

## **Consider Running for the Board of Directors**



CEO/General Manager

Jon Leerar

District 5 District 3 Don Knu Roger Buffalo Cente Solomonso ♦Gary Pearson 218 District 2 District 1 Mark Kingland Michael Cole District 4 Vince District 7 Morische -18-Tricia Jaeger District 6

One of your responsibilities as a cooperative member is electing the Heartland Power Cooperative Board of Directors. This March, our members will once again have the opportunity to cast their vote for the Board of Directors.

### Districts 2 and 5 are up for Election in 2024

If you or someone you know lives in one of the districts up for election and is interested in running for the Heartland Power Board of Directors, please call one of the nominating committee members listed below or call our office and a nominating committee member will get in touch with you.

### **Nominating Committee**

Mark Egesdal, Leland 641-567-3643 Steve Abele, Lake Mills 641-592-8742 Lindsey Falk, St. Ansgar 641-590-3108 Steve Eastman, Riceville 641-330-4091 Mark Hommez, St. Ansgar 641-590-3251



#### ALSO IN THIS ISSUE



Attention High School Students | p 2 We have two great opportunities for you! Learn more about Youth Tour and HPC Scholarships inside!



Your Change Is Changing Lives | p 4 This year, Operation Round-Up provided nearly \$15,000 in donations to worthy causes in our local area!



#### Unclaimed Capital Credits | p 5 Over 150 cooperative members have not cashed their past capital credit checks. Did you miss yours?

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### Monthly Quiz

**\$25 Bill Credit Winner:** Jeff Huftalin of Osage, IA

#### This Month's Question:

Heartland Power members can now receive outage notifications via text message! Tell us one thing about this new program.

### **Quiz Guidelines:**

Each member who sends in the correct answer by the 31st of the month will be entered in a drawing for a \$25 bill credit.

Mail or email quiz answers to energy@heartlandpower.com.

### Director Elections, continued from page 1...

To be considered for election to the Board of Directors, an individual must be a member of Heartland Power Cooperative and listed on the membership card. If only one individual is listed on the membership card, a joint membership may be obtained. In addition to being a member in good standing, the individual must reside and receive electric service from the cooperative at a location within the district in which they are seeking election.

Monthly board meetings usually take place during the day rotating between the offices in St. Ansgar and Thompson. Other board meetings and trainings take place on average of one day per month.

Candidates for election to the Board of Directors are selected by a nominating committee comprised of members who adequately represent the districts up for election. If you are interested, or would like to submit the name of a member who is interested in being considered as a candidate, please contact or send information to one of the nominating committee members or contact our office.

### **Districts up for Election in 2024**

DISTRICT 2 DISTRICT 5

# HEY HIGH SCHOOLERS!

We have TWO great opportunities for you!

#### **1 - YOUTH TOUR**



Sophomores and Juniors, this one's for you! Enjoy a week-long, all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C. to learn more about electric cooperatives, government, and American history!

#### 2 - SCHOLARSHIPS



Heartland Power will provide a \$500 scholarship to **10** high school seniors and scholarships to students enrolled in a Power Line Program. See full eligibility requirements online. SCHOLARSHIP APPS DUE FEB 1 YOUTH TOUR APPS DUE MARCH 1

Heartland Power is sponsoring two high school sophomores or juniors in our service area to attend the annual Youth Tour!





Heartland Power's 2023 Youth Tour Representative Isabelle Brumm

## HPC NOW OFFERS OUTAGE NOTIFICATIONS VIA TEXT

### Register to opt in to our new outage text system!

Imagine you're home on a cold, wintry night. The wind is howling, the snow is blowing, and...the power goes out.

While you can always rest assured that our crews are working to restore power as quickly as possible, we know some questions often remain:

- Is my other property also without power?
- Maybe we should go to a friend's house for the evening?
- If I do leave, how will I know when power is restored?

In the past, it hasn't been possible for us to provide custom outage insights to our members, but thanks to new technologies and our new outage notification system, we are now able to do just that!

Any member can choose to opt-in to these text message alerts. Upon registering, participating members will be notified of outages at their location(s). They will also receive a message when power has been restored.

To register, follow the steps indiciated in the box to the right. You will need your account number and the phone number(s) that you'd like to have receive the notifications.

Your account number can be found on your monthly billing statement. If you have questions or need assistance setting up the outage notifications, please contact our office at 641-584-2251.

We're excited to roll out this new program as yet another tool to help keep our cooperative members safe and informed.

### **HOW TO REGISTER**



Once you've selected the numbers(s) you wish to receive notifications, you'll receive a text that you have been opted into the program.

5



Director of Operations

# **OPERATION ROUND-UP** HOW YOUR CHANGE HAS CHANGED LIVES THIS YEAR



\$11,100 MEDICAL/ACCIDENTS & LOCAL FIRES



**\$1,600** Local fair boards & 4-h

**\$2,200** OTHER AREA ORGANIZATIONS Operation Round-Up funds are generated through a voluntary rounding up of cooperative members' electric bills to the nearest dollar. This change is used to assist worthy causes right here in our area.

For those who opt to participate in the program, the rounding up results in an average donation of \$6 per year. Let us know if you would like to join this worthwhile program. We'd be glad to get you signed up!



Karrie Pringnitz Director of Finance & Admin.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

\$14,900 GIVEN BACK TO OUR LOCAL COMMUNITIES THIS YEAR!

### SINCE THE INCEPTION OF OPERATION ROUND-UP IN 2003, WE HAVE DONATED NEARLY \$407,000 TOGETHER!

## **Coop Kitchen**

Members with their recipe published in the newsletter will receive a \$5 bill credit. For March's recipes send in your favorite casserole recipe! These can be mailed to our office or emailed to us at energy@heartlandpower.com by February 20th.



## **Unclaimed Capital Credits**

As of December 2023, the following members have not cashed their capital credit retirement check issued in 2020. Please contact the cooperative if you need it to be reissued.

A G OLSON JR ALAN R SPRUNG ALBERT VERVAECKE ALLEN EVANS ALVIN SCHULTZ ANTHONY WILHELMI **ART SKRAM BERDELL R AHRENS BERNEICE BRANSTAD BEVERLY DE WALLE BEVERLY KLUSMEIER** C A BLOCK CARLTON RAUK CHAD D DIERKS CHARLENE GANGSEI CHRISTOPH FAILS **CLARINE E MOE** CLAYTON CLAUSEN **CLIFF RIEDINGER CLINT E PHILIPP** CRAIG WHALEN **D & C WELDING** DALE E FELDT DARL E SCHILLING DARLENE A BROWNLOW DARLENE M TROUSDALE DAVE GODLEWSKI DAVID JOHNSON DAVID LARSON **DEAN A TUCKER DELORES KNUDTSON** DELTON D LANE **DENNIS STEIFF** DONALD D JOHNSON DONNA BENSEND DORIS NORDSKOG **DOUGLAS W HINDERS** DUANE NELSON **ED SHINDELAR** 

EDWARD GRIFFIN EDWARD K KANE EMIL F MUELLER EUGENE LUND EST FLOYD PETERSBURG FRED NIEMOTH GARY ARICKX GARY KOBRIGER GARY L COMISKY GERALD SCHERB **GINA M BARNETT GREENE LIMESTONE CO** GREGORY C WARD HARLAN THORVILSON HAZEL MONSON HELEN GORANSON **INEZ CHRISTIANSON IRMA LOCKREM** IVO J FOX JACK R SCHMOLL JAMES C BENTTINE JAMES WAECHTER JANE A HENDERSON JANICE I KNUDTSON JANNA WALSH JEAN THOMPSON JEFF HYDE JEFF JORDAHL JEFF SMITH JEFF SOOST JEFFREY D BUBLITZ JERAD DAMJANOVIC JERRY FLICK JERRY KLINE JESS BYRNES JOANNE TUCKER JOE ROSENBERG JOHN HAVLIK JOHN SETER

JOSEPH CAPAUL JOSH ISLER JULIE HELGESON JULIE JENSEN JULIUS P SEVERSON **K C KNAPP KAREN SANDERSON** KARL KIRCHGATTER **KEITH CURRY KENNETH E PETERSON KERMIT ASKLAND KERMIT GRUNHOVD KEVIN KIMM KYLE WYATT** LARRY A BUNSTON LARRY ANDERSON LARRY BUNSTON LARRY D ANDERSON LARRY LOKEN LARRY LONG LAUREL YOST LAURIE SCHWARCK LE ROY BENTTINE LEON OLSON LESTER BOUCHER LEWIS R ANDERSON LILLIAN L SMITH LINDA TUCKER LOIS N MEYER LYNEEN MC LAUGHLIN MARK HAYNER MARK KOEBRICK MARK KOENIGS MARK L MILTON MARK RIECK MARK S PENNINGTON MARLYS HAUGEN MARRICE NEWKIRK MARSHA SNYDER

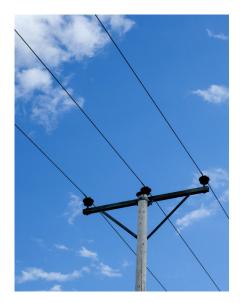
MARTHA KINGLAND MARTIN EVANS MARVIN WINKELS MARY A FISHER MATT TINDALL MATT WERNER MICKEY BERG MICKEY J JUENGER MIKE JESSE MILDRED VALASEK MISSY LARSON NATHAN OULMAN NEAL REETZ NICK DE GEUS NORMA HAMMOND PAMALA REUTER PAMLA AKKERMANN PAUL JACOBSON PAUL KAPUSTYNSKI PETER TOUSIGNANT PHILLIP RASMUSSEN PHYLLIS BOGGESS PHYLLIS SCHALLOCK PINNACLE TOWER INC **R.D. SMITH ENTERPRISES** LLC RANDY BERRY RANDY HAKL **RANDY J COOKE REUBEN M FOX** ROBERT GIFFORD **ROBERT HANSEN ROBERT HARRINGA ROBERT J SEVERSON** ROBERT M MILLER ROBERT STORBY ROGER D TRIPP ROGER HALVERSON **ROGER J DOWNING** 

ROGER JUVELAND RONALD CHARLSON **RONALD DIRKS RONALD G VANCE** RONALD OKLAND RUSSELL FIEDLER **RUSSELL L JOHNSON** RUSSELL TROYER RYAN UBBEN SALSBURY LABORATORIES SCOTT A ROBERTS SCOTT ARNOLD SCOTT PARDOE SCOTT SEVERSON SEYMOUR FERLEY SHARON CANNY SHAWN WILKINS SHIRLEY MYERS SOLVAY ANIMAL HEALTH STERLING MEYER STEVE DAVIDSON STEVEN RICHESON TERRY DRYER THOMAS E WHITE TODD STANDSBURY TONI NEHLS TRAVIS JOHN **TROY COMISKY** TROY FOLLMAN TROY R TEMPLE UNION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH **VERA NORTHUP** VERLE NICKERSON W J FOX WADE ABRAHAM WAYNE M REICKS WILLIAM UNDERBAKKE WINDEN FARM ACCOUNT



A special message will be printed on the bottom of the recipient's next electric bill stating they have received a gift and who it is from. If you have any questions, please feel free to call 641-584-2251 or stop by our office. After completing, clip and return form and check to: Heartland Power Cooperative, PO Box 70, St. Ansgar, IA 50472

## **Disconnected Service/Idle Service Policy**



Services may be temporarily disconnected at a member's request, however if the member requests the service be reconnected within the next 15 months, they will be charged the minimum bill service charge for the months the service was disconnected and a \$60 reconnect fee. Services that are not connected at the end of the calendar year will be notified as they must pay a \$48 fee to have Heartland Power maintain the service in a state of readiness for the next calendar year. If the service is reconnected during the year, the member will receive a \$4 credit on their bill for each month that service is active for the year.

If the member elects not to pay the idle service charge, Heartland Power may remove the service at any time. Once the service line has been removed, removal costs and construction costs to rebuild the service line may be charged to the member to reinstall the service. Please contact us if you have any questions regarding this policy.

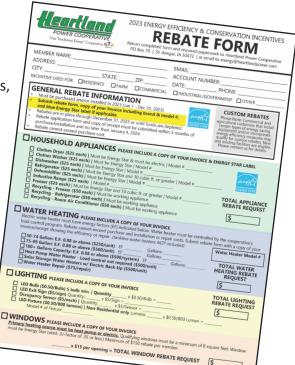
### 2023 Rebates Due December 31, 2023

If you have purchased and installed energy efficient equipment in 2023, make sure to check if it qualifies for a rebate from Heartland Power!

Rebate forms can be found on our website. Please contact us with questions or to receive a physical copy in the mail. Rebate forms, invoices, and any necessary Energy Star labels must be submitted to Heartland Power by December 31, 2023. Below are just a few of the many rebates available through Heartland Power Cooperative!

- Electric Water Heaters
- Appliance Recycling: Freezer, Refrigerator, Room A/C
- Energy Audits & Audit-Recommended Improvements
- LED Lighting
- Windows

Rebate forms are available on our website www.heartlandpower.com



### PLANNING TO PURCHASE AN ELECTRIC OR HYBRID VEHICLE?

IF YOU OWN OR ARE CURRENTLY IN THE MARKET FOR AN ELECTRIC VEHICLE OR HYBRID THAT NEEDS TO BE PLUGGED IN, PLEASE CONTACT US! THERE MAY BE SPECIAL RATES AND REBATES AVAILABLE WHEN INSTALLING A LEVEL 2 CHARGER AT YOUR HOME! The following article was written by Heartland Power Cooperative board member Roger Solomonson, for the Iowa Association of Electric Cooperatives (IAEC) newsletter. Roger has been serving as the Board President of the IAEC for the last two years and will step down from that position as his term ends this month. Thank you, Roger, for your dedication to Iowa's electric cooperatives!

## **HEARTFUL GRATITUDE FOR SERVING MEMBERS**

#### BY ROGER SOLOMONSON



Oh, the people I have met and the places I have been during my two years as the board president of the lowa Association of Electric Cooperatives (IAEC)! As my term ends

this month at the IAEC annual meeting, I want to share some important memories.

The highlight of serving as your statewide president was traveling around lowa to attend 36 electric cooperative meetings and talking with over 300 directors and 35 co-op managers in their own board rooms. These folks are dedicated men and women who are passionate about serving their communities. They are committed to making sure there is safe, reliable and affordable electricity available when member-consumers flip the switch to power their lives every day.

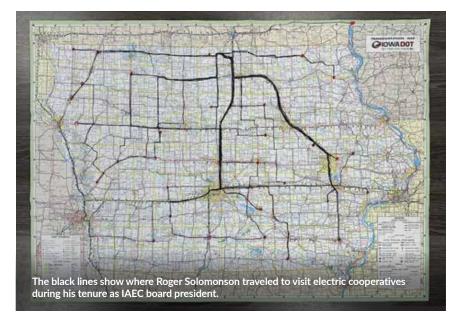
#### Raising our collective voice

Another high point was attending statewide legislative fly-ins to Washington, D.C., to speak with our elected officials along with industry lobbyists and experts in various fields. Watching our national government work (or sometimes not work) is always interesting.

I also often traveled to Des Moines during the lowa legislative sessions to meet with state legislators to advocate for the members of rural electric cooperatives and to make sure electric cooperative voices were heard. As it was told to me, the rural electric movement was started by politics and may someday die in politics if we aren't active and vocal.

#### lowa nice, regional connections

In September, the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association held a regional meeting in Des Moines for attendees from six Midwestern states. We spent time learning from experts in several fields and receiving national updates. I also had the pleasure of meeting with other statewide board presidents to discuss mutual goals. I heard several comments about how friendly and clean Des Moines is, to which I shared we're all about "Iowa nice" and encouraged them to come back soon.



#### Leadership search

One of my final duties as your statewide board president has been starting the search for IAEC's next executive vice president and general manager, as Chuck Soderberg has announced plans to retire in July 2024 after almost nine years serving in that role. This is the most important job for the statewide board, and I know they will do an excellent job selecting the right person to lead Iowa's electric cooperatives into the future.

EDITOR'S CHOICE CONTEST

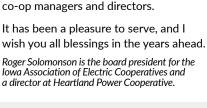
### WIN A HAPPYLIGHT® DUO LAMP!

Benefit from the power of sunlight with the clarity of premium task lighting with the new HappyLight<sup>®</sup> Duo. This 2-in-1

floor lamp safely brings daylight indoors by emitting a bright white light that mimics sunlight. This customizable lighting solution is perfect for readers, artists, hobbyists, crafters and anyone seeking a powerful lamp with adjustable light.

#### Visit our website and win!

Enter this month's contest by visiting www.ieclmagazine.com no later than Dec. 31. You must be a member of one of lowa's electric cooperatives to win. There's no obligation associated with entering, we don't share entrant information with anyone and multiple entries from the same account will be disqualified. The winner of the \$100 gift card from the October issue was Beverly Summers, a Chariton Valley Electric Cooperative member-consumer.



As I leave the IAEC board in

capable hands. I want to extend a

heartfelt "thank you" to all I have

including fellow statewide board

served with in the past eight years,

members, IAEC staff, Iowa electric



### ENTER ONLINE BY DEC. 31!



Providing members with safe, reliable, affordable electricity and enhancing the quality of life for members and their local communities.

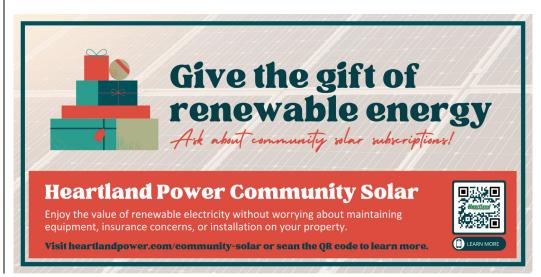
GENERAL INFOR Office Hours	MATION 7:00 a.m 5:00 p.m. M-Th Office: 641.584.2251 Toll Free: 800.349.2832	
Thompson	216 Jackson St.   P.O. Box 65 Thompson, IA 50478	
St. Ansgar 110 Industrial Park Dr.   P.O. Box 70 St. Ansgar, IA 50472		
Outage Reporting Thompson: 641.584.2200 St. Ansgar: 641.713.4646 System Wide: 888.417.3007		
Secure Payment Phone Line833.890.4830Digging & Line LocationCall 811		
Facebook fa Twitter f	www.heartlandpower.com energy@heartlandpower.com cebook.com/heartlandpower twitter.com/heartland_power agram.com/heartland_power	
CEO/GENERAL	MANAGER Jon Leerar	

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Don Knudtson <i>, President</i>	641.590.1416
Mark Kingland, Vice-President	
& DPC Director	641.590.4400
Vince Morische, Secretary	641.732.4076
Tricia Jaeger, <i>Treasurer</i>	641.330.6903
Gary Pearson	
Asst. Secretary-Treasurer	641.420.2990
Roger Solomonson,	
IAEC Director	641.590.0049
Michael Cole, Director	641.512.1474

### **Holiday & Office Hours**

Heartland Power Cooperative offices will be closed on Monday, December 25th and Monday, January 1st. Regular office hours are Monday - Thursday 7:00 AM - 5:00 PM.



### FROM ALL OF US AT HEARTLAND POWER COOPERATIVE

### **EMPLOYEES**

Randy Dieterich, Kurt Fahy, Dave Fox, Justin Gasteiger, Casey Hanson, Jenny Kramersmeier, Jordan Lee Jon Leerar, Dave Low, Vickie Maakestad, Gabe Mayer, Jay Muller, Tim Oldenkamp, Alex Ollendieck Sheila Olsen, Kevin Pannhoff, Pete Paulson, Brad Pecinovsky, Karrie Pringnitz, Jackson Rice Eric Rosenbaum, Colton Skarpohl-Ost, Jarrett Woods

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