



TIPS From T.I.P.

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

OWNED BY THOSE WE SERVE

November 2021

Brooklyn, Iowa

General Manager's Update



Dean A. Huls

Hello Member-Owners,

I hope everyone is having a good fall and a safe, bountiful harvest.

How has COVID affected your cooperative? We don't know if this has been a question that you have asked your neighbor

or thought of asking us at T.I.P. REC. but here's a short COVID update on our staff. Although we've seen an increase in cases this year, we are thankful to report that each employee has recovered and returned to work.

One of our challenges that we are experiencing is ordering new trucks to replace our older ones. If we were to purchase a truck in 2021 it would take anywhere from December 2022 to March 2023 before delivery which has doubled compared to previous years. Truck repair times are also affecting how we are able to get our work done. Unfortunately, the last truck we had in the shop was there for three months waiting on a part.

We met with the contractor that has provided our pole testing every year and they did not want to commit to our usual three-year contract. They quoted a price for one year and it was approximately 15% higher and they could only guarantee that price for one year. This contractor is also experiencing higher product cost because of the economy.

Our material suppliers are doing a great job of getting us the material that we have ordered. Some of the orders we have placed previously are starting to see some longer



lead times. Our material clerk has been very busy trying to keep our inventory at a higher level

than we have ever experienced because of these delays. As you can see by the picture, another issue we have is very little room to store anymore items. This forces us

to store more material outside. If you were to tour our shops that were built back in 1953, you would see that they were not built for the larger trucks and equipment that we have in our fleet today. The majority of the space in our warehouses is now consumed by our trucks. The office is facing similar obstacles with the lack of storage space and costly building maintenance issues. We realize these issues will need to be addressed in the near future.

Our staff has been monitoring how COVID is affecting our industry and trying to stay one step ahead of it. You have heard us say many times that we are committed to delivering Safe, Reliable, and Affordable power to you, our member-owners. This will remain our goal throughout this pandemic and in the future.

Soon we will be celebrating Thanksgiving and the directors and employees at T.I.P. REC would like to wish you and your family a very Happy and Blessed Thanksgiving!

Annual Pole Top Rescue Practice

Every year, all T.I.P. linemen review the procedures to rescue a fellow lineman who may have had electrical contact, heat exhaustion, an allergic reaction to a bee sting or heart complications while working on the lines.

The following are the procedures our linemen review during this training: The assisting lineman first makes a May Day call to our office and calls 911 to get help coming (an ambulance and in the case of an electrical contact Air Care helicopter) and then proceeds to rescue the victim on the pole by climbing the pole or using a aerial device. He attempts to have the victim on the ground and start doing CPR and first aid within approximately four minutes and continues until Emergency Medical Services arrive.

Your cooperative's management and employees feel that safety is a top priority and will continue to review numerous safety procedures unique to the electric industry annually.

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

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

This is the time of year for reflection, and topping the list of things we are grateful for is our wonderful communities. T.I.P. Rural Electric Cooperative employees are thankful to be in such an incredible place. We are fortunate to live in the same place where we work, which makes our ties to the communities we serve that much stronger.

You may recall that last month there was an article that touched on the first three Cooperative Principles, so this month, we'd like to tell you about the remaining four principles. The Cooperative Principles are essential to the co-op business model and benefit all member-owners of the co-op.

Autonomy and Independence

The fourth principle, Autonomy and Independence, means that the co-op operates in an autonomous way that is solely directed and guided by its member-owners, reflecting the values and needs of our local communities. This means the co-op is not being influenced by leaders or shareholders several states away. Instead, the co-op is led by the local member-owners it serves.

Education and Training

The fifth principle, Education and Training, focuses on enhancing the knowledge of co-op employees and board members, which enables them to contribute to the development of the co-op.

By investing in continuous learning for our employees and board members, our co-op is making a commitment not just to individual professional and personal growth, but to the future of the co-op and the high quality of service our member-owners expect and deserve. It's a win-win situation.

We also strive to inform our member-owners (that's you!) and the public about the mission and operations of the co-op. In fact, that's why you receive this newsletter inserted in the statewide magazine every month, so we can share the latest co-op and statewide news and updates, as well as energy efficiency and safety tips.

Cooperation Among Cooperatives

Cooperation Among Cooperatives is the sixth principle and fosters the way that co-ops work together to address bigger challenges. While this principle applies to all types of cooperatives, it is especially relevant in the energy industry. In our case, we put this principle in action after major storms and disasters that cause widespread power outages. When this happens, we call on nearby co-ops to come to our aid and assist with restoration efforts-and we, of course, extend the same help to them when they need us. We can't think of a

better example of cooperation among cooperatives.

In addition, because we are part of the national electric co-op network, we can connect and collaborate with other electric co-ops to tackle industry-related challenges, like cybersecurity and an everchanging energy landscape.

Concern for Community

The seventh principle, Concern for Community, is essential to who we are as cooperatives. We serve our communities not only by being an essential service, but by helping to power our local economy. Whether through economic development, volunteerism or donations to local causes, we invest in our communities because it's our home, too.

You'll find that most cooperatives bring good people together to make good things happen in our communities. We hope you feel that way about us, your local electric co-op.



THINK SAFETY FIRST
WHEN USING A GENERATOR

Keep this card with your portable generator or emergency kit.

FOLLOW THESE GENERATOR SAFETY TIPS:

- Use a properly rated extension cord to plug appliances into a generator.
- Never plug a generator into your home's electrical system.
- Place the generator at least 20 feet away from windows or doors.
- This 20-foot rule also applies to a porch or garage (or any part of the home).
- Set up and run your generator in a well-ventilated, dry area.
- If it is raining, place the generator under a stand-alone, canopy-like structure.
- Always direct exhaust away from the home or any other structure a person could enter.
- Do not use a generator in a garage (even if the garage door is up) or carport.
- Read and follow all instructions provided by the manufacturer.
- Keep your generator well-maintained and in proper working order.

Ensure that working carbon monoxide (CO) detectors are located on every level of your home, and test them monthly. CO poisoning can happen quickly, and individuals exposed to the odorless, invisible gas may become unconscious before realizing they are experiencing symptoms such as nausea, dizziness or weakness. Or, they might not associate a symptom with CO exposure before becoming unconscious.

Learn more at: 

Help us Locate the Owners of These Unclaimed Patronage Refund Checks

The following is a partial list of members whom we are unable to find since we made patronage payments for **25% of 2004, 75% of 2005, and 10% of 2020** on August 13, 2021. Please notify the office if you know the correct address for anyone listed. If one of the former members listed is deceased, we need to know the name of an heir to contact.

Also, if you or someone you know was a member of T.I.P. in 2004, 2005, or 2020 and have not received a check, please let us know.

There are also some checks which were mailed out that were never cashed or have not been returned to the office. If you are holding a check, please cash it. If you are unable to cash a check for any reason, please let us know.

Estate Capital Credit Retirements

The Board of Directors of T.I.P. Rural Electric Cooperative decided to allow for a discounted payout to **deceased estates that are still open**. The cooperative allows the estate to apply for capital credits that were assigned to the deceased member while that person was receiving electric service from the cooperative. They have the option to accept a lump sum distribution at a discounted value; or to leave the money in for distribution over the normal retirement period which is about approximately 17 years. All applications to receive the discounted payout must be accompanied with a photocopy of the death certificate and letters of appointment issued by the clerk of court to T.I.P. REC before any estate funds can be released.

Remember that spouses are joint members and can continue to receive the capital credits made out in their name. Just let us know, and we will send a form that will allow the spouse name change on the check.

Please feel free to contact the cooperative if you should have any questions.

Patronage Checks Returned after Payment in 2021

Albert, Mark C., Marengo
Allen, Travis, Donnellson
Allnutt, Karen, Williamsburg
Anderson, Catherine, Tama
Arch Communications, Westborough, MA
Warren Arendt for the account of Willis J. Arendt, Hedrick
Arifi, Mendim, Galva, IL
Ayers, Brett, Thornburg
Bailey, Mendy or Ryan, State Center
Bauer, Carla, Vinton
Beadle, Warren G., Deep River

Bechtel, Chris, Fairfield
Beck, Paul, Red Oak
Beckley, Daryl, Sigourney
Billick, Kole, Iowa City
Bine, Lawrence R., Marengo
Bixby, Frank F., Delta
Biwer-Jensen, Jason, Iowa City
Bogue Sr., Darrell E., Tama
Bombay Outlet #197, Fort Worth, TX
Bott, Justin, De Forest, WI
Brannian, Terry, Brooklyn
Brecht, Michele, % Michele Fuller, North English
Brooklyn Short Stop, % J D Carpenter Co, Urbandale
Buffalo, Milo J., Toledo
Burrus, Carol L., Memphis, MO
Byrn, Rick W. or Dianne Benner, Marengo
Campbell, John O., Cedar Rapids
Campbell, Pamela, Conrad
Carlesco Inc, Davenport
Carter, Lloyd R., Conroy
Coffey, Dan, Oskaloosa
Comstock, Jacquelyn, Williamsburg
Cook, Russell J., Williamsburg
Corning Revere Factory, % World Kitchen Store #100,
Rosemont, IL
Craig, Doreen, Florence, AZ
Crozier, Gary S., Marengo
Curley, Lisa, Brandon, FL
Davenport, Carla, Tama
Davenport, Denise, % Denise Violet, Tulsa, OK
Davenport, Larry, % Meskwaki Family Services, Tama
Davenport, Marie L., % Maxine Davenport, Cedar Falls
Decker, Steven or Kelly, Waterloo
De Coster, Eugene, Victor
Dhondt, Ricky L., % Nedra Dhondt POA, Parnell
Kathy Dolash for the account of Michael Dolash, Tama
Doty, Ross E., Brooklyn
Dress Barn #0166, % Engie Insight - MS 2097, Spokane, WA
Dvorak, Glenda K., Marengo
Dysart, Jamie or Jessica, Grinnell
Eagle, Shirlene K., Tama
Edwards, Wes, Williamsburg
Eitel, Josh, Gilman
Ennis Farm, % Hertz Farm Mgt, Mt Vernon
Anna Evans for the account of Becky Evans, Iowa City
Ewald, Mrs. Wayne V., What Cheer
Ferris, Cassandra J., % Richard Ferris, Brooklyn
Fidelity National Asset Management Solution Inc,
% Waterbeck Real Estate, Marion
Fisher, Carroll, Marshalltown
Fisher, Matt, Tama
Flores, Paula, Toledo
F & M Bank of Iowa, Flint, MI
Fossil Stores, Richardson, TX
Fragrance Outlet, Miramar, FL

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(Patronage List Continued from Page 3)

Frimml, Mrs. Martin J., Marengo
Kimbra R. Gorsh for the account of Orville Walter, Boone
Galbreath, Roberta, Iowa City
Gates, Lora, Grinnell
Gerdes, Stanley R. or Sonya D., Montezuma
Gingerich, Marjorie J., Williamsburg
Goos, Dorothy M., Williamsburg
Gregor, William C. or Christine M., Oxford
Gruchow, Kirby C., Waterloo
Guyer, Douglas or Kim, Ladora
Haines, Charlie, Marble, CO
Hamil, Raymond, Altoona
Hammes, Virginia, Sigourney
Hammes, William C., Sigourney
Handeland, Kenny, Thornburg
Hansen, Brian J., Macatawa, MI
Flora V. Heitshusen for the account of Mrs. Harold
Heitshusen, Center Point
Heritage Lace Gallery, Anderson, MO
Herrmann, Max, Belle Plaine
Hess, Art or Misty Bruner, Iowa City
Hicks, Jennifer L., North English
Hill Top Five Inc, Platteville, CO
Horras, Robert D., Exira
Hosek, Nathan or Ann O'Brien, Elberon
Houdyshell, George E. or Deborah, Aledo, IL
Howe, Amanda or Shane, Williamsburg
Howell, Crystal L., Norway
Hubbard, Roger, Somis, CA
Hudepohl, Brad, North English
Huhn, Robert, Toledo
Hutchinson, John or Cindy, Toledo
Iowa Telecom, Newton
Johnson, Lyndon, Tama
Kahl, Ervin, Ottumwa
Kapayou, Olivia, Montour
Keahna, Ernestine, Tama
Keahna, Shannon, Montour
Keahna, Vincent D., Minneapolis, MN
Keegan, Brian, Grinnell
Kees, Erik, Bismarck, ND
Kellen, Nancy, Marion
National Stroke Assoc. for the account of Mrs. Marvin
Keller, Aurora, CO
Kelsey, Robert or Sheila A., Rome, ME
Kern, Ronald, Cedar Rapids
Kenwood Silver Co. Inc, Oneida, NY
Keraghan, Robert, Tama
Knapp Sr., Louis, % Mary Becker, Marion
Kluesner, Randy, Davenport
Knox, Jeremy, Cambridge, MN
Koret of California, Chesterfield, MO
Koch, Barry, Ely
Kramer, Todd, Grinnell
Kroemer, Danette, % Danette Hubbs, Clive
Kulow, Dorothy D., Cedar Rapids
Kutzner, Kathleen, Vanzant, MO

American Cancer Society for the account of Herold Ladely,
Cedar Rapids
Lamb, Mike, Brooklyn
Lasley Sr., Gordon, Tama
Lasley, Jessup, Tama
Leafgreen, Larry E., Howard, CO
Lee Lake Estates, % Pamela Nied, Casa Grande, AZ
Levi's Outlet by Most Store #476, Columbus, OH
Lowe, Joe, What Cheer
Lown, Andy, Ringsted
Luety, Ron, Brodhead, WI
Lutz, Adam S., Sigourney
Lyle, Dell, Webster
Lyons, Robert L., Pella
Madison, Teresa, Keswick
Madoerin, Keith, Idaho Falls, ID
Magic Media, Inc, Duncan, SC
Martin, Dorothea, Sandwich, IL
Martz, Mrs. Winfield, Cedar Rapids
Maskevich, Jeff, Spirit Lake
Mc Cormack, Christina, Flanagan, IL
Mc Grory, Kenneth, Ladora
Mc Mullen, Isaac H., What Cheer
Means Jr., Loren or Kristy, Montezuma
Meiborg, Jim, Cedar Rapids
Messersmith, Darrell, Jefferson City, MO

(Remainder of list will be in the December newsletter)

NOTICE: The Brooklyn office will be closed on Tuesday, November 16th from 8:00 a.m. till Noon for an all-employee safety meeting.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Fall is the perfect time to prep your home for the upcoming winter chill. One of the best ways you can save energy and stay comfortable is to caulk and weatherstrip areas that typically need sealing. Start by sealing around windows and doors. Seal plumbing, ducting, and areas where electrical wiring comes through walls, floors and ceilings for additional energy savings.

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