



Current News

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A monthly publication for the members of Eastern Iowa Light & Power Cooperative

Great weather greeted annual meeting guests

After a long hot summer, moderate temperatures greeted Eastern Iowa REC members and guests who attended the 88th Cooperative Annual Meeting Sept. 7 at the Mississippi Valley Fairgrounds in Davenport.

The Cooperative's board of directors met following the Annual Meeting in a re-organizational session and elected the following officers: Kathrine Wunderlich, Danville, president; Ken Purdy, Columbus Jct., vice president; Kurt Olson, Grand Mound, secretary; Michael Bixler, Clarence, treasurer; and Henry Bentley, Durant, assistant secretary.

Attendance was up this year with 784 memberships registered compared to 741 in 2022.

Jeff's Market, assisted by the Cedar County Cattlemen, prepared 1,490 pork chop sandwich lunches for the event.

The five directors elected at this sum-



Annual Meeting guests lined up early for the pork chop sandwich lunch at the Mississippi Valley Fairgrounds Sept. 7.

mer's District Meetings were introduced and officially began their new terms on the board. They include: Joel Carstensen, Charlotte; Michael Bixler; Mike Shuger, Wilton; Robert Schneider Jr., Riverside; and Bradley Weiss, Burlington.

Comedian Tim Cavanagh mingled with the Annual Meeting audience and shared many laughs with them.

A drawing for the 30 door prizes ended the event. A complete list of prizes and winners can be found on page 2.

October is National Co-op Month

Electric co-ops grow for the communities they serve

October is National Co-op Month, and Eastern Iowa REC is joining cooperatives across the U.S. to celebrate. Co-ops come in all shapes and sizes, but they each have a common goal: to provide goods or services for the members of the co-op.

Electric co-ops, including Eastern Iowa REC, exist to serve their members. Our priority is to provide affordable, reliable energy to our local communities. Because we are led by you, the members we serve, we can evolve to meet your needs.

Your Cooperative recognizes the growing interest in electric vehicles (EV) and offers a rebate for members who install a Level II charger in their home. An optional charging structure is available with a late-night charging window for possible additional savings for those who charge at home. The Cooperative has also installed EV charging stations at our Wilton and Wapello service centers, as well as in Scott County Park.

This October, as we celebrate Co-op Month, we're focusing on the ways "Co-ops Grow" for their members.

Co-ops help communities grow by pro-

moting economic empowerment, fostering community engagement and supporting the unique needs of co-op members. "Concern for Community" is one of our core principles—and being community-focused is essential to everything we do.

Co-ops are all about cooperation, not competition. That's why electric co-ops work together to share lessons learned, successful strategies and better ways to serve our members. We're better when we grow together!

Electric co-ops serve as fertile ground for growing tomorrow's leaders through a variety of youth engagement programs. Whether through school demonstrations, community events, the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour program or the Eastern Iowa REC college scholarship program, we're committed to providing opportunities for local youth to learn and thrive in our communities and beyond.

At Eastern Iowa REC, your satisfaction is our number one goal. It's why we were formed many years ago, to fulfill a uniquely local purpose. We've come a long way since then, and your needs continue to evolve. That's why we'll never stop growing for you!



CO-OPS GROW COMMUNITIES

Electric cooperatives are joining co-ops across the U.S. to celebrate National Co-op Month. As your local electric co-op, our services are shaped to meet your specific needs. We love growing with you, the members we are proud to serve.

See who won prizes at the annual meeting

Many prizes were awarded during a drawing held at the Annual Meeting Sept. 7.

The five grand prize winners were: David and Judy Deaver, Muscatine, Apple iPad 10.2" Wi-Fi 64GB; Donald and Mary Lou Block, Grand Mound, Meco electric cart grill; Jim Meier, Tipton, Hatch Restore sound machine and alarm clock; Dave and Beth Irving, Grand Mound, Sun Joe electric high pressure washer; and Ocean View Acres, Inc., Wilton, Amazon Kindle.

Additional prize winners were: Jeffery and Susan Finn, Muscatine, BOMOVA heated electric blanket; Joseph and Rose

Harper, Muscatine, Gravity electric salt and pepper grinder set; Larry Schroeder, Muscatine, electric Spin Scrubber; Danny and Lucille Thomas, Morning Sun, VacLife portable air compressor; Shawn and Kaite Hamlett, Lone Tree, Crockpot electric lunch box; Albert Rohwer Jr., Donahue, Conbola rechargeable portable fan; Steve Urmie, Stockton, electric kitchen knife sharpener; Robert and Judy Schaapveld, Muscatine, Black & Decker cordless dustbuster; Joe and Alice Gaylor, Muscatine, Amazon Echo Dot; Duane Bingham, Blue Grass, Geniani XL heating pad; Craig Gillmor, Donahue, Kubei small kitchen scale;

John Loving, Muscatine, Anker portable charger/power bank; Loretta Kirk, Burlington, portable travel electric kettle; Kent and Jolene Petersen, Delmar, back and neck massager with heat; and Janis Fuhrmeister, Lone Tree, electric mini portable veggie chopper.

The prize list also includes 10 \$25 bill credits: Janet Davis, Fruitland; Carol Freund, Walcott; Joe Fuhrmeister, Lone Tree; Randy and Cynthia Howell, Muscatine; Marilyn McCleary, Muscatine; Norlin Mommsen, DeWitt; Ruth Runge, Donahue; Clifford Stubbs Jr., Blue Grass; Jeffrey Weiland, Nichols; and Robert Zimmerman, West Branch.

Scenes from the 88th Cooperative Annual Meeting



Cooperative employees (from left) Dan Fratzke, grounds and facility coordinator; Patrick Dipple, technology systems analyst; and Chad Ruden, member service lead staking technician, led the Annual Meeting audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. All three are U.S. Army veterans.



Comedian Tim Cavanagh shared many laughs with the Annual Meeting audience Sept. 7th.



The registration area was a busy place at the Annual Meeting Sept. 7 at the Mississippi Valley Fairgrounds in Davenport.



Brian Schoer, senior project consultant, was one of many Eastern Iowa REC employees who helped serve the 1,490 pork chop lunches at the 2023 Annual Meeting.

Comments from the CEO

We are a cooperative, and we are different

In the weeks leading up to last month's annual meeting, weather forecasts were calling for high temperatures in the mid to low 90's. Thankfully, we were blessed with a beautiful day with moderate temperatures for the 88th Eastern Iowa REC Annual Meeting.

We would like to thank everyone who took time from their busy schedules to join us in Davenport.

October is National Cooperative Month and events, like our Annual Meeting, are important parts of what sets Eastern Iowa REC apart from other utilities.

Because we're a co-op, we operate a little differently than other utilities. Eastern Iowa REC's decisions are made locally, by directors who also live right here in our communities.

From the Boardroom, August, 2023

- Approved resolution of appreciation for Director Ron Stover.
- Approved motion to seat Director Robert Schneider Jr. to fill position vacated by Dan Heater.
- Discussed Cooperative's cybersecurity program.
- Reviewed Cooperative's participation in the USDA New Era program.
- Reviewed 2023 District and Annual Meetings.

The next board meeting will be held on October 25, 2023.

Everyone who pays to receive electricity from the co-op is a member. When you pay your electric bill each month, your money stays here – to pay for the electricity used, or to make improvements to our local system to strengthen service reliability. The money you pay the co-op doesn't line the pockets of shareholders five states away. We're a co-op, and we exist to provide a service to you, our local members.

You may notice that throughout the year, we schedule opportunities for you to attend co-op events, like District and Annual Meetings so we can hear from you. Contact information for the Cooperative's Board of Directors and management staff are available on our website, www.easterniowa.com. Our success lies in your satisfaction, which is why we offer these opportunities to engage and listen to what you have to say.

Because you're part of an electric cooperative, you can count on our team to maintain local jobs, reliable electricity and first-class service, no matter what the economy—and supply chain issues—throw at us.



Kirk Trede
CEO

Eastern Iowa REC is striving to keep our costs as low as possible so we can keep more money in your pocket. We want to help you maximize the value you can get from our services and offerings. For example, we can help you save on energy bills through rebates on heat pump equipment, water heaters, outdoor battery-operated equipment and electric vehicle chargers.

If you want to receive important information from Eastern Iowa REC, such as power restoration updates and tree trimming crew alerts, sign up online for our text message notifications via SmartHub at easterniowa.smarthub.coop/Login.html#. You can also stay in the know through our Facebook page and our monthly newsletter, *Current News*.

Please know you—the members of Eastern Iowa REC—are at the heart of everything we do. Co-ops adhere to seven guiding cooperative principles that reflect core values of honesty, transparency, equity, inclusiveness and service.

We exist to serve you and provide the quality, reliable, friendly service you expect and deserve. While we've grown over the years, we're still driven by the same guiding principles to serve our community. We hope to see or hear from you soon. This co-op was created by you, the members. The power is in your hands.

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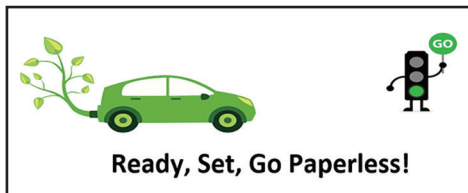
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Cooperative members can also switch their *Current News* subscription to an electronic edition which would be


emailed each month. The *Current News* is provided free of charge to all Eastern Iowa REC members.

To switch to an electronic *Current News* subscription email your name, mailing address and Cooperative account number to info@easterniowa.com.



Ready, Set, Go Paperless!

Thanks to all who took time from their busy schedules to attend the 2023 Eastern Iowa REC Annual Meeting and help celebrate the 88th anniversary of your organization. Your participation is what makes each annual meeting a success.

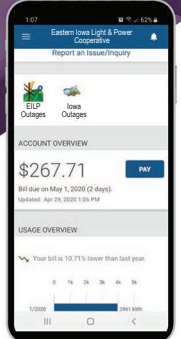


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More scenes from the Annual Meeting



Directors Tom Hotz (left) and Henry Bentley closed the Annual Meeting leading the crowd in the singing of "God Bless America."



Eastern Iowa REC's 2023 Youth Tour Representative Aden Howard of Sabula shared his experiences in Washington, D.C. with the Annual Meeting audience.



The golf cart rides to and from the Annual Meeting parking areas were, again, a popular part of the 2023 event.

2023-2024 IOWA HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

WHEN TO APPLY:

- **Elderly (60 & over) and/or disabled:**
October 1, 2023 to April 30, 2024
- **All other households:**
November 1, 2023 to April 30, 2024

WHAT TO TAKE:

- **Proof of Income** (for all household members age 18 and over) Depending upon your household income type, income documentation from the past 30 days, the last 12 months, or last calendar year, whichever is easier or more beneficial for you.
- **Proof of Social Security Numbers for all household members** (documentation required)
- **Most recent heat bill**
- **Most recent electric bill**

WAGE EARNERS:

Please bring copies of your check stubs for the 30-day period preceding the date of application, or a copy of your most recent federal income tax return.

FIXED INCOME:

This income may include: Social Security Benefits, Supplemental Security Income, Veteran's Assistance, Unemployment Insurance, and pensions. Please bring copies of your check stubs from the previous 30 days.

SELF-EMPLOYED/FARMERS:

Please bring a copy of your most recent federal income tax return.

If you receive alimony or child support, it will also need to be verified. Additional income not listed here may be required.

2023-2024 IOWA HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

ATTENTION: RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS NEED HELP WITH YOUR HEATING BILL?

The 2023-2024 Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) has been established to help qualifying low-income Iowa homeowners and renters pay for a portion of their primary heating costs for the winter heating season.

The assistance is based on household income, household size, type of fuel, and type of housing.

If you are not sure where to apply, **Dial 2-1-1**, or visit <https://humanrights.iowa.gov/dca/where-apply> to contact your local community action agency, or write to:

LIHEAP
Iowa Department of Health & Human Services
Capitol Complex
Des Moines, IA 50319

INCOME MAXIMUMS

Household Size	Annual Gross Income
1	\$29,160
2	\$39,440
3	\$49,720
4	\$60,000
5	\$70,280
6	\$80,560
7	\$90,840
8	\$101,120

For households with more than eight members, add \$10,280 for each additional member.

Current News Monthly Quiz

Quiz Winners:

John Dotson,
Columbus Jct.

Maxine Sullivan,
Goose Lake

Kelly Walsh,
Tipton

Julie Tharp,
Lowden

Mail your answers to Current News, P.O. Box 3003, Wilton, IA 52778 or email answers to info@easterniowa.com. Be sure to include your name, address and Eastern Iowa REC account number on all quiz answer entries.

Four winners will be drawn from all submissions with the correct answers. The winners will receive a \$25 bill credit.

Question 1

Who won the Apple iPad 10.2" Wi-Fi 64GB at the 2023 Annual Meeting?

Question 2

Approximately how many meals were served at the 2023 Annual Meeting?

Question 3

Which song closed the 2023 Annual Meeting?

Name

Address

REC Account

Current News



BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Kathrine Wunderlich, president; Ken Purdy, vice president; Kurt Olson, secretary; Michael Bixler, treasurer; Henry Bentley, assistant secretary; Joel Carstensen, Allan Duffe, Tom Hotz, Gary Kester, Glenn McCulloh, Michael Moes, Bill Petersen, Robert Schneider Jr., Mike Shuger, Bradley Weiss.

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Communications Director

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