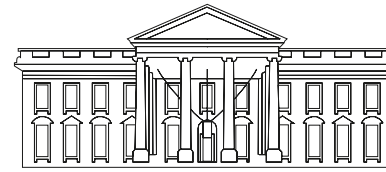


YOUTH TOUR CONTEST 2011

North West REC is sponsoring the 2011 Youth Tour Contest with two students receiving an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C. The trip is scheduled for June 11-16, 2011.



All sons and daughters of North West REC member-consumers, who are presently juniors in high school, are eligible and encouraged to participate.

If you are interested in applying for the youth tour, send in the registration form below, and we will then send you an application form. The application is available on our website at www.nwrec.coop or you can e-mail Delores at dlancaster@nwrec.coop and she will mail you an application. If you have any questions, please call Delores at 712-707-4935 or 1-800-766-2099.

The Youth Tour Contest application should be returned to the REC no later than Friday, March 18, 2011.

The Board of Directors and management encourage all who are eligible to enter the Youth Tour Contest for an exciting educational experience.

2011 YOUTH TOUR CONTEST REGISTRATION

YES, I am interested in entering the contest. Please send me the application form.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

PARENT'S NAME _____

MAIL TO: North West REC • Attn: Delores • PO Box 435 • Orange City, IA 51041

North West Rural Electric Cooperative

P.O. Box 435 • 1505 Albany Place SE • Orange City, IA 51041-0435

Office Hours:
Monday through Friday
7:30 a.m. till 4:00 p.m.

Orange City office open
during noon hour

Ida Grove & Le Mars offices
closed 12:00 - 12:30 p.m.

Outside Depository Available
for After Hours Payments

Phone:

ORANGE CITY (712) 707-4935
(800) 766-2099

IDA GROVE (712) 364-3341

LE MARS (712) 546-4149

Lyle D. Korver
CEO & General Manager

Darwin Dirks
*Assistant Manager & Director of
Operations Services*

Verdell Buss
*Director of Finance &
Office Services*

Lorraine Egdorf
Editor



NEWS Lines

"Published monthly for the member-owners of North West Rural Electric Cooperative"

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PLAN NOW TO ATTEND DISTRICT AND ANNUAL MEETINGS OF MEMBERS

District 1 – Sioux County

Thursday, March 24
MOC-FU High School in Orange City
Registration & Dinner 5:30-7:00 pm
Business Meeting 7:00 pm
Entertainment – Girlfriend

District 2 – O'Brien County

Tuesday, March 22
South O'Brien School in Primghar
Registration & Dinner 5:30-7:00 pm
Business Meeting 7:00 pm
Entertainment – Girlfriend

District 3 – Plymouth County

Thursday, April 7
Le Mars Community High School
Registration & Dinner 5:30-7:00 pm
Business Meeting 7:00 pm
Middle School Auditorium
Entertainment – The Brown Family

District 4 – Ida County

Thursday, March 17
Skate Palace in Ida Grove
Registration & Dinner 5:30-7:00 pm
Business Meeting 7:00 pm
Entertainment – American Pie

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NOTICE OF ANNUAL & DISTRICT MEETINGS OF MEMBERS

The District Meeting of Members in **District 1** will be held at the MOC-FV High School, Orange City, Sioux County, Iowa at 7:00 o'clock in the P.M. on **Thursday, the 24th day of March, 2011**; and

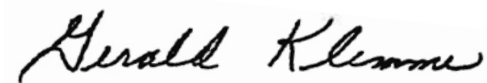
The District Meeting of Members in **District 2** will be held at the South O'Brien School, Primghar, O'Brien County, Iowa at 7:00 o'clock in the P.M. on **Tuesday, the 22nd day of March, 2011**; and

The Annual and District Meeting of Members in **District 3** will be held at the Middle School Auditorium of the Le Mars Community School, Le Mars, Plymouth County, Iowa at 7:00 o'clock in the P.M. on **Thursday, the 7th day of April, 2011**; and

The District Meeting of Members in **District 4** will be held at the Skate Palace, Ida Grove, Ida County, Iowa at 7:00 o'clock in the P.M. on **Thursday, the 17th day of March, 2011**, to take action on the following matters:

- The report of officers, directors and committees.
- The election of one director in District 1, one director in District 2, one director in District 3, one director in District 4, each for a three-year term.
- All other business that may come before the meeting or any adjournments thereof.

Dated this 3rd day of March, A.D., 2011.



Gerald Klemme, Secretary

Reminder About Mailing . . .

Watch your mail for your Annual District Meeting mailing which will include a registration card. Please bring this card with you when coming to the meeting. It will be used for the drawing of door prizes.

You will also receive your "ballot for director" in this mailing. Be sure to vote and mail to the cooperative in the envelope included in the mailing.

MANAGERS & DIRECTORS TRAVEL TO STATE CAPITOL

On Tuesday, February 8, management and directors of North West REC traveled to Des Moines and the state capitol to meet with local area state legislators to discuss bills of importance to North West REC. North West REC, working in conjunction with the government relations department of the Iowa Association of Electric Cooperatives headquartered in Des Moines, does its best to make sure that legislation considered at the statehouse is in the best interest of our member-consumers.

Left to right: Representative Dwayne Alons, Joel Orthmann, Darwin Dirks, Lyle Korver, Tom Wagner, Steve Abma, Gerald Klemme, Alan Lucken and Representative Chuck Soderberg.



Thanks for many years of service!

With the beginning of the new year, there has been a major change in our office staff. Five members of the billing department retired at the end of 2010.



Left to right: Nancy Krueger, Joyce Bruxvoort, Lou De Jong and Debby Hartman.

Joyce Bruxvoort was our billing coordinator and leaves us after almost 41 years of service to Sioux Electric and North West REC. Lou De Jong, 21 years of service to O'Brien County REC and North West REC; Nancy Krueger, 21 years of service to Ida County REC and North West REC; and Debby Hartman, 36 years of service to Plymouth Electric and North West REC, were all customer service representatives in our different offices, and also helped the members at the front counter and answered the phone. Paulette Detloff maintained the capital credits records along with other billing responsibilities for 18 years at Plymouth Electric and North West REC. Paulette officially retired in August but will return to help out in the office part-time.



Paulette Detloff

We want to congratulate Joyce, Lou, Nancy, Debby and Paulette and thank them for their many years of service with the organization and wish them the very best in their retirement!

NORTH WEST REC OFFERS POWERLINE SCHOLARSHIP

North West REC is again sponsoring a powerline scholarship. This program is designed to assist persons enrolled in a course of powerline training at Northwest Iowa Community College in Sheldon.

A \$500 scholarship will be awarded to an individual who has met the eligibility requirements. To be considered for the scholarship, applicants must meet the following criteria:



- Reside in the four county area served by North West REC (Ida, Plymouth, O'Brien and Sioux Counties)
- Be a member or the child of a member of North West REC
- Be accepted as a full time student in the powerline program at Northwest Iowa Community College in Sheldon
- File a scholarship application with North West REC by April 8, 2011

All applicants are required to submit an application form as well as their most recent academic transcript. The criteria for the award will be based upon community and school activities, potential for success and grade point average.

A check will be made out to both the recipient and Northwest Iowa Community College and will be sent to the recipient prior to the beginning of the second semester of course work.

For an application or more information, contact:

North West REC • Attn: Darwin Dirks, Assistant Manager
 2496 Lincoln Ave SW * Le Mars, IA 51031 * 800-766-2099
 ddirks@nwrec.coop

3 GREAT DAYS OF EDUCATION AND FUN can be yours on the Energy Trail Tour, sponsored by North West REC and NIPCO. Learn how water and coal are used to make electricity. See mining area returned to productive land. Enjoy the fellowship of other cooperative member-owners in a comfortable motor coach. Lodging, meals and entry fees are included. Sixteen lucky couples from North West REC will be selected at random from those who sign up. You might be one of them, so sign up today!

Your cost: just \$50 per couple!

Energy Trail Tour

YES, please enter our names in the drawing for the trip. We understand that if our names are drawn, we will be billed \$50.

Our first and second choice of dates:
 July 13-15 1st 2nd
 July 27-29 1st 2nd (please circle)
 Aug. 10-12 1st 2nd

I/we have have not participated in this tour in the past.

Name _____
 Spouse's Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____
 Phone _____

Clip coupon and return to REC office by June 1, 2011



Lyle D. Korver

“Your Cooperative has a very good distribution system, but these grants will be very beneficial for NWREC and our members as it should lead to improved service reliability.”

MANAGER'S REPORT

NWREC to Receive \$4.6 Million FEMA Grant

Following the significant ice storms and flooding that caused extensive damage in Iowa in recent years, the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) made a Risk Mitigation program available for utilities and municipalities. The purpose of this program is to mitigate risk and costs from future storms.

North West REC submitted an application that included the replacement of 67 miles of some of our older three phase overhead line in all four districts. Our application was submitted to FEMA in October, 2009. We were very pleased to receive approval from FEMA on January 24, 2011. The FEMA grant will fund 85% of the construction costs, or \$4,662,765. The total cost for the 67 miles of new line is \$6.2 million. In addition to the FEMA grant, we will also receive a State grant of \$621,702. This leaves \$932,553 as the NWREC portion of the total costs.



We will have three years to complete the work. We anticipate using contractors for some and possibly all of the projects. This will allow our own crews to concentrate on other construction and maintenance programs that we have planned for the next few years.

Your Cooperative has a very good distribution system, but these grants will be very beneficial for NWREC and our members as it should lead to improved service reliability.

District Meetings Scheduled

Our four annual district meetings have been scheduled, and we would like to encourage a large turnout from the members. One of the big things that distinguishes your Cooperative from other utilities is that NWREC is owned by the members it serves. As a member, you have the opportunity to elect the directors, attend the annual meetings, hear reports about the Cooperative's operations and finances and provide input to the board and management.

The meeting schedule this year is as follows:

- District 1 – Thursday, March 24 at the MOC-FV High School in Orange City
- District 2 – Tuesday, March 22 at the South O'Brien School in Primghar
- District 3 – Thursday, April 7 at the Le Mars Community School
- District 4 – Thursday, March 17 at the Skate Palace in Ida Grove

A good meal will be served, we have good entertainment planned and there will be nice door prizes. We hope to see you at one of the meetings.



COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS SELECTS DIRECTOR NOMINEES

The Committee on Nominations met Wednesday, January 26, 2011, to select nominees for election of the directors of the Board of Directors of North West REC. They will be voted on and elected at the Annual/District Meetings of the Cooperative in March and April.

Members of the Committee on Nominations, left to right, front row: John Burk, Ida Grove; Brad Harvey, Akron; Clark Tindall, Le Mars; Fred Koopmans, Hawarden; and Larry Van Veldhuizen, Hull. Back row: Donavon Davenport, Ida Grove; Kent Lundquist, Paulina; Joshua Moermond, Sutherland; Don Boersma, Hospers; Mike Nothem, Remsen; and Dan Albert, Le Mars.



DISTRICT 1 - Sioux County



Allen Jiskoot

- Married to Doris, four grown children
- Currently raises hogs & crops on family farm north of Newkirk
- Taught at MOC-FV for 25 years, now retired
- Member and elder of the Newkirk Reformed Church
- Past school board member for eight years
- Past member of the Northwestern College Alumni board



Jeff Rehder

- Married to Kelly, three children
- Farms near Hawarden with four partners, they raise corn, beans and alfalfa, feed cattle and hogs
- Current board member of North West REC
- Board member of First State Bank
- President of Peace Lutheran Church, rural Sioux Center
- Garfield Township Trustee

DISTRICT 2 - O'Brien County



Shelley Tewes

- Married to Kathy, three children & three grandchildren
- Grew up on a farm in northwest Iowa
- REC member since 1981
- Farm Bureau Member
- Self-employed grain/hog farmer



Tom Wagner

- Married to Holly, three children at home
- Farms with brother Jim in Primghar area
- Current board member of North West REC
- Commissioner on O'Brien County Soil & Water District
- Parish Director at St. Anthony's, Primghar

DISTRICT 3 - Plymouth County



Steve Brown

- Married to Audrey; one son, Clint
- Farms west of Merrill; raises corn and beans, small cow/calf herd
- Current board member of North West REC
- Attends Le Mars Bible Church
- Past advisory committee member of Children's Care Hospital and School
- Enjoys being a S.T.A.R.S. volunteer



Steve Bunkers

- Married to Judy, three children
- Lives on Bunkers Family Century Farm, south of Remsen
- Active member of St. Mary's Catholic Church
- Served on St. Mary's school board for nine years
- Fourth Degree Member of Knights of Columbus
- Member of the National Pork Producers

DISTRICT 4 - Ida County



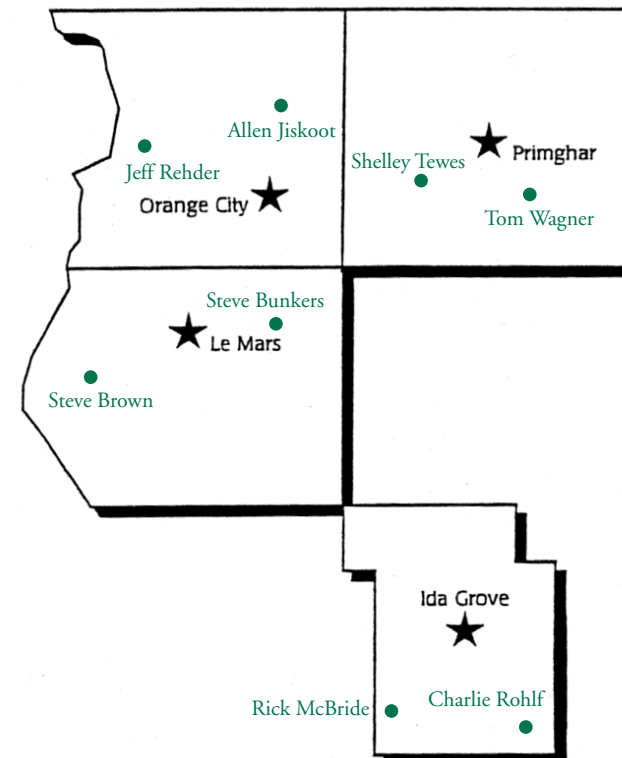
Rick McBride

- Married to Marci, two children
- Lives northeast of Danbury
- Grain and livestock farmer
- REC member since 1982
- Member of St. Mary's Catholic Church
- Past Danbury Ambulance member
- Garfield Township Clerk
- Ida County Fair Superintendent



Charles Rohlf

- Has three sons
- Current board member of North West REC
- Currently serves as Treasurer for NWREC board
- Lives southeast of Ida Grove on a grain farm
- Member of Immanuel Lutheran Church



APPLIANCE RECYCLING

Participate in our appliance recycling program and turn your old refrigerator, freezer or window air conditioner in for a \$25 rebate per appliance. Just call the cooperative at 707-4935 or 800-766-2099 to arrange for easy pickup. Appliances must be in working condition to qualify for the recycling program.