

## Annual Meeting Agenda

**6:30 p.m.**

Doors open & registration  
begins

**7:00 p.m.**

Business Meeting  
Annual Reports

Election of 4 Directors

Drawing for  
Attendance Prizes

Cookies, milk & coffee  
served after the meeting!



## Coming Soon to Your Mailbox!



**Your Hawkeye  
REC Annual  
Report!**

Check out your mailbox in  
March for your Annual Report.  
Your report will replace the  
March edition of the *REC News*.

**Vote for Directors by  
Mail Ballot**

*(see page 8 for details)*

# Hawkeye REC Annual Meeting

**Monday, March 22, 2004  
Crestwood High School • Cresco IA**

Electric Bill Gift Certificates

Eight \$50, and Eight \$25

Other prizes to be given away

**REGISTRATION ENDS AT 7 P.M.**



Be sure to bring the  
registration form from your  
annual report to the annual  
meeting so that you may  
register for prizes.

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Vote for Director

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



Tom Miller  
General Manager

## “Listen to what I mean not what I say”

A funny thing happened at church on Sunday. While giving the children’s sermon, our pastor illustrated that different words have several meanings. He used the slang word “*phat*,” a word the young kids could relate with in today’s lingo. While trying to involve the whole congregation he asked the audience for their definition of “*phat*.” Expecting someone to say, “Cool” pastor was surprised. Without hesitation a young lady in the back of the church confidently said, “Really hot and tempting.” By his reaction, I could tell pastor wasn’t expecting that particular definition. He stuttered a little and bought time by saying “what?” (as if he didn’t clearly hear her and not really wanting her to repeat her answer). By the tone of pastor’s voice the young lady lost confidence and quietly repeated herself mumbling her definition adding to the comedy. Sometimes the best intentions fall short of expectations but in this case pastor recovered with a healthy laugh as he proceeded with the day’s message about the many definitions of love.

I thought about the words we use in the delivery of electric energy. It seems the word most used in our industry today is, “RELIABILITY.” Further, I thought about the many definitions, facets and ways we use “reliability.” Quite frankly, the word reliability may be spun endlessly: dependability, consistency, steadfastness, steadiness, stability, trustworthiness, credibility, soundness, loyalty, fidelity, honesty, commitment, dedication, persistence, and determination to name a few of its usages. I found it fascinating that one of the synonyms was *not* “integrity.” As in, we want our electric network to have a high level of *integrity*. You can bet that the people in the eastern United States understand that the transmission system lost *integrity* causing the widespread blackout on that hot summer day, August 8<sup>th</sup>.

I am very proud of our distribution system’s *stability*. Our system has performed *dependably*. But our system is only as *steady* as the generation and transmission infrastructure ahead of it. In a *sound* business manner, Dairyland Power Cooperative (our wholesale power provider) remains *committed and dedicated* to maintaining a *consistent* supply of electrical energy for their/our members. Dairyland has exemplified this by building its renewable energy portfolio, working to secure additional generation capacity, and evaluating construction of a new generation plant, possibly in Iowa. My final spin, I *trust* that you understand the need for a new base load power plant as *credible* as coal has been demonstrated. We are a bit *loyal* to this home grown fossil fuel called coal. These are just a few ways demonstrating our use of the word “reliability.”

This past week Dairyland Power Cooperative had public scoping meetings to inform people about their thoughts of a coal-fired power plant in Northeast Iowa. Not only did Dairyland wish to give information but they, along with their lender the Rural Utilities Service (RUS), wanted the public’s feedback. The public meeting at New Hampton was very positive and the community had banners all around town saying “We want you.” There where a few people with differing opinions and *persistent* on using wind generation as an alternative and visibly promoting the Alma Wisconsin site. These nay-sayers were high *fidelity* in their message as they applied their definition of reliability. This brings me back to my pastor’s reason for talking about the many definitions a word can have.

We can debate the merits of coal, natural gas, and nuclear power; we can debate the merits of renewable and alternate energy production methods; we can debate the affects on the

“...we want our electric network to have a high level of integrity.”

environment; we can debate location (economic development or “not in my backyard” known as NIMBY); or we can just debate. In the end, you as the consumer of electrical energy have an expectation, a need, and pay fair value for RELIABILITY. This is the over-reaching definition of reliability as envisioned by our board of directors: to provide access

to safe, dependable, and affordable electric services. This is Hawkeye REC’s official position and our meaning of reliability.

An affordable power supply, a dependable transmission network, and a safe electrical distribution system; now that’s a “phat” concept!

## 2004 Vegetation Management Program

### What is vegetation management?

Controlling and maintaining the growth of vegetation (brush and trees) along power lines is how the electric industry uses the word vegetation management. Overgrown trees and brush can cause problems during severe weather and can make it difficult to reach trouble spots to make repairs. The clearing of trees and brush provides adequate electrical clearance, reduces hazards to the public and delivers continuous, uninterrupted service to you, the member. The importance of maintaining power line accessibility and controlling tree growth along these lines can hardly be overstated. It’s a matter of safety and reliability along with meeting requirements set by the Iowa Utilities Board.

### Reclamation vs. maintenance

For the past 8 years Hawkeye has been making huge advances in reclaiming (clearing trees and brush) right-of-way areas near the power lines on Hawkeye REC’s electric distribution system. We are in the final stages of this program, currently finishing in the Oakdale, Jamestown, Chester and Saratoga Townships in Howard County. In a continuing effort to control vegetation a maintenance program will now follow the initial cutting, clearing and spraying of the electric system. The maintenance program will begin in Madison, Decorah, Glenwood, Frankville, Nordness, Calmar, Bloomfield, Military and Washington Townships in Winneshiek

County. The maintenance program will include more spraying and less cutting.

### 2004 Budget

Hawkeye has budgeted \$375,000 to continue with the vegetation management program. In past years it has been as much as \$500,000. The rewards have been noticed during past storms with fewer outages being caused by trees in the power lines. The vegetation management program budget should stabilize as the maintenance program transitions from reclamation to maintenance.

Landowners will be contacted in regard to vegetation management in their area. Hawkeye appreciates your cooperation regarding the continued support of our crews or contractors when they come to your area to control the tree and brush problems.

Hawkeye’s contract arborist is Aaron Trezona of Environmental Consultants. All Seasons Tree Service of Canton, MN cuts the trees and clears the brush and Vegetation Management of Des Moines will be handling all the spraying for Hawkeye.

## Operations Department News...



*Roger Halverson  
Line Superintendent*



# Capital Credit Search

## We Need Your Help!

*Do you have an address for these people?*



**H**awkeye REC issued nearly 3800 capital credit checks last October. The names listed below are checks that were returned to our office for lack of a forwarding address.

800-658-2243 or 547-3801. You can also send us a note with the correct address and Ruth will contact them. If the former member is deceased, please give us the name and address of the nearest relative. Thank you for your help!

If anyone knows the correct address of the former members named below, call Ruth at our office,

TELFORD ANSTEN DECEASED ..... DECORAH IA C/O LUANE HENZLER	WILFRED L GREGG ..... DECORAH IA	LEONARD RISDAHL DECEASED ..... CRESCO IA
LLOYD ARNOLD ..... CAMDEN WY	RICHARD GUILGOT ..... DECORAH IA	TODD RISTE ..... LANSING MN
JOHN W & KERRY LEE BAKER .... APPLE VALLEY MN	CURTIS HANSON ..... DECORAH IA	ELMER ROGNLIEN ..... FOLSOM CA C/O BUZZ ROGNLIEN
WALTER P BENDER ..... DECORAH IA	DICK HARKEN ..... ACKLEY IA	PAUL DEAN & ARLA E ROHER ..... SPILLVILLE IA
JOHN C BLAZEK DECEASED ..... LAWLER IA	DAVID HILLESLAND ..... WOOD DALE IL	DEAN ROWSON DECEASED ..... PLYMOUTH IA
C/O MICHAEL BLAZEK	BRAD HORNE ..... CHARLES CITY IA	HELEN ROVANG ..... DECORAH IA
WILLEM BLEES ..... LAKE CITY MN	GARY H HUBER ..... LAWLER IA	LIVERNE ROWSON ..... RICEVILLE IA
SHIRLEY BOLEYN ..... DECORAH IA	HAROLD KING ..... FREDERICKSBURG IA	JOHN SHILENY ..... WESTMINSTER CO
MRS ETHEL B BRANDT ..... POSTVILLE IA	GARY E LARSON ..... LANSING IA	LEONARD STEPHENS ..... NEW HAMPTON IA
CHARLES CAGLE ..... HANOVER IN	MANFRED LEODOLTER ..... CENTRALIA IL	KYRRE SWENSON ..... DECORAH IA
LYLE CARPENTER ..... HASTINGS MN	DONALD LOSURE ..... ROCHESTER MN	GREG SWITZER ..... RICEVILLE IA
COTTONWOOD FARMS INC ..... MASON CITY IA BY RICK MURRAY	DONALD MILES DECEASED ..... PRESCOTT AZ C/O PHILIP H MILES	GILMAN TANGEN DECEASED ..... AKRON CO C/O JEFF TANGEN
DWIGHT & JOLINDA YICK DARIO ..... SAINT PAUL MN	ROBERT O'DONNELL ..... BUTTERFIELD MN	RICHARD THOMPSON ..... NEW HAMPTON IA
DAVID DE COU ..... GOLDEN VALLEY MN	MIKE OLSON ..... KEWAUNEE WI	RUSSELL TITCH ..... LANSING IA
SAMUEL EGGE DECEASED ..... DECORAH IA	KEVIN PATTEN ..... WAUKON IA	LEONARD F TUPY ..... CRESCO IA
C/O DIANE M EGGE	LEROY PETERS ..... BLOOMINGTON MN	CHAD L TYREE ..... SPRING GROVE MN
GEORGE ELLINGSON DECEASED ..... DECORAH IA	ED PIASECKI ..... NEW HAMPTON IA	MARK WATERMAN ..... CASTALIA IA
C/O MYRTLE E ELLINGSON	HAROLD PIPER ..... NEW HAMPTON IA	

# Nomination by Petition

**A**ny member of Hawkeye REC may be nominated for a director position by means of a petition. The petition must contain the signatures of not less than 1% of the Cooperative membership, therefore requiring fifty (50) or more signatures. The petition form is available at Hawkeye's office and must be received by the Secretary of the Cooperative not less than 20 days prior to the meeting. Hawkeye's Annual meeting is March 22, and for the purpose of publishing the March Annual Report, the petitions need to be received at the Cooperative office on or before March 1, 2004. Hawkeye will verify all the signatures. Please submit the signed petition to Tom Miller, CEO.

## Director Qualifications

As outlined in Hawkeye's Bylaws, minimal qualifications for a director are:

- ◆ Must be a cooperative member.
- ◆ Must be a bona fide resident in the area served by the cooperative.
- ◆ Must receive electrical service from the cooperative
- ◆ Must not be employed by or financially interested in a competing enterprise or business selling electric energy, supplies, or services to the cooperative.
- ◆ Must not be a close relative of an incumbent director or of an employee of the cooperative at the time of his/her election to the board.

## Board Member Retires after 16 Years of Service!



Francis Massman  
Director for 16 years

**A**fter serving the members of Hawkeye REC for 16 years, Director Francis (Fritz) Massman of Decorah will retire in March. Fritz was a great financial advisor in the boardroom. His expertise and humor will be greatly missed. We give many thanks to Fritz for his hard work and dedication to Hawkeye REC.

Everyone at Hawkeye wishes Fritz and JoAnn the best of luck and good health in the future!

*Best Wishes!*

### Last Call for Youth Tour Participants!

**Win a FREE trip to Washington D.C.:  
June 12-17, 2004!**

Current sophomores and juniors whose parents or guardians are members of Hawkeye REC are encouraged to participate in Youth Tour. Call 547-3801 or 800-658-2243 to receive your Youth Tour materials and an open book test that needs to be sent back by March 22, 2004!

## Hawkeye REC Scholarships!

**T**his is the second year that Hawkeye will be providing scholarships to local high school seniors. In 2003, Iowa cooperatives persuaded the State to allow unclaimed Capital Credits funds to be used for scholarships or for the promotion of economic development instead of forfeiting the funds to the State as in past years. If Hawkeye cannot find a current address for a former member, their Capital Credits are designated as unclaimed. This year, Hawkeye has the opportunity to offer \$500 scholarships to all area schools: Howard-Winneshiek, Decorah, Riceville, Turkey Valley, South Winneshiek/Postville and New Hampton/Nashua-Plainfield community schools.

### Who is Eligible to Receive a Scholarship?

All high school seniors, whose parents or guardians are members of the Cooperative, are eligible.

The applicant must be a student who is enrolled or planning to enroll, in a full-time graduate or undergraduate course of study at an accredited college, university or voca-

tional/technical school in the fall of 2004. The applicant must be a U.S. citizen.

### How Do You Apply?

In order to be considered for a 2004 scholarship, completed applications must be received by the Cooperative no later than April 15, 2004. Applications may either be picked up in person at the Hawkeye REC office or call 800-658-2243, locally 547-3801 and request an application to be mailed to you.

Return the completed application to the Cooperative, with a copy of the student's high school transcript, a letter of recommendation from a teacher or school administrator and a 250 word essay on "The value of electricity and why coal plays such an important part in generating electricity."

All completed applications are sent to a panel of judges who select the scholarship winners. The judges are not directly involved with the Cooperative and will give equal consideration to all students. All scholarships will be administered through their area Dollars for Scholars organization.

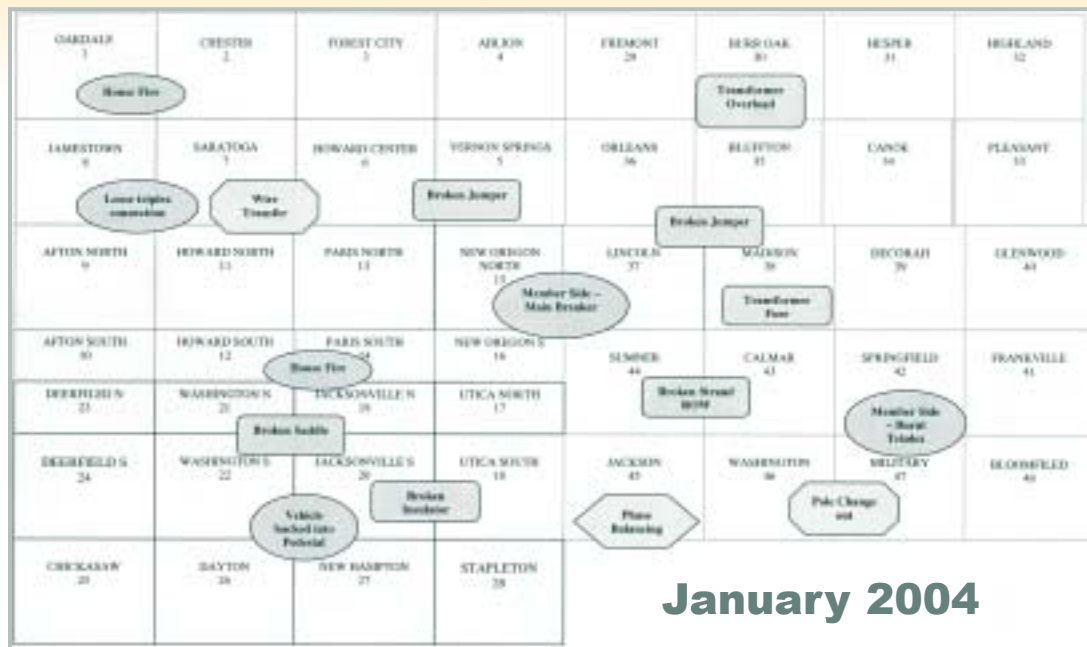
**Mail completed application, copy of high school transcript, letter of recommendation and essay to:**

**Hawkeye REC  
Scholarship Program  
PO Box 90  
Cresco IA 52136**

# Map of Outages

**Have you experienced an outage?**

Shown here is a map of all outage causes for the month of January.



**January 2004**



## Notice to C-Band Subscribers

**Services no longer available as of January 1, 2004 (went digital)**

Service	Satellite Location
Animal Planet	F4/15
Discovery West	G5/12
FOX Movies	W7/07
History Channel West	G1/01
Travel Channel	F4/13

### Additional Information

ABC, CBS, NBC & Fox stations now cost **\$2.50 per month**

If you need a copy of the C-Band programming and satellite locations, please call our office.



# Welcome

## Hawkeye REC welcomes New Members

### December

Shane Pitkin ..... New Hampton, IA  
 Bruce & Sharla Zwanziger ..... Ionia, IA  
 Randy & Margo Harrington ..... Cresco, Ia.  
 John Pete Schnitzler ..... Alta Vista, IA  
 Jeffrey Boeke ..... Oconomowoc, WI  
 Dave & Lynn Noack ..... Decorah, IA  
 Ronald & Amy Knutson ..... Ossian, IA  
 Marvin & Janice Meyer ..... Ossian, IA  
 Jay Torvik ..... Dorchester, IA  
 Laura Block ..... Cresco, Ia.  
 Donna Doel ..... Alta Vista, IA  
 Amanda Roe &  
 Kindra-Ann McGee ..... Lime Springs, IA  
 Titus Stauffer ..... Charles City, IA  
 Douglas Baethke ..... Elma, IA  
 Jeffery & Indra Drilling ..... Elma, IA

David & Emily Smith ..... Elma, IA  
 Rosanne Schultz ..... Lawler, IA  
 Adis Lee ..... New Hampton, IA  
 Jason Miller &  
 Jacqueline Bunkers ..... New Hampton, IA  
 James Harmening ..... New Hampton, IA  
 Herbert Meirick ..... Alta Vista, IA  
 K. Dungey-Abbas ..... New Hampton, IA  
 Jacob Peckham ..... New Hampton, IA  
 Karleen & Steven Maeck .... Floral City, FL  
 Travis Brink ..... Decorah, IA  
 Gretchen Fox ..... Decorah, IA  
 Freida Huhe ..... Ridgeway, IA  
 Paul & Janet Hunter ..... Decorah, IA  
 Karen Thompson ..... Decorah, IA  
 Rauf Abasov ..... Decorah, IA

### January

Jayden Burns ..... Lime Springs  
 Chuck Pierce & Shawn Kalvelage ... Cresco  
 Jay & Ericka Rice ..... Lime Springs  
 Kim Witt ..... Cresco  
 Paul B. Miller ..... Lime Springs  
 Robert & Tammie Kappes ..... Cresco  
 Richard & Carol Buhr ..... New Hampton  
 Jonathan Strand ..... Shoreview, MN  
 Burr Oak Mercantile,  
 Diana Kingsbury ..... Burr Oak  
 Sandra Evenmoe ..... Ridgeway  
 Jon & Kim Lubke ..... Ridgeway  
 Ryan Brynsaas ..... Decorah  
 Gordon & Linda Tangen ..... Decorah  
 Jeff Schmitz ..... Fort Atkinson

# Recipes...

Warm up during the cold winter months with these favorite Crockpot recipes.



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

March- (no newsletter)

April- Easter Treats



## Crockpot Lasagna

Karen Pecinovsky

1 lb. ground beef	1 tsp. dried oregano
1 onion, chopped	1-12 oz. carton cottage cheese
1/8 tsp. garlic powder	1/2 cup grated Parmesan cheese
2-15 oz. cans tomato sauce	12-oz. lasagna noodles, uncooked
1-6 oz. can tomato paste	12 oz. shredded mozzarella cheese.
1 1/2 tsp. salt	

Brown ground beef and onion in skillet. Add garlic powder, tomato sauce, tomato paste, salt and oregano. Cook long enough to get it warm. Spoon a layer of meat sauce onto the bottom of the crockpot. Add a double layer of uncooked lasagna noodles (break to fit) and top with cheeses. Repeat with sauce, noodles and cheeses until all are used up. Cover and cook on low for 6-8 hours.

All of our recipes this month are from Hawkeye employees!

## Spaghetti Sauce

Brenda Kriener

6 strips of bacon, cut up
2 lbs. hamburger
1 qt. tomato juice
1 can tomato soup
1 can tomato paste
1 can golden mushroom soup
1 can carrots-drained and mashed
3 bay leaves
pepper, salt and garlic to taste



Brown bacon and hamburger together and drain. Mix all ingredients together and cook in crockpot on medium for 3 hours or low for 5 hours.

## Crockpot Dressing

Lisa Holt

1 c. butter or margarine	1 1/2 tsp. salt
2 c. chopped onion	1 1/2 tsp. sage
2 c. chopped celery	1 tsp. dried thyme
1/4 c. parsley sprigs	1/2 tsp. pepper
2- 8 oz. cans mushrooms, drained	1/2 tsp. marjoram (optional)
12-13 c. slightly dry bread cubes (or 1 1/2 - 7 oz. boxes croutons)	3 1/2- 4 1/2 c. chicken broth or turkey broth and diced giblets
1 tsp. poultry seasoning	2 eggs, beaten

If using a seasoned stuffing mix, omit herbs and salt. Melt butter in a skillet and sauté onion, celery, parsley and mushrooms. Pour over bread cubes in a very large mixing bowl. Add all seasonings and toss together well. Pour in enough broth to moisten; add beaten eggs and mix well. Pack lightly into crockpot. Cover crockpot and set on high for 45 minutes, then reduce to low to cook for 4-8 hours.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

### BILLING CYCLE DATES

- Feb. 21** Automated payments by credit cards are processed.
- Feb. 23** Member reads meter and records on payment voucher. **NO MORE METER CARDS.** Please mail your bill today to make sure it arrives to Hawkeye by the 1<sup>st</sup> of March.
- Feb. 28** Automated payments from checking accounts are processed.
- March 1** Bills become delinquent.
- March 10** Hawkeye REC prints bills based on February meter reading.
- March 11** Bills are mailed to members from Dairyland in La Crosse.

### OTHER EVENTS

- Feb. 27** Hawkeye REC Board Meeting
- March 22** Hawkeye Annual Meeting
- March 26** Hawkeye REC Board Meeting

# It's *Your* Cooperative! Choose *Your* Representative by Voting!

**D**uring the first week of March you will receive your Hawkeye REC 2003 Annual Report. Inside the report you will find one of most important decisions as a Cooperative member that you are asked to make all year. It is a decision that has a 3-year effect on you and your Cooperative! It is your director ballot! Voting for the member who will be making decisions for you in the boardroom!

## Candidates for *Your* Board of Directors!

### Howard County, One Director Position

Janelle Mahr, Lime Springs  
Running unopposed

### Chickasaw County, One Director Position

John Hockspeier, Alta Vista  
Robert Shatek, New Hampton

### Winneshiek County, Two Director Positions

Norman Dickman, Decorah  
Phil Hemesath, Calmar  
Duane Kuehner, Decorah  
Dennis Young, Decorah

**For nomination by petition and  
director qualifications, see page 4.**



*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, 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

Hawkeye REC  
Box 90  
Cresco, Iowa 52136

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