

**SPEND MORE
TIME HERE**

AND LESS HERE

With Auto Pay!

Never forget to pay your bill again with REA's auto pay program. The automatic payments come out on the due date from a checking, savings, debit or credit card.

Sign up online or call the office at 800-473-1722

NEWSLINE

August 2021

In this Issue: **Cybersecurity** pg 2 • **Unclaimed Capital Credits** pg 3

REA Annual Meeting: Thursday, August 19, 2021

Registration opens at 4:00 p.m.

Meeting begins at 5:00 p.m.

Alexandria Area High School
4300 Pioneer Rd SE
Alexandria, MN 56308

Attend the Annual Meeting and receive **2 Tickets to the Douglas County Fair!**

(2 tickets per membership)

JOIN US FOR THE 84TH

ANNUAL MEETING

Join us for the 84th Runestone Electric Association Annual Meeting on Thursday, August 19, at Alexandria Area High School. Director seats in District 2 and 5 will be determined as will amendments to REA's Bylaws.

Please bring your registration card and ballot with you to the Annual Meeting or return the ballot by mail in the envelope provided.

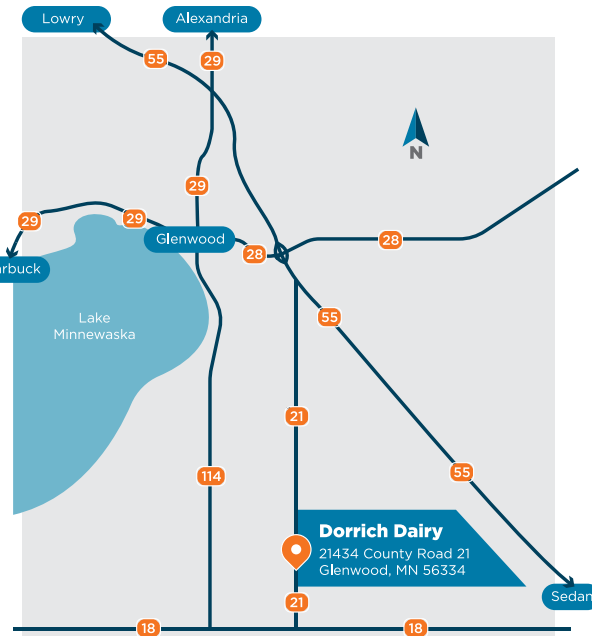
Due to Covid concerns, there will be no food served at the Annual Meeting.

If you have any questions regarding the Annual Meeting, please call REA at 1-800-473-1722 or email rea@runestoneelectric.com.

FREE! Pope County Breakfast on the Farm

**Monday, September 6
8:00 - 11:00 a.m.**

Dorrich Dairy
21434 County Road 21
Glenwood, MN 56334





A Note from your CEO Cybersecurity



Al Haman
CEO

With the recent cyber attacks on the Colonial Pipeline and Kaseya software, I've received questions about REA's vulnerabilities and steps taken to do our best to avoid one here.

Our risks are primarily in three areas - wholesale power supply and transmission, local distribution operations related to equipment in the field, and our internal computer systems and information technology.

The most significant risk at the local level to reliability of service is an actual physical attack of some sort that occurs at a substation. Most of our newer equipment is fitted with electronic controls that communicate over a wide area network. However, all of the equipment used to distribute power locally can quickly be removed from the network and placed under the manual control of REA's linemen. In addition, our wholesale power provider, Great River Energy, manages cybersecurity for the monitoring software located at the network's hub in Elk River.

Great River Energy has responsibility for all computer and electronic control of generating assets and transmission lines that provide power to REA. "We're seeing an increase in sophisticated hacking operations," said Marc Child, the information security program manager at REA's wholesale power provider Great River Energy. "In our partnership with the Department of Homeland Security, we're hearing hackers likened to terrorists. It's gaining national and international attention, especially among what we consider as essential infrastructure: electricity, banking, and public works."

Critical infrastructure companies, including REA, have mandatory minimum standards for cybersecurity. Cybersecurity practices and procedures are regularly reviewed and updated to ensure they're effective against a cyberattack.

"At Great River Energy, we're required by the North American Electric Reliability Corporation to ensure our

cyber assets are secured," Child said. "This means that we're required to take necessary steps to ensure the grid and our member data is safe and secure. Cybersecurity is critical to what Great River Energy does as it maintains and operates the grid."

Finally, we rely on several providers of software for our internal business processes. While few of these software applications have a public-facing internet portal, we work closely with these developers to maintain all levels of security. Our employees participate in routine training on the latest cybersecurity threats and are exposed to simulated phishing attacks to increase awareness. Unfortunately, ransomware is just one click away, but I feel we are taking all the steps we can to protect ourselves. Our most utilized internal software application is provided by the National Information Solutions Cooperative (NISC). This application has a public portal (SmartHub) that utilizes both internal servers here in Alexandria and a cloud-based service to help manage risk.

Members can safely use SmartHub to manage their accounts, monitor electric use, and, if you choose, pay your bill. All SmartHub passwords stored in our database are encrypted, not in plain text. REA employees do not have access to passwords. If a member forgets their password, they are required to answer a series of validation questions before entering a new password.

Ransomware and other cyber threats are on the rise. We have ongoing communication with our software and hardware vendors to assess risk, plan, and follow industry best practices to protect ourselves as best we can. Fortunately, we are a smaller organization with fewer access points than the large businesses we hear about in the news. While the risk can never be reduced to zero, I'm confident we are taking prudent steps to minimize our exposure.

Annual Meeting

Summer is a busy time, but we hope you are able to attend the Annual Meeting on Thursday, August 19. Please see details on page 1.

REA Board of Director Meeting Highlights - June 2021

- » Reviewed the Financial Report for May 2021. kWh sales were over budget for May but under budget year-to-date. Electric service revenue dollars are over budget for the year due to the inclusion of pass-through PCA charges from GRE.
- » The Member Advisory Council will meet on Tuesday, August 24, for the first time since February 2020 due to Covid restrictions.
- » Reviewed results of the Aquanta water heating control pilot program program. Aquanta devices will be deployed over a four-year timetable, completing the project by the end of 2025.
- » Reviewed the District Meetings and upcoming Annual Meeting on August 19. The Board's consensus was to consider holding future District Meetings and the Annual Meeting late spring or early summer.
- » REA received a \$1,000 donation from Great River Energy for the Operation Round Up program.
- » **The regular July Board Meeting will be August 31, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.**

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. A complete list is also available at www.RunestoneElectric.com.

AGNEW, MARK D MILTONA, MN
AHRNDT, JASON BENSON, MN
AKEN, ROBERT L BARRETT, MN
ALVERSON, RICHARD ORIENT, SD
AMSDEN, JASON M CROSSLAKE, MN
ANDERSON, CHARLES G ALEXANDRIA, MN
ANDERSON, DANIEL D MORA, MN
ANDERSON, DENNIS MORRIS, MN
ANDERSON, DUANE A ELBOW LAKE, MN
ANDERSON, ELMER A ELBOW LAKE, MN
ANDERSON, HELEN L GLENWOOD, MN
ANDERSON, LEROY ALEXANDRIA, MN
ANDERSON, MYRON E BUFFALO, ND
ANDERSON, PAUL A SAINT PAUL, MN
ANDERSON, TERRY T CHASKA, MN
ANDRS, WILLIAM L MINNETONKA, MN
BAKER, ELDON R BOX ELDER, SD
BAKKEN, CARLTON G SAINT PAUL, MN
BARKOSKY, ADRIAN MESA, AZ
BARRICK, KATHLEEN A NELSON, MN
BARTZ, JOHN F CYRUS, MN
BAUMANN, SALLYE P ORLANDO, FL
BAYERKOHLE, CLARENCE HOFFMAN, MN
BAYSHORE PROPERTIES INC MINNEAPOLIS, MN
BEARDSLEY, ROBERT D ASHBY, MN
BECKER, CURT S ALEXANDRIA, MN
BENGTSON, BEVERLY A WHITE BEAR LAKE, MN
BERG, KARI FARGO, ND
BERGER, WILLIAM S MISSION, TX
BERGERON, TREVIS A OSAKIS, MN
BERGEVIN, MICHAEL W PARKERS PRAIRIE, MN
BESEMAN, KENNETH BLAINE, MN
BLACK, STEVEN ALEXANDRIA, MN
BLAINE, STEVEN D ANNANDALE, MN
BLOOM, JEAN E SAINT PAUL, MN
BLOOM, MICHAEL A MILTONA, MN
BLUE, HALL GLENWOOD, MN
BOIKE, ELMER A MONTEVIDEO, MN
BOYKEN, WILLIAM G CHIPPEWA FALLS, WI
BRAXTON, THOMAS N BRADENTON, FL
BRIARD, FORREST D FRAZEE, MN
BROMLEY, ROBERT K ALEXANDRIA, MN
BROTTON, DEAN MINNEAPOLIS, MN
BROTTON, DEAN D MINNEAPOLIS, MN
BURNS, BRYAN L SAINT CLOUD, MN
BURSS, DALE LONG PRAIRIE, MN
BYLER, WM D EL DORADO SPRINGS, MO
CADY, JOHN F ALBERT LEA, MN
CARLSON, CHAD FOSSTON, MN
CARLSON, TOM L MILTONA, MN
CASHMAN, JAMES D SANTA CLARA, UT
CASPERSON, PERRY M BARRETT, MN
CHASSIS LINER CORP ALEXANDRIA, MN
CHRISTENSON, GAIL SCOTTSDALE, AZ
CINK, RAYMOND G GRAYSLAKE, IL
CITIZENS STATE BANK EAGLE BEND, MN
CLAGGETT, BRADFORD A BATTLE LAKE, MN
CLARK, JOYCE E WEST FARGO, ND
COLLISON, KELLIANN S SAINT PAUL, MN
COMMUNITY STATE BANK ALEXANDRIA, MN
CONN, DAVID N MERIDEN, CT
COYKENDALL, VERNON L EAGAN, MN
CRANE, ROBERT W BECKER, MN
CRUIKSHANK, STEPHEN H DAYTON, OH
CURWICK, JACK D ALEXANDRIA, MN
DAHL, JAMES P BARRETT, MN
DICKMANN, RANDY L ALEXANDRIA, MN
DOBBERSTEIN, ALICE A HUTCHINSON, MN
DOERING, JO ANN MILTONA, MN
DOONAN, RALPH ALEXANDRIA, MN

DROPPS, LLOYD G EVANSVILLE, MN
DUNN, VERLE DONNELLY, MN
DVORSAK, DALE A FERGUS FALLS, MN
EBLEN, LYNN L GLENWOOD, MN
EHLERS, HARVEY I SAUK RAPIDS, MN
ELLIS, THOMAS L MILTONA, MN
ENGLUND, LARRY D EVANSVILLE, MN
ERICKSON, KIMBERLY PARKERS PRAIRIE, MN
ERICKSON, MARK C LAREDO, TX
EVANS, SANDRA L LITCHFIELD, MN
FABER, ALOIS PARKERS PRAIRIE, MN
FABER, JERRY L ALEXANDRIA, MN
FEEKEN, BUFFY L GARFIELD, MN
FEHR, EVERETT L LEWISVILLE, TX
FELLON, DAVID J LAKEVILLE, MN
FERGUSON, JAMES D GILBERT, AZ
FEZLER, KURT V ALEXANDRIA, MN
FIRST BANK ALEX ALEXANDRIA, MN
FJARE, PAUL S GREEN VALLEY, AZ
FORESTER, DONALD A W SAINT PAUL, MN
FORSBERG, IDA M BROOTEN, MN
FOULKE, DAVID G ALEXANDRIA, MN
FRIDGEN, TROY DETROIT LAKES, MN
FRIGSTAD, DENNIS E COTTAGE GROVE, MN
FROELICH, HERMAN EDEN PRAIRIE, MN
FROMMEL, STEVEN J MONTEVIDEO, MN
FROST, JACK R MINNETONKA, MN
GADES, ROBERT E LINCOLN, NE
GAFFANEY, DARLENE VILLARD, MN
GEORGE, LLOYD C MENAUGA, MN
GIBBS, RICHARD L GLENWOOD, MN
GIESLER, GARY L OSAKIS, MN
GRAMS, GARY L ALEXANDRIA, MN
GRAMS, ROGER E MORA, MN
GRONINGA, PATRICIA A ALEXANDRIA, MN
GUNDERSON, WENDY S FARGO, ND
HAACK, RAYMOND G STARBUCK, MN
HALBERG, LYNN W CEDAREEDGE, CO
HALL, PETE HENNING, MN
HAMMER, LINDA K FERGUS FALLS, MN
HANSON, WAYMON NELSON, MN
HARGIN, INC GLENWOOD, MN
HART, TROY D EVANSVILLE, MN
HASTINGS, ELEANOR PRIOR LAKE, MN
HEDSTROM, DENNIS G ALEXANDRIA, MN
HELBURG, DANIEL BECKER, MN
HERMANSON, AMY L ALEXANDRIA, MN
HERR, CAROL M ALEXANDRIA, MN
HESS, BEVERLY ROCKFORD, MN
HILL, GORDON A SIOUX FALLS, SD
HLAVACEK, MARK L MINNEAPOLIS, MN
HODGSON, KENNETH D MORRIS, MN
HOFFMAN, ROBERT A COLORADO SPRINGS, CO
HOGSTAD, CHARLES S EAU CLAIRE, WI
HOLDEN, MARK A ALEXANDRIA, MN
HOLM, MARK W KENSINGTON, MN
HOODIE, JESSICA FERGUS FALLS, MN
HUSSET, LENA M ELBOW LAKE, MN
HYSKELL, GLEN P AVA, MO
JAHNKE, KENNETH A PALM BAY, FL
JANTZEN, ROGER H WADENA, MN
JENKINS, DELYLE J SAUK CENTRE, MN
JOHNSON, BRADLEY J NEW BRIGHTON, MN
JOHNSON, CHRISTOPHER J FARWELL, MN
JOHNSON, DELL R PELICAN RAPIDS, MN
JOHNSON, DOROTHY EVANSVILLE, MN
JOHNSON, GARY R LOVELAND, CO
JOHNSON, LAVERN L BATTLE LAKE, MN
JOHNSON, PAUL A MINNEAPOLIS, MN
JOSEPHSON, WILLIAM F EXCELSIOR, MN

JOY, CHARLIE SAINT PAUL, MN
KALSTROM, J K WATERTOWN, SD
KEARNEY, JOHN F MORRIS, MN
KELLER, ELMER R HANCOCK, MN
KELLER, STEVEN BRANDON, MN
KIRK, CHARLES H SUNRISE BEACH, MO
KISHEL, RALPH F STUART, FL
KLOEMPKEN, WILLARD HOPKINS, MN
KLUG, STANLEY UNDERWOOD, MN
KLUVER, WILLIAM ALEXANDRIA, MN
KOHNNEN, JAMES A NELSON, MN
KORKOWSKI, EDWARD JUNO BEACH, FL
KOUSKY, TIMOTHY C VILLARD, MN
KRAEMER, HELEN PARKERS PRAIRIE, MN
KRAEMER, JOHN A PARKERS PRAIRIE, MN
KRAMER, JUDY A ALEXANDRIA, MN
KUESTER, MICHAEL P ALEXANDRIA, MN
LANOUE, ROBERT F ALEXANDRIA, MN
LARSON, EBBA C MINNEAPOLIS, MN
LARSON, ROY B LITTLE FALLS, MN
LEE, ALLAN BROOTEN, MN
LEE, JOANN MINNEAPOLIS, MN
LEGUS, JILANE R DEER CREEK, MN
LEHMAN, MARJORIE W HINCKLEY, MN
LEONE, ELAINE MINNEAPOLIS, MN
LETCHER, MARIE R KELLIHER, MN
LEWIS, ALFRED J FLORISSANT, CO
LEWIS, TERESA L POCATELLO, ID
LINDLEY, RONALD D ALEXANDRIA, MN
LINDOR, KENNETH V MORRIS, MN
LINDQUIST, BRUCE ALEXANDRIA, MN
LOMME, LEROY MESA, AZ
LORENTZEN, DOUGLAS W FERGUS FALLS, MN
LUCIANO, ANTONIO JR ALEXANDRIA, MN
LUNDEBY, THELMA B WENDELL, MN
LUNDIN, MARK A PERHAM, MN
LUNDQUIST, KEITH E MORRIS, MN
LUTZ, BRYAN L LYNDEN, WA
MACHO, DAVID GLENWOOD, MN
MAHAN, ROXANNE L GLENWOOD, MN
MALAND, ROBIN L FARGO, ND
MANDERFELD, RICHARD T ALEXANDRIA, MN
MARCYES, SHANE D EAGLE BEND, MN
MARLOWE, MERLIN B ROBBINSDALE, MN
MAYS, DALE G MINNEAPOLIS, MN
MCCABE, THOMAS J EAGLE BEND, MN
MEHLHOP, BRUCE S LAKEVILLE, MN
MEIERDING, TIM NISSWA, MN
MELZER, WILBERT NELSON, MN
MESSER, ELAINE SAINT CLOUD, MN
MEYER, GARY W SARTELL, MN
MICHAELS, STEVE L PARK RAPIDS, MN
MILLER, JENNIFER VILLARD, MN
MILLESS, SCOTT A ALEXANDRIA, MN
MJOEN, MARLIN D PARK RAPIDS, MN
MOBBS, RUEL STARBUCK, MN
MORKEN, JOHN SAINT CLOUD, MN
MORLOCK, CARL S FOSSTON, MN
MORRIS, BRADLEY D GREAT FALLS, MT
MUNSON, JERRY A DENT, MN
MYRIN, EUGENE ALEXANDRIA, MN
NASH, JAMES K ANOKA, MN
NELSON, DONNA ALEXANDRIA, MN
NELSON, FORREST J LONG PRAIRIE, MN
NELSON, GLENDA R ALEXANDRIA, MN
NELSON, GRAEME E EXCELSIOR, MN
NELSON, MERRILLY J ALEXANDRIA, MN
NELSON, MICHAEL F CENTER CITY, MN
NELSON, WAYNE A PAYNESVILLE, MN
NEUMANN, KENNETH J ALEXANDRIA, MN

Alexandria Community Education Classes in August

Are you interested in electric vehicles or renewable energy? If so, you're in luck! REA's Energy Services & Business Development Manager, Ryan Rooney, will be teaching two classes in August on those very subjects. Take a look at the class details below.

Renewable Energy

Have you wondered how much of the electricity that you use is renewable? You will learn where your electricity comes from today (wind, coal, hydro, natural gas, and solar) and common ways you can reduce your energy costs.

Date: August 17, 2021
7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Location: REA Office:
Meeting Room

Cost: \$12

Class size is limited for both classes, so register today!

Register by visiting the Alexandria Community Education website at www.alexschools.org.

Electric Vehicles 101

Seeing more Electric Vehicles (EVs) on the road and in the news? You will learn how to separate fact from myth when it comes to owning an EV. You will learn about what current and future EV's are available and how to calculate ownership and fuel saving compared to your current vehicle. Common questions like, public charging, cold weather driving, maintenance, and battery technology will be covered in the class. Come and see some of the current EVs in person!

Date: August 26, 2021
5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

Location: REA Office:
Main Parking Lot

Cost: \$12

Dump Truck For Sale



1999 Chevrolet 3500 4x4 w/dump box, 6.5L turbo diesel, automatic transmission, 104,000 miles.

Please submit your bid to:

REA Truck Bid
6839 Power Lane SW
Alexandria, MN 56308

Bids are now being accepted to sell a 1999 Chevrolet. The truck may be viewed at REA's Operation Center from 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., Monday - Friday until September 1, 2021. The equipment will be sold "as is" and "with all faults." REA's Purchase Agreement form will need to be signed by the buyer prior to closing. Cash payment required, no checks please. REA reserves the right to accept or reject any and all offers.

Deadline for submitting a bid is September 1, 2021.

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
www.runestoneelectric.com

24/7: 800-473-1722

Office Hours:
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, Vice President
District 4: Dave Staples, Director
District 5: Mike Loken, Treasurer
District 6: Clif Patrick, Director
District 7: Matthew Mattson, Director

Editorial Staff


Al Haman, 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 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

Sign up to get text messages from REA on control days!
Simply text #loadcontrol to 22300.
Msg and data rates apply.



**Know what's below,
Call before you dig!**



Call 811 or visit
gopherstateonecall.org
before you dig