



Book your reservation now!  
*North Dakota motor coach tour July 17-19*

The Co-op will be hosting a three-day motor coach tour July 17-19, 2019 to North Dakota. The tour will include Coal Creek Station generating plant, Falkirk coal mine, Blue Flint ethanol plant, Garrison Dam fish hatchery, North Dakota Heritage Center, and a drive-by tour of Garrison hydro dam. A stop in Jamestown, North Dakota, includes the world's largest buffalo statue, live buffalo herd and Frontier Village.

Cost is \$250 per person for adults and \$150 per person for those under 18 sharing a room with their parents

or grandparents. Cost includes motor coach transportation, two nights at the Staybridge Suites hotel with pool and amenities, and most meals. Call the Co-op to make your reservation or request a brochure. The information is also available on the Co-op's website [www.mcleodcoop.com](http://www.mcleodcoop.com) at the bottom of the homepage under Community News.

Members participating in the tour need to be physically able to climb stairs and do a significant amount of walking. Children must be ten years or older to go along on the trip.

TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALLGAME

Join the Co-op for an afternoon at Target Field



Minnesota Twins take on the Tampa Bay Rays, Thursday, June 27 at 12:10 p.m.

Bring yourself, bring your spouse, or bring the grandkids. The Co-op will host 50 members and guests, on a first come, first serve basis. Tickets are \$45.00 per person and include game ticket, motor coach transportation from Co-op's office in Glencoe, and snack on the bus.

To sign up, get more information on seating for the game, or purchase your tickets with a credit card, call the Co-op office.

McLeod Co-op Bus Trip — Twins vs. Tampa Bay Rays at Target Field! — 12:10 p.m., Thursday, June 27.

Bus departs from McLeod Co-op at 10:30 a.m.

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

# of reservations: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$45 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to McLeod Cooperative Power. Clip and send this form to: McLeod Cooperative Power Association  
P O Box 70, Glencoe, MN 55336-0070  
Attn: Bob Thomes before June 1



EnergyWise online store now open

Check out the new energy efficiency information and online store to order high efficiency LED bulbs, low-flow shower heads, power strips, and more. You can link there from McLeod Co-op Power's website or go direct to [www.energywisemn.com](http://www.energywisemn.com). Most items qualify for an instant energy conservation rebate.

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Official publication of

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

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## March 2019 Outage Summary

There were 31 outages, affecting 102 consumers in March. Out of the 31 outages, 19 were planned by the Co-op for scheduled outages for transformer or pole changeouts or service upgrades, 4 were due to unknown causes, and three were caused by squirrels/animals.

The largest outage affected 11 consumers near Buffalo Lake on March 3. The outage lasted two hours and 11 minutes. Cause of the outage was unknown.

Most outages affect only one or two members. They are frequently caused by small animals, trees in the line, equipment failure, or motor vehicle/machinery accidents. Larger outages affecting hundreds of members at a time are usually caused by transmission outages, storms, equipment failure to substation equipment, or accidents. Restoration time on weekend and evening outages, when line crews are called out from home, usually take a little longer to get back on than outages when crews are already out working on the project.

### The MCPA office will be closed Monday, May 27 in observance of Memorial Day.



**Electric outage calls are answered 24 hours a day at 1-800-927-5685.**

## Manager's Message — by Carrie L. Buckley, General Manager

### What makes your electric cooperative board successful and representative?

McLeod Co-op Power is one of 895 electric distribution cooperatives across America that, collectively, deliver power to 56% of the nation's land mass. Electric cooperatives are private, locally operated electric utility businesses that are owned and regulated by their members to provide near-cost electric service and governed by democratically elected, local boards of directors.

There are currently 7,200 electric co-op board directors in America who serve in the community where they live. Unlike investor-owned utilities, they address local electrical energy issues with hometown values on issues like community economic development and setting affordable, sustainable rates for rural residents and farms. Your local electric co-op board members also work alongside Minnesota Rural Electric Association lobbyists in St. Paul and Washington, D.C. to make sure our legislators are aware of how energy policy affects the rural community.

The Rural Electrification Act of 1936 established the cooperative governance model, and over the last 83 years, rural America has prospered. Then Texas-Congressman Lyndon B. Johnson founded Pedernales Electric Cooperative in 1938. During a speech to National Rural Electric Association (NRECA) directors on July 14, 1965, President Johnson said, "Nothing has been more gratifying to me than my association with the rural electrification program. That program stands today as one of the most successful enterprises ever undertaken anywhere, at any time, by anyone." (1) If you ever have the opportunity, there is a wonderfully entertaining and educational REA history exhibit at President Johnson's presidential library in Austin, TX.

Electric co-op board members need education and training, just like line technicians and other energy professionals, to gain and maintain a deep understanding of this complex business. They are responsible for asking questions and seeking outside expert opinions, establishing systems to review current cooperative business information, and all board members must consent to the fiduciary duties of care, loyalty and obedience. The essential functions of your local electric cooperative board include:

- Setting the mission, vision and values
- Establishing, maintaining and assessing legal, regulatory and internal compliance programs to mitigate the cooperative's risk

- Setting electric rates
- Policy development including bylaw requirements and General Manager selection

Not only is training essential to a board's success, but having the right people at the table creates a powerful force, like any other workgroup with a solid and unified purpose. Former National Rural Electric Association (NRECA) President Phil Carson, touched on this in his NRECA 2018 annual meeting presentation. He said, "The right people committed to the right principles need stewards, who bring a measured, analytical and reasoned approach to matters and visionaries who like to dream about the possibilities before us, willing to take risks to try new ideas. Both roles are important at our co-ops, and when we get the mix right, stewards and visionaries bring out the best in each other." (2)

The energy industry has seen unprecedented transformation since 1936. Today, the industry is changing faster than ever, which we see through technology advancements and changing demographics of our membership. Electric cooperatives are rising to the challenge. As electric cooperative boards forge ahead, they're exploring new issues like electric vehicles, battery storage and effectively integrating new technologies. Fortunately, Minnesota's electric co-op board members have training opportunities to stay abreast of new opportunities. McLeod Co-op Power encourages diversity as new board members step forward to serve their community. As a matter of fact, as a result of our most recent board director election, we welcome our first female director, Susan Anderson, to our Board of Directors.

Staying current with education, remaining open to new opportunities, and welcoming diverse ideas and opinions into the board room are some of the ways your Board of Directors is successful and representative of our membership.

Proud to keep your lights on, Carrie

1. [http://www.waymarking.com/waymarks/WMQRH5\\_Lyndon\\_B\\_Johnson\\_and\\_Hill\\_Country\\_Electrification](http://www.waymarking.com/waymarks/WMQRH5_Lyndon_B_Johnson_and_Hill_Country_Electrification)  
2. Pat Mangan, "Director Duties & Liabilities" Printed in the USA. ©Copyright 2016 by National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA). All rights reserved.



## Board of Directors

Directors are members of the cooperative and are elected to act in the best interests of the co-op with the same care that an ordinary prudent person in a like position would exercise under similar circumstances. Directors set policy, approve strategy and are charged with fiduciary responsibility of the cooperative. Directors do not

oversee day-to-day operation of McLeod Co-op Power. Administration of maintenance, electric service, and operations are the responsibility of employees and staff, under the direction of General Manager Carrie Buckley. Members with questions or concerns about service, billing, outages or other service-related matters should call 1-800-494-6272.

#### District 1 - Oria Brinkmeier, 320-485-2554

Hollywood Twp. in Carver Co., Winsted Twp. in McLeod Co., Victor, Woodland, & Franklin Twps. in Wright Co.

#### District 2 - Joe Griebie, Vice President 320-779-1101

Hassan Valley, Sumter & Rich Valley Twps. in McLeod Co.

#### District 3 - David Resch, 952-449-1793

Bergen, Helen, & Glencoe Twps. in McLeod Co.

#### District 4 - Doug Kirtz, Secretary-Treasurer

dkirtz@mcleodcoop.com, 320-583-7673  
Boon Lake, Brookfield, Osceola, Kingman, Preston

Lake, Hector, Melville, Bird Island, Palmyra, & Norfolk Twps. in Renville Co. & East Lake Lillian Twp. in Kandiyohi Co.

#### District 5 - Allan Duesterhoeft, 320-587-9134

Lynn & Acoma Twps. in McLeod Co. & Ellsworth Twp. in Meeker Co.

#### District 6 - Gary Burdorf, 507-964-5815

Penn Twp. in McLeod Co, New Auburn, Green Isle, Dryden & Arlington Twps. in Sibley Co.

#### District 7 - Randy Hlavka, GRE Representative

rhlavka@mcleodcoop.com, 320-583-0037  
Hutchinson & Hale Twps. in McLeod Co., Collinwood Twp. in Meeker Co.

#### District 8 - Keith Peterson, President

kpeterson@mcleodcoop.com  
320-583-0997

Collins & Round Grove Twps. in McLeod Co, Martinsburg, Bandon, & Wellington Twps. in Renville Co., Grafton, Moltke, Bismarck, Transit, & Alfsborg Twps. in Sibley Co.

#### District 9 - Susan Anderson, Asst. Secretary-

Treasurer, 20valve90@gmail.com  
Watertown, Camden, & Young America Twps. in Carver County

**General Manager - Carrie Buckley**  
cbuckley@mcleodcoop.com, 800-494-6272

## McLeod Cooperative Power News

USPS 2220  
Periodicals Postage Paid at  
Hutchinson, MN  
POSTMASTER: Send address  
changes to  
McLeod Cooperative Power News  
P O Box 70, Glencoe, MN  
55336-0070

The **McLeod Cooperative Power News** is published monthly for \$4.72 per year for members and \$8 per year for non-members by McLeod Cooperative Power Association  
1231 Ford Ave. N., Glencoe, MN  
55336-0070

Editor: Sue Pawelk

The McLeod Cooperative Power News is the official member publication of McLeod Coop Power Association and focuses on our members, programs and events.

All member story ideas and comments are welcome. Send to Sue Pawelk at the address shown.

#### **Office Hours:**

Monday - Friday  
7:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

**Phone: 320-864-3148, 1-800-494-6272**

**24-hour outage:**

**1-800-927-5685**

**Fax: 320-864-4850**

**Web site:**

**www.mcleodcoop.com**

Gopher State One Call 811 or  
1-800-252-1166

McLeod Cooperative Power Association is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



# EV Ride & Drive Event was electrifying!



Four new vehicles were available for test drive.



Local EV owners displayed their Chevy Bolt and Tesla vehicles and answered questions from attendees.



Anyone and everyone who wanted to learn more about electric vehicles stopped out on May 2 at the area's first EV Ride & Drive Event. About 50 people showed up at the EV educational event in the parking lot of the Crow River Winery near Hutchinson to test drive electric cars, kick the tires on a variety of EV models from several auto manufacturers. Dozens of attendees test drove Mitsubishi and Nissan electric cars and plug-in hybrids.

Attendees learned about chargers, vehicles, Revolt renewable energy charging program, co-op charging

programs. A few local friends of McLeod Co-op Power brought their personal EV's to the event. They answered questions as EV owners about their Tesla and Chevy Bolt. Other EV owners dropped in to show off their Jaguar and Tesla electric cars too! Participants had their EV questions answered by experts.

The event was coordinated by Midwest EVOLVE, Twin Cities Clean Cities Coalition, and American Lung Association. It was hosted by McLeod Co-op Power, Great River Energy, and Crow River Winery.

## Subcontractors invited to bid on MCPA's building construction

Adolfson & Peterson Construction (AP), the general contractor for McLeod Co-op Power's new building project, will be looking for trades to bid on sitework, concrete, masonry, steel supply and erection, precast wall panels and plank, roofing, drywall, painting, flooring, suspended ceilings, doors, windows, carpentry, mechanical, electrical, etc. It is anticipated at this time that construction documents will be available for bidding early June 2019, with a bid date set for late June 2019. This is subject to change as the design process is completed.

Subcontractors interested in submitting a bid should contact Patrick Sims via e-mail below to obtain details on the bidding process and closing

bid date. Subcontractors that are not already prequalified by AP will be required to complete a prequalification in order to submit a bid on the project.

Patrick Sims, Senior Preconstruction Manager  
Adolfson & Peterson Construction  
952-607-4663 or 612-916-2150  
psims@a-p.com

The Co-op plans to construct a 52,000 sq. ft. precast concrete building that will include approximately 12,000 sq. ft. of office space and 40,000 sq. ft. of garage/warehouse space. The facility will be located at 3515 11th Street E., in Glencoe's east industrial park.

## Summary of Board Meeting Minutes Tuesday, April 23, 2019

The Line Superintendent reviewed the outage report for the month of March 2019. The April 11-12 storm caused 77 outages and 14 broken poles affecting areas in Renville, Meeker, and Sibley counties. The Engineering Department and the Accounting Department are putting together the cost of the repairs to see if the co-op qualifies for FEMA. After all MCPA members had power restored, four linemen from the co-op traveled to Nobles Cooperative Electric in Worthington to assist with the extensive damage from the April 11-12 storm.

The Facility Inspection was conducted on April 16, with directors from Districts 7, 8, and 9 and Line Superintendent participating.

Customer Services Manager reviewed the 2019 Annual Meeting. Suggestions and comments were discussed and noted for next year's meeting. New Operation RoundUp sign-ups from the meeting and participation methods were discussed.

A member inquiry regarding the distribution of capital credit retirements by check instead of by bill credit was discussed. Based on the significant cost of issuing and mailing checks, and the positive feedback for bill credits from the majority of members, the consensus of the Board was to continue issuing bill credits.

The Board approved the addition of Rate 18 to the 2019 Tariff Sheet for Cogeneration & Small Power Production.

Manager of Finance presented the Operating Statement and Balance Sheet for the month of March 2019 for review. She also reviewed the 2018 RUS Form 7 with the Board. Resolution to authorize bank signers was approved.

The Audit Committee reported on their review of the March expenditures.

Items on the Consent agenda were approved, including March Financial Report on File for Audit, March General Fund Checks, Transfer of Patronage Capital & Refund of Patronage Capital to Estates, March New & Rescinded Memberships, and Work Order Inventories.

The Board went into Executive Session to discuss strategic business issues.

The accounting firm of Eide Bailly LLP presented the annual Audit Report to the board for financial statements as of December 31, 2018.

General Manager gave monthly report including the Great River Energy (GRE) Member Managers Group continuing to work on the Rate Design. The 2020 proposed DSM (Demand Side Management) rates were reviewed. An increase from 2019 is likely due to higher marginal fuel rates. She also reviewed Great River Energy's (GRE) financial results for March.

Directors were selected to attend the GRE Annual Meeting in June.

The GRE rep gave a report on the Great River Energy activities for the past month.





# Star gazing right in our own backyard

Imagine a clear, dark night, away from the city lights. You look up and see constellations, satellites, the moon, or the International Space Station with your bare eyes. Then look closer, through a high-powered telescope to see galaxies, the rings of Saturn, planets, asteroids, shooting stars, or the craters upon the surface of the moon. To do this, you are probably visiting at the Eagle Lake Observatory, which is the only state-of-the-art observatory in Minnesota. It is also one of the premier public-viewing observatories anywhere in the United States.

The Eagle Lake Observatory is located right here in our own backyard, in Carver County's Baylor Regional Park. Search for 10775 County Road 33, Norwood Young America and your map will lead you mid-way between New Germany and Norwood Young America to Baylor Park. You probably know the park as a place to camp, swim, or cross-country ski. It is also home to the observatory, which is the major public outreach of the Minnesota Astronomical Society (MAS). The site consists of the Onan Observatory, the Sylvia A. Casby Observatory, and the HotSpot Classroom.

The Onan Observatory has been holding public star-viewing parties since 2000. The Sylvia A. Casby Observatory and the HotSpot Classroom became operational in 2013.

The observatory is open to the public and MAS members at scheduled times during the year, such as the public star parties. They have upcoming public star gazing parties on May 11 and 25, June 8 and 22, July 20, and August 17 and 31. MAS also



MAS volunteer Matt Dunham prepares a telescope in the Onan Observatory for evening viewing.



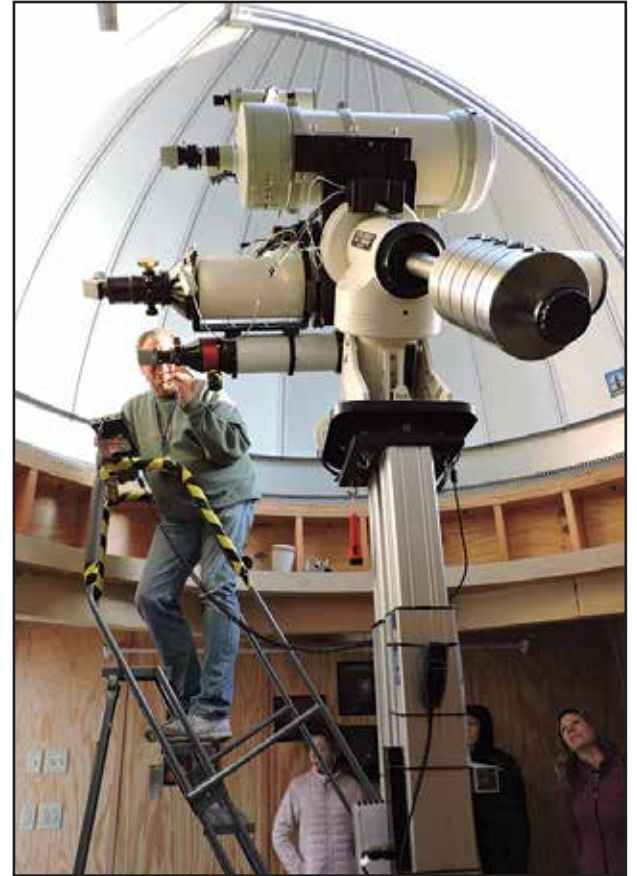
At public star parties, visitors to the Eagle Lake Observatory can use the telescopes for nighttime viewing.

offers Camping With the Stars August 2, 3, & 4. They are offering their first astrophotography workshop on August 10. Visit the MAS website for times and details on each event at [www.mnastro.org](http://www.mnastro.org).

On March 23, I took the opportunity as your co-op's newsletter editor, to show up for a Saturday night public viewing party and see if the observatory was a place that would interest co-op members. MAS is a member of McLeod Co-op Power, as its observatory and all of Baylor Park is served with electricity by the Co-op. I was astonished that such a gem for learning about science and the universe was right under our noses for two decades and we were not aware of it.

The night I attended, about 100 people showed up (but it was March and snow was still melting). It had been a training day for eight new MAS volunteers. The MAS volunteers operate the facilities, do the educational presentations, and conduct the viewing sessions, so quite a few knowledgeable astronomers were present to answer questions. Normally, 150-250 people attend a viewing party. Their record attendance was 550 people which attended the lunar eclipse on September 27, 2015. About 4,000 people attend events at the observatory each year.

Before sunset, visitors gathered in the Sylvia A. Casby Observatory, taking turns looking through



MAS volunteer David Johnson adjusts settings on one of six telescopes for visitors to the Sylvia A. Casby Observatory.

the Lund solar telescope and observing prominences shooting from the sun. MAS Volunteer David Johnson explained how the six telescopes in that building worked, what each one could do, and explained what we were currently viewing through the open dome roof.

Other volunteers were busy preparing telescopes that would be used later in the evening. The roll-off roof was peeled back on the Onan Observatory building so the telescopes would be outdoors

for viewing the evening sky. MAS President David Falkner was setting up the HotSpot Classroom for astronomical presentations he would give to visitors.

After the evening sky grew dark, visitors including many children with their parents, viewed stars and planets through telescopes. We learned about the sun, moon, and stars in our galaxy, as well as other astronomical information as we watched President Falkner's presentation. We also observed the bright white light of the International Space Station crossing our sky for about 90 seconds. It was in orbit 250 miles above the earth but was visible to each of us with our unaided eyes, as it was still in the sunlight although we were in the dark, and the sun reflecting off of the station and its solar panels made it appear to be a bright white light to us.

We did not get to view the moon as it was not rising that night until after our 7-10 PM viewing party had ended. But close-up video and photographs from previous moon viewing events were available on TV screens.



MAS President David Falkner





An educational presentation was given in the comfy HotSpot Classroom.



Close up views of the moon's surface show on the monitor from a previous viewing.



Tabletop displays illustrate planet and star information.

Each observatory has the capability to display live video images of what the telescopes are viewing. These images are shown on monitors in each observatory as well as in the HotSpot Classroom. The observatory has two state-of-the-art systems — one primarily for visual observing, the other intended for video — enable observing. Each system has multiple refracting and reflecting telescopes, each selected with a specific purpose in mind and installed atop computer-controlled Paramount ME mounts.

The Sylvia A. Casby Observatory houses an 8-inch TMB refractor, a Takahashi Mewlon 300 Dall-Kirkham and a SV102 refractor. These telescopes set on an Astro Physics 3600 GTO mount, under a 12.5 foot Ash-Dome. It has a 6-inch Lund solar telescope and a Herschel Wedge for solar observing, making it a great place for solar viewing too.

The Onan Observatory houses more than a dozen telescopes on four observing platforms. All telescopes are equipped with interchangeable



The Onan Observatory has a roll-off roof with a “three short-barreled shells” design, which retracts for outdoor viewing on fair-weather nights.

eyepieces for MAS members and guests to see first-hand celestial wonders of the sky. The largest scope on this platform is a Celestron C-14, with more than 2500 times the light gathering capability of the unaided eye and a minimum of 100 power. This is an excellent scope for deep sky objects as well as planetary viewing. The largest refracting telescope at the observatory is also on this platform. The StellarVue 152 is exceptional at viewing planets, stars and clusters. The scope can also be fitted with a solar filter for viewing the sun and sunspots. The Tele Vue 102 telescope is dedicated to solar viewing. This scope is fitted with a Coronado H-Alpha solar filter for observing solar prominences and granulation.

The HotSpot Classroom provides a building to conduct educational presentations and classes. It can also be a warming room for guests to relax and enjoy live video feeds from the various observatory telescopes throughout the night.

If you are wondering how this observatory ended up in Carver County, we must go back in MAS history. In 1973, a group of amateur astronomers originally associated with the 3M Astronomical Society formed the Twin Cities Astronomy Club. As the organization grew it obtained non-profit status. In 1980, the group was able to obtain a large telescope from the University of Minnesota in Duluth, dismantled it, and stored it in the Twin Cities suburbs. In 1980, they also changed the name to Minnesota Astronomical Society (MAS). In 1987, after a 12-month selection process which considered nine public and private locations around the Twin Cities, the society selected Baylor Regional Park as home of its future observatory. It took a year to work with the various county and governmental commissions to get a long-term lease approved. Today, the County owns the park. MAS leases a parcel of land within the park. MAS also owns the buildings and equipment.

In 1997, MAS members built the first building using sweat equity. Weekend after weekend, members would show up to help construct the Onan Observatory building. During the years before and during construction, MAS worked to secure donations from organizations and individuals to help fund the project. In 1998, electrical service with McLeod Co-op Power was installed at the site. In 2000, the building was



A view inside the Onan Observatory, before the roof was rolled back, shows its many telescopes.

completed and the telescope they had purchased 20 years earlier from U of M, Duluth was installed. The observatory opened to the public in April of 2000. In 2013, the Sylvia A. Casby Observatory and HotSpot Classroom were added. A detailed history of fundraising and each step of building construction is chronicled on the MAS website.

Most of the building materials and the telescopes have been donated by a generous benefactor. MAS operates on dues collected from its 500 members, donations from visitors, and occasional grants. It makes its educational programs available to the public, schools, groups, etc. at no charge. MAS members volunteer to run the programs and public viewing sessions. The MAS group is very dedicated, as they travel from all parts of the Twin Cities and central Minnesota to invest time at the Eagle Lake Observatory. Visitors to Baylor Park do purchase either a daily or season car parking pass to enter the park and observatory site.

MAS has been organized exclusively for charitable, educational, and scientific purposes. It seeks to create camaraderie among all people through mutual interest in astronomy. It established and maintains observational and informational facilities for the benefit of the membership and the community and seeks to promote knowledge of astronomy.

If you have any interest in astronomy or just want to take your family on an inexpensive but fun and educational night out under the stars, just head to a public viewing party at Baylor Park. It is located right in your backyard.



MCPA News Ads — Free want ad service for members

Please limit your ad to nine words. Use the coupon printed here or available at McLeod Cooperative’s front desk to submit your ad. Ads will be printed for one month only. Please submit a new ad if you want it published more than one month. Include your name and address, which will be used for identification purposes only. Ads must be received by May 28 to be included in the June issue. Thank you!

Please run this ad in the next MCPA News

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check ad category  
☐ Giveaway  
☐ For Rent  
☐ For Sale  
☐ Wanted

Remember to limit your ad to nine words!

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7 \_\_\_\_\_ 8 \_\_\_\_\_ 9 \_\_\_\_\_

Clip and Send to: McLeod Cooperative Power, ATTN: Classified Ads  
P.O. Box 70, Glencoe, MN 55336

For Sale Miscellaneous

- 14 ft 3000GVW boat trailer permanent license. 320-587-6360
- Antique sewing machine. 320-587-4799
- Sony TV color rear video projector 46 X 54. \$49/obo. 320-583-0471
- Sanyo mini-split a/c w/two heads. Working condition. \$500/bo. 320-510-0404
- Gold refrigerator for shop or garage. Works good. \$25. 320-510-0404
- Lumber 2 X 6 X 14, 2 X 4 X 14. 507-647-5420
- Ford pickup topper, 8ft box, 2 side doors. 320-583-2747
- Oak roll top desk. Good Condition. \$40. 320-420-2649
- Indoor wood furnace w/att fireplace. \$1,100/obo. 952-657-2641
- Excellent unused Napoleon smoker \$229 new, selling at \$140. 320-587-9884
- Garden tiller 14 in, runs good. \$125. 320-510-0312
- 55-gallon steel drums w/ removeable lids. \$15/each. 952-353-2351
- OSB panels 32in X 32in x 7/16in. \$1/each. 952-353-2351
- Older style generator. Pull start needs work. \$50. 320-510-1752
- Girls 20in bike. \$25. 320-510-1752
- Weed-boss SS-18 straight shaft trimmer. Runs, needs recoil. \$50. 320-485-2246

For Sale Farm

- 5HP farm duty motor 1740RPM 215TZ frame. \$250. 320-455-1671
- Two-year-old Herford bull. 320-328-5272
- Sickle bar hay mower for JD M tractor. 320-510-0312
- Three wood throw racks w/ running gears. Good condition. 320-587-6863
- Sickle mower mounted. 320-522-2167
- New Idea bale elevator on wheels. 320-522-2167
- Three New Holland hay rake wheels. \$20/each. 320-864-4376
- Yearling Herford bulls/Herford gentle organic raised. 320-552-5090
- 5 section Lindsay Harrow. 320-864-4496
- 4 row White corn planter. 320-864-4496

Wanted

- Unwanted riding lawn mowers. Free pick-up. 320-587-9207

Giveaway

- Farm cats. 320-587-4799
- Used Piano. 320-510-0404
- Loose open hay bales-for feed, bedding, garden mulch. 320-300-8985

Disclaimer – McLeod Cooperative Power Association (MCPA) assumes no liability for the content of, or reply to, any item posted. The party posting any advertisement assumes complete liability for the content of, and all replies to, any advertisement and for any claims against MCPA as a result thereof, and agrees to indemnify and hold MCPA harmless from all costs, expenses, liabilities and damages resulting from, or caused by, any advertisement or reply thereto.

ALWAYS CALL BEFORE YOU DIG





One free, easy call gets your utility lines marked AND helps protect you from injury and expense.

**Safe Digging Is No Accident: Always Call 811 Before You Dig**

Know what's below. Always call 811 before you dig. Visit [call811.com](http://call811.com) for more information.





AC tune-ups eligible for credit once every two years

Schedule an air conditioning tune-up with your contractor today.

Just schedule a tune-up of your central air conditioner or air source heat pump (unit must be at least five years old and in working condition to qualify) and when your licensed professional HVAC contractor performs the service work, have them complete the rebate coupon. Send the completed rebate form to the Cooperative with a copy of the contractor’s invoice. This tune up must include the items on the coupon. After the Co-op receives your documentation, we will credit your electric bill \$25 within 4-6 weeks.

Air Conditioner/ Heat Pump Check List

Eligible for credit a maximum of once every 24 months

Owner \_\_\_\_\_  
Acct. # \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Location # \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone # \_\_\_\_\_  
Company doing Tune-Up \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Technician’s Name \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Company Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

CHECK LIST

Brand Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Model # \_\_\_\_\_  
Serial # \_\_\_\_\_  
Tons/BTU Rating \_\_\_\_\_ SEER Rating \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ Clean Outdoor Unit
- ☐ Clean and Inspect “A” Coil
- ☐ Check Blower Belt
- ☐ Compressor Motor Amp Reading Check
- ☐ Compressor Amp Reading Check
- ☐ Blower & Oil
- ☐ Blower Motor Amp Reading Check
- ☐ Check Filter
- ☐ Check Refrigerant Level & Pressure
- ☐ Blow Out Drain Line
- ☐ Visual Inspection of Cooling System

Recommendations \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Technician Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_



# MCPA linemen provide mutual aid at Nobles Cooperative Electric

Southern Minnesota was hit with an ice storm, snow, and strong winds April 10-12 that caused significantly more damage than what we experienced in our region of central Minnesota. Rural electric cooperatives in southwest Minnesota were hit with widespread power outages caused by ice on the lines and equipment snapping off poles in the high winds. Nine distribution co-ops and several transmission co-ops each had hundreds of downed poles from the storm. Great River Energy alone had over 339 transmission structures damaged in southern Minnesota.

About 4,500 accounts or 67 percent of co-op members at Nobles Cooperative Electric were without power for many days following the storm. A few hours after McLeod Co-op Power had restored power to its members, four MCPA line workers volunteered to go to Nobles Cooperative Electric, headquartered in Worthington, to provide mutual aid.

On Friday, April 12, MCPA's four linemen headed out for southwest Minnesota with a bucket truck, a digger truck, a pole trailer with four poles, and a skid loader that sets poles. The crew checked in and was assigned to work out of the Co-op's outpost in Slayton, Minnesota. MCPA linemen worked alongside contractors and line crews from numerous other co-ops. On Wednesday, April 17 Nobles had power restored to most of their members and our crew was able to return to Glencoe.



(l to r) MCPA lineman Kevin LaCourse, foreman Terry Underdahl, linemen Nathan Kelzer, and lineman Jared Klein spent five days assisting with storm restoration in southwest Minnesota at Nobles Cooperative Electric following Winter Storm Wesley.



## April storm recap

The April snow storm that hit southern Minnesota hard April 11-12, did also cause some outages for McLeod Co-op Power members. The Co-op had about 77 outages and 14 broken poles due to the storm, mainly in Sibley and Renville Counties. Crews started responding to outage calls after 1 a.m. on Thursday, April 11. The last McLeod Co-op members had power restored early Friday morning.

Due to the ice, snow, and winds some outages would be repaired and then other outages would happen in different areas. Crews battled Mother Nature and the elements during the 24-hour marathon of restoration efforts.

Members asked, “When will my power come back on?” That is not an easy answer to predict when the Co-op has many outages in dozens of townships across a wide geographical area. Sometime members call or send messages asking for an estimated restoral time. When we don’t relay this information to members, it is because we really cannot predict how long it will be. Until crews reach a location and see what needs to be repaired, they are not able to estimate how long it will be until the power will come back on.

If there is one single outage that crews are responding to, it is more likely we can provide members with

an estimated restoral time once the crew radios in the situation and what they need to fix. When there are many outages going on at one time, in different areas, the operations and dispatch employees are all-hands-on-deck to coordinate crews and sort outages. They don’t have time to be estimating restoral times and communicating that to members. The line crews are busy trying to get everyone back on as quickly and safely as possible.

That may not seem like enough information to a member who is sitting in the dark wondering when the lights will come back on. In today’s instant-information environment, people expect to know news immediately. Power restoration is one of those things that is not immediately known. However, the Co-op’s office staff does their best to post Facebook updates, messages on the website, and radio announcements when the Co-op has outages that we know will last overnight or for extended periods, or when we have many outages across widespread areas.

We always appreciate our member’s patience during these trying circumstances. Thank you.

If a member never wants to be inconvenienced by a power outage again, we recommend an automatic whole-house generator system. The Co-op offers turn-key generator sales and installation for members. Just call 1-800-494-6272 if you would like more information.

## High-Efficiency Appliance Rebates for 2019

Dehumidifiers .....	\$25
Dryers .....	\$25
Refrigerators & Freezer (Max of 2/year)	
Refrigerator harvest .....	\$25
Refrigerator w/recycling .....	\$25
Freezer harvest.....	\$25
Freezer with recycling .....	\$25
AC Tune Up (Max of 1 every 2 years) .....	\$25
Ductless ASHP .....	\$300
ECM (retrofit only) .....	\$50
GSHP (\$/ton) .....	\$400
QI ASHP	
SEER 14.5 .....	\$200
SEER 15 .....	\$400
SEER 16 .....	\$800
ETS Space Heat - per kW .....	\$50
ETS Water Heating	
100 gallon minimum capacity .....	\$400
Heat Pump Water Heater	
50 gallon minimum capacity .....	\$500
LED Yard Light .....	\$60
Swimming Pool	
ASHP .....	\$400
Pool Variable Speed Pump .....	\$200
Electric Vehicle & Chargewise .....	\$500

This is a residential summary only. The Co-op also offers agricultural, commercial and industrial rebates. There is a \$2,500 maximum rebate per member per year. Only ETS space heating and commercial grants/rebates have a \$5,000 maximum cap. All rebates are on a first come, first serve basis, so please turn in your paperwork promptly.

Most downloadable rebate forms are on the Co-op’s website [www.mcleodcoop.com](http://www.mcleodcoop.com). Please read the details on specific rebate forms, as some products have limits, require ENERGY STAR certification or other requirements.

Air Source Heat Pump rebate forms must be completed by the installing contractor. Rebates for high efficiency air source heat pumps require installation by a “registered contractor” which has been designated as a QUALITY INSTALLER and is listed on the [hvacaducation.net](http://hvacaducation.net) website. A list of all “registered contractors” in Minnesota is on [www.mcleodcoop.com](http://www.mcleodcoop.com) website. There are no rebates for central air conditioners. The Co-op encourages any member replacing a central air conditioner to upgrade to an ENERGY STAR rated air source heat pump.

LED yard lights must be installed on consumer owned building or facilities. Lights cannot be installed on Co-op power poles. Rebate for recycled refrigerator or freezer must be for removal of old but still operating unit from location served by MCPA, and receipt from recycler/appliance store showing proof of recycling required.





**Free Baseball Clinic**  
Arlington, MN  
Arlington Baseball Park

**Saturday July 13, 2019**  
6-9 Year Old Boys & Girls — 9:00 AM  
10-13 Year Old Boys & Girls — 10:30 AM

Sponsored by Twins Community Fund and Great River Energy  
Equipment is provided, but participants should bring a glove  
In case of inclement weather, clinic will be moved to Sibley East High School

Register at [www.playballmn.com](http://www.playballmn.com)

Hosted By McLeod Cooperative Power Association and Arlington Baseball



## Washington D.C. Youth Tour winner selected

Winner of the 2019 Washington D.C. Youth Tour trip is Evan Lee of Lester Prairie. His parents are members Michael and April Lee of Lester Prairie. He is currently a junior at Lester Prairie High School. He will represent McLeod Cooperative at the youth conference in June.

## Cancer Cruise of Sibley County thankful for Operation RoundUp donation



Community Giving Hope founder Felicia Brockoff accepts an Operation RoundUp donation from Bob Thomes of McLeod Co-op Power for the Cancer Cruise of Sibley County. Brockoff's father recently restored the car shown in the photo, his Mango Tango 1940 Business Coupe.

Community Giving Hope, more commonly known as The Cancer Cruise of Sibley County, received a \$1,500 donation from the Co-op's Operation RoundUp fund in April to help defray expenses associated with coordinating the event.

The Cancer Cruise was started in 2012 as a Relay for Life fundraiser. In 2015, the group started raising funds for a local little girl, Paisley Lindemann, who was dealing with her second cancer diagnosis. Since then, the group decided to keep the locally raised money, local. In total, they have helped six individuals in the Sibley County area, raising over \$50,000.

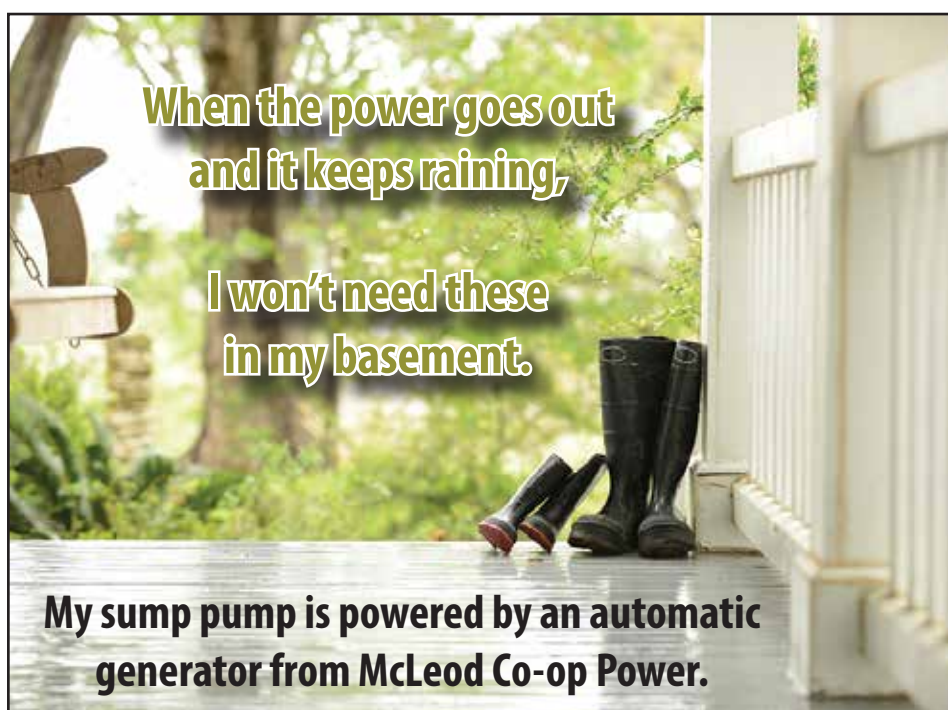
They obtained their 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status from the IRS, and organized under the name "Community Giving Hope," to do just that, give hope to community members in need. The group is comprised of Felicia Brockoff (founder), RaNae Buck, Jen Carpenter, Jamie Grams-Petzel, Kurt Menk, Anita Quast, and Brittney St. John. Annually, they coordinate the "Cancer Cruise of Sibley County," where they select an applicant who has requested funding assistance for medical, or everyday expenses, due to a cancer diagnosis. The group has also received grant funding and provides gas cards to people in the Sibley County area who

are experiencing serious medical conditions. "The gas cards are our way of saying we know you are going through a rough patch, but we are thinking about you," said Felicia Brockoff. "It's also our way of helping more members of our community, who need a little pick me up," she added.

If you or someone you know is dealing with a serious health condition, feel free to contact the group for more information. You can email [cancercruise55307@gmail.com](mailto:cancercruise55307@gmail.com), or call 507-964-5603.

Community Giving Hope is just one of 13 organizations that received funding this spring, thanks to the donations of McLeod Co-op Power members who round up their electric bills, co-op employees who donate and matching funds the Co-op secures. It is an easy way for member's to round their electric bill up to the nearest whole dollar each month. The difference in change goes to Operation RoundUp. The average donation is \$6.00 per year, and it will not exceed \$11.88 per year. The charitable donation receipt is shown right on your electric bill.

Call the Co-op to sign up at 1-800-494-6272.



**When the power goes out and it keeps raining, I won't need these in my basement.**

**My sump pump is powered by an automatic generator from McLeod Co-op Power.**

McLeod Co-op Power sells and installs automatic home generator systems by Briggs & Stratton. An automatic generator will operate your sump pump, furnace fan, lights, refrigerators and freezers, and other important appliances even when you are not home. Call McLeod Co-op Power for more information 1-800-494-6272.

