



# NEWS *Lines*

PUBLISHED MONTHLY FOR THE MEMBER-OWNERS OF NORTH WEST RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

**JOIN US FOR A FUN EVENING  
FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY**

*Member Appreciation Events*

**Tuesday, August 27, 2019**  
Boulders Inn & Suites at Holstein

**Thursday, September 5, 2019**  
Terrace View Event Center at Sioux Center

**3:30 pm – 6:30 pm**  
*(serving meal starting at 4:30)*

- Come see our new Chevy Volt Electric Vehicle and charging station near hotel
- Inflatables for the kids
- Picnic Meal – serving hamburgers & brats with Blue Bunny ice cream treats
- Prize drawings for adults & kids  
Kids – 2 bikes at each location (age 14 & under)
- Information available on Energy Efficiency Rebates
- Lineman 360 and safety demonstrations

**All members are invited and welcome to attend  
whichever date or location works best for you.**

**AUGUST 2019**

IN THIS *Issue*

Scholarship Winners  
2-3

Manager's Report  
4-5

Youth Tour  
6

Energy Efficiency  
Loans  
6

Operation  
Round Up  
7

Power Quiz  
8

# 2019 SCHOLARSHIP *Winners*

North West REC provides several scholarships to high school students each spring. These scholarships are funded by North West REC and Basin Electric Power Cooperative, a consumer-owned, regional generation and transmission (G&T) 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. This year North West REC awarded four \$1,000 scholarships, one scholarship to a student from each of the four districts we serve. The \$1,000 scholarship recipients were Emma Zwart (District 1), Jason Konz (District 2), Katelyn Langel (District 3), and Kara Richard (District 4).

## \$1,000 Scholarship Winners



### District 1

**Emma Zwart** is the daughter of Tom and Misty Zwart of rural Hull and graduated from Boyden-Hull High School. In the fall, she will be attending Dordt University in Sioux Center where she plans to major in Animal Science with a Pre-Vet emphasis.



### District 2

**Jason Konz** is the son of Tom and Ruth Konz of rural Granville and graduated from Gehlen Catholic High School. In the fall, he will be attending Buena Vista University in Storm Lake where he plans to major in Computer Science.



### District 3

**Katelyn Langel** is the daughter of Mick and Tami Langel of rural Le Mars and graduated from Gehlen Catholic High School. In the fall, she will be attending Iowa State University in Ames where she plans to major in Kinesiology.



### District 4

**Kara Richard** is the daughter of Mike and Susan Richard of rural Holstein and graduated from Ridge View High School. In the fall, she will be attending Northwestern College in Orange City where she plans to major in Public Relations.



In addition, North West REC awarded sixteen \$500 scholarships; four scholarships to students from each of the four districts we serve.

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## District 1 - \$500 Scholarship Recipients

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**Ivan De Vries**  
Parents: Darrell & Joy,  
Hawarden  
College: SDSU,  
Brookings  
Major: Agricultural &  
Biosystems Engineering



**Breanna Oolman**  
Parents: Brian & Kim,  
Orange City  
College: Northwestern,  
Orange City  
Major: Elementary Education



**Zachery Oolman**  
Parents: Jason & Deb,  
Orange City  
College: Dordt,  
Sioux Center  
Major: Ag Business



**Justin Schmit**  
Parents: James & Joan,  
Hospers  
College: Iowa State,  
Ames  
Major: Mechanical  
Engineering

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## District 2 - \$500 Scholarship Recipients

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**Colton Meyer**  
Parents: Mike & Becky,  
Paullina  
College: North East  
Comm. College, Norfolk  
Major: Animal Science &  
Agri-Business



**Jacob Van Dyke**  
Parents: Ryan & Nancy,  
Sanborn  
College: DMACC,  
Ankeny  
Major: Business or Marketing



**Hannah Van Meeteren**  
Parents: Brian & Jill,  
Sheldon  
College: Northwestern,  
Orange City  
Major: Accounting &  
Business



**Allyson Wieringa**  
Parents: Mark & Tracy,  
Hospers  
College: Dordt,  
Sioux Center  
Major: Undecided

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## District 3 - \$500 Scholarship Recipients

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**Max Lindgren**  
Parents: Kirk & Nicole,  
Kingsley  
College: Iowa State,  
Ames  
Major: Agriculture Systems  
Technology



**Olivia Schroeder**  
Parents: Greg & Erin,  
Le Mars  
College: Iowa State,  
Ames  
Major: Business Management



**Adam Schuch**  
Parents: Tom & Lori,  
Le Mars  
College: Iowa State,  
Ames  
Major: Computer Science



**Abby Van Otterloo**  
Parents: John & Marlys,  
Le Mars  
College: University of Iowa,  
Iowa City  
Major: Arts Speech-  
Language Pathology

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## District 4 - \$500 Scholarship Recipients

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**Bailey Cobb**  
Parents: Joe & Pam,  
Galva  
College: University of Iowa,  
Iowa City  
Major: Undecided



**Sarah Cotton**  
Parents: David Cotton &  
Mary Renze, Ida Grove  
College: Northwestern,  
Orange City  
Major: Exercise Science



**Madeline Else**  
Parents: Grant & Shelly,  
Holstein  
College: Dakota  
Wesleyan, Mitchell  
Major: Biology/Chemistry



**Dylan Hemer**  
Parents: Dave & Diane,  
Arthur  
College: Iowa State,  
Ames  
Major: Agricultural Studies





Lyle D. Korver

# MANAGER'S *Report*

"We recognize that our membership keeps changing, and we continually look for new engagement opportunities."

## New Member Appreciation Events Planned

We are excited to announce that we are planning to have two member appreciation events later this summer, and we hope you will be able to join us. One of our strategic goals is to **"seek and recommend new creative approaches to engage the changing membership"**. We recognize that our membership keeps changing, and we continually look for new engagement opportunities.

The location for these two events will be the Terrace View Event Center in Sioux Center and the Boulders Inn & Suites in Holstein. We will be serving burgers & brats, and we will have some fun things for the whole family. We will have the new electric vehicle on display, there will be inflatables for the kids and electric safety demonstrations for all ages.

We will continue to have patronage days in December, and they will be at two locations – Primghar and Le Mars. Our plan is to rotate the member appreciation events and patronage days next year with Primghar and Le Mars being the location for the member appreciation events and Orange City and Ida Grove hosting the patronage days. We will continue to have our Annual District Meetings in March at Orange City, Primghar, Le Mars and Ida Grove.

Please mark your calendars for these upcoming events in Holstein and Sioux Center. You will also be receiving a postcard reminder in the mail. We hope to see you there!

### *Member Appreciation Events*

Tuesday, August 27 – Boulders Inn & Suites, Holstein

Thursday, September 5 – Terrace View Event Center, Sioux Center

**Members from any of our districts are invited and welcome to attend whichever date or location works best for you.**

## Electric Vehicle Makes Appearance in Local Parades

Earlier this year we purchased a Chevrolet Bolt electric vehicle (EV). We have had it wrapped with our logo and colorful design with the intent of using this to educate our members and others about this new technology. We work hard to stay on the cutting edge of new technology and to continue to be our members' trusted energy partner.



The three parades we have had the EV in were the Tulip Festival in Orange City, Ice Cream Days in Le Mars and Heritage Days in Ida Grove.

The EV will be on display at our upcoming member appreciation events. You are also welcome to stop by our Orange City office to see it and to take it for a spin. It's fun to drive!

## Board Room Summary – May/June

The following is a brief summary of the discussion and decisions from the May and June board meetings:

- Received monthly safety, operations and financial reports from staff.
- Discussed plans for new member appreciation events scheduled for August 27 and September 5.
- Heard an update on our FEMA application relating to storm damages from the March flooding and April ice storm events.
- Received a report about the new electric vehicle (Chevrolet Bolt).
- Approved an interconnection agreement for a 12 kW solar system that one of our members is installing.
- Received an update on the load management pilot project.
- Heard a report on the planning trip for the NRECA International Project in Guatemala. Mike Berkenpas, NWREC lineman from Le Mars, is participating in this project.
- Received a staffing update. A new lineman was recently hired to fill a vacant position on the Ida Grove line crew. Tyler Lindhoff, recent graduate from the NCC Powerline program, was hired.
- The Board authorized management to draw down additional CFC loan funds to take advantage of low interest rates and to finance some upcoming line replacement projects.
- Reviewed a depreciation analysis. The Board decided to keep the current depreciation rates as they are.
- Heard reports from Director Tom Wagner on the recent NIPCO and Basin Board Meetings.
- Received a technology & cyber security update from James Vondrak, IT Administrator.
- Approved recommendations from the Operations Round Up Committee.
- Approved membership applications for new members.
- Appointed delegates and alternates for future meetings of associated organizations.

Each of NWREC's linemen do an annual climbing certification exercise. This consists of climbing the pole, crossing over the cross arm, circling the pole, then climbing down the pole crossing over the cross arm again. This exercise refreshes their memory of the steps to safely climb a pole when the need arises.



**Learn about Youth Tour  
at the Iowa State Fair**

Stop by our booth in the Rastetter 4-H building on the south side of the fairgrounds to learn more about this incredible leadership opportunity for students!

 Touchstone Energy®  
Cooperatives of Iowa

 Iowa State Fair  
**OFFICIAL SPONSOR**  
AUG 8-18 |

# IOWA'S ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES SENT 38 STUDENTS TO D.C. FOR A *Week of Leadership Development*

Thirty-eight high school students representing Iowa's locally owned electric cooperatives traveled to Washington, D.C., from June 14-20 and joined more than 1,900 other students from across the nation for the 2019 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 61st anniversary of the journey.

"The Youth Tour is the highlight of the summer for many students, and we're proud to send 38 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, Paige Dagele of Sanborn and Valeria Uribe of Le Mars participated in leadership training, engaged in one-on-one conversations with elected officials, jumpstarted their national peer network, learned about electric cooperatives, and toured the monuments and museums of Washington, D.C.

For more information, visit [www.youthtour.coop](http://www.youthtour.coop).



## 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.

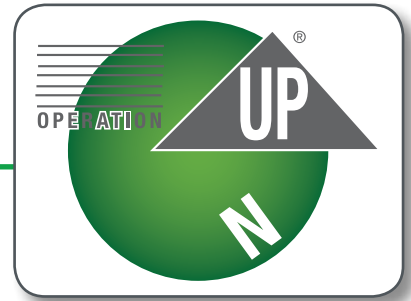
Other specifics of our loan program for North West REC members include:

- 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!***

# OPERATION *Round Up* REPORT



Disbursements made from North West REC's Operation Round Up Trust in the second quarter of 2019 totaled \$9,900. This brings the total disbursements made from Operation Round Up since its inception in June of 1999 to \$459,455. Many people have been helped thanks to our members.

\$6,100..... Medical Emergencies – assist families with unusual expenses resulting from serious health problems and accident related injuries

\$2,000..... Mid-Sioux Opportunity, Upper Des Moines Opportunity and Justice for All – program support

\$1,000 ..... Primghar Community Building, Boyden Public Library, Sanborn American Legion and Ida Grove Heritage Days – community development projects

\$ 800..... Inspiration Hills, Camp Invention and Floyd Valley Hospital Foundation – support for children's fund and children's camps/programs

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.



Accepting the donation on behalf of Inspiration Hills Camp & Retreat Center is Terry Dozark, along with four of their lifeguards. This donation is for the pool project and annual fund.

## 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 # \_\_\_\_\_



# THE POWER QUIZ

NORTH WEST RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Acct. # \_\_\_\_\_

1. Who won the \$1,000 scholarship in your district? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Who represented NWREC on the youth tour? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Name a parade the EV has been in: \_\_\_\_\_

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](mailto: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.

## POWER QUIZ *Winners*

JUNE 2019



Barb Dather – Melvin  
 Ruth Detloff – Le Mars  
 Mavis Johnston – Kiron  
 Darin Green – Boyden  
 Robert Ruden – Le Mars

Alvin Bleyenbergh – Sioux Center  
 Don Wunschel – Ida Grove  
 Brad Roepke – Kingsley  
 Robert Otto – Mapleton  
 Stanley Meyer - Ireton



### 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**  
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 Services Director

**Lorraine Egdorf**  
 Editor