

Member Appreciation Event

You're invited to Hawkeye's Family Night

Wednesday, September 3rd • 4:30 – 8:30 p.m.
At Hawkeye REC, Highway 9 East of Cresco

Fun for
all!

Pork Sandwiches
Potato Salad
Baked Beans
Moo Mobiles

Mark your
calendar!

Clowns & Balloons! • Games and Activities for the kids!

Featuring: Endless Summer playing your favorite oldies from 5 – 8:30 p.m.

Bring the Whole Family!

*Inside this
issue...*

PAGE 2

Manager's Message

PAGE 3

Welcome New Members

PAGE 4

New Electrical Service

PAGE 5

New Service Construction

PAGE 6

Outages

PAGE 7

Recipes

PAGE 8

Dates to Remember/
Taste of Home



"Our vision is to provide access to safe, dependable and affordable electric services."



Tom Miller
General Manager

Hawkeye REC's Board of Directors work on the Cooperative's Financial Plan

On August 7th and 8th, your board of directors met with key staff and outside experts to set financial goals for the cooperative. Our first discussion focused on financial priorities. **What do you think Hawkeye REC's financial priorities should include?** (WE ARE LOOKING FOR FEEDBACK FROM YOU!)

Rates/stability	Growth in distribution plant
Equity (Leverage)	Reliability
Operating efficiencies	Access to capital
Growth in members	Financial flexibility
Growth in revenue	Margins
Capital Credits/rotation	Growth in sales
Long-term risk	Customer Service
Cash flow (Liquidity)	

The second discussion focused on trade-offs, we can't have it all in today's environment. What items above would make your short list and **how would you prioritize your list?** (Again, WE ARE LOOKING FOR YOUR FEEDBACK!) To help, here's what we (board and staff) came up with in priority order:

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| (1) Reliability | (4) Rate stability |
| (2) Cash flow | (5) Paying capital credits |
| (3) Equity Management | (6) Operating efficiencies |

What did we miss? How did we do?

Based upon our prioritized list above, we have established six financial measurements to grade our financial performance.

The measurements focus on liquidity (cash on hand), year-end margins, equity, cash flows (sources and uses of cash), and capital credits paid.

Remember, as a cooperative member "The Power is Yours".

Be a part of your cooperative!

Before we implement our financial goals, we would like to hear from our member-owners. We want to make sure we are on the right track. Are we meeting your expectations? Please take a moment to email us info@hawkeyerec.com, call me 1-800-658-2243, call a director, or drop us a note on your favorite meter reading cards. We need your feedback and want your advice. Thanks for participating!

Reduce Energy Use During Peak Hours

Peak hours are busy times for your local Electric Cooperative, since many people are using electricity at the same time. In addition, it costs more to generate electricity when demand soars during peak periods – and the cost of your electricity also may rise. Obviously, using less electricity during peak periods can save your Cooperative – and you – money.

Here’s how you can help during peak hours, which generally are on the coldest winter and warmest summer days between 4 p.m and 9 p.m.:

- ◆ Shift household chores and activities away from peak periods. Wait to run your dishwasher until you go to bed, for instance.
- ◆ Use the most energy-efficient appliances you have. Your microwave oven, for example, uses considerably less energy than your stove or cooktop.
- ◆ If you’re buying a new appliance, make sure you get a highly efficient one. Look for “Energy Star” labels when you’re evaluating different models.
- ◆ Be aware of your energy consumption, and try to get in the habit of using energy efficiently year-round.

Use the energy you need, but use it wisely! You’ll help your Cooperative delay building expensive new power plants – and that, in turn, will help keep your electric rates stable.

Welcome

New Members to Hawkeye REC

Jeffrey K Haw, Cresco
Gary L & Beverley Campbell, Cresco
Ben C Lange, Jordan MN
Jay F Wenthold, Postville
Jeffrey M Brymer, New Hampton
Hoey Farms, New Hampton
Steven J Turvold, Cresco
Larry L Hart, Lime Springs
Michael & Kristine Klennert, Lime Springs
Jeffrey & Jennifer Monteith, New Hampton
Tony W Wicks, Cresco
Sabrina Larson & Alex Krambreer, Decorah
Shawn T O’Neill, Decorah
Brian Muth, Ridgeway
Becky A Heying, Decorah
Nathan Suckow, Decorah
Tim S Lennon, Decorah
Peter G Marso, Decorah
LaVonne Brandt, Postville
Mark & Monique Burns, Cedar Rapids


Safety Comes First

Summer is winding down, the days are getting shorter and school is just around the corner. It is also a time that the motorists need to extend extra caution during morning and afternoons. School buses and motorists are a dangerous combination. School buses make frequent stops to load and unload students. By law, when a school bus stops to

drop off or pick up students, motorists must stop too. But motorists often don’t want to stop. They want to get where they are going, with little interruption and as quickly as they can. Please take caution as this time of the year approaches us. Take the extra time to consider the youngsters as they go to and from school.



Knobloch's Receive New Electrical Service



Todd and Brenda Knobloch of rural Cresco have recently experienced the process of getting a new service from the REC. Todd made the call early this spring to Hawkeye and talked with Marlyn Ohloff, Hawkeye's staking engineer. The Knobloch's and Marlyn met shortly after that at the future site of their new home near Kendallville. Together they looked at the different options of where the power lines would work most effectively and efficiently.

The first step that Hawkeye had to do before starting the project was contacting the Iowa Department of Transportation to confirm crossing State Highway 139 and Iowa One Call to ensure not running into any other underground utilities, water or gas lines. At this time adjoining neighbors were contacted to make sure the new line was not going to interfere with any existing structures.

All the plans and paperwork were finalized in June and the construction was completed during the month of July. Some of the construction was delayed during this time due to weather conditions and also due to the rocky terrain of certain sections.

Todd & Brenda Knobloch with children Natalie and Nick anxiously wait for the completion of their new home near Kendallville.

"This process was straightforward right from the beginning," Brenda explains with a smile. "Roger Halverson gave us a timeline. We knew which days the poles would be set, the transformer box would be installed, the underground wires trenched, the wires strung between poles, and when we would have power. He was also very accurate about how long each would take!"

Both Brenda & Todd agree that the most interesting aspect of this project was watching the yellow REC trucks and the different jobs that each linemen was responsible for completing. They also realized just how much coordination and cooperation it takes between the member and the REC crews to get the job done.

After this project was completed in July, the Knobloch's now look forward to moving into their new house.

"We knew which days the poles would be set, the transformer box would be installed, the underground wires trenched, the wires strung between poles, and when we would have power."



Hawkeye's process of constructing new services

In order for a prospective member to receive new power lines and electricity, there are many steps that both the member and Hawkeye must complete before the construction can begin.

The process is broken down into three major steps, pre-engineering requirements, pre-construction requirements and general construction requirements. The following are major steps in the process but are not limited to every step that must be completed.

Pre-Engineering Requirement

The applicant shall provide the following to the Cooperative before engineering and processing of the new service can begin:

- 1.) Complete and sign Application and Agreement for Electric Service (\$26 plus all applicable state and local taxes.)
- 2.) Pay in advance a non-refundable engineering fee of \$50 plus all applicable state and local taxes.
- 3.) Meet with a Cooperative representative (Marlyn Ohloff) at the new service location to coordinate siting requirements. Also provide a plan of existing or anticipated structures or facilities either above ground or under ground including the location of property corners.



Marlyn Ohloff
Staking Engineer

Pre-Construction Requirements

Upon completion of the initial engineering work, the following shall be completed before the project is released for construction:

- 1.) A building/zoning permit and proof of property ownership shall be provided if requested by the Cooperative.
- 2.) Owner shall complete and sign a utility right-of-way easement and provide a legal description of the property to the Cooperative
- 3.) Applicant shall be responsible for completing all right-of-way clearing along the entire line extension route in accordance with Cooperative specifications.

4.) Applicant shall complete and sign a Membership Agreement including the service initiation fee and all applicable state and local taxes.

5.) Aid-to-construction received. Cooperative pays the first \$2000.

General Construction Requirements

The following shall govern the construction of all new service extensions:

- 1.) The Cooperative reserves the exclusive right to determine the route, design, and method of construction as it deems appropriate and necessary. If the applicant desires an alternate method or route of construction, for whatever reason, the applicant shall pay all the additional costs associated with the alternative and only if it is accepted by the cop as a feasible method of installation.
- 2.) At the time pre-construction requirements are met, the applicant shall indicate if the project shall proceed, and the Cooperative shall indicate an estimated construction schedule. This estimated schedule is subject to revision due to unforeseen circumstances such as in climate weather, line repairs and maintenance work to restore power, equipment breakdown, unavailability of materials, or construction obstacles that delay progress.
- 3.) The electric service lines and equipment installed by the Cooperative shall remain the property of the Cooperative.
- 4.) Minimum billing on the account will begin at the time the service transformer can be energized regardless if the meter has been installed or the applicant does not require electricity.
- 5.) A security light agreement shall be signed and submitted if applicable.

About 3-4 times per year Hawkeye's consulting engineer, PowerPlus, inspects the lines to make sure everything meets requirements by the Rural Utilities Service and other electrical codes that must be met.



Roger Halverson
Line
Superintendent

"Length of time depends on the size of the new line and how well the weather cooperates during the construction period."

Hawkeye REC Focuses on Commitment to Community

Donna Leff, student at Riceville Community High School, joined more than 1,300 youths from around the country to participate in the Rural Electric Youth Tour, June 14-19, in Washington, D.C. Donna was sponsored by Hawkeye REC, Cresco.

“Youth are the future. Impacting the lives of young people is extremely important to cooperatives and the communities they serve,” says Ann Foster, director of communications and Youth Tour director for the Iowa Association of Electric Cooperatives. “Cooperatives support this program because they realize that beyond textbooks and lectures, today’s teenagers also need an opportunity to experience government first-hand.”

While in Washington, the Iowa Youth Tour delegation, made up of 38 students, met with congressional leaders,

visited historic sites, explored the Smithsonian museums and took a cruise down the Potomac River. The theme of the 2003 Youth Tour was “Commitment to Community.” Highlights included meeting with their elected representatives in the U.S. House of Representatives and Senators Harkin and Grassley to discuss the process of government and issues of the day – including the national energy bill, and to help increase their knowledge

of cooperative electric utilities and American history.

This year’s Youth Day agenda included a survivor of the September 11 attack on the Pentagon, Lieutenant Colonel Brian Birdwell, who described his harrowing experience and miraculous survival. Birdwell touched on the importance of selfless service and accepting life’s responsibilities. “Graduation is symbolic of promotion to the greater responsibility as an adult and as a full citizen,” he said.



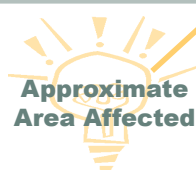
Who turned the lights off!

Recently Hawkeye REC experienced outages on two line sections serving the High-Point East housing development near Decorah. The first outage was caused by a raccoon that climbed the fuse pole and shorted the fuse (same as your fuse at home only bigger.) Hawkeye’s service crews installed a pole wrap so raccoons could not climb to the top of the pole. Recently several more outages occurred raising concern among the residents of High-Point East. Crews installed new fuses and further inspected the situation. The last time linemen were called to the area a member talked to Hawkeye’s service crew, Eldred Rethamel and Richard Schorr. The member stated she had recently picked up five dead birds under the pole and upon further investigation Hawkeye found two more dead birds in the bushes. The crew discovered burn marks on the fuse jumpers. The birds found a place where they could sit on energized wire and touch the ground wire. This not only caused the death of the birds, but also caused an outage for the area. Hawkeye’s crew readjusted the jumpers on the pole and so far there have been no outages. When members notice these problems and relay them to Hawkeye, it can save an outage from happening. If you see a problem, call the REC office or stop and tell one of the line crews.

Map of Outages



Have you experienced an outage?
Shown here is a map of all outage causes for the month of July.



Approximate Area Affected

Recipes...

Fresh From the Garden!

Veggies on the Grill (Super Easy)

Zucchini	Mushroom
Carrots	Peppers
Onions	Garlic
Broccoli	Italian Dressing

Marinate with garlic and your favorite Italian dressing. Grill on hot griddle plate or skewers and place on grill.

Fresh Garden Salsa

8 cups tomatoes
6 medium onions
1 green pepper
1 jalapeno pepper, no seeds
3 large carrots

2 t. salt
2 t. garlic salt
1 c. vinegar
1½ T. cornstarch

Dice the above vegetables and in a large kettle add the following:

Boil uncovered for 60 minutes and process in jars or refrigerate to eat fresh.

Bankruptcy Stew

2 Lean Beef Round Steaks	½ cup Tomato Sauce
1 Rib Celery	1 Sprig fresh parsley
1 yellow onion, sliced thin	4 Large potatoes, peeled and cubed
½ cup water	1 Green bell pepper (chopped)
3 carrots peeled and sliced	

Cut round steak into 1 inch cubes, brown beef cubes over high heat in a non stick skillet, add rest of ingredients to the skillet. Cover and simmer for 1 hour over medium heat until meat is tender. Serves 8



Sweet Corn Relish

4 ears corn, husked and desilked	1/3 cup olive oil
½ red bell pepper, seed and dice small	3 Tablespoons molasses
½ green bell pepper, seed and dice small	½ cup fresh parsley, roughly chopped
1 small red onion, peel and dice	Salt and Pepper to taste
2 Tablespoons Fresh chili pepper, minced	
1 cup red wine vinegar	

Blanch corn in boiling salted water for 2 minutes and drain. Place corn around the edges of a hot fire, where the heat is lower so it is just barely over the coals. Crush the corn, rolling it around frequently, for about 3 minutes or until well browned. Remove from the grill. As soon as the ears of corn are cool, slice kernels from the cobs into a small bowl. Add remaining ingredients and toss well.

Send us your favorite recipe. If we print your recipe in our newsletter you'll receive \$5 off your next electric bill.

September - Desserts
October - Soups & Stews
November - Favorite Thanksgiving dish



DATES TO REMEMBER

BILLING CYCLE DATES

- Aug. 21** Hawkeye REC processes credit card payments for members electing to pay their electric bill automatically with credit card.
- Aug. 28** Hawkeye REC processes auto check withdrawals for members electing to pay their electric bill automatically through electronic transfer from their bank account.
- Aug. 31** Member reads meter and mails meter card to Hawkeye REC
- Sept. 1** Bills become delinquent
- Sept. 10** Hawkeye REC prints bills based on Aug. 31 meter card reading.
- Sept. 11** Bills are mailed to members from Dairyland in LaCrosse.

OTHER EVENTS

- Aug. 29** Hawkeye REC Board Meeting
- Sept. 3** Member Appreciation



The Power Is Yours



present...



Taste of Home COOKING SCHOOL



Tuesday, October 14

At the Expo Center Howard County Fairgrounds ▲ Cresco, Iowa

Exhibit Hall (4-H Building) doors open to general public at 2:30 p.m.
Cooking School (Expo Center) doors open at 6 p.m.
School starts at 6:30 p.m.

**Tickets go on sale for Cooking School on
September 8th, 8 a.m.**

\$8 per ticket plus handling fee

In person at the REC office or Cresco Chamber of Commerce office

By mail: Check or money order made out to: REC- Taste of Home
Add an additional \$1 per ticket for handling fee
Send requests to: Hawkeye REC- Taste of Home
PO Box 90
Cresco, Iowa 52136

By phone: 563-547-3801
Credit Card
Add an additional \$1 per ticket for handling fee



The Power Is Yours

Box 90 - Cresco, Iowa 52136
1-800-658-2243 or 547-3801
www.hawkeyerec.com

OFFICE HOURS

Monday thru Friday • 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
(Closed Sat., Sun., & Holidays)

OUTAGES

1-800-927-5265

**IOWA STATE ONE CALL
1-800-292-8989**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dean Fisher, President - Lawler
Dean Nierling, Vice President - Burr Oak
Dennis Ptacek, Secretary/Treasurer - Elma
Francis Massman - Decorah
Norman Dickman - Decorah
John Hockspeier - Alta Vista
Janelle Mahr - Lime Springs
Roger Nibaur - Elma
Charles Frana, Calmar

PERSONNEL

Tom Miller, CEO & General Manager
Roger Halverson, Line Superintendent
Cindy Christensen, Communications Manager
Pat Boyle, Business Dev./Mbr. Serv. Manager
Dolores Donlan, Electric Billing Supervisor
Peggy Berg, Chief Financial Officer
Jim Murphy, Information Tech. Manager

EDITOR

Cindy Christensen

Hawkeye REC
Box 90
Cresco, Iowa 52136

PRSRT STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
La Crosse, Wis.
Permit No. 372