



Corning | Mount Ayr | Stanton

Southwest lines

A monthly publication for members of Southwest Iowa Rural Electric Cooperative

March 2017

MIB Conference on Energy Efficiency

Southwest Iowa REC joined Iowa's Touchstone Energy cooperatives to celebrate the 25th annual "Momentum Is Building" conference Feb. 8-9 in West Des Moines.

Momentum Is Building provides energy efficiency and electric technology education as well as up-to-date building science information, practical hands-on details and new technology displays for building trades professionals - including homebuilders, electricians, and heating-plumbing contractors. Rural electric cooperative personnel from across Iowa join their local contractors at the conference. The conference seeks to build relationships with trade professionals who influence electric co-op members' decision-making about home building/remodeling, heating, cooling, water heating and energy efficiency.

Attendees from our area included Tim Pfeiffer and Chance Greenman - Southwest Iowa REC; Fred Drake - Drake Electric; Max Smith - Smith Electric; Steve Gilbert - Gilbert Home Comfort; Terry Munyon, Matt Munyon, and Clayton Neas - Munyon Plumbing and Heating; Steve Newton - Newton Construction; Cody Gilbert

and Rick Ferle - Waltz construction; Matt Gilliland and Jason Stalkup - BG Builders; Ed Rotert - Rotert Heating and Electrical; Enos Swartzentruber, Jacob Swartzentruber, Bryce Swigart, Jonas Gingerich, and John Hershberger - Swartzentruber Construction.

"For many years, Momentum Is Building has allowed building trades professionals from our area to find out what's new in the industry—techniques as well as products. Attendees also obtain continuing education credits they need to stay current in their professions," said Tim Pfeiffer, Director of Member Services.

Support for the conference comes from Iowa's rural electric cooperatives, along with sponsorship by the Iowa Energy Center.



Pictured is, from left: Matt Munyon, Clayton Neas and Chance Greenman.

HELP WANTED

Southwest Iowa REC is looking for summer help to assist our line crews in Corning and Mount Ayr. If interested, please stop in or call to request an application. Applicants must be at least 18 years old. The job is only for the summer months of 2017.

For more information, call (888) 220-4869 and press option #2 for Duane Schafer in Mount Ayr, option #1 for Gary Goldsmith in Corning or option #3 for Ken Van Whye in Stanton.

Another Chance to Earn a Spot on 2017 Youth Tour

If you missed the deadline to apply for a spot to represent Southwest Iowa REC on the 2017 Youth Tour, there is another opportunity available through the *Living with Energy in Iowa* magazine.

The contest is open to any high school sophomore, junior or senior who's part of a member family of an Iowa electric cooperative that's a member of the Iowa Association of Electric Cooperatives (IAEC), which includes Southwest Iowa REC.

Visit www.iowarec.org for entry form. Applicants must submit a short (250-word maximum) essay answering the question: "How does your local electric cooperative impact your community?"

Entries must be received by mail postmarked no later than March 28, 2017.

Managing Physical Threats to Grid Reliability



Phil Kinser

While the threat of cybersecurity attacks on the electric grid get a lot of attention these days, physical damage from storms or critters is much more likely to disrupt power. There are many physical threats to our power delivery system that Southwest Iowa REC works hard to manage on a daily basis. From weather events (such as ice storms, tornadoes and flooding) to criminal activity (including copper theft and shooting at a substation), it takes proactive commitment to consistently deliver reliable service. Even something as small as a squirrel can damage infrastructure and cause outages.

If the lights do go out, we're ready to restore power quickly and safely. Here's how:

1. Being Part of the Community.

One of the most valuable things about being served by an electric cooperative is that you also have an ownership stake in the way the cooperative operates. Electric cooperatives know our communities. We live and work

in the neighborhoods and towns we serve. You know many of Southwest Iowa REC's board members and employees. And, in turn, our board members and employees are personally acquainted with, or are a part of, fire departments, county supervisors, EMTs, etc.

When emergencies happen, these relationships are important. For example, when a significant winter storm impacted almost every area of South Dakota over the Christmas holiday – leaving thousands without power – Iowa's electric cooperatives responded. That's because we're part of one large cooperative community and cooperation among cooperatives is an essential principle of providing reliable electric service.

2. Planning, Preparing and Practicing.

There is a well-known saying that it's not *if* a crisis will occur, but *when* it will occur. What constitutes a crisis can mean different things to member-owners, depending on the role electricity plays in their daily lives or businesses. We test our disaster and business continuity plans regularly and pride ourselves on being prepared at all

times. Our plans not only focus on how to prevent threats, but also how to respond and recover in the event of an incident.

Business activities, such as vegetation management or pole inspections, may seem routine; however, they are strategically performed to reduce threats of outages.

3. Coordinating with Stakeholders.

Southwest Iowa REC places a high importance on partnerships with fellow cooperatives, our state and national electric cooperative associations, industry partners and government agencies to mitigate the potential impacts of all types of threats to our system. Electric cooperatives work closely with the rest of the electric industry, the North American Electric Reliability Corporation, the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Energy, and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission on matters of critical infrastructure protection – including sharing needed information about potential threats and working together to avoid disruptions to the extent possible.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Report Suspicious Activity

We ask our member-owners to be mindful of unusual situations and to immediately

report them to us or local authorities. For example, if you see non-cooperative personnel near a substation, that's noteworthy and should be reported. If you see something that doesn't seem right, we ask you to say something so that it can be investigated.

Check for Damage

If you have tree branches or other vegetation growing too closely to power lines or utility poles, or if you come across damaged poles or equipment, please call us at (888) 220-4869 to report it.



America's electric cooperatives have designated the second Monday of April as National Lineman Appreciation Day. Southwest Iowa REC gratefully supports this day in honoring our linemen and recognizing the risks they take in their daily duties. We would like to take this opportunity on April 10 to acknowledge and appreciate the men at Southwest Iowa REC who work hard to provide our members with safe and reliable energy 24 hours a day throughout the year!



Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Warmer weather is on the way! Use energy efficient window treatments or coverings, like blinds, shades and films, to reduce heat gain in your home. These devices not only improve the look of your home but also reduce energy costs. -Source: U.S. Department of Energy

Winter Moratorium Ends April 1

For those members who are on energy assistance or have a past-due electric bill, please remember to contact the REC office before April 1, 2017 to make payment arrangements on your past-due bill to avoid disconnection of your electric service.

Help Us Find These Former Members

We are looking for the following former members of **RIDETA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE** that served Ringgold, Decatur, Taylor and Union counties for the year 2000. These members have patronage checks at our office. If the member is deceased, we would like to have a family member contact us with estate information so we can refund their patronage. Thanks for your help.

Anderson, John W.

Bacon, Jean

Black, Berdina

Carlson, Russell

Connet, Dawn

Davis, Bill or Frances

Fletcher, Brett or Terie

Foggia, Gene

Frana, Laura

Funk, Niles

Gilbreath, Chuck

Grim, Harriet

Hindes, Charles c/o Crystal Yates

Huss, Terri

Knoebel, Paul

Kremanec, Ben

Lunyou, Frances or James B. Harryman

McFarland, Jay

McVay, JoAnn c/o Tammy Jessen

Meyers, Gloria

Morelock, Nichole

Moretz, Kathleen

Nichols, Jay D.

Oller, Jonathan

Ormiston, Tam

Peiffer, Linda J

Persall, Charles or Catherine

Peterson, Greg

Powers, Scott L

Stiles, Earl

Woods, Chad

Zelinsky, Beverly or Bernard

We are looking for the following former members of **SOUTHWEST IOWA SERVICE COOPERATIVE** that served Adair, Adams, Cass, Fremont, Mills, Montgomery, Page, Taylor and Union counties for the year 2000. These members have patronage checks at our office. If the member is deceased, we would like to have a family member contact us with estate information so we can refund their patronage. Thanks for your help.

Anderson, Mrs. David C.

Anstey, Edward W.

Babbitt, Vivian B.

Baird, Kathleen

Bauer Sr., Frank

Beason, Kenny

Benskin, Duane R.

Berry, Neil

BP Products North America Inc.

Brassfield, Elma

Carlson, Earl

Casey, Frank T.

Cole Airport

Crow, Curtis G.

Danielson, Leonard

Davis, Anna or Robert Jones

Davis, Nancy

Davis, Teresa M

Drake, Leland R./Dorothy A.

Ellison, Mary

Evans, Angela or Doyle

Forsythe, Robert N.

Frost, Larry S./Carol J.

Gallup, Scott or Melinda

Garber, Patricia A

Gittings, Brian D

Gray, Edward or Maria

Gregerson, Mary

Gruber, Marci

GTE Telephone Operations

Hailey, John

Hall, Genevieve R.

Hamilton, Nate

James, Gary or B. Marleen Worrall

Johnson Farm Company

Johnson, Everett or Mary

Johnson, Mark, Robert or Joan

Klimek, Debra

Koenig, Karla

Lappe, Gerald or Hyacinth

Lawrence, Vernon F

Learning to Love Farms

Liddell, Sam

Maben, Lynne

Martin, Ron L.

Maxwell, Eugene

McCoy, Ralph

McDonald, Pat

Mercer, Dave

Nelson, Norman or Everett Kuehl

Parks, Susie

Proctor, Dennis K.

Renninger, Tyrone

Rucker, Barbara L.

Rush, Curt L.

Schwartz, Bonnie

Skinner, Joy

Standard Register or Paul Bouschard

Stevens, Raymond P.

Stogdill, Dawn M

Swine USA or Jon Bell

Swingle, Ron or Gay

Taylor, James

Thompson, Ray or Eleanor

Tiemann, Gary

Timson, Fay

Tyner, Edwin A.

Walker, Terry L.

Walter, Estee

Wells, Frances

Westburg, Dwight L.

Wetzel, Ron

Wiese, Alysia

Woods, Craig R.

SAVE THE DATE

Southwest Iowa REC

Annual Meeting

Thursday, Sept. 7, 2017

Statement of Nondiscrimination

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audio tape, 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 on the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

Crock Pot Corned Beef & Cabbage

Ingredients:

- 10 baby red potatoes, quartered
- 1 onion, peeled cut into pieces
- 4 c. water
- 4 lbs. corned beef brisket with spice packet
- 6 oz. of ale or lager
- 1/2 head of cabbage, coarsely chopped

Directions

1. Place onions and potatoes in the bottom of the Crock-Pot
2. Pour in water and place brisket on top
3. Pour ale over brisket
4. Sprinkle brisket with spices set Crock Pot on high
5. Cook 8 hours on high; 1 hour before serving, stir in cabbage and cover crock pot



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

Fax: (202) 690-7442; or

Email: program.intake@usda.gov

USDA and Southwest Iowa REC are equal opportunity providers, employers and lenders.

Complaints Resolution Process

Southwest Iowa REC makes every effort to resolve all complaints brought to its attention. You can contact us at 1801 Grove Avenue Corning, Iowa; 1502 W South Street, Mount Ayr, Iowa or 415 Broad Street, Stanton, Iowa. Or you can also call (888) 220-4869.

If your complaint is related to the Southwest Iowa Rural Electric Cooperative's service rather than its rates, and Southwest Iowa Rural Electric Cooperative does not resolve your complaint, you may request assistance from the Iowa Utilities Board by calling (515) 725-7321, or toll free 1-877-565-4450, by writing to 1375 E. Court Avenue, Room 69, Des Moines IA 50319-0069, or by sending an email to customer@iub.iowa.gov.

JOIN US!

Ag Expo
March 24, 2017
10 am - 1:30 pm
Corning Activity Center



Stop by the Southwest Iowa REC booth and register for a chance to win a FREE prize!

Free lunch sponsored by the Adams County Farm Bureau with support from the Adams County Rural Development Committee and the Adams County Cattlemen.



Find us on
Facebook

Corning
1801 Grove Ave., Corning, IA 50841

Mount Ayr
1502 W. South St., Mount Ayr, IA 50854

Stanton
415 Broad Ave., Stanton, IA 51573

Phone Number: (888) 220-4869

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