



Corning | Mount Ayr | Stanton

Southwest lines

A monthly publication for members of Southwest Iowa Rural Electric Cooperative

December 2019

The Employees and Directors of Southwest Iowa REC would like to wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Thank you for your continued patronage and may you and your loved ones have a safe and enjoyable holiday season!

Employees

Cacey Quick	Ben Knapp	Bill Scharfenkamp
Danny Stamps	David Head	Denise Hallquist
Duane Schafer	Dustin Smith	Ken Van Wyhe
Les Helvie	Lucas Dalton	Marilyn Rubel
Nathan Weeda	Paul Vanderholm	Phil Kinser
Sam Elsberry	Sarah Newton	Scott Geer
Shayne Larson	Steven Grace	Suzy Olson
Tanner Rinehart	Tim Pfeiffer	Tysen Sederburg
Wendy Wimer	Zach Schafer	

Directors

Terry Barnes	Fred Hossle	Jason Smith
Kay Fast	Deena Moore	Dale Walkup
Mark Herzberg	Dana Morgan	Marilyn Werner
	Ken Peppmeier	



Southwest Iowa REC Youth Tour Program

As part of our commitment to community, Southwest Iowa REC is excited to offer the NRECA's Washington, D.C. Youth Tour trip to area high school students again this year! Interested students will compete for the opportunity to be selected by their local electric cooperative. Southwest Iowa REC will choose a high school junior from the qualified applicants. Among other criteria, this high school student must have parents or guardians that are members of the cooperative. The contest is for an expense-paid trip to our nation's capital.



Students on the tour will learn about electric cooperatives, American history and the U.S. government. The tour also encourages leadership and engagement as a U.S. citizen. Students will meet peers from across the nation, visit with their representatives in the House and the Senate and see many sights around Washington, D.C.

To begin the application process and to learn more about this once-in-a-lifetime experience, please visit our website at www.swiarec.coop or contact your local Southwest Iowa REC office for a Youth Tour application.

Southwest Iowa REC offices will be **CLOSED** on Tuesday, December 24th and Wednesday, December 25th for Christmas and Wednesday, January 1st for New Year's.

Have a safe and happy holiday!

May Your Holiday Season Be Merry and Bright

The holidays are a time of year that many of us eagerly anticipate.

The season is marked by special foods, seasonal decorations and lots of festivities. Right here in Southwest Iowa, we look forward to the annual parade and event traditions in our local communities.

We cherish carrying on old family traditions and enjoy creating new ones. For me personally, I look forward to more time spent with family and friends. However, given the hustle and bustle of the season, the holidays can also offer an opportunity to slow down and reflect. For all of us at Southwest Iowa REC, we are grateful for you, the members of the co-op.

You see, one of our founding principles as a co-op is "Concern for Community." While our main focus is providing safe, reliable and affordable energy, we want to give back. We want to help our community thrive.

Reflection

In looking back at this past year, I'm grateful that we were able to make a positive impact in our communities. When individuals and communities on the western side of Iowa experienced devastating flooding events earlier this year we partnered with CoBank and Central Iowa Power Cooperative

(CIPCO) to donate \$5,000 to both Mills and Fremont county flood relief efforts. We also partnered with CoBank and CIPCO to donate \$10,000 to the Stanton Child Resource Center to be used for building renovation and new construction as they plan to expand and provide additional services in their area. Through Operation Round Up®, we have awarded \$240,384 to individuals and organizations in our service area for emergency, charitable and community betterment needs since inception in 2009. During 2019, \$30,050 was awarded. These awards are made possible by your generous voluntary contributions and we thank you for your participation.

Through our locally-managed Revolving Loan Fund (RLF), we approved three loans totaling \$865,000 to new and expanding businesses that will provide an economic boost and provide capacity in our communities.

We were also grateful for the opportunity to partner with several local schools to raise awareness of the importance of electrical safety/education and also to promote the availability of college scholarships, Youth Tour, and careers in the electric cooperative industry. In 2019, we awarded 13 scholarships totaling \$7,000 to local scholars and sent a student on an all-expense paid trip (Youth Tour)

to Washington, DC to learn about our nation's capital and the electric cooperative business model. We also hosted tours of the Southwest Solar Farm for our elected officials and local community college



Phil Kinser

students. There are other ways we can help the community, whether we're providing information about smart electrification, or helping you find ways to save energy at home, we want you to know we're here to help.

Looking Ahead

Looking ahead to 2020, we hope you will share your opinions with us. We recognize that our members have a valuable perspective, and that's why we continually seek your input. Whether through surveys, community events, our social media channels or the annual meeting, we want to hear from you. We are led by you – the members of the co-op – and we depend on your feedback.

As we prepare for next year, we look forward to the opportunity to serve you and the greater community. On behalf of the Southwest Iowa REC family, we hope your holidays are indeed merry and bright!



Did you know?

Space heaters are responsible for 32 percent of house fires, according to the National Fire Protection Association.

- Place your space heater on a level, non-flammable surface.
- Make sure your space heater has an auto shutoff function.
- Never pair your space heater with an extension cord.
- Never leave a space heater unattended when in use.
- Purchase space heaters that are cool to the touch.



Scholarships Available for High School Seniors

Southwest Iowa REC will once again be offering scholarships for the 2019-2020 school year to graduating high school seniors. Students applying for the \$500 scholarship must be enrolled full-time at an accredited college, university or vocational/technical school. The parent or guardian of the student must be a Southwest Iowa REC member and the student **MUST RESIDE** in the REC-served residence. The \$1,000 scholarship is open to ALL high school and non-traditional students within Southwest Iowa REC's territory attending an Accredited Lineman School or other electrical trade program.



Applications are available at your high school guidance counselor's office or you may fill out the form below. Students may also go to our website www.swiarec.coop to print the application. Recipients of the scholarships will be chosen by a selection committee appointed by Southwest Iowa REC whose decisions are final.

We will be awarding twelve (12) \$500 scholarships. In addition, two (2) \$1,000 scholarships will be available for students planning to attend an Accredited Lineman School or electrical trade program.

Completed applications and a photo must be received at the REC Office by March 1, 2020 to be eligible.



Scholarship Information

Please send me the Southwest Iowa REC Scholarship Application form.



Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____ High School _____

Parent/Guardian: _____

REC Account #/Location#: _____



Director Deena Moore attains CCD Certificate

The first part of NRECA's three-part Director Education Program, the Credentialed Cooperative Director (CCD) program consists of five courses that focus on basic governance knowledge and the essential skills required of cooperative directors. The CCD prepares directors to fulfill their fiduciary duty as elected officials serving on behalf of their membership. Upon completion of all five CCD courses, directors are awarded the Credentialed Cooperative Director Certificate by NRECA. Once the CCD is completed, participants can then pursue the Board Leadership Certificate.

*Pictured is Southwest Iowa REC's Board President, Marilyn Werner (left), presenting Board Member, Deena Moore (right), with the CCD Certificate. **Congratulations Deena!***

2020 Charges Member Pricing* at SWIREC Served Locations Only

LABOR – Regular Working Hours

\$ 64.00/hour * 1 hour minimum

LABOR – After Regular Working Hours (Member Emergencies Only)

\$ 96.00/hour * 2 hour minimum per employee – 2 employees required

TRUCKS/EQUIPMENT

Trip Charge \$30.00 per mileage vehicle required per job per day

Portable Trencher \$.75/foot

Trencher \$ 2.00/foot (\$250 minimum)

Backhoe \$60/hour (\$250 minimum)

Basket/Digger \$80/hour

Boring Machine \$60/hour (\$250 minimum)

- 1 hour minimum on all truck charges
- Labor will be charged in addition to the truck and equipment charges

Miscellaneous Charges

- \$32.00 minimum labor charge for repair of member-owned security light or yard light + materials (when in the area).

NOTE: If a special trip is made to repair the light – then the regular hourly rate and minimums for labor and trucks will apply.

*Call for non-member pricing quotes.

Caramel Apple Monkey Bread

Ooey gooey sticky bread filled with cinnamon sugared apples. Perfect for entertaining and makes the best holiday treat.

- 1/2 cup butter (1 stick, softened)
- 3.5 ounces Jell-O Cook & Serve Butterscotch Pudding
- 32.6 ounces Pillsbury Grands-Homestyle Buttermilk Biscuits (2 cans, you can also use Rhodes if they are thawed)
- 2 cups apples (chopped into 1/2" pieces)
- 1/2 cup brown sugar (plus 3 tablespoons)
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon

OPTIONAL: 1/2 CUP CHOPPED WALNUTS OR PECANS

1. Preheat oven to 325°F. Take stick of butter and grease bundt pan very generously. Pour butterscotch pudding mix in bundt pan coating evenly. Set aside
2. Combine 3 Tablespoons brown sugar and cinnamon in medium bowl. Add apples and coat.
3. Open biscuits and flatten with hands then cut roll into halves. Place about 3-5 apple piece in the center and fold the dough around the apple. Seal the dough by rolling into a ball. Repeat until all of the biscuits are filled. The place all of the biscuits into the bundt pan. Add nuts in between if adding.
4. Melt remaining butter then combine with 1/2 cup of brown sugar and mix. Pour evenly on top of biscuits.
5. Bake monkey bread for 35 minutes-40 minutes or until the apples are cooked through. Tent foil over bread if it starts to brown. Let cool for 5 minutes in pan then place serving dish over top and flip monkey bread on top.



The RECipe



Enjoy!



Like us on Facebook

Bravo!

Dear Rec Board of Directors,
Thank you for your generous Operation Round up grant which will allow us to repair the sewer system at the Lauvstad Center.

- ACEDC Board of Directors

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month



Laundry Tip:

Dry towels and heavier cottons separately from lighter clothing. You'll spend less time drying the lighter-weight items.

Source:energy.gov

2019 Energy Efficiency & Beneficial Electrification Program Delivery Costs = \$.0029/kwh



Find us on
Facebook

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Board of Directors

Marilyn Werner, President

Mark Herzberg, Vice President

Ken Peppmeier, Secretary

Kay Fast, Treasurer

Fred Hossle

Dana Morgan

Jason Smith

Deena Moore

Terry Barnes

Dale Walkup

Phil Kinser, CEO