



TIPS From T.I.P.

Published By The T.I.P. Rural Electric Cooperative

OWNED BY THOSE WE SERVE

October 2021

Brooklyn, Iowa

Your 83rd Drive-Thru Annual Meeting



Thank You for Attending the Drive-Thru Annual Meeting

The employees and directors of T.I.P. Rural Electric Cooperative appreciate our member-owners who took the time out of their busy schedules to attend the drive-thru annual meeting. We would also like to thank everyone for supporting your local cooperative throughout the year.

See page two for the annual meeting highlights.

NOTICE: The Brooklyn office will be closed on Thursday, October 21st from 8:00 a.m. till Noon for an all-employee safety meeting.

T.I.P. Rural Electric

Regular Hours 7:30 to 4:00 Weekdays.....641-522-9221

or Toll Free..... 800-934-7976

After Hours (Outages & Emergencies Only) ..641-522-9223

or Toll Free 800-934-7976

website: www.tiprec.com

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



Drive-Thru Annual Meeting Highlights

T.I.P. Rural Electric Cooperative held its drive-thru annual meeting on Saturday, August 28th at the BGM Schools campus parking lot. We were pleased to have 223 voting member-owners and 322 drive-thru attendees.

Due to so many unknowns about the Coronavirus, we decided to have a drive-thru annual meeting again this year instead of our normal annual meeting. Following the drive-thru portion of the annual meeting, a video was recorded of the business meeting which featured the highlights below.

The annual meeting was called to order by Board President, Gene Von Ahsen. The Certification of a Quorum and the reading of the Notice of Meeting was given by Ronald Hoffman, Secretary-Treasurer. There were motions to waive the reading of last year's Annual Meeting Minutes and Treasurer's Report.

Mark Adams, Cooperative Attorney, conducted the election of directors and the election results were given by Nominating Committee Chairperson, Kevin Cline. The following were elected for three-year terms: three incumbents, James DeSmet, representing Iowa County; Randy J. Upah, representing Tama County; and David Lee King, representing Poweshiek County.

Mark Adams gave the results of the Proposed Amendments to the Articles of Incorporation which were approved by 93.2%.

The meeting was then adjourned by Gene Von Ahsen.

Following the business meeting the Board re-organizational meeting was held where Gene Von Ahsen was re-elected the Board President, Anne Axmear was re-elected the Vice President and Ronald Hoffman was re-elected the Secretary-Treasurer.

You can find the following videos on Facebook or on the annual meeting page of our website at tiprec.com: business meeting; Board President and General Manager's Report given by Dean A. Huls, General Manager; supervisor reports given by Scott Long, Operations Manager, and Dean A. Huls with Nate Hopwood, IT Manager.



Annual Meeting Prize Winners

T.I.P. Rural Electric Cooperative would like to congratulate everyone who received a bill credit and won a prize. Because of the length of the \$50.00 bill credit list we were unable to put it in this newsletter. You can find the complete list of winners on our website under Annual Meeting. These bill credits were applied to the September bills.

1 - \$250 ELECTRIC BILL CREDIT

Lowell Kauffman

3 - \$100 ELECTRIC BILL CREDITS

Mike Keiser

Brien Michalek

Lenore Sleuwenhoek

GENERATOR WINNER

Randy Cronbaugh

STORM PREPARATION KIT WINNER

Steve Wirth

AIR FRYER WINNER

Roger Marquardt

Iowa Association of Electric Cooperative's Magazine Gets A Makeover



Your T.I.P. newsletter will now be inserted in the newly remodeled statewide magazine renamed "*Iowa Electric Cooperative Living*".

They will continue to share stories of Iowa's electric cooperatives along with reader favorites like recipes, the editor's choice contest and their humorous "out back" column.

You can visit them online at www.IECLmagazine.com.

It's a Matter of (Co-op!) Principles



ACE Hardware, State Farm, Land O'Lakes, and T.I.P. Rural Electric Cooperative all share something in common: we're all cooperatives.

We may be in different industries, but

we all share a passion for serving our members and helping our communities to thrive. In fact, all cooperatives adhere to the same set of seven principles that reflect our core values of honesty, transparency, equity, inclusiveness and service to the greater community good. **October is National Co-op Month**, so this is the perfect time to reflect on these principles that have stood the test of time but also provide a framework for the future. Let's take a look at the first three cooperative principles.

Voluntary and Open Membership

Just like all co-ops, T.I.P. REC was created out of necessity - to meet a need that would have been otherwise unmet in our communities. So in 1938, a group of neighbors banded together and organized our electric co-op so everyone in our communities could benefit. For a membership fee to the co-op, any farmer could get electricity brought to his farm. Neighbors came together to tackle a problem that they all had but couldn't solve alone. They worked together for the benefit of all our communities, and the newly established electric lines helped power economic opportunities in our communities.

While history may be forgotten, key parts of that heritage remain - the focus on our mission and serving the greater good. In this, we include everyone to improve the quality of life and economic opportunities for our communities. Membership is open to everyone in our service territory, regardless of race, religion, age, disability, gender identity, language, political perspective or socioeconomic status.

Democratic Member Control

Our co-op is well suited to meet the needs of our member-owners because we are locally governed. Each member-owner gets a voice and a vote in how the co-op is run, and each voice and vote are equal. T.I.P. REC's leadership team and employees live right here in the community. Our board of directors, who helps set long-term priorities for the co-op, also live locally on co-op lines. These board members have been elected by

neighbors just like you. We know our member-owners have a valuable perspective, and that's why we are continually seeking your input and encourage you to weigh in on important co-op issues and participate in the co-op elections.

Our close connection to our communities ensures we get a first-hand perspective on members' priorities, thereby enabling us to make more informed decisions on long-term investments.

Members' Economic Participation

As a utility, our mission is to provide, safe, reliable and affordable energy to our member-owners. But as a co-op, we are also motivated by service to our communities, rather than profits. Member-owners contribute equitably to, and democratically control, the capital of T.I.P. REC. At least part of that capital remains the common property of the cooperative. Member-owners allocate surpluses for co-op programs, initiatives, capital investments and supporting other activities approved by the membership.

Because we are guided by seven cooperative principles, it's not just about dollars - it's about opportunity for all and being fair when engaging with our member-owners. The cooperative way is a values-based business model.

T.I.P. REC is a reflection of our local communities and their evolving needs. We view our role as a motivator for good and making our corner of the world a better place which sums up our seventh co-op principle, "**Concern for Community**".

Iowa State Fair Prize Winner



Pictured above is Dana Kilmer who was chosen as one of the winners when he completed a survey at the Iowa Association of Electric Cooperative's Touchstone Energy® booth at the Iowa State Fair.

Dana chose the Roomba 614 Robot Vacuum as his prize.

Congratulations and thanks for stopping by the booth!

Energy Audits Available



An energy audit done with the aid of thermography (infrared scanning) can help detect thermal defects and air leakage in your home.

In an effort to help our member-owners use electricity in an efficient manner, your cooperative offers two types of energy audits.

The first energy audit is a free home energy audit available on the internet. This audit was developed by several parties working together, including the U.S. Department of Energy and Touchstone Energy® cooperatives. To take advantage of all or part of this audit, go to this web address - <http://hes.lbl.gov/>.

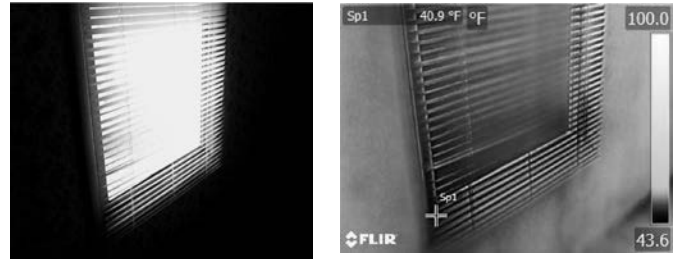
The second type of energy audit your cooperative offers is an on-premise energy audit utilizing a third party vendor. This audit is done with the aid of thermography using infrared imaging displays to show heat patterns that allow the detection of problems that are not easily identifiable. Windows, doors, insulation levels and lighting are among other things that will be checked. This energy audit results in a very detailed report.

The cost to the member-owner for a residential audit is \$175, with the cooperative picking up the remaining portion of the charges. Commercial energy audits are available but handled on an individual basis. We hope you will use this energy audit service which can be lined up by calling us at 1-800-934-7976.

You can save 5% to 30% on your energy bill by making upgrades following a home energy audit, so we urge you to schedule one.



The picture on the right shows infrared imaging on a door.



The picture on the right shows infrared imaging on a window.

STAY SAFE ON HALLOWEEN!

- ✓ Avoid trick-or-treating by yourself
- ✓ Fasten reflective tape to candy bags and costumes
- ✓ Always walk on the sidewalk
- ✓ Never go into a strangers home or car
- ✓ Avoid eating homemade treats made by strangers

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Old, uninsulated and improperly installed exterior doors can waste energy and money. Shut the door on wasted energy by weather stripping and sealing all exterior doors. If you have an old exterior door, consider replacing it with a newer, energy efficient model.

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TIPS from T.I.P. is published monthly for members of T.I.P. Rural Electric Cooperative, 612 W. Des Moines St., Brooklyn, Iowa 52211.