

Volts & Jolts

Published monthly for the members of Red Lake Electric Cooperative, Inc.

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

and a portion of the lands of the Red Lake Band of Chippewa

OCTOBER 2016

Red Lake Electric Cooperative celebrates National Cooperative Month

Being part of a cooperative means being part of something special. Red Lake Electric Cooperative is celebrating National Cooperative Month in October, along with 40,000 other cooperative businesses serving more than 120 million people nationwide.

"Cooperatives Build" is the theme of this year's National Cooperative Month. "This year's theme is excellent, because there are so many ways that cooperatives help to build a stronger rural America," says Roger Johanneck, General Manager.

Consider these ways that co-ops build:

Cooperatives build trust

Most co-ops strive to adhere to seven key cooperative principles, which com-

bine to help build trust between the coop, its members and the community. For
example, the first principle is Voluntary
and Open Membership, which means that
we are a voluntary organization open to
all people to use our services and willing
to accept the responsibility of membership. The second principle, Democratic
Member Control, gives members a voice
in the cooperative's policies and decisions.
Through the fifth principle, Education,
Training and Information, we enable
members to contribute to the development of our cooperative.

Cooperatives build community

The seventh cooperative principle is Concern for Community. Cooperatives work for the sustainable development of their communities through employee involvement in local organizations, through charitable contributions to community efforts and through support for schools.

Cooperatives build jobs

Cooperatives generate jobs in their communities, keep profits local and pay local taxes to help support community services. Cooperatives often take part in community improvement programs, ensuring that (2204001.04 Deanna Anderson) everyone has an opportunity to benefit from the cooperative experience.

Cooperatives build a better world

Through all of the above ways, cooperatives build a better world.



Stennes to serve as Trust Board director

ulie Stennes of Thief River Falls has been selected to serve as a Red Lake Electric Cooperative Trust Board director. The Trust Board determines grants for Red Lake Electric's Operation Round Up*.

Julie and her husband, Mike, have been members of Red Lake Electric Cooperative for 27 years. Stennes is originally from Greenbush and Mike grew up in Erskine. They met while attending Northland Community College. They have three children: Lacey, 24; McLain, 19 and Alison, 15.

Stennes is an employee of Pennington County, working in the Auditor/Treasurer's office. (5805012.03 Charles J. Goyette) Members of the family are members of Abundant Life Free Lutheran Church in Thief River Falls.

"I am looking forward to serving on the Operation Round Up Trust Board," she said.

Stennes will serve with other Trust Board directors: Patty Mickelson of Oklee, Tishara Melcher of Middle River, Bonnie Chris-



Julie Stennes Trust Board Director

tians of Crookston and Roger Johanneck of Red Lake Falls.

Since the inception of Operation Round Up in 1993, \$489,000 has been granted to community organizations and charities.



In observation of Co-op Month

Red Lake Electric Cooperative

is hosting an

OPEN HOUSE

Oct. 24-28

Stop by and enjoy coffee, cider and goodies.



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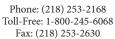
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Monday-Friday 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.





AFTER HOURS/OUTAGE CALLS 218-253-2200

Website: www.redlakeelectric.com Email: redlake@minnkota.com

> **CALL BEFORE YOU DIG** 1-800-252-1166 or 811

MINNESOTA STATE ELECTRICAL INSPECTORS

Pennington and Marshall Counties:

Scott Stenvik - 218-689-5406

Red Lake and Polk Counties:

Bryan Holmes - 218-686-1413

Any time you or an electrician does wiring or other electrical work at your home or farm, Minnesota state law requires a state wiring inspector to conduct a proper inspection of the work. A rough-in inspection must be made before any wiring is covered. A final inspection is also required. Please visit www.dli.mn.gov for more information. The inspectors can be reached weekday mornings between 7:00 a.m. and 8:30 a.m.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

It is the mission of Red Lake Electric Cooperative to enhance the quality of life for people of our service area by safely and consistently providing quality electric service and other valued services while holding our employees, our community and our environment in high regard.



Manager's **Comments**

by Roger Johanneck

Cooperation among cooperatives

October is national Co-op Month, the time of year when 29,000 plus co-ops in the U.S. take moments to ensure their employees, members and the general public truly understand the value of the cooperative they

Cooperatives around the world operate according to the same core principles and values, adopted by the International Co-operative Alliance (ICA). Cooperatives trace the roots of these principles to the first modern cooperative founded in Rochdale, England, in 1844.

All cooperative businesses have at their foundation, these seven cooperative principles to follow:

- 1) Voluntary and Open Membership
- 2) Democratic Member Control
- 3) Members Economic Participation
- 4) Autonomy and Independence
- 5) Education, Training and Information
- 6) Cooperation among Cooperatives
- 7) Concern for Community

One of the ways co-ops demonstrate that they are different from investor-owned businesses is by actually living the principles. In recognition of Co-op Month, I'd like to comment on Principle 6: Cooperation among Cooperatives.

There are many examples that demonstrate how Red Lake Electric and its electric co-op neighbors do this every day. In theory this sounds simple to answer the question, "Can't we all just get along?" As it turns out, it's easier to get along when we focus on what our personal or organizational self-interest is – and find others who have similar self-interest.

This is how Red Lake Electric got started. Ordinary folks realized they would be better off working together if they wanted to bring electricity to their homes and farms. realized if we work with our neighboring cooperatives, we can gain control of our power supply, so we formed Minnkota Power Cooperative, our generation and transmission cooperative.

This pattern kept repeating and soon electric co-ops cooperated to form new co-ops to offer a variety of services such as electrical efficiency research, employee education and safety training, cooperative financing, insurance (2819004.02 Bill Hanson) and more to ensure that they had ownership and control over these core products. This was done to help serve you, our member-owners, by making sure there would be no interruption in these vital services that help us bring electricity to you.

Other examples of how cooperation among cooperatives continues for Red Lake Electric and its neighbors can be witnessed in the storm recovery efforts all of us experience from time to time. In August 2015, Red Lake Electric called on neighboring PKM Electric Co-op in Warren, Roseau Electric in Roseau and Clearwater-Polk Electric in Bagley to help us restore power when a storm cut off power to 2,000 members. This past summer, Red Lake Electric was called on to reciprocate and sent help to Clearwater-Polk and Wild Rice Electric in Mahnomen when their service areas where hit hard by storms.

Today, Red Lake Electric is in the midst of evaluating new metering technology with Wild Rice Electric and Red River Valley Cooperative Power in Halstad. We believe our collaboration will help our evaluation process of the technology available today and provide savings through group purchasing

So while we take special note of the value of our cooperative in October, we are delighted to be a part of our community delivering vital services all year long.



In observation of Veterans Day, Red Lake Electric Cooperative's headquarters will be closed Friday, Nov. 11

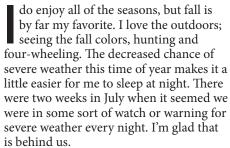
In case of an electrical outage or emergency, call the after-hour phone number at 218-253-2200.

Thank you to all military personnel, past and present, who have served and are serving this great nation, the United States of America.



Line Service Department

by Steve Conely



Red Lake Electric faired pretty well this year when it came to extended outages and damage caused by storms. We did have to work a couple of late nights earlier this summer, but nothing out of the ordinary. Some of our neighboring coops had a lot of damage from the summer storms. In mid-July, we sent crews and equipment to help with outage restoration at both Wild Rice Electric in Mahnomen. and Clearwater-Polk Electric in Bagley. They had extensive damage from a storm that just missed our service territory.

Red Lake Electric has received many calls about blinking lines during the last couple of months. We have been working on them, along with Minnkota, our power provider. Most of the calls were from people who receive their power from the Highlanding substation. After investigating these blinks, we have found the majority of blinks were on Minnkota's transmission line. Most of those blinks occurred during lightning and thunderstorms. Minnkota and RLEC have patrolled our lines and fixed the issues we have found. The calls have quit coming in, so hopefully the issue is resolved. If you continue to have problems, please call and let us know about them.

In closing, I always like to show my appreciation to the landowners who allow us access to their land for another's benefit. Thank you! Also, if you have added or plan to add bin fans, grain dryers, electric heat or any other (4616001.02 Brian G. Johnson) larger electric load, please contact us to avoid overloading your electric service and damaging our equipment.

Stay safe and if you have any questions or concerns, please contact us.





Submit your recipes to be published in Volts & Jolts. Email to redlake@minnkota.com or mail to: Red Lake Electric Cooperative, PO Box 430, Red Lake Falls, MN 56750.

Slow Cooker Cabbage Roll Soup

4 cups cabbage, roughly chopped 1 lb. ground beef 1 tsp. Worcestershire sauce 1 tsp. salt 1 tsp. paprika 1 onion, chopped 3 cloves garlic, minced ½ cup water 1 tsp. oregano ½ tsp. basil 24 oz. tomato sauce

2 14.5 oz. cans diced tomatoes 1 cup rice, uncooked

Add onion, garlic, Worcestershire sauce, paprika, ground beef and salt to a skillet on medium heat. Cook until the ground beef is browned. In a slow cooker, add cabbage, oregano, basil, tomato sauce, diced tomatoes, water and ground beef mixture and stir to combine. Cover and cook on low heat for 8 to 10 hours. In last half hour of cooking, cook the rice according to package directions. Add the cooked rice to the slow cooker and stir to combine.

Capturing carbon

N.D. lignite industry poised to advance coal technologies



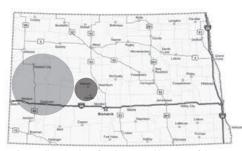


orth Dakota energy companies are in a unique position to lead in the advancement of commercially viable carbon capture technology.

That was the message from U.S. Sen. John Hoeven during an Aug. 22 event highlighting a proposed post-combustion carbon capture project being pursued by Minnkota Power Cooperative, Allete Clean Energy of Duluth, Minn., BNI Energy of Bismarck, N.D., and the Energy and Environmental Research Center (EERC) of Grand Forks, N.D. The companies signed a memorandum of understanding to formalize their partnership for what's referred to as Project Tundra.

Hoeven spoke at EERC headquarters on the campus of the University of North Dakota about the significant emissions reductions and economic benefits that could be realized by pairing the state's lignite industry with the western North Dakota oil fields through Project Tundra.

"Where better to do this than in North Dakota?" Hoeven asked the crowd of

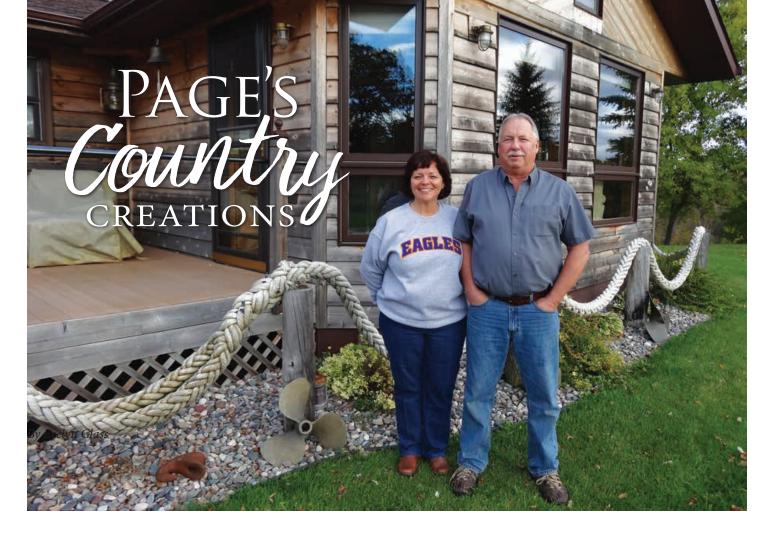


The small circle identifies the general location of the Milton R. Young Station and the state's other lignite power plants. The larger circle shows the location of oil wells that are potentially compatible with carbon for enhanced oil recovery. The proximity of these two industries provides a lot of potential for Project Tundra.

about 75. "When it comes to clean coal technology, no one is leading the way more than our companies in North Dakota and the Energy and Environmental Research Center."

Project Tundra would be one of the world's only carbon capture retrofit projects on an existing coal-based power plant. The project earned its nickname when a group of carbon capture experts from Texas visited the Minnkota-operated Milton R. Young Station for an initial study during an especially cold week of winter. While the weather wasn't ideal, it was determined that the Young Station, located near Center, N.D., was an excellent fit to pair carbon capture technology with enhanced oil recovery (EOR). The project is in the early feasibility stages, but it ap-

(continued on page 7)



riving into the Page's yard with nautical items decorating it was enough to set my curiosity alive. We had come to interview Pam about her embroidery business and Allan about his rope craft. I knew by this introduction to their home that we were going to be treated to an interesting time with two creative people.

While Allan is retired from his work as a boat operator,
Pam works at the Red Lake Falls public schools as finance manager. She also works at the Pine to Prairie School
Cooperative. They have designed and decorated their home and yard in an inviting décor.

Pam and Allan Page were married in 1983 and have three children who grew up on their acreage near Huot. Trevor teaches shop at the Red Lake Falls School and is one of the coaches. He also has a business of renting large tents for events like Chautauqua and Summerfest. Chelsea is a social worker, living and working in Minneapolis. Currently, she is also working on her



This unique bell hangs at the entrance of Allan's hobby shop.

master's degree. Zach is teaching math in West Fargo. His wife, Danielle, works at MSUM in Moorhead.

Page's Country Creations is Pam's business. She specializes in decorating apparel with both embroidery and heat press vinyl. Her two embroidery machines ensure a professional product. Team clothing for our local sports teams is a major part of her business. Jackets,

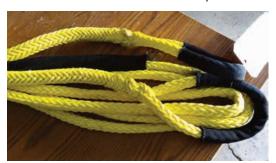
caps, sweatshirts and sweatpants are also designed and embroidered by Pam. Monogrammed towels and children's hooded towels are beautifully decorated. Businesses have commissioned her to decorate shirts, caps and jackets for their employees.

T-shirts for special promotions are another of her product lines. She has made shirts for Summerfest, Chautauqua and events like (4420015.02 Gerald and Beth Naslund) the swimming pool fundraiser recently held in Red Lake Falls. Some of these are done with heat press vinyl.

Pam does special orders of items for individuals who are in need of something unique and different as a gift.

Her embroidery machines are state-of-the-art. One is a Baby Lock





Left: Many tools are used for his rope splicing; he explained them to be like knitting needles for ropes. *Right:* As part of Allan's internship as a Coast Guard licensed pilot, he learned how to work with rope. Allan is able to weave the ends of the tow ropes so they have a strong loop to use for towing.



teams are a major part of her business. She also does embroidering on shirts and polos for some local businesses.

six-needle machine and the other is a 15-needle Tajima machine. Each needle is threaded using a different color and enables the creation of intricate designs. The heat press equipment allows her to create different designs and letters to cut out of vinyl and then heat press onto a garment or banner. It, too, is of the latest design and makes it possible to create unique and interesting designs.

The selection and availability of colors of thread is diverse and consists of vibrant and colorful threads of polyester origin. She is able to purchase the thread she needs online.

Allan assures us he is the delivery boy and the errand boy for the business. He also uses his hobby to perform needed rope splicing. As part of his internship as a Coast Guard licensed pilot, he learned how to work with ropes. One of the particular things he learned to do was 'Marlinspike Seamanship.' He is able to weave the ends of tow ropes so they have a strong loop to use in towing vehicles, etc. Most of us are familiar with nylon tow ropes. However, Allan told me they are dated and the newer variety of rope used is Dyneema, which is strong and like the bulletproof Kevlar used as life jackets for the military people. The rope is made up of many fine fibers.

After years of working on boats as a pilot across the United States, he has acquired many nautical artifacts

that he has rescued from their demise in the waters of rivers and lakes. These are the items he has artistically used to decorate their yard and deck. During his career, he worked at many sites with which we are familiar, including Mount St. Helens and the flood of 1997 in Grand Forks, N.D.



Pam knows that having access to electricity is essential to her ability to operate her business efficiently. Page's Country Creations and its comfortable lifestyle are all possible because of the good service from Red Lake Electric. She can be contacted at apage@gvtel. com or by phone at 218-689-2169.



Top left: Pam explains how she uses a laser to line up the clothing for her heat press machine.

Top right: The selection and availability of colors of thread is diverse and consists of vibrant and colorful threads of polyester origin.

Bottom: Pam shows how she pulls up designs that have been saved into her six-needle embroidery machine. She has a great passion for her work and enjoys doing special orders.

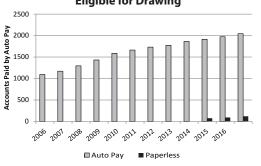


QUICK TAKES

A look at some statistics from your **Red Lake Electric Cooperative**

As the chart below shows, more and more Red Lake Electric Cooperative members enjoy the convenience of Auto Pay. Another convenient and mobile way to pay your bill is through Bill4U. To show our appreciation - members who use Auto Pay or are paperless for their monthly bill will automatically be entered into a drawing for a \$100 energy credit or a Kindle Fire. The drawing will be Oct. 31. For your convenience, (3806030.01 Kim R. Ulrich) an Auto Pay sign up sheet is included in your latest bill and in this issue of the Volts & Jolts. There are also instructions to sign up for paperless billing. Have a question about Auto Pay or going paperless? Give us a call at Red Lake Electric Cooperative today. 1-800-245-6068 or 218-253-2168.

Auto Pay and Paperless Members Eligible for Drawing





Heating your living space uses more energy than any other system in your home — typically making up about 42 percent of your utility bill. By combining proper equipment maintenance and upgrades with recommended insulation, air sealing and thermostat settings, you can save about 30 percent on your energy bill.

Source: energy.gov

NOTICE OF NAMES

Hidden within the text of the articles of this issue of the Volts & Jolts are the names and account numbers of some Red Lake Electric Cooperative members. They will appear within the articles in parenthesis as such (9999999.99 Willie Ray 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.



Like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ redlakeelectric

GUNS AND POWER LINES

Hunting is a Minnesota favorite, ranking right up there with the fishing opener. Before you head out to the tree stand, review these hunting safety tips:

- Treat every firearm as if it were a loaded firearm.
- ◆ Be sure of your target before you pull the trigger. When you look through the sight, look beyond your target. Make sure there isn't another hunter in your sight or a building or structure, such as an electric facility.
- Never point a firearm at anything you don't intend to shoot.
- Never shoot at electric power lines or electric facilities such as substations or transformers. Not only is it extremely dangerous, it's against the law.
- Always carry a firearm so that the muzzle is under control.
- Firearms must always be unloaded when carried into camp or not in use.
- Make sure the barrel and action are clear of obstruction.
- Unattended firearms must be unloaded.
- Never climb a fence or ditch with a firearm. Never climb into a tree stand with a loaded firearm - remove the ammunition first.
- ► Never shoot at flat, hard surfaces, or the surface of water. The bullet can hit the surface and travel parallel to it for a long distance.
- If you see a power line on the ground, don't touch it! Touching an energized power line could kill you. Notify the local utility of a downed line as soon as possible.
- Always avoid alcohol and drugs while hunting.

FEDERAL/STATE ENERGY ASSISTANCE

If you need help paying your electric utility bill, you may qualify for state or federal fuel assistance. For complete, qualification and application information, contact your local county welfare or community/citizen's action council listed below. These organizations may also provide budget counseling.

Inter-County Community Council

Oklee, MN

Serves East Polk, Pennington and Red Lake Counties 218-796-5144

Toll-free: 1-888-778-4008

Fax: 218-796-5175

Northwest Community Action

Badger, MN

Serves East Marshall County

218-528-3258

Toll-free: 1-800-568-5329 Fax: 218-528-3259

Tri-Valley Opportunity Council

Crookston, MN Serves West Polk, West Marshall County 218-281-9080

Toll-free: 1-866-264-3729

Fax: 218-281-0705

Red Lake Community Action Agency

Red Lake, MN Serves Beltrami County

218-679-1880

Capturing carbon

(continued from page 3)

pears to have significant potential.

"You have a real chance to make a project like this work when you look at how close the oil and coal fields are, the technological innovation that has been demonstrated and the business climate in North Dakota," said Mac McLennan, Minnkota president & CEO.

Developing technology

Project Tundra proposes to retrofit Unit 2 at the Young Station with technology that would capture the unit's CO₂ and condition it for transport through a pipeline.

Upon arrival in the oil fields, the CO₂ would be used for EOR on vertically drilled wells. Using CO₂ as a working injection fluid could substantially increase each well's production compared to conventional drilling practices.

"The Bakken reservoir is really only giving us about 5 percent of the oil in place," said John Harju, EERC's vice president for strategic partnerships. "With CO₂, we think we can make meaningful changes to that recovery factor. So instead of this being something we do for the next 25 or 30 years, it's something we do for the next 70 or 100 years."

Project Tundra, which is estimated to cost approximately \$1.1 billion, will require significant funding (5131001.01 Erik Nymann) outside of the project participants, as well as a long-term partner in the oil industry to purchase the CO₂.

Hoeven has been a strong supporter





of the project. As a member of the Senate Energy and Water Appropriations Committee, he helped prioritize \$30 million in competitive funding for the development of commercially viable carbon capture and sequestration, like Project Tundra, in the Senate's Fiscal Year 2017 Energy and Water Appropriations Bill, which the Senate passed in May. He also coordinated a meeting with the U.S. Department of Energy to highlight the project as a good candidate for those competitive funds.

In addition, Hoeven is supporting work being done in North Dakota to construct an Allam Cycle pilot and demonstration power plant. The Allam Cycle technology uses CO₂ to drive turbines and generate electricity with almost no atmospheric emissions in coal and natural gas production. The CO₂ could then be sequestered or used for EOR. The project is being pursued by Basin Electric Power Cooperative of Bismarck, N.D., and Allete, Inc., of Duluth.

Carbon-managed world

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency finalized in August 2015 the first-ever federal regulation requiring coal-based power plants to reduce CO₂ emissions. The rule, referred to as the Clean Power Plan, has raised more questions than answers during the past year – so much so that the U.S. Supreme Court temporarily suspended the rule until litigation has concluded.

Minnkota remains active in the legal

process opposing the Clean Power Plan as a named petitioner in litigation. Regardless of the court's decision on the rule's legality, the cooperative's board and leadership team understand they must prepare to operate in a carbon-managed world. But that doesn't mean that coal is out of the equation.

"We have a very strong interest in making sure that all energy sources have an opportunity in the future," McLennan said.

Cards of Thanks

Thanks for being the sponsor of the beef herdsmanship award. I enjoy taking care of the cattle at the fair and having other people appreciate the hard work makes it much more beneficial. Thank you again!

Maddie Steward, Happy Acres

Thank you so much for your donation to our St. Joseph's fundraiser raffle. We have been truly blessed by your kindness.

St. Joseph's Raffle Committee

A very belated thank you for the crockpot I won at the last annual meeting.

Wally Reierson, Thief River Falls

CLASSIFIEDS

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, Red Lake Falls, MN 56750.

Wanted to Buy

9 HP kicker motor with long shaft; prefer 2000 model or newer. Call 218-681-6939; leave message if no answer.

Flax straw bales in TRF area. Call 218-681-6939; leave message if no answer

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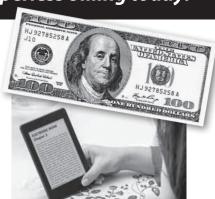
With witches, goblins and superheroes descending on neighborhoods, here are some tips for parents to help prepare their children for a safe and enjoyable trick-or-treat holiday.

- Wear light-colored or reflective-type clothing so you are more visible.
- Don't hide or cross the street between parked cars.
- Cross the street only at corners and look both ways before crossing the street to check for cars.
- Walk on the sidewalk and not the street.
- Plan your route and carry a flashlight to light your way.
- Use face paint rather than masks for better visibility.
- Visit homes (3619002.03 Mark A. Panek) that have a porch light on.
- Never go into a stranger's home. It's OK to receive candy from outside the door.
- inspect all treats before your child eats them.
- Make sure an adult goes with young children.
- Use glow sticks or flashlights in pumpkins instead of candles, which are a fire risk.
- Be sure that the path and stairs are well lit and free of obstacles.

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