

## Program

5 p.m. Registration

5-6:20 p.m. Complimentary Supper - Catered by Kyle's Katering

6:30 p.m. Call to Order Determination of a Quorum Invocation Welcome Reading of Notice and Previous Minutes President's Report General Manager's Report Service Awards Presentation of Scholarships Election of Directors Unfinished Business New Business Grand Prize Drawing Adjournment

\* Watch the monitor for door prize ticket winners throughout the program.



Action Committee for Rural Electrification

For more information on how you can help, see our booth at the annual meeting.

## President's Report



Larry Gessele Board President

It hardly seems possible that a year has passed since my last letter. The changes on our national scene, from last year, are truly staggering. What is happening now conjures up a statement from the book – A Tale of Two Cities – which says, "It was the best of times; it was the worst of times."

The Clean Power Plan, which would have really put the power industry in a perilous position

short term, has been put on hold. This does give the industry time to adjust to changes they know will be needed in the future.

Now we have to deal with the looming possibility of a global trade war, which does not usually bode well for the Ag sector of our economy.

On the co-op scene the picture is changing also

as the baby-boomers are being surpassed in numbers and influence by the millennial generation. In the past, in general, the role of the REC co-ops in our state has been to improve the quality of life in the rural areas that were bypassed by the Investor Owned Utilities, which we still do today. But the challenge is to inform and involve the millennial as member owners in this rapidly changing world of renewable energy, battery storage, etc.

Within the next ten years it will be up to the millennials to carry the ball for this co-op if we want to maintain reliable service and remain active in the community. After getting to meet and know many of these bright, young individuals, I have a very good feeling that with their involvement there is a bright future for this co-op and this area.

In closing, I would like to thank all the MEC employees for the great job they have done this past year. Also, it has been a real pleasure to work with MEC board and management and I look forward to continuing that work this next year.

## Board of Directors



Larry Gessele



Clarence Behles



Darcy Klain



**Troy Presser** 



Rod Stockdill



Thomas Sheldon



James Odermann



Dave Lindell, Attorney

## Manager's Report



Martin Dahl General Manager

Welcome to your Annual Meeting. 2017 was a fantastic year for McLean Electric Cooperative. We stayed under budget and our revenues were higher than expected in 2017. It was a normal year for weather which makes it easier to meet our budget requirements. The Margins were high because of a large non-cash allocation from our transmission provider Central Power Electric

Cooperative. The strong margins with no G&T rate increase coupled with normal weather patterns, made it possible to maintain rates at 2017 levels for 2018. McLean Electric continues with a strong maintenance program, which has lowered the number and duration our outage. Our outage statistics are lower than the national average. It was a great year and I need to thank the staff for all their hard work and dedication. They kept the lights on and stayed under budget.

What does the future hold. We have moved all metering to cycle 2. What that means to three phase accounts, typically farms and commercial accounts, is that the demand billing will run from the first of each month to the end of the month. All the three phase meters have been reprogrammed and can be read from the office. At times issues do arise where we need to send out a meter reader. The big deal with the dates of the demand is that the member does not want to start the motor in a demand period that they do not intend to use the motor. If you keep track of when you start your motor, you will save money.

Several large three phase projects are in the works this summer. Over \$800,000 in cable will be put in the ground before fall. Many of these projects are replacement of old style cable that has come close to the end of its life cycle. The projects include: Replacing cable North East of Crooked Lake, three phase over-head to underground near Falkirk for mining, Garrison Creek one phase to three phases for load balancing and better voltage. McLean Electric also plans to replace five miles of three phase cable between Benedict and Coleharbor.

Central Power Electric Cooperative, our transmission provider, has two large projects in our area this summer. The Blue Flint Ethanol project will bring a circuit from the Western Area Power Substation to Blue Flint and the GRE pump. This line is being paid for by Basin and Central and saves wheeling costs associated with Ottertail. The new line will be more reliable for Blue Flint and reduce blinks on our system. Blue Flint added 5 years to their contract to provide the necessary cash flow to ensure a return on the investment. The Max to Benedict line will also be built this year. That line will save wheeling costs and minimize transmission blinks in the area. This line is being paid for by Basin and Central Power. These investments are a big win for McLean Electric cooperative. It is our hope to cost justify a similar project to Turtle Lake in the future.

The Federal regulations involving Carbon Dioxide emissions and Water Laws are in the process of being rewritten. We want to thank several of you for contacting your legislators on these issues. The new administration appears to be on a more commonsense approach to carbon regulations as well as water regulations. We are currently in a holding pattern until the new improved version is out for review.

In conclusion, I am happy to report that we are on track for another good year, based on first quarter revenue. If weather patterns hold, we have no major storms, and our wholesale rate does not go up too much, we plan to go into 2019 without a rate increase. Time will tell the story on that.

It is my pleasure to serve the members of McLean Electric Cooperative.

### **Mission Statement**

"It shall be the aim of McLean Electric Cooperative, Inc. to make electric energy available to its members at the lowest cost consistent with sound economy and good management."

> McLean Electric Cooperative Founding Board of Directors, 1945

## **Operation Round Up**®



Sometimes little things in life add up to make a big difference just when it's needed the most. That's what McLean Electric Cooperative members do by participating in Operation RoundUp<sup>®</sup> – make a positive difference. Participating members voluntarily "round up" their monthly account statement to the nearest dollar. Always less than a dollar a month, the funds go into the Operation RoundUp<sup>®</sup> Trust Account.

A seven-member volunteer board of directors meets twice a year to distribute Operation RoundUp<sup>®</sup> grants to organizations or individuals in need throughout McLean Electric's service area. Grant recipients could be someone in need of assistance after a house fire, or a medical emergency. Funds could go to any of the county's local food pantries, which in turn help residents in need. Grants may help sponsor a community event or bolster needed funding to support a community daycare center.

While McLean Electric's board of directors appoints Operation RoundUp<sup>®</sup> board members, the organization operates independently of the cooperative.

McLean Electric provides a small amount of staff time to administer the program as its Operation RoundUp® contribution. However, it is the donations and support from the cooperative's members that truly makes the program a success.

Nearly 70 percent of McLean Electric Cooperative's approximately 4,000 accounts contributed to Operation RoundUp<sup>®</sup> in 2017.

As more community and non-profit organizations become aware of the program and its success grows, the Operation RoundUp<sup>®</sup> board is pleased to announce

#### May 2017 Operation RoundUp® donations:

- Arikara Community Action Group
- · Community Cupboard of Underwood
- Garrison Junior Golf
- · Garrison Fire Department
- Lord's Pantry of Turtle Lake
- Turtle Lake Chamber of Commerce
- Turtle Lake Hospital Association

#### October 2017 Operation RoundUp® donations:

- Camp of the Cross on behalf of Casey and Kristina Steele
- · Garrison Parks and Recreation Department
- Mercer Community Center
- North Dakota Association for the Disabled Escape to the Lake Event
- Our Savior Church Lord's Pantry
- Trinity Lutheran Home, Turtle Lake

that in 2017 they awarded a record amount of funding - \$21,850 to a total 13 recipients during its May and October meetings. The 2017 financial report is detailed below.

More detailed information about Operation Round-Up<sup>®</sup>, how to apply for grants, eligibility, and the upcoming grant round deadline will be available in an upcoming issue of McLean Electric's Local Pages in the North Dakota LIVING magazine. Applications and guidelines are also available on McLean Electric's website, mcleanelectric.com.

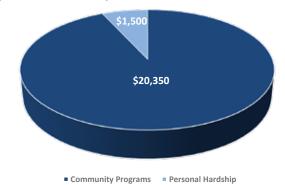
Yes, little things in life can add up to make a big difference. When it comes to the small change collected monthly from benevolent McLean Electric consumers, it makes a big difference in someone's life just when they need it the most. McLean Electric launched Operation RoundUp<sup>®</sup> after its members voted during its 2011 annual meeting to join other cooperatives across the United States already participating in Operation RoundUp<sup>®</sup> programs.

Thank you, McLean Electric Cooperative members, for initiating and supporting Operation RoundUp<sup>®</sup>. McLean Electric is honored to be part of the program and assist in its success.

#### 2017 Operation RoundUp® Financial Report

Beginning Balance (January 1, 2017)	\$ 26,422.16
INCOME	
Round Up Contributions	\$ 14,160.78
Total Income	\$ 14,160.78
EXPENSES	
Grants Awarded in 2017	\$ 21,850.00
PROGRAM EXPENSES	
Administrative Expenses	\$ 10.00
Total Expenses	\$ 21,860.00
Ending Balance (December 31, 2017)	\$ 18,722.94

#### Operation RoundUp® Donations 2017



## Annual Meeting Minutes – June 20, 2017

The 72<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of the members of McLean Electric Cooperative, Inc., was held at the Garrison City Auditorium in Garrison, North Dakota, on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2017. The meeting was called by order by President Larry Gessele at 6:30 o'clock p.m.

Dinner was prepared by Kyle's Katering of Garrison, North Dakota, and served by the Garrison Legion Baseball Team, the "Titans."

President Gessele led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance and introduced Reverend Janis Slokum of Camp of the Cross, of rural Garrison, North Dakota, who gave the opening invocation. The National Anthem was presented to the audience followed by recognition of present and past military service personnel.

President Gessele introduced representatives from each of North Dakota's Congressional Offices, Sally Johnson, representing Senator Hoven; Norm McLeod representing Senator Heitkamp, and Rick Collin, representing Congressman Cramer, who each read a letter written by the Senators and Congressman to the attendees.

President Gessele introduced other dignitaries and guests who were in attendance. Secretary, Rod Stockdill, informed President Gessele that a quorum was present and President Gessele informed the attendees that the Cooperative was open for business.

President Gessele reported that the Notice of the 72<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting was ready to be read for approval. It was moved that a reading of the Notice be waived and it be approved as presented. The motion was seconded and carried.

President Gessele reported that the minutes of the 71<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting were ready to be read for approval by the membership. It was moved that the reading of the minutes be waived and that they be approved as presented. The motion was seconded and carried.

President Gessele introduced the Cooperative's Board of Directors and the Cooperative's employees to the audience, and provided his report to the attendees:

• He mentioned that the electric industry is in a rising rate environment, at least for the short

term, but the Board is doing its best to lessen the burden on its members.

- He mentioned that the Board had been asked about a possibility of the merger with another Cooperative and he stated that after a long and serious discussion, that due to the Cooperative being strong financially and growing and having a very strong work force, it was not a good time for a merger plus no offer has been received.
- He reported that the Cooperative is expanding its headquarters in which repairs were badly needed and that it was a good time since interest rates were still low. He mentioned that the cost of the addition would be about \$.39 per month per meter.

President Gessele then introduced the Member Advisory Board to the audience and thanked the members for their input and service to the Cooperative. He introduced Manager Martin D. Dahl who discussed the following in his report:

- The Cooperative did its best to keep the rates low and to delay any raise in rates during the past year. The Cooperative had a good year financially which will keep the Cooperative's equity at a reasonable level for the future which is due to the strong work force that the Cooperative has.
- He thanked the employees for their hard work and dedication to the Cooperative.
- He discussed the following National Legislative Issues:
  - Rollback of the Clean Power Plan along with his meeting with the current EPA administrator who sees the CPP as over-reaching.
  - The rethinking of the Waters of the United States (WOTUS) Rule. The current budget will leave RUS funding intact but the REDLG could be eliminated. WAPA or APMA could be sold which could drastically raise rates to Cooperative's in the region.
  - He spoke about the Acre Program and

invited any attendants to join if they have not already done so.

Manager Dahl introduced Business Manager, Brett Holtz, who gave the Financial Report for the Cooperative.

• Total revenue received was \$12,716,347.00 with a total kwh sold in 2016 of \$124,622,346.00 with a net margin of \$1,766,359.00. He reported that the financial ratios of the Cooperative are healthy and are higher than required by the Cooperative's lenders.

Manager Dahl gave a generation and transmission report. He mentioned that the Max to Benedict and Washburn to Blue Flint Ethanol transmission lines are being planned with construction to occur shortly. These lines will provide a better rate to the Cooperative. He mentioned a possible new irrigation system South of Mercer and reported that Basin Electric is looking strong presently.

President Gessele presented the following scholarships:

- 1. McLean Electric/Basin Electric scholarship of \$500.00 each to Kimberly Kolden, daughter of Travis and Dawn Kolden of Ryder, and Cassidy Schafer, daughter of Shawn and Lani Schafer of Turtle Lake.
- 2. McLean Electric scholarship of \$500.00 to Cassidy Huesers, daughter of Marlo and Paula Huesers of Max.
- 3. The 2017 Youth Tour winner is Ryeleigh Laib, daughter of Sheldon and Anita Laib of Mercer.

Manager Dahl presented the following Service Awards:

- Rick Gienger Lineman 40 years
- Nathan Ruud Lineman 15 years
- Robert Schafer Meter Reader 10 years

Manager Dahl announced the terms of Directors for District 2 and District 7 were up for election. President Gessele is a candidate for District 7, so he turned the meeting over to Vice- President Klain who announced that the following candidates had presented petitions for nomination:

- District 2 Clarence Behles
- District 7 Larry Gessele

As each candidate was unopposed, Vice-President Klain asked for a motion to cast a unanimous ballot for candidates Behles and Gessele. The motions were seconded and carried. Vice-President Klain turned the meeting back over to President Gessele.

Manager Dahl presented an Operation Round-Up Report. He introduced the Operation Round-Up Directors to the attendees and reported that the program provided \$11,000.00 over the past year.

President Gessele asked for any old business. There was none.

President Gessele asked for any new business. During new business, past Cooperative President Alvin Myers made a motion to allow current directors and Cooperative employees who are members of the Cooperative to be included in the grand prize drawing for attendees. The motion was seconded and carried by the membership. There was no other new business.

President Gessele announced that the 72<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting grand prize was in the amount of \$1,000.00 which would be given to a meeting attendee, who is present. The 2017 winner was Donald Iglehart. Other door prizes were presented as well.

President Gessele thanked the attendees for attending the 72<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting. The meeting upon a motion made, seconded and carried, was adjourned.

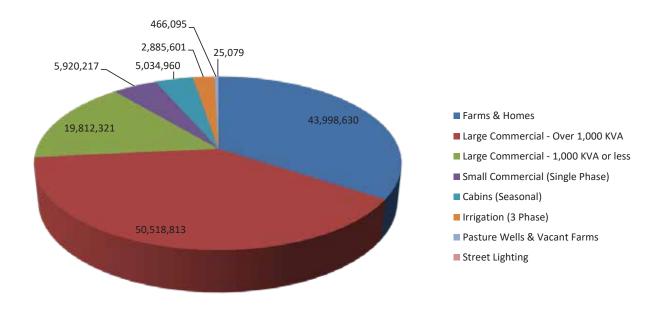
Balance Sheet

A33013		
	2017	2016
ELECTRIC PLANT		
In Service	36,841,557	33,630,721
Electric Plant Under Construction	3,461,444	3,526,619
Total Electric Plant	40,303,001	37,157,340
Less Accumulated Depreciation	10,060,966	9,397,164
Net Electric Plant	30,242,035	27,760,176
OTHER ASSETS AND INVESTMENTS	E 042 9E0	E E 42 E 00
Investments in Associated Companies Other Investments	5,942,859	5,543,598
Other investments	487,628	527,128
Total Other Assets and Investments	6,430,487	6,070,726
CURRENT ASSETS Cash	974 200	716 641
Accounts Receivable - Electric Bills	874,399	716,641
Curr Portion Other Investments - Loans Rec	1,561,029	1,484,482
Materials & Supplies	98,621 508,873	95,156 591,856
Other Current and Accrued Assets	42,151	8,203
Total Current Assets	3,085,073	2,896,338
Total Ourient Assets	0,000,070	2,000,000
DEFERRED DEBITS	470,941	511,428
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Total Deferred Debits	470,941	511,428
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TOTAL ASSETS	40,228,536	37,238,668

Liabilities			
	2017	2016	
EQUITIES			
Patronage Capital - Members	12,804,654	11,335,313	
Other Margins & Equities	934,434	915,958	
Total Equities	13,739,088	12,251,271	
LONG-TERM DEBT (RUS, FFB, COBANK)	22 655 002	21 501 127	
Total Long-Term Debt	23,655,093	21,584,427	
Less Current Maturities	1,045,199	949,334	
Total Long Term Debt (Net)	22,609,894	20,635,093	
OTHER NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Capital Leases - Noncurrent	213,645	277,575	
Accumulated Provision for Pension & Benefits	361,434	392,752	
Total Non-Current Liabilities	575,079	670,327	
CURRENT LIABILITIES	4 0 4 5 4 0 0	040 004	
Current Maturities - Long Term Debt	1,045,199	949,334	
Current Maturities - Capital Leases	63,930	61,540	
Line of Credit	300,000	1,050,000	
Accounts Payable - Power Supplier	850,025	937,021	
Accounts Payable - General	468,136	111,993	
Member Deposits	48,401	48,693	
Other Current and Accrued Liabilities	494,998	485,711	
Total Current Liabilities	3,270,689	3,644,292	
DEFERRED CREDITS			
Advanced Payment for Electricity - Members	33,786	37,685	
TOTAL EQUITIES AND LIABILITIES	40,228,536	37,238,668	

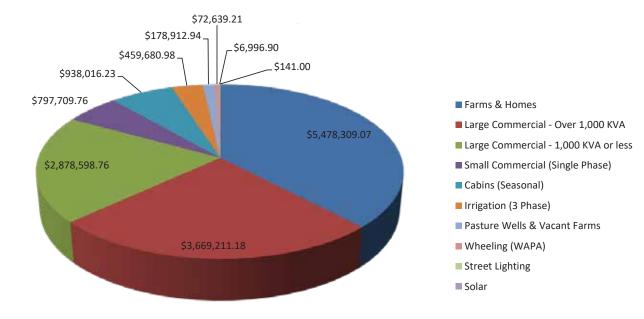
OPERATING REVENUES	2017	2016
Sales of Electricity	14,506,228	13,285,555
	,,	,,
OPERATING EXPENSES		
Cost of Power	8,728,502	7,919,323
<b>Operations &amp; Maintenance</b>	1,199,287	1,330,705
Member Accounts	333,552	317,156
Member Service	67,895	56,396
Administrative and General	984,745	936,295
Depreciation	995,629	923,175
Taxes	95,166	87,831
Other	16,089	16,951
Sales Expense	89,266	93,590
Total Operating Expenses	12,510,131	11,681,422
OPERATING MARGINS	1,996,097	1,604,133
FIXED CHARGES		
Interest on Long-Term Debt	769,417	758,023
Interest on Capital Lease Oblig	12,085	14,086
Total Fixed Charges	781,502	772,109
5	,	,
O. MARGIN AFTER FIXED CHGES	1,214,595	832,024
G&T AND OTHER CAP CREDIT	608,196	943,258
NET OPERATING MARGINS	1,822,791	1,775,282
NON-OPERATING MARGINS		
Merchandising	844	(11,588)
Interest Income	6,285	6,285
Gain (Loss) on Disposal prop	1,805	(3,620)
	, ,	
Total non-operating margins	8,934	(8,923)
NET MARGIN	1,831,725	1,766,359

# kWh Usage



kWh Usage		
Farms & Homes	43,998,630	
Large Commercial - Over 1,000 K	50,518,813	
Large Commercial - 1,000 KVA or	19,812,321	
Small Commercial (Single Phase)	5,920,217	
Cabins (Seasonal)	5,034,960	
Irrigation (3 Phase)	2,885,601	
Pasture Wells & Vacant Farms	466,095	
Street Lighting	25,079	
TOTAL	128,661,716	

## Revenue



Revenue From Sales of Energy			
Farms & Homes	\$	5,478,309.07	
Large Commercial - Over 1,000 K	\$	3,669,211.18	
Large Commercial - 1,000 KVA or	\$	2,878,598.76	
Small Commercial (Single Phase)	\$	797,709.76	
Cabins (Seasonal)	\$	938,016.23	
Irrigation (3 Phase)	\$	459,680.98	
Pasture Wells & Vacant Farms	\$	178,912.94	
Wheeling (WAPA)	\$	72,639.21	
Street Lighting	\$	6,996.90	
Solar	\$	141.00	
TOTAL	\$	14,480,216.03	

# Year End Comparison

	2017	2016	
Active Services	4,037	3,981	
Farms and Homes	2,302	2,292	
Cabins (seasonal)	944	916	
Small Commercial	305	296	
Pature wells & Vacant Farms	255	257	
Irrigation (3 Phase)	84	78	
Large Commercial	76	70	
Large cCommercial Oil	35	36	
USAF	31	31	
Street and Highway lighting	5	5	
Submeters	1,412	1,368	
Load Control Devices	667	660	
Residential	616	606	
Irrigation (3 Phase)	51	54	
Miles of Line		1,792	
Overhead	1,333	1,346	
Underground	470	446	
kWh sold	128,661,716	124,622,346	
Sales of Energy	\$ 14,480,216	\$ 13,262,050	
Average Member Cost	11.25 ¢	10.64 ¢	
Employees	25	24	
Full time	21	21	
Part time	4	3	

## McLean Electric Cooperative Awards Scholarships

The McLean Electric Cooperative scholarship committee has chosen Ally Behles and Hope Scheresky as recipients of the McLean Electric/Basin Electric scholarships. These scholarships were awarded on the basis of academic excellence, which includes the following criteria: ACT scores, work experience and participation in school and community activities. Both scholarships were for \$500 each.

This year 11 applications were received. All applicants were rated favorably, which is an indication of the quality of students we have in McLean Electric's service territory. These scholarships will be presented at the 73<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting June 19<sup>th</sup> in Garrison.



#### Ally Behles

Ally will graduate from Garrison High School and is the daughter of Cory and Cindy Behles of Garrison. She will be attending North Dakota State University where she will major in a math or science related field, like engineering. Ally has been involved in extracurricular activities such as ND Association of Honor Society, Band, FBLA and numerous sports activities. She has also been very active volunteering in her community with youth programs. Last summer Ally was employed as a lifeguard and teacher at the City of Garrison pool. She is also a hired hand at Behles Farms.



#### Hope Scheresky

Hope is the daughter of Galen and Bonnie Scheresky of Max. She will graduate from Max Public School and will be attending North Dakota State University to major in Biological Sciences and a minor in Chemistry. After graduating with a bachelor's degree she hopes to attend medical school and become either a pediatrician or an anesthesiologist. Hope is very active on her family farm with cattle, crop production and working for her parents. During high school she has participated in FFA, National Honor Society, basketball, cross country and 4-H. Hope is also active in her community of Max.

#### McLean Electric Scholarship

Each entry had to include a short statement for an essay question to be eligible for the \$500 scholarship. This year's essay question was: 'Describe how a cooperative can build a culture to best serve its members.' This scholarship will also be presented at the Annual Meeting.

#### Brooke Goven



Brooke will graduate from Turtle Lake-Mercer Public School and is the daughter of Brian and Tina Goven of Mercer. She will be attending the University of North Dakota to pursue a degree in Banking and Finance and hopes to return to her family farm. Her goal is to expand her herd of cows to ensure her community has food on their plates and hopes to one day impact the lives of others by helping them with their financial needs. Brooke feels it is important to do anything and everything to help farmers, ranchers and businesses in rural America to survive.

# 2018 Basin Electric Student Scholarships

Basin Electric Cooperative takes great pride in its ability to assist in developing rural leadership in our region through our scholarship program. The following are winners in the 2018-2019 Membership Cooperative Employee Dependent Scholarships.

- · Ashley Umphlett, Big Horn Rural Electric, Basin, WY
- Mattisen Kelley, Black Hills Electric Cooperative, Custer, SD
- Kaylin Bohr, Central Electric Cooperative, Mitchell, SD
- Brayson Wilcox, Empire Electric Association, Inc., Cortez, CO
- Nicholas Resch, Federated Rural Electric, Jackson, MN
- · Taylor Course, High West Energy, Pine Bluffs, WY
- · Rachel Majeres, Hill County Electric Cooperative, Havre, MT
- Jacob Fischer, Lyon-Lincoln Electric Cooperative, Inc., Tyler, MN
- Madeline Moe, McLean Electric Cooperative, Garrison, ND
- · Kadie Hansen, Midwest Electric Cooperative Corporation, Grant, NE
- Kaycee Binder, Morgan County REA, Fort Morgan, CO
- Dylan Miller, Niobrara Electric Association, Lusk, WY
- Martina Mercure, Northern Rio Arriba Electric Cooperative, Inc., Chuma, NM
- Jayde VanDerWerff, Rosebud Electric Cooperative, Inc., Gregory, SD
- Reina Bueno, San Isabel Electric Association, Pueblo, CO
- Broden Wanner, Sioux Valley Energy, Colman, SD
- · Mikaela Smith, South Central Electric Association, St. James, MN
- · Ashley Fink, Southeastern Electric Cooperative, Marion, SD
- · Jaidyn Swartz, Springer Electric Cooperative, Springe, NM
- Allison Zipp, Wright-Hennepin Cooperative Electric Association, Rockford, MN



#### Madeline Moe

Madeline will graduate from Garrison High School and is the daughter of Sonja and Curtiss Moe of Garrison. She will be attending Bismarck State College where she will major in the Dakota Nursing Program. Madeline has been involved in extracurricular activities such as ND Association of Honor Society, FBLA, FCA, LYO and numerous sports activities. She has also been very active volunteering in her community and church with youth programs. Last summer, Madeline was employed as a lifeguard and teacher at the City of Garrison pool. She is also a hired hand at Garrison Furnace.

## Youth Tour Essay Winner



Turtle Lake-Mercer High School sophomore Rachel Goven loves to write.

And she loves to read. Buoyed with encouragement from her English teacher, Anita Laib, and her good friend, Ryeleigh Laib, it seemed natural for Rachel to enter McLean Electric Cooperative's National Association of Rural Electric Cooperatives Washington, D.C. Youth Tour essay contest.

The topic – how Americans can honor and look after our millions of military veterans and service men and women – interested her. Armed with research and her love of writing, the words seemed to flow naturally. "I loved the topic," she smiled, "I entered because I liked the topic and like writing."

Those dreaded English essays many students fear? Not Rachel. "I actually love to write," she added. "Writing is something I've always liked to do."

However, her love of reading and writing didn't necessarily translate into confidence that her thoughts would garner her a trip to the nation's capital.

She was in disbelief when she received the call from McLean Electric Member Services Communicator, Sonja Moe, telling her that she won the contest. "I was so happy, just thrilled," she smiled.

Mrs. Laib was equally as delighted, as was Ryeleigh. She had the opportunity to attend the Youth Tour in 2017 and knew what an exciting time Rachel would experience. "I never imagined I would get to do this, (go to Washington, D.C.), in my lifetime," Rachel exclaimed.

The contest is open to students who will be sophomores or juniors in the upcoming school year. Rachel encourages students to enter: "Go in as if you can win."



## Meet the District 4 Candidate



Darcy Klain, Incumbent Candidate: District 4

Darcy is a farmer/rancher from Ruso. She has served on the McLean Electric Cooperative Board of Directors representing District 4 – Ruso for the past three years. She has also worked with the Southern McLean County Soil and Water Conservation District and has been an ag loan officer for Dakota West Credit Union. She has an associate's degree form Minot State University. She is married to Durnell and they have three children: Tyler, Dalyce and Trey.

She is active in the TL-M Sports Boosters, TL-M FFA Alumni, St. Olaf's Church, McLean County 4-H, the North Dakota Simmental Association and the North Dakota Junior Simmental Association. She enjoys gardening, traveling and attending livestock shows and sporting events.

## District 6 Nominations will be taken from the floor

## Hello from Tom Sheldon



Tom Sheldon

Tom is from Washburn and has lived in McLean County his whole life. His is an NDSU graduate and a self-employed farmer in McLean County. He is married to Kim and has three grown children, Justin, Callie and Tyge, and eight grandchildren. Tom enjoys hunting, fishing, golf and any other outdoor activities. He spends as much time as he can entertaining his grandchildren and keeping them busy.

Tom has served on the McLean Electric Cooperative Board of Directors for the past three years representing District 6 - Washburn. He has also served on the Operation RoundUp<sup>®</sup> Board, McLean County FSA Committee and has been on many advisory boards.

"I was late in returning my McLean Electric Cooperative Board petition due to health issues. Therefore, nominations from the floor as dictated by the bylaws, will be presented at the annual meeting on June 19. I hope that I can count on your support once again to represent District 6. Thank you."

Your friend, Tom

## Service Awards

#### 30 years of service



Les Larson

Engineering Consultant

#### 15 years of service



Travis Voth Line Foreman

#### 10 years of service



Lucas Dusek

# Your Cooperative Staff



Management

Martin Dahl, General Manager/CEO 9 Years

Cara Bauer, Staking Engineer 2 Years

#### Operations & Engineering



Keith Thelen, Operations Manager 4 Years



Kelly Schmaltz, Warehouseman/Locator 4 Years



Les Larson, Engineering Consultant 30 Years



Austin Dillard Mapping & Computer Service Coord. New Employee

#### Metering



Anne Brawley, Metering/Master Electrician 7 Years



Robert Schaffer Meter Reader 11 Years

#### Garrison Line Crew



Daryl Engel, Line Foreman – Garrison 44 Years



Rick Gienger, Lead Lineman – Garrison 41 Years



Nathan Ruud, Lineman – Garrison 16 Years



Lucas Dusek, Lineman – Garrison 10 Years



Jesse Carter, Lineman – Garrison 3 Years

#### Turtle Lake Line Crew



Travis Voth, Line Foreman – Turtle Lake 15 Years



Brian O'Shea, Lineman – Turtle Lake 9 years



Trevor Thomas, Lineman – Turtle Lake 2 Years

#### Administrative Assistant



Renee Fetzer, Administrative Assistant 33 years

#### Billing & Customer Service



Tonya Graeber, Billing Supervisor 19 Years



Julie Streich, Customer Service Rep. 4 Years

#### Finance & Accounting



Wendy Kinn, Finance Manager 4 Years



Marcia Zimmerman, Accountant 14 Years

Member Services Benefits/HR



Sonja Moe 10 months

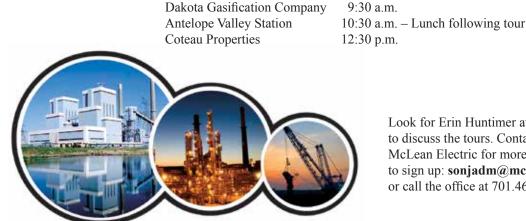
4 Years

19

# Free Power Plant/Mine Tours

# Tuesday, July 10, 2018

Members are invited to visit the Great Plains Synfuels Plant, the Antelope Valley Station and the Freedom Mine. Learn how your cooperative power supply system keeps your electricity affordable and reliable. Learning about the big energy picture helps us all make smart choices everywhere, from our households and businesses to the public policy arena.



Look for Erin Huntimer at the meeting tonight to discuss the tours. Contact Sonja Moe at McLean Electric for more information or to sign up: sonjadm@mcleanelectric.com or call the office at 701.463.6700.

## Member Gift



Ten dollar credit will automatically be applied to each valid member account when member registers at MEC's 2018 Annual Meeting. Credit will show on the member's July MEC bill. Actual certificate does not need to be sent to MEC. Limit of one bill credit per member account. Not redeemable for cash.