



# Lacreek Electric

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

## Cooperative Connections

JULY 2017 VOL. 18 NO. 3



Small Towns Give Unique Twists to

# Summer Celebrations

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 Blacksmith, Eldcan Est  
 Bland, Tommy E  
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 Bowman, Ruby Est  
 Bracha, Robert  
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 Gomez, Hector  
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 Kriz, Robert A  
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 Lynch, John  
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 Nelson, James P  
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Olander Construction  
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 Palmier, Arlene  
 Palmier, Audrey  
 Park, Frank D  
 Pekman, John  
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 Pine Ridge Ambulance  
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 Ridgely, Gail  
 Robinson, Ann  
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 Runs Above, Rudy Est  
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 Shangreaux, Pete  
 Shellenberger, Lee  
 Sherman, Joan  
 Short Bull, Randy  
 Shortall, Keith P  
 Shorthorn, Donna  
 Siers, William L  
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 Skroch, Melodie  
 Sleeping Bear, Violet Est  
 Slow Bear, Andrew Sr  
 Slow Bear-Mills, Ann  
 Slow Bear, Eleanor Est  
 Slow Bear, Elfreda Est

Slow Bear, Mercy  
 Smith, Steven P  
 Snyder, Ronald  
 Sokolow, Gary  
 Sommerville, Fredrica  
 Sorensen, Luann  
 Spain, Thomas L  
 Star, Elliot  
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 Stoner, Mary Est  
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 Thomas, Mark  
 Thompson, Fred  
 Thunder Bull, Alvina Est  
 Thunder Hawk, Della  
 Thunder Hawk, Homer Y  
 Thunder Hawk, Martin A  
 Tilsen, Mark  
 Timberman, Bob  
 Tobacco, Hazel A Est  
 Todd, Harry V  
 Treehaven School  
 Trujillo, Margaret  
 Tumblin, William W  
 Tuttle, Herb  
 Twin City Testing  
 Twiss, Brenda  
 Two Bulls, Lucille Est  
 Two Eagle, Dorothy Est  
 Tow Two, Elmer  
 Under Baggage, Charles  
 Villarreal, Frances  
 Villarreal, Frank Est  
 Villarreal, Lucette  
 Wagner, Antoinette K  
 Wainman, Vanice M  
 Walking Bull, Lorraine Est  
 Walsh, David  
 Ward, Darrell D  
 Waters, Mary Est  
 Wensel, Patricia  
 West, Wayne Est  
 Wheeler, Velma Est  
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 Whipple, Melvin Est  
 White, Evelyn  
 White, Lee  
 White Butterfly, Virgil  
 White Calf, Florita Est  
 White Eyes, Juanita Est  
 White Face, Helen  
 White Face, Lucille Est  
 White Plume, Roy  
 Wiedmann, Terry  
 Wilson, Fannie Est  
 Wilson, James J IV Est  
 Wittig, Sandra  
 WTCI Nebraska Network  
 Yanke, James  
 Yankton, Esther  
 Young, Belva Est  
 Young, Loretta  
 Zimmer, John  
 1072100707

## Notice Of Forfeiture Of Capital Credits

You are hereby notified that you have failed to claim capital credits to which you are entitled to received for the year of 2010. You are further notified that, pursuant to SDCL 47-16-54, said capital credits will be forfeited to the Cooperative unless claimed with proper evidence of ownership within six months of the first publication of this notice, or not later than September 30, 2017.





# Lacreek Electric Cooperative Connections

(USPS No. 018-912)

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Apprentice Linemen: Jordon Bakley  
Lonny Lesmeister -Tyler Brown  
Aarin Ainsworth - Garrett Metzinger  
Damon Wangerin  
Glenn Smith – Maintenance Man  
Earl Adair – Warehouse Man 1093400104

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Co-op **News**

# Lacreek Hires Summer Help

Lacreek has hired Alex Christensen and Adam Hahn for summer help. They  
will be assisting both the inside and outside with a variety of job duties. We  
want to welcome both Alex and Adam to the Lacreek Family.



Pictured left is Adam Hahn and pictured right is Alex Christensen

## Get \$50 to Help Control Power Costs

We will give you \$50 dollars if you'll just put your water heater under the co-op's load control program. The installation is free and those cost savings to you will  
go well beyond the \$50.00 you will receive. You'll be playing a vital part in holding  
the co-op's power costs down. By just letting your electric water heater work when  
the power is less expensive. 931000310

How is load control accomplished?

Many utilities accomplish load control via power line  
carrier or radio control systems that communicate with a  
device as a consumer's location to turn loads off and on.  
For example, a utility may elect to control a residential  
water heater with the intent of turning a select or "roll-  
ing group" of water heaters off during a period of peak  
demands and turning them back on after the peak has  
subsided. In the very vast majority of cases, a consumer  
will not notice that their water heater has been shut off  
for a brief period of time. Doing so helps to reduce the  
"demand charges" or peak costs that a utility pays to have  
your power available.

Please contact our office to enroll your water heater in  
Lacreek Electric's load control program at 605-685-6581.



# Electrical Safety Tips for the 4th of July

**It's finally summer** and in just a few days, the biggest holiday of the season arrives: the 4th of July! As you prepare for backyard BBQs and poolside fun, there are some important things to remember to make sure it's a safe holiday.



Whether you are hosting or heading over to a neighbor's or relative's house to celebrate, we have a few safety tips to share with you so that your friends and family enjoy your time together and avoid accidents:

## Summer Holiday Poolside Electrical Safety Tips:

Spending time in and around the pool is a big part of summer and celebration during the warmest months of the year. Regardless of whether you are hosting a get-together at your home or someone else's, make sure the chances for accidents are minimal by following these simple safety steps:

- Never run electrical cords over or alongside the pool. Water and electricity don't mix!
- If you are decorating the backyard, string party lights a minimum of three feet away from the pool or any water source.
- Store and activate fireworks as far away from the pool as possible.
- Never use a floatation device to support an electrical appliance (fan, etc.).
- Never cross the pool exit or towel storage area with electrical wires.
- Always use safety caps on electrical outlets near water.
- When possible, use GFCI outlets to protect yourself and your electrical appliances outdoors.

## Electrical Power Line Safety Tips:

Power lines run through neighborhoods and can even pass through overgrown trees. They're often the most dangerous when you don't even notice they're there because you either see them all of the time or they are covered by tree canopies. Stay mindful and remember these safety tips when you're spending time in the backyard or outdoor neighborhoods:

- Never let kids (or adults for that matter) climb trees that are near power lines.
- Make sure your trees are trimmed and out of the way of power lines running through your yard or near your home.
- Never attempt to touch a downed power line. If there is one in your yard, call your local electric cooperative immediately. There can still be current running through the line and an active line is highly dangerous.

Source: [www.allstarelectrical.com](http://www.allstarelectrical.com)

## Beat the Extreme Heat

During periods of extreme heat, hot weather mixed with outdoor activities can lead to dangerous situations. According to the CDC, people can suffer heat-related illness when their bodies are unable to properly cool themselves. During extreme heat, follow these guidelines to protect yourself and your loved ones.



**Stay Informed:** Check local news for extreme heat alerts.



**Stay Cool:** If you do not have access to an air-conditioned space, visit a shopping mall or public library for a few hours. Call your local health department to locate heat-relief shelters in your area.



**Stay Hydrated:** Drink (nonalcoholic) fluids regularly, regardless of your activity level. Wear lightweight, light-colored, loose-fitting clothing.



**Don't leave anyone (or pets) in a closed, parked vehicle.**



**Do check on elderly friends and neighbors.**



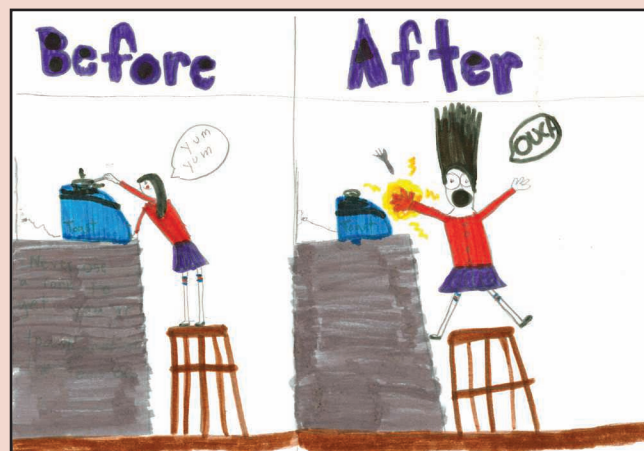
## Heat Stress: Who's at Risk?

Adults over the age of 65, children under the age of 4, individuals with chronic medical conditions such as heart disease and those without access to air conditioning.

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

## Kids' Corner Safety Poster

**"Never use a fork to get your toast out of the toaster."**



**Atoya Howey, 9 years old**

*Atoya is the daughter of Valerie Howey, Hill City, S.D. She is a member of Black Hills Electric Cooperative, Custer, S.D.*

Kids, send your drawing with an electrical safety tip to your local electric cooperative (address found on Page 3). If your poster is published, you'll receive a prize. All entries must include your name, age, mailing address and the names of your parents. Colored drawings are encouraged.



# Delectable Desserts



## Easy Cake Dessert

- |                         |                      |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 1 spice cake mix        | 6 T. sugar           |
| 1 can apple pie filling | 2 tsp. cinnamon      |
| 3 eggs                  | 1/2 cup chopped nuts |

Combine spice cake mix, apple pie filling and eggs. Pour half the batter into a 9x13-inch greased pan. Mix together sugar and cinnamon; sprinkle half over batter. Add remaining batter; top with sugar mixture and nuts. Bake at 350°F. for 30 to 35 minutes. Top with ice cream or whipped cream.

**Carolyn Saugstad, Alcester**

## Bourbon Peach Cobbler

- |  |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
| 2-1/4 cups plus 1 T. flour, divided    | 8 T. bourbon, divided |
| 2/3 cup plus 1/2 cup sugar, divided    | 1 T. baking powder    |
| 2 (16 oz.) bags frozen peaches, 6 cups | 12 T. butter          |
|  | 3/4 cup half-and-half |
|  | 1 large egg           |

Butter bottom and sides of 9x13-inch baking dish. Combine 1 T. flour, 2/3 cup sugar, 4 T. bourbon and peaches in a medium bowl. Spread mixture evenly in bottom of baking dish. Whisk together remaining flour, sugar and baking powder. Melt butter in a medium bowl. Mix in half-and-half, egg and remaining bourbon. Stir the butter mixture into the dry mixture (add cinnamon if desired) and whisk until smooth. Drop dollops of batter over peaches evenly. Bake at 375°F. for 50 minutes or until top is golden and toothpick inserted into center comes out clean. Serve with ice cream.

**Cortney Reedy, Tea**

## Raspberry Poke Cake

- |                                     |                                    |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1 white cake mix                    | 1 cup hot water                    |
| 1 (3 oz.) pkg. raspberry jello      | 1 (3 oz) carton raspberry yogurt   |
| 1 (8 oz.) container whipped topping | 2 (10 oz.) boxes fresh raspberries |

Prepare and bake cake according to package directions in a 9x13-inch pan. Remove from oven and poke holes in cake while warm with a wooden spoon handle or knife handle. Mix together jello and water, stirring until jello is dissolved. Pour over holes in cake. Cool. Mix whipped topping and yogurt together until blended; gently fold in raspberries. Spread evenly on cake. Refrigerate.

**Barbara Angerhofer, Hendricks, MN**

## S'mores Pie

### Graham Cracker Crust:

- 1-1/2 cups graham cracker crumbs  
7 T. butter, melted  
1/3 cup sugar

### Filling:

- 3/4 cup heavy cream

- 6 oz. semi-sweet chocolate, chopped  
2 tsp. McCormick® Ground Cinnamon  
1 T. plus 1 tsp. McCormick® Extra Rich Pure Vanilla Extract, divided  
1 (7 oz.) jar marshmallow creme  
4 oz. (1/2 package) cream cheese, softened  
1 (8 oz.) container whipped topping

For the crust, mix all ingredients in medium bowl. Press into bottom and up sides of 9-inch pie plate. Set aside. For the filling, bring cream just to boil in small saucepan. Pour over chocolate in medium heatproof bowl. Let stand 1 minute then stir until smooth. Stir in cinnamon and 1 tsp. of the vanilla. Pour into prepared crust. Refrigerate 30 minutes or until chocolate is firm. (Freeze 15 minutes for faster chilling.) Beat marshmallow creme, cream cheese and remaining 1 T. vanilla in large bowl with electric mixer on medium speed until well blended. Gently stir in whipped topping until well blended. Spread evenly over chocolate layer in crust. Refrigerate at least 2 hours or until ready to serve. Garnish with chocolate curls or toasted marshmallows, if desired. Yield: 8 servings

*Nutritional Information Per Serving: Calories 600, Total Fat 36g, Sodium 267mg, Cholesterol 75mg, Carbohydrates 65g, Dietary Fiber 2g, Protein 4g*

**Pictured, Cooperative Connections**

## Easy Rhubarb Dessert

- |   |                                |
|---|--------------------------------|
| 1 cake mix (strawberry, white, yellow or lemon) | 1 cup chopped walnuts, divided |
| 3 cups sliced rhubarb                           | 3/4 cup brown sugar            |

Prepare cake mix according to package directions. Fold in rhubarb and 1/2 cup chopped walnuts. Pour into a greased 9x13-inch glass pan. Sprinkle top with brown sugar and remaining walnuts. Bake at 325°F. for 30 to 40 minutes. Serve with lemon sauce, whipped topping or just plain.

**Elaine Rowett, Sturgis**

## French Coconut Pie

- |                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| 4 T. butter            | 1 cup milk                              |
| 2 eggs                 | 1 cup or 3-1/2 oz. can shredded coconut |
| 1 T. all-purpose flour |   |
| 3/4 cup sugar          | 1 9-inch unbaked pie shell              |

In a large bowl, combine melted butter, eggs, flour, sugar, milk and coconut. Pour into pie shell. Bake at 400°F. until firm, about 45 to 60 minutes.

**Lynn Holzerland, Waubay**

**Please send your favorite salad, garden produce or pasta recipes to your local electric cooperative (address found on Page 3). Each recipe printed will be entered into a drawing for a prize in December 2017. All entries must include your name, mailing address, telephone number and cooperative name.**

# Charging Ahead

## Why More Americans Are Driving Electric Vehicles



**Patrick Keegan**  
Collaborative Efficiency

**Dear Pat:** My son and his wife just bought an electric vehicle. I was surprised to learn that the cost of their new electric vehicle was comparable to a gasoline-powered car. I need to replace my car in a few years and would like to learn more about electric vehicles. What are the pros and cons of going electric? – **Jeff**

**Dear Jeff:** Your son is not alone. The electric vehicle (EV) market is growing rapidly. There are good reasons why EVs are becoming more popular, but there are also a few potential drawbacks.

Let's start with the basics: EVs are vehicles that plug into the electric grid for some or all of their power. There are two primary types of EVs. All-electric EVs – such as the Nissan LEAF – are powered entirely with electricity. Plug-in hybrid EVs – such as the Chevrolet Volt – are dual-fuel cars, meaning both the electric motor and the internal combustion engine can propel the car.

A key benefit of EVs is that a driver's trips to the gas station are either vastly reduced or eliminated altogether. However, in lieu of gas refueling, EVs need to be recharged. At the lowest charging level, called Level 1, an hour of charging typically provides two to five miles of range per hour. Because the average light-duty car is parked for 12 hours per day at a residence, many EV drivers can use Level 1 charging for most of their charging needs. The fastest charging level, called DC Fast-Charging, can provide 60 to 80 miles of range in a 20-minute period.

Charging with electricity is nearly always cheaper than fueling with gasoline. An electric gallon – or “eGallon” – represents the cost of driving an EV the same distance a gasoline-powered vehicle could travel on one gallon of gasoline. On average, an eGallon is about one-third the cost of a gallon of gasoline. Another benefit of charging with electricity is that, throughout many parts of the country, it is a cleaner fuel source than gasoline. Although the exact environmental benefits of driving an EV will vary, one recent study found that two-thirds of

Americans live in regions where driving an EV is cleaner than driving a 50 MPG gas-powered car.

Another key reason for the rise in EV ownership is because of recent reductions in the upfront cost of the cars. The batteries used in EVs are the most expensive component of the cars, but thanks to improving production methods, the cost of the batteries has dropped by more than 35 percent since 2010, and costs are expected to keep dropping. Because of these cost reductions and technology improvements, EVs are hitting some major performance and affordability milestones. For example, in late 2016, General Motors released the Chevrolet Bolt – an all-electric EV with an estimated range of 238 miles per charge, costing about \$30,000 after rebates.

Although even longer range and more affordable EVs are expected to hit the market soon, one of the key drawbacks of EVs is that most models currently have a range of less than 100 miles per charge. More and more public charging stations are available across the United States, but “range anxiety” is still a concern for many potential buyers. Fortunately, if you are considering an EV, keep in mind that the average American's daily driving patterns are well-suited for EV use. More than half of all U.S. vehicle trips are between one and 10 miles and even in rural areas, the average daily drive distances for typical errands and commutes are well within the range of most currently available EVs.

EVs are also well-suited for many commercial applications. For example, EVs are now being used as part of ridesharing services like Uber, where average trip distances are between just five and seven miles. Companies like Frito-Lay and FedEx are also introducing EVs into their delivery fleets and a growing number of municipalities are buying electric buses. One of the primary draws of EVs for commercial use is their minimal maintenance requirements.

If you are interested in learning more about EVs, contact a local car dealer to schedule a test drive. Many curious drivers are impressed by the performance of EVs, especially the instant torque provided by the electric motor.

Your electric co-op can also be a great resource. More and more co-ops own EVs as part of their fleets and may offer “ride and drive” events. Dozens of co-ops also offer reduced electricity rates for “off peak” EV charging, which can help you save even more money on fueling.

This column was co-written by Pat Keegan and Christine Grant of Collaborative Efficiency. For more information on how to consider energy efficiency when purchasing electric vehicles, please visit: [www.collaborativeefficiency.com/energytips](http://www.collaborativeefficiency.com/energytips).

## NRECA Statement on Trump's Paris Decision

**ARLINGTON, Va.** — On June 1, the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association issued the following statement regarding President Trump's decision to leave the Paris accord.

"Electric co-ops are committed to a healthy environment and vibrant rural communities. We can, and should, have both," said NRECA CEO Jim Matheson. "Co-ops are taking aggressive steps to reduce our carbon footprint while protecting the diverse energy portfolio that's needed to preserve the reliability and affordability of the co-op power supply. That's why co-ops have invested billions of dollars in renewable technology and energy efficiency advances and millions of dollars in XPRIZE carbon capture research.

"American consumers, including co-op members, are asking for more from their electricity providers. As member-owned, not-for-profit organizations, electric cooperatives are driven by a desire to meet and exceed their members' expectations. That's why co-ops are implementing energy efficiency programs to lower costs, deploying smart meters to give members better insight into their usage and bringing more renewable technology online every month.

"Co-ops remain focused on putting the needs of their members first. We look forward to continuing to work with the president and other stakeholders on solutions that protect our environment and the diversity of our electric generating portfolio while also bolstering the rural American economy."

Since 2010, co-op renewable energy capacity has more than doubled from 4 gigawatts to 8.5 gigawatts — a 112 percent increase. Co-ops purchase another 10 gigawatts of hydropower from the federal power marketing administrations.

The National Rural Electric Cooperative Association is the national service organization that represents the nation's more than 900 private, not-for-profit, consumer-owned electric cooperatives, which provide service to 42 million people in 47 states.

# Basin Electric Responds to U.S. Withdrawal from Paris Agreement

**U.S. President Donald Trump** announced June 1 the U.S. will withdraw from the Paris Agreement, a global initiative that aims to strengthen the world's response to the threat of climate change.

The central goal of the agreement is to "keep a global temperature rise this century well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels."

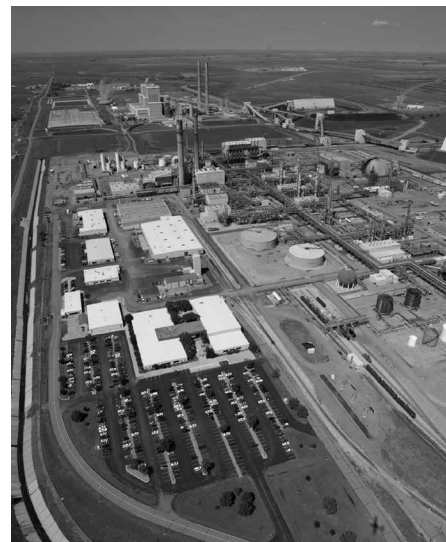
Basin Electric CEO and General Manager Paul Sukut said in a statement that he doesn't foresee Trump's announcement immediately altering the cooperative's path toward continued operation in a carbon-constrained future.

"We are actively seeking solutions that reduce our carbon footprint while keeping coal as part of our energy portfolio, preserving both the reliability and cost competitiveness of our members' energy supply," Sukut said. "Our focus has always been on fair, reasonable regulations that support a national energy policy where we have certainty for developing and operating our members' resources, without risk of stranding them.

"In addition to our wind and natural gas investments, we are actively working to advance clean coal technology. Examples include hosting the Integrated Test Center at our Dry Fork Station, Gillette, Wyo., and our investments in research, most recently in the development of a high-efficiency power generation technology that generates high quality carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) as a product stream, along with participation in DOE's (U.S. Department of Energy) CarbonSAFE program to further the science of CO<sub>2</sub> sequestration in saline aquifers" Sukut continued.

"Over the last decade, Basin Electric and our membership have taken a leadership role in the development of renewable generation. We've added more than 1,500 megawatts of wind generation to our system (which represents approximately 23 percent of our generation capacity), invested more than \$1 billion in natural gas generation resources and have invested more than \$1.6 billion in emissions control technology to make our already clean generation fleet even cleaner.

"Even more, our Dakota Gasification Company's Great Plains Synfuels Plant is home to North America's largest carbon capture and sequestration project — capturing 34 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub>. Our most recent project to add urea production to the Synfuels Plant continues that tradition by capturing CO<sub>2</sub> to make urea and a liquid CO<sub>2</sub> product. It's important to note that the CPP (Clean Power Plan), as proposed, did not allow Basin Electric credit for our current investments in natural gas generation or renewables, nor our carbon sequestration efforts through Dakota Gas," Sukut concluded.



**Dakota Gasification Company's Great Plains Synfuels Plant is home to North America's largest carbon capture and sequestration project.**



# Unique Celebrations

SUMMER BRINGS A VARIETY HOMETOWN CELEBRATIONS to many Main Streets in South Dakota and western Minnesota.

**Brenda Kleinjan**

Some celebrate heritage and culture such as wacipis in many western South Dakota communities to those celebrating ethnic groups such as Czech Days (Tabor, S.D.), Danish Days (Viborg, S.D.) and Æbleskiver Days (Tyler, Minn.)

And then there's the celebrations that just seem truly unique.

In South Central South Dakota, the community of Burke opens its streets for a cattle drive of long-horned bovines as it kicks off its annual Burke Stampede and Rodeo July 14-16. In addition to rodeo performances, the celebration features a trail

ride and cowboy cookout. Find out more at <http://www.burkestampederodeo.com/home.html>

The town of Custer in western South Dakota taps into its historical roots when it hosts Gold Discovery Days each July.

The 2017 Gold Discovery Days, set for July 21 to 23 includes a Gold Nugget hunt for kids, the area's annual bed races and also daily balloon rallies.

For more information, go to [www.visitcuster.com/chamber/events/custergolddiscoverydays/](http://www.visitcuster.com/chamber/events/custergolddiscoverydays/)

Head north and east of Custer a few hours on July 23 and you'll encounter the 41st running of the Reva Turtle Races.

The races featuring the hard shell contestants bring dozens of people to the unincorporated town







**Left:** Potato Wrestling is part of Clark's Potato Days celebration. **Below:** Custer's Gold Discovery Days feature bed races. **Bottom:** A variety of old tractors can be seen in use during the Twin Rivers Old Iron Festival in Delmont in September. **Opposite page:** Lawn mower races are featured in several communities. **Cover:** Longhorn cattle make their way into town for the Burke Stampede.

in eastern Harding County.

Be sure to check the event's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/Reva-Turtle-Races-124003867629956/> for more information.

In western Minnesota, the town of Tyler, Minn., proudly boosts its Danish heritage with Æbleskiver Days.

The town celebrates the little sphere-shaped Danish pancakes with three shifts of volunteers cooking up the treats throughout the event. The celebration will also include a kickball tournament on July 22 and also a Cruise-In Car Show during Æbleskiver Days from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at the fairgrounds in Tyler.

A new addition to the town celebration this year is Rainbow Country Trolley. The 30-foot long trolley will be pulled by two Belgian draft horses. The owner/driver Gerry Buse will entertain with singing and music during the ride. The trolley will be available to ride from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The pick up and drop off sites are: the fairgrounds, the band shell, and Danebod. It will take roughly 30 minutes to go from the Fairgrounds to the Danebod, so please plan accordingly.

To learn more about the event, go to <https://www.facebook.com/aebleskiverdays>

The revving of lawn mower engines can be heard at celebrations across south central South Dakota as drivers in the Pukwana Mower Races make appearances at events in South Dakota from April through October.

Find out more about the schedule at <http://www.pukwanamowerracing.com/race-schedule.html>

According to the Clark Potato Days site, "the potato is king in Clark, S.D., where local farmers grow bushels of the tasty tuber. That's why, each year, the town throws a party in honor of its favorite over-used, under-appreciated starch."

The site goes on to promote the eastern South Dakota's annual event by pointing out, "Mr. Potato Head is proud of Clark's celebration, and will be making an appearance at this year's festivities. The locals vie for top honors in a Best Decorated Potato

Contest. Past winners included an astronaut, farmer, race cars, and tooth. The Potato Dish Cooking Contests always bring out the best cooks in the county. And, the highlight of the celebration involves grown adults wrestling each other in mashed potatoes!

"Besides all the potato stuff, the event features those small-town festival activities that keep families and regular folks coming back year after year," the site continues.

Among the events during the celebration is Mashed Potato Wrestling, which starts this year at 11:30 a.m. on Aug. 17.

On Sept. 9-10, the community of Delmont, S.D., will host its Kuchen Festival and the Twin Rivers Old Iron Festival. The German dessert festival, which was first held in 1997, will be held Sept. 9 while the farm equipment festival is both days.

Find out more [http://www.delmontsd.org/kuchen\\_festival\\_and\\_twin\\_rivers.htm](http://www.delmontsd.org/kuchen_festival_and_twin_rivers.htm)

Be sure to check out other happenings in communities near you on the back page of this magazine.



# April Board Meeting Minutes

The regular meeting of the board of directors was held April 18th, 2017. 623101004

Also present were General Manager Derek Sorley, Operations Manager Mike Pisha, Finance & Administration Manager Anna Haynes, Staff Assistant Sherry Bakley and Services & Procurement Manager Director Josh Fanning.

Routine monthly business consisted of approving the minutes of the previous board meeting and approving new members. Anna presented the financial reports for March

General Manager Sorley gave an update on the Wanblee Project and on Legal Matters.

Anna reported that the office girls cooked breakfast for the line crew for Lineman Appreciation Day and thanks to Troy and Clarence for making it in; there have been several trainings this month; Office Manager & Accounts Meeting (one of the subjects covered was depreciation and it is recommended a depreciation review once a year and a more in-depth one via Eide Bailly once every 5-years; Anna contacted Eide Bailly and could have a basic review done for \$1000.00 which would provide enough information for them to give us a good recommendation on how to move forward)-ABS NISC training that myself, Sherry, Tracie and Kasi attended and Stacey attended an Editors Workshop; that we continue to update the answering message with a few complaints in the last couple of weeks along with a few compliments and we passed our credit card security scan last week.

Mike reported on work in progress; on construction projects; on training the line crew attended and on truck #10.

Josh reported on the annual meeting and brought up possibly changes in future annual meetings; that the Basin Tour winners were Josie May and Erica Bakley; on Irrigation Load Control; on the FEMA meeting he attended; about transformer sales and that he attended IVUE training on Purchase Order & Work Orders.

The safety report was presented by Mike and Anna.

Donovan reported on the SDREA Board Meeting he attended. Tom reported on the Rushmore Electric Board Meeting he attended. Clarence reported on the Rushmore Electric Annual Meeting he attended.

Derek reported on the RST Utility Commission, Rushmore Managers Advisory Committee and Rushmore Electric Power Cooperative Annual Meetings he attended; on the Basin 10-Year Forecast; that he received the initial IBEW local Union 1250 Contract; that Wayne Sterkel rescinded his consulting services due to insurance reasons effective April 3rd, 2017; on the CEO/General Manager Orientation he attended in VA and about the West River Electric Golf Tournament. A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve entry fees for one golf team for the West River Electric Golf Tournament.

General Manager Sorley presented the final draft for the Annual Meeting.

Discussed Policy's 19, 19A, 19B and Temporary Service Policy with a meeting set for May 4th at 3:00PM to go over possible changes.

Next Board Meeting – May 16th, 2017 at 4:00 P.M.

## Happy 4th Of July

Lacreek Electric would like to wish our member's a Happy 4th of July. As a reminder, please practice safety when shooting off fireworks! 1162300804



Lacreek's office will be closed on Tuesday July 4th.

## Find Your Account Number and Receive A Bill Credit

Find your Lacreek account number in the magazine and you will get a \$10.00 credit on your next months bill. Please call our office when you see your account number in the magazine to receive your \$10.00 credit.



## Tip of the Month

Let the sun work for you! Consider solar lights for outdoor lighting. Solar cells convert sunlight into electricity that can be stored in a battery and tapped at night to make light. Check manufacturers' instructions to make sure your solar lights are situated to receive sufficient sunlight to recharge during the day.





## >> What's on that pole?

This illustration shows basic equipment found on electric power distribution poles. Not all poles have all this equipment on them. They vary according to location and the service they provide.

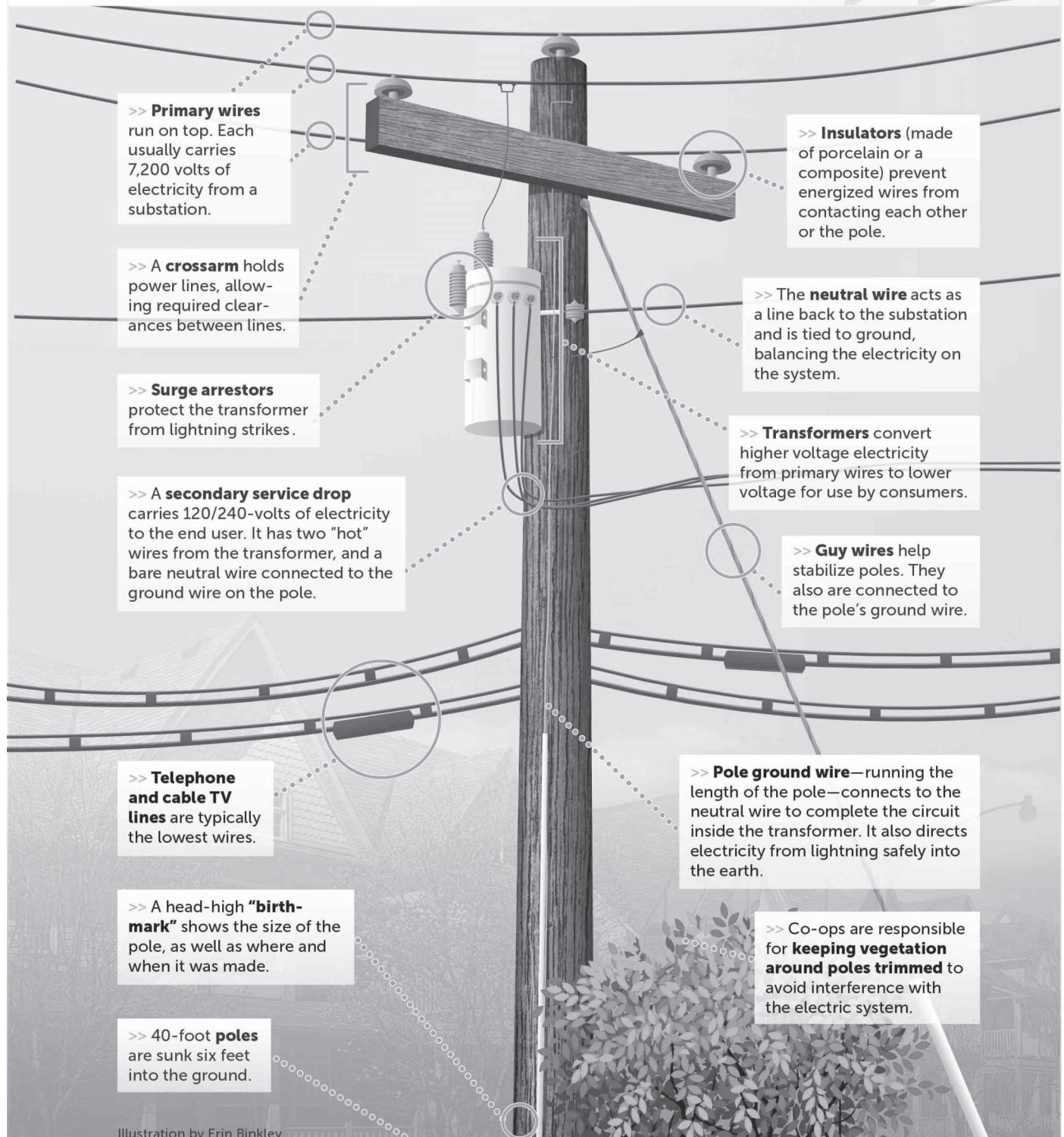


Illustration by Erin Binkley



# Engineering Early Electrification

*Retired REA Engineer Honored By South Dakota Governor*

**T**HERE AREN'T MANY PEOPLE LEFT WHO REMEMBER what life was like in rural South Dakota in the late 1940s when the countryside was first electrified by cooperatives. However, Jim Duvall, who turned 100 years old on May 29, 2017, is the exception.

"I was one of the pioneers out there," Duvall recalled during a phone conversation in May from his Virginia home just days before his 100th birthday.

Duvall grew up in McIntosh, S.D., but moved away for college and later a job with the Signal Corps in Chicago, Ill., inspecting radar equipment for bombers during World War II.

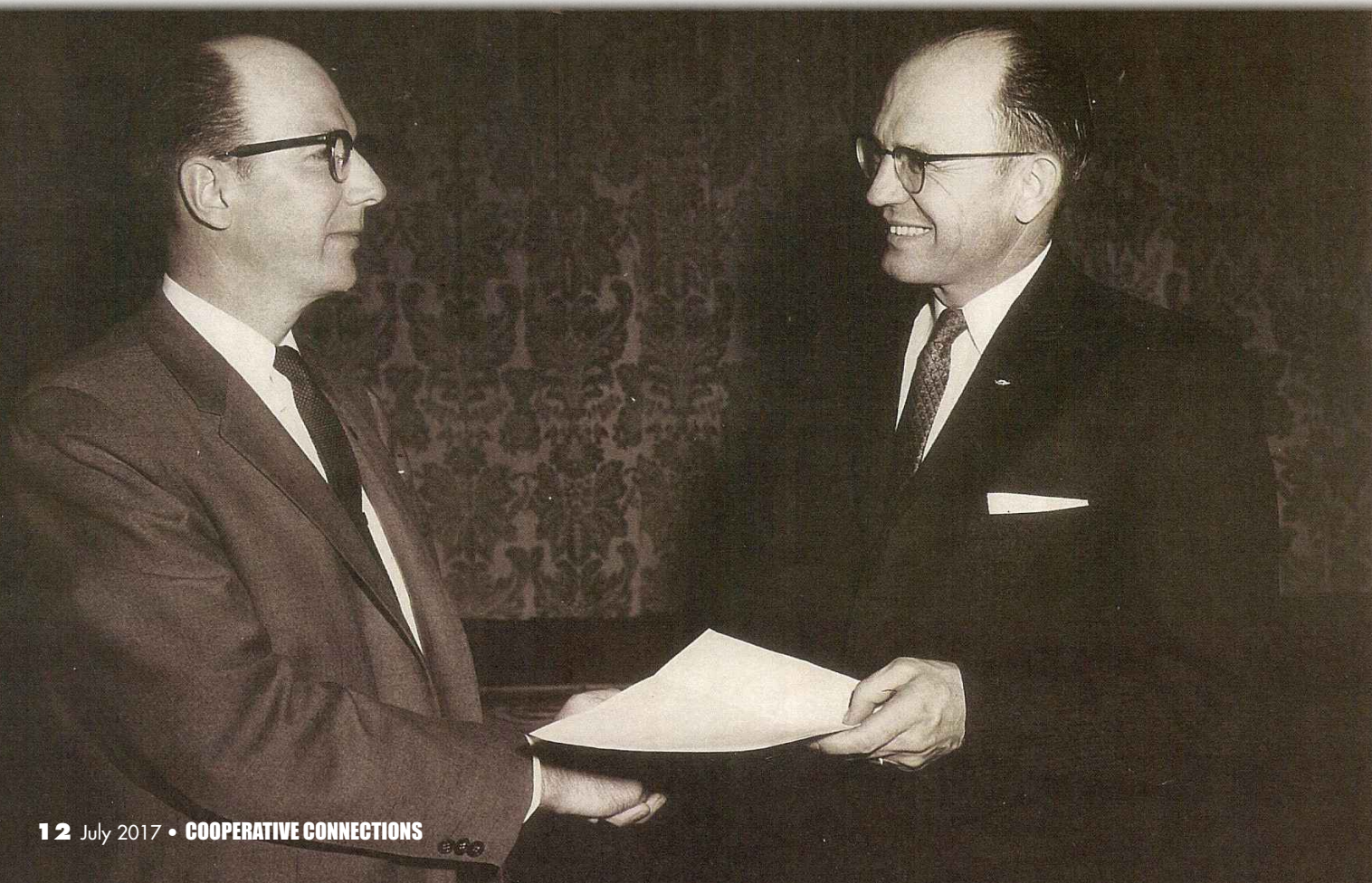
After the war was over, Duvall started working as an engineer for the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Rural Electrification Administration. The

centenarian knows the exact day he started his job with REA; he reported to the St. Louis, Mo., office on Nov. 19, 1945.

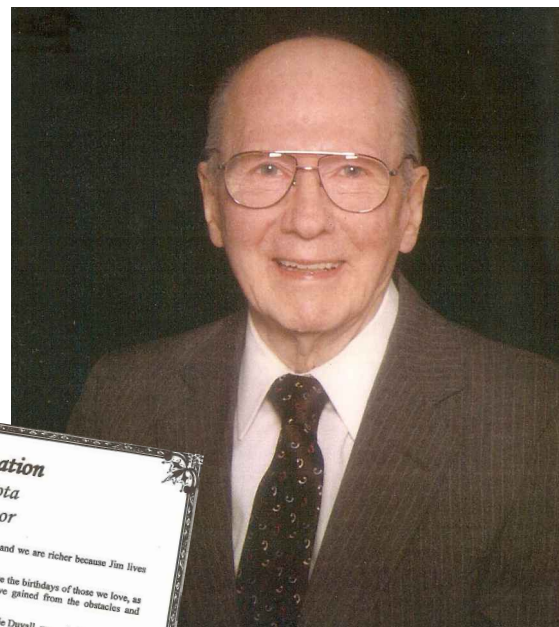
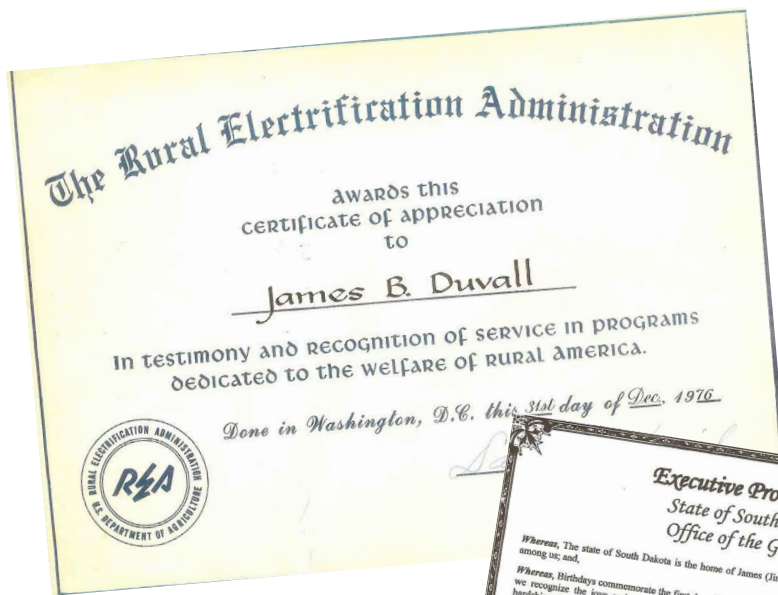
After spending a few months in St. Louis, Duvall was moved to Washington, D.C., and in 1947 he requested a transfer to South Dakota. He spent 13 years stationed in Aberdeen as a REA field engineer where he inspected new co-op lines that were being constructed and energized for the very first time following the war.

"The transformers and wire and everything became available and lines could be staked out and construction could start again (after the war)," Duvall said. "Everything is flat (on the Great Plains) and there aren't a lot of obstructions and a contractor could get a

**Ben Dunsmoor**







lot done in a day, so it kept me busy.”

During his time in Aberdeen, Duvall oversaw electric and telephone line construction loans and building projects in North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, Illinois, Iowa and Wisconsin. He very likely inspected Northern Electric Cooperative lines as the first poles, wires and meters were energized starting in 1945 with construction continuing through the late 1940s and into the 1950s.

“A big part of my job was to make the final inspection and to make any modifications before the lines were energized and before the contractors got paid,” Duvall said.

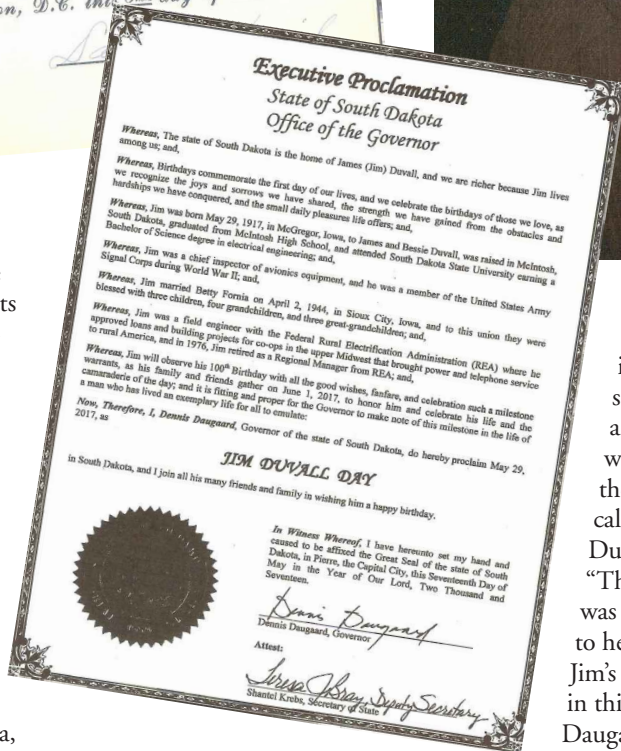
Following his work in South Dakota, Duvall was transferred back to Washington, D.C. where he became the REA Chief Engineer for the southwest and western regions. In 1959, he was given a Meritorious Service Award for his 13 years of service in Aberdeen. Duvall was also honored in 1958 and 1959 as ‘Engineer of the Year’ for the REA.

This spring, South Dakota Gov. Dennis Daugaard also honored Duvall for his role in electrifying rural America when he issued an Executive Proclamation proclaiming that May 29, 2017, Duvall’s 100th birthday, be known as Jim Duvall Day in the state of South Dakota.

“It was really a terrific surprise and I felt so honored,” Duvall said.

The proclamation was issued after Jim Duvall’s son, Don Duvall, called the offices of governors in the states his dad worked in during his career. Don Duvall asked the offices for a signed picture for his dad’s birthday. Governor Daugaard’s office instead reached out to Don Duvall and said they would like to issue a proclamation.

**Opposite Page:** In this January 1959 photo, Dave Hamil, administrator of the Rural Electrification Administration, presents Jim Duvall a Meritorious Service Award for his 13 years as an REA field engineer. Duvall would later become the REA’s chief engineer. COURTESY PHOTO



“I said, ‘wow, this is a super surprise – I’m amazed you would pick up the phone and call me,’” Don Duvall said.

“The Governor was very pleased to help celebrate Jim’s milestone in this way,” Gov. Daugaard’s Chief of Staff Tony

VenHuizen said. “As the proclamation said, South Dakota is a strong state today because of the contributions of people like Jim Duvall. It’s hard to understate the transformative impact that rural electrification had on South Dakota.”

Don Duvall said his dad enjoyed working for REA and took pride in overseeing early line construction for electric and telephone co-ops in rural South Dakota. Duvall said his dad would even point out his work during family vacations.

“Whenever we were in a rural area, he would pull over and say that’s a REA line over there,” Don Duvall said.

Jim Duvall retired from the U.S. Department of Agriculture in 1976 as a REA regional manager stationed in Washington, D.C., but he says his greatest memories and accomplishments came during his time as a field engineer in South Dakota.

“My best days were actually in the field. I felt like I was doing something. I had my hands on,” Duvall said.

And, as Duvall celebrates his 100th birthday at his home in Virginia, that is what he will remember about a career that helped electrify and connect the countryside.

“It was interesting work and I enjoyed it.”

**Duvall says his greatest memories and accomplishments came during his time as a field engineer in South Dakota.**

# Balancing the Grid with Demand Response

**K**EEPING THE LIGHTS ON ISN'T A CAKEWALK. Electricity, unlike other commodities, must be consumed on the spot – technology that will store it for future use, especially on any large scale, is still largely under development. And if the electricity being produced can't keep up with what's needed in real-time, brownouts or blackouts will follow.

By Scott Gates

Many electric utilities work to avoid such problems through energy efficiency initiatives most often called load management or demand response. These

programs allow the utility to reduce power consumption—and keep the lid on wholesale generation costs – by controlling when electricity gets used.

On the residential side, utilities can interrupt electric service to water heaters, air conditioners, electric thermal storage units, and other specialized appliances in the homes of volunteer consumers. On the commercial and industrial side, service gets cut off to irrigation pumps, manufacturing equipment, and even entire businesses, some of whom

## WATER HEATER DEMAND RESPONSE

### HOW IT WORKS...

1



Controllable, high-efficiency electric water heaters are installed in homes.

2

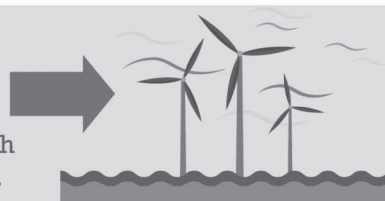
During times of high demand, co-op cuts power to water heaters.

3

When demand drops, water heaters are turned back on to run during the night and provide warm water for the next day.

### FUN FACTS

Water-heater-control programs let co-ops take full advantage of wind generation, which is most active at night.



About 250 co-ops in 35 states currently have load management programs that include water-heater control.

### BENEFITS:

- Co-ops avoid peak pricing.
- Members use power when it's cheaper.
- Helps avert need for new power plants.



have installed backup generation.

In most cases, control takes place for a brief period (typically just a few hours) during times of peak demand – the electric utility industry’s equivalent of rush-hour traffic. It’s then that demand is at its highest, and power costs skyrocket because natural gas and other pricey standby generators are used.

“Nationally, electric co-ops are leaders in demand response,” says Ed Torrero, executive director of the Cooperative Research Network, a division of Arlington, Va.-based National Rural Electric Cooperative Association. “Roughly 37 percent of all co-op systems can direct-control appliances, chiefly electric water heaters and air conditioners. Overall, co-ops can control 6 percent of their peak load; some can control more than 25 percent.”

An industrial consumer of Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative, Inc., based in central Texas, recently signed up to be a part of a demand response program called “Load Acting as Resource.” In short, if more power is needed system-wide, the participating consumer will go without for the greater good.

The participant – an oil field owner – foots a massive 25 MW power bill to keep pumps productive. When the amount of available electricity dips into the danger zone, Bluebonnet gets a call from its wholesale power supplier to free up megawatts, and word trickles down from there.

“We give the participating consumer a courtesy call, and just say we’re shutting down,” explains Eric Kocian, Bluebonnet manager of engineering. “From the time of the order, there’s 10 minutes before we actually trip the breaker that serves them.”

As technology moves forward, more finesse can be employed in trimming consumer loads. Advanced, or “smart,” meters may make it possible to offer lower electric rates when power is abundant, such as later in the evening. With incentives like this, consumers could shift electricity use in simple ways to cut their monthly bill, such as washing clothes before bed instead of after work.

In conjunction with smart meters, “smart” appliances could detect when the electric grid becomes stressed and reduce energy use – a clothes dryer could shut off its heater while continuing to tumble, for example.

Cooperatives in eastern South Dakota and western Minnesota have had a load management program for decades which has saved members more than \$188 million dollars.

The website, [www.easyenergywins.com](http://www.easyenergywins.com) explains the benefit of the program:

“Think supply and demand: When demand for a product is high, prices rise. The same is true for electricity. On hot sum-

mer afternoons or cold winter nights, your home is using a lot of electricity. When everyone’s air conditioners or furnaces are on at the same time, demand for electricity is high. Your electric cooperative purchases wholesale power based on how high that demand is,” the site reads.

Load management helps keep rates affordable by shifting select electricity usage from peak times to lower-demand times.

Load management is a means of controlling the amount of electricity being used during times of peak demand. Peak demand is the greatest amount of electricity used at one time by an electric system, normally when a large number of customers are using appliances at the same time. These peaks determine how much we must pay for power. When periods of peak demand occur, load management reduces the demand and lowers the cost to all members.

Load management program has saved co-op members more

than \$188 million in avoided wholesale power costs since it launched in 1985. More than 75,500 electric loads in homes, farms and businesses of member consumers throughout eastern South Dakota and western Minnesota currently participate in the program. These loads include electric water heaters, air conditioners, irrigation systems and other big energy users.

Special switches are attached to the loads when a member enters into the program. Our dispatch center sends a radio signal to the switching units and shuts off power to the connected units for short periods during our peak demand. Typically, this happens on hot summer and cold winter days. The co-op cycles off appliances in such a way that reduces the chance of inconveniencing the participating members.

Contact your local Touchstone Energy® Cooperative to find out if they

have a load control or demand response program and which electric equipment or appliances (“loads”) you can enroll . At home, that could mean water heaters and air conditioners. On the farm or at work, that could mean larger systems like irrigation units, bin fans and other industrial processes.

After you enroll, the electricity to the equipment will be remotely managed by your co-op to make efficient use of electricity during peak times to keep costs low.

Load control typically happens on hot summer days and cold winter days. Loads are cycled off in such a way that reduces inconveniences.

More than 70,000 member homes, farms and businesses are already enrolled in the program and are saving money and energy right now. The more members who sign up, the more everyone saves.

## THREE REASONS

To Look At Your Cooperative’s  
Load Control/Demand Response Program

### Reason 1

Lower wholesale power costs for your electric cooperative — savings passed on to you.

### Reason 2

Reduced energy use is not only budget friendly  
— it’s environmentally friendly, too.

### Reason 3

Special rebates on select new equipment  
— including electric water heaters.

## Regional Dateline

### June 23

148th Annual Midsummer Festival, Dalesburg Lutheran Church, Vermillion, SD  
605-253-2575

### June 23-24

Senior Games, Mitchell, SD  
Contact Howard Bich at  
605-275-6891

### June 23-25

Badlands Astronomy Festival  
Interior, SD, 605-433-5243

### June 23-25

Black Hills Bluegrass Festival  
Sturgis, SD, 605-348-1198

### June 24

Growing Berries and Growing Hops, Wagner and Armour SD, 605-254-5640  
[www.sdspecialtyproducers.org](http://www.sdspecialtyproducers.org)

### June 24-25

Kite & Bike Festival  
Brookings, SD

### June 30

Naja Shrine Circus  
Bowman, ND, 605-342-3402

### June 30-July 2

Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate  
150th Annual Wacipi  
Agency Village, SD  
605-698-8284

### June 30-July 4

98th Annual Black Hills Round-up, Belle Fourche, SD  
605-723-2010

### July 1

Naja Shrine Circus  
Deadwood, SD, 605-342-3402



PHOTO COURTESY OF CHAD COPPES, S.D. TOURISM

To have your event listed on this page, send complete information, including date, event, place and contact to your local electric cooperative. Include your name, address and daytime telephone number. Information must be submitted at least eight weeks prior to your event. Please call ahead to confirm date, time and location of event.

### July 1-2

Prairie Village Railroad Days  
Madison, SD, 605-256-3644

### July 2

Naja Shrine Circus  
Phillip, SD, 605-342-3402

### July 3

Naja Shrine Circus  
Lemmon, SD, 605-342-3402

### July 6-9

22nd Annual Hot Harley  
Nights, Sioux Falls, SD  
605-334-2721

### July 7-8

Senior Games, Madison, SD  
Bernie Schuurmans at  
605-270-3327

### July 7-9, 14-16, 21-23

Laura Ingalls Wilder Pageant,  
"Little Town on the Prairie"  
De Smet, SD, 605-203-0216

### July 8-9

Summer Arts Festival  
Brookings, SD, 605-692-2787

### July 9

Cruiser Car Show & Street Fair  
Rapid City, SD, 605-716-7979

### July 11-16

3-Wheeler Rally  
Deadwood, SD, 605-717-7174

### July 13-15

Black Hills Corvette Classic  
Spearfish, SD

### July 14-15

Senior Games, Aberdeen, SD  
605-216-2822

### July 15

Growing in Greenhouses and  
Selling in Boxes, Midland, SD  
605-254-5640

### July 19-22

Senior Games, Rapid City, SD  
Contact Kristi Lintz at  
605-394-4168

### July 21-22

Senior Games, Brookings, SD  
Contact Traci Saugstad at  
605-692-4492

## Events of Special Note

### July 3-5

Frontier Days Rodeo  
Interior, SD, 605-455-1000

### July 14-16

Burke Stampede Rodeo  
Burke, SD, 605-830-5540

### July 22

Holy Smoke Car Show  
O'Gorman High School  
Sioux Falls, SD  
[www.holysmokecarshow.org](http://www.holysmokecarshow.org)

### August 10

Meat Goats and Growing  
Tomatoes in a Greenhouse  
Custer, SD, 605-254-5640  
[www.sdspecialtyproducers.org](http://www.sdspecialtyproducers.org)

### August 11-12

Senior Games, Huron, SD  
Contact LaRon Clock at  
605-353-8533 or Howard Bich  
at 605-275-6891

### August 11-13

27th Annual Old Fashioned  
Threshing Show, Bahnson  
Farm, Humboldt, SD  
605-526-3459 or  
605-251-9974

### August 13

Czech Heritage Festival  
Bechyn, MN, 320-522-1218  
[www.BechynCzechFest.org](http://www.BechynCzechFest.org)