

## Member Appreciation Highlights

Hawkeye's Board of Directors and employees welcomed over 1,470 members at this year's Member Appreciation Night. At one point in the evening, members of all ages filled nearly every chair in the building. The Moo-Mobile was a huge success again this year.



Kids waited patiently in line to have their faces painted by Half-Pint the clown. Others chose to have Yup-Yup the clown make balloon hats or balloon animals. The "Viking" hats were very popular among the youngsters.

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# Know the Dangers of Large Equipment as Harvest Begins

**A**s farmers begin this season's harvest, it's essential to remember some important safety steps. The rush to harvest can reap grim results if steps to ensure safety are bypassed. Each year, across the U.S., hundreds of farm workers are injured and many are killed when their farming equipment makes contact with power lines. Power lines must be thoughtfully avoided – and taking that extra step – can ensure you continue to have a safe and productive harvest.

Today's farming operations often involve large and complex machinery. Large combines, raised dump beds, oversized wagons, grain augers, planters, spraying equipment and metal irrigation pipes are all excellent conductors of electricity. Equipment contacting overhead power lines is the leading cause of farm electrocution ac-

cidents in the Midwest. Everyone working on a farm should be aware of power lines and keep farm equipment away from the lines. It's also important to thoroughly evaluate new or used equipment that is being used for the first time on your property. Take special note of larger, modern equipment such as tractors and combines with higher antennas that may create a clearance threat.

Moving portable grain augers continues to pose one of the greatest threats to workers. Those who are moving the equipment on the ground can provide a direct path for electricity if there is contact with overhead wires. Grain augers should **al-**

**ways** be lowered before moving them. Things like wind, uneven ground, shifting weight or other conditions can create an unexpected result. When moving large equipment use a spotter or someone to help make certain that contact is not

made with a line. Areas near grain bins pose a dangerous threat if equipment is too large or is used improperly. If you're installing new grain bins, contact a licensed electrician or a Hawkeye representative to help place electrical service lines.

If the equipment you are in comes into contact with power lines make sure you:

- ◆ Stay in the cab and call for help
- ◆ If there is imminent risk of fire, jump clear of the vehicle and land with both feet on the ground at the same time – do not allow any part of your body to touch the equipment and ground at the same time.

If you question the height of power lines near your work areas, don't attempt to measure the line heights yourself. Contact Hawkeye to help determine line height in each area of the farm.

The best way to handle a farm-related accident is prevention. Respect electricity and avoid contact with overhead lines. Look up, look down and be safe this harvest season!

*“Each year, across the U.S., hundreds of farm workers are injured and many are killed when their farming equipment makes contact with power lines.”*



**Overhead power lines aren't the only risk during this season. Pole guy wires are grounded and a supporting part of the pole or structure. If one is broken it can cause an electric current disruption and electric hazard or even cause the pole to break. If you hit a guy wire and break it, call Hawkeye immediately. Do not fix it yourself.**

# Identity theft: Are you protecting yourself?

## Help keep out of an identity thief's sight by following these tips:

- ◆ Don't carry your social security number in your purse or wallet
- ◆ Don't give out your social security number
- ◆ Check your credit report once a year
- ◆ Be careful about giving out personal information
- ◆ Guard your credit cards
- ◆ Pay attention to your billing cycles
- ◆ Be smart about password and pins. Make them complicated. Good examples: fireman28a, Soccerfan1963, bestjetpilot. Bad examples: kangaroo, fido, katie210
- ◆ Update your computer virus protection regularly
- ◆ Do not download computer files sent to you by strangers or check on hyperlinks from people you don't know

## Social security numbers (SSNs)

Your social security number contains your personal identity information... think twice before you give out those digits! SSNs are frequently requested when they are not needed. Remember, you don't have to give a business your SSN just because they ask for it. Ask what law requires you to give it out, why they need it and what will happen if you don't provide the information.

## What should you do if you are an identity theft victim?

First, contact the fraud departments of each of the three major credit bureaus. Request that a fraud alert be placed in your file. Ask that creditors call you before opening new accounts or changing your existing accounts.

Second, close the accounts that you know or believe have been tampered with or opened fraudulently. This includes all accounts with banks, credit card companies and other lenders, ISPs and other service providers.

Third, file a report with your local police or the police in the community where the identity theft took place. Get a copy of the police report in case the bank, credit card company or others need proof of the crime.

## New law helps protect victims and deter theft

Under a new law, citizens have the right to a free credit report. In addition, lend-



ers and credit bureaus are now forbidden from reporting negative information that results from identity theft.

Lenders must honor fraud alerts by verifying an applicant's identity, and businesses are required to provide records of fraudulent activity to consumers.

The new law also bars merchants from putting credit card numbers on receipts.

## Identity Theft Credit Reporting Agencies

	To Report Fraud	To Order Credit Report
Equifax ( <a href="http://www.equifax.com">www.equifax.com</a> )	(800) 525-6285	(800) 685-1111
Experian ( <a href="http://www.experian.com">www.experian.com</a> )	(888) 397-3742	(888) 397-3742
Trans Union ( <a href="http://www.tuc.com">www.tuc.com</a> )	(800) 680-7289	(800) 916-8800

## Important Victim/Consumer Resources and Internet Links

Identity Theft Resource Center ([www.idtheftcenter.org](http://www.idtheftcenter.org))

▲ A non-profit group specializing in identity theft and victim assistance. Call 858-693-7935.

Privacy Rights Clearinghouse ([www.privacyrights.org](http://www.privacyrights.org))

▲ A non-profit group specializing in privacy and ID theft. Call 619-298-3396

Federal Trade Commission ([www.consumer.gov/idtheft](http://www.consumer.gov/idtheft))

▲ Or call at 877-IDTHEFT

To Stop Receiving Pre-Approved Credit Card Offers

▲ Call 888-567-8688

# Member Appreciation Highlights



*The Member Services department kept busy throughout the evening explaining to members the various services that Hawkeye offers.*



*Hawkeye board members and employees served pork sandwiches, beans and salads to members.*



*Members entered their names for a chance to win an REC crock. The winners were:*

- Sandy Bushman, Ossian*
- Brad Christopher, Canton, MN*
- Donna Smith, Elma*
- Robert Myli, Cresco*
- Margaret Zubrod, New Hampton*
- Judy Riha, Ridgeway*
- Adele Marik, New Hampton*
- Betty Swancutt, Chester*
- Elaine Klimesh, Fort Atkinson*
- Rhonda Bergan, Cresco*
- Betty Busta, Lawler*
- LeAnn Franzen, Lawler*
- Julie Dietzenbach, Cresco*
- Alberta Friedrich, Elma*
- Donald Bruess, Ridgeway*



## ***“Be Very Careful and Don’t Break that Egg!”***

*Linemen Dave Wilkes teaches this child how to operate Hawkeye’s back hoe, which was one of the many activities offered. This game was a great addition to the festivities this year. Both kids and adults had a chance to try their skills at maneuvering the back hoe in order to move an egg from a swimming pool full of sand to another pool without breaking the egg. The winner of the kid’s competition was Cory Anderson of Decorah and the adult winner was Kevin Friedman of New Hampton. They both received an REC t-shirt.*



*There was a steady crowd gathered around Shawn Bangs and the Tunnel Rat Pulling Truck! Shawn and his pulling truck represent one of the drug awareness programs for area youth. Kids received an autographed picture of the Tunnel Rat truck.*



*Members that signed up to pay their electric bill by automatic withdrawal from their bank account received a BBQ utensil set and their names were entered into a drawing for an electric grill. The winner of the grill was Irvan Reicks of Cresco.*



*Kids had their own drawing this year and could sign up to win a REC toy truck. The winners were:  
Jennifer Huhe, Cresco  
Grant Grinna, Decorah  
Devin Rice, Cresco  
Randi Carolan, Mabel, MN  
Tracy Martinek, Cresco*

# Welcome

## Hawkeye REC welcomes New Members

Erik Weida/Kirby Losee .....	Riceville, IA	Casey Humpal .....	Calmar, IA
Ronald Hemesath .....	Ossian, IA	Joan & George Russell .....	Fort Atkinson, IA
Raymond E. Blong .....	Riceville, IA	Daniel Franzen & Sarah Timp .....	Fort Atkinson, IA
Ken Kiesau .....	Waukon, IA	Arlyn Elsbernd .....	Calmar, IA
Fort Acme Sportsman's Club .....	Riceville, IA	S & C Organic Farm LLC .....	Fort Atkinson, IA
Lamar & Perceda Nolt .....	Elma, IA	Anna Olson - C/O Carol VanVliet .....	Decorah, IA
Kenny & Christine Burke .....	Elma, IA	Ryan Hammell .....	Decorah, IA
Mitch Shipp .....	Elma, IA	Hutchinson Family Farm Campground ....	Decorah, IA
Edward Diekmann .....	Elma, IA	David Houlihan .....	Onalaska, WI
Dawn Kelly & Terry Gossman .....	Cresco, IA	Scott & Nancy Berg .....	Missouri City, TX
Luella Wise .....	Cedar Rapids, IA	Ben Leibold .....	Highlandville, IA
Rodney Ollendieck .....	Ridgeway, IA	Rhonda Schoeffler .....	Mabel, MN
Belva Patterson .....	Decorah, IA	James Ludwig .....	Elma, IA
Jacalyn Syverson .....	Decorah, IA		



# Recipes...



## Favorite Brunch Recipes

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



October - Pork Recipes  
November - Bars & Cider Recipes

### Egg Brunch

Place 6 slices buttered bread in bottom of greased 9 X 13 pan. Sprinkle with ham, sausage, onion, mushrooms, green peppers etc. Then sprinkle 1 cup mozzarella cheese and 1 cup cheddar cheese on top. Layer another 6 slices of bread and repeat meat and cheese. Beat 8 eggs, 3 cups milk, salt and pepper and pour over evenly on top. Cover with foil. Refrigerate over night and bake at 350 degrees for 1 hour.

Lynn Crozier  
Ridgeway, IA



### Egg Fritata

1 cup shredded hash-browns  
8 or 9 eggs  
½ cup green peppers  
½ cup mushrooms  
1 small onion  
1 cup diced ham  
1 cup grated cheddar cheese

Spray a pie dish with cooking spray. Put 1 cup hashbrowns on bottom. Mix 8 or 9 eggs with half & half. Add peppers, mushrooms, onion and ham. Top with cheese. Bake 1 hour at 350 degrees. Serving size 6.

Rita McConnell  
Canton, MN

### Pull-Aparts

2 loaves frozen bread dough  
½ cup ole  
½ cup sugar  
½ cup brown sugar  
½ cup sweetened condensed milk  
Cinnamon

Partially thaw bread. Cut into 1" cubes and place in a greased 9 X 13 pan. Combine remaining ingredients. Heat until ole is dissolved. Cool. Pour mixture over cubes in pan. Let rise until dough reaches top of pan. Bake 30 minutes at 350 degrees. Frost with powdered sugar icing and chopped nuts. Don't frost if you plan to freeze. They freeze well.

Geraldine Otto  
Lime Springs, IA

### Impossible Quiche

3 eggs  
½ cup Bisquick  
1 ½ cups milk  
¼ tsp. salt  
½ cup melted butter  
Dash of pepper

Place all ingredients in blender and mix well. Pour into either a greased quiche pan or 10 in. pie plate. Add your favorite toppings such as ham, bacon, onions, cheese, mushrooms, peppers, etc. Spread over quiche top and press gently below surface with back of spoon. Pie should be full to the brim. Bake at 350 degrees for 45 minutes. Let stand for 15 to 20 minutes before cutting.

Eleanor Schwickerath  
New Hampton, IA



## DATES TO REMEMBER

### BILLING CYCLE DATES

- Sept. 21** Automated payments by credit cards are processed.
- Sept. 25** Member reads meter and records on payment voucher. Please mail your bill today to make sure it arrives to Hawkeye by the 1<sup>st</sup> of October.
- Sept. 28** Automated payments from checking accounts are processed.
- Oct. 1** Bills become delinquent.
- Oct. 11** Hawkeye REC prints bills based on September meter reading.
- Oct. 12** Bills are mailed to members from Dairyland in LaCrosse.

### OTHER EVENTS

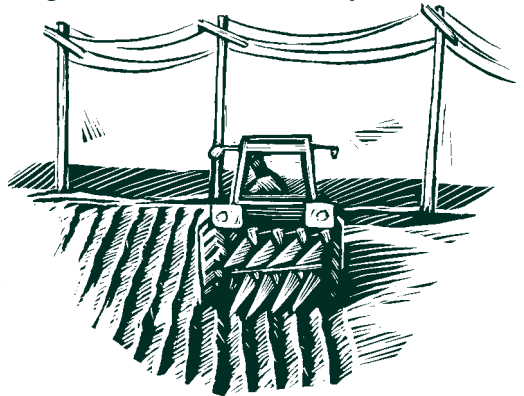
- Sept. 28** Hawkeye REC Board Meeting

# A Safe Farm is No Accident

Look ahead before driving large farm equipment near electric cooperative lines. Your safety is our business.

### Farm Safety Checklist

- ▼ Check clearance of farm equipment going under power lines
- ▼ Make sure no one is near your equipment when you move it
- ▼ Do not wear loose clothing around farm machinery
- ▼ Make sure that all equipment, including machinery and trucks operated on the highway are properly lit and marked
- ▼ Keep emergency numbers close to your phone



*The Power Is Yours*

Box 90 - Cresco, Iowa 52136  
1-800-658-2243 or 547-3801  
[www.hawkeyerec.com](http://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  
Norman Dickman - Decorah  
John Hockspeier - Alta Vista  
Janelle Mahr - Lime Springs  
Roger Nibaur - Elma  
Charles Frana - Calmar  
Dennis Young - Decorah

### PERSONNEL

Tom Miller, CEO & General Manager  
Roger Halverson, Operations Manager  
Cindy Christensen, Communications Manager  
Pat Boyle, Business Dev./Mbr. Serv. Manager  
Peggy Berg, Chief Financial Officer  
Jim Murphy, Information Tech. Manager

### EDITOR

Cindy Christensen



### Notice:

**We have stainless steel BBQ sets left from Member Appreciation. So be sure to sign up soon to have your electric bill automatically withdrawn from your bank account and receive a free set. (Available at the Cooperative office while supplies last.)**

Hawkeye REC  
Box 90  
Cresco, Iowa 52136

PRSR STD  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
La Crosse, Wis.  
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