

COOPERATIVE CONNECTIONS



Hooked on Fishing

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*Photo Credit:
Markus Erk*

New Headquarters Building Update



Melissa Maher
Manager

Moreau-Grand Electric's new headquarters facility will begin construction this spring once conditions are right. It is for real this time!

The board approved the contract with Capital City Construction from Bismarck, N.D., as the general contractor for the entire project. Capital City has previous experience in our area as they constructed the Grand River Casino west of Mobridge and completed one of the additions to the Timber Lake School in years past.

Capital City will have Miller Construction from Isabel performing much of the dirt work. D&D

Enterprises from Selfridge, N.D., will be responsible for the electrical requirements of the building. Ola Precast from Platte, S.D., will be constructing all the precast walls for the new building with the entire exterior of the building being precast construction. The contract calls for 14-months of construction – thus plans are to be completed late spring of 2024.

The size of the facility will be 17,811 S.F. (9,408 S.F. of office space) and (8,403 S.F. of heated-floor shop). Two electric boiler systems will provide heat for the entire facility.

Below is the final rendering of the building. Actual real-life colors of the precast might not be exact to this rendering. Here's to the next 70+ years of Moreau-Grand Electric Cooperative.

Until next month... Thankful for the beautiful moisture.



COMPARATIVE REPORT	Current (Jan 2023)	1 year ago (Jan 2022)	10 Years Ago (Jan 2013)	% Change in 10 years
Number of Meters	7,140	7,118	6,792	5%
Kilowatt Hours Sold	10,584,207	10,418,688	9,378,844	13%
Cost of Purchased Power	\$329,882.79	\$712,195.35	\$600,368.31	-45%
Overall Ave. Rate / kWh Per Member	0.1139	0.1124	0.1056	8%

LOCATE YOUR ADDRESS

If you locate your address on any of the inside pages of the Moreau-Grand Electric's *Cooperative Connections*, notify us and you will receive a \$25 bill credit. "Eligible addresses will not be on the front or back cover."

Congratulations to member Dorothy Opp for winning last month. Keep looking the next winner may be you!

COOPERATIVE CONNECTIONS MOREAU-GRAND ELECTRIC

(USPS No. 018-951)

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Design assistance by SDREA

Feb. 17, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes and Dec. 2022 Financial Information

The February 17, 2023, board of directors' meeting was held at the Timber Lake office with the following directors present: Bartlett, Clark, Hieb, Keckler, Landis, Lawrence, Maher, McLellan, Walker and Wall, and others present: Manager Maher, Finance Officer Dahlgren and Finance Officer Lemburg (Delegated Recorder of Minutes).

The Large Power Users monthly report was given by Stephanie Bartlett, which included topics on large power usage and payments.

The Member Services report was given by Roger Lawien, which included network updates, redundant communications update, attending the Job Fair at the Eagle Butte School, Beulah youth tours, new computers, donation request and a potential solar project in Eagle Butte.

The Operations report was given by Kent Larson, which included tree trimming, installation of OCR's, underground line easements, new service update, Construction Work Plan update, Federated Insurance visit, purchase of new Truck 1, Truck 22 hail damage repairs and line lift costs for building moves.

Manager Maher gave the Managers report, which included the schedule for Co-op Day at the Capitol, new WAPA substation update, the new Construction Work Plan will be presented at the March board meeting, CCD Courses being offered in April, Load Management Report, 2022 year-end ratios, Basin Electric Consolidated Operating Statement, Rushmore and Basin Electric capital credit allocations for 2022, balance sheet history, members of the Farmers Union Oil Company of McLaughlin voted to dissolve the cooperative, Basin kWh tax for 2022, statistical information for 2022, payroll as percent of gross revenue and gross expense, 2022 power bill information, revenue chart 10-year compare, expense chart 10-year compare, vehicle analysis for 2022 and a retirement party will be held for Finance Officer Dahlgren on March 31, 2023.

Manager Maher and Operations Superintendent Larson attended the Ziebach County Commission Meeting on February 8, 2023, to discuss formulating an emergency response plan for future severe weather events. Representatives from the CRST Tribal Transportation Program and the CRST Tribal Council were also in attendance.

Manager Maher gave the Rushmore Managers meeting report, which included a vacant RES-CO Board position, update on other cooperatives within Rushmore Electric, crypto mining loads, Basin Electric annual meeting will be held August 15-17, 2023, Rushmore Electric is utilizing a new marketing agency, update on federal GRIP funding and January power bill credit.

The Board gave a report on the Basin Electric Members Only meeting held via Webex, which included load growth, margins and an update on DGC.

Manager Maher gave the SDREA Managers meeting report, which included a FEMA update and Basin Electric updates.

Director Lawrence and Manager Maher gave the Rushmore Electric Special Conference Call Board meeting report, which included Rushmore Electric revenue deferral and January power bill credit.

Board approved the following: the agenda, the minutes from the January meeting, new members, refunds, line extensions, financial statistics, disbursements, safety report, contractor storm bid for 2023, resolution not to allocate the non-operating margins for 2022 in the amount of \$116,966.66, selected Director Landis to be MGEC's nominee for the Rushmore Electric Board, donation to the Cooperative Family Fund, send Director Maher to NRECA's 2023 Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C., and final bids for the new headquarters facility.

The next board meeting was scheduled for March 21, 2023, at 8:30 a.m. in the Timber Lake office. PO Box 1229, 57625

December 2022 Financial Information

	DEC. '22	DEC. '21	YTD 2022
Operating Revenues	\$1,364,516	\$1,325,668	\$13,110,083
Cost Of Power	\$775,371	\$644,177	\$6,658,238
Cost Of Electric Service	\$1,332,849	\$1,083,414	\$12,791,199
Margins	\$894,356	\$476,119	\$1,346,976
kWh Purchased	13,167,493	11,568,048	115,051,256
kWh Sold	12,193,585	10,511,583	105,338,954

Practicing Electrical Safety Inside and Outside the Home

Electricity is a vital resource South Dakotans depend on daily, but when used unsafely, the consequences can be costly and sometimes even deadly.

Many tragedies involve common items such as power outlets, appliances, power cords, power equipment and extension cords. Sadly, most of these deaths and injuries are preventable.

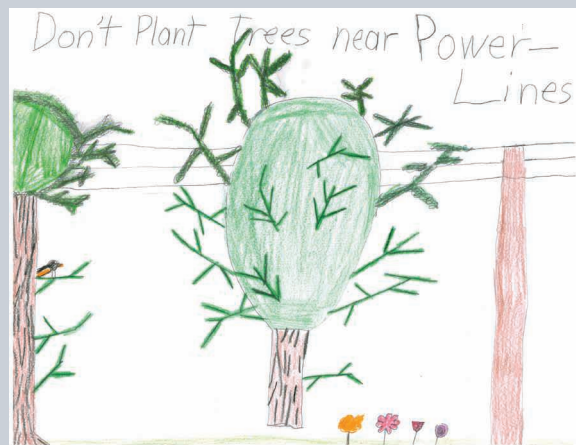
To help reduce electric safety casualties and injuries, South Dakota's electric cooperatives are dedicated to raising awareness of electric safety information to educate people of all ages on the dangers of electricity.

Inside the Home:

- Inspect electrical cords often for broken connectors or fraying. Throw away any worn cords to eliminate the possibility of shock, short circuit or fire.
- Don't overload power outlets.
- The wattage of the bulbs you use in your home should match the wattage indicated on the light fixture. Overheated fixtures can lead to a fire.
- When trying to unplug something from an outlet, pull on the plug, not the cord.
- Keep in mind that turned off appliances are still connected to electricity until they are unplugged. Always unplug appliances before cleaning or repairing.
- Use extension cords only for short-term purposes, and make sure the cord is adequately suited for the amount of electricity it will be transferring.
- Turn off and unplug all portable electrical appliances, like hairdryers, irons and shavers, when you're finished using them.
- Be familiar with the location of your breaker box and make sure the switches are clearly labeled so you can shut off electricity quickly in the event of an emergency.
- Teach children never to put their fingers in electrical outlets and appliances.
- Keep appliances and cords away from children and use plug covers in outlets.

Outside the Home:

- If there is a downed power line nearby, leave the area immediately and notify your cooperative or call 911. If others are around, let them know that they need to stay away.
- Teach children to stay away from power lines and substations and make sure they can recognize "Danger-High Voltage" signs.
- Never use electrical equipment near any wet areas, such as pools or ponds.
- Remember, electricity looks for the shortest, most direct path to ground. A ladder, pole or even a wet kite string touching a power line will give electricity a new, shorter path and if you are holding one of these items, you could become a part of that path.
- "Call Before You Dig." Dial 811 before starting a digging project, and workers will be sent to your home to mark utility lines in your yard. This service is free, and it has the potential to save your life.



Power Line Safety

Annette Tschetter, age 9

Annette Tschetter, age 9, offers a great safety tip for power lines. Planting trees near power lines can be dangerous and problematic. Annette is the daughter of Ryan and Elaine Tschetter, members of Whetstone Valley Electric based in Milbank, S.D.

Kids, send your drawing with an electrical safety tip to your local electric cooperative (address found on Page 3). If your poster is published, you'll receive a prize. All entries must include your name, age, mailing address and the names of your parents. Colored drawings are encouraged.

SMOOTHIE SENSATION

WAKE UP COFFEE SMOOTHIE

Ingredients:

1 cup milk
1/8-1/4 cup instant coffee granules
1 envelope chocolate or vanilla instant breakfast drink mix
3 cups ice cubes

METHOD

In a blender, combine all the ingredients except the ice. Blend until well mixed. Add the ice and blend until well mixed and slushy.

Catherine Peterson
Viborg, S.D.

STRAWBERRY SMOOTHIE

Ingredients:

2 cups fresh strawberries, stemmed and halved
1 cup plain yogurt
1/2 cup ice cubes or chips
1/2 tsp. ground cardamom
1/4 tsp. ginger

METHOD

In a blender, combine all of the ingredients. Blend on high speed until it has a smoothie texture. Makes two 12 ounce glasses.

Dar Duncan
Milbank, S.D.

MINT CHOCOLATE BREAKFAST SMOOTHIE

Ingredients:

1 cup ice
1/2 medium avocado, peeled, pitted and chopped
1/2 cup frozen sliced banana
1/2 cup packed baby spinach leaves
1/2 cup reduced fat milk
1 tablespoon agave nectar
1/2 teaspoon Pure Vanilla Extract
1/4 teaspoon Pure Peppermint Extract
2 tablespoons finely chopped chocolate

METHOD

Place all ingredients except chocolate in blender container; cover. Blend on high speed until smooth. Stir in chocolate. Serve immediately.

mccormick.com

Please send your favorite recipes to your local electric cooperative (address found on Page 3). Each recipe printed will be entered into a drawing for a prize in December 2023. All entries must include your name, mailing address, phone number and cooperative name.

Easy Behavior Changes to Save Energy



Miranda Boutelle
Efficiency Services
Group

Q: I want to lower my energy use, but I don't know where to start. How can I find out how much energy I use? What are some ways I can save energy without spending a lot of money?

A: You can change your energy use by changing your behavior.

When looking at electric bills, many people focus on the total dollar amount of the bill. When trying to manage your energy costs, I suggest changing your focus to energy use.

While you don't have control over the cost of the energy, you can control how much energy you use.

Set Goals.

Instead of thinking about your bills in terms of dollars, think about them in terms of kilowatt-hours. A kilowatt-hour is the unit of energy used for most electric bills. Review your monthly kWh use to get an idea of how much you use every month.

Once you've reviewed your energy use, set goals for the next month. Try to use less energy than the month before, and check your results on your next bill.

Know When to Use Less Energy.

Some electric utilities offer time-of-use rates, which means electricity costs are dependent on the time of day. This pricing structure more closely reflects the cost to electric utilities and helps consumers understand that energy costs more when the demand for it is higher.

Even if your electric bill does not include time-of-use rates, it can be beneficial to delay energy-intensive chores or tasks to when demand is lower. Peak hours are typically in the morning as we prepare for work and in the evening when we get home and start preparing food and turning on entertainment devices. Doing laundry and running the dishwasher are easy activities to delay until after peak hours.

Power "Off" for Energy Savings.

When looking for energy savings, remember that

"off" is the most efficient setting. Turning off lights is a classic strategy, especially if your lighting is incandescent. Consider switching to energy-saving LED lightbulbs.

Computers and gaming systems can waste energy even when in sleep mode. The higher the wattage and the more hours the device is on, the more energy used. Laptops use the least energy, followed by personal computers at about 200 watts. Gaming consoles typically use less energy than gaming PCs. Don't forget to turn off the monitor as well.

You can lower your energy use even more with smart power strips, which cut power to devices that are not in use. Many electronics continue to draw power even when they are turned off. This could add 5% to 10 % to your monthly bill, according to the Department of Energy. Installing smart power strips is an easy way to ensure devices are completely turned off and not drawing power.

Adjust the Temp.

When it comes to lowering your energy use, the settings on your thermostat are another great place to check. Keep in mind, the weather affects your electric bill for heating and air conditioning.

The closer you can keep the indoor temperature to the outdoor temperature, the more you will save. You want to protect your home from damage in extreme heat and cold, but if you can turn the temperature down a few degrees in winter and up in summer, you will save on energy costs.

Ensuring your filters in your heating and cooling system are clean is an easy way to keep your system maintained and operating efficiently. Adding annual servicing by a professional maximizes the efficiency and can lengthen the life of your system.

Understanding your energy use and making small adjustments to your routine will help you reach your energy use goals.





Macie Luce, 2022 Snow Queen, crowns Addison Kuecker as the 2023 South Dakota Snow Queen in January. Photo credit: South Dakota Snow Queen Festival

South Dakota Snow Queens Keep Rich History Thriving

Jocelyn Johnson

jocelyn.johnson@sdrea.coop

It's not your typical pageant. Getting to the top depends on the pageant participant's goals, ambitions, knowledge and talents. Involvement in community and school functions as well as their success in the interview process is how the winning young women are crowned.

The first South Dakota Snow Queen Festival was organized by Aberdeen's Jaycees and Jaycettes after World War II in 1946. From there, it has grown across eastern South Dakota with the hope of even more involvement across state. Today, approximately 30 communities send contestants, and the program has continued to thrive due to the scholarships and former snow queens who advocate for the program.

Scholarships are given to the winners of the festival – Snow Queens receive \$3,500, Junior Snow Queens receive \$2,000, and Snow Princesses are offered \$200 for any school and any program.

Don Bremer, former president of the South Dakota Snow Queen Committee,

said, "Once the festival is over, the winning Snow Queen and Junior Snow Queen begin their year representing South Dakota at various other festivals – including St. Paul Winter Carnival, Minneapolis Aquatennial, Montevideo Fiesta Days, Willmar Fest, Gypsy Days, Bands Brews & BBQs, the Brown County Fair, and more. They represent their communities and the state of South Dakota and build lasting friendships and skills for their future."

The community gathers behind these young women to make the program special and meaningful. It's a tradition full of history and fun for all.

"We even have an important mascot named Frosty," Bremer said. "Frosty is typically a local businessperson who supports the festival...he or she has six guards, and their identity is revealed only at coronation. Notable past Frosty mascots were Joe Foss and Tom Daschle"

Gabriella Premus, weekend morning anchor and live reporter for television news in Green Bay, Wis., was crowned Junior Snow Queen in 2013. She recounted moving to Webster, S.D., from California and



Gov. Kristi Noem was crowned the South Dakota Snow Queen in 1990.

jumping into the program as a way to get acquainted with the community.

"I would definitely recommend this program – it shaped me as a young woman and gave me confidence," Premus said. "I was able to succeed in the profession I am in today as a television news anchor because of the experience I gained as Junior Snow Queen."

"My highlight was being able to represent my state when we traveled and establish comradery with others involved in the program," Premus continued. "I hope the legacy continues."

HOOKED ON FISHING

A Game, Fish and Parks employee consolidates fish in a raceway at McNenny State Fish Hatchery for loading and stocking.

South Dakota Fish Hatcheries Meet Growing Demand

Frank Turner

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Fishing guide Dave Spaid, of Pierre, has a passion for helping anglers pull fish out of South Dakotan waters. When a customer catches a memorable monster along the banks of the Missouri River, Spaid knows he has had a successful day.

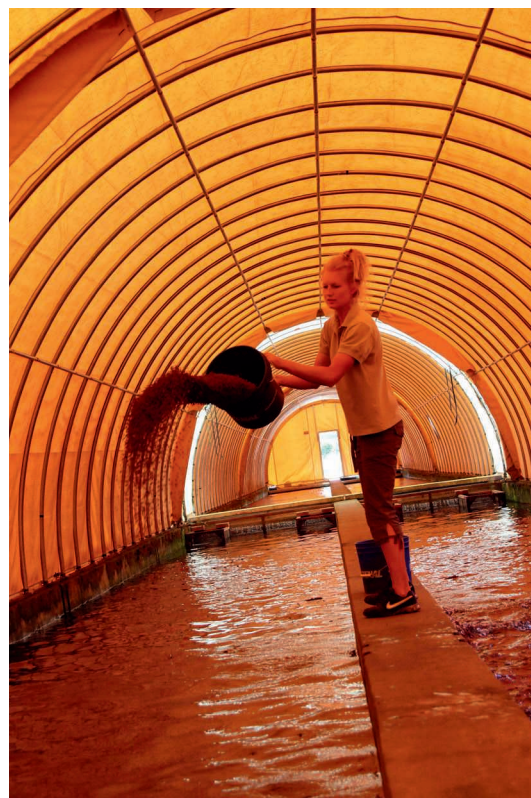
“I basically enjoy watching other people catch fish,” said Spaid, who has been a guide for fishermen from across the Midwest for more than 37 years.

Over the course of his long-standing career, Spaid says he observed more anglers on the water and improved fishing technologies and capabilities, yet fewer sizable fish. “There’s a growing amount of people out there that are fishing every day and having success,” said Spaid. “It puts a detrimental dent in our fishery and sometimes the fish just don’t have a

chance to grow to those bigger sizes.”

According to data from Game, Fish and Parks (GFP), fishing continues to be an important part of South Dakota’s outdoor heritage, confirming Spaid’s suspicions. And while fishing guides, like Spaid, have earned a living by taking fish out of the water, managers of fish hatcheries have taken on the responsibility of putting new fish back in.

Fish Hatcheries administrator Mike Barnes said GFP is being proactive in the development of its three hatchery locations to meet the needs of South Dakota’s anglers. Recent improvements to South Dakota’s three hatcheries located in



Regular feedings help bolster fish before their introduction to South Dakota lakes and rivers.

Spearfish, Rapid City and Waubay have significantly improved the state's abilities to produce and rear mass quantities of fish – everything from walleye to rainbow trout to largemouth bass – for stocking across the state.

The fish produced at these state hatcheries can even bolster South Dakota's larger fisheries, and without them, there would be significantly fewer fish to catch. In 2022, GFP and other entities stocked a total of 66 million fish, including 19 different species, in 138 lakes and streams in South Dakota. Over 60% of the walleye fisheries in South Dakota depend on stocking, and walleye stocking is increasing in Lake Oahe, South Dakota's largest reservoir. Other fisheries, like those for Chinook salmon, rainbow trout, and paddlefish, only exist because of hatcheries.

So how does the state manage to raise millions of fish? When raising walleye, hatcheries collect and fertilize fish eggs collected during the spawning season in the spring. The eggs incubate in upwelling jars, which circulate fresh water and gently roll the eggs. When the eggs hatch,

the small fry are either stocked directly into lakes or kept for further growth in ponds or newly installed re-circulating aquaculture system (RAS) tanks.

Due to the recent addition of RAS technology in 2019, Barnes said it is now possible to grow more fish and different species of fish to sizes never before possible. "Anglers are going to feel a huge impact from what we have done with these new systems, even as soon as this summer," said Barnes. "We are increasing small walleye production, and will be stocking bass at 10 inches or bigger, bluegills at eight inches, and muskies at 16 inches or longer – we've never had the opportunity to grow and stock these species of fish at these sizes before. This is all happening at the same time as increased numbers of walleyes returning from traditional rearing ponds and trout production at record levels. I'm extremely proud of the people I am privileged to supervise."

Rearing fish in RAS is complex, and Barnes compares the process to a factory. The scale of production is massive and energy intensive. Barnes is also the

manager of McNenny Hatchery in rural Lawrence County. As a co-op member of Butte Electric, Barnes said the McNenny hatchery in Spearfish has had consistent support from its local co-op to keep the operation rolling.

"There is no way we could do what we do without reliable electricity," said Barnes. "It's just a tremendous blessing for us to have Butte Electric as our provider. They are just so good to work with and so responsive and helpful."

The state is keen on keeping the momentum rolling. In fact, GFP has plans for a new hatchery facility on SDSU's campus. Increasing production, increasing rearing efficiencies, saving money, developing student interns, and enhancing fisheries education, are all reasons for the new facility. Barnes estimates that the project could be completed within the next three years.

"Keep an eye out for new projects because they are happening and underway," he said. "And at the end of the day, it's all about maximizing the satisfaction of our customers, South Dakota's anglers."



Game, Fish and Parks uses trucks equipped with livewells to stock fish directly into South Dakota fisheries across the state.

SMARTHUB: YOUR SECURE PAYMENT GATEWAY

What is SmartHub?

We all lead busy lives and SmartHub is your gateway to accessing your accounts through your smart phone, tablet or computer.

What can I do with SmartHub?

Did you forget to pay your bill, or do you prefer to save the time, effort and postage each month? Are you out of town or is the weather bad and don't want to drive to deliver your payment? Access your account through SmartHub to pay your bill electronically with your credit or debit card or directly from your checking account.

Are you wondering if your bill is higher than normal for a particular time of the year?

View graphs comparing your usage over the past 13 months. Get usage information with an overlay of the average daily temperatures for that time period. Get your daily or hourly usage.

Do you need to know your utility expenses for the past year for tax purposes?

Access your payment history online through SmartHub!

Are you on a budget and wondering what your upcoming bill will be?

Check your usage history and see how much electricity you've used so far this year or month.

Is it secure?

The SmartHub system uses banking standards to securely store your credit card or checking account number and not have to worry about remembering it.

How do I sign up?

From any computer you can go to <https://mge.smarthub.coop> and set up your account yourself or contact one of our helpful member service representatives at 1-800-952-3158 (Timber Lake) or 605-964-2977 (Eagle Butte). In a few minutes, they will set up your access and walk you through your first login.

For the mobile devices, get the SmartHub app for free. Just search for SmartHub in the Google Play store for Android devices or in the App Store for Apple devices.

McLellan Receives Award from SDREA Board

Kerry McLellan received an award in January for his time serving on South Dakota Rural Electric Association's (SDREA) board of directors. McLellan served on the statewide board representing Moreau-Grand Electric for more than six years. He is currently the vice president of Moreau-Grand Electric's board. Pictured below, McLellan (left) receives his service award from Don Heeren (right), SDREA's board president.



Time for a Change

It is important to change your furnace filter regularly for several reasons:

1. **Improved Air Quality:** A clean filter helps to remove dust, pollen, and other small particles from the air in your home, making it easier for you to breathe and reducing the risk of respiratory problems.
2. **Increased Efficiency:** A dirty or clogged filter can reduce the efficiency of your furnace, making it work harder to maintain the desired temperature in your home. This can lead to higher energy bills and potentially shorten the lifespan of your furnace.
3. **Prevents Damage:** A dirty filter can cause your furnace to overheat, potentially damaging the system and leading to costly repairs.
4. **Longevity of System:** Regularly changing the filter can help prolong the life of your furnace by reducing the strain on the system and preventing damage from occurring.

It is generally recommended that you change your furnace filter every one to three months, depending on factors such as the type of filter, the number of people and especially if you are blessed with pets in your home.

Look for more ways to prepare your home for summer in next month's *Cooperative Connections*.



Putting Value On The Line Since 1946!

We celebrate the second Monday in April as Lineworker Appreciation Day. This day is dedicated to honoring the hard work and dedication of lineworkers who keep the power on and help to maintain the infrastructure that powers our daily lives. They work in challenging conditions, including extreme weather, high elevations, and dangerous situations. Despite these challenges, they work tirelessly to ensure that electricity is available to homes, businesses, and essential

services.

National Lineworker Appreciation Day is an opportunity for communities to recognize and thank line workers for their service and commitment. Families play an essential role in supporting their loved ones who work in this important profession. This can be a high-stress job, and families can provide emotional support by being there to listen, offer encouragement, and show appreciation for their loved one's work. Lineworkers often work long hours and may have

to respond to emergencies at any time of day or night. Families show support by being understanding of their loved one's schedule, being flexible with plans and being prepared for emergencies, such as power outages, by having supplies on hand and knowing what to do in case of an emergency.

National Lineworker Appreciation Day is an opportunity for us to express our gratitude for the sacrifices and hard work of lineworkers and their families.



Director Scholarship Recipient 2023

Your board of directors are passionate about our members and believe that, by sponsoring youth programs, we are investing in tomorrow's leaders. The board personally funds the directors' scholarship.

This year, the scholarship was awarded to applicants who plan to attend an approved regional lineworker training program. Haydon Starr, son of members Jayde and Natasha Starr of Dupree, will receive \$2,500.

Haydon plans on attending Mitchell Technical College this fall and will have an internship this summer right here with your cooperative.

Congratulations, Haydon!



MOVING STRUCTURES

A home is moved in Fargo, N.D., due to flooding.

Reasons to Move and Methods to Get it Done

Jocelyn Johnson

jocelyn.johnson@sdrea.coop

You found your dreamhouse. It's affordable and everything you ever wanted. The catch? You must move it across town.

It's not an easy thing to do, but moving a complete structure from the past to its future home can be done and is done for the right reasons.

Milbank House Movers, Inc., located in Milbank, S.D., has been in business since 1965 and serves all of South Dakota, North Dakota, and the Mid-Western parts of Minnesota.

Josh Wendland from Milbank House Movers said, "The demand for moving structures remains high across all of our service area...we have multiple crews, that, at times, move multiple houses every week."

A house, sentimental barn or historical

church are all structures that people have moved in South Dakota. Sentiment, safety, time, cost, convenience, and restructuring could all be reasons why this occurs.

Throughout the United States,

intimidating structures are moved regularly – lighthouses, hotels, movie theatres, airport terminals, barges, ships, bridges, grain elevators, houses, libraries, transformers, draglines, and viaducts are a few examples.

"Relocating structures is the world's oldest and largest recycling industry," Wendland stated. "Why people move structures varies greatly, but a few of the most common reasons occur in a



Two buildings are moved from Augustana University campus due to expansion of the college athletics complexes.

vast state like South Dakota. People that would like a home built may have difficulty finding builders that will work in their parts of the state, or the local builders are simply booked out and cannot help in the timeframe that works for them.”

In these circumstances, ready-built companies offer pre-built homes that could be moved to the customer’s site and set it on their basement as if it were built there all along.

A homeowner wanting to upgrade homes in their current location while also wanting to make a profit over the home they currently live in, is another example to move a home. Out with the old and in with the new! This philosophy can be true with barns, buildings, garages, and other types of structures that are in the way of new opportunities, but still hold value.

Flooding is an additional reason why some in the Midwest may want to move their homes to higher ground. Wendland observed that structural movers have seen an increase in the number of requests to elevate houses permanently, so owners

would not have to pay for expensive flood insurance. This move would elevate the long-term value on their home.

“We also work with numerous historical societies to help preserve historic structures, trains, churches, hotels, and schoolhouses by moving them to historical society grounds where they can be saved for future generations to learn from and enjoy,” Wendland stated. “We like to say, Moving the Past to the Present for the Future!”

Things to Consider When Moving a House

Despite professionals making it look somewhat easy, getting from Point A to Point B may not be that simple. It requires constructive planning and forethought. The following are just a few considerations to take before any structure is moved.

1. Size – the bigger the house, the more expensive it is to move.
2. Obstacles – trees, overhead utility lines, bridge weight limitations, traffic signals, and railroad crossings should be considered

with every route taken.

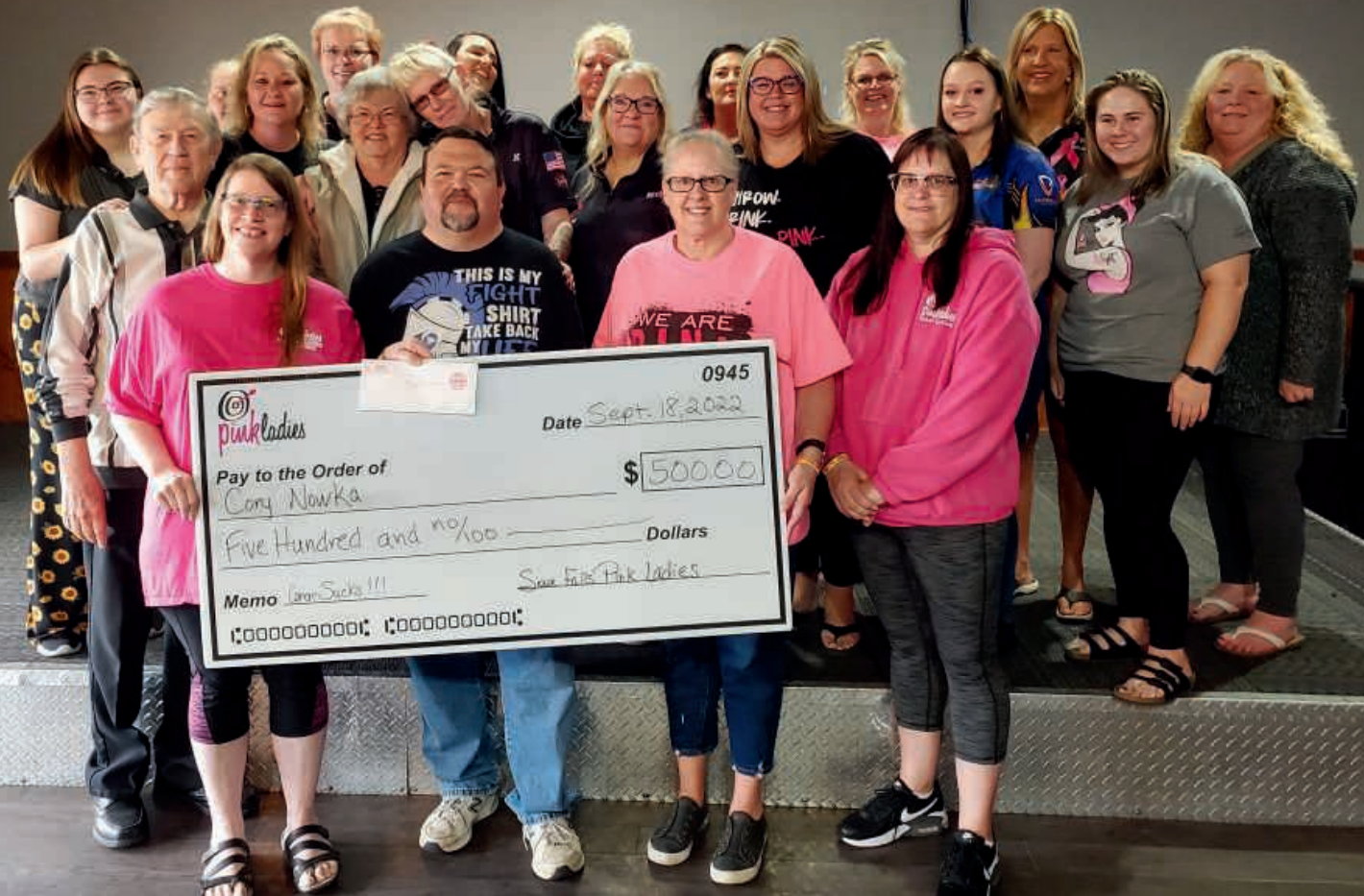
3. Price of moving the house
4. Distance of the move
5. Cost of the new lot
6. Cost to purchase the house or building
7. Fees associated with moving overhead utilities, tree trimming, and any permits or inspections required to move and place the house
8. Fees associated with disconnecting all of the current utilities, HVAC, and electrical and plumbing systems
9. Remodeling costs
10. Financing costs

Moving a structure can be an exciting process if done correctly. It’s saving a piece of history from destruction or putting in something new without the headache of waiting. Whatever the reason behind the move, the ability to do it is astounding. Homes can be saved, history can be preserved, and future options are made more available.



A home is moved due to flooding near Waubay, S.D.

DART LEAGUE



Members of the Sioux Falls Pink Ladies Dart League present a \$500 check to area residents fighting cancer.

PINK LADIES DART LEAGUE

Looking to Make a Difference

Frank Turner

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Clad in pink, one nonprofit organization in Sioux Falls is making a difference in their community one dart at a time. The Sioux Falls Pink Ladies Dart League, alongside other Pink Ladies chapters in South Dakota, has a goal to support and raise funds for area community members who are battling cancer and undergoing

treatment.

Although the Pink Ladies Dart League is mostly noncompetitive when it comes to darts, the group is serious in its efforts to assist those fighting cancer. Funds raised by the ladies through league darts and public events regularly help embattled families during their fight with cancer, easing the financial burden of hospital bills, food expenses, gas money or anything else the family might need.

Despite having only 60 members in their chapter, the Sioux Falls Pink Ladies Dart League has significantly impacted their community in the last decade. Through community events, tournaments and league fees, the group has collectively donated more





Even Santa sometimes visits the Sioux Falls Pink Ladies Dart League, gifting presents to families battling cancer.



Sioux Falls Pink Ladies Dart League Logo

than \$130,000 to those impacted by cancer.

“It’s about giving back to our community and giving love and support to cancer patients,” said Sioux Falls Pink Ladies Dart League President Leann Gabel.

When Gabel joined her chapter in 2015, she had no previous experience throwing darts. For her, it was about trying something new, having fun and making a difference.

“It’s about the hearts, not the darts.”

Every year, Pink Ladies chapters from across the state gather in October during cancer awareness month for the Pink Ladies Darts Tournament. Although the sport is a significant component of the Pink Ladies, Gabel emphasized that their goal is about supporting their community. Anyone,

regardless of gender, age or skill, is welcome to join their chapter.

“I came into the chapter never having thrown a dart in my life and I’m still in the lower division when we play tournaments,” said Gabel. “It’s about the hearts, not the darts.”

For Gabel and the rest of the chapter, each donation serves as a reminder of why they participate in the non-profit. Gabel recalled helping a family with five children during Christmas time in 2021.

The dad was struggling with cancer, and while supporting the father and the family, the mother was unable to work. When the family attended one of the chapter’s events, the group gave the family an abundance of gifts, a Hy-vee gift card and cash for the holidays.

“They were so grateful and they started crying and I couldn’t help but cry too,” she said. “I just thought, wow, my heart is full right now. It doesn’t get any better than that, and

with the kind of passion we have in our chapter, you just can’t beat it.”

Charity from The Pink Ladies Darts League goes beyond just the holiday season. The chapter regularly holds fundraising events and supports area families throughout the year. In fact, the chapter’s next benefit event, Kickin’ Cancer Jam, will take place this month on April 16 at the El Riad Shrine in Sioux Falls. The event will feature five different bands and, of course, a dart tournament. All proceeds from the event will go to local families from the Sioux Falls area.

The Sioux Falls Pink Ladies League, however, is not alone in its efforts. Gabel also encouraged people to watch for events around the state and support the Pink Ladies in their mission to support those with cancer.

“People are more than welcome to attend our Kickin’ Cancer Jam,” she said. “It’s all for the community. No one should fight alone.”



April 22, 2023
RiverRat Run
 Gavins Point Recreation Area
 Yankton, SD
 605-660-9483

To have your event listed on this page, send complete information, including date, event, place and contact to your local electric cooperative. Include your name, address and daytime telephone number. Information must be submitted at least eight weeks prior to your event. Please call ahead to confirm date, time and location of event.

MARCH 31-APRIL 2
70th Annual Hayes Play:
Trouble in Tumbleweed
 Hayes Community Hall
 Hayes, SD
 605-280-6556

APRIL 1
Hill City Easter Egg Hunt
 9:45 a.m.
 Visitor Information Center
 Hill City, SD
 605-574-2368

APRIL 1
Lion's Club Easter Egg Hunt
 10 a.m.
 City Park
 Groton, SD
 605-397-8422

APRIL 1
East Dakota Chapter
NWTF 30th Banquet
 Sioux Falls, SD
 605-940-0702

APRIL 2-4
"The Psychic-a Murder
Mystery of Sorts"
Community Theater
Performance
 Town Players Theater
 Watertown, SD
 605-280-6556

APRIL 8
East Dakota Chapter
NWTF 30th Banquet
 Sioux Falls, SD
 605-940-0702

APRIL 8
Easter Egg Hunt for Helping
with Horsepower
 2 p.m.
 Reclamation Ranch
 Mitchell, SD

APRIL 21
Museum After Dark
 7 p.m.
 Children's Museum of
 South Dakota
 Brookings, SD

APRIL 21-22
Junkin' Market Days,
Spring Market
 W.H. Lyon Fairgrounds
 Expo Building
 Sioux Falls, SD
 605-941-4958

APRIL 22
RiverRat Run
 8 a.m.
 Gavins Point Recreation Area
 Yankton, SD
 (605) 660-9483

MAY 6
Cinco de Mayo Fiesta
 Lake Farley Park
 Milbank, SD
 605-432-6656

MAY 17
Norwegian Independence
Day
 6 p.m.
 Vivian, SD
 605-222-3296

MAY 20
Buggy Museum Open House
 10 a.m.
 Stockholm, SD
 605-938-4192

MAY 25
Wine Walk
 5 p.m.
 Downtown Businesses
 Aberdeen, SD
 605-226-3441

MAY 27
Back When They Bucked
All-Day Rodeo
 9 a.m.
 Days of '76 Event Complex
 Deadwood, SD
 605-717-7642

Note: Please make sure to call ahead to verify the event is still being held.