



# TIPS From T.I.P.

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**OWNED BY THOSE WE SERVE**

**November 2022**

**Brooklyn, Iowa**

## General Manager's Update



**Dean A. Huls**

It was good to see everyone again at our 84th Annual Meeting. As part of the program, we invited our current group of employees to come up on the stage and then introduced them. It made me think of all the retired employees that we

still see from time-to-time. Here is that list of those employees and how many years they have been retired from working at T.I.P. REC. Stanley Walford (34), Dale Lippincott (33), Don Scott (18), Pat Link (18), Jim Deitrich (15), Darrel Heetland (11), Don Coburn (7), Lee Frimml (7), Randy Goeke (5), John Hawkins (4), Rhonda Klaassen (4), and Bob Etter (3). I'm sure you may recognize some of the names.

Over the last year we have been communicating with our membership the plans to build a new facility in the Brooklyn Industrial Park. In September, we awarded Schrader Excavating & Grading the contract for the excavating and utilities for the new facility. They started excavating in early October on the building site. Our goal is to have the excavating completed in 2022. This month we will be awarding the contracts for the pre-engineered metal building for the shop and office areas of the building. The materials will be delivered in the spring and construction will begin immediately. This new facility will help us to better serve our member-owners now and well into the future.

At T.I.P. REC, our goal is to provide safe, reliable, affordable, and environmentally friendly electricity. We realize you are all experiencing higher costs for everything you purchase today. That is no different here at your cooperative. T.I.P. REC is experiencing unbelievable increased costs for the material we are purchasing. As we have been reporting to you, our power cost keeps going higher and higher. Our power

supplier, Central Iowa Power Cooperative, (CIPCO), reported to us that in October our cost of power will be going up another 3.5 mills or 6% which puts us at a 17% increase in purchase power cost for 2022. While the changes in the cost of power purchased have been passed on to the member-owners in the form of changes in the ECA (Energy Cost Adjustment) on your bill, no additional operational costs have been passed on to the member-owners since the last rate increase in 2016.

After much deliberation at the September board meeting, the board of directors approved a \$10 per month increase in the Facilities Charge to all services effective December 1, 2022. In your October bill, you received a bill stuffer notifying you that our facilities charge will be increasing from \$30 to \$40. Some of you have asked what is a facilities charge? Our facilities charge is: a monthly charge to make service available to a member-owner. In other words, this charge covers the fixed costs (substations, poles, wire, transformers, meters, etc) for bringing power to over 1,700 miles of line to serve you. This charge enables your cooperative to provide our member-owners with safe and reliable power. Regardless of how much electricity a particular family uses, the cost of delivering power to that house is the same. As a not-for-profit electric cooperative, we believe the operational cost should be spread fairly and equitably across all our member-owners. This collective investment in your cooperative benefits you and the community immediately and over time with increased reliability. We appreciate and value the investment that you make in the cooperative each month and we strive to use that investment wisely for the benefit of all our member-owners.

With the holidays approaching, your employees and board of directors would like to wish you and your family a Blessed Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year! We look forward to serving you in 2023!

**NOTICE:** The Brooklyn office will be closed on Tuesday, November 8th from 7:00 am till Noon for an all-employee meeting.



## 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.

T.I.P. REC is offering two types of energy audits that can help our member-owners use electricity in a more efficient manner and help save money on their electric bill.

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. You can schedule an energy audit by calling us at 800-934-7976.

By making the upgrades suggested following a home energy audit, you can save 5% to 30% on your energy bill.

## Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month



Is your home heating system ready for the winter chill? One of the easiest ways to keep your system running efficiently is to regularly replace filters. If your central air system has a furnace filter, it should

be replaced about every 90 days.

If your home is heated through warm-air registers, baseboard heaters or radiators, remember to clean regularly to boost efficiency.

## Linemen Practice Pole Top Rescue



Annually, 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.

Safety is a top priority at T.I.P. REC and we will continue to review numerous safety procedures unique to the electric industry every year.

## Security Light Program Changes

T.I.P. Rural Electric Cooperative has an update regarding our security light program: We have opted to discontinue sales of member-owned security lights.

The driving force behind this decision has been the popularity of our rental light option. Because the rental light program includes maintenance of the light it has become the primary choice for new light installs. Rental lights account for over 90% of new light installs over the past several years.

T.I.P. Rural Electric Cooperative will continue to honor the member-owned light program policy for any qualifying lights installed on our system. Specifically, we will honor the warranty period for member-owned LED security lights purchased from the cooperative should a failure occur. **Our new policy places a “hard stop” on any and all member-owned light hardware or warranty issues as of May 31, 2027.**

If you are interested in a rental security light, please call our office at 800-934-7976 to discuss your options.

## 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 2005, 75% of 2006, and 10% of 2021** on August 12, 2022. 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 2005, 2006, or 2021 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 2022

Albert, Mark C., Marengo  
Allen, Arthur C., Iowa City  
Allnutt, Karen, Williamsburg  
Alvarado, Daniel or Debra, Apopka, FL  
American Oil Company, San Antonio, TX  
Antle, Harold, Gladbrook  
Arendt, Brittany, West Des Moines  
Warren Arendt for the account of Willis J. Arendt, Hedrick  
Ayers, Brett, Thornburg  
Bailey, Mendy or Ryan, State Center

Sheila Stickels for the account of Bonnie Baker, Vinton  
Balvin, Darlene, Toledo  
Beadle, Warren G., Deep River  
B & F Farms, LTD., Sigourney  
Bechtel, Chris, Fairfield  
Beckley, Daryl, Sigourney  
Belongia, Matthew, % Pearl Green, Williamsburg  
Billick, Kole, Iowa City  
Bine, Lawrence R., Marengo  
Biwer-Jensen, Jason, Iowa City  
B L Wireless, Vinton  
Bogue Sr., Darrell E., Tama  
Bohrn, Myron, North English  
Bombay Outlet #197, Fort Worth, TX  
Bowers, John, % JCH Farms, Sigourney  
Brooklyn Short Stop, % J D Carpenter Co, Urbandale  
Buffalo, Milo J., Toledo  
Burtlow, Dawn, Centerville  
Campbell, John O., Cedar Rapids  
Campbell, Pamela, Conrad  
Chilton, Kim, North English  
CKJMD, Inc., % Justin Mc Crabb, Oxford  
Coffey, Dan, Oskaloosa  
Comstock, Jacquelyn, Williamsburg  
Conner, Gaynelle, Brooklyn  
Coon, Elizabeth A., Iowa City  
Corning Revere Factory, % World Kitchen Store #100, Rosemont, IL  
Craig, Doreen, Florence, AZ  
Crozier, Gary S., Marengo  
Davenport, Larry, % Meskwaki Family Services, Tama  
Rev Harlan Gillespie for the account of Clarence Davis, Webster City  
Denniger, Kris, Fayetteville, AR  
Densmore, James, or Mary Jo Fortner, % Shirley Cleary, Victor  
Desrochers, Kenny L., South English  
Devine, Mrs. Francis P., Sigourney  
Dhondt, Ricky L., % Nedra Dhondt POA, Parnell  
Betty Dietrich for the account of Harold Dietrich, Marengo  
Kathy Dolash for the account of Michael Dolash, Tama  
Droz, Erica, Parnell  
Dvorak, Glenda K., Marengo  
Dye, Kevin J., Cedar Rapids  
Eagle, Shirlene K., Tama  
Ebersole, James, Ames  
Edwards, Wes, Williamsburg  
Ehle, David, Barnes City  
Eitel, Josh, Gilman  
Ennis Farm, % Hertz Farm Mgt, Mt Vernon  
Era Real Estate Professionals, Cedar Rapids  
Ewald, Mrs. Wayne V., What Cheer  
Fehrmann, Tim or Susan, Port St. Lucie, FL  
Ferring Homes Corporation, Center Point  
Fisher, Carroll, Marshalltown  
Fossil Stores, Richardson, TX

(Continued on Page 4)

**(Patronage List Continued from Page 3)**

Frahm, Sandra M., Tama  
Fullerton, Bob or Lucinda, Ankeny  
Furler, Wilfred H., Williamsburg  
Julie A. Gates for the account of Mrs. M C Gates, Tama  
Goldsmith, Amanda, Washington  
Goos, Dorothy M., Williamsburg  
Charline Greenlee for the account of Glenn L. Greenlee,  
North English  
Gregor, William C. or Christine M., Oxford  
Jane G. Walls for the account of Raymond D. Gregory,  
Ball Ground, GA  
Grier, Jeremy, Santa Teresa, NM  
Grolmus, Amber, Williamsburg  
Gruchow, Kirby C., Waterloo  
Guaranty Bank, % Best Assets Inc, Minneapolis, MN  
Haines, Charlie, Marble, CO  
Halverson, Deloris R., Tama  
Hammes, William C., Sigourney  
Handeland, Kenny, Thornburg  
Hasley, Brenda, or Keith Clark, Brooklyn  
Heritage Lace Gallery, Anderson, MO  
Herrmann, Max, Belle Plaine  
Hicks, Jennifer L., North English  
Horras, Robert D., Exira  
Howerton, Gregory L., Solon  
Huedepohl, Mrs. Ralph, Williamsburg  
Huhn, Robert, Toledo  
Imhoff, Wanda, Williamsburg  
Iowa Telecom, Newton  
Isaacs, John or Jessica, Farmersburg  
Jackman, Dena, Williamsburg  
James, Bob, Williamsburg  
Jans, Curtis, Traer  
Janssen, Chad or Nita, Williamsburg  
Jensen, Gordon, Dubuque  
Rita Franklin for the account of Charles Johnson,  
Blue Springs, MO  
Johnson, Lyndon, Tama  
Ronald D. Johnson for the account of Mrs. Willis R. Johnson,  
Le Claire  
Kahl, Ervin, Ottumwa  
Kane, Rebecca, Coggon  
Kaplan, James, Victor  
Keahna, Ernestine, Tama  
Keahna, Shannon, Montour  
Keahna, Vincent D., Minneapolis, MN  
Keegan, Brian, Grinnell  
Kees, Erik, Bismarck, ND  
National Stroke Assoc. for the account of Mrs. Marvin  
Keller, Aurora, CO  
Kelsey, Robert or Sheila A., Rome, ME  
Kern, Ronald, Cedar Rapids  
Keraghan, Robert, Tama  
Kissel, Dave, Runnells  
Kleinschmidt, L D, Hedrick  
Kleinschmidt, Robert D., % Barb Kleinschmidt, Hedrick

Kluesner, Randy, Davenport  
Knapp Sr., Louis, % Mary Becker, Marion  
Koret of California, Chesterfield, MO  
Kramer, Todd, Grinnell  
Kroemer, Danette, % Danette Hubbs, Clive  
Kulow, Dorothy D., Cedar Rapids  
American Cancer Society for the account of Herold  
Ladely, Cedar Rapids  
Larkin, Brenda, Cedar Falls  
Lasley Sr., Gordon, Tama  
Lasley, Jessup, Tama  
Lee Lake Estates, % Pamela Nied, Casa Grande, AZ  
Levi's Outlet by Most Store #476, Columbus, OH  
Lincoln, Jonette L., Marshalltown  
Lown, Andy, Ringsted  
Lyle, Dell, Webster  
Lyman, Alice, Des Moines  
Lyons, Robert L., Pella  
Madison, Teresa, Keswick  
Madoerin, Keith, Idaho Falls, ID  
Magic Media, Inc, Duncan, SC  
Mahan, Danny L., Ladora  
Martin, Dorothea, Sandwich, IL  
Martin, Sterling, Memphis, MO  
Martz, Mrs. Winfield, Cedar Rapids  
Maskevich, Jeff, Spirit Lake  
Mason, Carol, Le Grand  
Mc Clure, Mrs. Glen, Rowlett, TX  
Mc Elmeel, James B., Waverly  
Mc Grory, Daniel, Ladora  
Mc Grory, Kenneth, Ladora  
Mc Mullen, Isaac H., What Cheer  
Messersmith, Darrell, Jefferson City, MO  
Meyer, Kenneth W., Oelwein  
Midwest Wireless, Mankato, MN  
Mikasa Factory Store #48, Spokane, WA  
Miler, Eugene B., Tama  
Miller, Jerry K., Mesa, AZ  
Jay Miller for the account of Dr. Larry Miller, Solon  
Monaghan, Ronald, Kinross  
Music for a Song #57, Marietta, GA

**(Remainder of list will be in the December newsletter)**

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