



TIPS From T.I.P.

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May 2024

Brooklyn, Iowa

Iowa's Rural Electric Cooperatives Advocate for Power Reliability at REC Day on the Hill



Pictured above left to right: Directors, Lee King and Ronald Hoffman, Representative, Dean Fisher and CEO/General Manager, Scott Long.

More than 200 employees and directors from Iowa's locally owned rural electric cooperatives (RECs) gathered at the Iowa Capitol this spring to advocate for important issues during the annual "REC Day on the Hill" event.

Advocates asked elected officials to ensure reliable electric service for Iowans by supporting an "all-of-the-above" electric generation strategy. Specifically, Iowa's electric cooperatives believe it's time to update the state's 2001 advanced ratemaking principles (ARPs) to stipulate an all-of-the-above approach and include nuclear and energy storage technologies.

Also related to reliability, advocates talked with legislators about Integrated Resource Plans (IRPs) and the potential pitfalls of requiring Iowa utilities to file IRPs as part of contested case proceedings before the Iowa Utilities Board. IRPs will increase administrative and legal fees which must ultimately be paid by ratepayers. In other states, IRPs have served as a pathway to the premature closure of carbon-based power generation facilities which negatively impacts electric reliability.

Additionally, co-op representatives discussed the

issue of "right of first refusal" which allows incumbent, established utilities to have the first option to construct, maintain and operate electric transmission projects. Iowa's electric co-ops are best prepared to respond locally to weather-related outages because we have a proven track record of restoring power quickly and safely.

During the advocacy event, representatives educated legislators on the benefits of the not-for-profit cooperative business model, which includes local ownership, democratic governance and cost-based rates. Learn more about the legislative priorities of Iowa's electric cooperatives and Iowa Rural Power grassroots advocacy at www.iaruralpower.org.

Thanks to Representative, Dean Fisher, Senator, Dawn Driscoll and Senator, Annette Sweeney for visiting with us during this event.

Nominating Committee Seeks Interested Board Candidates for the 2024 Board Election

The following nominating committee is seeking candidates interested in serving on the board. This year directors will be elected from the following districts:

District 1 and District 3.

If you are a co-op member and have a member whom you would like to have nominated for director, contact any of the members on your nominating committee listed below.

District 1:

Tony Upah

2690 370th St.
Chelsea, IA 52215
641-891-4990

Don Weiermann

3880 Highway V18
Chelsea, IA 52215
641-485-4179

District 3:

Ronald Nace

1029 163rd St.
Victor, IA 52347
319-647-3297

James Thys

1017 163rd St.
Victor, IA 52347
319-647-2748

Nominees' names must be given to any nominating committee member **BEFORE Thursday, May 30, 2024**. Thanks for your help!

Students Learn About Electrical Safety

This spring Louie the Lightning Bug and Cole Calkins, Staking Technician/Member Service, visited the Keota, Iowa Valley, Fremont and Williamsburg elementary schools to spread the word about electrical safety. Cole gave an electrical safety presentation using interactive boards while having the students answer questions about electrical safety at home and on the farm.

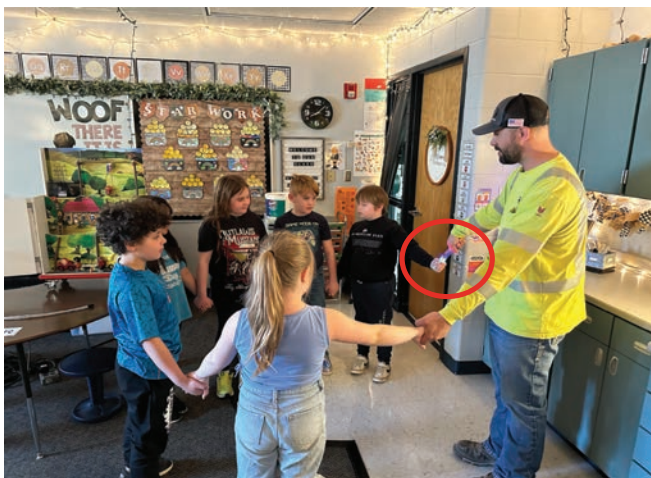
After the presentation, students were given an electrical safety workbook, "Play It Safe" Louie wristband, bookmark, pencil, tatoos and stickers and the teachers received a goodie bag.



Cole Calkins, Staking Technician/Member Service is pictured above teaching the 2nd and 3rd grade students from the Keota Elementary School about electrical safety.



Cole and Louie the Lightning Bug are pictured with Cole's niece, Hazel Calkins, at the Williamsburg school.



Cole and students from the Fremont school are holding an "Energy Stick" which demonstrates that people are good conductors of electricity and that a complete circuit can be formed just by everyone holding hands.



Cole is pictured above at the Iowa Valley school touching a plasma ball that shows the students a visual form of how electricity flows.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

Looking for an easy way to manage home energy use? Smart plugs are inexpensive and offer convenient solutions for scheduling and controlling your favorite electronic devices.

With smart plugs, you can easily manage your coffee maker, lighting, home office equipment, video game consoles and more. Smart plugs can help you manage devices through a smart phone app, your home assistant or voice control. By conveniently powering off or scheduling devices, you can save energy (and money!).

Source: energystar.gov

**WE WILL BE CLOSED
MONDAY, MAY 27
IN OBSERVANCE OF
MEMORIAL DAY**

Remember And Honor
★ ★ ★ ★ ★

SAVE THE DATE

T.I.P. REC MEMBER APPRECIATION

NEW BROOKLYN HEADQUARTERS

320 INDUSTRIAL DRIVE, BROOKLYN, IA

FRIDAY, JUNE 28, 2024

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

TOUR THE NEW FACILITY AND
ENJOY A MEAL

Member-Owners: Mark your calendars to attend!

← CHECK THIS OUT!

T.I.P. REC offers **REBATES** on electric water heaters, central air conditioners, clothes washers, electric clothes dryers and much more. Go to tiprec.com/rebates for more details.

Welcome Kendig



Pictured above is the newest addition to our T.I.P. REC team, Kendig Maschmann. Kendig began work on March 4 as an Apprentice Lineman on our Brooklyn crew.

Kendig is a graduate of Northwest Iowa Community College's Powerline Program. Previously, he worked for PAR Electric and Michels Power.

In his spare time, Kendig enjoys hunting and fishing.

Kendig looks forward to furthering his career in the electrical delivery field at T.I.P. REC.

We are excited to have Kendig working at our cooperative.

5 WAYS TO SAVE THIS SUMMER

When summer temperatures rise, so do our energy bills. Here are a few ways you can reduce energy use and grow your summer savings.

1. Raise your thermostat.

The smaller the difference between the indoor and outdoor temp, the more you'll save.

2. Install window coverings

like blinds or light-blocking curtains to prevent indoor heat gain during the day.

3. **Seal leaks with caulk and weatherstripping** around windows and exterior doors. Air leaks force your air conditioner to work harder and run longer than necessary.

4. **Run ceiling fans** for additional cooling but turn them off when you leave the room.

5. **Lower your water heater thermostat** to 120 degrees to reduce standby heat loss.



Source: Dept. of Energy

Shine the Light Contest Coming in June



Nominate a local volunteer and they could win \$3,000 for their charity!

Contest entries accepted during June at IowaShineTheLight.com

Contest begins June 1 and ends June 30

2024 Youth Tour Winner Jaidyn Rugg



T.I.P. REC is excited to announce that Jaidyn Rugg will represent our cooperative on the Youth Tour Trip to Washington, D.C. in June.

Jaidyn and the other Iowa students will join students from across the country in Washington, D.C. to learn about cooperatives, U.S. history and our government. They will also participate in leadership training, visit with elected officials,

network with their peers, and tour monuments and museums while there.

Jaidyn is a senior at English Valleys High School where she utilizes the dual enrollment program between EV and Kirkwood Community College. She is on track to graduate from Kirkwood with her A.A. Degree before she graduates from high school. She has been on the A Honor Roll for all four years of high school, Dean's List at Kirkwood and just named the 2024 Kirkwood Community College Outstanding Student for Iowa County. Jaidyn is the Student Council President, has participated in volleyball, cross country, basketball, golf, Valley Rush Dance Team, cheerleading, FFA (current chapter Reporter), Iowa State Fair FFA Group Leader Usher, FCCLA, National Honor Society, speech, drama, musicals, band (marching, Jazz, Pep & Concert), SICL Honor Band & Choir, and Future Teachers of America. In her community, she has joined the National Society of High School Scholars, Girl Scouts, 4H, St. John's Youtherans, Upper Deer Creek Youth Group, Cornerstone Youth Group, President of the American Legion Auxiliary Jr. Auxiliary for Unit 296 and District 5 and their Girls State Representative. Jaidyn has also helped her mom with the North English Community Club activities and donated blood. She spends her summers at Knoll Ridge as a lifeguard and working at Freeman Foods as a cashier, server, and carry out.

In her spare time, Jaidyn enjoys reading, working, taking naps, spending time with her friends and family and trying new things.

Her future plans include attending Iowa State University to study Early Childhood Education.

Investing in the next generation of co-op members is very important to T.I.P. REC along with the economic future of rural America.

Craig Stallman Earns Director Gold Credential



T.I.P. REC is excited to announce that Craig has completed the two other director training requirements that were needed and has earned the final status of National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's (NRECA) director training program. Craig has earned the Director Gold Credential (DGC). To maintain this status a director is required to earn three credits of approved course work and/or conferences every two years.

Our cooperative is proud to have such a dedicated director who is eager to gain knowledge which will help guide him as he makes decisions on behalf of the cooperative.

IMPORTANT REMINDER:

On May 9, 2024, the number you call to make a one-time payment "PAY NOW" will be changed to: 833-619-0894

NOTICE: The Brooklyn office will be closed on Wednesday, May 15 from 7:00 am till 1:00 pm for an all-employee safety meeting.

Pay Your Bill by Check, Debit or Credit Card. Log on to www.tiprec.com and Click on the blue Pay Now tab at the top or log into SmartHub or Call 833-619-0894.

Non-Discrimination Statement

"This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer."

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.