

# It's Annual Meeting Time

Saturday, April 5, 2008



*Tim Stewart  
CEO / General Manager*

**B**oy, it sure seemed that 2007 just zipped by, and here we are already in the new year with annual meeting just around the corner. Saturday, April 5, 2008, is the date set for our 71st annual meeting, to be held at the American Legion Hall in Loyal, beginning at 9:30 a.m. Early bird prizes will be drawn at that time and winners announced following adjournment. There will be door prizes for members in attendance and a great lunch served around noon.

The annual meeting is an important event for the cooperative. Members will hear reports about the cooperative and the electric industry, review financials, and elect their representatives to serve on the board of directors. We have several prominent guest speakers scheduled to be with us this year, including representatives from Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association and Dairyland Power Cooperative.

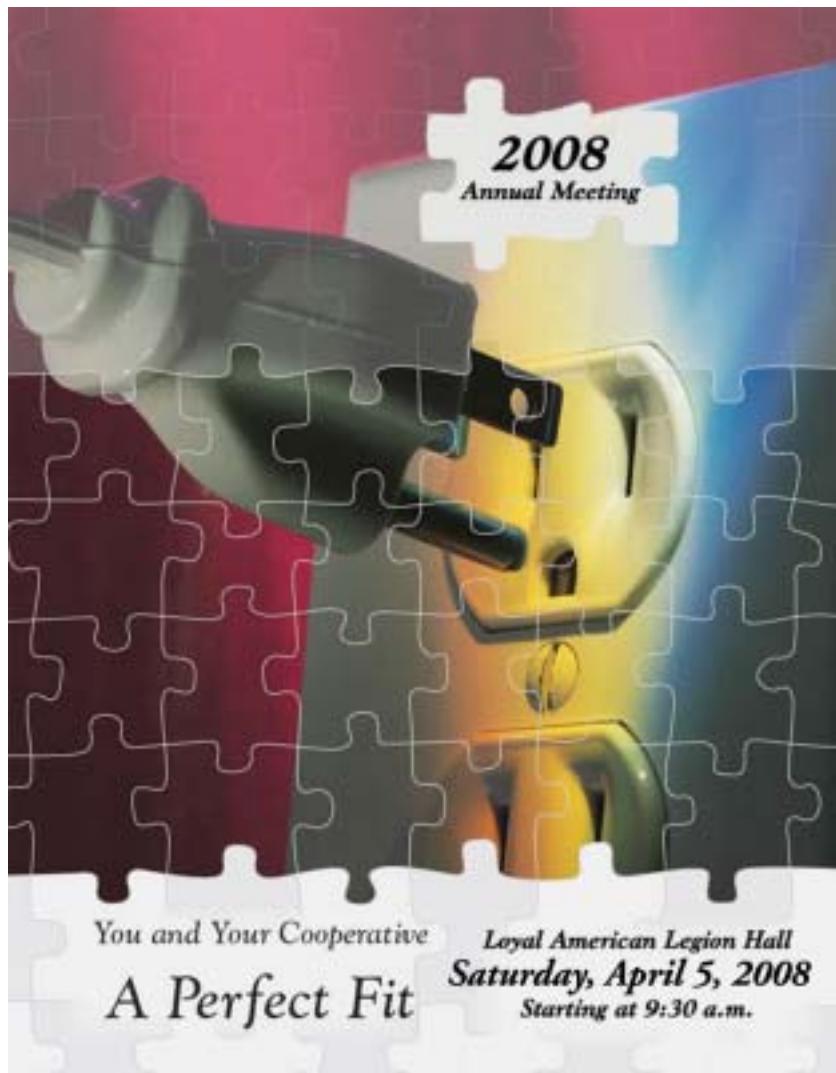
The members will be asked to elect two directors for three-year terms. Director terms expiring this year are Wilmer Griepentrog from the Spencer area and Jeremy Baxter from the Owen area; both are eligible for re-election. Nominations are taken from the floor of the meeting. Directors need to attend monthly board meetings; represent the cooperative in state, regional and national affairs; and attend NRECA educational seminars and workshops. Directors need to read, study, and analyze a lot of information throughout the month to keep informed on the electric industry as a whole.

In addition to taking part in these activities, you have the opportunity to participate in Dairyland Power Cooperative's Annual Meeting. The cooperative is seeking 11 delegates and

four alternates to represent Clark Electric Cooperative at the DPC meeting. If you would like to represent Clark Electric Cooperative at this meeting, please contact Tracy Nelson, administrative assistant, by Tuesday, April 1, 2008.

So come, enjoy a nice meal, register for door prizes, and help conduct the business of your electric utility. I hope to see you April 5, 2008, at the American Legion Hall in Loyal. ■

*Tim Stewart  
CEO / General Manager*



# Putting You First –

## Fighting to Keep the Lights on

**A**ccording to the U.S. Department of Energy, demand for electricity nationally will increase by 40 percent during the next 22 years — even with an optimistic projection of a 9 percent reduction in electricity use due to increased efficiency factored in. As the economy expands, the need for power grows right along with it.

Nearly every respected analysis, however, finds that our country is running out of power. And as a result, there's a good chance consumers could experience brownouts and even rolling blackouts in the not-too-distant future if we don't act soon.

A recent report from the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC), a Princeton, N.J.-based non-profit organization charged with monitoring America's power system reliability, confirms that unless more resources come online, it will not be long before the need for power can no longer be met.

The predictions made by NERC shed light on the urgent need to bolster our nation's power grid. It is no longer a question of if but when we need to build — the need is real, and the time is now.

For electric cooperatives, experiencing 2.6 percent overall load growth (twice the national average), we take our responsibility of maintaining a safe, reliable, and affordable supply of power seriously. We are working hard to implement a strategy that meets your needs with the right mix of energy efficiency, renewable energy, and new technologies for electricity generation involving clean coal, nuclear, and natural gas.

Electric co-ops are recognized industry leaders in promoting energy efficiency and wise energy use. Nearly half of all rural elec-

tric systems provide financial incentives — such as low- or no-interest loans for household improvements, leases on efficiency-related equipment, and ownership or maintenance of standby generators to reduce power use when consumption spikes — or include interactive energy use calculators on their web sites. More than 40 percent offer efficiency and weatherization services, including selling and installing high-efficiency lighting systems, electric water heaters, geothermal and air-source heat pumps, insulation, and Energy Star appliances. Simply put, the more we can do to conserve electricity and use it efficiently means fewer power plants must be built in the future.

Renewable energy, like wind and solar power, holds great promise in providing electricity. Consumer-owned electric co-ops have blazed trails when it comes to developing renewables. Today, more than 80 percent of the nation's 900-plus electric co-ops supply electricity produced by wind, solar, hydro, biomass (including landfill gas, livestock waste, timber byproducts, and crop residue), and other "green power" sources. This makes up about 11 percent of all co-op kilowatt-hour sales.

But renewables have some limits. Wind, for example, which has the potential to meet 20 percent of the country's electricity needs, must overcome two main hurdles: construction of additional high-voltage transmission lines to bring generation produced at wind farms,

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### Attention Graduating Seniors

*Are you eligible for a \$1,000 scholarship?*

Are you planning on going on to a tech school or a college? An application form must be completed and returned to Clark Electric Cooperative on or before March 10, 2008. Applications are available at your high school or on our website.

**WWW.CECOOP.COM.**

**Clark Electric Cooperative**

**Federated Youth Foundation  
Scholarship Award**



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# MORE LOCAL NEWS

## Overcoming the Main Hurdles

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usually located in remote rural areas, to population centers; and “intermittency” — the fact that wind only blows 30 percent to 40 percent of the time, and generally not during times of peak electricity use on hot, humid summer weekday afternoons.

Electric co-ops are heavily involved in research needed to develop better batteries to store wind and solar energy, a breakthrough that will allow these resources to become full-time sources of electricity. Additional work must take place before these batteries can become viable.

All of these changes will help meet our growing demand for electricity. Yet at the end of the day, electric co-ops also need to plan for the future, which means building new power plants. Unfortunately, power plant construction costs have skyrocketed in recent years as international demand for coal and materials like steel and concrete continues to climb.

Presently, 50 percent of the nation’s electricity supply and 62 percent of electric cooperative power requirements come from coal.

Despite rising costs, power plants built in the near-term will burn coal more cleanly and efficiently than ever before. Even more encouraging, concerns over coal’s contribution to climate change could be alleviated within a decade if power plants that capture carbon dioxide gas before it goes up a smokestack, compress it, and then pump it deep underground for permanent storage become available — a real possibility if Congress provides sufficient funding for the necessary research and development.

Nuclear energy also remains part of the solution, even though only a

handful of nuclear power plants have come online in this country over the past 20 years, and none have been ordered since the 1970s. Nuclear power, which emits only clean water vapor, generates 20 percent of all electricity in the United States and about 15 percent of electric cooperative power needs. Estimates hold that it will take 10 years to bring a single nuclear reactor online.

Providing more electricity and dealing with climate change are important challenges our country faces. Our commitment to you, as we strive to keep the lights on, will be encouraging lawmakers and regulators to seek out practical, long-term remedies to our nation’s energy problems based on new technology

— solutions that will allow us to continue providing safe, reliable, and affordable power in an environmentally responsible fashion.

Electric co-ops have no magic bullet to offer — only our hard work and a commitment to your best interests. But as we have done for more than seven decades, we will continue to put you, our members, first.

*Source: U.S. Department of Energy, U.S. Energy Information Administration, and the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association*



## Daylight Savings Time Change

Do you have a time clock controlling your water heater or dual fuel equipment? If you’re on our Time-of-Day rate, you most likely do. The switch back to Daylight Savings changes on Sunday, March 9.



It is important that your time clocks are reset. If you don’t make these changes, you could end up having a higher than normal electric bill. Why? Because if you are on the Time-of-Day rate, your hours for control (where the clock shuts the device off) are different from the billing time recorded on the meter. So, in essence you record two hours in the high-usage period.

Clark Electric Cooperative’s Time-of-Day rate can save you money on your electric bill; however, you must be willing and able to shift your electric usage around so that you can utilize the lower cost of electricity.

**Spring = Move clock forward 1 hour on March 9**



# Clark Electric Cooperative 2008 Incentives

## Energy Star Appliance Rebates

Washing Machines	= \$50 Rebate
Refrigerator	= \$25 Rebate
Air Conditioner - Room Unit	= \$25 Rebate

## Dehumidifiers

Incentive for members only,  
sold to members at cost.



## Lighting Rebates

### Compact Fluorescent Lights - CFL

\$2/CFL, a credit will be applied to your electric account.



### Electronic Ballasted Lights - Retrofitting only

Electronic Ballasted Fluorescent Fixtures	= \$6.50/ballast
Metal Halide Fixtures	= \$10.00/ballast
Sodium Vapor Fixtures	= \$10.00/ballast

## Water Heaters Rebates

Must be controlled with LM Device,  
or if on T.O.D. LM Device with electric timer.



### Rebates by size

50 gal	= \$50.00
80 to 99 gals	= \$250.00
100 or more	= \$4.00/gal

## Dairy Plate Coolers

A rebate to help in providing  
efficient Dairy Operations.



Plate Cooler = \$300/unit

## Air Conditioning & Heat Pump Installation Rebates

To reduce summer & winter energy peaks -  
to receive rebates LM Device must be installed.



### Air Conditioner Rebates

Central Air or Air to Air Heat Pumps - (must be a 14 seer or higher)	= \$60/ton
Commercial A/C, EER 11.0 or higher	= \$40/ton
Ground Source Heat Pumps	= \$160.00/ton



## Electric Thermal Storage

ETS replacing uncontrolled electric heat  
or other installation of ETS units.

ETS Units	= \$25/kW replaced
Comfort Plus Units	= \$25/kW