

living with energy

IN IOWA



Guthrie County REC
A Tractor Energy Cooperative

SEPTEMBER 2016

Help us find past co-op members who are owed capital credit checks ▶ See page 5

Close the window

on high energy bills!

All politics are local, and so is the future of rural America

Electric co-ops provide input on Iowa Energy Plan

After 43 years, line superintendent Jim Terwilliger retires



Nominating committee set for 2016 election

As a member-owned electric cooperative, Guthrie County REC is governed by a board of directors comprised of people who are your neighbors elected by you. Democratic member control is one of seven cooperative principles that

guide Guthrie County REC. It means every cooperative member has one vote, and every member is eligible to serve as a co-op director representing his or her district.

On Jan. 7, 2017, your cooperative will hold its annual meeting and board election. Members in Districts 4, 5 and 6 are eligible to run for a position on the board of directors and get involved in co-op decision making. Directors serve 3-year

terms and represent all co-op members at monthly meetings.

In addition to names submitted by the nominating committee, any member may submit his or her name for nomination by collecting at least 20 signatures from members within the given district. The deadline for collecting signatures is **Thursday, Nov. 24, 2016**. A list of all nominated members will be posted at Guthrie County REC's office. ⚡

Meet this year's nominating committee

If you reside in District 4, 5 or 6 and would like to recommend a candidate for your district, please contact one of the members of the nominating committee by Sept. 30, 2016.

DISTRICT 4

Duane Spicer, Panora: 641-757-1073
Phil Rivera, Panora: 515-205-2816
Dale Behrends, Panora: 641-755-3709

DISTRICT 5

Dave McCool, Bayard: 712-210-0077
Kerry Van Gundy, Panora:
515-370-0094
Kevin Crees, Bayard: 515-822-2405

DISTRICT 6

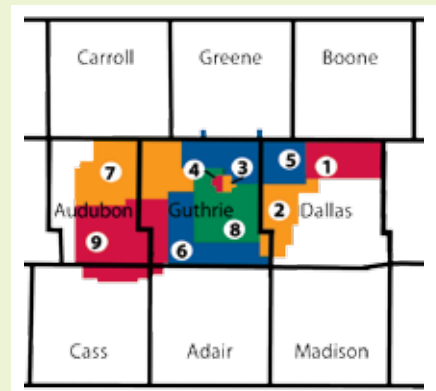
Kieth Merrill, Guthrie Center:
641-747-3579
Gary Mueller, Adair: 641-742-3327
Nick Chance, Guthrie Center:
641-747-8002

These districts will hold elections

District 4: Victory Township in Guthrie County.

District 5: Washington and Greenbriar Townships in Greene County, Dallas Township in Dallas County, Highland, Dodge, Richland and the north 4 tiers of sections in North Cass (80-30) Townships in Guthrie County.

District 6: Grant, Thompson, Stuart, the part of Valley in 78-32, the part of Beaver and Jackson Townships in 78-31, and all Penn and Stuart Township except sections 11 through 14 78-30 of Guthrie County.



In the News

Thanks for visiting us at the Iowa State Fair!

Guthrie County REC communications clerk Rebecca Schwartz (*below, left*) spent some time at the Iowa State Fair in August helping promote local electric cooperatives in Iowa. Visitors to the Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives of Iowa booth in the 4-H Exhibits Building were invited to place a marker on their local electric cooperative and register to win a Nest Learning Thermostat. ⚡



Michael Avendt, son of Guthrie County REC member Rick Avendt, took a marker to designate his home cooperative during the 2016 Iowa State Fair.



Guthrie County REC

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



Office

1406 State Street • P.O. Box 7
Guthrie Center, IA 50115-0007

Office Hours

Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Telephone Number

641-747-2206 or 888-747-2206
Calls answered 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Website

www.guthrie-rec.coop

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Help us find past co-op members who are owed capital credit checks

One of the biggest benefits of being a member of Guthrie County REC is sharing in its success. Every year, once all financial statements have been finalized and audited, the co-op records the margin – revenue in excess of expenses. These margins are held for a set period of time before being dispersed to cooperative

members, based on their electric usage in the year the margins were recorded.

The cooperative has a number of members whose capital credit checks have not been cashed from the December 2015 payout (2001, 2002 and 2014 years), for one reason or another. It's very important that we find these people as soon as possible,

so that we can forward payment. If you see your name or have information on the whereabouts of any of the members on the list, please contact us.

Also remember if you move or change your contact information, please let us know so that we may get in touch with you in the future ⚡

A
Anderson, Helen C.
Anderson, Linda J.
Anderson, Mary Jean or Richard
Annear, Robert B. or Ruth K.
Apple, R. Kirk
Ashby, Grover J. or Sharon A.
Aurora Enterprises, Inc.

B
Barber, Daniel R.
Barnhill, Robert L. c/o Robert Barnhill III
Beaudoin, David D. or Debra K.
Becker, John F. or Abby Swartz
Beemer, Rhonda
Bergeron, Steve P. or Lisa Blakeman, Bernie
Bock Family Foundation c/o Bill Shimon
Bodenberger Estate c/o Joanne Bodenberger
Booth Est., Grace
Borst, Elsie
Bramer, Raymond A.
Briggs, Sharon
Buchanan, Paul or Rhonda
Buell, Leanne M.
Burger, Clarence H.
Busch, Alfred P.

C
Carpenter, Dennis K. or Debra
Carr, Robert
Chance, Gary P.
Clingan, Fred or Suzanne
Collett, Daniel
Cotton, Robert
Crabbs, Bruce
Crawford, Donna P.

Crawley, Ruby
Curler, Ralph
D
Danielson Gloria or Clarence
De Phillips, Milo R.
De Rocher, Marie
Dirks, Maynard or Catherine
Dodd, Helen E.
Dolezal, Patricia E. or Tim
Downey, Joy I. c/o Stacie Cox

E
Emerson, Roger
Espejo, Adolfo T.

F
Fiscus, Jane M.
Foresman Est., Orville c/o Helen L. Foresman
Foresman, Helen L. c/o Sherry Foresman Exec.
Fox, W. F. or Marian B.
Fryman, Robert G.

G
Gibson, William or Marjorie
Gilbert, Michael D. or Linda S.
Glass, Mitze or Danny
Good, Ron G. or Sue Ann
Grim, Gerry or Connie
Grossnickle, Donald I. or Betty J.
Gustafson, Brian
Guzinski, Vincen T.

H
Haley, James
Haley, Jason M. or Maigan M.
Hall, Erin E.
Hall, Ronald or Essie M.

Hamman, William D. or Shelly
Hanley, Mark W.
Hanlon, Lawrence T. or Melvin J. Whitfield
Hansen, Yvonne M.
Hartman, Robert
Harvey, Eric G. or Carla
Hay, Maurice R.
Hayden, Laverne M. c/o Mary Lou Stout
Heaton, Edward D. or Linda S.
Hesse, Richard A. or Deborah J.
Hibbs, Jerry
Hopkins, Helen L.
Hoyt, Gary or Linda
Hudspeth, Todd R.
Hughes, Lloyd W. or Joise D.
Hurd Downey, Denise E.

I
Iames, Jeff
Irlbeck, Donald or Elaine
Israel, John D.

J
James, Tracey
Jeffrey, Jay or Tami E.
Jensen, Don W. c/o Joe Steckelberg
Jensen, George E. or Elaina Joy
Johnson, Howard R.
Johnson, Kurt
Johnston Todd A.
Jones, Ruby
Juckette, Thomas F.

K
Karstens, A.J.
Kaser, Peter G. or Becky Kaser
Khoundarn, Khan
Kissel, Hoseph B. or Karen

Klebs, Jack W.
Kline, Roger W. Or Debra Knapp Jr., Walter
Kollasch, E. Delores
Koontz, Douglas R. or Betsy S.

L
Lageschulte, Jeromy F.
Larsen, Donald D.
Lippincott, Chad M. or Sheila M.
Logan, Michelle A. or Jeffrey
Lumsden, Wallace

M
Magee, Crystal
Mason, Jeffrey P.
McFarland, Charles
McLaughlin, Thomas L. or Katherine M.
McLavey, Morris L. or Diane E.
McLey, Keith c/o La Tisha Coleman
McMillen, James
Merritt, Cynthia A. or Michael C.
Miller, Jeffrey T.
Miller, Thomas
Moody, Dallas E. c/o Iola Baumgardner
Morrow, Gary
Mote II, Howard M.
Mueller, Dave D.

N
Neus, Jason D.
Nevins, Ken
Norman, Lee

P
Parker, Alberta F.
Pauk, Mike K.
Petersen, Edna M.

Petersen Est., Levi c/o Edna M. Petersen
Phillips, Gilbert T. or Joan
Plummer, James A.

R
Raab, Jerimiah
Ramquist, Shelly
Ristig, Bernard or Melissa
Rogers, Charlie or Wendy
Rosenquist, Richard
Lowell or Joan R.
Ross, John H. or Betty L.

S
Santee, John Jr. or Darlene
Schrack Jr., Donald D.
Schultes, Larry J.
Scott, Rodney A. or Shelly D.
Shaffer, Dana, or Joan E.
Sharp, Albert
Shroyer, Beryl L. or Lorene K.
Smith, Kevin D. or Jill S.
Sorensen, Jerry S. or Ramona D.
Stangl, Jerome M. or Mary A.
Stein, Janice
Stewart, Allen G.
Strain, Roger D. or Jill K.
Strong, Edward R. or Josephine
Sundquist, Roberta

T
Talbot, John W.
Tasler, Marvin or Katherine S.

Taylor, Ronald L. or Rebecca S.
Thacker, Carolyn A.
Thompson, Otis Lyle
Thompson, Sara L. or Chris Thompson
Thompson, Sean W.
Ticknor, Allen
Toft, Donald F. or Donna
Tope, Ronald or Jan
Tri State Outdoor Media Group Inc.
Trump Sr., Ronald W. or Gwenda

V
Vanderheiden, Margaret

W
Wahlert, Leonard or Irene M.
Walter, Carol A.
Wang, David or Chunyan
Webb, Michelle
White, Gilbert or Dorothy
White, Randy E. or Donna E.
Whitney, Terry J. or Louise
Wiemers, John A. or Shirley
Wigton, Roger E. or Sharon S.
Wilkinson, David
Williams, Linda
Williams, Rodney D.
Wilson, Joanna C. or Catherine Allen
Wittrock, Josh T.
World Wide Fiber/Att: Joe Rietman

Z
Zeigler Est., Saranne c/o Frank Miller

Editor's Choice Contest

You have 12 chances to win this month!



For a chance to win one of a dozen Blackout Buddy H₂O emergency lights this month, complete the entry form at the *Living with Energy in Iowa* website at www.livingwithenergyiniowa.com by Sept. 30, 2016. ⚡

Reminder to electric heat users:



Heat rates go into effect Oct. 1.

Get to know a director of Guthrie County REC



NAME: Steve Bireline.
MY FAMILY: Wife – Tammy; daughters – Amanda (Jason) and Stef (Marcus); sons – Chris

and Alex; grandchildren – Cydney, Saige, Harper, Soyer, Monroe and Nixon.

OCCUPATION: Former owner and present co-owner of Westline Fencing.

MY FIRST JOB EVER: Bailing hay and walking beans.

SOMEONE I ADMIRE AND WHY: My wife. She never quits pushing herself to try to better her career and life and family.

HOBBIES/INTERESTS: Try to relax and enjoy grandkids and family.

FAVORITE VACATION SPOT AND WHY: Alaska – it’s laid-back and peaceful.

SOMETHING NOT EVERYONE KNOWS ABOUT ME: I’m shy.

WHAT’S ONE THING YOU LEARNED ABOUT GCREC AFTER BECOMING A DIRECTOR THAT YOU DIDN’T KNOW BEFORE? The volume of income and expense that we deal with on a monthly basis.

WHAT’S HARD ABOUT BEING A COOPERATIVE DIRECTOR? It gets easier the longer you are a director, but there are still a lot of matters that have to be discussed and you hope to make the best decision for the co-op and members. You have to trust the employees and administration because they are the front line for the co-op, and I feel that we have one of the best groups in the state of Iowa.

WORDS TO LIVE BY: Push yourself to always try to better yourself, but also take time to enjoy it. ⚡

After 43 years, line superintendent Jim Terwilliger retires

Guthrie County REC line superintendent Jim Terwilliger retired from the cooperative Sept. 2, after 43 years of dedicated service.

He recalls his first day on the job, Sept. 4, 1973: “I walked in and saw some rough, tough linemen that I had never seen before,” he said. “We loaded up poles and went along Highway 141 west of Bagley and changed out rotten poles. Then we went into Bagley to have coffee for break and I thought that was pretty cool.”

The bond that forms among linemen is based on trust, a necessity when you’re handling high voltage that could kill you in one wrong move. It’s important to know that your crew is looking out for you, and you for them. Jim said improved equipment, safety practices and safety education over the years has helped reduce accidents on the job. Though the work remains physically demanding, upgraded equipment has helped linemen do their jobs faster and more safely in order to ensure cooperative members receive reliable electricity.



It’s in the toughest times that Jim found his greatest rewards. “When a storm has hit, you can look down the road and not see a pole standing for miles,” he said. “So you work hard to get everything back up, and when you get the line energized again, that’s a good feeling.”

In retirement, Jim is looking forward to fishing on Lake Oahe in Pierre, South Dakota, where he has a trailer. He’s also looking forward to “chasing around our seven grandkids.” His family includes his wife, Doris; daughters Jamie (Curt) and Jacie (Jared); and sons Jimmy (Alexis) and Jordan. ⚡



EVERY DAY,

about 33 children in the United States are injured in agriculture-related incidents and every three days, a child dies in a farm accident.*

Teach your children how to be safe around farm equipment. Visit guthrie-rec.coop for information to keep your family safe during the harvest season.



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*National Children’s Center for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety, 2016 Fact Sheet, Childhood Agricultural Injuries in the U.S.



Meranda and Coy Gruber, children of Guthrie County REC lineman Jeremy Gruber.