



Volts and 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

VOL. 45 – NO. 03

RED LAKE FALLS (RED LAKE COUNTY), MINNESOTA 56750

JANUARY 2010

Member Meetings

Opportunity for information, discussion, fellowship

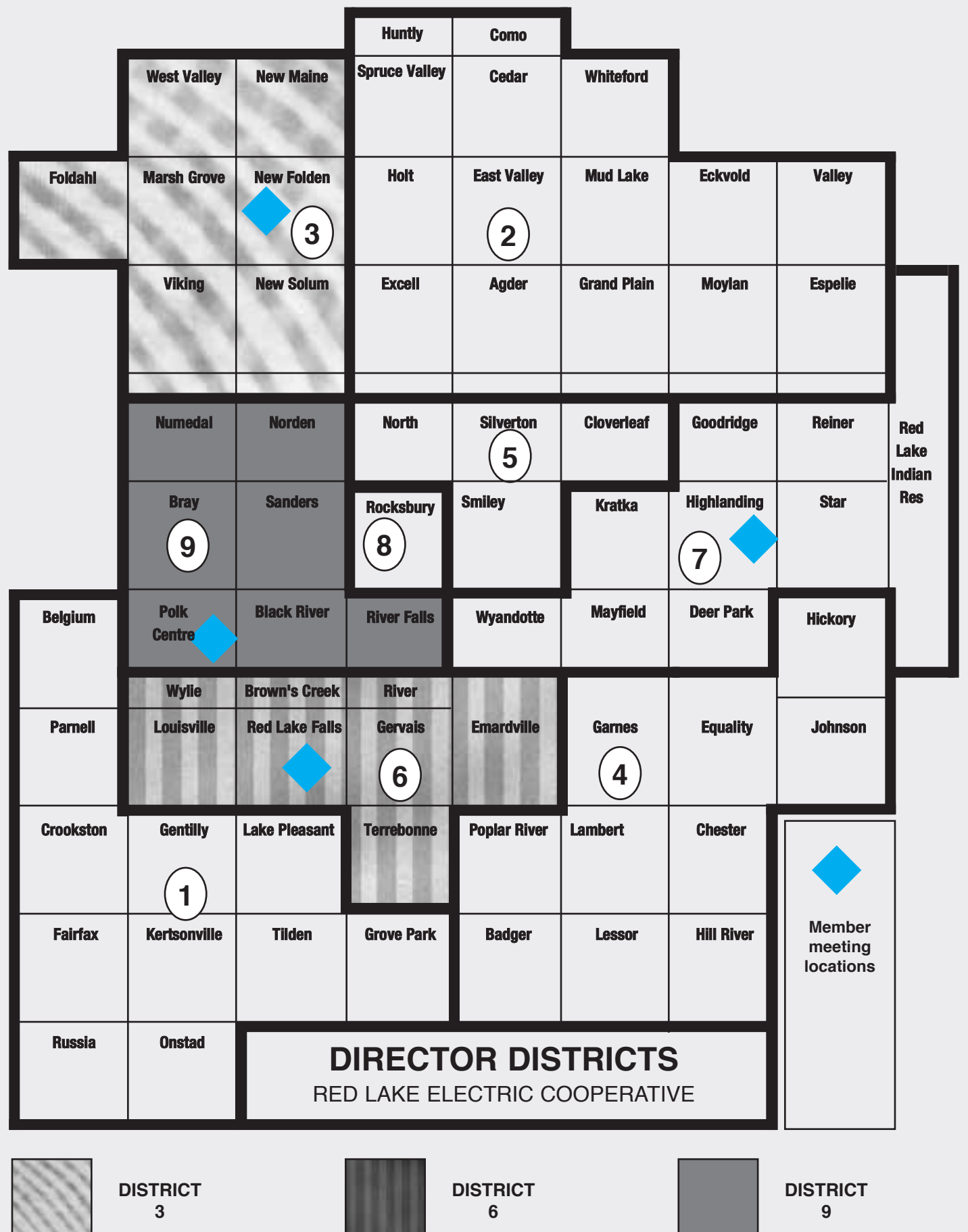
Meetings for the members of Red Lake Electric Cooperative will be held at four locations within the Cooperative's service territory. Meetings will be held within Districts 3, 6 and 9 and an informational meeting will be held in the Goodridge area.

The meetings are held to inform attendees on current issues and programs associated with the Cooperative. Official business will be conducted at the three district meetings, which will include the election of a director candidate.

Even though a meeting may not be scheduled within the district in which you reside, you are welcome to attend a meeting of your choice. Anyone requiring special access or assistance at any one of the meeting sites should call Red Lake Electric in advance so arrangements can be made. Door prizes will be awarded and lunch will be served at each meeting.

2010 Member Meeting Schedule

Day, Date, Time	Meeting	Location
Monday, Feb. 1, 7:00 p.m.	Informational	Ekelund Lutheran Church, Rural Goodridge
Tuesday, Feb. 2, 7:00 p.m.	District 9	Black River Lutheran Church, Rural Red Lake Falls
Monday, Feb. 8, 1:30 p.m.	District 3	Newfolden Community Center, Newfolden
Tuesday, Feb. 9, 7:00 p.m.	District 6	Red Lake Falls Community Hall, Red Lake Falls



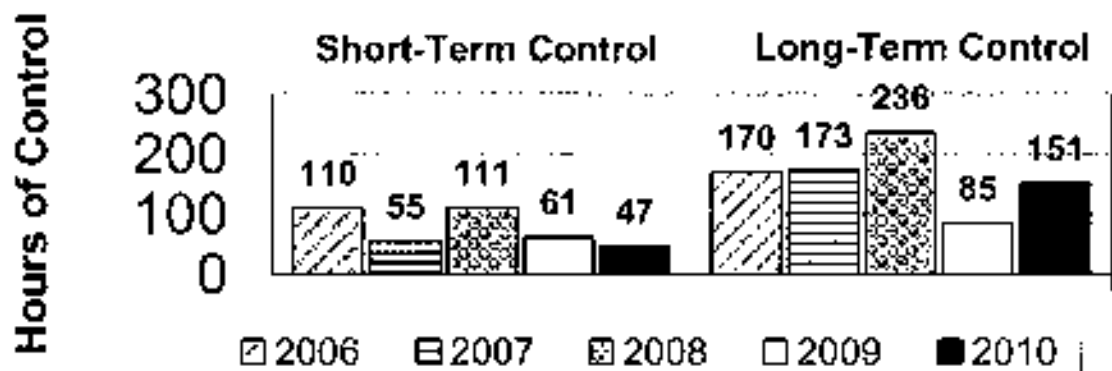
MEMBER MEETING DISTRICTS

QUICK TAKES

A look at some statistics from your Red Lake Electric Cooperative

The chart below shows the amount of control time for Red Lake Electric Cooperative's Off-Peak customers this heating season compared to the same period the past four years. Even with an increase in systemwide demand for energy, control times have been less this year and last because of renewable (Wind) generation added to Minnkota Power Cooperative's resources. In 2009, generation added at the Ashtabula, ND wind farm increased Minnkota Power Cooperative's Wind Energy resources to 358 Megawatts (MW). The Langdon and Ashtabula Wind Farms are the largest addition to Minnkota's energy sources since the Coyota coal-fired power plant came on line in 1981.

OFF-PEAK CONTROL HOURS Through January 15th



New directors needed in District 3 and 6

Joyce Johnson and Henry Wieland are not seeking re-election

Members in the Viking and Newfolden area will have a new director representing them on the Board of Directors at Red Lake Electric (6117007.01 Wilma Arlt) Cooperative. Joyce Johnson, the director from that area for the past six years, is completing the third year of her three-year term and is not seeking re-election in 2010.

Likewise, members in the Red Lake Falls and Plummer area will have a new director representing them at Red Lake Electric Cooperative. Henry Wieland, the director serving this area, has been representing District 6 since 1982. Wieland is completing the term he was re-elected to in 2007 and is not seeking re-election in 2010.

Johnson was first elected to the Board of Directors in March, 2004 and was re-elected to a second three-year term in 2007. Wieland was appointed to fill a vacancy on the board in 1982, elected to it in 1983 and was re-elected to eight consecutive 3-year terms by the District 6 members.

Members of District 3 (West Valley, New Maine, Foldahl, Marsh Grove, New Folden, Viking and New Solum Townships) will elect a director candidate at their district meeting to be held at the Newfolden Community Center Feb. 8.



Joyce Johnson



Henry Wieland

Members of District 6 (Wylie, Browns Creek, River, Louisville, Red Lake Falls, Gervais, Emardville and Terrebonne Townships) will elect a director candidate at their district meeting to be held at the Red Lake Falls Community Hall Feb. 9.

The candidate receiving the most votes at their respective district meeting will be placed on the ballot for election at the Cooperative's annual meeting March 31.

Members can also be placed on the annual meeting ballot by petition. At least 15 members of the respective district must sign a nomination petition and return it by

March 1 to be placed on the annual meeting ballot. Nomination (3834007.03 Melissa and Dustin Keller) petition forms are available by calling or visiting the RLEC office in Red Lake Falls.

Members considering running for the position of director should note the article located elsewhere in this issue that defines qualifications for being a director.

If you have additional questions on director responsibilities or meeting schedules, contact Johnson in District 3 at 218-523-4961; Henry Wieland in District 6 at 218-253-2313; or Roger Johanneck, general manager, at 1-800-245-6068.



Manager's Comments

by Roger Johanneck



2010 budget approved

Your Red Lake Electric Board of Directors met on Dec. 30 and approved the Cooperative's operating and capital expenditure budgets for 2010. Those two annual budgets provide a guide for us to carry out the business of the Cooperative for the coming year.

In it's simplest form, our operating budget consists of estimating what our expenses are going to be and making sure we'll have enough revenue to cover those expenses.

Our capital expenditures budget includes planned replacements of line equipment, vehicles, office equipment, as well as systematic improvements to and replacements of our electric distribution plant. Having dependable equipment and the right tools for the job is a necessary component of being a reliable energy service provider for our membership.

Trying to determine what is in store for (4401021.02 Dean Lawrenz) us in the coming year is never an easy task or an exact science. Preparing a budget requires trying to find answers to many questions. We know before the ink dries on the budget report that the numbers we put together are not perfect, but hopefully close enough so that we are prepared for the events encountered in 2010.

For me, preparing a budget is a process similar to packing for a week at deer camp. Do I have the right clothes and gear to hunt if the thermometer reaches 60 degrees? Or dips to 20 below? What if it rains or I have to walk through a wet area because the beavers have dammed up the ditch near my favorite ridge? Most times I error on the side of having gear that I may not need, just so that I am prepared for whatever mother nature sends our way.

Likewise, the process is similar when forming a budget for the coming year. We ask ourselves questions and determine what we need to do to keep the lights on.

Typically, distribution plant construction and replacements are part of a longer range work plan that the Cooperative prepares when applying for Rural Utility Service (RUS) funding. Information prepared in 20-, 10- and four-year work plans help us prepare for serving areas where load is growing.

The capital budget also considers electric plant aging studies and where we need to plan for the systematic replacement of equipment, poles and conductors before they become unreliable or undersized.

Current information, such as service interruptions due to a section of faulting underground cable, will influence how we carry out projects of a longer range work plan. Projects scheduled for

replacement at a later date are now moved to the forefront if equipment fails sooner than we had planned.

In our part of the country, weather plays a big role in determining how much energy our members will need to keep warm in winter and cool in summer. How about rain during harvest? Having a wet or late harvest has a big impact on crop drying; we need look no further than our most recent harvest to see the impact of what a wet/late fall with lots of crop to dry does to the demand for energy.

Besides weather, the price of competing fuels such as heating oil and propane also influence the amount of electric energy our customers use.

What about plug-in space heaters? How many customers will use these portable heaters as a magic formula to cut heating costs or in place of the non-electric heat source intended during peak control times? Lets hope we have learned our lesson on plug-in space heaters and our members will not use these electric space heaters in place of back up heating systems over peak periods.

Of all the expenses the cooperative budgets for, our wholesale cost of (5431004.02 Casey J. and Bob Klipping) power we purchase from Minnkota Power Cooperative is our largest expense. Wholesale rates are rising and are projected to increase in the near future, not only for Minnkota Power, but also for most electric utilities across our state and nation.

Minnkota will be raising it's wholesale cost of power in April of this year by 7.5 percent. This will add about a half million dollars to our cost of power in 2010 for the nine months it is in place.

An increase of that amount is simply too much for Red Lake Electric to absorb without passing that on to our membership. It is likely our rates will need to increase 6 percent in May to cover the increased cost of wholesale power.

In 2010, our cost to provide electric service to Red Lake's members is budgeted at \$10.7 million. Of that amount, \$7.8 million is our budgeted wholesale power cost and represents 72 percent of our expenses.

While the cost of complying with environmental regulations and meeting renewable energy mandates are driving up wholesale power costs across our state and nation, Red Lake Electric has been able to keep it's share of the cost of providing electric service to it's members stable.

Red Lake's cost of providing service in 2009, less our wholesale power cost, decreased by 1.25 per-

cent from the previous year. The budget for 2010 calls for an increase in Red Lake's costs of 1.7 percent over 2009 and less than a half percent increase over 2008. We're optimistic we will be able to improve on those numbers, but for now that is what we have prepared for in our 2010 budget.

Hopefully you can tell from what I have shared with you here, there is wide scope of numbers and activities included in our annual budget report.

The process for putting a budget together is (7417003.01 Kenton L. Freberg) based on a combination of historical trends, work plans we have in place and changes we know will be forthcoming in 2010.

It is our intention that this budget and our effort to carry this plan out will keep us on course to remain financially strong so that we can continue to be a source of reliable, competitively-priced energy for you in 2010 and beyond.

Membership Meetings

It is that time of year again, when the Cooperative holds it's District and informational meetings throughout our service area. I encourage you to check out the meeting schedule included in this month's issue of the *Volts and Jolts* and welcome members to join us for one of the meetings located in your area.

Our meeting format will be similar to previous years where we will provide information that we think you will find interesting and helpful, give you a chance to ask questions and visit with RLEC staff and neighbors over pie and coffee. Hope to see you there.

GOPHER STATE



ONE CALL

Call before digging!
It's the law!

1-800-252-1166

Annual Meeting March 31

Red Lake Electric Cooperative members are encouraged to mark their calendars for the Cooperative's annual meeting. The meeting will be called at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, March 31, at the Ralph Engelstad Arena in Thief River Falls.



Halogen floor lamps: a safety reminder

Here's a home safety reminder about halogen floor lamps that will help you reduce the risk of fires or burns. These fashionable lamps produce a clean, intense white light, but they also operate at much higher temperatures than a standard incandescent light bulb.

The Electrical Safety Foundation International suggests you keep these simple safety tips in mind:

- Never place a halogen floor lamp where it could come in contact with draperies, clothing or other combustible materials.
- Keep your halogen lamp and its cord away from traffic areas, where it could be easily tipped over.
- Turn the lamp off whenever you leave the room for an extended period of time.
- Carefully read all instructions and warnings that accompany the

lamp for these and other important safety tips.

• Never use torchiere lamps in children's bedrooms or playrooms. Children may play with lamps or place combustibles such as stuffed toys or clothing too close to the

bulb.

- Make sure all the light bulbs in your home are the appropriate size and type for the lamp or fixture.

Visit the ESFI Web site at www.electrical-safety.org for more information.

Mission Statement

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



Red Lake Electric Cooperative, Inc.

One of the Minnkota Power Systems



Red Lake Electric Cooperative, Inc.

One of the Minnkota Power Systems

Things you should know about your electric service

BILLINGS AND COLLECTION

You will receive your energy bill on or near the 20th of each month.

Payment of your monthly energy bill is due on the 20th of the month. You may pay your bill in person at RLEC during office hours, use the 24-hour drive-up drop box located next to the RLEC office, by Auto Pay, or by mail. Payment must be in the office, drop box, Auto Pay, or in the mail, as evidenced by the postmark, by the 5th day of the following month to avoid a late payment charge. A 1 1/2% monthly late payment charge will be computed on delinquent energy bills, the minimum late payment charge will be \$1.00.

If your payment is not received by the 15th of the month, a final notice of disconnection statement will be included on your following bill. The final notice statement will notify you when your electric service will be disconnected if the delinquent amount remains unpaid. If an employee is sent to disconnect your electric service, a \$50 collection fee will be charged to your account, even if you pay the collector.

To have a disconnected service reconnected, all amounts owing, a \$50 reconnection fee, and a security deposit must be paid. If the service must be reconnected after normal working hours, a \$100 reconnection fee must be paid.

BAD CHECKS

A \$15 charge will be levied each time a check is returned because of nonsufficient funds, account being closed or payment stopped.

OUTAGES

In case your electricity goes out, please do the following:

1. Check your fuses or breakers at the yard pole or meter pedestal.
2. Call your neighbor to see if they are out of electricity also.
3. Call the RLEC office (218-253-2168 or 1-800-245-6068) during working hours or 218-253-2200 after hours. We will accept collect calls for outages only.

METER TESTS

RLEC has a schedule in place to have its meters periodically tested for accuracy. Results from these tests show that meters generally slow down with age; however, if you think that your meter is recording too much usage, RLEC will test it for accuracy. You must pay a test fee in advance of the test. If the meter test shows that the meter was inaccurate, the test fee will be refunded to you.

STOPPED METERS

If you find your meter has stopped and you are using electricity, please contact the office immediately so we can replace it. Average consumption will be billed to the member for the time the meter was stopped so there is no advantage in not reporting a stopped meter.

METER READINGS

An automated meter reading system is utilized to obtain monthly meter readings. Although the system is normally reliable, there is always a chance that the correct reading has not been transmitted to the office for billing. Customers should periodically read their meter and compare it to the reading on the billing statement. If the actual reading is not close to the billing statement reading, please call the office.

GENERAL SERVICE RATES

Facilities charge variable \$17 to \$23 month
First 500 KWH9.0¢ Kwh
Over 500 KWH (April-Dec.)6.6¢ Kwh
Over 500 KWH (Jan.-Mar.)7.5¢ Kwh
Multiphase users add \$17/month cost of service charge.

Standby, \$9/month (meter disconnected but the power line retained; standby is not available on services larger than 15 KVA transformer capacity).

Security light, \$7/month, high pressure sodium, \$8/month, mercury vapor; water heater flat credit, \$5/month (on January-April billing); off-peak equipment charge, \$4/month per heat meter; off-peak electric heat rate, 4.0¢/kWh long-term control, 5.8¢/kWh short-term control.

WE PROUDLY PRESENT TO YOU

The Red Lake Electric Cooperative Customer Service Guarantee



It's short and simple! Red Lake Electric Cooperative employees will meet or exceed your expectations of friendly, courteous service and will meet any commitments they make to you. If your expectations of the service provided by our employees is not met, please contact me at the Red Lake Electric Cooperative office, 253-2168. You will receive \$5.00 for your inconvenience and our promise to serve you better in the future. Our employees' commitment to quality customer service makes this guarantee possible.



Red Lake Electric Cooperative, Inc.

One of the Minnkota Power Systems

ROGER JOHANNECK
General Manager

RED LAKE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, Inc.

VOLTS & JOLTS

(USPS 663-400)

Published monthly by the Red Lake Electric Cooperative, Inc., 412 International Drive SW, Red Lake Falls, Minnesota 56750-0430, in the interest of its members and others. Periodical Postage Paid at the U. S. Post Office in Red Lake Falls, Minnesota 56750. POSTMASTER, SEND ADDRESS CHANGES to Volts & Jolts, c/o Red Lake Electric Cooperative, Inc., P. O. Box 430, Red Lake Falls, Minnesota 56750-0430. E-mail: redlake@minnkota.com

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT Kelly Lundeen
VICE PRESIDENT Bonnie Christians
SECRETARY-TREASURER Henry Wieland
DIRECTORS Robert Olson,
Robert Finstad, Steven Linder, Joyce Johnson,
Mark Hanson, Peter Mosbeck

Subscription Rate \$2.50 per year

NOTICE

Hidden within the text of the articles on pages 1, 2, 3 and the back page of this issue of the *Volts & Jolts* are the names and account numbers of five RLEC members. They will appear within the articles in parenthesis as such (99-99-99-999-99 Roger P. 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.

Recipe corner

Angel Biscuits

1 pkg. active dry yeast
4 to 4-1/2 c. self-rising flour
1 tsp. sugar
2/3 c. shortening
1/2 c. warm water
1 c. milk or 1-1/4 c. buttermilk
Grease three 8-inch round cake pans. Dissolve yeast in warm water; set aside. Stir flour and sugar together. Cut in shortening until "pea" size. Stir in yeast, water and milk until dough begins to pull away from bowl. Turn out onto floured surface and knead gently ten to twelve times. Roll 1/2-inch thick, and cut with a 2-inch cutter. Place 8 to 10 biscuits in each prepared pan. Cover with wax paper. Put in a warm place to rise for 1 hour. Heat oven to 400 degrees. Bake 20 to 25 minutes or until golden brown. Yield: 2 to 2-1/2 dozen biscuits.

Johnson Gravy

1 can Spam
3 Tbsp. shortening
2 Tbsp. flour
2 c. milk
4 hard-boiled eggs, chopped
Salt and pepper to taste
Chop Spam into small cubes and brown in shortening. Add flour and blend well; add milk, stirring constantly. When thickened, add chopped eggs and salt and pepper to taste. Serve over biscuits. Yield: Serves 6.

Sausage Gravy

2 lbs. ground pork sausage, mild or spicy
4 Tbsp. flour
2 c. half-and-half
1/2 c. skim milk or water
In a large skillet, brown sausage over medium heat. Stir in flour until dissolved. Slowly add the half-and-half stirring constantly until thickened. Add skim milk or water and cook until desired thickness is achieved. Serve over biscuits sliced in half. Yield: Serves 6.

Party Meatballs

1 lb. ground beef
1 egg, slightly beaten
1/2 c. bread crumbs
1/4 c. milk
1 tsp. salt
1/4 tsp. pepper
1 small onion, minced
1 Tbsp. Worcestershire sauce
1/2 tsp. garlic salt
1 large (32 oz.) jar of grape jelly
1 large bottle of chili sauce
In a large bowl, mix all ingredients together until blended. Roll into small balls, about 1-1/2 inches in diameter. Place on a cookie sheet and bake in a 350-degree oven for 15 minutes.
In a saucepan, melt jelly and chili sauce. Add meatballs to sauce. Keep warm until ready to serve. Serve with toothpicks. Yield: Makes approximately 30 meatballs.
Note: A good way to serve these warm is to keep them in a small crock-pot on low.

Chili

2 lbs. lean ground beef
1 large onion, chopped
3 Tbsp. chili powder
2 tsp. salt
2 cans chicken broth
1 tsp sugar
2 large cans crushed tomatoes
2 cans chili hot beans, undrained
Cook beef and onion in a large skillet until beef is browned and onion is clear; drain. Add chili powder and salt. In a large soup pot, combine broth, sugar and tomatoes. Heat to boiling; add beef and beans. Return to boiling and then reduce heat. Simmer, covered, about 20 minutes. Yield: Serves 6.

Cheddar Dill Bread

2 c. self-rising flour
1 Tbsp. sugar
1/2 stick butter or margarine
1 c. shredded sharp Cheddar cheese
2 tsp. dill weed
1 egg
3/4 c. milk
In a large bowl, combine flour and sugar. Cut in butter until crumbly; stir in cheese and dill. In a small bowl, beat egg and milk; pour into dry ingredients and stir just until moistened. (Batter will be very thick.) Pour into greased 8-inch by 4-inch by 2-inch loaf pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 35 to 40 minutes or until bread tests done. Cool in pan for 10 minutes before removing to a wire rack. Yield: 1 loaf.
Note: This is a great bread to serve with soup or chili.

Informational Web Sites

The following is a list of Web sites that can provide information and education in reference to electrical safety and energy conservation. These Web sites are listed as links on Red Lake Electric Cooperative's Web site at www.redlakeelectric.com.

- Electrical Safety Foundation International: www.esfi.org
- Alliance to Save Energy: www.ase.org
- US Environmental Protection Agency: www.epa.gov/greenhomes
- Energy Star: www.energystar.gov
- Minnesota Safety Council: www.minnesotasafetycouncil.org
- Safe Electricity: www.safeelectricity.org
- Lighting Controls Association: www.aboutlightingcontrols.org

Are you warming up with space heaters?

As the temperature drops, many families may use portable electric space heaters to help warm their homes.

The Electrical Safety Foundation International warns that space heaters could cause fires and injuries if not used properly. Follow these few simple precautions:

- Read the manufacturer's instruction manual before using any space heater. Check to make sure the heater bears the mark of a certified testing organization.
 - Keep space heaters at least 3 feet away from any combustible materials such as bedding, clothing, draperies, furniture and rugs.
 - Keep space heaters away from areas with water.
- Check your manual to be sure the heater is intended to be used in locations such as bathrooms.
- Don't use space heaters in rooms where children



are unsupervised. Children may stick their fingers or other objects through the protective guards, causing burns or shock.

- Avoid using an extension cord with a space heater. If you must use one, make sure it is the right wire gauge size and type for the heater.
 - Portable heaters have hot parts that can cause sparking. Do not use them in areas where flammable liquids such as gasoline or kerosene are used or stored.
 - Space heaters are meant to supply supplemental heat. Don't use them to warm bedding, cook food, dry clothing or thaw pipes.
 - Turn off the space heater and unplug it when not in use.
- For more information on electrical safety, visit the ESFI Web site, www.electrical-safety.org

Red Lake Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Operating Report
MONTHLY COMPARISON

	NOVEMBER 2008	NOVEMBER 2009
Total Revenue	\$ 723,580	\$ 914,580
Total Margins	\$ (10,312)	\$ 20,670
Cost of Power	\$ 518,477	\$ 660,659
KWH's Purchased	12,837,005	12,901,754
Capital Credits Paid to Estates	\$ 2,193	\$ 5,242

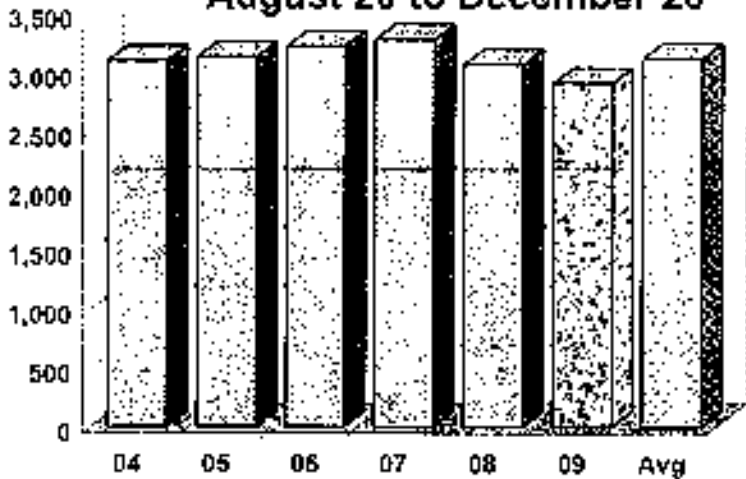
YEAR TO DATE COMPARISON

	NOVEMBER 2008	NOVEMBER 2009
Total Revenue	\$ 8,022,938	\$ 9,139,424
Total Margins	\$ 726,042	\$ 645,352
Cost of Power	\$ 5,217,658	\$ 5,948,821
KWH's Purchased	124,467,098	126,831,540
New Service Connections	77	54
Customers Served	5,160	5,195
Capital Credits Paid to Estates	\$ 68,164	\$ 74,002
Miles of Line		
Overhead	2,325	2,319
Underground	235	235

DEGREE DAYS

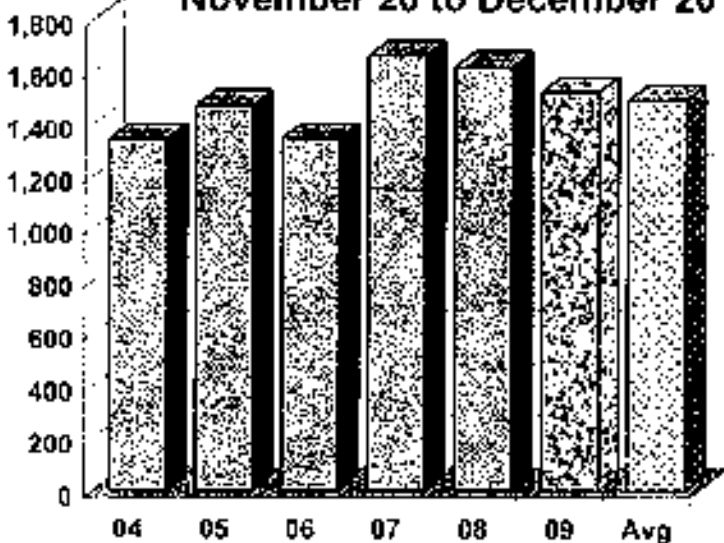
To determine degree days, you must calculate the daily mean temperature for the time period you are measuring. Degree day computation is based on the assumption that a building does not require any heat if the outside temperature averages 65 degrees during a 24-hour period. To obtain a degree day figure, the high temperature and the low temperature for the day are added and the total divided by two. That figure is then subtracted from 65. For example, if the high temperature was 30 degrees and the low temperature 10 degrees, the figure would be 30+10=40; 40/2=20; 65-20=45. This would be a 45-degree day. The higher the degree day figure, the more heat required to warm your home.

YEAR TO DATE DEGREE DAYS
August 20 to December 20



DEGREE DAYS

November-20 to December 20



estatements
life.simple
we know life is busy and chaotic. simplify your life
and declutter your desk by switching to **e**statements
 www.unitybanking.com

 The Strength of Community
red lake falls 218-253-2143
mentor 218-637-2971 member fdic



FREE TRIAL
SUBSCRIPTION

Clip out this ad, fill out the form and bring it into our office located at 105 Main Avenue in Red Lake Falls to start a three month FREE trial. The subscription will begin with the Feb. 10, 2010 edition and end with the April 28, 2010 edition. **This offer is open to new subscriptions only.** This form must be brought in by the subscription holder by Feb. 5. Limit one per household.

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY/STATE _____ ZIP _____
PHONE# _____

Red Lake Falls
GAZETTE
The Historical Record of Red Lake County

Self-Inking Stamps
Available at the Gazette

Self-Inking Stamps are the perfect choice!
Signature, address, professional, logo
and much more! Available in a variety of
sizes and are completely customizable for
your personal or business needs.
We also do notary stamps.

Call the Gazette at 218-253-2594 or
email rlfgaz@gvtel.com for pricing
and additional information.

THE
GAZETTE

Now Available at The Gazette

**COLOR
Copies**

FULL COLOR
NO MINIMUM
Some conditions apply.
Call or stop in for details.

8 1/2 x 11	30¢
8 1/4 x 14	35¢
11 x 17	40¢

105 Main Ave, Red Lake Falls
253-2594



Farmers Union
Oil Company

Thief River Falls218-681-3512



- Fertilizer
- Petroleum products
- Town and country deliveries
- Tires, batteries, accessories
- Farm supplies

WILCOX PLUMBING
AND HEATING, Inc.

RED LAKE FALLS

Plumbing/Heating/Air conditioning

BILL H. MOSER, Master Plumber
License No. 1770PM

BILL J. MOSER, Master Plumber
License No. 6039PM

Refrigerant Certified No. CFR089400285



- In-floor heating
- Oil furnaces
- Pressure systems
- Gas furnaces
- Electric heat pumps

FREE ESTIMATES
COMPLETE SALES AND SERVICE

218-253-4347

HQ

The
Head-Quarters
Hair and
Tanning Salon

HAIRSTYLING
FOR MEN AND
WOMEN

PARK PLACE MALL
RED LAKE FALLS, MINNESOTA

218 253-4223

Security

STATE BANK



- Operating loans
- Vehicle loans
- Farm real estate loans
- Consumer loans

"We appreciate your business."

218-796-5157
Fax 218-796-5158
tim.hagl@ssboklee.com



"THE FARMERS' HELPING HAND"

Dave Miller
Agency

DAVE MILLER, AGENT
RURAL ROUTE 1
VIKING, MINNESOTA 56760



- All-Risk Crop Insurance
- Crop/Hail Coverage

218-523-5861

VOLTS AND JOLTS FEATURE OF THE MONTH

Upholstery business keeps memories alive for Les Trandem

By Destiny Harmoning
Les Trandem of Thief River Falls operates an upholstery business in Thief River Falls known as Trandem Custom Upholstery.

Don't let the name fool you, though. Les is a jack of all trades and he offers more than just upholstery work. Throughout his life, Les has picked up many trades but it all started with upholstery.

Les grew up in Erskine, where his parents owned P&D Upholstery for nearly 20 years. To earn an allowance and permission to go out, Les would work with his father in the shop. It was his version of doing chores, so he really didn't enjoy the work at all.

When his parents retired, they offered to sell the business to Les, but his dislike of the chore was still fresh in his mind so he declined. "Anything but upholstery, I hated it," Les said.

So instead of working in the business, Les went on to technical school in Thief River Falls where he earned an auto body degree. Then he opened his own body shop for awhile.

After doing auto body for sometime, Les decided he wanted to be an art teacher, so he started classes at Bemidji State University.

Following a stint at BSU, Les worked several jobs, mainly auto body and construction work.

Then he studied at a technical college in Detroit Lakes where he learned how to do sign painting, air-brushing and pin striping.

Then Les continued working auto body and construction jobs. When it got difficult for him to compete with younger, more-able workers in the construction field, he went back to school for the fourth time.

He studied architectural drafting at Northland Community and Technical College in Thief River Falls. Upon acquiring his degree, Les moved to California where he designed high-end homes under a family-owned business. When it came time for the owner's son to move up into the business, Les was let go and that's when he made the decision to move back to Thief River Falls for good.

A friend had suggested that Les start an upholstery business and offered him some equipment and supplies

Les Trandem, owner of Trandem Custom Upholstery

to get started. At first Les declined his friend's offer, remembering his younger years and what a chore upholstery work had been.

"The more times I said 'no', the more times he came back with more stuff," Les said. Finally it got to the point where Les felt he would have been crazy not to start the business with everything his friend set up for him.

Even though upholstery wasn't Les' first career choice, he said he doesn't regret starting the business. "To me it's not hard to do because it's just a matter of remembering what my dad taught me," he said. There's an added bonus that he also gets to work with something he is very passionate about: cars, motorcycles and snowmobiles.

In his free time, Les enjoys dabbling in cars, motorcycle riding, watching snowmobile races and summer-time activities such as camping and fishing. He is also a member of the Street Wizards Car Club of Thief River Falls.

Another perk of owning his own upholstery business is being able to stay with his family. When doing architectural drafting, he had traveled away from them and in a year-and-a-half span, he only saw them twice.

Now he lives at home with his wife Julie and two of their three children: Zach, a senior in high school, and Lauren, a junior. Their oldest child, Jordan, lives and works in Madison.

Les has been operating his business for 18 months. It started out in his garage but has been in its current location for the past year. Les rents part of the building owned by Ron Philipp of Ron's Auto Sales.

This is where Les offers upholstery work for anything from snowmobile seats to office furniture and car seats to dining sets. He also does hand-painted signs and pin striping under the name LT Signs.

That's not all Les will do. He also does work with custom cars including helping members of the car club with their projects and does wood-working, including building belt racks for the Tae-Kwon-Do class and bean bag games.

Les explained that he will pretty much do anything that people will pay him for that he has the capability of doing. A good example of this was a gentleman brought in a 1930 Chevy that had a hole in the windshield. The gentleman explained that no one would help him change the windshield but Les took on the task.

"I haven't really hit anything yet that I've turned down," Les said. "I only say 'no' if I can't get the parts."

On average, Les gets \$2,500 to \$3,000 worth of inquiries each week. The number and type of job always varies.

He explained that certain things come in during certain seasons. For example, he has done about two dozen snowmobile seats in the past

two weeks.

"It all depends on what the season is, what's foremost on their mind," he added. Les added that he is just starting to get inquiries about boats and pontoons, since their season will be coming up next.

Some of the projects he was working on included custom car seats for a Mercedes, the interior of a 1972 GMC, fishhouse cushions and bucket seats for a two-seater airplane.

The plane seat is a project that is going to prove to be quite challenging for Les. He explained that he needs to take a flat piece of foam and mold it into two side-by-side bucket seats and then embroider the plane's logo into the backrest.

The most common type of work that Les does is car interiors and seats. "It's fine by me because I like playing with that kind of stuff," he commented.

He further explained that there are two other upholstery businesses near by, both of them operated by woman who focus mainly on furniture. He said upholstery work in cars requires more than just knowledge of sewing fabric together and that a bit more handling is required.

Les said his turn-around time on job orders is fairly quick but always depends on the size of the project and when the customer needs it. Some customers tell him they need it for a certain season or event and others say they are in no hurry, so Les takes his time on them.

"Ninety-five percent of the time I try not to keep anything longer than a week," he said.

In the future, Les said he would like to see his business continue to grow. He

Les Trandem also does hand-painted signs and woodworking, in addition to upholstery at his business.

also wants to be able to make a decent living off of it. He stated that if one of his children was interested, he would like to pass down the business to them.

Les said that he does the upholstery work in memory of his father and said he still looks to him for advice on difficult projects.

Les said operating his business brings back memories for him. He grew up during the times where certain styles that are coming back in originated from. He even designed his shop to look like an old-style Rod shop or malt shop. He hand-painted every square of the checkered floor and put up wall tins from the 50s and 60s. His intention is to create an atmosphere that takes people back to a time that is not-so-long forgotten.

Trandem Custom Upholstery is open Monday through Friday, typically 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; call 218-689-4012.

Les Trandem operates his upholstery business in memory of his father, who handed down an antique sewing machine from his own upholstery business.

A project that Les Trandem is working on through his business Trandem Custom Upholstery is changing the color of the inserts in the seats of a Mercedes.

Bray-Gentilly
Mutual Insurance Co.

Locally Owned and Operated

Serving Policyholders Since 1900

218-683-3200

2017 Hwy. 59 SE • P.O. Box 592
Thief River Falls, MN 56701

INSURANCE FOR
FARMS, HOMES
AND PERSONAL
PROPERTY

TELEPHONE US FOR AN
AGENT NEAR YOU!

THIS SPACE
FOR RENT

253-2594

COLOR
Copies

FULL COLOR
NO MINIMUM

Some conditions apply.
Call or stop in for details.

Starting at 30¢

THE
GAZETTE

105 Main Ave, Red Lake Falls
253-2594

Want to cut your heating
cost by up to 50%?

Buy a YORK Affinity
heat pump today!



GROVE MECHANICAL, INC.

Your hometown heating &
air conditioning team!

Serving Crookston and the surrounding
communities for 30 years.
(218) 281-3863

OFFICE PHONE
253-2168

OUTAGE PHONE
253-2200

1-800-245-6068



Red Lake Electric
Cooperative, Inc.

One of the Minnkota Power Systems

Breaker installation sectionalizes three-phase underground line

The Oklee substation has two circuits leaving the substation. The south circuit supplies electricity to members south and west of Oklee. The north circuit is the feed for members north and east of Oklee.

The north circuit is divided at the intersection of County Road 5 and County Road 6 on the north edge of Oklee. At that corner, a two-phase overhead line goes east along County Road 6 and a three-phase underground line goes north along County Road 5.

The underground line had no breakers at this intersection. Without breakers at the source end of the line, if something happened down line, the

problem or fault could cause breakers to open at the substation, resulting in an outage for all members receiving electrical service from the north circuit.

Recently, breakers were installed at this intersection which sectionalizes the underground line going north. Now if a problem occurs on this north line, it should open one or any number of these newly installed breakers. It will greatly reduce the number of members to be affected by any problem on the north line.



Alan Cota, lead lineman, works to install epoxilators on a corner pole on the south side of the new take-off pole and breaker pole. Insulated blankets are used to cover up hot wires to help avoid any accidental contact.



A new corner/take-off pole is lifted into place on the west side of County Road 5. It is a 40-foot pole and has a cost of \$400 for just the pole.



Troy Schmitz, lineman, uses coffin hoists to bring the two-phase overhead wires into proper height and tension onto the take-off pole. The wires cross County Road 5 going east.



Work nears completion on the new take-off pole and breaker pole as linemen work to make final grounding connections.

Apply now for MCC summer conservation work program for high school youth

Applications are being accepted through April 23 for 90 positions with the Minnesota Conservation Corps (MCC) Summer Youth Program.

Youth ages 15 to 18 will be based at a residential program site

in St. Croix State Park for eight weeks. They will travel in crews led by staff members to various state and federal lands to camp out and work on conservation projects.

"Participants can expect to work hard on projects such as trail con-

struction, erosion control, bridge and boardwalk building, and invasive exotic plant removal," said Eric Antonson, MCC youth programs manager.

The outdoor residential nature of MCC provides a unique opportuni-

ty for youth to develop and strengthen leadership skills, work ethic, camping skills, and an understanding and appreciation for the natural environment.

The experience-based curriculum addresses career development, environmental topics, education planning, and leadership and life skills development. Weekend activities include canoe trips, wilderness hikes and high-adventure challenges. The program runs June 20 through Aug. 14. Participants earn a stipend of \$175 per week, with room and board provided.

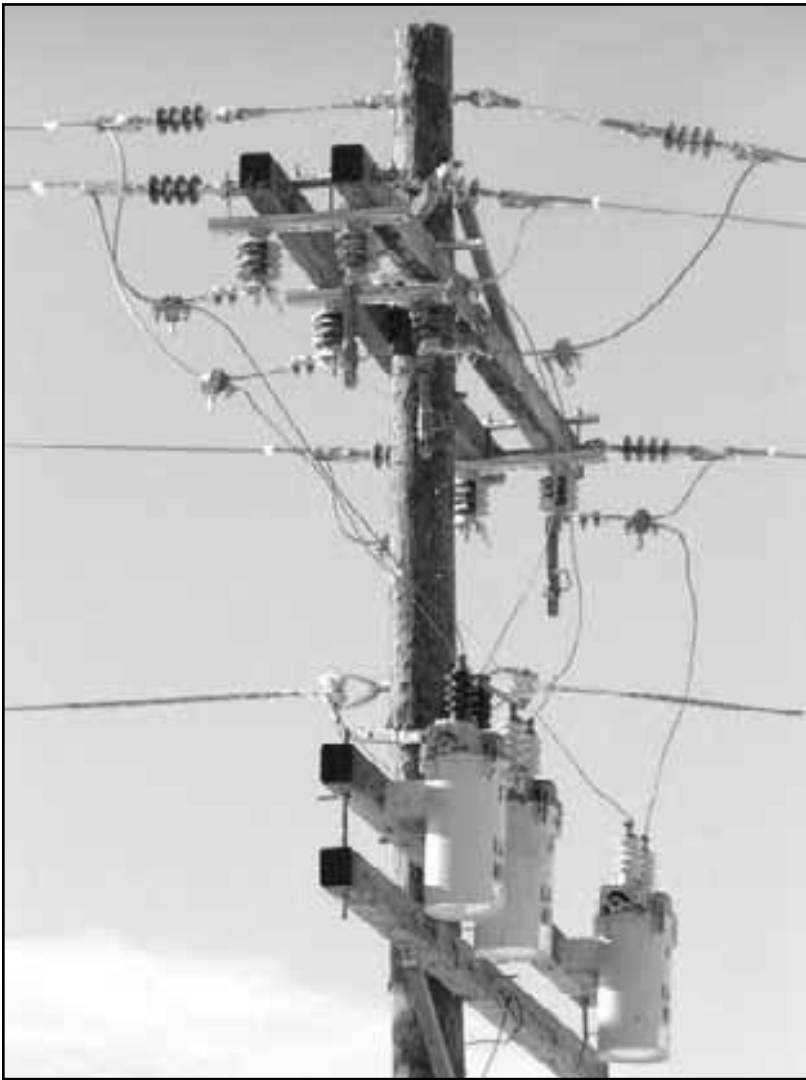
Applicants should enjoy working and living in a rustic outdoor environment. MCC, which hires an equal number of males and females, encourages minority youth to apply. Up to 20 deaf and hard-of-hearing youth, who will work with deaf staff and trained sign language interpreters, will also be hired.

For an application, contact Nina Eagin in the MCC office at nina.eagin@conservationcorps.org or call 651-209-9900. People should apply soon because MCC annually receives more applications than it has openings.

MCC was created in 1981 by the Minnesota Legislature to do two things: engage youth and young adults in enhancing natural resources and provide opportunities for training and life skills development.



Everything is complete on the new take-off pole, breaker pole and riser pole for the three-phase underground just north of Oklee.



Pictured are the newly-installed breakers. There is one breaker for each phase of the three-phase underground line. The breakers sectionalize the line which will result in fewer members experiencing power interruptions and quicker restoration when power is interrupted.



Pre-Owned Cars

09 FORD FOCUS	4DR	RED	2.0	4CYL	AUTO	16,309	MI.	\$12,995.00
08 DODGE CHARGER	4DR	GRAY	3.5	V6	AUTO	22,228	MI.	\$18,995.00
08 FORD FUSION	4DR	BLACK	2.3	4CYL	AUTO	20,998	MI.	\$14,995.00
08 PONT GR PRIX	4DR	RED	V6		AUTO	39,928	MI.	\$11,995.00
07 FORD FUSION	4DR	RED	2.3	4CYL	AUTO	32,898	MI.	\$14,995.00
07 FORD TAURUS	4DR	SILVER	3.0	V6	AUTO	34,088	MI.	\$12,995.00
07 DODGE CALIBER	4DR	RED	2.4	4CYL	AUTO	15,800	MI.	\$15,995.00
06 MERC MONTEGO	4DR	RED	3.0	V6	AUTO	26,704	MI.	\$15,995.00
06 CHEV IMPALA	4DR	SILVER	3.5	V6	AUTO	49,743	MI.	\$11,995.00
05 DODGE STRATUS	4DR	GOLD	2.4	4CYL	AUTO	64,228	MI.	\$ 7,995.00
05 PONT GR AM	4DR	GRAY	V6		AUTO	66,538	MI.	\$ 6,995.00
04 FORD TAURUS	4DR	WHITE	3.0	V6	AUTO	116,706	MI.	\$ 4,995.00
04 BUICK LESABRE	4DR	BROWN	3.8	V6	AUTO	121,000	MI.	\$ 6,995.00
99 SAAB 93S	4DR	GRAY	2.0	4CYL	AUTO	104,058	MI.	\$ 3,995.00
99 MERC SABLE	4DR	TAN	6	CYL	AUTO	73,000	MI.	\$ 5,995.00
96 BUICK SKYLARK	4DR	WHITE			AUTO	147,754	MI.	\$ 2,995.00
96 FORD TAURUS	4DR	GREEN	3.0	V6	AUTO	154,000	MI.	\$ 2,995.00

Pre-Owned Trucks and Vans

09 FORD ESCAPE	4X4	WHITE	3.0	V6	AUTO	12,016	MI.	\$23,995.00
08 FORD F150 SCAB	4X4	BLACK	V8		AUTO	20,000	MI.	\$24,995.00
07 FORD EDGE	4X4	WH/SAND	3.5	V6	AUTO	34,461	MI.	\$22,495.00
07 DODGE GR CARAVAN	4X4	SILVER	3.8	V6	AUTO	24,070	MI.	\$18,995.00
06 CHEV UPLANDER		SILVER	3.5	V6	AUTO	52,502	MI.	\$12,995.00
05 FORD EXPLORER	4X4	SILVER	V6		AUTO	86,973	MI.	\$ 9,995.00
05 LINCOLN AVIATER		RED	V6		AUTO	136,048	MI.	\$11,995.00
02 FORD F150 PICKUP		RED	V8		AUTO	83,000	MI.	\$12,995.00
00 CHEV BLAZER	4X4	WHITE	4.3	V6	AUTO	145,979	MI.	\$ 3,995.00
00 OLDS SILLOETTE		TAN	V6		AUTO	110,853	MI.	\$ 3,995.00
00 DODGE DAKOTA		RED	V6		AUTO	53,072	MI.	\$ 5,995.00
99 FORD F150 SC	4X4	RED	4.6	V8	AUTO	206,881	MI.	\$ 6,995.00
99 PLYM VOYAGER		WHITE	3.3	V6	AUTO	206,872	MI.	\$ 3,995.00
98 FORD WINDSTAR		PLUM	3.0	V6	AUTO	142,651	MI.	\$ 3,995.00
98 CHEV 2500	4X4	GREEN	5.7	V8	AUTO	135,588	MI.	\$ 6,995.00
96 FORD F150	4X4	GREEN	5.0	V8	AUTO	150,000	MI.	\$ 6,995.00
95 FORD F150 SC	4X4	GREEN	4.9	I6	5SPD	189,188	MI.	\$ 3,995.00
95 FORD VAN SPASS		MAROON	4.9	I6	AUTO			\$ 1,995.00
91 FORD EXPLORER	4X4	BLACK	4.0	V6	AUTO	103,843	MI.	\$ 1,995.00
90 FORD VAN SPASS		BLUE	5.0	V8	AUTO	OVER		\$ 1,495.00
90 FORD VAN 12PASS		MAROON	5.2	V8	AUTO	OVER		\$ 1,995.00

Salem Motors

"Where Service Is Our Best Salesman" • Bud • Dennis • Ben
Hwy. 2 East, Crookston, MN (218) 281-1338 / 1-800-584-9230



After-Hours Outage Phone 218-253-2200

LOOK UP POWER LINES MAY BE OVERHEAD

The Gazette only \$29 in Red Lake County

Minnkota Power and Minnesota Power sign Young 2 Deal

Minnkota Power Cooperative and Minnesota Power have completed a monumental deal in which Minnkota receives needed energy and capacity and Minnesota Power gains a transmission line to transport wind generation.

What is known as the Young 2 Deal has been in the works for about two years.

Minnesota Power will purchase from Square Butte Electric Cooperative a 465-mile, Center to Duluth DC transmission line. Minnesota Power will use the transmission line to deliver wind energy that it is developing at Minnkota's Milton R. Young Station near Center, N.D., to its service area near Duluth.

In return, Minnkota receives an increasing allocation of the Young 2 output of energy and capacity. Between 2013 and 2026 Minnesota Power's current 50 percent allocation of Young 2 will transfer to Minnkota. By 2026 and thereafter, Minnkota will purchase 100 percent of the Young 2 output.

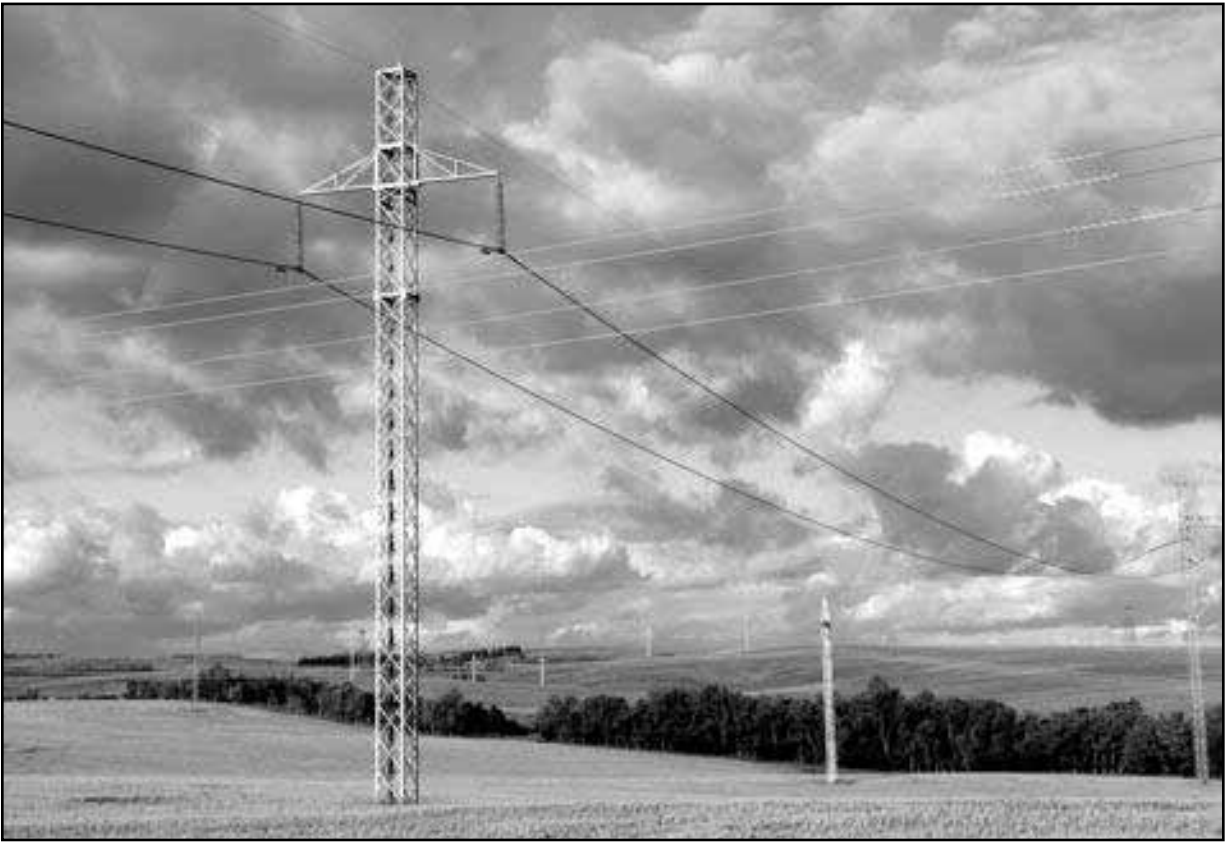
This will give Minnkota 227.5 megawatts of additional capacity and the related energy will be its future power supply, likely at least until 2030.

Young 2, which began producing electricity in 1977, is owned by Square Butte and operated by Minnkota. Square Butte was formed by the Minnkota-associated cooperatives to meet the increasing electrical demand of their consumer-owners and to provide electricity to Minnesota Power.

"Young 2 is a power plant that we know well because we operate it," said Dave Loer, Minnkota president and CEO. "It is low-cost and already in place. It will eliminate our need to build a new coal-fired power plant such as we were considering with Young 3.

"I think we all understand now that building a new coal-fired plant today would be very difficult, time-consuming and expensive."

Minnkota plans to build a new transmission line from Center to deliver all Young 2 energy to the Prairie Substation near Grand Forks.



This approximately 250-mile, \$300 million, 345-kilovolt transmission line will be built and in service by early 2013. Called the Center to Grand Forks line, it will allow Young 2 energy to be delivered into the Minnkota system and it will also help the overall northern Red River Valley service area with additional voltage support.

"When compared to the Young 3 option for addi-

tional generation, the Young 2 Deal provides a significant financial benefit to our system. Likewise, the Deal provides benefits to the Minnesota Power system," Loer said.

"We have a long-standing business relationship with Minnesota Power. That sound business relationship has helped both parties negotiate the terms of the Young 2 Deal. There have been some hurdles along the way, all

of which have been worked out based on the trusting business relationship with our neighbor and corporate friend, Minnesota Power."

Minnesota Power, an ALLETE company, is building the Bison 1 Wind Energy Center near Center. The 33 turbines will allow for an annual output of 300,000 megawatt-hours of energy. The estimated 75-megawatt, \$180 million project will be constructed in two phases, with half of the turbines up and running by December 2010 and the second half completed by November 2011.

Minnesota Power plans additional phases of wind projects.

"The DC line is a significant piece of our wind development efforts in North Dakota," said ALLETE CEO Don Shippar. "Our strong working relationship with Minnkota was key to putting together this innovative agreement which will bring long term value to each company's customers and shareholders."

The DC line will connect from Center to Minnesota Power's substation in Hermantown, Minn., and be used to deliver the wind-fueled electricity to customers in its service territory in northern Minnesota. It puts Minnesota Power at the forefront of long distance wind energy transport.

A generation and transmission cooperative, Minnkota supplies wholesale electricity to 11 electric distribution cooperatives serving a 34,500-square-mile area in eastern North Dakota and northwestern Minnesota. Square Butte Electric Cooperative is owned by the same 11 distribution cooperatives that own Minnkota. Square Butte owns Young 2, which is operated by Minnkota.

Minnkota serves as the operating agent for Northern Municipal Power Agency (NMPA), which serves 12 municipal utilities in the same geographic region. Together, the Minnkota/NMPA joint system serves more than 130,000 customers.

Minnesota income tax filing season begins

The Minnesota Department of Revenue announced that the state income tax filing season is officially underway. The department is now accepting individual income tax returns for tax year 2009.

Taxpayers who e-file their returns can do so now and should visit the Minnesota Department of Revenue Web site for information on approved software products. Additional e-file software providers will be added to the department's Web site when they are approved.

"E-filed returns are processed more quickly than paper returns," Commissioner Einess said. "E-filing can increase accuracy, maximize allowable deductions and allow taxpayers to receive the most rapid refund possible."

This year, there are several state tax changes for taxpayers to be aware of:

- Credit for past military service: A non-refundable credit of up to up to \$750 for military veterans who have separated from service and have served in the military for at least 20 years or have a 100 percent service-related disability.
- Credit for new participants in a section 125 employer health insurance plan: A non-refundable credit equal to 20 percent of health insurance premiums paid during the first 12 months of participation in an IRC section 125 health care

plan.

- Lower income motor fuels tax credit: A refundable credit of \$25 available for taxpayers in the lowest income tax bracket.

Each year, Minnesota receives 2.6 million income tax returns. Last year, Minnesota was second in the nation with more than 1.9 million e-filed returns, or 73 percent, up 2 percent from 2008. Electronic-filing programs are designed to help filers receive all the credits they qualify for which could lead to a larger refund.

In addition to e-filing, taxpayers can also make payments electronically to control when the money is transferred.

Einess hopes the rapid refund generated by e-filing will eliminate the perceived need of a Refund Anticipation Loan (RAL). Offered by some tax preparers, RALs often charge very high interest rates and reduce a taxpayer's refund.

Other tax reminders:

- Military tax credit: The refundable Credit for Military Service in a Combat Zone is available to any Minnesota member of the military who served in a designated combat zone or hazardous duty area since Sept. 11, 2001.

The credit is equal to \$120 for each month (or partial month) served in 2009. This is an increase from \$59 for each month of service between 2001 and 2008. The refund for each year of service can only be claimed once. Form M99 must be completed.

The credit expires Oct. 15, 2010 for any service between Sept. 11, 2001 and Dec. 31, 2006.

- Tax reciprocity: The income tax reciprocity agreement between Minnesota and Wisconsin is terminated, beginning Jan. 1, 2010. This does not affect 2009 income tax returns.

For more information regarding state income taxes, visit www.taxes.state.mn.us.

2010 state park permits on sale

The 2010 Minnesota state park annual permit is now on sale. The new permit showcases the birds and bluffs at Frontenac State Park, located about an hour from St. Paul off U.S. Highway 61 in southeastern Minnesota.

The purchase of a year-round Minnesota state park permit for \$25 provides unlimited access to special events, scenic places, historic sites, a whole roster of outdoor activities and just plain fun at Minnesota's 72 state parks and recreation areas for a full year from the month of purchase.

"Visitors come to Frontenac State Park for many reasons," said Park Manager Harry Roberts. "The reasons include the beautiful scenic vistas, birding in the spring and fall, unusual natural features like the In-Yan-Teopa rock, and the variety of trails for hiking, skiing and snowmobiling."

The photo on the front of the permit shows an eagle



soaring above Lake Pepin. The text on the back notes that "Frontenac State Park, located on the Mississippi River Flyway, is a bird-watcher's paradise, boasting 261 species of birds, the most of any Minnesota state park."

Vehicle permits purchased as gifts come packaged in a Minnesota state parks mini-folder loaded with information to help the gift recipient plan their park visit. Enclosures include the Minnesota State Park winter Programs and Special Events catalog, the Minnesota Parks Guide, and brochures about geocaching and camper cabins.

Vehicle permits can be purchased at any Minnesota state park or by calling the DNR Information Center at 651-296-6157 or toll-free 888-646-6367.

There is a Minnesota state park within 30 miles of almost every resident and they are all open 365 days a year from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Pheasant feeding dos and don'ts

Recent snowfalls have resulted in a deep blanket of snow that limits pheasants' access to waste grain, according to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Providing feed for pheasants can increase their chances of survival.

Pheasants can survive as long as two weeks without food, but they become more vulnerable to predators and adverse weather conditions when they are forced to spend time and energy in the open looking for food.

The DNR offers the following tips for feeding pheasants:

- Do not place feeders near a road. Attracting pheasants (and deer) to roadsides can be dangerous to motorists as well as wildlife.
- Feeders should be placed within 150 yards of good winter cover. This allows the birds to feed and then return quickly to cover. The most important reason for feeding pheasants is to keep them in areas of good winter cover, such as large cattail marshes, shrub swamps, or shelterbelts with at least four rows of evergreens where they stand a much greater chance of surviving winter.
- Place food where birds have been seen feeding in an open, windswept area near thick cover. A high spot with a southern exposure is best.
- Simple feeder cribs can be constructed of hardware cloth that is 3 to 4 feet wide (1/2-inch mesh) and is double-wrapped and hog-ringed together to form a cylinder. Wire the feeder to a steel post or another object to keep it erect. Designs for constructing barrel feeders can be found on the DNR Web site.
- Once feeding is begun, don't stop until there are large, snow-free areas in fields. Pheasants become dependent on feeders. One of the biggest mistakes is to stop feeding before waste grain becomes available.

Conservation Improvement Program incentives available

For the past five years, Red Lake Electric Cooperative (RLEC) has had to spend 1.5 percent of gross revenue on conservation programs. The bulk of the money was spent on rebates for Energy Star appliances and equipment.

Starting in 2010, as a directive from the state legislature, RLEC must spend money on conservation programs that yield electric energy savings. Energy conserved must equal 1.5 percent of the Cooperative's total annual kilowatt hour sales.

To meet this directive the Cooperative has launched new

Conservation Improvement Program (CIP) incentives. These incentives are more comprehensive than the previous offerings for both residential and business customers.

Residential offerings span from a \$2 rebate on compact fluorescent lamps (CFL) to \$400 per ton on a geothermal, closed loop heat pump.

Business incentives apply for lighting, air conditioning, air source heat pumps, geothermal heat pumps, chillers, motors, variable frequency drives, and Energy Star food service equipment.

Rebate forms that list the

offerings are posted on RLEC website, www.redlakeelectric.com.

The forms are also available from the Cooperative or local electrical and heating/cooling contractors.

The accompanying tables list many of the incentives.

Custom applications may also apply to business customers. Most energy conservation measures can be explored to see if the measure qualifies for an incentive.

For additional information, contact RLEC at 253-2168 or 800-245-6068.

Residential Energy Efficiency Incentives

<i>Energy Efficiency Equipment</i>	<i>Rebate Amount</i>	<i>Rebate Maximum</i>
CFL Lamp (Maximum 12 lamps)	\$2 per lamp	\$24 per customer
Energy Star Clothes Washer	\$50	\$50
High Efficiency Electric Water Heater 80 gallon or larger, EF ≥ 0.91, must be on load control	\$150/unit	\$150/unit
High Efficiency Furnace with ECM blower	\$150/unit	\$150/unit
High Efficiency Air Source Heat Pump 14.0 SEER, 8.2 HSPF	\$250/unit	\$250/unit
Geothermal Heat Pump Open loop, 16.2 EER	\$200/ton	\$1,000
Geothermal Heat Pump Closed loop, 14.1 EER	\$400/ton	\$2,000

Business Energy Efficiency Incentives

<i>Energy Efficiency Equipment</i>	<i>Rebate Amount</i>
T8 Fluorescent Fixtures (Replacing T12 or incandescents)	\$5 to \$16 per fixture
T5 Fluorescent Fixtures (Replacing HID or incandescents)	Starting at \$60 per fixture
CFL Fixture	\$22/fixture
CFL Lamp	\$1.50/fixture
Split System Energy Efficient Air Conditioners and Air Source Heat Pump	\$30 to \$40/ton
Single Packaged Energy Efficient Air Conditioners and Air Source Heat Pump	\$35 to \$50/ton
Geothermal Heat Pump Open loop, 16.2 EER	\$200/ton
Geothermal Heat Pump Closed loop, 14.1 EER	\$400/ton
Energy Efficient Air Cooled and Water Cooled Chillers	\$30 to \$40/ton
Nema Premium® Three Phase Electric Motors	\$4 to \$15/HP
Energy Star Commercial Solid Door Refidgerator or Freezer	\$60 to \$250
Energy Star Ice Machine	\$200 to \$600
Energy Star Steam Cooler	\$300 to \$600
Energy Star Fryer	\$500
This list is not all inclusive. There are numerous other lighting retrofits. Other measures may also qualify. Any project totalling \$10,000 or more must receive written approval before project installation. Rebate maximum is 75% of project cost up to \$15,000.	

