

SOUTHWEST LINES



**SOUTHWEST IOWA
RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE**

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

OFFICE HOURS 7:30 AM TO 4:00 PM

- Don't forget to check out our **NEW WEB SITE!!** Find us at www.swiarec.coop. Tell us what you think about it!!
.....
- **BEFORE DIGGING...** CALL 811 – Make sure underground lines are located **BEFORE** you start to **DIG!!**
.....
- In case of Down Power Lines **REMEMBER:** no matter what vehicle you're in (tractor, car, pickup, combine) – always remember to:
 - Stay in the vehicle
 - Call for help
 - If you **MUST** exit the vehicle (in case of fire) **JUMP CLEAR!**
 - Never touch the vehicle and the ground at the same time. It could be a deadly mistake!
 - Do not touch any wires!

Iowa Association of Electric Cooperatives' Welcome Back Legislative Reception held

The Iowa Association of Electric Cooperatives (IAEC), in conjunction with Iowa BioTech Association, Iowa Institute for Cooperatives, Iowa Communications Alliance and the Petroleum Marketers and Convenience Stores of Iowa hosted the annual Welcome Back Legislative Reception at the State Historical Building for state legislators on Tuesday, Jan. 14.



Pictured are (seated left to right) Director Jack Stephens, Representative Cecil Dolecheck, Director Dale Walkup, Representative Jack Drake (standing left to right) Director Rich Fast, Director Mark Herzberg, Line Foreman Gary Goldsmith and Director Carroll Baker.

The annual reception is designed to allow directors, managers and staff of Iowa's 34 electric cooperatives from across the state an opportunity to meet with legislators to discuss issues regarding safe, reliable and affordable energy options for all Iowans.

Nearly 100 legislators and 150 electric cooperative directors, managers and staff were in attendance. This year's event again provided legislators, directors, managers, staff an opportunity to discuss issues of significant importance to rural Iowa.



Representatives of Southwest Iowa REC traveled to the Capitol in Des Moines on February 11th and visited with our local state Representatives and Senators. Although busy, they took the time to listen to our concerns and ideas on various legislative issues. Pictured are (left to right standing) Director Glen Roberts, Director Rich Fast, Representative Jack Drake, Manager Phil Kinser, Representative Mark Costello and (seated) Director Carroll Baker.

In the coming months the Iowa General Assembly will be addressing a multitude of issues, including energy-related items central to Iowa's rural economy. Beginning with the Welcome Back Legislative Reception, the directors, managers and staff will again be important advocates for a balanced approach in addressing energy issues that allows for Iowa's member-owned RECs to continue to provide affordable, reliable, safe and environmentally responsible power.

Corning Office
1801 Grove Avenue
Corning, IA 50841
(641) 322-3165
888-591-1261

Stanton Office
415 Broad Avenue
Stanton, IA 51573
(712) 829-2211
888-591-1260

Mt. Ayr Office
1502 W. South Street
Mount Ayr, IA 50854
(641) 464-2244
888-220-4869

**Manager's
Comments**



Phil Kinser

**Southwest Iowa
REC Mission
Statement:**

Provide safe and reliable electric service, while also advancing community and economic development opportunities, in a manner consistent with sound cooperative business practices and values.

Join us at the

AG DAY EXPO

Corning Activity Center

March 21, 2014

10:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Stop by our 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

**Move Equipment
Safely This Spring**

As we approach the planting season, farm-related accidents involving power lines are always a concern. Farmers are urged to locate all electrical facilities before moving farm equipment.

Many types of farm equipment can come into contact with overhead power lines. Tractors, planters and tillage equipment can easily become an electrical hazard and should be operated with care near power lines.

Today's larger farms require transporting equipment to fields miles away. Before transit, avoid raising the arms of planters and cultivators near power lines.

Make sure everyone who works on the farm knows the location of power lines and keeps farm equipment at least 10 feet away from them. The minimum 10' distance should be maintained in all directions.

A safe planting season begins with the prevention of accidents. For more safety information – visit www.swiarec.coop.

**Burning Ditches –
Take Care Around
Rec Property**

It's that time of year when many of you may be burning off the weeds, grass, etc in your ditches.

This burning helps clean things up – but it can also cause problems if a fire is allowed to burn around Southwest Iowa REC poles, anchors, guy assemblies, underground cabinets, etc.

Burning close to Southwest Iowa REC property can not only cause a lot of damage, but it can also be dangerous and cause electric service problems. Any member involved may be invoiced for damage they cause to REC property.

To avoid damage to REC property, electric service problems and danger to yourself and others – PLEASE be careful where you burn!

**Winter Moratorium Ends
April 1, 2014**

For those members who are on energy assistance or have a past-due electric bill – please remember that you need to contact the REC office by April 1, 2014 to make payment arrangements on your past-due bill to avoid disconnection of your electric service.

Summer 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. The applicant must be at least 18 years old. The job is only for the summer months of 2014. For more information – please contact Duane Schafer in Mount Ayr or Gary Goldsmith in Corning.

Statement Of Nondiscrimination

Southwest Iowa Rural Electric Cooperative, Corning, Iowa is the recipient of Federal financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). The USDA prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for commu-

nication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination, write to the USDA, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call toll free (866) 632-9992 (voice) or (800) 877-8339 (TDD) or (866) 377-8642 (relay voice users), by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program_intake@usda.gov. Southwest Iowa Rural Electric Cooperative is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

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 1997. 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, R.P. % Steve Anderson	Doggett, Chas Emig, Ricky	Holmes, Shawn Houser, Cindy	Lovely, Joyce McCormick, Bob	Robertson, Bill % Edgar Robertson	Swartz, Evelyn % Clark Swartz Jr
Armstrong, Larry	England, Alan	Houston, Richard	McKnight, Bill	Rosa, Jose	Sweeney, George
Augustine, Scott or Beverly	Evans, Angel	Howard, Lori	Madden, Bob	Roth, David	Thomas, Don
Beaty, Ray	Goolsby, Darla	Hoyt, John	Martin, Billie	Schaefer, Jr	Toney, Marcella
Booge, Vincent	Gould, David R or Mary Sarah J	Hubbard, Connie	Miller, Chas A	Schuler, Milo	Tracy, Curtis
Briggs, Audria	Hagen, Wayne W or Kenneth	Hughes, Jack	Miller, Earl	Seiffert, Barbara % Jason Phummel	Trenkle, Mike
Brown, Van	Hamilton, Marti or Richard D	Hullinger, Loral	Naylor, Geraldine	Sheffield, Doug	Warner, Robert
Brumbaugh, Russell	Harris, Richard D	Hutton, Robert % Patricia Harris	Nelson, Steve	Shutt, Alicia	Warren, Terry
Bryant, Paul	Harvey, Trudy	James, Marie	Nelson, Scott	Flowers, Jacqueline	Weaver, Kim
Cannon, Rollie	Hansen, Dianna	Kasal, Gerald	O'Neill, Joyce	Skinner, Shawn	Weddle, John
Carlson, Mrs. Alex	Hatfield, Wm.	Keller, Christina	Poush, C.R.	Smith, J.R. % Adrienne Smith	Weland, Lynn
Chenoweth, Chas H	Heckathorn, Herman	Kirkwood, Rodney	Plumb, Jerry	Smith, Linda	Wolfe, David
Cunningham, Larry	Henderson, J.R. % M.M. Henderson	Lee, Ernest	Ramsey, Carl	Smith, Norm	Wolfe, Steve
Davis, Clyde		Long, Pat	Reed, Shelley R	Smith, Linda	Woodyard, Rick
David, David E		Loudon, Barbara	Reynolds, Frank		Young, Doug
			Riley, Mary		Ziblis, Don

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 1997. 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.

Amdor, Kelli	Crow, Curtis	Gray, Vic	Lewis, Kevin % Keith Lewis	Runyon, Timothy	Thompson, Mrs. Charles
Anderson, Kevin or Patricia	Cullen, Evelyn Estate	Grout, Frank or Tammy	Luther, Clint or Polly	Rush, Curt	Turner Farms, Martin
Anderson, Mrs. Kenneth	Curphy, TL	GTE Telephone Operations	Mainquist, Marta	Rynearson, Jerry	Mathis
Anderson, Mrs. David	Dale, Donna	Harsh, Barbara	Manley, Sidney & Wayne	Scanlan, Ed	Walker, Terry
Anderson, Nanette or David	Davis, Nancy	Heinen, Kevin	Maxwell, Melissa	Scase, Christie % George Buckner Trust	Wardlow, Alice
Anstey, Berniece	Dougherty, Mark	Henry, Mark	Maxwell, Eugene	Schafroth, Russell	Wells, Frances
Babbitt, Vivian	Evans, Angela or Doyle	Hines, Roy % Kevin Mirts	McCoy, Jeff or Heather	Schorppel, Martha	Wennihan, Cynthia
Baird, Kathleen	Evans, Chris	Hoyt, Sharon	McCree, Martin	Sjulin Farms LLC	Westberg, Dwight % Carol Westberg
Bauer, Frank Sr	Fellbaum, Herbert or Irmgaard	Huntsman, Richard or Norma	Mercer, Dave	Skinner, Joy	Wheeler, Rita
Biggs, Mary Linda	Fletcher, Mike	Johnson, Mark or Robert	Midwest Products	Smith, James	Whitten, James
Bowen, Eric	Ford, Doug	Johnson, Everett	Miller, Jackie	Smith, Dave	Wick, Maurice
Brown, Francis	Forsyth, Robert	Karr, Audrey	Nelson, Verna	Starkey, Billie	Williams, Todd
Bullington, Max % Doris Bentz & Melody	Garber, Patricia	Kelly, Bob	Oliver, Patricia	Stirek, Jim	Wilson, Kent
Carl, Brad or Melissa	Gasper, Steve or Sonja	Kelly, Sean	Orr, Marty	Stogdill, Dawn	Winther, Craig
Comstock, Randy	Gehbauer, Karen	Kuntzweiler, Dean	Race, Carl	Sump, Arnold	Woods, Craig
Cook, Roy	Gladman, Marvin or Barbara	Lamb, Lisa	Robey, Clyde	Susan Hedinger Trust AG	Young, Bill
		Lawrence, Vernon	Rothe, Edward	Thompson, Ray or Eleanor	Zakrzewski, Juli
			Royer, Jerry		



Energy Efficiency *Tip of the Month*

When shopping for a new appliance, consider lifetime operation costs as well as the up-front purchase price. Refrigerators last an average of 12 years, clothes washers about 11, and dishwashers about 10. Check the Energy Guide label for the appliance's estimated yearly operating cost, and look for ENERGY STAR units, which usually exceed minimum federal standards for efficiency and quality. To learn more, visit EnergySavers.gov.

Source: U.S. Department of Energy

Introducing Jamie McManis

Jamie McManis began her duties as an Administrative Assistant in the Corning office on February 7th. Jamie resides in Corning with her husband Jason, son Aaron and daughters Halle, Madison and Aspen. Welcome Jamie!





Employee Spotlight

Name: Greg Johnson

Family: Married to Carolyn.

Children - Eric, Aimee and Erin.
Step-children - Diana and Jennifer.
13 grandchildren.

Date of Hire: October 14, 1974

Current Position: Line Foreman (Stanton)

Favorite Recipe: Coffee Cake



The RECipe

COFFEE CAKE

1 c. sugar	1 1/2 c. brown sugar	2 tsp. cinnamon	3 tsp. baking powder
1 c. sweet milk		3 c. flour	
1 c. butter	2 eggs	1 c. nuts	1/2 c. melted butter

TOPPING:

1 T. butter 1/2 c. powdered sugar 1/2 tsp. cornstarch 1 T. very hot water

Cream sugar and butter. Add eggs. Sift together flour and baking powder. Add alternately with sweet milk. Butter a 9x13-inch pan and pour in half the batter. Mix brown sugar, cinnamon and nuts. Spread half the crumb mixture on the batter, then rest of the batter, then rest of the crumb mixture. Over the top, drizzle 1/2 cup melted butter. Bake at 375 degrees for 30 minutes.

Mix butter, powdered sugar, cornstarch and very hot water. Pour on top immediately after removing from the oven.

Electric Heat...A Good Buy?

Is heating with electricity still a good buy? The short answer is YES. When budgeting for monthly and yearly cost for your energy needs, the price of electricity is considerably more stable than other fuels and in most cases can save you money. When propane prices soared (189% increase) to record levels these past few months, it got everyone's attention.

The examples below show what you would have to buy LP gas/propane for to compare with Southwest Iowa REC's Heat Plus electric rate using various electric heating equipment:

- Electric Resistance Heat (baseboard, radiant, electric furnace) – you would have to buy propane for \$1.45/gallon or less
- Air Source Heat Pump – you would have to buy propane for \$.60/gallon or less
- Ground Source Heat Pump – you would have to buy propane for \$.42/gallon or less

Give Southwest Iowa REC a call to see how you can get in on a great product that can save you money and give you the benefit of safe, reliable and affordable heat.

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 call 641-322-3165 or 1-888-591-1261 in Corning; 641-464-2244 or 1-888-220-4869 in Mount Ayr or 712-829-2211 or 1-888-591-1260 in Stanton.

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 email to customer@iub.iowa.gov.

RECare – Customer Contribution Fund

Southwest Iowa REC's **RECare** program makes it easy to help Co-operative neighbors in need this winter. With rising heating fuel prices this season, more and more lowans are seeking assistance with energy, heating and weatherization costs. While some federal and state dollars exist to help those in need, there are still shortfalls.

Consider a monthly contribution to Southwest Iowa REC's **RECare** program. Your contribution – whether it is \$1 or \$10 a month – when combined with those of other generous members, can go a long way in helping those who can't afford winter's heating bills. To help, fill out the form:

Consumer Authorization Form

Yes, I want to be a part of "members helping members" and contribute to RECare.

- I will make a 1-time contribution to **RECare**. My check is enclosed.
- I will contribute \$_____ per month to **RECare**. I understand that this amount will be automatically added to my monthly electric bill.

Name _____ Address _____
City _____ State _____ ZIP _____ Account# _____

Mail to: **RECare – SW Iowa REC**
1801 Grove Avenue; Box 367;
Corning, IA 50841
OR **RECare – SW Iowa REC**
1502 W South Street; Mt Ayr
IA 50854
OR **RECare – SW Iowa REC**
415 Broad Avenue; Box 460;
Stanton, IA 51573