



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

APRIL 2018

Three directors elected at annual meeting for three-year terms

Stacy Blawat, Thief River Falls, was re-elected as the District 2 director. This will be her third three-year term, following a special one-year term.

Blawat and her husband, Bernard, reside on their farm east of Holt. Their children are Mitchell and (Kendra) Martin. Mitchell owns Martin Transport, a trucking business out of Thief River Falls, and Kendra is employed by Digi-Key. Anthony Martin works at Thief River Falls Glass and races four-wheelers in mud runs with Cash Performance sponsored by Textron Off-Road in several states. Rachel is in the eighth grade doing Minnesota public schools online and plans to attend Lincoln High School in the fall.

The Blawats are members of St. Bernard's Catholic Church and enjoy traveling when they are not working in their large yard and garden.

"I appreciate the quality of the employees and their hard work," commented Blawat.

"It's easy for us to take electricity for granted, but there are a lot of people working behind the scenes to keep our electricity safe, reliable and affordable."

Cecil Anderson, Thief River Falls, is the newly elected director for District 8. He replaced Robert Finstad, Thief River Falls, who did not seek re-election having served 19 years.

Cecil has been a resident of Rocksbury township for 46 years. Cecil and his wife, Maryel, have three children: Nicole Peterson (Neil), St. Hilaire; Vanessa Martell (Kaine), Thief River Falls; and Jon Anderson (Heidi), Brainerd.

They have 14 grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Cecil owned Anderson Power and Equipment, Hardware Hank, until 2008 when he sold the business to Titan Machinery, which has now become (4334002.06 Jeff L. Dyrud) Underdahl Hardware. Maryel works at Anderson Realty in Thief River Falls.

Cecil graduated from Pequot Lakes High School and the University of Minnesota-Moorhead with a bachelor of science degree in mathematics. Following graduation, he spent two years with the U.S. Army in Germany with the 3rd 84th Pershing missile group. Af-

ter the military, he managed a co-op for Midland Cooperatives, Inc., in Greenbay, Wis., as a contract manager. Upon returning to Minnesota, they bought a farm implement dealership in Thief River Falls and owned it until 2008. Currently, he still does some farming on a farm by Stephen, Minn. Mostly, he is a designated hitter for wherever the family needs him.

tion, Jobs, Inc., in Thief River Falls, the Chamber board of Thief River Falls and belongs to other organizations. "In this day and age, electricity is the life blood of any given community. It must always be reliable, reliable, reliable. As board members, that's the mission," stated Anderson.

Aaron Chervestad, Oklee, was re-elected as the District 2 director. This will be his second three-year term.

Aaron has been a lifelong resident of Deer Park township, rural Oklee, and currently resides on a farm with his wife, Jill, and their children, Owen and Alexa. Jill is employed as a paralegal at Ihle, Sparby & Haase, P.A., in Thief River Falls. Owen and Alexa attend Red Lake County Central Elementary School in Plummer.

Aaron has been actively involved in production agriculture his entire life. The Chervestads currently produce corn, wheat, beans, hay and raise beef cattle.

The Chervestads are active members of Oak Park Lutheran Church, rural Oklee. Aaron has held many board positions at Oak Park Lutheran and is currently the chairman of the congregation.

"I've always wanted to give back to my community and district," stated Chervestad. "Serving as a board member of RLEC will allow me to do that. I also want to make sure clean, reliable electricity will be available for many generations to come."



Stacey Blawat



Cecil Anderson



Aaron Chervestad

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OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

President Randy Versdahl
Vice President Stacy Blawat
Secretary-Treasurer Mark Hanson
Directors Cecil Anderson,
Aaron Chervestad, Bonnie Christians,
Colette Kujava, Steve Linder, Peter Mosbeck

Roger Johanneck *General Manager*
Shirley Bregier *Manager of Finance
& Administration*
Steve Conely *Manager of Electric
System Operations*
Kelli Brateng *Manager of Member Services*

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**CALL BEFORE YOU DIG
1-800-252-1166 or 811****MINNESOTA STATE
ELECTRICAL INSPECTORS**

Northwest corner of Polk and western Marshall Counties:
Wayne Bergstrom – 701-520-9771

Pennington and eastern Marshall Counties:

Bryan Holmes – 218-686-1413

Red Lake and most of Polk Counties:

George Stage – 701-306-3511

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



Arbor Day is April 27 – I know it doesn't look a lot like spring yet, but... it is officially here and hopefully the weather will soon synchronize to the calendar. Even though we all have mostly agreed that winter has run its course long enough, our championing at the bit to get outside and get on with another planting, growing, golfing or grilling season won't change Mother Nature. My impatience for spring has been fueled in part by the timely seed catalogs and Arbor Day Foundation requests that have arrived in the mail at home. The fact that I have placed my annual order from the Arbor Foundation for another 10 trees doesn't help my spring fever, either. I usually start my seedlings out in my garden, let them grow for a couple years and then transplant them to other parts of our yard where I think they will grow to look like the beautiful pictures shown in the Arbor Day Foundation catalog.

I know the Arbor Day Foundation not only wants us to plant more trees; they want us to plant them in the right place – and so does your power company. It's no secret that trees in the wrong place affect not only the quality, reliability and safety of the service we provide, the cost of keeping trees cleared from the power line shows up on the bill you pay us each month. First and foremost, however, is safety – let's not be the person who plants the seedling tree today that, when mature, will grow into the power line, creating blinks, risking outages, causing undo brushing (4515009.04 Anthony S. Hendricks) expense and worst of all, making an unnecessary hazard. Check out the Arbor Day planting guide we've included in this issue on page 3 for guidance on planting your tree in the right place. Many thanks.

Annual Meeting – If you were one of the 260 or so who attended the Cooperative's annual meeting on March 28 in Thief River Falls, I hope you found it a good experience and time well spent. I sincerely appreciate you folks who took the time to attend and for the show of support and interest in your Cooperative. Thank you!

Our 80th annual meeting was the 13th

consecutive year it has been held at the Imperial Room in the Ralph Engelstad Arena and for good reason. Missy Sletten and the REA staff have been very accommodating to Red Lake Electric, not to mention it is a great facility to hold a gathering like ours. I want to thank them for always making us feel welcome.

I also want to pass on my thanks to Black River Lutheran Church of Red Lake Falls for accepting our invitation to feed our meeting goers. It was a very delicious meal and if you missed it, you missed out. There are not (7803004.01 David A. Faldet) many church groups within our service territory boundaries that are able to take on the task of feeding our large group, so I really do appreciate the efforts of the Black River parishioners for their time, talent and the effort it took to make us a meal.

My thanks as well to all of these folks: Cathy Erickson and Mary Jo Sturman for their musical entertainment; 13-year-old Grace Harmoning who sang the national anthem; director Aaron Chervestad for giving the invocation; Minnkota CEO Mac Maclennan for his informative update on current energy issues and challenges; RLEC member Diane Kolstoe for making the Operation Round Up presentation on behalf of the RLE trust board; TRF fire department chief Marty Semanko for his informative message about how his department will use the Operation Round Up funds they were awarded; and to the RLEC directors and employees for their role in the meeting.

Our meeting would not be same if our invitations to the folks just mentioned are not accepted and I sincerely appreciate them doing so.

One more thing – we appreciate the thoughtful notes and cards of thanks you send us regarding the meeting and other Cooperative business. When you tell us what you like or would like to see changed for future meetings, it is helpful in our planning process.

Robbie Finstad Retirement – Robbie Finstad chose to not seek re-election to

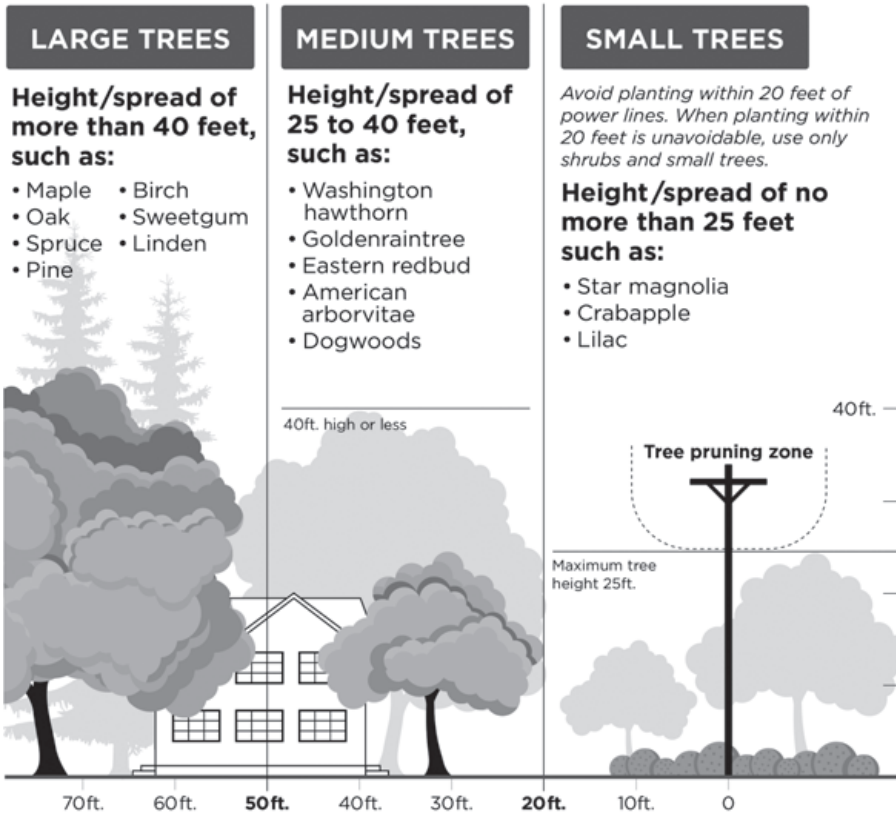
continued on page 3

Plant the right tree in the right place

Trees beautify our neighborhoods and when planted in the right spot, can even help lower energy bills. But the wrong tree in the wrong place can be a hazard ... especially to power lines.



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



Be safe! Always call 811 before you dig to locate any buried utility lines.

Source: The Arbor Day Foundation and the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

Creamy Lemon Cheesecake Crumb Bars

Crumb Topping:

- 2 1/3 cups flour (all-purpose or whole wheat pastry flour)
- 2 1/3 cups old-fashioned oats
- 1 teaspoon sea salt
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 1 cup cold cubed butter

Lemon Cheesecake Filling:

- 8 ounces cream cheese, room temperature
- 3 whole egg yolks
- 1 teaspoon lemon zest
- 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
- 28 ounces sweetened condensed milk
- 1 cup lemon juice, fresh squeezed

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Butter a 9x13 pan. Line with parchment paper and butter parchment paper for easy removal.

Crumb Topping:

In a mixer add flour, oats, sea salt, baking powder, brown sugar and granulated sugar. Mix until well combined. Add butter and mix until crumbly on medium-low speed.

Press half of the crumb mixture into the bottom of prepared pan. Set the other half aside.

Lemon Cheesecake Filling:

In a mixer fitted with a whisk attachment, beat cream cheese until light and fluffy over medium-high speed. Add egg yolks one at a time, beating well between each addition. Scrape sides of bowl as needed. Add vanilla and lemon zest, mix until combined.

While mixing on medium speed, drizzle in sweetened condensed milk and beat for 3 minutes on medium-high speed.

Turn mixer to low and add lemon juice. Mix until well combined scraping sides of bowl as needed.

Pour creamy lemon cheesecake filling into crust and top with remaining crumb mixture.

Bake for 30 minutes. Cool bars to room temperature (3726004.03 Todd D. Jesme) and refrigerate until cold.

Manager's Comments *continued from page 2*

the board of directors, ending 19 years of service as director from District 8. Robbie was not the first Finstad to serve on Red Lake Electric's Board of Directors. Members of District 8 in Rocksbury township elected Robbie at a special election in May of 1999 to fill the unexpired term of his late father, Kermit Finstad, who had been serving as District 8 director since 1985. Even earlier in the Cooperative's history, we know that Robbie's great uncle, H.I. Finstad, served as director from District 8 from 1946-1954.

I sincerely appreciate the work that Robbie has done serving on the board. He did an exemplary job serving the membership – not only in District 8, but for all of the members. The fact that Robbie was elected seven times to serve from his district speaks highly of the District 8 members' regard for and trust in Robbie Finstad. We will not only miss his presence, leadership and voice in the board

room, but his friendship as well. Our best to you, Robbie, and thanks again for your service to RLEC.

Finstad serves 19 years as director

Robert Finstad of Thief River Falls was recognized at Red Lake Electric Cooperative's annual meeting for having served 19 years as board director. The 19 years spanned from May of 1999 to March of 2018. Finstad represented District 8 of the Cooperative's service territory, which includes Rocksbury Township. He was presented a plaque in appreciation of his years of service by the Cooperative.



This New Road We're Traveling

The 80th annual meeting of Red Lake Electric Cooperative (RLEC) was held March 28 in the Imperial Room of the Ralph Engelstad Arena in Thief River Falls. The meeting was attended by approximately 260 Cooperative members and guests. The meeting was opened with the national anthem sung by Grace Harmoning, daughter of RLEC members Kurt and Carmen Harmoning of Red Lake Falls.

President Randy Versdahl called the meeting to order at 10:30 am. In his President's report, Versdahl welcomed the membership and then reviewed the three major service interruptions experienced by the Cooperative the past year: a March winter storm packing high winds, a substation equipment failure in May; and a summer storm in June affected a cumulative total of 2,854 RLEC customers. Versdahl noted that average outage time of 2.9 hours was a slight increase from our five-year average – 2.7 hours. Versdahl noted that the Cooperative fared well financially and was able to return \$572,000 in capital credits in 2017, an all-time high. Versdahl noted that the Cooperative posted another equity retirement in March of \$490,000.

Versdahl then shared main points of the general manager search conducted by the board this past fall and winter, and said Stephanie Johnson was hired from a field of 24 applicants to replace outgoing GM Roger Johanneck, effective May 16. Versdahl then introduced Johnson, the current office manager of neighboring Roseau Electric Cooperative, who was in

attendance.

Roger Johanneck then was introduced and gave the GM report. Johanneck said it has been a busy year at the Cooperative. The staff has been busy evaluating new technologies and services to replace ageing equipment and discontinued services. New meter technology, RLEC headquarters facility upgrades, new after-hours dispatch service, new computer software service provider, new RUS loan approved to fund work plan projects through 2022 and new standby generator program offering were the main projects worked on to go along with the normal electric distribution construction and maintenance projects. Johanneck spent some time explaining further what some of this work consisted of and when it will be implemented at the Cooperative. Johanneck then recognized recently retired lead lineworker Steven Kruse and thanked Steve for his exemplary service to the membership.

Johanneck, who is retiring the end of May, expressed his gratefulness to the members, directors and employees for their support and friendship during his tenure at Red Lake Electric Cooperative.

Bregier next gave the 2017 financial report and said energy sales were down slightly from the previous year, largely as a result of a warmer winter to start and end the year. The Cooperative sold 122.4 million kWh, bringing revenues to \$14.5 million. Bregier said the Cooperative's margin was \$566,561; 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.

Robert "Mac" McLennan, president & CEO for Minnkota Power Cooperative in Grand Forks, N.D., was the guest speaker. McLennan's presentation touched on a number of topics of interest to Red Lake Electric's wholesale power provider. McLennan said that Red Lake Electric's annual report already noted some of the issues and topics and McLennan expanded on these; namely, the mix of generation resources in Minnkota's portfolio, the challenges regulatory, environmental and service reliability requirements place on Minnkota's resources; the challenge to keep energy reliable and affordable; Project Tundra emerging technology that captures CO₂, and the successful year the Milton R. Young Station had in its 47th year of operation – reaching milestones in the areas of safety, reliability and environmental performance.

Stacy Blawat, Aaron Chervestad and Cecil Anderson were (6018003.01 Gerald M. Nelson) elected at the annual meeting. They will each serve three-year terms.

Each year employees are recognized when surpassing five year increments of accident-free work. A safety award was presented to Christie Klipping for five years.

Red Lake Electric, headquartered in Red Lake Falls, Minn., is a distribution electric cooperative that serves rural members of Marshall, Pennington, Red Lake, Polk, Clearwater and Beltrami counties.



Red Lake Electric Cooperative's annual meeting attendees totaled approximately 260. The cooperative's 80th annual meeting was held March 28 in the Imperial Room of the Ralph Engelstad Arena in Thief River Falls.

RLEC 80th Annual Meeting



Grace Harmoning of Red Lake Falls sings the national anthem at Red Lake Electric's annual meeting. Grace is the daughter of Kurt and Carmen Harmoning and the granddaughter of Susan and the late Cal Harmoning.



(Above) Jacob Glass, 8-year-old son of James and Lorretta Glass of Crookston, is shown electrical safety tips from engineering technician Chris Knott. This was Jacob's eighth Red Lake Electric annual meeting. He has attended every annual meeting since he was a newborn.



(Below) Diane Kolstoe, vice president of the Red Lake Electric Trust board, presents a \$1,000 grant check to Marty Semanko of the Thief River Falls Fire Department.

(Right) Red Lake Electric Cooperative linemen offered a shuttle service by golf cart before and after the annual meeting. Pictured is journeyman lineman Sam Pahlen with retired Red Lake Electric lineman LeRoy Marcotte.



Cathy Erickson, right, and daughter Mary Jo Sturman provide musical entertainment for the attendees of the annual meeting.



Wayne D. Johnson was the winner of the table top electric grill for guessing how many board of directors have served on Red Lake Electric's board. The answer was 60 and he guessed 59.



David Strong of Thief River Falls was the winner of a Skil sander.



Karen Peterson of Trail won a wood sign, Gather.

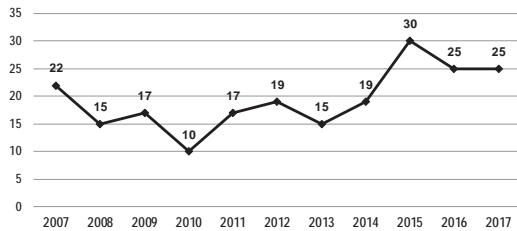


(Above) Sharon Riendeau of Brooks was the lucky winner of a crock pot and Glenyce Eskeli of Plummer won a \$75 energy credit.

QUICK TAKES

A look at some statistics
from your Red Lake Electric Cooperative

Vehicle & Equipment Contacts



In hopes that something can be learned from knowing the mistakes of others, examples of how these accidents occurred in Red Lake Electric's service area:

- Combine auger hitting power line
- Backhoe digging into buried cable
- Vehicle backing into pole
- Tractor hitting and breaking pole
- Tree falling onto power line while cutting
- Cultivator snagging a guy wire
- Crop sprayer hitting power line
- Wind blowing ladder into secondaries

Many of you will soon be busy getting ready for planting crops. Because spring and fall are the times when we see most line and equipment contacts, our plea is to think safety as you go about your work.

FIND YOUR BALANCE WITH BUDGET BILLING



BALANCE YOUR BILLS WITH BUDGET BILLING

Predictable payments make budgeting easy! Avoid seasonal fluctuations in your electric bill by signing up for Budget Billing, the payment plan that helps you balance your monthly payments.

To enroll in the Budget Billing program, visit us online at www.redlakeelectric.com or contact Red Lake Electric billing department at 218-253-2168.

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 parentheses 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.

Power Plant Tour

Wednesday-Thursday
June 20-21, 2018



Red Lake Electric Cooperative and Clearwater-Polk Electric Cooperative plan to co-sponsor a tour of the Milton R. Young power plant June 20-21.

The first day of the trip will include a stop at Minnkota Power Cooperative's headquarters in Grand Forks. An afternoon stop will be taken at Garrison Dam and a relaxing evening will be spent at the Comfort Inn & Suites in Mandan, N.D., which will include a banquet sponsored by Minnkota Power Cooperative.



BNI Coal mine

The second day of the tour includes visiting the Milton R. Young generation station near Center, N.D. It will also include a drive through the open pit lignite mines (weather permitting) to see the mining operation first hand. You are guaranteed to have a better understanding (6913001.07 Jerome Novak) of the process involved with generating the electricity that serves you.

The cost to participate in the tour is \$80 per person double occupancy, \$100 single occupancy. This includes transportation, meals and lodging. The tour is open to all Red Lake Electric Cooperative members and/or spouses.

The tour group will depart from Red Lake Electric Cooperative's headquarters in Red Lake Falls at 7 a.m. Wednesday, June 20. Approximate time of return is 7 p.m. Thursday, June 21.

Registrations and payment are due by June 8. If you have not taken this tour, sign up today for a learning experience.

Power Plant Tour Registration June 20 and 21, 2018

Sign up deadline is June 8, 2018

NAME OF PARTICIPANTS _____

ADDRESS(ES) _____

Phone Number _____ Number of Participants _____

Account No. _____ Amount Enclosed _____

\$80 Per Participant Double Occupancy – \$100 Per Participant Single Occupancy

Return to RLEC, P.O. Box 430, Red Lake Falls, MN 56750, along with your check. RLEC will contact you later with details. Your check or deposit will be returned if the tour should be canceled for some reason. If it becomes necessary for you to cancel out on the trip, it is required that you notify RLEC at least 48 hours before departure to be eligible for a refund. Registration for the trip is on a first-come, first-serve basis with a limited number of openings. If you have previously taken the trip, you will be put on a space availability standby.



Cards of Thanks

Red Lake Electric reserves the right to edit thank you notes when being published.

Thank you for the 16-piece tool set that I won at the District 2 meeting in Holt. Also thanks for the good lunch.
De Etta Hanson, Newfolden

Thank you for the extension cord and kitchen knife set we won at the District 8 meeting. Also thanks for the pie and coffee.
Leonard & Marge Geske, Thief River Falls

Thank you for the LED light bulbs I won at the District 2 meeting in Holt. The meeting was informative and thanks to the church ladies for the pie and ice cream.
Lloyd Wagner, Middle River

I want to thank you for the nice door prize I won at the District 8 meeting at the St. John's school in Thief River Falls. I won a nice RLEC cap and two LED light bulbs. The cap will come in handy and one light bulb has already been put to use.
Sherry Sorenson, Thief River Falls

I attended the 80th annual meeting on Wednesday, March 28 in Thief River Falls. I was fortunate to win a Skil 18V cordless drill for which I want to thank you so very much. It has a lot of nice features and I will enjoy using it time and again.
Al Paggen, Thief River Falls

Thank you for hosting such a wonderful annual meeting. The program was really good and the information was great! Also, thank you for the really nice Skil saw that I won, and the small lantern.
Clarence Gagner, Brooks

As one of the lucky winners of the door prizes given at the annual meeting, I thank you for the PRO LED work light with stand. It was an enjoyable time and food was great.
Barb Bjerken, Thief River Falls

Thank you so much for the Amazon Echo Dot I won. Wayne and I enjoyed the meeting and dinner. Thank you for the great service you provide us.
Susie Koland, Thief River Falls

I want to thank you for the bowl I won at the 80th annual meeting, I was thrilled. Thank you also for the good meal and the fellowship time.
Kathy Stich, Red Lake Falls

Thank you to the members and RLEC Trust Board:

We are so appreciative of this grant. Our youth program is now in their fourth season and is gaining momentum, thanks in part to your generosity. We are preparing for summer 2018 and these funds will go a long way in helping kids in our area.
Jane Anderson, Executive Director of TRF Area Community Theater

We would like to express our sincere gratitude for your recent generous contribution to our organization in support of the annual youth waterfowl hunt we conducted. Without the goodwill of our many sponsors and the help from all the volunteers and land-owners, we would not be able to do events of the magnitude we have done and are planning to do.
Jason Cervantes, Middle River Veterans Outdoors B.O.D. Chairman

Thank you for your generous grant from the Operation Round Up funds. We will be using the money for our project of emergency preparedness bags for our senior citizens.
Middle River Seniors

Thank you for your recent donation to the Red Lake Falls Volunteer Fire Department. The funds that were donated will go toward the purchase of firefighting equipment. The Operation Round Up grant funding is a great program that benefits many organizations
Karl Kleven, RLF Fire Dept. Chief

On behalf of the staff and clients of Inter County Nursing Service, I would like to thank you for the Operation (5204011.01 Sevens Clans Casino) Round Up grant we received. This is a great help to the clients we serve in receiving home care services.
Anita B. Cardinal, Director

Stay connected with your cooperative

Name _____

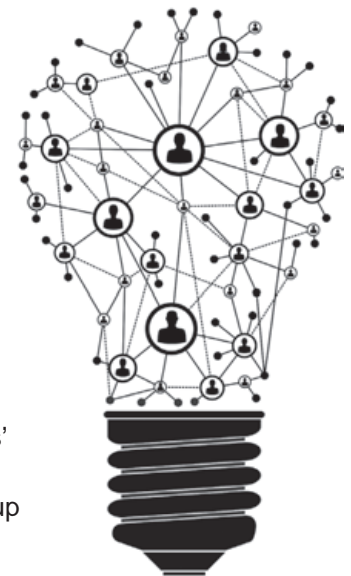
Address _____

City _____

State / Zip _____

Primary Phone # _____

Email _____



This information is maintained for a few reasons. The most common are:

- 1) **Planned outages.** We try to inform members beforehand.
- 2) **Off-peak equipment.** Most off-peak equipment is located inside the members' homes. Red Lake Electric needs to be able to contact you ahead of time to set up an appointment to meet with a Red Lake Electric employee at your residence.

Call 48 hours before digging

Whether you plan to dig posts for a deck or plant a tree or trench in electric lines for an outbuilding, it is important to understand and utilize Gopher State One Call (GSOC). That call needs to be made at least 48 hours (excluding weekends and holidays) before you plan to dig. If a homeowner hires a contractor to do the work, by law the contractor must obtain the ticket that allows digging to proceed.

When you contact GSOC, you may call 811 or 1-800-252-1166. You may also visit www.gopherstateonecall.org to submit your ticket application online. Be prepared with the following information: name, home phone and work/cell phone numbers, when work will begin, how many days digging will take, type of work you will be doing, county and city/township where work (2829003.07 Logan T. Stiller) will be done, address and nearest cross streets or township range/section where work will be done, where you will be digging on the property (also mark the area with white paint) and whether any digging will be done in the road right of way.

Since most private facilities are not listed on GSOC, it is the homeowner's responsibility to hire someone to locate their private underground facilities.

What are private electric underground facilities?

Private underground facilities, or member-owned facilities, are those facilities that were installed behind or after the

meter. Whether you have overhead or underground distribution lines coming into your property, the underground wires installed from your electric meter to your house, shop, garage, etc., belong to the member/property owner.

Where are private facilities found?

Private facilities are found everywhere, including single-family homes, multifamily housing units, industrial areas, trailer parks, shopping centers and sometimes in the road right of way. Other private facilities can include natural gas farm taps, natural gas or propane gas underground piping to buildings, data communication lines, underground sprinkler systems, invisible fences and many others. If you have a question on whether a facility in your excavation area is considered private, please contact that local utility office.

Whose responsibility is it to locate private facilities?

When a property owner or tenant has any type of private underground facility, they are responsible to locate those facilities, or hire someone to locate them. If you need help finding electrical contractors in your area, please call 1-800-245-6068.

Never remove flags before work is completed as they are there to mark lines for the safety of all digging in the area.

If you come in contact with an underground utility, evacuate the area, notify your utility provider and do not attempt to fix the problem yourself.

**ALWAYS CALL
BEFORE YOU DIG**

