



NEWS Lines

Published monthly for the member-owners of North West Rural Electric Cooperative

Plan Now to Attend

DISTRICT & ANNUAL MEETINGS OF MEMBERS

1

**DISTRICT 1
SIOUX COUNTY**
 Tuesday, March 20
 Unity Christian High School
 in Orange City
 Registration & Dinner
 5:30-7:00 pm
 Business Meeting
 7:00 pm
 Special Speaker
 Chuck Long

2

**DISTRICT 2
O'BRIEN COUNTY**
 Monday, March 19
 South O'Brien School
 in Primghar
 Registration & Dinner
 5:30-7:00 pm
 Business Meeting
 7:00 pm
 Special Speaker
 Chuck Long

3

**DISTRICT 3
PLYMOUTH COUNTY**
 Monday, March 26
 Le Mars Community High School
 Registration & Dinner
 5:30-7:00 pm
 Business Meeting
 7:00 pm
 Meeting held in MS Auditorium
 Entertainment
 Gary Tyson

4

**DISTRICT 4
IDA COUNTY**
 Tuesday, March 27
 Skate Palace in Ida Grove
 Registration & Dinner
 5:30-7:00 pm
 Business Meeting
 7:00 pm
 Entertainment
 Gary Tyson

MARCH 2018

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COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS SELECTS

Director Nominees

The Committee on Nominations met Thursday, January 18, to select nominees for election of the Board of Directors of North West REC. They will be voted on and elected at the Annual/District Meetings of the Cooperative in March.

Members of the Committee on Nominations: (l-r) Jim Holst, Ida Grove; Arlo Radke, Galva; Seth Haverhals, Hawarden; Craig Anderson, Merrill; Tim Rus, Sioux Center; Alan Lucken, Akron; Jason Davelaar, Rock Valley; Joel Brown, Le Mars; Chad Negus, Paullina; Kevin Mars, Paullina; and Dennis Baldwin, Merrill.



DISTRICT 1 – SIOUX COUNTY



Chad Abbas

- Married to Jerrienne, six children
- Reside on an acreage near Hawarden with a small cow-calf operation
- Member of Hawarden Christian Reformed Church & Sunday School teacher
- Currently serving on Ireton Christian School Board
- Member Sioux County Farm Bureau
- Work on a large dairy operation near Sioux Center



Jeff Rehder

- Married to Kelly, three children
- Farms near Hawarden with four partners, raising corn, beans & alfalfa, feed cattle & hogs
- Current board member of North West REC
- Board member of Rivers Edge Bank
- Deacon of Peace Lutheran Church, rural Sioux Center

DISTRICT 2 – O'BRIEN COUNTY



Darrell Hunt

- Father to four children, one grandchild
- Farms near Granville; raises corn and beans, sheep and stock cows
- Past board member of Farmers Coop in Granville/Paullina
- Past president of NPHA
- Past school board president



Tom Wagner

- Married to Holly, two children at home, one in college
- Farms with brother Jim in Primghar area
- Current board member of North West REC
- Representative on NIPCO Board & Basin Electric Board
- Commissioner on O'Brien County Soil & Water District
- South O'Brien School Board Member

DISTRICT 3 – PLYMOUTH COUNTY



Steve Brown

- Married to Audrey, one child Clint
- Farms west of Merrill, raising corn & beans, small cattle herd
- Current board member of North West REC
- Attends Le Mars Bible Church
- Past advisory committee member of Children's Care Hospital & School (currently Lifescape of Sioux Falls)
- Enjoys helping son in his vegetable production and sales business



Tom Langel

- Married to Kathy, have five children
- Farms SE of Le Mars, raise corn & soybeans, swine operation
- REC member since 1972
- Served in United States Navy
- Member of All Saints Parish, Plymouth Co. Pork Producers, Farm Bureau
- Master Pork Producer 2015
- Past 4-H leader
- Served as board director for nine years on Hinton, Oyens, Akron Coop

DISTRICT 4 – IDA COUNTY



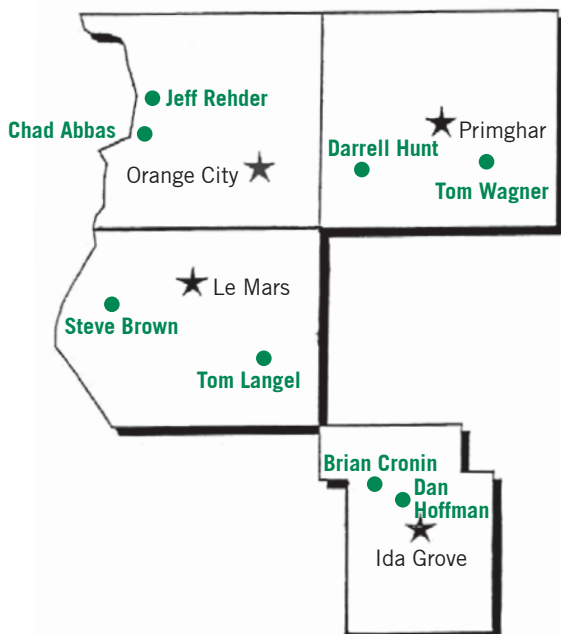
Brian Cronin

- Married to Lisa, four daughters, eight grandchildren
- Crop farms with a few cows & calves
- Member OLCG Catholic Church in Holstein
- Member Knights of Columbus
- Battle Township Trustee
- Former Ida County REC board member



Dan Hoffman

- Married to Jackie, four children, 10 grandchildren
- Lives & farms north of Ida Grove, has farmed whole life (corn, soybeans, oats & hay), cow-calf operation with son Aaron
- Member Ida County Farm Bureau
- Current Logan Township trustee
- Member of St Paul Lutheran Church, Ida Grove
- Past 4-H leader for 25 years
- REC member since 1973
- Hobbies include bowling, hunting, wood (has own sawmill)



MANAGER'S *Report*



Lyle D. Korver

“As a member-owned organization, the more engaged our members are with the Cooperative, the more successful we will be.”

Making “Cents” Out of Tax Reform Policies

Tax policy can be complicated. If you’ve ever done your own federal and state income taxes or if you own a business, you understand firsthand how every detail matters in compliance, especially when it comes to profits.

Because North West REC is a not-for-profit business entity there is sometimes confusion about whether we pay taxes. The answer is: yes, we pay taxes. We pay property taxes, employee taxes, replacement taxes, and taxes on materials and supplies to name a few. However, we don’t pay taxes on business profits, because we are not a profit-based organization.

Because electric cooperatives are not-for-profit organizations – operating at cost to deliver affordable and reliable power across all of Iowa’s 99 counties – we don’t have operating profits. Since our rates are based on the cost of acquiring and delivering electricity, we don’t make money on the services we provide. If we receive a cost reduction from our suppliers, those savings are passed along to our member-owners. If we have excess funds – commonly called margins – from providing our member-owners with safe, reliable, affordable and environmentally responsible electricity, we return those funds to you in the form of deferred patronage dividends. Since our inception, operating at cost has been a cornerstone of the cooperative business model.

Taxes on profits are in the news. You may have heard or read that the tax reform bill is now law, meaning that as of January 1 the corporate tax rate dropped to

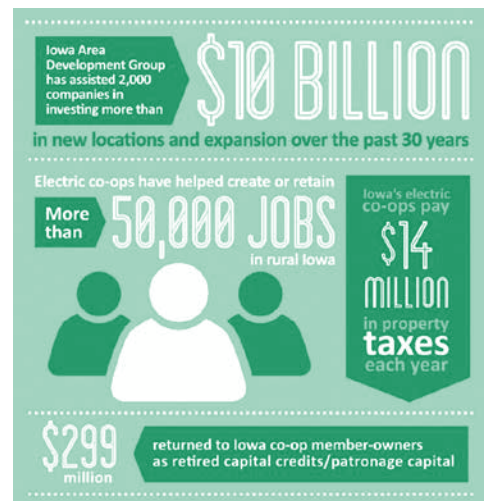
21 percent. This is good news for many businesses. Lawmakers suggested the extra profits – once paid to the federal government in the form of taxes – could now be used for improving products, lowering prices and generally boosting the economy. However, some critics of the new law argue that the extra money will line the pockets of shareholders.

Commissions across the country are looking at what this means for various types of profit-making corporations, some of which are utilities. Like other regulatory bodies across the country, the Iowa Utilities Board has opened an investigation into how the new federal tax reform bill might impact Iowa’s customers, and if the result would change Iowans' energy rates.

Because electric cooperatives aren’t profit-making corporations, the new tax bill does not change our tax status. We won’t pay any more or any less in taxes based on the electricity we are distributing to our members.

Taxes come in many forms and are an important part of a thriving economy.

Each year, Iowa’s electric cooperatives pay \$14 million in property taxes. Since the late 1980s, the Iowa Area



Development Group has assisted 2,000 companies in investing more than \$10 billion in new business locations and expansions. Those efforts have led to Iowa's electric cooperatives creating or retaining more than 50,000 tax-paying jobs in rural Iowa.

Annual District Meetings Scheduled

One of the most important things we do each year is to have annual district meetings. This gives us the opportunity to engage with our members and to share information about the Cooperative's operations. Once again, we are having four meetings – one in each district – and the last one is our official Annual Meeting. We serve a meal, have a short business/information meeting and then have entertainment that we hope appeals to all

age groups. We are excited to have former Iowa Hawkeye football quarterback, Chuck Long, as a speaker at our District 1 and 2 meetings this year and Gary Tyson, magician and musician, at our District 3 and 4 meetings.

We recently mailed our annual report and information about the meetings to each of our members. Please take a few minutes to look it over and learn about your Cooperative's operations this past year. We also encourage you to attend one of the meetings. As a member-owned organization, the more engaged our members are with the Cooperative, the more successful we will be. We look forward to seeing you!

NORTH WEST REC OFFERS POWERLINE *Scholarships*

North West REC is again sponsoring a powerline scholarship. This program is designed to assist persons enrolled in a course of powerline training at Northwest Iowa Community College in Sheldon.

A \$500 scholarship will be awarded to an individual who has met the eligibility requirements. To be considered for the scholarship, applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Reside in the four county area served by North West REC (Iowa, Plymouth, O'Brien and Sioux Counties)
- Be a member or the child of a member of North West REC
- Be accepted as a full time student in the powerline program at Northwest Iowa Community College in Sheldon
- File a scholarship application with North West REC by Friday, March 30, 2018

All applicants are required to submit an application form as well as their most recent academic transcript. The criteria for the award will be based upon community and school activities, potential for success and grade point average.

A check will be made out to both the recipient and Northwest Iowa Community College and will be sent to the recipient prior to the beginning of the second semester of course work.

For an application or more information, contact:

North West REC • Attn: Renee
PO Box 435 • Orange City, IA 51041 • 800-766-2099
rwynia@nwrec.coop



Youth Tour CONTEST 2018



Want to visit Washington, D.C.? Who wouldn't? It's FUN, it's FREE and you'll make lots of FRIENDS!

North West REC is sponsoring the 2018 Youth Tour Contest with two students receiving an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C. The trip is scheduled for June 8-14, 2018. There is a \$1,000 scholarship for the Iowa representative on the Youth Leadership Council.

All sons and daughters of North West REC member-consumers, who are presently juniors in high school, are eligible and encouraged to participate.

If you are interested in applying for the youth tour, send in the registration form below, and we will then send you an application form. The application is available on our website at www.nwrec.coop or you can e-mail Renee at rwynia@nwrec.coop and she will mail you an application. If you have any questions, please call Renee at 712-707-4935 or 1-800-766-2099.

The Youth Tour Contest application should be returned to the REC no later than Friday, March 30, 2018.

The Board of Directors and management encourage all who are eligible to enter the Youth Tour Contest for an exciting educational experience.

2018 YOUTH TOUR CONTEST REGISTRATION

YES, I am interested in entering the contest. Please send me the application form.

NAME _____


ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____ PARENT'S NAME _____

MAIL TO: North West REC • Attn: Renee • PO Box 435 • Orange City, IA 51041

Energy Trail Tour

North West REC and Northwest Iowa Power Cooperative invite you to join us for one of two Energy Trail Tours being offered this summer. This 3-day adventure will allow you to view, first-hand, how your power providers convert energy from water, wind, and coal into electricity. View coal being mined and see how those mines are, then, returned to productive farm and native grass lands. Learn how the energy industry is evolving to become more dependent on renewable power generation and glimpse into the future of carbon capture technology. Enjoy the fellowship of other cooperative member-owners on a comfortable motor coach journey to North Dakota's Energy Loop. \$100 per couple covers your lodging, meals and entry fees. The remainder of your tour costs are covered by North West REC. Twelve lucky couples from NWREC will be selected at random from those who sign up.



A Powerful Experience!

YES, please enter our names in the drawing for the trip. We understand that if our names are drawn, we will be billed \$100.

Our first and second choice of dates:
July 11-13 1st 2nd (please circle)
Aug 1-3 1st 2nd

I/we have have not participated in this tour in the past.

First Person _____
Second Person _____
Address _____
City _____
Phone _____

Clip coupon and return to REC office by May 25, 2018

Double your chances of winning the 2018 Youth Tour Contest!!

An all-expenses-paid trip will be awarded by *Living with Energy in Iowa* magazine, in addition to the trips sponsored by North West REC.

Get all the details at www.livingwithenergyiniowa.com or call our office if you have any questions.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL & DISTRICT

MEETINGS *of Members*



The District Meeting of Members in **District 1** will be held at the Unity Christian High School, Orange City, Sioux County, Iowa at 7:00 o'clock in the P.M. on **Tuesday**, the **20th day of March**, 2018; and

The District Meeting of Members in **District 2** will be held at the South O'Brien School, Primghar, O'Brien County, Iowa at 7:00 o'clock in the P.M. on **Monday**, the **19th day of March**, 2018; and

The District Meeting of Members in **District 3** will be held at the Middle School Auditorium of the Le Mars Community School, Le Mars, Plymouth County, Iowa at 7:00 o'clock in the P.M. on **Monday**, the **26th day of March**, 2018; and

The Annual and District Meeting of Members in **District 4** will be held at the Skate Palace, Ida Grove, Ida County, Iowa at 7:00 o'clock in the P.M. on **Tuesday**, the **27th day of March**, 2018, to take action on the following matters:

- The reports of officers, directors and committees.
- The election of one director in District 1, one director in District 2, one director in District 3 and one director in District 4, each for a four-year term.
- All other business that may come before the meeting or any adjournments thereof.

Dated this 5th day of March, A.D., 2018.

Shirley Benson

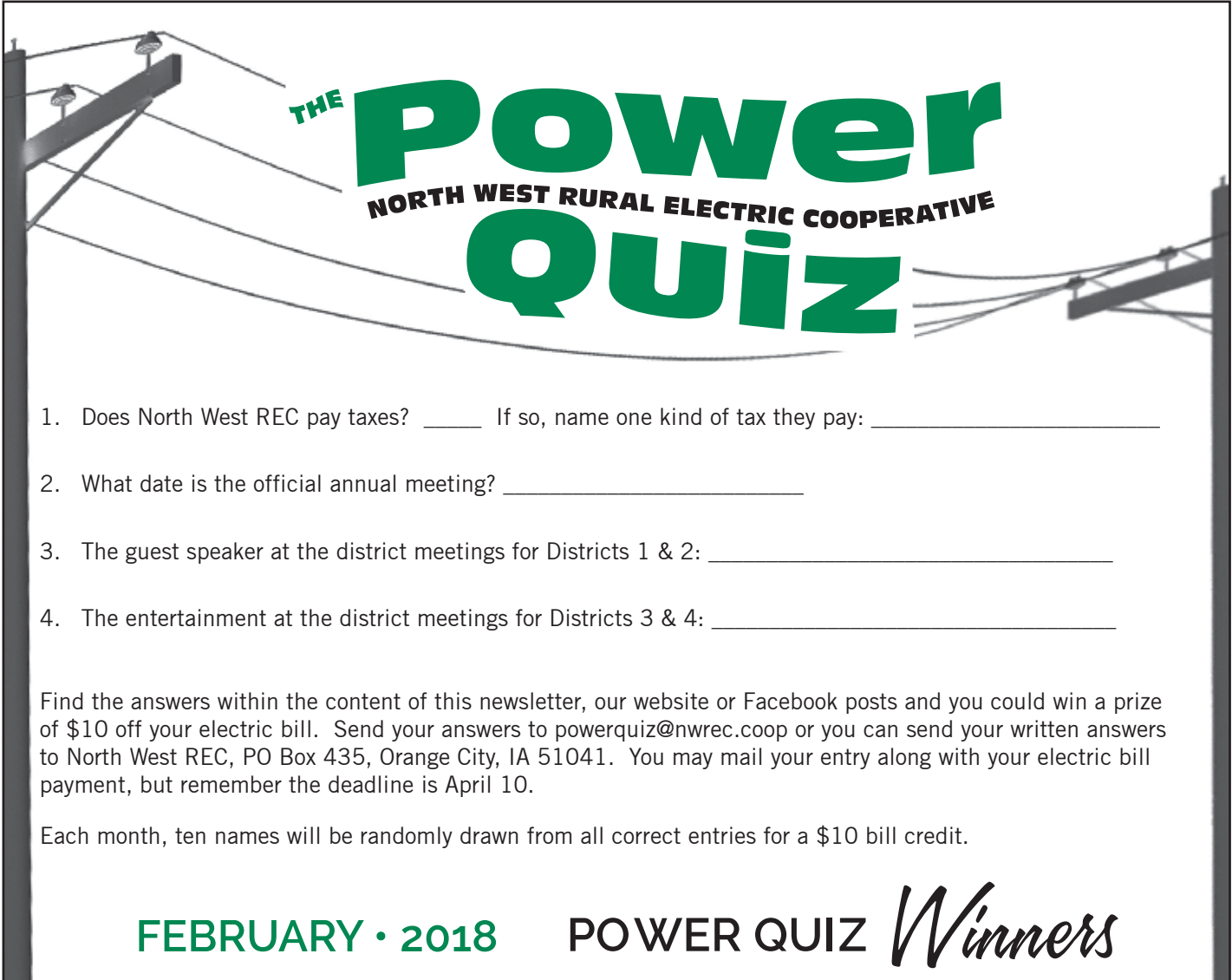
Shirley Benson, Secretary



Reminder About Mailing...

Watch your mail for your Annual District Meeting mailing which will include your registration card. Please bring this card with you when coming to the meeting. It will be used for the drawing of door prizes.

You will also receive your "ballot for director" in this mailing. Be sure to vote and mail your ballot to the cooperative in the envelope included in the mailing.



THE **Power** NORTH WEST RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE **Quiz**

1. Does North West REC pay taxes? ____ If so, name one kind of tax they pay: _____
2. What date is the official annual meeting? _____
3. The guest speaker at the district meetings for Districts 1 & 2: _____
4. The entertainment at the district meetings for Districts 3 & 4: _____

Find the answers within the content of this newsletter, our website or Facebook posts and you could win a prize of \$10 off your electric bill. Send your answers to powerquiz@nwrec.coop or you can send your written answers to North West REC, PO Box 435, Orange City, IA 51041. You may mail your entry along with your electric bill payment, but remember the deadline is April 10.

Each month, ten names will be randomly drawn from all correct entries for a \$10 bill credit.

FEBRUARY • 2018

POWER QUIZ *Winners*



**Brad Goettsch, Holstein
Rick Reifenrath, Le Mars
Kenneth Taylor, Le Mars
Jim De Kam, Rock Valley
Leo Stoll, Hospers**

**Allen Mulder, Rock Valley
Heath Hillrichs, Akron
LaMerle Wilson, Holstein
Mary Eisma, Ireton
Robert Godberson, Arthur**



North West Rural Electric Cooperative

P.O. Box 435 • 1505 Albany Place SE • Orange City, IA 51041-0435

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday through Friday
7:30 a.m. till 4:00 p.m.

Orange City office open
during noon hour

Le Mars office
closed 12:00 - 12:30 p.m.

Ida Grove office
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon, Mon-Fri

PHONE:

ORANGE CITY (712) 707-4935
(800) 766-2099

IDA GROVE (712) 364-3341

LE MARS (712) 546-4149

Outside Depository Available
for After Hours Payments

Lyle D. Korver

CEO & General Manager

Curt Ahrenholz

*Finance & Office
Services Director*

Lorraine Egdorf

Editor