



"Access Energy Cooperative is dedicated to exceeding members' and customers' expectations for safe, reliable, efficient service and environmental responsibility."

75th Annual Meeting Draws Record Crowd

Members of Access Energy Cooperative celebrated 75 years on August 6, 2013, with an estimated record crowd of 4000 members.

Access Energy Cooperative collectively began building your electric cooperative system 75 years ago. And that system is still bringing you safe, reliable and efficient service today, thanks to all of the heroes who have made it happen.

Speakers during the business session discussed the cooperatives' history and contribution to community, and they all discovered through Mt. Pleasant Chamber Executive Kiley Miller's welcome remarks that the cooperative is older than Cheerios.

With threatening **weather** approaching, the general manager's report was cut short. However, Robert Swindell, General Manager/CEO noted that 75 years is a long time for any business to be in existence. In recognition of this milestone, he focused on how Access Energy Cooperative continues to fulfill the vision of the founding members and looks forward to the next 75 years of delivering safe, reliable and efficient energy.

Incumbents Ronald Campbell, Fred Hickenbottom and Marvin Newton were re-elected as directors to serve **three**-year terms on the nine-person board.

More than 30 attendance prizes were awarded during

the day, including a 2003 Chevy S-10 Pickup won by Tom Morgan of Mt. Pleasant and ten \$75 bill credits. Due to the approaching storm, the traditional requirement that you must be present to win the door prizes was waived.

Annual Meeting, continued on page 6



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See Page 6
**2013 Annual Meeting list of prize
winners, election results and pictures.**

Dividend Checks in the Mail

If you were not able to make it to the annual meeting, your dividend check was mailed to you recently. Accounts with payments of less than \$5 will continue to accumulate and will be paid in the year they reach or exceed \$5.

After reviewing the operating revenues for 2012, the Board of Directors approved a dividend retirement of \$854,726.44. The refund is applied against years 1995, 1996, 1997 and 2012. The cooperative will be paying 100% of the remaining dividends for 1995; as well as 25% of 1996, 7% of 1997, and 14% of 2012. A portion of the 1995 and 1996 amounts are a pass-through dividend payment from Northeast Missouri Power Cooperative.

At Access Energy Cooperative, as a member you own the cooperative. Unlike other electric utilities, your co-op exists to make sure your **needs** are met—not to make a **profit**. As a member-**owner**, you share in the profits in the form of dividend checks. We work hard every day to keep your rates as low as possible. We also strive to earn your trust and excel at providing you with reliable service. If you would like to know more information about dividends, check us out at www.accessenergycoop.com.

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Manager's Corner



General Manager/CEO Robert Swindell

On September 1, we sold our propane subsidiary, Access Energy Propane, to two Growmark affiliated cooperatives. Agriland FS of Winterset, Iowa, purchased our Iowa facilities and West Central FS of Galesburg, Illinois, purchased our Illinois facilities. We were pleased that we were able to sell the propane subsidiary to another cooperative.

Agriland FS and West Central FS also retained all of Access Energy Propane's employees, so our previous propane customers can expect the same level of service that they received from us. All the gas contracted for the 2013-2014 will be honored. All of Access Energy Propane customers received a letter announcing the sell the first week of September.

We entered the propane business in 2000, with the purchase of Bi-State Propane which was based in Burlington, Iowa. At that time, Access Energy Cooperative, along with a number of cooperatives across the country, invested in Energy Co-Opportunity (ECO) to develop residential size fuel cells. A fuel cell is non-polluting source of energy that turns a hydrogen fuel, such as propane, directly into electricity using a chemical process. In theory, a fuel cell uses hydrogen and air and produces electricity, heat and water.

The goal of ECO was to develop a fuel that could power a home for about \$10,000. Our business plan, at the time we entered in the propane business, was to use the propane subsidiary to provide fuel for a locations where we would place the ECO fuel cells. Unfortunately, ECO was never able to produce a viable fuel cell that could operate outside the laboratory.

In light that the original purpose of entering into the propane business never materialized, the Board of Directors, upon receiving an offer from Agriland FS and West Central FS, decided it was now time to exit the propane business and focus on our core mission of providing safe, reliable efficient electric service and environmental responsibility.

ANNUAL MEETING 2103

I want to thank everyone that attended our 75th Annual Meeting of Members on August 6. I am sorry we had to cut

the business meeting a little short due to the threatening weather. Here's how the director election results turned out.

District One:
Fred Hickenbottom 302
Timothy Tedrow 99

District Two:
Ronald Campbell 196
Robert P. Smith 137
Ronald Clouse 131

District Three:
Marvin Newton 223
George M Clifford 119

After the Annual Meeting the Board of Directors met for the annual reorganization meeting and elected the cooperative officers for the next year. They can be found on page 6 of this month's HighLine HeadLines.

In closing this month, I want to thank all of the employees of the Cooperative and everyone else that contributed to the success of our 75th Annual Meeting. It would not be possible without them. Don't forget to circle August 5th on your 2014 calendars for our 76th Annual Meeting.



COOPERATIVE INFORMATION

Access Energy Cooperative
1800 West Washington Street
P.O. Box 440
Mount Pleasant, Iowa 52641

Phone: 319.385.1577
Toll free: 866.242.4232
Fax: 319.385.6873

Website:
www.accessenergycoop.com
Email:
contactus@accessenergycoop.com

HOURS:
Monday-Friday
(closed Saturdays, Sundays,
& Holidays)
Office: 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Payments can be placed in the dropbox under the flag pole.

Visa and Mastercard accepted.

After Hours Emergencies call:
319.385.1580
or 800.452.7819

General Manager/CEO: Robert Swindell
Editor: Kimberly Brumbaugh
Assistant Editor: Cherity Wibben

Officers and Directors:

Marvin Holtkamp	District 3	President
Ronald Campbell	District 2	Vice President
Joseph Heckethorn	District 1	Secretary
Larry White	District 2	Treasurer
Donald Atwood	District 1	Director
Fred Hickenbottom	District 1	Director
Jerry Barker	District 2	Director
Marvin Newton	District 3	Director
Victor Pierrot	District 3	Director

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Help Others by Contributing to RECare

You may make a one-time contribution to the RECare program, or you may enclose an amount each month with your monthly electric bill. Just one dollar a month will help others! In 2012, fifty-two customers contributed a total of \$1,567.22.

This program is administered by the Iowa Community Action Program, and recipients must meet their guidelines.



I would like to make a:

- one time contribution of \$ _____
- monthly contribution of \$ _____
(monthly contribution will be added to your bill)

Name _____

Address _____

City/Zip _____

Phone # _____

Email _____

Account # (if known) _____

Energy Assistance Program

The 2013–2014 Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) has been established to help qualifying low-income Iowa homeowners and renters pay for a portion of their primary heating costs for the winter heating season. The assistance is based on household income, household size, type of fuel, and type of housing.

WHEN TO APPLY:

- Elderly (60 & over) and/or disabled: October 3, 2013 to April 30, 2014.
- All other households: November 1, 2013 to April 30, 2014.

WHAT TO TAKE:

- Proof of income: Most recent 3 months' check stubs, award letter from Social Security or 2012 tax return.
- Social Security numbers of all household members.
- Recent heat bill.
- Recent electric bill.
- Recent telephone bill.

If you receive alimony or child support it will also need to be verified.

WAGE EARNERS: Please bring copies of your check stubs for the three-month period preceding the date of application, or a copy of your federal income tax return.

FIXED INCOME: This income may include: Social Security Benefits, Supplemental Security Income, Family Investment Program, Veteran's Assistance, Unemployment Insurance and pensions. Please bring copies of your most recent 3 months' check stubs.

SELF-EMPLOYED/FARMERS: Please bring a copy of your most recent federal income tax return.

FIP AND SSI RECIPIENTS: Your Medicaid number is on your Medicaid card. The numbers needed are immediately following your name and number in the aid type box.

If you are not sure where to apply, please write to: LIHEAP, Iowa Department of Human Rights/DCAA, Lucas State Office Building, Des Moines, IA 50319, or call your local community action agency.

Income Maximums

Household Size	1	2	3	4	5	6
3 Month Gross Income	\$4,309	\$5,816	\$7,324	\$8,831	\$10,339	\$11,846
Annual Gross Income	\$17,235	\$23,265	\$29,295	\$35,325	\$41,355	\$47,385

For households with more than six member, add \$1,508 per three months, or \$6,030 annually for each additional member.

Medical Waiver: Households who are over LIHEAP regular income guidelines may be eligible for LIHEAP benefits through our medical waiver component. The medical expenses must be documented, paid, and non-reimbursable. For more information please contact your local community action agency.



Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Like homes and other businesses, farms of all types can lower their electricity bills by turning off or reducing use of lights and small equipment in outbuildings. Timers and sensors can help, too. Regular cleaning, maintenance, and seasonal tune-ups help keep larger equipment running at top efficiency.

Source: E Source

Take Control & Save

A Cooperative Effort for Energy Efficiency

Energy Efficiency Rebates & Programs

ENERGY EFFICIENT APPLIANCES

- * Energy Star® Room Air Conditioner.....\$ 50
- * Water heater (Electric only; At least 90% efficient)\$100

HEAT PUMPS

- * Air to Air Source - at least 16.5 SEER (w/Elec. Resist.).... \$100 per ton
- * Mini-Split Air Source - at least 16.5 SEER \$250 per ton
- * Dual Fuel Source - at least 16.5 SEER (gas back up)..... \$250 per ton
- * Ground Source - at least 19.1 EER
- * replacing existing ground source unit..... \$400 per ton
- * new & replacing other heat source type \$750 per ton

ALTERNATIVE ENERGY SOURCES\$250 per KW

- * Capped at capacity. Access Energy Cooperative owns any carbon credits generated.

HOME WEATHERIZATION INCENTIVESUp to \$500 maximum

- * Incentives are available to those who choose to make energy saving improvements recommended by Access Energy Cooperative following a FREE energy audit conducted by us.
- * Improvements must be completed in recommended order by AEC.

BUSINESS LIGHTING REBATE

- * Must have at least 10 eligible fixtures at a commercial, industrial or ag business member's account of Access Energy Cooperative.
 - * Fluorescent T-5 and T-8 lighting systems with electronic ballasts
 - * LED (light emitting diode) and LED exit signs
 - * Occupancy Sensors
- * Bulbs and fixtures must be evaluated by AEC to determine eligibility based on an audit of existing lighting prior to any installation of new equipment. A knowledgeable employee from the business needs to be present to guide AEC through the initial walk-through lighting audit.
- * Total rebate amount is limited to \$30,000 per member per year and will not exceed 40% of the total equipment cost.

FREE ENERGY AUDITS & REBATE FOR IMPROVEMENTS

- * Conducted by a qualified Access Energy Representative
- * Blower door test to check for air leaks and gaps
- * Inspect insulation, doors, windows, lighting, appliances, and much more
- * Weatherization improvements suggested at audit are eligible for incentive up to \$500

LOW INTEREST LOANS

Access Energy Cooperative has ERC low interest loans available for the cost of materials and labor for energy efficiency home improvements in new or existing structures. For more details see our website.

Specific requirements apply to individual rebates. For more information on rebates, low interest loans or to schedule a free energy audit call 385.1577 or 1.866.242.4232 or visit our website at www.accessenergycoop.com.

New Lighting Standards in 2014

As federal efficiency standards phase out traditional incandescent lightbulbs, how do you know what is the best choice to use now? The compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) were the first cost-effective, energy-saving alternative to traditional bulbs.

"We gave away CFLs at our annual meetings, energy audits and other member events for several years. We see them as a quick, low-cost way our members can start saving on their electric bills," explains Alan Raymer, Energy Advisor at Access Energy Cooperative.

By 2014, household lightbulbs using between 40-W to 100-W will need to consume at least 28% less energy than traditional incandescents. Because incandescents use 90% of their energy producing heat, upgrading saves Americans an estimated \$6 billion to \$10 billion in lighting costs every year.

More lighting changes will roll out in coming years. The federal Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 requires that lightbulbs become 70% more efficient than classic bulbs by 2020 (LEDs already exceed this goal).

Lighting accounts for roughly 13% of an average household's electric bill. Hardware store shelves are filled with lightbulb options. What works best for co-op members? While a majority of consumers have been using the CFLs, which have a smaller shelf price, the price of LEDs for home use has substantially dropped. So we may begin to see more LEDs as it becomes more economically feasible to buy them.

A helpful addition to lighting products is the Lighting Facts Label. Much like nutrition labels found on the back of food packages, this version shows a bulb's brightness, appearance, life span, and estimated yearly cost. The Lighting Facts Label was created by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to help consumers understand the product and buy the most efficient lightbulb.

Consumers' energy-efficient lighting options include:

- Halogen incandescents: Use 25 percent less energy, last three times longer than regular incandescent bulbs
- CFLs: Use 75 percent less energy, last up to 10 times longer
- LEDs: Use between 75 percent and 80 percent less energy, last up to 25 times longer

Federal lightbulb standards have the potential to save consumers billions of dollars each year. For an average American house with about 40 light fixtures, changing just 15 bulbs can save about \$50 a year per household, according to DOE.

A word of warning when purchasing new types of bulbs: You generally get what you pay for. Some manufacturers exaggerate claims of energy savings and lifespans, and cheaper models have a tendency to not last as long as higher-quality bulbs. If you look for the ENERGY STAR label, that means the bulb exceeds minimum efficiency standards as tested by the federal government.

The best way to benefit from this fast-changing technology is to purchase a more energy efficient lightbulb the next time one goes out. To learn about lighting options, visit energysavers.gov/lighting. For shopping tips visit ftc.gov/lightbulbs.

Sources: Amber Bentley; Cooperative Research Network; U.S. Department of Energy

Farm Energy Costs and Potential Savings

Oilseed and Grain	163
Cattle Feedlots	156
Dairy	83
Poultry	63
Greenhouse, Nursery	46
Fruit and Tree	37
Hog and Pig	31

Direct and indirect
Energy costs
add up to
13%
of a farm's
production expenses.

Ways to Save Energy

Use the animal housing, irrigation, nitrogen, tillage, and grain drying energy calculators at

EnergyTools.sc.egov.usda.gov

Sources: USDA Impacts of Higher Energy Prices on Agriculture and Rural Economies; EnSave; American Council for an Energy Efficiency Economy On-Farm Energy Use Characterizations; National Sustainable Agriculture Information Service Energy Tips for Irrigators.

Grain Elevators Electrical Safety

Working around grain bins creates hazards that are often overlooked by even the most seasoned farm hands. Always keep these safety tips in mind:

SUFFOCATION/ENGULFMENT

Entrapment can happen in a second when dealing with grain, which often is compared to quick sand. This is the leading cause of death in storage bins.

- Do not enter grain bins during active loading and unloading times
- Never work alone
- Make sure to wear proper safety equipment

FIRES/EXPLOSIONS

When grain dust accumulates, it can sometimes create the right conditions to spark a fire. These fires are difficult to stop and usually end with a large explosion.

- Be sure your ventilation system is working properly
- Clean regularly to keep grain dust accumulations to a minimum
- Do not smoke or ignite any other open flames while in the grain bin

TOXIC ATMOSPHERES

Mold, fungi, and chemical fumes from decayed grains can create a deadly atmosphere.

- Store fully dried grain at the proper moisture
- Wear a mask or filter respirator to limit the amount of direct contact to the fumes
- Try to keep animal and insect infestations to a minimum

MACHINE MALFUNCTIONS

Machines also pose deadly risks, including amputation, entanglement, and electrocution.

- Do not operate these machines while inside the bins
- Ensure that all equipment is properly guarded
- Be on the lookout for overhead power lines
- Check for frayed cables
- Always wear safety belts or some form of protection

Harvesting Efficiency

The American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy estimates farmers could save \$88 million annually by investing in efficient motors and lighting. How can Iowa farmers reap efficiency benefits?

EnSave, a national agricultural energy efficiency firm, provides a pyramid of steps farmers can take to cut down energy use. The greatest savings come from deploying more efficient equipment, although behavioral changes and a simple analysis of how energy is consumed can result in significant savings, too.

EQUIPPED TO SAVE

Each farm—dairy, poultry, beef, hog, or crop—offers opportunities for efficiency improvements. For example:

- **Clean equipment:** Removing **dust**, soot, and debris from equipment will allow it to do more work with less effort, extending its life and reducing energy use.
- **Inspect regularly:** Equipment should be checked regularly. Replace parts that are showing excessive wear before they break and cause irreparable damage.
- **Plug leaks:** Be it a pinprick hole in a hose or a drafty barn, leaks waste money, fuel, and electricity.
- **Remove clutter:** Hoses should be regularly flushed to clear debris. Ensure fan and motor intakes and exhausts remain clutter-free for maximum circulation and efficiency.

LIGHT LESSONS

After tuning up equipment, check lights. Light work areas, not entire buildings. Use daylight when possible. Install dimmable ballasts to control light levels.

The type of light used makes a difference. Although useful as a heat source in limited situations (to keep water pumps from freezing in winter, for example), incandescent lightbulbs only convert 10 percent of the energy used into light.

The rest of the energy is given off as heat. Consider these energy-saving lighting options, as compared to incandescents:

- Halogen incandescents use 25 percent less energy and last three times longer than traditional incandescent bulbs
- Compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) use 75 percent less energy and last up to 10 times longer
- LEDs use between 75 percent and 80 percent less energy and last up to 25 times longer
- Cold cathode fluorescent lamps (CCFLs) last up to 25 times longer and offer the same efficiency as CFLs.
- T-8 and T-5 fluorescent lights with electronic ballasts generate less noise and produce more light per watt. These bulbs also offer better color rendering, minimal flickering, cooler operation, and energy savings.
- Some of the more efficient forms of lighting equipment can qualify for a rebate from Access Energy Cooperative.

SEEDS OF CHANGE

For regional or crop-specific efficiency methods, use the **U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service** energy calculators, energytools.sc.egov.usda.gov. Assess how much energy a farm needs for animal housing, irrigation, and tillage and discover ways to cut costs. Dairy farmers may also visit www.usdairy.com/saveenergy.

Funding for efficiency upgrades is available through the Rural Energy for America Program (REAP). Since 2008, REAP has funded more than 6,800 renewable energy and energy efficiency grants and loan guarantees as well as 600 farm energy audits. Get details at www.rurdev.usda.gov > Energy > Rural Energy for America Program.

Farmers can also apply for financial and technical help through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), a program from USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service. EQIP supports energy initiatives to manage and reduce agricultural energy needs. Learn more at www.nrcs.usda.gov > Programs > Financial Assistance > Environmental Quality Incentives Program.

Dairy Farms

Better dairy pumps, compressors, and lighting can save 10–35% of a dairy farm's energy costs.

1. **UPDATE PUMPS:** Install a variable-speed drive (VSD) for your vacuum pumps to maintain a constant vacuum level and provide a quieter work environment.
2. **COMPRESS CONSISTENTLY:** Select efficient scroll or digitally controlled compressors for refrigeration. They last longer than other compressors and provide consistent cooling.
3. **PLATE COOLER:** Use a well water plate cooler with a VSD on milk transfer pumps. This produces a steady flow of milk through the plate cooler, cuts costs associated with bulk tank compressors and maintains milk quality.
4. **HEAT RECOVERY:** Install compressor heat recovery to reduce water heating energy requirements. Heat removed from milk that is usually released back into the air by condenser fans can be reused to heat water. This is one of the most cost-effective purchases a dairy farmer can make.

Poultry Farms

The U.S. Department of Agriculture estimates 13% of a poultry farm's production expenses stem from energy costs.

1. **SEAL AIR LEAKS.** Air flowing in and out of poultry houses leads to higher heating costs, litter caking, lower feed intake, lower feed conversion efficiencies, and smaller birds.
2. **RADIANT HEAT:** When installed and managed properly, radiant heaters use between 15–30% less fuel than forced hot air heaters and pancake brooders.
3. **INSULATE:** Make sure you have proper insulation levels and coverage. Insulation helps regulate the temperature, reducing the need for supplemental heating and cooling.
4. **CONTROL USE:** Implement electronic controls for lighting and interior conditions such as temperature and humidity. Controllers can coordinate heating, cooling, ventilation, and lighting systems so they work in an integrated fashion.

Crop Farms

Delivering water to crops costs \$2.6 billion energy dollars every year, according to the U.S. Department of Ag. The National Sustainable Agriculture Information Service reports 25% of that energy was wasted due to poor irrigation pump and motor efficiency.

Here are a few ways to start saving today:

1. **MAINTAIN:** Maintain equipment and facilities following manufacturers' recommendations for proper use and maintenance.
2. **TURN OFF WASTE:** Turn off equipment when not in use or needed. Educate employees on the importance of not running all equipment at the same time.
3. **MOTOR SAVINGS:** Use National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA) Premium Efficient electric motors. These highly efficient products meet the needs and applications of the farmer and manufacturers based on a consensus definition of "premium efficiency." Learn more at www.motorsmatter.org.
4. **WATCH RATINGS:** Always consider energy consumption ratings when replacing or installing new equipment, typically the lowest cost equipment is the least energy efficient.

Annual Meeting 2013

Election Results



Fred Hickenbottom
District 1



Ronald Campbell
District 2



Marvin Newton
District 3

Board of Directors

PRESIDENT
Marvin Holtkamp, District 3
VICE PRESIDENT
Ronald Campbell, District 2
SECRETARY
Joseph Heckethorn, District 1
TREASURER
Larry White, District 2
DIRECTORS
Donald Atwood, District 1
Jerry Barker, District 2
Fred Hickenbottom, District 1
Marvin Newton, District 3
Victor Pierrot, District 3



Prize Winners

- Cordless Driver..... Heath Krabill
- Locking Outdoor Cord Randy Hageman
- Lithium Drill.....Norman Kisling
- LED Advanced Light Dean L Campbell
- Surge Protector Richard M Keller
- Variable Speed Jigsaw Jon E Rubey
- LED Advanced LightJohn E Unternahrer
- Landscape Light SetDonna Boughner
- Waffle Maker William H Lance
- Coffee Maker Harold Unternahrer
- LED Advanced LightMelvin George
- Electric Deep Fryer.....Robert J Jones
- 3 in 1 Vac Scott Giberson
- Oscillating Tower Fan Ralph Breazeale
- Slow Cooker..... Kelly Kennedy
- LED Advanced Light Ronald Bengé
- 2 in 1 George Foreman Grill Melvin Diehl
- Shop VacMichael E Parker
- Cordless Trimmer..... Craig A Martin
- \$75 Bill Credit Compliments of Sherrill Electric**
Bryan Huston, William G Lowe, Norreene Schmitt, Donald F Fillingier, Mark Panther, Mills' Farm, Cheri M Lane, Bill Rauenbuehler, Darren K Davisson & Steven K Lyon
- \$100.00 Electric Bill Credit from mailed in ballots**
John G Linn
- GRAND PRIZE Truck**..... Tom L Morgan



And the Winner is...



Tom Morgan



Annual Meeting, continued from page 1

Other highlights of the day included an outstanding performance by Jake McVey and many family fun activities including Touchstone Energy hot air tethered balloon rides; pony rides by Shady Acres; inflatable activities for kids by Jump-4-Fun; and carousel ground train rides; plus Drive-a-Tractor. Several booths were available offering information on the launch of the cooperative's new Facebook and Twitter accounts, as well as a new weather radio app for smartphones, the Coop Connections Card, in addition to energy efficiency safety information. Thank you to all of the local organizations who were also there providing information for our members.

Celebrating 75 Years



Still providing safe, reliable, efficient service... because we care.

FEB 2, 2013
FE 1A

ACCESS ENERGY
I HAVE LIVED EAST OF FAIRFIELD ALL 83 YEARS OF MY LIFE.
ADDRESS 2441 HWY 34
I REMEMBER WALKING HOME FROM SCHOOL AND SAW THE SUN SHINE ON THE METER.
GO TURN A LITE ON.
WAS THIS 1939 OR 1940?
ALL LINES ARE UNDER GROUND^{NOW} WHICH IS VERY NICE.
AT THE TIME IOWA ELECTRIC SAID FARMERS WOULD NOT USE ENOUGH ELECTRICITY TO PAY FOR THE LINES?

Joseph H. Hefner

Access Energy Helps Fund the Iowa Energy Center & the CGRER

Each year, Access Energy Cooperative contributes a portion of its gross revenues to the Iowa Energy Center at Iowa State University and the Center for Global and Regional Environment at the University of Iowa.

The Iowa Energy Center helps to promote, develop and advance energy efficiency programs and renewable energy research. In addition, the Center is available to answer questions on a variety of energy issues for the citizens of Iowa.

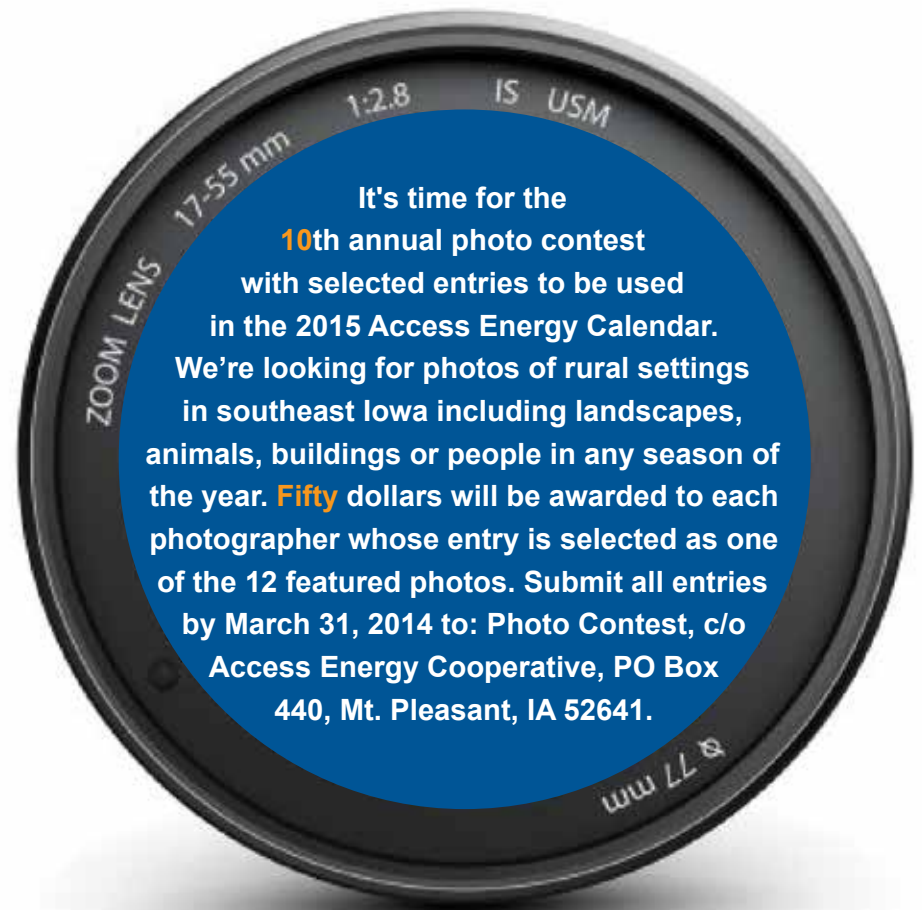
In 2012, Access Energy was assessed one-tenth of one percent of its gross operating revenue for electric service of \$22,727,680. Access Energy paid a total of \$22,728. Eighty-five percent of that will go to the Iowa State Energy Center and 15 percent will go to the University of Iowa for the CGRER.

All Iowa electric and gas **utilities** are required by the state legislature to help fund the two centers.

STATEMENT OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or a part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Photo Contest Begins



It's time for the **10th** annual photo contest with selected entries to be used in the 2015 Access Energy Calendar. We're looking for photos of rural settings in southeast Iowa including landscapes, animals, buildings or people in any season of the year. **Fifty** dollars will be awarded to each photographer whose entry is selected as one of the 12 featured photos. Submit all entries by March 31, 2014 to: Photo Contest, c/o Access Energy Cooperative, PO Box 440, Mt. Pleasant, IA 52641.

CONTEST RULES

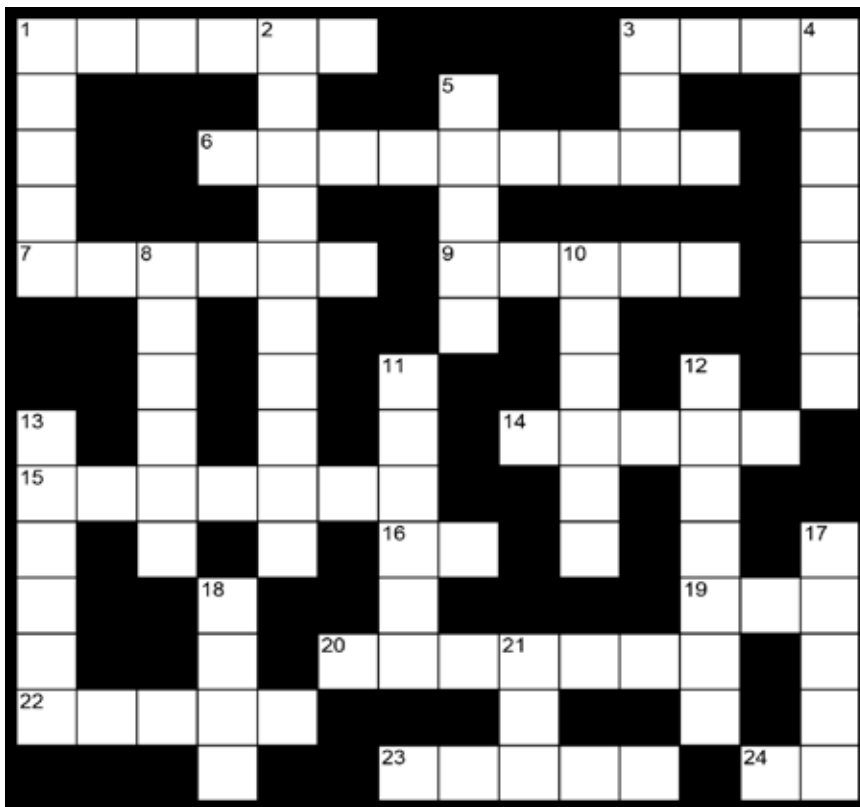
- Full color photos are encouraged.
- Entries must be in a horizontal layout.
- ORIGINAL PHOTOS ONLY. Photo copies and digital pictures printed from a computer/printer will not be accepted.
- SIZE REQUIREMENTS
 - Printed entries: Minimum size for originals is 6x4, maximum size 14x8.
 - Digital entries: Please submit as original electronic files. Minimum size is 3300 x 2550 pixels
- E-mail to kbrumbaugh@accessenergycoop.com or submit on a CD.
- Entrants may enter more than one photo.
- Entries must include the following information on the back of photo, or on the CD:
 - Entrant's name, address, phone number.
 - Title of the photograph.
 - County** in which photo was taken.
- All entries will become the property of Access Energy Cooperative and may be used by Access Energy Cooperative for any purpose Access Energy Cooperative deems valid. (We can return them upon your request when the contest is complete.)
- Entrants agree to authorize Access Energy Cooperative to announce and publish their name, address, and photograph in any forthcoming publicity without further remuneration, other than the prizes awarded in this contest.
- By submitting an entry in the contest, you agree to grant Access Energy Cooperative permissions and all rights to use the photo entry indefinitely for marketing purposes, which include but is not limited to a calendar or other printed materials promoting Access Energy Cooperative.
- All entrants must have sufficient permission of any recognizable persons appearing in the photograph to be able to grant to Access Energy.
- Energy Cooperative the right to display their photographic submission online or in printed material.

Win \$25 By Learning About Your Cooperative!

Access Energy Cooperative members can win \$25 by completing the crossword below correctly. Members may clip out their answers and send them by September 30, 2013, to: Access Energy Cooperative, Attn: Crossword Puzzle, P.O. Box 440, Mount Pleasant, IA 52641. Most of the answers are bold and highlighted elsewhere in this issue of the Highline Headlines. If more than one person answers all of the questions correctly by the deadline, a drawing will be held to determine the winner. Only one prize will be given for the crossword puzzle.

Name _____

Address _____



Last month's winner is Mrs. B.R. Poole of Stockport.

ACROSS

- 1 You should not ignite these in grain bins
- 3 Removing this from equipment extends its life and reduces energy use
- 6 In Iowa, all of these are required to help fund the energy centers
- 7 This type of media campaign helps relay information to members online
- 9 A board member serves this many years on the nine person board of directors
- 14 Heat removed from milk can be reused to heat this
- 15 When replacing or installing new equipment always consider this
- 16 The U.S. Department of this, states delivering water to crops costs \$2.6 billion yearly
- 19 The board of director's secretary, Joseph Heckethorn is from what district
- 20 The 75th annual meeting was cut short because this was a potential threat to attendees
- 22 Tom Morgan won this grand prize at this year's annual meeting
- 23 As a member, you are part this, which means you share in the profits of the cooperative
- 24 Country in which the Natural Resources Conservation Service provides energy calculators and other energy tools

DOWN

- 1 Turning off or reducing the use of lights and small equipment in outbuildings can lower electric bills here
- 2 This is the leading cause of deaths in storage bins
- 3 Department of Energy
- 4 Follow us on this and like us on Facebook
- 5 Each of the 12 winning photos selected will be awarded this many dollars
- 8 Photo contest entries must include this location where it is taken
- 10 Commercial, industrial or ag businesses can get this by installing eligible lighting
- 11 A national agricultural firm providing information to help farmers cut down energy use
- 12 Using these can help lower electricity bills
- 13 Access Energy does not exist to make this, unlike other electric utilities
- 17 Your co-op exists to make sure these are met
- 18 National Resources Conservation Service
- 21 This is the number of years the photo contest has been collecting pictures for our yearly calendar

Questions or Complaints?

Each cooperative is required to notify its customers, by bill insert or notice on the bill form, of the address and telephone number where a cooperative representative qualified to assist in resolving the complaint can be reached. The bill insert or notice for non-IUB rate-regulated electric cooperatives must include the following statement: "If your complaint is related to the (utility name) service rather than its rates, and (utility name) does not resolve your complaint, you may request assistance from the Iowa Utilities Board by calling 515.725.7321, or toll-free 877.565.4450, by writing to 1375 E. Court Avenue, Room 69, Des Moines, IA 50319-0069, or by email to customer@iub.iowa.gov."

Each electric cooperative that is rate regulated by the IUB must include the following statement: "If (utility name) does not resolve your complaint, you may request assistance from the Iowa Utilities Board by calling 515.725.7321, or toll-free 877.565.4450, by writing to 1375 E. Court Avenue, Room 69, Des Moines, IA 50319-0069, or by email to customer@iub.iowa.gov."

The bill insert or notice on the bill will be provided no less than annually. Any electric cooperative, which does not use the standard form, must file its proposed form in its tariff for IUB approval. An electric cooperative, which bills by postcard, may place an advertisement in a local newspaper of general circulation or a customer newsletter instead of a mailing. The advertisement must be of a type size that is easily legible and conspicuous and must contain the information set forth above.

The featured recipe winner who submitted this recipe will receive a \$10 electric bill credit. Check out our recipe section at www.accessenergycoop.com for a new recipe or to submit your favorite recipe. Or mail us your recipe and we will post it for you.



Award Winning Peanut Buster Parfait Dessert

From the Kitchen of Anonymus

- Finely, chop one pound of oreos and mix with ½ cup butter.
- Press into 9x13 dessert dish.
- Add a layer of caramel sauce.
- Add a layer of hot fudge sauce.
- Add a layer of salted Spanish peanuts.
- Cover with a thick layer of homemade (or your favorite vanilla) ice cream.
- Add another layer of hot fudge sauce.
- And top with a layer of salted Spanish peanuts.

Freeze overnight before serving.

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