

A newsletter from the Arrowhead Electric Cooperative, Inc.

The High Line

By Line

July 2009, vol. 15



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Round-up

By Mark Glaess, Manager

Minnesota Rural Electric Association

Drift wood sculpture, as it turns out, is much in demand on Minnesota's North Shore. The supply picked up when Arrowhead Electric donated \$702 to the Grand Marias Art Center. The Boundary Waters Amateur Radio club is frequently called upon for emergency support. The co-op kicked over \$509.00 to outfit the club members with reflective safety vests. The Grand Portage Elderly Nutrition program caged \$500 to fund the 14th annual Wisdom Step Conference.

All told, the electric cooperative donated \$15,897.00, including \$2,452.00 to the Cook County Senior center to install two automatic handicap doors. Mary Petz, the Chair of the Arrowhead Round-Up program, told the annual meeting audience assembled in the St. John's Catholic Church social hall "Look how much that money accumulates and you don't even notice it." Mrs. Petz was, of course, referring to the Round-Up program first implemented eight years ago. First created nearly 20 years ago by Tom Upshaw, CEO of the South Carolina-based Palmetto Electric, the program now in place across the United States has raised well over \$100 million.

True story: Minnesota Valley Electric, based in Jordan, used their Round-Up program to purchase special goggles which afforded sight to a member who had been blind from birth. This year, MVEC donated \$500 to a 15-year old to build benches at a senior center. For that, he'll score the final badge to become an Eagle Scout.

Really, it is a simple idea.

Round-Up the electric bill to the next highest dollar. The most a member would contribute in a year is \$11.88. As Mary observed, "You don't even notice it in your bill."



This is what we do and likely there is a cooperative principle somewhere in there. Across 47 states electric cooperatives help kids go to college. They create jobs. They delve into the far reaches of rural America to provide lights. They give the blind sight and fund sites for hospitals, clinics, schools, fair grounds and everything that is important to rural America.

Imagine that. Over \$100 million raised to help the less fortunate. Franklin Delano Roosevelt, the electric cooperative's patron saint once observed: "The test of our progress is not whether we add more to the abundance of those that have much; it is whether we provide enough for those who have little."

93 percent of co-op customers nationally earn about 14 percent less than the household income average. Rural areas suffer more economic loss during recessions. Those co-op members turn to the co-op for help. Whether it be in the form of Round-Up contributions, using the Rural Economic Loan and Grant program to create jobs or ensuring equality in legislation, some 75 years since our inception, we continue to measure our progress by providing for those who have little.

Watt Savings – Win up to \$500! June 1, 2009 – May 31, 2010

Starting June 1, 2009 Arrowhead Electric members will have an opportunity to earn credits on their electric bill. The new contest entitled, "Watt Savings" aims to change the energy consumption behavior of our membership. Reducing energy consumption is a common message amongst utility companies, politicians and conservation groups. Now, Arrowhead Electric Cooperative will pay you to conserve electricity! To participate, call, e-mail or stop in our office to register for the contest.

218-663-7239 / 1-800-864-3744
rthoreson@accimn.com

Have a happy and safe 4th of July!
Arrowhead Electric will be closed Friday,
July 3rd to observe Independence Day.



Right of way clearing crew will be finishing up on South Clearwater Lake Rd. They will then be moving to Washout Rd, Fireplace Road, and Moose Ridge.

Help Us to Better Serve You

Arrowhead's employees continue to strive toward better customer service and meeting our member's needs. We are finding many accounts have inaccurate contact information and we are asking you to please take a few minutes to fill out the form and return it to us.

We are excited about the new email feature that has been added to our customer service program. This improvement will allow us to send out mass emails

directly to our members email accounts and alert them of scheduled power outages.

The last item on the form is a meter read request. We are asking you to read your meter as a comparison to our automatic meter readings that we receive here in our office. Please remember to include the date that you read your meter.

Primary Contact:

Name _____
first middle last

Home Phone Number _____

Mailing _____

Work Phone Number _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Mobile Phone Number _____

Fire Address _____
(If different from above)

Local Phone Number _____
(service location)

Email _____

SSN _____

Date of Birth _____

Secondary Contact (Spouse/Co-Owner):

Name _____

Work Phone Number _____

Email _____

Mobile Phone Number _____

SSN _____

Date of Birth _____

Meter # _____ Meter Reading _____

Read Date _____

Meter # _____ Meter Reading _____

Read Date _____

Meter # _____ Meter Reading _____

Read Date _____

ChargeWise Program

ChargeWise program prepares for plug-in hybrid electric vehicles

A new pilot program from Great River Energy and Arrowhead Electric Cooperative will make it easier for people to transition from the gas pump to the plug-in.

Beginning this July, Arrowhead Electric will have ChargeWise outlets available for installation in consumers' garages to provide low-cost, off-peak energy for charging plug-in hybrid electric vehicles (PHEVs). The program is being developed in anticipation of the launch of several production PHEVs over the next two years.

The ChargeWise outlets will charge PHEV batteries between the hours of 11 p.m. and 7 a.m. when demand for electricity is at its lowest and the price for wholesale electricity is also at its lowest. Charging the batteries during these hours also allows Great River Energy to "store" wind energy allowing PHEVs to receive a significant amount of power from renewable sources.

"It's cleaner, greener and cheaper than gasoline," said Gary Connett, Great River Energy's director of member services and demand side management. "As more wind energy is added to the electric grid, plug-in hybrid electric vehicles will get even greener."

To help get the program started, Arrowhead Electric will cover the cost up to \$500 of the ChargeWise outlet installation for the first 3 qualified members who are owners of PHEVs.

In addition to PHEVs, Arrowhead Electric currently offers several programs designed to maximize the use of electricity that is generated overnight, including off-peak "storage" water and space heating. Commercial accounts who use Electric Golf Carts for their business operations can sign-up for our Off-Peak rate to further help store wind energy and reduce your energy bills.

Coal Creek Tour

SEE CLINT BLACK LIVE --
ONLY 22 SPOTS AVAILABLE

REGISTER NOW FOR A POWER TRIP & HOSTFEST TOUR

Discover more about the source of the electricity you enjoy everyday with this fun and educational trip.

September 29th – October 2nd, join other Arrowhead Electric Cooperative and Cooperative Light and Power members on a tour of the Coal Creek Power Station in Underwood, North Dakota and a day at the Minot Hostfest with tickets to see Clint Black live.

The cost of this tour is \$350/couple or \$250/single. This modest fee includes transportation, three nights lodging (at the Ramkota Hotel in Bismarck, N.D.), a power plant tour (including Coal Creek Station and Falkirk Mine), a tour of Knife River Interpretive Center, and admission to the Hostfest with tickets to a live performance by Clint Black.

The Ramkota Hotel is located across the street from the Kirkwood Mall (shopping galore!) and offers an indoor pool and water park with a 150-foot water slide, sauna, Seasons Café and Nickels Lounge and Casino.

The tour will depart from the Two Harbors cooperative headquarters at 7:00 A.M. on Tuesday, September 29th and will return around 6:00 P.M. Friday, October 2nd.

Space is limited to the first eleven couples registered with money paid. First time travelers will have first preference. Members, who were on the tour previous years, will be put on a waiting list. If the tour doesn't fill up, you will be notified. Please call our office at (218) 663-7239 or (800) 864-3744 for further details.

Please use the handy registration form below.

COAL CREEK TOUR RESERVATION FORM

A CHECK IS ENCLOSED FOR: _____ \$350.00/PER COUPLE _____ \$250.00/SINGLE

Name(s) _____

Please include first and last name of each person. _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Home phone _____

Work phone _____

E-mail address _____

If you are traveling with a friend, write friend's name here. _____

Sharing a room? _____

_____ SMOKING ROOM _____ NON-SMOKING ROOM

MAIL TO ARROWHEAD ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC., P.O. BOX 39, LUTSEN, MN 55612, OR BRING FORM TO AECI HEADQUARTERS IN LUTSEN.

BE SURE TO INCLUDE YOUR CHECK WITH YOUR RESERVATION.

Leading the way with Wind

The American Wind Energy Association named Great River Energy (Arrowhead Electric's Power Supplier) its Rural Electric Cooperative Utility of the Year, an honor given to the electric cooperative using the most wind. "All of our honorees have worked to advance wind energy, whether through political advocacy,

technical development and application, policy implementation or environmental stewardship," said AWEA CEO Denise Bode. Great River Energy currently has 318.7 megawatts of wind-generated electricity in its portfolio and in May 2009 issued an RFP for additional wind

generation projects. With nearly 320 megawatts of wind generated electricity, Great River Energy is well ahead of the Minnesota Renewable Energy Standard mandated by the State of Minnesota in 2007.

Operation Round-Up Distribution

The Trustee Board of Operation Round-Up is very pleased to report to the membership of Arrowhead Electric Cooperative, Inc. the results of the distribution of membership funds to the following organizations as of the June 1, 2009 trustee meeting held at the Cook County Community Center.

1. **Grand Portage Elderly Nutrition Program** received \$500.
2. **Just Kids Dental Health** received \$500.
3. **Gunflint Trail Historical Society** received \$750.
4. **Grand Marais Arts, Inc.** received \$702.
5. **Boundary Waters Amateur Radio Club** received \$509.
6. **Cook County Higher Education** received \$2,170.
7. **Tofte First Responders** received \$500.
8. **Violence Prevention Center** received \$520.
9. **WTIP North Shore Radio** received \$900.
10. **North Superior Ski & Run Club** received \$600.00.
11. **Grand Marais Playhouse,**

Inc. received \$500.

12. **Cook County Council on Aging/Cook County Senior Center** received \$2,452.
13. **Proposed Hospice/Palliative Care Program for Cook County through the North Shore Health Care Foundation** received \$1,000.
14. **Tofte Historical Society** received \$435.
15. **Grand Marais Volunteer Fire Department** received \$725.
16. **Human Development Center** received \$1,634.
17. **North Shore Dragon Boat Festival** received \$1,500.

The funds were distributed to the recipients at Arrowhead Electric Cooperative's Annual Meeting on June 13th at St. John's Catholic Church. For further individual detail, please visit our web site at www.aecimn.com.

A big **THANK YOU** to the members of Arrowhead Electric for your donations and generosity! The Operation Round-Up program member participation is currently 86%.

Minnesota Broccoli Salad

Ingredients:

- 3 eggs
- 1 cup green olives, sliced
- 3/4 cup mayonnaise
- 1 teaspoon dry mustard powder
- 1 tablespoon chopped fresh dill
- 1 pound broccoli, chopped
- 1/4 cup finely chopped red onion
- 1 (4 ounce) jar diced pimientos, drained
- 1/2 teaspoon celery seed

Directions:

- Place the eggs into a saucepan in a single layer and fill with water to cover the eggs by 1 inch. Cover the saucepan and bring the water to a boil over high heat. Once the water is boiling, remove from the heat and let the eggs stand in the hot water for 15 minutes. Pour out the hot water, and then cool the eggs under cold running water in the sink. Peel and chop once cold.
- Meanwhile, bring a large pot of lightly salted water to a boil. Add the broccoli and cook uncovered until bright green and just tender, about 2 minutes. Drain in a colander, then immediately immerse in ice water for several minutes until cold to stop the cooking process. Once the broccoli is cold, drain well and set aside.
- Combine the red onion, hard-cooked eggs, green olives, pimientos, mayonnaise, mustard powder, celery seed, and dill in a mixing bowl. Stir in the drained cooked broccoli. Refrigerate overnight for best flavor.

Rebate Information:

Below are the current rebate offers through AECI.

- CFL Bulbs (minimum 5)
- Energy Star Appliances
- Ground Source & Air Source Heat Pumps
- Energy Star Air Conditioners
- Water Heaters
- Storage Space Heating

You will find the necessary forms for the above listed AECI rebates at www.aecimn.com or call our office.

Special 2009 Rebate offers:

- Outlet Gaskets
- Water Heater Blanket
- Power Strips
- Pipe Insulation
- Retractable Clothes Line
- Water Saver Shower Head
- Door Sweeps
- Expanding Foam
- Indoor Shrink Wrap
- Programmable Thermostat
- Weather Stripping

Simply submit a copy of your receipt to our office for the Special 2009 rebate offers, and remember to include your name and your account number on the receipt.

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Board President: Tom Spence
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Cooperative Board Meeting last
Thursday of each month @ 9:00 a.m.

