

Volts and Jolts

Published monthly for the members of RED LAKE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, Inc.

One of the Minnkota Power Systems

SERVING THE FOUR-COUNTY AREA OF MARSHALL, PENNINGTON, RED LAKE AND POLK

VOL. 48 - NO. 7

RED LAKE FALLS (RED LAKE COUNTY), MINNESOTA 56750

APRIL 2013

Three incumbent directors re-elected at annual meeting



Colette Kujava

Colette Kujava, Newfolden, was re-elected at Red Lake Electric's annual meeting as the director for District 3. This district includes the townships of West Valley, New Maine, Marsh Grove, Newfolden, New Solum and Viking, all in Marshall County. She begins her second three year term.

Kujava is originally from Harvey, ND where she was raised. For the past 13 years she has been employed at Wikstrom Telephone Co. in Karlstad. Kujava is the Sales Sales Representative for the Wikstrom Telephone directory and public relations for advertising, website and promotions. She also works in the service center assisting with the dispatch of service-related jobs and customer appointments.

Colette and her husband Gordon reside on their farm west of Newfolden in Marsh Grove Township, where they raise beef cattle, hogs and engage in grain farming. They are parents of two daughters – Teri of Thief River Falls, who works at Digi-Key, Kelli of Fargo, ND where she works as a chef, and a son Alex who is in the (0221039.04 Goodridge Lutheran Parish) 10th grade at Marshall County Central High School, Newfolden.

Kujava's are members of Assumption Catholic Church of Florian, where they are all active in various ministries including religion teacher, cantor and organ, bulletin, and altar server. Through Wikstrom Telephone, Colette is also a member of the area Chamber of Commerce and other civic organizations.

"We've faced some tough challenges these past few years and I am proud of how our Cooperative keeps our members informed while doing the best job possible of keeping our electric rates reasonable," stated Kujava. "Be assured that the



Randy Versdahl

decisions we make, have all of ing those of the Red Lake Falls our members in mind. Thank you to the members for your support."

Randy Versdahl, Red Lake Falls, was re-elected to his second term as District 6 director at Red Lake Electric's annual meeting. District 6 includes the townships of Wylie, Louisville, Browns Creek, Red Lake Falls, River, Gervais, Terrebonne and Emardville, all in Red Lake County.

Versdahl is originally from Winger. He is a 35 year veteran of Garden Valley Telephone Co. of Erskine. For the past 16 years he has served as facilities manager and safety director. Through his associations with Garden Valley Telephone he has been an active safety committee member of Minnesota Telecom Alliance (MTA) serving the past four years as vice chair. Versdahl has also served as president of the MTA plant manager

Versdahl and his wife Kris Clinic. have been residents of Gervais Township for 33 years. They are parents of two daughters - Kari who is married to Danny Gagner and Erica who is married to Alan Sundby, all residing in the Grand Forks, ND area. The Versdahls have 3 grandchildren Drew and Cole Gagner and Natalie Sundby.

Other involvements for Randy include being a member of Bethany Lutheran Church and the Pathfinders Snowmobile Club, both of Red Lake Falls.

"Legislative and regulatory mandates such as renewable energy - which includes wind and solar, energy conservation directives and clean coal technology have a huge impact on electric cooperatives in the area and across the country," said Versdahl. "These issues are cause for much concern into the future but I look forward to continuing to serve the members of the Cooperative and represent-



Peter Mosbeck

and Plummer area for another three years."

Peter Mosbeck, Red Lake Falls, was re-elected to his third term as Red Lake Electric District 9 director. This district includes the townships of River Falls, Black River, Polk Centre, Sanders, Bray, Numedal and Norden, all in Pennington County.

Mosbeck has been a rural Red Lake Falls resident all of his life. He is involved in a family grain farm operation and

works as an auctioneer. Mosbeck and his wife Janette reside on their farm in Polk Centre Township. They are the parents of two children - Dustin who lives and works in Fargo, ND and Brittney who is married to Tom Johnson, who reside in East Grand Forks with their son Isaak Peter. Both of the Johnsons work in Grand Forks, ND. Janette is employed by the Red Lake Falls Veterinary

of Black River Lutheran Church, rural Red Lake Falls, where Peter has served on the church board. He also serves as a supervisor on the Polk Centre township board. He thoroughly enjoys (2131003.03 Jared and Ashia Gustafson) spending time with his grandson and engaging in many outdoor activities.

"The electric industry continues to be faced with some real challenges and changes as we try to manage with governmental mandates and Environmental Protection Agency regulations that are passed onto us," stated Mosbeck.

"It is a continual challenge to keep reasonable retail electric rates but I will do my best in making decisions regarding these issues as I represent the members of District 9 - thank you members for your continued support."

Operation Round Up® Grants Total \$9,600

The Red Lake Electric Trust board met recently and awarded 14 grants to area non-profit and community organizations that totaled \$9,600. Since its inception in 1993, 686 Operation Round Up grants totaling \$409 thousand have been gifted to area community organizations. The Red Lake Electric Trust receives money for grants from the Operation Round Up program administered by the Red Lake Electric Cooperative. Today, 91% of Red Lake Electric's members voluntarily "round-up" their monthly bill for the Operation Round Up program.

Following are organizations awarded RoundUp funds to help the disadvantaged: Early Childhood Family Advocate Program, TRF: \$1,000 to help sustain the Early Childhood Family Advocate program; Falls DAC, TRF: \$250 to create a web site to maintain outreach efforts; Strandquist Area Food Shelf, Strandquist: \$600 to purchase food for the food shelf; Violence Intervention Project, TRF: \$1,000 to purchase food & supplies for the shelter occu-

pants. Three area emergency service providers were given grants: Viking Fire & Rescue; \$1,000 to purchase supplies and equipment for emergency medical services; Goodridge Fire & Rescue: \$1,000 to purchase charcoal masks and pagers; Red Lake Falls Fire Department: \$1,000 to help purchase personal protective equipment for new firefighters.

Monies to benefit the general public were awarded to these organizations: Life Care Center: \$500 to help purchase locking file drawers, ultrasound room door lock and medical supplies; American Cancer Society, RLCo Chapter: \$500 to defray cost of Relay for Life; Goodridge Area Historical Society, Goodridge: \$500 to repair floor and stand for country school bell and curtains.

Four organizations that provide help and service to area seniors received the following grants: Middle River-Thief



Sandi Bentley, on behalf of the Violence Intervention Project (VIP), accepts a \$1,000 check from Van Swanson, Red Lake Electric Trust Vice President. VIP operates a shelter for victims of domestic abuse and sexual assault. VIP was one of 14 nonprofit and community organizations that was awarded a grant from Operation Round Up funds.

Lake Living-at-Home/Block Nurse Program: \$500 to help fund volunteer expenses of transportation, postage and training; Goodridge Senior Center Inc: \$750 to help replace shingles on senior center building; Tri Community Living At Home/Block Nurse Program: \$500 to offer social and health promotion activities; Inter County Nursing Service: \$500 to defray cost of personal care by Home Health Aides.

The RLE Trust Board of Directors determines grants two times per year, in March and September. Serving on the board are Patty Mickelson-President, Oklee; Van Swanson - Vice-President, TRF; and Randy Knutson- Secretary / Treasurer, Newfolden: Ex-officio directors are Bonnie Christians of Crookston and Roger Johanneck of (3634002.04 Rodney Harder) Red Lake Falls, representing Red Lake Electric Cooperative. Grant applications are available at the Red Lake Electric Cooperative Office or by visiting their web site at www.redlakeelectric.com. The next deadline for Operation Round Up grant applications are due September 9, 2013.

In this month's **Volts and Jolts**

Manager's Comments Guillemette recognized

Recipe Corner From the Mail Bag

Page 4 Feature of the Month Veral and June Mosbeck

Page 5-8 75th Anniversary Annual Meeting photos



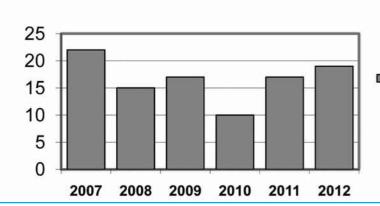
Page 10 Do you have a story to share?

QUICK TAKES

A look at some statistics from your Red Lake Electric Cooperative

The Chart below indicates the number of times a car, truck, tractor, combine implement, airplane, auger and tree made contact with Red Lake Electric Cooperative's poles, guy wires and powerlines during the past six years. Spring planting and Fall harvesting are times when these accidental contacts most commonly occur. Take time now to reaquaint yourself, your employees and your family with the electrical equipment you will be working around. As the chart indicates below; we can do better to avoid vehicle and equipment contacts with poles, guy wires and powerlines.

Vehicle & Equipment Contacts



Accidental Contacts: Poles, Guy Wires & Powerlines

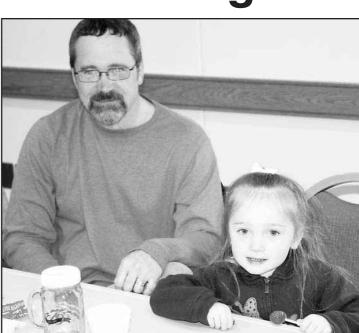
Red Lake Electric holds 75th annual meeting

The 75th annual meeting of Red Lake Electric Cooperative was held March 27 in the Imperial Room of the Ralph Engelstad Arena in Thief River Falls. The meeting was attended by 325 Cooperative members and guests.

President Bonnie Christians called the meeting to order. The meeting opened with the National Anthem sung by the Lafayette High School Everyday Choir of Red Lake Falls. The invocation was given by Roger Johanneck, general manager.

In her President's report, Christians talked about the meaning of "when the lights came on" and how that phrase meant something different to the Cooperative's first members. Christians stated that Red Lake Electric Cooperative has been making a difference in the lives and (3720008.04 Vickie Halsa) livelihoods of its members since the day the lights came on. Christians then introduced the audience to a video titled "When the Lights Came On". The story is told by RLEC members and is their experience of what life was like at home before electricity and what it meant to have power hooked up to their homes. After the video, Christians called on the members who participated in the video to stand, be recog-

nized, and thanked.

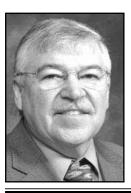


Attendees of Red Lake Electric Cooperative's 75th annual meeting included Robert Phelps and his daughter Norah of Goodridge. Three hundred twenty five members and guests attended the meeting held March 27 in the Imperial Room of the Ralph Engelstad Arena in Thief River Falls.

Johanneck started out his manager's report by complimenting those who helped produce and print the nice 75th annual report to the membership. Johanneck stated that Minnkota Power did the lay out and printing, member service manager Kevin Reich provided the majority of pictures and office manager Shirley Bregier provided all of the financial

reports. Johanneck then discussed differences and similarities from today's Cooperative to that from the early years of Red Lake Electric. In the early years, the Cooperative's biggest challenges were obtaining materials to build the electric system and building electrical load.

> 75th Annual meeting continued on page 2.



Manager's **Comments**

by Roger Johanneck



Plan, don't improvise Spring Safety

One definition of the word improvise, is to invent, compose or perform without preparation. While I have done my share of improvising over the years, I can't say that I've had much success at it. Early on when my siblings and I longed for a trampoline, we had to settle for an improvised version, namely the bed we were supposed to be fast asleep on. As it turned out, the ill-planned trampoline act on our bed was not a safe activity for a couple of reasons: 1) we were foolish to think we could carry on such an event without waking our folks late at night and 2) we did not foresee us accidently knocking our heads together. Since those days, my spring safety has come to mean something much different than avoiding a good slam to the noggin while jumping on a spring-supported mattress.

While we can look back and smile about stuff that didn't kill us, we should learn that some things we do are best accomplished with planning and not improvised. An activity like spring crop planting without due preparation and thought given to safety, is not a good thing. As the Quick-Take graph on the front page shows, there were 19 incidents last year where equipment, vehicles, trees etc made accidental contact with our power lines, guy wires, poles or other electrical equipment. Also

notable is that contact incidents have increased the past two

We talk about safety often, but as long as accidents continue, we will provide reminders alerting our membership to potential hazards; hazards that can be avoided with some thought, planning and care.

While the delayed spring will no doubt shorten time to get crops planted, it does give us more time to get ready and think about our to-do list, close calls we may have experienced, and what we and those working with us need to do to avoid an accident. Discuss where overhead power lines, power line poles, anchors, electrical equipment such as pad transformers and other hazards are located. Just a few minutes can make a big difference for you, your family and co-workers.

As I have shared before, the Cooperative has about 40,000 power line poles and 18,000 anchors in place as part of the Cooperative's Utility plant (infrastructure). Ground line transformers and junction boxes (3826001.03 Murray Hogenson) also a part of the mix of equipment that pose as hazards when equipment is working the fields and moving about farm yards. Again, please be mindful of this equipment as plan your work; a little extra care can go a long way towards saving time, damages and most importantly, injury. **Annual Meeting**

The 75th annual meeting is history and we can now officially put the past year's business behind us. I want to thank all of

you that joined us for our 75th celebration; your attendance made possible what I thought was a good meeting of the membership. Visiting with and presenting to a good turnout of attendees makes an event like that worthwhile. Those of us that prepare for

the annual meeting do a balancing act of keeping the event to the proper length (whatever that is, you need to tell us) yet worth your time and effort to join us. We don't want to bog you down with too much information but want to fulfill our business obligations and take the opportunity while we are together, to report what is going on with your Cooperative. We sincerely appreciate hearing from our members; whether it's a visit, a card of thanks, or a friendly

When you tell us what you like or don't like, we can incorporate your suggestions for future meetings and for continued service that meets your expectations.

If we have not heard from you and you have a suggestion, it is not too late to let us know.

Guillemette recognized for safe work

Bob Guillemette, electric systems operation manager, was recognized at Red Lake Electric Cooperative's annual meeting for 30 years of service without a lost time accident. Cooperative employees are recognized when surpassing fiveyear increments of accident free work. The Cooperative spends a lot of time and effort in trying to provide and supporting a safe work environment. Red Lake Electric has not experienced a lost time accident for 4 ½ years amounting to over 177,000 hours of time.



Bob Guillemette and Roger Johanneck

Plan Ahead for the 2013 Tax Season

By Doreen Friel

you're like Americans, you recently filed your 2012 federal tax return. Since you've just completed that painstaking process, perhaps the last thing you want to think about right now is your 2013

But here's why you should. There have been many changes to federal tax laws, and by doing the right planning today, you can eliminate a potentially unpleasant financial surprise when it's time to file next year.

What you need to know

Tax policy was altered on New Year's Day with congressional passage of the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012. While you should consult with your tax adviser for a total list of the revisions, following are some highlights of which you should be aware.

The deduction for certain types of expenses was extended to include the 2012 and 2013 tax years. This includes deductions for (4809002.02 Roger Kriel) state and local taxes, educator expenses, qualified tuitions, and

Individual income tax rates that went into effect in 2001 and 2003 became permanent, which the 10, 15, 25, 28, 33, and 35 percent tax brackets. However, the rate on taxable income for those earning \$400,000 or above (single filers) and \$450,000 or more (for those married and filing jointly) has increased to 39.6 percent.

The capital gains tax rate increased from 15 percent to 20 percent—but only for those with taxable incomes at or above \$400,000 (single filers) and \$450,000 (for those married and filing jointly). It remains at 15 percent for all others.

The law imposed limits on allowable itemized deductions on 2013 tax returns for individuals with incomes of \$250,000 or more (\$300,000-plus for married couples filing jointly).

The amount of income exempt from the Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT) has been set for 2012 and will now be indexed for inflation each year, as determined by the Internal Revenue Service.

Any 2013 taxable wages that exceed \$200,000 are now subject to a 0.9 percent Medicare tax surcharge. This applies to individuals only, not employers.

The provision providing for a 2 percent reduction in FICA

means no changes for folks in (i.e., Social Security) withholding amounts expired. This resulted in a reversion to the previous 6.2 percent withholding amount.

What you can do now

Check in with your tax adviser to determine how the new tax legislation affects you and the steps you should take to make sure that you are adequately prepared to file your 2013 taxes. While high-earners are affected the most, your tax professional can help position you more favorably for this current tax year, such as altering your pretax retirement plan contribu-

This article offers informational purposes only and is not intended to be tax advice. Consult a tax adviser for information specific to your situa-

Doreen Friel is a marketing communications consultant who produces employee benefitsrelated materials for the Employee Benefits Communications department of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the service arm of the nation's 900plus consumer-owned, not-forprofit electric cooperatives.



Red Lake Electric Cooperative, Inc.

One of the Minnkota Power Systems

Things you should know about your electric service

BILLINGS AND COLLECTION

You will receive your energy bill on or near the 20th of each month.

Payment of your monthly energy bill is due bill in person at RLEC during office hours, use the 24-hour drive-up drop box located next to the RLEC office, by Auto Pay, or by mail. Payment must be in the office, drop box, Auto Pay, or in the mail, as evidenced by the postmark, by the 5th day of the following month to avoid a late payment charge. A 1 1/2% monthly late payment charge will be computed on delinquent energy bills, the minimum late payment charge will be \$1.00.

If your payment is not received by the 15th of the month, a final notice of disconnection statement will be included on your following bill. The final notice statement will notify you when your electric service will be disconnected if the delinquent amount remains unpaid. If an employee is sent to disconnect your electric service, a \$60 collection fee will be charged to your account, even if you pay the

To have a disconnected service reconnected, all amounts owing, a \$60 reconnection fee, and a security deposit must be paid. If the service must be reconnected after normal working hours, a \$120 reconnection fee must

BAD CHECKS

A \$15 charge will be levied each time a check is returned because of nonsufficient funds, account being closed or payment stopped.

OUTAGES

In case your electricity goes out, please do the following:

1. Check your fuses or breakers at the yard pole or meter pedestal.

2. Call your neighbor to see if they are out of electricity also.

3. Call the RLEC office (218-253-2168 or 1-800-245-6068) during working hours or 218-253-2200 after hours. We will accept collect calls for outages only.

METER TESTS

RLEC has a schedule in place to have its meters periodically tested for accuracy. Results from these tests show that meters w down with age; how think that your meter is recording too much usage, RLEC will test it for accuracy. You must pay a test fee in advance of the test. If the meter test shows that the meter was inaccurate, the test fee will be refunded to you.

STOPPED METERS

If you find your meter has stopped and you are using electricity, please contact the office immediately so we can replace it. Average consumption will be billed to the member for the time the meter was stopped so there is no advantage in not reporting a stopped meter.

METER READINGS

An automated meter reading system is utilized to obtain monthly meter readings. Although the system is normally reliable, there is always a chance that the correct reading has not been transmitted to the office for billing. Customers should periodically read their meter and compare it to the reading on the billing statement. If the actual reading is not close to the billing statement reading, please call the office.

GENERAL SERVICE RATES

Facilities charge variable \$27 to \$35 month April-December 9.5¢ Kwh January-March 9.9¢ Kwh

Multiphase users add \$22/month cost of service charge.

Standby, \$12/month (meter disconnected but the power line retained; standby is not available on services larger than 15 KVA transformer capacity).

Security light: high pressure sodium, \$8/month; mercury vapor, \$9/month; water heater flat credit, \$7/month (January-April billing); off-peak equipment charge, \$5.50/month per heat meter; off-peak energy rate: 5.5¢/kWh long-term control, 7.5¢/kWh short-term control.

75th Annual meeting continued from page 1.

Today's biggest challenge is complying with stricter environmental regulations, the renewable energy mandate, and conservation improvement program. Johanneck encouraged members, who have asked how they can help the Cooperative, to contact legislators with the simple message, "keep electricity affordable". Johanneck also acknowledged the newest employee of the Cooperative, Christie Klipping and thanked retired employees since the last annual meeting, Steve Barbot, LaPlante, Beverly Schmitz and Mike Wavra. Johanneck closed out his report has been a successful organization for 75 years because of the good member support and involvement. Johanneck stated that support is shown in various ways such as landowners granting easements to build the system, clearing snow in yards so employees have easy access to maintain electrical services, and for using the product of electric energy. Johanneck thanked the members for their participation at the meeting and congratulated them on their Cooperative's

75th anniversary. Bregier next gave the 2012 financial report and said energy sales were down from the previous year largely as a result of a milder winter and conservation improvements members have made to their homes and businesses. The Cooperative sold 122.7 million kWh's in 2012. Revenues were \$13.2 million, the cost of wholesale power was \$9.6 million and operating expenses were \$1.8 million. Bregier said the Cooperative's margin was \$775 thousand; this is the amount that is allocated back to the members as capital credits. Bregier reviewed various operating expenses, fixed expenses and items on the balance sheet. She said RLEC's cost of wholesale power comprises three-fourth of the

Cooperative's cost of doing business.7

Christians next introduced Wally Lang, Vice-President of Transmission, Minnkota Power Cooperative, Grand Forks. Lang gave an in depth look at the construction of Minnkota's Center to Grand Forks 345 kv line. Lang stated that the construction of the line was needed to meet the growing need for energy and for reliability. Lang added; the Center to Grand Forks transmission line project is the bridge that links members to a long-term energy supply and more reliable service. Lang also stated that the construction of the 250 mile line is scheduled to be completed in late 2013 or early 2014 at a cost of approximately \$312 million.

Three incumbent directors were re-elected to the board of directors. They included: Colette Kujava, Newfolden, District 3; Randy Versdahl, Red Lake Falls, District 6; Peter Mosbeck, Red Lake Falls, District 9. They will each serve three year terms.

A safety award was presented to Bob Guillemette, electric systems operation manager, for 30 years of safe work. Employees are recognized when surpassing five-year increments of accident free work. The Cooperative has gone 4 1/2 years without a lost time accident. Gordy Henrickson, representing the Goodridge Senior Center, accepted an Operation Round Up grant in the amount of \$750 from Red Lake Electric Trust board member Bonnie Christians. Henrickson thanked the 91% of the Cooperative's members who participate in Operation Round Up and thanked Red Lake Electric Trust for the donation.

Long-term cooperative member, Marie Chaput of Red Lake Falls was recognized and presented a gift. Several door prizes were awarded. A delicious lunch was served by members of St. Joseph Catholic Church of Red Lake Falls. Pre-meeting musical entertainment was provided by Vern Rogalla of Goodrige. Postmeeting entertainment was provided (5320002.04 Arlys Konickson) by the Trinity Trio musical group of Thief River



RED LAKE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, Inc. **VOLTS & JOLTS**

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OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT` Bonnie Christians VICE PRESIDENT Robert Finstad SECRETARY-TREASURER Mark Hanson DIRECTORS..... Kelly Lundeen, Steven Linder, Peter Mosbeck,

Stacy Blawat

Colette Kujava, Randy Versdahl, Subscription Rate\$2.50 per year

NOTICE

Hidden within the text of the articles of this issue of the Volts & Jolts are the names and account numbers of some RLEC members. They will appear within the articles in parenthesis as such (9999999.99 Roger P. Member). If you find your name and account number, clip it out and send it with your next payment. You will be credited with \$5 on your electric bill.



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Superstar Spinach Salad

- 1 cantaloupe half, seeded and peeled
- 7 cups torn fresh spinach
- 1-1/2 cups cubed fully cooked ham
- 1 cup thinly sliced red onion 1/2 cup halved green grapes
- Dressing:
- 3 tablespoons sugar
- 2 tablespoons orange juice
- 2 tablespoons vinegar
- 1 tablespoon chopped onion
- 1-1/2 teaspoons grated orange peel
- Dash pepper
- 1/3 cup vegetable oil
- 1 teaspoon poppy seeds
- 1/2 cup chopped pecans, toasted

Cut melon half into 1/2-in. rings. Cut rings with a 1-1/2 in. starshaped cookie cutter or into 1-in. pieces; place in a bowl. Add spinach, ham, onion and grapes. Chill for at least 2 hours. Place sugar, orange juice, vinegar, onion, orange peel and pepper in blender; cover and blend until smooth. With blender running, gradually add oil until slightly thickened. Stir in poppy seeds. Cover and chill. Just before serving, pour dressing over salad and toss. Top with pecans. Yield: 6 servings.

Sky-High Strawberry Pie

- 3 quarts fresh strawberries, divided
- 1-1/2 cups sugar
- 6 tablespoons cornstarch 2/3 cup water
- Red food coloring, optional
- 1 deep-dish pastry shell (10 inches), baked
- 1 cup heavy cream
- 1-1/2 tablespoons instant vanilla pudding mix

In a large bowl, mash enough berries to equal 3 cups. In a saucepan, combine the sugar and cornstarch. Stir in the mashed berries and water; mix well. Bring to a boil over medium heat, stirring constantly. Cook and stir for 2 minutes. Remove from the heat; add food coloring if desired. Pour into large bowl. Chill for 20 minutes, stirring occasionally, until mixture is just slightly warm. Fold in the remaining berries. Pile into pie shell. Chill for 2-3 hours. In a small mixing bowl, whip cream until soft peaks form. Sprinkle pudding mix over cream and whip until stiff. Pipe around edge of pie or dollop on individual slices. Yield: 8-10 servings.

Red Lake Electric Cooperative, Inc. **Operating Report**

MONTHLY COMPARISON

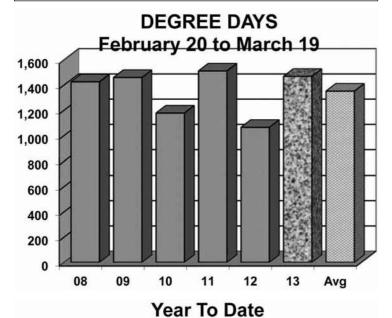
	FEBRUARY		FEBRUARY
	2012		
Total Revenue	\$1,492,305	\$	1,581,631
Total Margins	\$ 206,328	\$	309,878
Cost of Power	\$1,014,972	\$	1,001,644
KWH's Purchased	15,375,890) -	16,463,069
Capital Credits Paid to Estates			

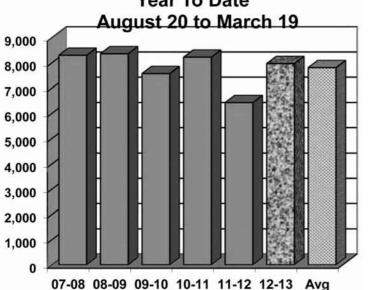
YEAR TO DATE COMPARISON

	F	EBRUARY	F	_
		2012		2013
Total Revenue	.\$2	,907,867	\$3	,097,892
Total Margins	.\$	345,658	\$	537,206
Cost of Power	.\$2	,005,382	\$2	,026,479
KWH's Purchased	.30	,784,148	32	,976,169
New Service Connections		2		7
Customers Served		5,216		5,233
Capital Credits Paid to Estates	.\$	17,219	\$	37,262
Miles of Line				•
Overhead		2,324		2,323
Underground		239		249

DEGREE DAYS

To determine degree days, you must calculate the daily mean temperature for the time period you are measuring. Degree day computation is based on the assumption that a building does not require any heat if the outside temperature averages 65 degrees during a 24-hour period. To obtain a degree day figure, the high temperature and the low temperature for the day are added and the total divided by two. That figure is then subtracted from 65. For example, if the high temperature was 30 degrees and the low temperature 10 degrees, the figure would be 30+10=40; 40/2=20; 65-20=45. This would be a 45-degree day. The higher the degree day figure, the more heat required to warm your home.





Cheesy Potato Bake

- 4 large unpeeled baking potatoes
- 1/4 cup butter or margarine 1 tablespoon grated onion
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon dried thyme
- 1/8 teaspoon pepper

1 cup (4 ounces) shredded cheddar cheese 1 tablespoon chopped fresh parsley

Thinly slice the potatoes and place in a greased shallow 2-qt. baking dish. In a small saucepan, heat butter, onion, salt, thyme and pepper until the butter is melted. Drizzle over potatoes. Cover and bake at 425° for 45 minutes or until tender. Sprinkle with cheese and parsley. Bake, uncovered, 15 minutes longer or until the cheese melts. Yield: 6-8 servings.

Classic Lasagna

- 1/2 pound bulk Italian sausage
- 1/2 pound ground beef
- 1-1/2 cups diced onion 1 cup diced carrot
- 3 garlic cloves, minced
- 1/4 teaspoon crushed red pepper flakes
- 2 cans (28 ounces each) whole tomatoes, undrained 2 tablespoons tomato paste
- 1 teaspoon each sugar, dried oregano and basil 1 teaspoon pepper, divided
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 2 cartons (15 ounces each) ricotta cheese 3/4 cup grated Parmesan cheese, divided
- 1/3 cup minced fresh parsley
- 1 package (12 ounces) lasagna noodles, cooked, rinsed and
 - 2 cups (8 ounces) shredded mozzarella cheese

In a large saucepan over medium heat, cook sausage, beef, onion, carrot, garlic and pepper flakes until meat is no longer pink and vegetables are tender; drain. Add tomatoes, tomato paste, sugar, oregano, basil 1/2 teaspoon pepper and salt; bring to a boil. Reduce heat; simmer, uncovered, for 45 minutes or until think, stirring occasionally. Combine ricotta, 1/2 cup Parmesan cheese, egg, parsley and remaining pepper. In a greased 13-in. x 9-in. x 2-in. baking dish, layer a fourth of the noodles, a third of the ricotta mixture, a fourth of the meat sauce and 1/2 cup mozzarella cheese. Repeat layers twice. Top with the remaining noodles, sauce and Parmesan. Cover and bake at 400° for 45 minutes. Sprinkle with remaining mozzarella; bake uncovered, 10 minutes more. Let stand 15 minutes before serving. **Yield:** 12 servings.

From the Mail Bag

Dear RLEC,

I want to thank you all so very much for the wonderful bread maker that was presented to me at the Annual Meeting in Thief River Falls. What a great surprise! It was a very interesting and informative meeting celebrating the Cooperative's 75th Anniversary and the lunch was absolutely delicious! Again, thank you so much for the bread maker; I am so grateful and appreciate it very much - a loaf of bread will be arriving shortly!

Marie Chaput Red Lake Falls

Dear RLEC,

What a pleasant surprise it was the day the 75th Commemorative booklet arrived in the mail. The informative presentation of interesting material makes it a definite keeper! Kudos to Kevin for narration and the candid photos that make the "remembrance" portion of the meeting enjoyable. The personal comments of those interviewed entwined with their humor made the segment memorable. We watched and listened with interest to Wally Lang's presentation. It did a great job of answering "how" and "why" questions about transmission. Our compliments to those who prepared and planned the meal. It was superb!! Thanks to everyone who is involved at Red Lake Electric Cooperative and for providing us with safe, reliable electric power. We are truly appreciative of "The Day The Lights Came On" and the difference electricity makes in our

able event! Jim & Carole Wright Plummer

Dear RLEC,

This is to thank you for the Chicago Cutlery fillet knife and the Black & Decker electric knife I received as a door prize at the 75th Annual Meeting. I thought the meeting was very interesting and a nice meal. Thank you very much. MaryAnn Hermreck

lives. Thanks to all who partici-

Meeting marking it an enjoy-

pated in the 75th Annual

Thief River Falls Dear RLEC,

Thank you so much for the duffel bag, it was very nice. It's such a nice size. Thank you again.

Gladys Hogenson Thief River Falls

Dear RLEC,

We were a lucky couple at the 75th annual meeting. Our thanks to you as I (Pearl) won the sander and Irwin won the Dremel scrowl grinder which he gave to his grandson who is also on the RLEC. We truly enjoyed the interesting meeting and the booklet sent out.

Irwin & Pearl Johnson Thief River Falls

Dear RLEC, Thank you so much for the generous donation to our Relay

> The American Cancer Society Red Lake Co. Unit

Dear RLEC.

Thank-you very much for the beautiful shelf I won at the Annual Meeting. I have it hung on my wall and it is something I have always wanted. Thanks also for the good meal and for the entertaining meeting. Thanks again.

Janice Olson Newfolden

Dear RLEC,

Thank you for the Cabela's gift card I won at your annual meeting. The meal was very good and we especially enjoyed the presentation "When the Lights came on". It brought back many memories. Thank you for the excellent service to our area.

Sharon (Lloyd) Wagner Middle River

Dear RLEC,

Thank you for the George Foreman Grill I won at the Annual Red Lake Electric meeting - your program was very interesting!

Linda Arveson

Dear RLEC,

Thank you very much for the beautiful wood wall shelf I won at the Annual Meeting. I really enjoyed the video at the meeting. Thanks.

Clarice Stolaas

Sincerely,

Dear RLEC,

Thank you Red Lake Electric for your donation of milk, ice cream and donuts to Sunview Dining Center. Also - congratulations on your 75th year of making a difference in the lives of your members!

Margaret Schindler. **Dining Manager Red Lake Falls**

Dear RLEC,

On behalf of the staff and clients of the Inter County Nursing Service I would like to thank you for the Operation Round Up grant we received. This a great help to the clients that we serve in receiving home care services. Once again thank you for the grant.

Sincerely, Anita B. Cardinal, PHN **Director - Inter-County Nursing Service**

Banana Squares

- 2 Eggs, separated
- 2/3 cup shortening 1-1/2 cups sugar

bananas, optional

- 1 cup mashed ripe bananas (2 to 3 medium)
- 1-1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/4 cup sour milk*
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract 1/2 cup chopped walnuts, optional Whipped cream and sliced

In a small mixing bowl, beat egg whites until soft peaks form; set aside. In a large mixing bowl, cream shortening and sugar. Beat in egg yolks; mix well. Add bananas. Combine flour and baking soda; add to creamed mixture alternately with milk, beating well after each addition. Add vanilla. Fold in egg whites. Fold in nuts if desired. Pour into greased 13-in x 9-in x 2-in baking pan. Bake at 350° for 45-50 minutes. Cool on a wire rack. If desired, garnish with

a dollop of whipped cream and a few slices of banana slices. (*To

sour milk, place I teaspoon white vinegar in a measuring cup. Add

Banana Bread Pudding

enough milk to equal 1/4 cup.) Yield: 12-16 servings.

- 4 cups cubed day-old french or sourdough bread (1-inch pieces)
- 1/4 cup butter or margarine, melted
- 3 eggs
- 2 cups milk
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon ground nutmeg 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup sliced firm bananas (1/4-inch pieces) Sauce:
- 3 tablespoons butter or margarine 2 tablespoons sugar
- 1 tablespoon cornstarch 3/4 cup milk
- 1/4 cup light corn syrup

1 teaspoon vanilla extract

Place the bread cubes in a greased 2-qt. casserole; pour butter over and toss to coat. In a medium bowl, lightly beat eggs; add milk, sugar, vanilla, cinnamon, nutmeg and salt. Stir in bananas. Pour over bread cubes and stir to coat. Bake, uncovered at 375° for 40 minutes or until a knife inserted near the center comes out clean. Meanwhile, for sauce, melt butter in a small saucepan. Combine sugar and cornstarch; add to butter. Stir in milk and corn syrup. Cook and stir over medium heat until the mixture comes to a full boil. Boil for 1 minute. Remove from the heat; stir in the vanilla. Serve warm sauce over warm pudding. Yield: 6 servings.

Dear RLEC,

We the Goodridge Senior Center Committee & Board so greatly appreciate your support through Operation Round-Up funds. We thank you very much for helping us achieve our Senior Center roof replacement goal, in getting the roof replaced this summer. Goodridge will be celebrating its 100 year's centennial in 2015. Thank you all for what Red Lake Electric Coop does and gives back to area communities.

Many Thanks Goodridge Senior Center Board & Committee Marie Adams, Secretary/Treasurer

Dear RLEC,

The Goodridge senior citizens center members would like to take this opportunity to say donations you have given to the center. We are installing a new steel roof in May of 2013. When the project is complete, please take time to drive down the main street of Goodridge and admire the new copper tinted steel roof, and say "some of my copper pennies are up there." Then give yourself a pat on the back for being a part of a large communitywide charitable program with a member participation of 91%. Special thanks go out to Roger Johanneck, Kevin Reich and Shirley Bregier for the awesome job on the annual report booklet depicting 75 years of "making a difference." What a special keepsake for all

the members to enjoy. Sincerely, **Gordy Henrickson** Goodridge

Dear RLEC Board,

Thank you so much for the \$1000 grant for our VIP Shelter for victims of domestic abuse and sexual assault. The funds will be used, as our application stipulated, to operate the shelter including food for our clients, supplies and maintenance. We know your board had many requests to consider and we greatly appreciate your continued support.

Sincerely. Sandi Bentley, **Executive Director Violence Intervention Project**

Dear RLEC,

Thank you so much for the flashlight I won at the District meeting. It is very much appreciated. The meeting was very informational. Congratulations on 75 years of providing electricity to members of Red Lake Electric Cooperative

Gary Novak St. Hilaire

Dear RLEC, Congratulations to Red Lake

Electric, for your 75th anniversary, what would we do without electricity? We think about "good old days". I'm thinking of my home farm at Akeley, Minnesota. I had graduated in 1941 from our school in Akeley. I had relatives in Minneapolis area so decided to move there and stayed with relatives. RLE and other cooperatives had been busy getting all the farms wired thank you for the generous for this "wonderful dream", that came true the day I left for Minneapolis - the electricity was turned on, what would we do without it now days?!?!? I'm in my 90's now. I take one day at a time and am "thankful" for good hearing and eye sight. I'm here in Colorado so my home is with my daughter and family. I appreciate getting the "Volts and Jolts" all the time, keeps me informed of area events. It is a beautiful day, not much wind and 53° and no snow!! Peggy always says "it's here today and gone tomorrow". God is in control. "Thank You" RLE for "the many blessings" you have given in surrounding areas in Minnesota. "Keep climbing the ladder", we often wonder whats in the future, "God bless you". Now here's a good laugh for you. My husband always called "Toots" I called him "Honey" and our last name spelled backwards is "Dats us". Hope you have a good day. So

long for now. **Ruth Sustad** Formerly from Viking

I am writing to "Thank" Red Lake Electric Cooperative, Inc. for the DeWalt Reciprocating Saw Kit which I received as a door prize at the 75th Annual Meeting in Thief River Falls on March 27th. "Thank you" also for the very informative program and excellent meal.

Sincerely, Jack McKeever **Red Lake Falls**

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VOLTS AND JOLTS FEATURE OF THE MONTH

Electricity a welcome part of life for Veral Mosbeck

By Heather Blodgett

Veral and June Mosbeck have been members of the Red Lake Electric Cooperative for over fifty years. Veral's father, Oscar, signed up as a member in January of 1944.

Due to shortage of materials during World War II, the farm was not energized until 1948. In order to get the wire that delivered the electricity, Oscar had to complete an application for the local county USDA War Board stating the number of animals he had and how electricity would improve the productivity of the farm. He was then allocated a certain amount of wire based on that information.

At the time of his application, Oscar had dairy and beef cattle, chickens and farmed small grains. The application stated that electricity would increase egg and milk production. It also explained that once the farm gained electric current, he planned to install a water pump, cream separator and fanning mill, which cleaned the grain for

seed. order to gain the electric service, Oscar also had to agree to a five

dollar per month minimum billing. The first item wired was the well pump and the first bill totaled six dol-

"I was half old before we got electricity," says Veral as he was in his early twenties. Veral explains that he went his entire school career without electricity and most of the neighbors started electric service around the same time as



they did. His mother, were important to egg small grains. "We got the welding. It's been impor-Mabel, never saw elec- production, "With the land. We cleared it, and tant to keep our scrap tricity on the farm as she lights you could length- we made a living on it," iron passed away in 1943. en the day and the chick- he said. The brothers explained with a smile. Oscar remarried in 1947. ens responded to that."

Veral remembers well came on. "Everything was done by hand," he says, "We

just did-

n't plug

them in.

It was a

life. We

didn't

k n o w

of

way

"It was a way of life. We didn't know anything else. We didn't suffer. We loved to

> anything else. We didn't suffer. We loved to live." He recalls using many gas fired lamps around the farm. "They gave good light, but if you bumped them, the mantle broke. My dad always made sure there was good farm the land in a partlight," he says, "But nership with his two there was a lot of upkeep." Veral also explains that the installa-

Veral married June in the days before the lights 1956 and the couple purchased a log home on the Black River that sits just a half mile north of the farm where Veral grew up. June did not know what it was like before electricity as she lived in the city of Litchfield, Minn, where electricity was commonplace, until she married Veral. The couple had four children, Peter, Cindy, Kristine, and Paul. In 1981 Veral and June built a new home on their homestead along the Black River, which surrounds the

property on three sides. Veral continued to brothers, Warren and Donald. The three worked together to clear tion of electric lights more land for farming

eventually also formed a custom land clearing business together which they ran for over twenty years while they farmed. "I spent twenty-five years sitting in a dozer," says Veral. "Electricity was useful in maintaining the equipment for farming and custom land

he going,"

Veral retired from farming in 2006 and the couple's sons, Peter and Paul, took over their farm. The couple's nephew, Kelly, joined in on farming in 2009. Veral continued to help with the farm duties through this past fall. "It's just a past time for clearing, especially for me," he explains, "I just

worked for fun!"

Veral also served on the Red Lake Electric Cooperative Board of Directors from 1977 to 2007. "It was an honor, I'll tell you that," Veral exclaims, "It's an honor to be on a board to serve the members." enjoyed his time on the board. "It's a good, sensible cooperative and the customers are appreciative." He also represented the RLEC Board on the Minnkota Power Cooperative Board, which is a RLEC wholesale provider headquartered in Grand Forks from 1978 to 2007. "It's one of the honors of my life to serve on both of these boards," explains Veral. Their son, Peter, was Veral's successor on the RLEC board.

The couple enjoys life on their land northwest of Red Lake Falls on the Black River. June likes knitting and cooking. Veral enjoys woodworking and gardening. The couple was even award-Rural the Beautification Award by Pennington County Soil and Water Conservation District in 2005. "I like to make things grow," says Veral. They both agree that they enjoy spending time with family, especially their eleven grandchildren and five great-grandchil-

You Can't Win Little Meter on the pole

To help commemorate Red Lake Electric Cooperative's 75th anniversary, clippings and pictures from past issues of the "Volts and Jolts" have been used at district meetings, the annual meeting and in the anniversary report and video. The Cooperative has had requests from members to re-publish and share some of these past publishings. We will include some of them in the "Volts and Jolts" throughout the

next few months. This is a poem that was printed in a 1940's edition of the "Volts Jolts". Who were the



Ain't you got no heart or soul? Through the month out there you squat Recording every kilowatt. And now that winter time is coming Even faster you'll be running. Sometimes without regard to season Your speed seems to be out of reason. But statistics from the past Show that you are rarely fast. So even if you are not living Accurate answers you keep giving. And what is shown upon our bill Is what we ought to pay - and will!!!

dren.

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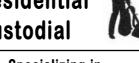
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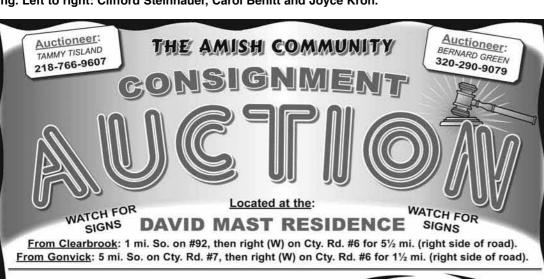
Ken Ulrich, Red Lake Falls, is an early registrant at Red Lake Electric's annual meeting. He is presented an annual report and attendance gift by Melanie LaCrosse, accounting assistant.



Annual meeting attendees were treated to coffee, orange juice and doughnuts as they make their way into the meeting room.



The Holt area was represented by these three individuals at the Cooperative's 75th annual meeting. Left to right: Clifford Steinhauer, Carol Benitt and Joyce Kron.



SALE ORDER

9:00 - Misc

9:15 - 2nd ring starting under the tent with jams, jellies, pickled beets, pickles & more, followed by crafts, quilts & new furniture 12:00 — 3rd ring selling ponies and small animals, equipment, lawn-mowers, used furniture, firewood, round pen and all larger items

QUILTS HORSES & he quilts consigned are hand-stitched and EQUIPMENT BEAUTIFUL! We are expecting 150 to 200 Harness hooks Whips

Quick links

4-year-old paint pony gelding, broke to

House brooms

Wall clocks

Wahl stable pro clipper

Nylon breast style pony harness

4 pc. grooming sets Lots of horse wormer 8-12-18 qt. rubber feeding buckets

Absorbine vet linament Pony cart (pictured)

HOUSEHOLD

Quartz dual chime mantle clock (pictured)

rigs up to 1/2", 26" deck, 5 HP motor

OUTDOOR

Rhythm decorative wall clock

Corn brooms

Alarm clocks

Lawn Flite heavy

runs good, 4 levels of adjust-

duty lawnmov or light duty brush mower,

Dirt shovels

Lots of forks

Leads

Among the top quality quilts are: Log cabins in various colors Plain tops The Loan Star 'burgundy and green'
Wheel of Fortune
MANY 'brown & tan'
TOP-OF-THE- Single Irish chain w/
matching pillows
'fall colors'

New Furniture

60" Mission style china cabinet with lights, glass shelves, cherry 4 pc. oak bedroom set Hickory rocker Child's hickory rocker Wall quilt racks Oak dining room set, 4 self-





SHOP EQUIP.

Tape measures 3" shop vise Jumper cables Hitch pins Push brooms 18 volt Milwaukee power tool kit (works) includes light, drill, circular saw, Sawzall

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Saturday, Apr. 27, 2013

MISCELLANEOUS

- LOTS OF MISCELLANEOUS -

Lots of snaps including bull snaps, double

(40) 3/4 cu. ft. bundles campfire wood

Several cords stacked slabwood

Trailer load of misc, from old hardware store

w Holland 270 series knotters, 2 needles

2 - 6-week-old baby Billy Goats, would make

ROUND PEN

Approx. 60' round pen, 8' ride through gate with steel horse sculptures above ride-through gate, 4' walk through gate, also

feed bunk attached to one correl gate,

We are taking quality ments until sale time, so

items not listed!

LARGE BAKE SALE

by the Amish Ladies

will be MANY, MANY more

3 laying hens

Heavy duty ratchet straps Barn Tricycle & trailer combo, JD green

Children's play wagon, flat free tires, 900 lb. load

8" gate latches

Barn scrapers

Binoculars

9:00 AM SHARP

Leather punches

Water tanks

in Gonvick

good pets

Bantam family

deluxe, very nice



Gordy Henrickson, on behalf of the Goodridge Senior Center, accepts a \$750 check from Red Lake Electric Trust Director Bonnie Christians. The check was one of 14 grants recently awarded from Operation Round Up funds. It is tradition that at least one Operation Round Up benefactor be recognized at the annual meeting. Henrickson relayed his thanks to the members of Red Lake Electric who allow their monthly bill to be rounded up to fund Operation Round Up.



Vern Rogalla, Goodridge, is known as a regular entertainer at Red Lake Electric's annual meeting. For many years he has been providing musical entertainment for meeting attendees.



annual meeting with her granddaughter-in-law Kelly Qualley. They are both Mentor area residents. Eleanor was one of the featured members in the 75th anniversary video titled "When the lights came on". The video can be viewed on Red Lake Electric's website, redlakeelectric.com.



Dr. Paula Brito sees patients at RiverView Clinic in Red Lake Falls and Crookston. Same day appointments are available.

For appointments, call 218.253.4606 in Red Lake Falls or 218.281.9595 in Crookston.



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VOLTS & JOLTS April 2013



Randy Versdahl, Red Lake Electric District 6 director, show his appreciation to annual meeting attendees by providing coffee refills.



Registering at Red Lake Electric's 75th annual meeting are Howard and Linda Hanson of Trail.



Annual meeting day is a time for coffee, fellowship and some entertainment. Pictured in the foreground are Merlyn Perreault and Ruthie and Donald Mosbeck, all of the Red Lake Falls area.



Early arrivers at Red Lake Electric's annual meeting include Doug and Jan Johnston of Thief River Falls.



Annual meeting attendees Jean Beyer (standing) Red Lake Falls, and Jim and Loretta Glass, Crookston, share a story and a laugh.



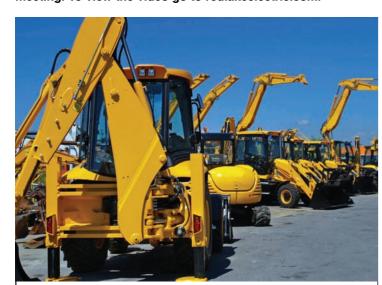
Enjoying the lunch served at Red Lake Electric's annual meeting include; (left to right) Dennis and Kathy Kainz and Audrey and Vern Rogalla all of Goodridge.



Annual meeting day is always a day for neighbors and friends to catch up on the latest. Pictured are (left to right) Arnold Person, Don Stenberg and Michael Person all of Oklee. Arnold was one of the featured members in the Commemorative 75th anniversary video that was shown at the meeting. To view the video go to redlakeelectric.com.



Following the business session of Red Lake Electric's 75th annual meeting, Cooperative members and guests were served their meal and beverages by Cooperative employees and directors. Pictured waiting tables are Brett Knott (left), lineman, and Steve Linder, District 4 director.



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The Lafayette High School Everyday choir of Red Lake Falls sang the National Anthem as the opening to Red Lake Electric's annual meeting.



Post-annual meeting musical entertainment was provided by the Trinity Trio of Thief River Falls. Band members include; (left to right) Derek Druse, Milo Ballingrud, Mike Sorteberg and Jay Forney, all of Thief River Falls. Their performance was well received.



Attendees registering at Red Lake Electric's annual meeting include Jack McKeever (L) and Irwin Wetenkamp both of Red Lake Falls. They were both lucky prize winners also.



Ray Ulrich (L), Thief River Falls, visits with Alan Cota, crew foreman for Red Lake Electric at the Cooperative's 75th annual meeting.



Long-time, loyal, Red Lake Electric member Marie Chaput of Red Lake Falls was recognized at the Cooperative's 75th annual meeting. In appreciation of her support and faithful annual meeting attendance, she was presented with a Breadman bread machine. Marie showed her appreciation by delivering a loaf of bread to the employees of the cooperative.



Tom Froehler, Crookston, was the winner of a \$75 energy cred-



First-time annual meeting attendees included Susan and Calvin Harmoning of Red Lake Falls. It was a worthwhile attendance as Calvin was the winner of a Skil belt sander.





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Members of St. Joseph Catholic Church, Red Lake Falls, are gathered in the kitchen, adjacent to the Imperial Room, in the Ralph Engelstad Arena in Thief River Falls. The church members provided and prepared the meal for Red Lake Electric's 75th anniversary. The meal included; pork loin, buttered baby potatoes, cole slaw, roll and cupcake. Many positive comments on the meal were



Winner of a set of knives at Red Lake Electric's annual meeting was MaryAnn Hermreck of Thief

What is a blink?

A blink can be either an instantaneous voltage sag or an interruption that lasts for a short period of time. A sag is a momentary decrease in voltage, while an interruption is a loss of voltage. Blinks usually last less than a second. Typically, they occur suddenly, and power is immediately restored to normal.

Sags and interruptions of power can look the same to people. You may see your lights go off for a very short period of time due to either a sag or an interruption, and this is where the term "blink" originates.

Why Didn't My **Have Problems with Blinks?**

Your parents didn't have digital clocks, VCRs, computers, etc. They had blinks since the reasons for blinks have always existed, but they were less affected.

What Do Blinks Do?

When a blink occurs, it may or may not cause your electronic clocks and computers to require reprogramming. This means that you may have to reset your clocks, TVs, VCRs, and if you were doing something on your computer, you may have to start over again because it might have lost the work you've done.

What Household Items Can Be Affected By Blinks?

Electronic clocks that don't have a battery backup may begin flashing when a blink occurs. This can be any electronic clock, refrigerator, coffee maker, TV, VCR, or any of the modern conveniences that have a clock installed in them.

Can My Utility Eliminate the Causes of Blinks?

Not always. Blinks come from a number of different sources, and your utility can't eliminate all of them. Some of these sources are listed below.

Storms can cause both sags and interruptions. Sags may occur on the utility system due to short circuits. Interruptions occur when utility breakers or fuses blow because of a short circuit or when the short circuit is between you and the substation providing your power.

caused by a breaker that operates due to equipment failure.

Animals can get into wires or substation equipment and cause blinks. Accidents involving automobiles with electrical supply equipment are another cause of blinks. Wiring or equipment problems in your house can cause blinks.

What Can I Do If My **Digital Clock Blinks?**

For an alarm clock that has battery backup, you may need to replace the battery. If there is no provision for a battery, consider replacing the clock.

For sensitive electronic equipment that does not have a battery backup, you can purchase and install a separate battery backup system, commonly referred to as an uninterruptible power supply (UPS). A UPS has a battery and electronics which can power computers and electronic equipment for a short time. The goal of a UPS is to give you enough time to save information and/or shut down the equipment.

For other appliances or equipment, contact the manufacturer and inform them about the problem that you're experiencing. A manufacturer may have a suggestion for fixing the problem. If not, consider either replacing the appliance or using it as it is.

Can I Choose How Appliances That **Unaffected by Blinks?**

When purchasing appliances Utility equipment failure can that are equipped with electrontions. Sometimes blinks are make sure the labeling indicates that it has battery backup or test it in the store. Another option is inspecting the store display carefully to verify that it has a provision for adding batteries. A simple test can be done by unplugging the display appliance and plugging it back in while at the store. If the clock or control needs resetting, the appliance will be more likely to have problems from blinks. If the appliance is a TV or VCR, you also want to make sure that the programming is unaffected by the test.

Will My Surge Protector Help Me with Blinks? No. Who Should Correct Any

Wiring or **Equipment Problems in My House?**

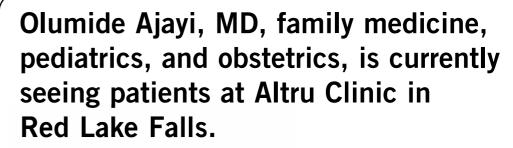
Always hire a qualified electrician when working on your breaker box, fuse box, or household wiring. In many towns and cities, electricians must be licensed as contractors and be

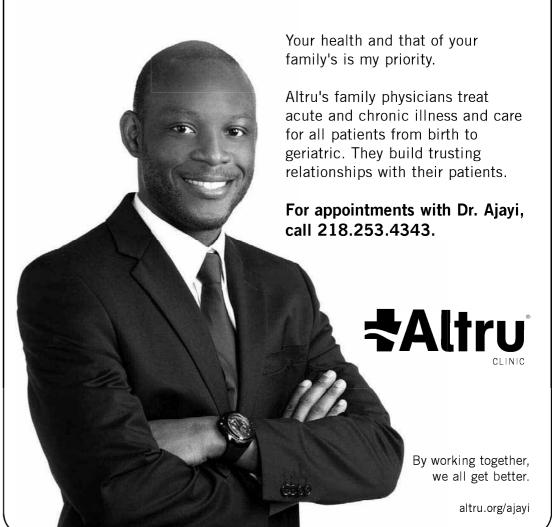


75th anniversary cupcakes were part of the meal served at Red Lake Electric's annual meeting. Each cupcake was adorned with a flag with the 75 year logo, made by Vicki Ste. Marie of Red Lake Falls.



Lucille Myers (seated) Thief River Falls, won a George Foreman grill at the Cooperative's 75th annual meeting. It was presented to her by Stacy Blawat, District 2 director.









Your key to buy, sell or trade anything is the

CLASSIFIEDS

The members are invited to use this FREE WANT AD service.

If you have anything to trade or sell, just drop a card to Red Lake Electric Cooperative, Box 430, Red Lake Falls, MN 56750.

For Sale

Truck for sale on bids For sale - 1997 International 4800, manual transmission, HI/LO range, 4 wheel drive, with a 1996 42' Versa Lift bucket, rear winch and new tires. The truck has 290,500 miles with 19,221 hours. It had a complete engine

overhaul at 13,700 hours. The truck can be viewed, Monday through Friday, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm, at Red Lake Electric Cooperative's headquarters at 412 International Drive SW Red Lake Falls. Sealed bids are due in the Cooperative's office by 10:00 am, Friday, May 10, 2013. Any questions can be directed to Steve Conely at 253-2168 or 800-245-6068. The Cooperative reserves the right to reject any or all bids.



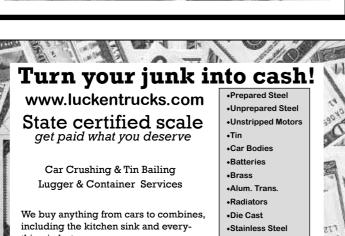
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Red Lake Electric Cooperative **Want Ad Order Form** Use this handy form to submit your want ads.

PLEASE PRINT. Mail or bring your ads to the RLEC office by the tenth of the month. Commercial ads are 10¢ per word with a minimum

charge of \$4 per insertion.

Member want ads are FREE. One want ad per member per

Your Name, Address and Phone Number. Mail with your power bill payment, if you prefer, or fax to 218-253-2630.

10 **VOLTS & JOLTS** April 2013

Do you have a story to share?

Electric Cooperative's 75th year of service to its membership is an important event. It is a great tribute to those who have contributed to the conception, development, and continued operation of the Cooperative. If you have a story as to how the Cooperative has impacted your life we would appreciate it if you would share that story with our entire membership.

We know that some of our members have special memories of Cooperative related events. If you have a story about life (6303005.01 Equality Township Hall) before electricity, when the lights came on at your farm or in your home, or some other Cooperative related event we would like to hear from you.

Throughout the next few months Red Lake Electric will print these stories in the "Volts and Jolts" in order to share them with our members. If you, or someone you know, would be willing to be a part of a feature story for the newsletter, please contact the Cooperative at; 253-2168, 800-245-6068, redlake@minnkota.com, or P.O. Box 430 Red Lake Falls, MN 56750.

Don't want to write a check? Want to save on postage?

Red Lake Electric has a new payment option to make paying your bill easy. This service is free. Sign up is simple. Go to www.redlakeelectric.com and click on the Bill4U icon.

- Bill4U allows you to make your payments 24 hours a day directly from your checking or savings account eliminating the cost of the check and postage.
- Bill4U allows you access to your billing statements at any time.
- Bill4U allows you to view and compare your kilowatt-hour usage. If you have any questions or need more information, visit our web site or call Red Lake Electric 800-245-6068.



An electronic bill presentment and payment service

AUTO PAY OFFERED BY RLEC

Red Lake Electric Cooperative is pleased to offer you Auto Pay. Now you can have your monthly energy bill paid automatically from your checking or savings account. You can receive the Auto Pay service by completing the Auto Pay sign-up sheet and returning it to Red Lake Electric Cooperative.

The Auto Pay service is free of charge. Not only is this service free, you will eliminate the expense of writing a check, postage to mail your payment and no more late payment penalties because your bill will be paid on time, every month, for you.

Your payment will be automatically made for you on the 5th of each month. If the 5th falls on a weekend or holiday, the payment will be made on the next business day. You will continue to receive your monthly energy bill as you have in the past, indicating the amount that will be withdrawn from your bank account. The proof of your payment will appear on your bank statement and your next month's energy bill statement.

Continue to pay your monthly bill until you are notified on your bill that the Auto

Pay has been set up for you. If you have any questions about the Auto Pay please call RLEC at 800-245-6068 or 218-253-2168.

AUTO PAY

SIGN-UP SHEET

I authorize Red Lake Electric Cooperative (RLEC) and the bank listed below to initiate variable entries to my checking or savings account. This authorization remains in effect until I notify RLEC in writing to cancel it in such time as to allow RLEC to act on it.

RLEC ELECTRIC ACCOUNT #

NAME (PRINT)

ADDRESS

TELEPHONE #

NAME OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTION

CHECKING ACCOUNT #

SAVINGS ACCOUNT #

SIGN HERE TO AUTHORIZE

Please return this authorization form with a blank, voided check to: Red Lake Electric Cooperative, P.O. Box 430, Red Lake Falls, MN 56750



Red Lake Electric Cooperative, Inc.

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TOTAL ANNUAL VALUE OF DIGI-KEY BENEFITS



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> **TOTAL ANNUAL VALUE OF CASH COMPENSATION + BENEFITS**



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