

Harvest Season is here!



DON'T LET THIS BE YOU THIS HARVEST SEASON! LOOK UP AND LIVE

September 2019

NEWSLINE

In this Issue: New Director pg 2 • Unclaimed Capital Credits pg 3 Stray Voltage pg 4



REA's Ally Coleman helps **Pope/Douglas Recycling** employees Nathan Reinbold and Christa Weitzel set up the organics recycling bins used at the Pancake Feed (top left). Electric mower and UTV courtesy of the University of Minnesota - Morris (top right). Heidi Wagner catches pancakes like a pro (bottom left)! The addition of **Millerville Butter** was a hit at the Pancake Feed this year (bottom right).

Another year of Flapjack Fun!

The 26th Annual Member Appreciation Pancake Feed was a huge success with 1,750 members and their families coming to enjoy breakfast and fun at REA. With a theme of **Electrifying Your Everyday**, guests experienced hands-on battery-powered yard and garden tools from Paul's Small Engine (Alexandria), electric bicycles from Jake's Bikes (Alexandria), an electric mower and UTV from the University of Minnesota - Morris, a Mitsubishi Outlander plug-in hybrid electric vehicle (PHEV) from Don Robinson Mitsubishi (St. Cloud), and an electric forklift from Herculift. Hats off to Pope/Douglas Recycling for helping us compost all the tableware and food waste.

Mark your calendar for the 2020 REA Pancake Feed: **Saturday, August 22!**



ENJOY WORRY-FREE WATER HEATING FROM REA!

Purchase from REA: Storage Water Heating

Storage Water Heaters from REA use electricity efficiently to save you money

- » **Manufacturer Limited Lifetime Warranty**
Labor reimbursed by REA (Limited)
- » **6-Year Manufacturer Warranty on Water Heat Parts**
Labor reimbursed by REA (Limited)
- » **Safe** - No venting required
- » **Energy Efficient**
Efficiency factor greater than .90

Interested in learning more?

Contact our Energy Management department at 800-473-1722 or rea@runestoneelectric.com



CEO, Kristin Dolan

A Note from the CEO: Director Appointed in District 7

Kristin Dolan, CEO, Runestone Electric Association

We are pleased to extend a very warm welcome to Brad Burklund, REA's newest board member.

The REA Board of Directors is grateful to have District 7 represented once again. We dearly miss Steve Pederson who previously represented District 7. Steve passed away in May after a long and courageous battle with cancer.

The board did not want District 7 to go unrepresented for an extended period of time. Following the REA Bylaws for board vacancies, they moved forward with the director appointment process. The candidate selected through this process will complete the term for District 7 through the spring of 2020.

In July, REA advertised for members of District 7 to apply for the open director seat. In early August the Board interviewed the director candidates and selected Brad. Brad will serve in the director position until REA's next annual meeting, which will be held in the spring of 2020. At that time the District 7 seat will be up for election by the members of District 7.

The REA Board of Director election process starts with the nomination process. Nominations for board seats happens at our District Meetings that we generally hold each January. At the District Meeting, qualified candidates are nominated for their name to be placed on the ballot. Once the nomination process is complete, ballots are mailed out to the members of the district up for election. Members can vote by mail or bring their ballot to the

Annual Meeting to cast their vote. The districts up for election next year are Districts 2, 5 and 7.

We encourage all interested members who are qualified to consider running for the director position within your district. If you are interested in learning more about the role of the REA director position, please contact us the Cooperative.

Fall is Upon Us

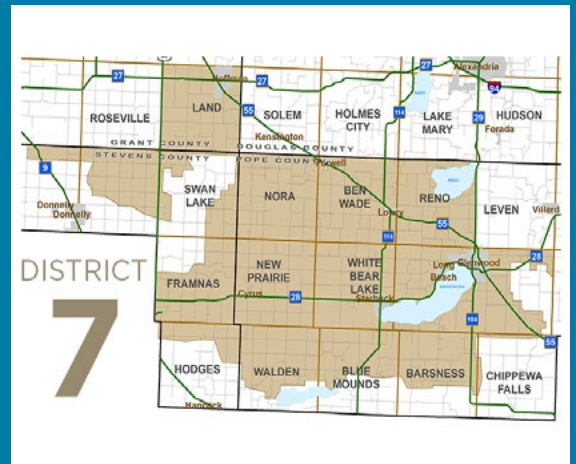
I sure felt a taste of the cooler fall temperatures the last week of August. Even though it was cool at night, I just couldn't quite turn on the furnace in August! It's, however, a great remind-

er to make preparations in advance of the cooler temperatures coming. Now is a great time to contact our energy experts for help with your home heating needs or a standby generator. We have financing available for you to help in making your home comfortable for the fall and winter seasons.

It's also a busy time of the year with back to school activities and the beginning of a busy harvest season. Please remember to look up and look out for electrical equipment, poles, and wires as you begin the fall harvest. We at REA wish all of you a beautiful fall to enjoy and a safe harvest for our farmers.



BRAD BURKLUND
DISTRICT 7 DIRECTOR



Family: Brad and his wife, Sandy, have been married 38 years and have 3 adult children and three-year-old twin grand daughters.

Past Work Experience: 10 years teaching high school agriculture; 25 years Minnesota State Colleges system teaching Farm Business Management; 2 years Ag Lending Bremer Bank.

What brought you to the Starbuck area? "We have been coming to Lake Minnewaska for the past 35 years with friends and bought a small cabin near Starbuck 20 years ago. We have come to really appreciate the area and we decided to build a new home and retire here."

REA Board of Director Meeting Highlights - July 2019

- » CEO Dolan reviewed the Financial Report for June 2019. The June monthly REA margin is a positive variance from budget, due to lower operating expenses related to less crew time on outages and decreased services from STAR Energy Services for the month. As directed by the restated REA Bylaws, Membership dollars were refunded primarily with a credit to member accounts on July 23rd. A Federal Financing Bank (FFB) Loan advance will be deposited into the Construction Fund with an effective interest rate on the thirty-year note is 2.513%.
- » Mr. Haman discussed rejected poles and future construction practices to avoid having member-owned overhead equipment on any REA-owned pole.
- » Mr. Rooney reported the Nova Portal, a dashboard for

information on REA's member interconnection information, is now active and available on REA's website. Two applications have been processed through this interface, and we are pleased with the performance of the portal.

- » The Board reviewed the 2019 Great River Energy (GRE) Annual Director Hjelle gave the Great River Energy Report highlighting details of the recent strategic planning session. Directors Johnson, Patrick, Loken, Anderson, and Staples reviewed the MREA District 3 Meeting held July 11th in Alexandria. Director Anderson and CEO Dolan reviewed the STAR Energy Services Board Meeting held July 18th noting the organization is doing well and financially in good shape.
- » **The regular September Board Meeting will be September 26, 2019.**

Unclaimed Capital Credit Checks

Names are listed alphabetical by LAST name. If you know the current address to anyone listed below please call 800-473-1722 or email rea@runestoneelectric.com. The list is also available at www.RunestoneElectric.com.

NORDQUIST, LON FERGUS FALLS, MN
NORMAN, HOWARD ALEXANDRIA, MN
NORTHLAND ERECTORS CO FARGO, ND
NOWICKI, WALTER GJR CHASKA, MN
NYLEN, WALLACE R MINNEAPOLIS, MN
O'NEILL, GEORGE R EDEN VALLEY, MN
OLHAUSEN, MARLENE K ALEXANDRIA, MN
OLIN, JAMES ELBOW LAKE, MN
OLSEN, THEODORE ALEXANDRIA, MN
OLSON, BRADLEY E ALEXANDRIA, MN
OLSON, EUNICE HOFFMAN, MN
OLSON, LARRY EJR NELSON, MN
OLSON, OLIVER ALEXANDRIA, MN
OLSON, WARREN H STARBUCK, MN
ONERHEIM, JAMES D DEVILS LAKE, ND
OPP, DONALD MORRIS, MN
OSAKIS TURKEY, INC BURNSVILLE, MN
OTREMBIA, MICHAEL D ALEXANDRIA, MN
OURADA, STEPHEN J DULUTH, MN
PAASCH, ALAN A CLEMENTS, MN
PAGENKEMPER, DORIS B ALEXANDRIA, MN
PARRIOT, ROBERT R BAYARD, NE
PATTISON, STEPHANIE K BEMIDJI, MN
PAULZINE, DARRYL SILOAM SPRINGS, AR
PAULZINE, FRANCIS OSAKIS, MN
PAULZINE, VERNON D AMERY, WI
PAYNE, TAP R MORRIS, MN
PEARSON, ALVIN NORTH SAINT PAUL, MN
PEKAREK, PAULA SAINT CHARLES, MN
PENKE, RANDY OTTERTAIL, MN
PESCHEL, WM B WAHPETON, ND
PETERS, HARRY H MONTEVIDEO, MN
PETERSON, CONNIE ALEXANDRIA, MN
PETERSON, DOUGLAS F ELBOW LAKE, MN
PETERSON, JUSTIN M ALEXANDRIA, MN
PETERSON, ROY W OSAKIS, MN
PHELPS, ETHEL SAINT PAUL, MN
PHILLIPS, S J SAINT JOSEPH, MN
PITZEL, MICHAEL ALEXANDRIA, MN
POHL, JOHN C MENDOTA, IL
POIRIER, MARK MONTEVIDEO, MN
POLLARD, BONNIE P ALEXANDRIA, MN
PORTER, DOREEN ALEXANDRIA, MN
POWER, JAMES L FARWELL, MN
PREVIANT, JON GLENWOOD, MN
QUAM, RODNEY A FORT BUCHANAN, PR
QUINN, SARAH L LINCOLN, NE
R E O ENGINEERING 'CHAP CARLOS, MN
RACHEL, MICHAEL ALEXANDRIA, MN
RAJDL, DALE J FOREST LAKE, MN
RATAJESAK, KIRK G SEATTLE, WA
REED, MELVIN ESR BAYPORT, MN
REFSAL, ARLO STARBUCK, MN
REMARCIK, PAUL G ALEXANDRIA, MN
RICHARDSON, RONALD J SAINT PAUL, MN
RICKS, GREGG L ASHBY, MN
RIESELNMAN, JOSEPH ALEXANDRIA, MN
RING, MARK A RUSHMORE, MN
RISKE, JAMES CENTRALIA, WA
RITZSCHKE, PERRY HERMAN, MN
ROERS, MARK A SIMPSONVILLE, SC
ROGERS, DONALD S BUFFALO, MN
ROGERS, HUGH R SAINT PAUL, MN
ROLLINS, ELLEN GRANTSBURG, WI
ROOS, FLORENCE L BELGRADE, MN

RORVIG, MILTON E STARBUCK, MN
ROSS, LYLE M SAINT PAUL, MN
ROSSUM, CHARLES K BRANDON, MN
ROSOWLD, ALBERT EVANSVILLE, MN
RUBLE, TERROL J HUTCHINSON, MN
RUDE, CALMER JR TULSA, OK
RUDELL, LEONARD HOFFMAN, MN
RUDELL, LESLIE ALEXANDRIA, MN
RUPPERT, DENNIS A ALEXANDRIA, MN
SAMANI, REUBEN SIOUX CENTER, IA
SANBORN, JAMES L POWAY, CA
SANNES, ODELL MINNEAPOLIS, MN
SAXTON, TODD W CARLOS, MN
SCHAPER, DUANE E KENYON, MN
SCHENDEL, LORRAINE MOORHEAD, MN
SCHIMELPFENIG, K H ROCHESTER, MN
SCHJEI, JOEL BRANDON, MN
SCHMIDT, JAMES OSAKIS, MN
SCHMIDT, MICHAEL J OSAKIS, MN
SCHMIDT, NORBERT T ALEXANDRIA, MN
SCHNEIDER, GAIL A LAKE WORTH, FL
SCHOENROCK, LAURA ALEXANDRIA, MN
SCHROEDER, JERRY L CARLOS, MN
SCHUHMACHER, MARTIN ALEXANDRIA, MN
SCHULER, L C MARSHALL, MN
SCHULTZ, JOHN F OSAKIS, MN
SCHUTZ, HENRY F HOLMEN, WI
SCOTT, JOHN ESR MONTICELLO, MN
SELL, STEVEN E STARBUCK, MN
SERDAHL, ARCHIE O BAXTER, MN
SETHNEY, IVAN W ALEXANDRIA, MN
SEVERSON, RAY CARLOS, MN
SHADY LANE RESORT GRAND FORKS, ND
SHEAR, WARREN MINNEAPOLIS, MN
SHOGREN, RONALD W LADY LAKE, FL
SHOGREN, SHIRLEY LAS VEGAS, NV
SIEGLER, LEN J VERNDALE, MN
SILVER, RICHARD P STARBUCK, MN
SIZER, SUNNY ALEXANDRIA, MN
SKAGGS, WM SAINT PAUL, MN
SKARE, SHIRLEY HOFFMAN, MN
SKINNEMOEN, KEVIN FERGUS FALLS, MN
SMALL BUSINESS ADM MINNEAPOLIS, MN
SOLTIS, ROBERT LODGE GRASS, MT
SOPHY, MERLE B ASHBY, MN
SORENSEN, MARION SAINT PAUL, MN
SORENSEN BROTHERS ALEXANDRIA, MN
SORUM, JANICE BARRETT, MN
SPEAS, LARRY O BERTHA, MN
SPELLMAN, MICHAEL P WEST PALM BEACH, FL
SPRAGUE, DAVID SAINT CLOUD, MN
STANDAL, NANCY ALEXANDRIA, MN
STANDARD ENTERPRISES GARFIELD, MN
STARK, JARRIN E ALEXANDRIA, MN
STARNER, ROBERT HOFFMAN, MN
STEEN, LEE C ALEXANDRIA, MN
STEFFEN, MICHAEL W MOOSE LAKE, MN
STEIDL, MILES ALEXANDRIA, MN
STERNKE, DONALD F MARSHALL, MN
STOECK, ROSE M ALEXANDRIA, MN
STOETZEL, WILLIAM L LAKELAND, MN
STOLTZ, EMIL J GARFIELD, MN
STRUCK, MYRON ROGERS, MN
STURGES, BARBARA K EVANSVILLE, MN
SUCHY, ANDREW M PARKERS PRAIRIE, MN

SWENSON, EARL H HOFFMAN, MN
SYVERSON, SHIRLEY BATTLE LAKE, MN
TARARA, TIMOTHY P PINE ISLAND, MN
TERSTEEG, DONALD SJR WILLMAR, MN
THARALDSON, DELAN O SAINT PAUL, MN
THELEN, RHODA J CLARISSA, MN
THIEL, CLARENCE ELBOW LAKE, MN
THIEL, DUANE R FARGO, ND
THORSETT, DONALD L FOUNTAIN HILLS, AZ
TIMM, LOWELL W CARLOS, MN
TIMM, ROBERT A STARBUCK, MN
TOBIN, PATRICK W EDINA, MN
TORDSON, ALLEN ELBOW LAKE, MN
TORGERSON, CHESTER NORTHWOOD, ND
TORGUSON, FLORENCE LARKSPUR, CO
TOSO, JOHN A SUN CITY WEST, AZ
TRONESS, A P GLENWOOD, MN
TROSEN, DAVID VERNDALE, MN
TROUSIL, PETER H LITTLE FALLS, MN
TROUSIL, RAYMOND ALEXANDRIA, MN
TRUSTY HAROLD I CAMBRIDGE, MN
TWEIT, JEFFREY GLENWOOD, MN
UNGER C THOMAS-CHAP 7 FARWELL, MN
UNRUH, RONALD J ALEXANDRIA, MN
UPHOFF, PHYLLIS MORRIS, MN
URBAN, SUZETTE OSAKIS, MN
VAN EPS, ROBERT D MORRIS, MN
VAN KEMPEN, JEROME A ALEXANDRIA, MN
VAN KEMPEN, STEVE LONG PRAIRIE, MN
VAN VALKENBURG, A MRS PINE RIVER, MN
VANEPS, JOHN E MORRIS, MN
VERDOORN, DAVID W CLARISSA, MN
VETSCH, LOREN MONTICELLO, MN
VICKERMAN, GARY D DEER RIVER, MN
VICKERMAN, GLORIA ALEXANDRIA, MN
VIKING, VISION UPSALA, MN
W K FARMS #3 BLUE EARTH, MN
WAGNER, ALICE H ALEXANDRIA, MN
WALKER, LYLE CYRUS, MN
WALKER, TERRANCE L THERMOPOLIS, WY
WATSON, RHONDA ALEXANDRIA, MN
WEBER, PHYLLIS K ALEXANDRIA, MN
WEGNER, CANDY K ROEBUCK, SC
WELLER, DUANE S ALEXANDRIA, MN
WEOSSNER, RUDOLPH CIRCLE, MT
WHITE, RON E ALEXANDRIA, MN
WICKLANDER, CAL OSAKIS, MN
WILSON, DAVID S ELBOW LAKE, MN
WINE, RAY M SEDRO WOOLLEY, WA
WINKELMAN, MERLE L NORTH POLE, AK
WISE, ARLYCE ALEXANDRIA, MN
WITHERS, WAYNE HUTCHINSON, MN
WOLFGRAM, DON E GREEN BAY, WI
WU, KAI C SAINT PAUL, MN
YERKA, JOHN AJR AVON, MN
YERKES, CINDY ALEXANDRIA, MN
ZAHLER, STEVEN M MOTLEY, MN
ZASTROW, GLENN J ALEXANDRIA, MN
ZEIEN, LINDA HASTINGS, MN
ZIEGELMAN, MELVIN ALEXANDRIA, MN
ZIESEMER, DICK LITTLE FALLS, MN
ZINS, BONNIE J CLARISSA, MN
ZOBEL, LLOYD STARBUCK, MN
ZOSEL, HAROLD SAINT CLOUD, MN



NEWSLINE

The Official Monthly publication of Runestone Electric Association.

6839 Power Lane SW
Alexandria, MN 56308

320-762-1121
Fax: 320-763-4149

rea@runestoneelectric.com

24/7: 800-473-1722

Office Hours:
8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Mon- Fri.

Memorial Day to Labor Day:
7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mon- Fri.

Board of Directors

District 1: Gary (Andy) Anderson, Secretary

District 2: Barbara Johnson, President

District 3: Audrey Hjelle, Director

District 4: Dave Staples, Director

District 5: Mike Loken, Treasurer

District 6: Clif Patrick, Vice President

District 7: Brad Burklund

Editorial Staff

Kristin Dolan, CEO

Sue Lundeen, Editor

Ally Coleman, Communications Specialist

In Case of a Power Outage

- » Please call 800-473-1722 for 24-hour service. Please report any tree branches in lines, twisted wires, broken poles and if your neighbors are also out of power.
- » Be sure to have a corded phone or a charged cell phone in the house, because cordless phones won't work when the power is out.
- » Program the number above your into your cell phone for easy access.
- » Never assume we know you are without power. Always call to report an outage.

REA is an Equal Opportunity Provider



Correcting Neutral-to-Earth Voltage Conditions

As a member-owner of Runestone Electric Association, you should feel free to call us anytime with concerns related to your electrical service. One area that can be a concern, particularly for livestock farmers, is stray voltage.

Electrical supply systems delivering power to farms, homes and businesses are grounded to the earth to make them as safe as possible and to ensure their reliability. Proper grounding of these electric systems is not only essential, but a requirement of the codes that govern both home and utility practices. Because electric current is designed to be carried by the grounded conductors (neutral conductors), these wires will have a small voltage associated with them. Objects that are bonded to the neutral conductors will therefore have a voltage on them.

A consequence of the electrical system in the United States is "Stray Voltage". Stray voltage is often defined as a small voltage (less than 10 volts) that exists on grounded objects that are within close proximity to livestock. If an animal touches a grounded object, such as a metal drinking cup, while standing on an ungrounded floor or on soil a current can flow through the animal's body. If the voltage level is high enough, the resulting current may be sensed by the cow. Stray voltage can become a cow behavioral issue with the livestock operator. Hesitation to drink from a waterer, or enter a parlor can be a behavioral symptom of stray voltage.

Although stray voltage is present on all distribution systems, humans usually do not notice it. However, livestock - especially dairy cows - are particularly sensitive. The goal is to keep the voltage level low enough that it will not cause a problem on the farm. Stray voltage can also result from deteriorating and improper wiring, faulty equipment, or improper grounding. Because of high electric use, high humidity, silage acids, and manure, a dairy farm is not the ideal environment for electrical wiring.

REA offers stray voltage investigations at no charge.

The Minnesota Stray Voltage Guide outlines the steps farmers, electricians, utilities and their advisors can take to discover and resolve stray voltage concerns on livestock farms. When farmers and utility companies work together, stray voltage concerns are more likely to be satisfactorily resolved. To download the Guide, visit www.minnesotastrayvoltageguide.com



Know whats below.
Call before you dig.

Call 811 or
visit gopherstateonecall.org
before you dig

