



NEWS *Lines*

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

YOUTH TOUR *Highlights*

Iowa Cooperatives Sent 37 Students to D.C. for a Week of Leadership Development

Thirty-seven high school students representing Iowa's locally owned electric cooperatives traveled to Washington, D.C., from June 8-14 and joined more than 1,800 other students from across the nation for the 2018 Electric Cooperative Youth Tour. Iowa's electric cooperatives were the first ones to send students to Washington, D.C., back in 1958; this year marks the 60th anniversary of the journey.

"The Youth Tour is the highlight of the summer for many students, and we're proud to send 37 of Iowa's best and brightest to our nation's capital this year to participate," said Chuck Soderberg, Executive Vice President of the Iowa Association of Electric Cooperatives. "These students gained a first-hand understanding of the legislative process and made connections with other student leaders from across the country that will last a lifetime. We look forward to continuing the Youth Tour tradition for years to come."



Sponsored by North West REC, Katelyn Langel of Le Mars and Samuel Walhof of Orange City participated in leadership training, engaged in one-on-one conversations with elected officials, learned about electric cooperatives and toured the monuments and museums of Washington, D.C.

For more information, visit www.youthtour.coop.

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Offices Closed

**September 3, 2018
for Labor Day**

Call 800-766-2099 in
Case of Emergency

2018 SCHOLARSHIP *Winners*



Aftyn Vermeer, Jade Goebel, Carlyn Bretey, and Madison Lansink have been selected as the \$1,000 scholarship recipients representing North West REC as dependents of consumers. Marissa Beaty, Emily Mars, Rebecca Johnson, and Katie Knudsen have been selected as the \$750 scholarship winners. Isaac Hoftzyer, Haley Hofmeyer, Brandy Langley, and Ryan Paulsrud have been selected as the \$500 scholarship winners.

These scholarships are funded by North West REC and Basin Electric Power Cooperative, a consumer-owned and controlled regional cooperative based in Bismarck, N.D., responsible for supplying wholesale electric power to eight Midwestern states.

The scholarship program is designed to recognize and encourage the academic achievement of students in the region. It is also an investment in the economic future of rural areas.

DISTRICT 1 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Aftyn Vermeer is the daughter of Mark and Tricia Vermeer of rural Sioux Center and graduated from Sioux Center Community High School. In the fall, she will be attending Dordt College in Sioux Center, IA where she plans to major in International Business.



Marissa Beaty is the daughter of Craig and Shannon Beaty of rural Orange City and graduated from MOC-FV High School. In the fall, she will be attending the University of Iowa in Iowa City, IA where she plans to major in Music.

Isaac Hoftzyer is the son of Craig and Kristin Hoftzyer of rural Boyden and graduated from Boyden-Hull High School. In the fall, he will be attending Dordt College in Sioux Center, IA where he plans to major in Business.



DISTRICT 2 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Jade Goebel is the daughter of Garry and Lynda Goebel of rural Granville and graduated from South O'Brien High School. In the fall, she will be attending Dordt College in Sioux Center, IA where she plans to major in Music Therapy.



Emily Mars is the daughter of Kevin and Jennifer Mars of rural Paullina and graduated from South O'Brien High School. In the fall, she will be attending the University of Northern Iowa in Cedar Falls, IA where she plans to major in Communication Disorders.



Haley Hofmeyer is the daughter of Ric and Karna Hofmeyer of rural Paullina and graduated from Unity Christian High School. In the fall, she will be attending Northwestern College in Orange City, IA where she plans to major in Elementary Education.



2018 SCHOLARSHIP *Winners*



DISTRICT 3 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Carlyn Bretey is the daughter of Keith and Teri Bretey of rural Le Mars and graduated from Gehlen Catholic High School. In the fall, she will be attending the University of Nebraska in Lincoln, NE where she plans to major in International Business..



Rebecca Johnson is the daughter of Darrin and Heather Johnson of rural Remsen and graduated from Remsen St. Mary's High School. In the fall, she will be attending Iowa State University in Ames, IA where she plans to major in Business.

Brandy Langley is the daughter of Pam and Herb Langley III of rural Sioux City and graduated from East High School. In the fall, she will be attending Wayne State College in Wayne, NE where she plans to major in Education.



DISTRICT 4 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Madison Lansink is the daughter of Jayson and Patty Lansink of rural Ida Grove and graduated from OA-BCIG High School. In the fall, she will be attending Iowa State University in Ames, IA where she plans to major in Animal Science.

Katie Knudsen is the daughter of Cordell and Barb Knudsen of rural Ida Grove and graduated from OA-BCIG High School. In the fall, she will be attending Western Iowa Tech Community College in Sioux City, IA where she plans to major in Accounting.



Ryan Paulsrud is the son of Ted and Dee Ann Paulsrud of rural Danbury and graduated from MVAOCO High School. In the fall, he will be attending Western Iowa Tech Community College in Sioux City, IA where he plans to major in Ag Business.



Find us on
Facebook

Keep up with your cooperative by liking us on Facebook!

This social media site is a great way to get the latest information about North West REC, track power restoration when outages occur and learn the latest about safe, efficient electric use. Just head over to www.facebook.com/nwrec and click the "like" button.

MANAGER'S *Report*



Lyle D. Korver

"We can each do our part to keep Iowa's roads safe by simply moving over or slowing down (preferably both) when we see stopped vehicles on the side of the road."

Do Your Part to Keep Iowa's Roads Safe

Have you ever had to stop your vehicle on the side of a busy highway to check on a flat tire or a trailer cover? Or maybe you've been pulled over by a police officer and worried about his or her safety on the shoulder of the road while hoping you can get away with just a warning!

If so, you are well aware that most drivers won't bother to move over or even slow down as they pass you by. But as of July 1, Iowa's newly expanded move over or slow down law – Iowa Code section 321.323A – now requires motorists to move over or slow down when approaching ANY stationary vehicle with flashing lights activated, including passenger vehicles with hazard lights. Those who disobey the law could receive a hefty fine or potentially lose their driver's license.



This law is particularly important to North West REC because it helps keep our lineworkers and maintenance workers safe as they often need to perform difficult and dangerous work with electric equipment on the shoulder of road. Even though our employees set out caution signs and orange cones, wear high visibility gear and turn on their vehicles' emergency lights, other motorists often fail to give them the room they need to do their job safely.

This law will help keep Iowa's roads safe for everyone – drivers, emergency responders, utility workers and others. But the law doesn't do much good if motorists don't know about it. Please make sure to share this safety message with other drivers in your family, especially younger drivers who don't have as much experience behind the wheel. We can each do our part to keep Iowa's roads safe by simply moving over or slowing down (preferably both) when we see stopped vehicles on the side of the road. We encourage you to visit www.MoveOverIowa.com to sign a simple pledge in support of this law.

When you're behind the wheel, keep your eyes on the road and make room for utility workers and others who are stopped on the shoulder. Their jobs are dangerous enough already.

RULES OF THE ROAD:

According to Iowa Code section 321.323A, Iowa law requires motorists to:

1. Change lanes or slow down, absent any other direction from a peace officer, when approaching the following vehicles:
 - A stationary emergency vehicle that has its flashing lights activated.
 - A stationary tow, recovery, maintenance, construction, solid waste or recycling collection vehicle that has its flashing lights activated.
 - Any stationary motor vehicle, including a passenger vehicle, that is continually displaying its emergency signal lamps (i.e., standard hazard lights).
2. Yield the right of way to an emergency vehicle displaying flashing lights or giving an audible signal by moving over to the right, stopping and waiting until the vehicle has passed before proceeding.

Source: Iowa Department of Transportation (<https://iowadot.gov/rules>)

Board Room Summary – June 28

In an effort to keep our members informed of discussions and decisions made at our monthly board meetings, I will provide a brief summary in my newsletter article periodically throughout the year.

- Received monthly safety report. An update was provided on the Zero Contacts initiative.
- Annual reliability report was reviewed. NWREC compares favorably in comparison to other utilities in Iowa. For 2017, NWREC had only 61 average outage minutes and a 99.99% average service availability index.
- Youth Tour winners Katelyn Langel and Sam Walhof shared highlights of their recent trip to Washington, D.C.
- Approved retirement of patronage dividends to five estates in the amount of \$1,830.
- Approved the write-off of uncollectible accounts in amount of \$10,133.
- Approved the repricing of three loans with CFC. We took advantage of low interest rates to lock in rates to maturity.
- Reviewed developments related to one of our strategic goals “To craft and enact an approach designed to educate the members on and take advantage of all opportunities offered by distributed generation technologies”.
- Heard updates on new REDLG grant applications that are being prepared for two new community and economic development projects.
- Approved an energy efficiency loan application in the amount of \$7,000.
- Heard reports from Director Tom Wagner on the recent NIPCO and Basin Board Meetings.
- Approved Operation Round-Up donations to six charitable organizations.
- Approved 26 membership applications for new members.



Youth Tour winners Katelyn Langel and Sam Walhof

Visit Us AT FARM PROGRESS SHOW

The Farm Progress Show, our nation's leading outdoor farm show, will be back in Boone, Iowa, August 28-30, and North West REC wants to see you there. Your Touchstone Energy Cooperative will be located in the southwest quadrant of the show, at the Rural Electric Cooperatives of Iowa Lot 105.

Stop by our lot to learn how to be safe around electricity, how to improve energy efficiency, and much more. Members are encouraged to register for prizes and receive a free water and popcorn (while supplies last) and stay for a high-voltage safety demonstration!

The Farm Progress Show features the most extensive state-of-the-art information and technology available for today's agricultural producers. This major agriculture event gives visitors the opportunity to see the latest equipment, seed, crop chemicals, field demonstrations, livestock handling, equine events, rural life programs, entertainment, arts and crafts, and more.

The 2018 show will be located at the Central Iowa Expo at 1827 217th Street, Boone, Iowa. In the coming years, the show will continue to rotate annually between this site and Decatur, Illinois.

Bring this registration slip to the
Rural Electric Cooperatives of Iowa (Lot 10S)
at the **Farm Progress Show** to register
for a chance to win a generator or freezer!

NAME* _____

BUSINESS _____

ADDRESS* _____

CITY* _____ ST* _____ ZIP* _____

PHONE* _____

E-MAIL _____

My Electric Cooperative** _____

*Required information.

**Must be a member of a Rural Electric Cooperative in Iowa to win.

The 2018 Farm Progress Show is Aug 28 - Aug 30, at the
intersection of Hwy. 30 and Hwy. 17 near Boone, Iowa.

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

OPERATION *Round Up* REPORT



Disbursements made from North West REC's Operation Round Up Trust in the second quarter of 2018 totaled \$4,900. This brings the total disbursements made from Operation Round Up since its inception in June of 1999 to \$420,055. Many people have been helped thanks to our members.

\$3,200 Medical Emergencies – assist families with unusual expenses resulting from serious health problems and accident related injuries

\$ 800 Mid-Sioux Opportunity and Upper Des Moines Opportunity – program support

\$ 500 Bethany Christian Services, Camp Invention, Floyd Valley Hospital Foundation – support for children's fund and children's programs

\$ 200 Siouxland Habitat for Humanity – program support

\$ 200 Justice for All – program support

Operation Round Up funds are generated through a voluntary rounding up of cooperative members' electric bills to the next nearest dollar, and dollars are used to assist worthy causes and organizations right in your local county area.

If you are currently not participating in Operation Round Up and would like to become a part of this worthwhile program, please call our office for information or fill out the registration form below and return to us. To receive an application for assistance, please call the office at 707-4935 or 800-766-2099.

SIGN UP TODAY!

YES – add my name to the hundreds of North West REC members already contributing to the Operation Round Up Trust. I am not currently signed up to donate but wish to have my monthly electric bill rounded up to the nearest dollar and make a meaningful difference in my community.

Name _____

Address _____

Acct. # _____ Phone # _____

ENERGY EFFICIENCY LOANS FOR HOMEOWNERS

An energy-efficiency loan from North West REC can be an effective way to improve your home and save energy. The loan may be made for qualifying energy efficient home improvements such as new electric heating systems, an electric water heater, or energy efficient windows and doors.



If interested in an energy efficiency loan, members must complete a loan application and provide a complete itemized bill. This bill may include electric heat equipment, wiring, labor, electric water heater, and electric space conditioning equipment for cooling. Insulation expense, to improve the integrity of the building and the space to be conditioned, may be included in a loan. The loan application and credit check will be reviewed by the board of directors.

Other specifics of our loan program for North West REC members include:

- Minimum amount of \$500 to \$999 written for one year.
- Maximum amount of \$7,000 for equipment upgrade, written for three years.
- Maximum amount of \$4,000 for house improvement of insulation, doors, windows, caulking, weatherstripping, etc.
- 5.50% simple interest
- Monthly payments included on electric bill
- No penalty for early pay-off

North West REC will deduct any rebates from the total itemized bill and will finance up to 90% of the remainder upon approval from our board of directors.

Call us to find out if your home improvement project qualifies!



Be sure to visit the Touchstone Energy Cooperatives of Iowa display in the 4-H Exhibits Building at the Iowa State Fair August 9-19.

Mark your membership on the electric co-op map and register to win an Instant Pot.

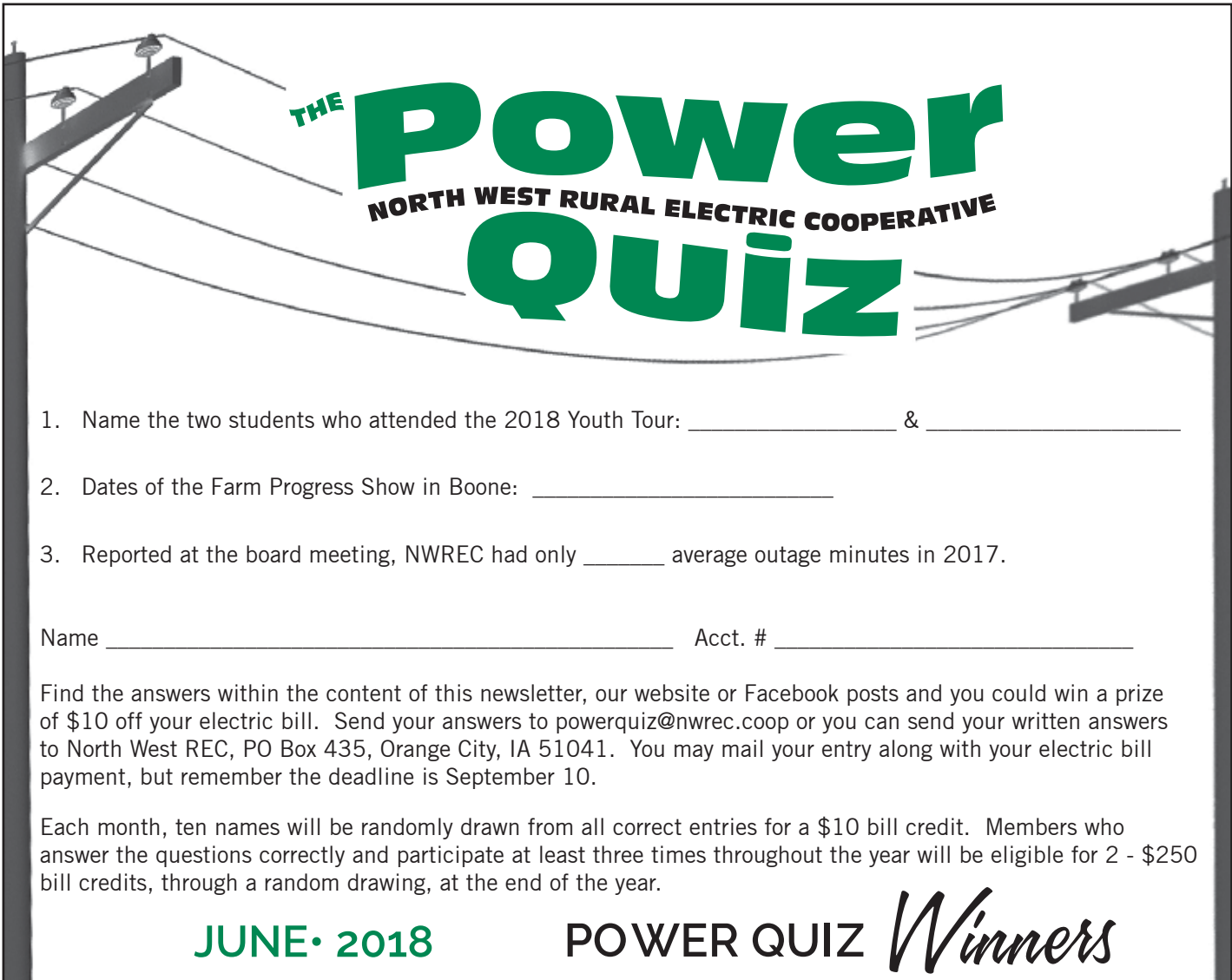


Moving?

Please notify our office if you are planning to move from our line **BEFORE** the date of the move. We need to contact the new member and have them sign the necessary forms.

We will also need your forwarding address so your dividend files can be correctly updated.

Thanks for your cooperation!



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

1. Name the two students who attended the 2018 Youth Tour: _____ & _____
2. Dates of the Farm Progress Show in Boone: _____
3. Reported at the board meeting, NWREC had only _____ average outage minutes in 2017.

Name _____ Acct. # _____

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 September 10.


Each month, ten names will be randomly drawn from all correct entries for a \$10 bill credit. Members who answer the questions correctly and participate at least three times throughout the year will be eligible for 2 - \$250 bill credits, through a random drawing, at the end of the year.

JUNE • 2018

POWER QUIZ *Winners*



Joel Ludwigs, Le Mars
Teunis Hoefakker, Rock Valley
Richard Homan, Remsen
Kevin Driesen, Hull
Steve Van Veldhuizen, Boyden



Delores Vondrak, Sioux City
Rick Roghair, Hartley
Harry Hoffman, Akron
Howard Van Engen, Hawarden
Delbert Vander Schaaf, Orange City

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:

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(800) 766-2099

IDA GROVE (712) 364-3341

LE MARS (712) 546-4149

Outside Depository Available
for After Hours Payments

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Editor