LOCAL NEWS Clark Electric Cooperative

ANNUAL MEETING TIME

General Manager's Report

The year goes by so fast and here it is, another annual meeting. March 31, 2004, is our next annual meeting at the Loyal American Legion Hall in Loyal, Wisconsin. This is the most important event for your electric cooperative. It is time to hear reports, elect directors, select delegates, and get information as to what is happening in the electric utility world.

2003 ended up to be another good year for the cooperative. Our margins are down from last year, but higher than anticipated. It was a good year for sales, and Dairyland Power Cooperative's margin allocation was much higher than expected. These, coupled with our late, year-end rate increase (two months), improved our financials.



As always, there will be a great meal served by the Loyal American Legion and the great people of that organization.

This meeting will also mark a milestone for me, as I have attended 42 consecutive meetings and 43 out of 45 annual meetings. (I was absent in 1961–62 while serving with the Wisconsin Army National Guard.) Another milestone will be this is my last as your CEO/general manager. Most of you know I will be retiring the end of this year. Someone with new ideas and new energy will be hired by your board of directors. Applications have been received and interviews will be conducted during March. The new manager will be on board this summer, and I will work with that person until year-end.

"I have attended 42 consecutive meetings and 43 out of 45 annual meetings."



Assemblyman Scott Suder and Dick Adler talk during last year's annual meeting.

This is a great organization and it has been a privilege for me to assist your board of directors in the operations. We have much to be proud of, and this organization is in a very strong position for the future.

Come join us on March 31 beginning at 10 a.m. Again, we will have door prizes, gifts, and of course a great noon dinner.

Dick Adler CEO / General Manager



CLARK'S NEWEST JOURNEYMAN

Apprentice's Graduation Rewards Years of Hard Work

H ard work is just part of what is needed to become a journeyman lineman. Lots of schooling to learn the basics of electricity and the fundamentals of power distribution are just the beginning. Four-plus years of being an apprentice lineman is the tough part. As an apprentice, you need to complete 160 hours of classroom time and 7,160 hours of work time. The total time is broken down into steps. An apprentice needs to complete all four steps to become a journeyman lineman.

On-the-job training is how lineman skills are learned. Clark Electric Cooperative has several apprentices currently in different stages of their training. The apprentices work with experienced journeymen who make sure the apprentices are learning what they need to do the work properly and safely.

The annual Wisconsin Line Superintendent's Conference was held recently, and at this conference each year those who graduate from the apprentice program and earn their journeyman classification are recognized by the Wisconsin cooperatives. Troy Bauer, one of our apprentice lineman, was honored and received his journeyman

WIREMAN'S

lineman certification. Several other apprentices from around the state also received this honor.

Congratulations, Troy, on becoming a journeyman lineman from all your co-workers and friends at Clark Electric Cooperative.

See What's Current



Clark Electric Cooperative periodically hosts a wireman's meeting (electricians) to go over updates concerning electric code issues, review changes that Clark Electric Cooperative might be implementing, and just say hello to those we work with in bringing electricity to our members.

MEETING

This year we will be hosting a wireman's meeting on Thursday, March 11, at 7:30 p.m. at the American Legion Hall in Greenwood. This year's meeting will have Ron Janikowski, CEC's electrical inspector, speaking and answering questions dealing with farm wiring; and Ray Weber, state inspector, reviewing updates on codes and addressing the new state requirement for electrical inspections of new one- and two-family dwellings.

We will also be passing out the newest update of our Wireman's Handbook. This handbook has information concerning what Clark Electric Cooperative expects when services are being connected; it has a wealth of information in it. The book is also available on line on our website under the Operations section, **www.cecoop.com**. If you ever have a question concerning your electric service, please give our operations department a phone call.



Electric's newest journeyman lineman. With Troy is his wife, Jamie.

MORE LOCAL NEWS SAFETY FIRST

Having a Safe Farm is Important to Us

lark Electric Cooperative, along with the other electric cooperatives in Wisconsin, has set up the Safety First Program to help our member farmers make sure their farm wiring is up to the job of safely performing today's chores that require electricity.

Members can receive up to a \$4,000 grant to make improvements that are needed. And since most electrical improvements do cost more than the \$4,000 grant money, a low-interest loan for up to \$16,000 is also available. With the grant money and loan money available, members have up to \$20,000 to make the improvements that will make their farm safe and productive.

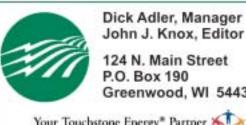
To find out more about the Safety First Program, please call our operations department, which will provide you with the information you need.

STATEMENT OF NONDISCRIMINATION

Clark Electric Cooperative is a recipient of federal financial assistance from the Rural Utilities Service (RUS), an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and is subject to the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended; and the rules of the U.S. Department of Agriculture which provide that no person in the United States on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, or disability shall be excluded from participation, in admission or access to, denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any of this organization's programs or activities.

The person responsible for coordinating this organization's nondiscrimination compliance efforts is Dick Adler, CEO/General Manger of Clark Electric Cooperative. Any individual, or specific class of individuals, who feels that this organization has subjected them to discrimination may file a written

complaint with this organization; or the Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington. D.C. 20250; or the Administrator, Rural Utilities Services, Washington, D.C. 20250. Complaints must be filed within 180 days after the alleged discriminatory action, or by such later date to which the Secretary of Agriculture or the Administrator of RUS extends the time for filing. Identity of complaints will be kept confidential except to the extent necessary to carry out the purposes of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.



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Spring is sure to be here soon!

Now is the time to think about making your summer a comfortable one...

Plan now for getting your central air conditioning installed. Whole house or the new mini splits systems for ductless homes.

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