity provided at the Member Appreciation Event.

2. Who was nominated for the Shine the light contest? _____ & _____

3. When is the proposed finished date for Dobson Pipe Builders LTD? _____

Name _____

Find the answers within the stories, features, and content of this newsletter and you could win a prize. **Send your answer to member challenge@calhounrec.coop, clip and mail to: Calhoun County Electric Cooperative, PO Box 312, Rockwell City, IA 50579 or submit on our website: www.calhounrec.coop.** You may mail your entry along with your electric bill payment, but remember there is a deadline! Entries for this issue **must be received by November 1st.** Three names will be drawn from all correct entries. Members will receive a **\$10 credit** on their account. Members who answer the questions correctly and participate at least three times throughout the year will be eligible for a \$100 bill credit, through a random drawing, at the end of the year.

Congratulations to the August member challenge winners: Warren Albers, Scott & Rebecca Becker, and Wallace Lott

Reach Us

OFFICE HOURS:

8 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
(Mon-Fri)

Contact 24/7 with the following numbers:

General Phone:

(712) 297-7112

Toll Free:

(800) 821-4879

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Visit us online:

www.calhounrec.coop

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info@calhounrec.coop

DIRECTORS:

Jim Miller, President – Fonda
Steve Boedecker,
Vice President – Rockwell City
Jason McKenney,
Secretary – Somers
Ron Hanson,
Treasurer – Pomeroy
Duane Beschorner – Lohrville
Darcy Maulsby – Lake City
Joe Parker – Lohrville
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(800) 292-8989
BEFORE YOU DIG**

EASY WAYS TO PAY BILL:

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Mobile App: Download our app

Auto Bill Pay (ACH): Deduct from your bank account. Find the form on our website or stop by the office.

Phone: Call the office and make a payment over the phone with a card or checking account.

**Outside Drop Box/
Front Corner:**

Rockwell City, IA

U.S. Postal Mail

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