



# Osceola Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

The power of human connections®



May 2023

## CONTACT US

### Office:

1102 Egret Drive  
Sibley, IA 51249

### Office Hours:

Monday-Friday  
7:30 am to 4:00 pm

### Phone:

Local: 712-754-2519  
Toll Free: 888-754-2519

On evenings, weekends or holidays an answering service will accept power outage or emergency type calls only.

### Online:

osceolaelectric.com

## FIND YOUR ACCOUNT NUMBER

**Three account numbers are hidden within the newsletter. Notify us if you find your number and we'll credit your account \$5. Confirm your account number on the top of your statement. Account numbers must be yours to claim.**

## OEC RECIPES

Submit your favorite Canning or Freezing recipes for consideration to be printed in our June newsletter. Submission deadline is May 20. Printed 27160 recipes are worth a \$10 bill credit.

## Annual Meeting Review



The 84th Annual Meeting of the Members of Osceola Electric Cooperative, Inc. was held March 18, 2023 at the Sibley-Ocheyedan Community High School. Sign-up for the Basin Bus Tour and children prizes was available prior to the meeting. Board and staff served coffee, juice, fruit and rolls prior to the business meeting.

President Ron Jacobs called the meeting to order and welcomed Members attending the meeting.

Nominating Committee Chairperson Lindsay Watterson reported the following individuals had been nominated as candidates for Director. Area 6: Dan Heilman and Janette Schiphoff, Area 7: Derek Ackerman and Jason Otto. Voting was done by both mail-in ballots prior to the meeting and ballots cast at the Annual Meeting. The results of the Director balloting: Area 6 Dan Heilman, Area 7 Derek Ackerman.

Dean Haspels, Secretary / Treasurer gave the financial report. OEC had revenue from the sale of electricity \$6,549,166. Other services, interest, capital credits provided OEC with a total revenue of \$7,017,091. OEC

expenses from purchased power were \$4,156,146 or 66 percent of OEC expenses. Other expenses, operations, maintenance, consumer accounting and information, administrative, depreciation and interest expense totaled \$6,288,363 leaving margins of

\$728,728 for 2022.

Manager Jeff TenNapel reported on the activities of the Cooperative, the Construction Work Plan, projects completed, and gave an update on OEC line crew construction for 2022. Legislative and power supplier updates were reported on. Service awards were presented to Tommy Storey Jr. for 15 years, and Sandy Heronimus for 35 years. Safety milestone of 1,314 days safe – no lost time away from work was discussed. Ron Jacobs reached his 12-year term limit and was honored for his service to the membership and congratulated on his retirement from the board.

The Basin Bus Tour giveaway, children prizes, bill credits for those in attendance and mail-in ballots were awarded.

A reorganizational meeting was held March 28<sup>th</sup>. Officers are Terrence Clark as President, Derek Ackerman as Vice President, and Dean Haspels as Secretary/Treasurer. Also, three L&O Directors were elected: Adam Hoekstra, Steve Voss and Dean Haspels.

## Employees Recognized for Service



**Sandy Heronimus**  
Office Assistant, 35 years

Osceola Electric Cooperative is pleased to celebrate and recognize service milestones of our employees. Board President, Ron Jacobs, presented service awards to two employees this year; Sandy Heronimus has served the co-op for 35 years and Tommy Storey has served the co-op for 15 years.

Congratulations and thank you Sandy and Tommy for your commitment and dedication to Osceola Electric Cooperative and our members.



**Tommy Storey**  
Line Superintendent, 15 years

## Board President Retires after 12 Years



Board President, Ron Jacobs, began his service on the Osceola Electric Cooperative Board of Directors in 2011. After reaching the 12-year term limit Ron retired this year. During his time on the OEC Board Ron has served as Secretary/Treasurer, President, and also represented OEC on the L&O Power Cooperative Board.

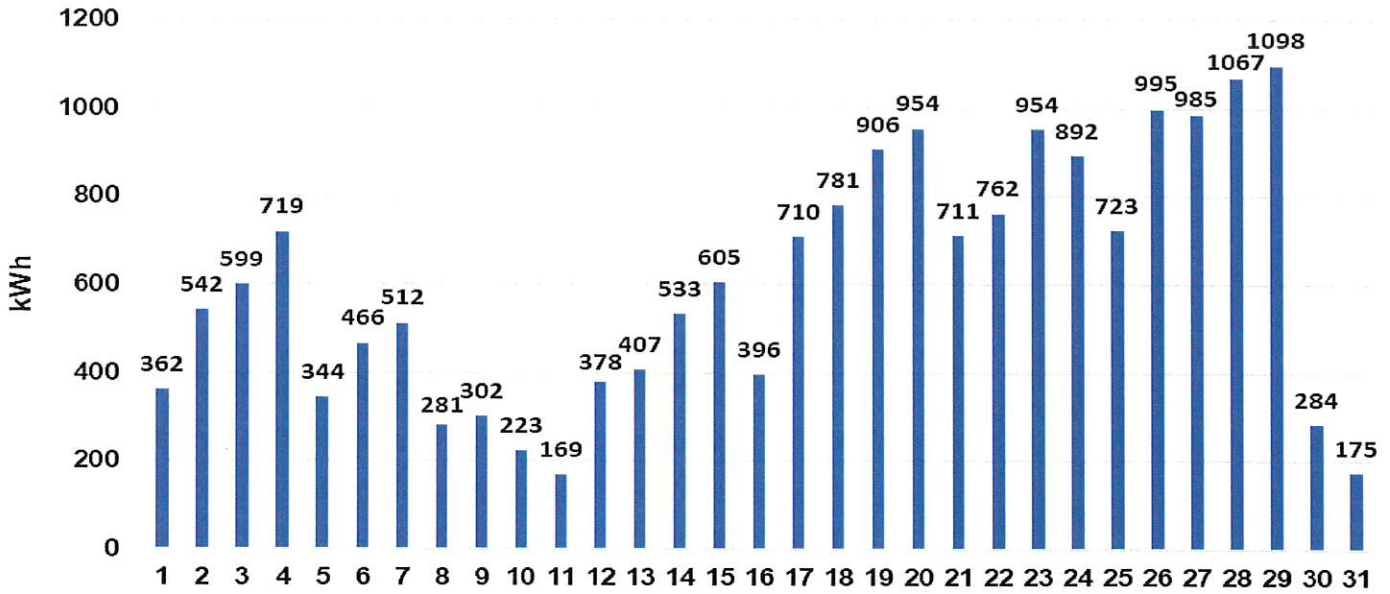
Thank you, Ron, we are tremendously grateful for the time and effort you put forth during your years of service to Osceola Electric Cooperative!

Pictured: Ron with the commemorative clock he received as a thank you for his 4 years of service on the L&O Board. General Manager, Jeff Ten Napel, presenting Ron with an OEC Service Award.

## Operating Statistics for March 2023

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>
Billed consumers, farm .....	1,137	1,147
Billed consumers, non-farm and others .....	110	121
Kilowatts sold, farm .....	2,807,249	3,047,262
Kilowatts sold, non-farm and others .....	2,667,669	2,741,047
Average consumption, farm.....	2,469	2,657
Average consumption, non-farm and others .....	24,251	22,653
Average statement, farm .....	\$259.02	\$277.59
Average statement, non-farm and others .....	\$2,113.65	\$1,846.28
Total minimum bills.....	17	24
Outage time per consumer—minutes .....	0	0
Energy efficiency added per KWH.....		0.00022
Annual meeting date .....	March 2024	

# March 2023 Solar Park Production



## Shine the Light Contest

Guided by our cooperative commitment to community, Iowa's electric co-ops are excited to once again participate in the statewide Shine the Light contest in June to celebrate local volunteers. Sponsored by the Touchstone Energy Cooperatives of Iowa, the contest will accept nominations in June and select three winners who will each receive a \$2,500 donation to their local charity or nonprofit.

"We've been truly inspired by the contest entries we received in our first two years," remarked Erin Campbell, director of communications for the Iowa Association of Electric Cooperatives. "We're increasing our three charity donations from \$2,000 to \$2,500 each this year to encourage even more participation across the state."

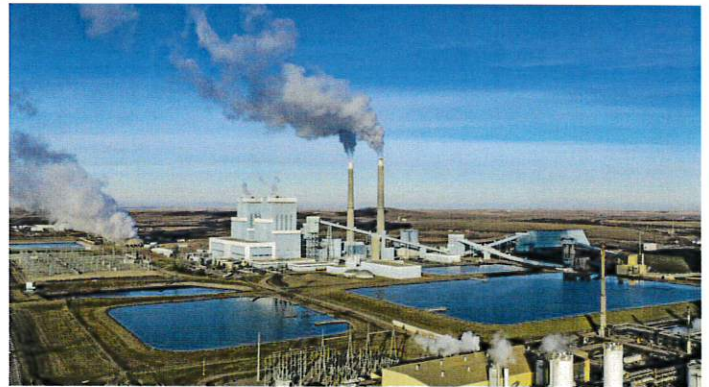
Member-consumers and employees of Iowa's electric cooperatives are eligible to nominate local volunteers during the month of June. If you receive electricity from Osceola Electric Cooperative, you're a co-op member-consumer and we encourage you to nominate someone who is making a positive impact in the community. The volunteer being nominated does not need to be a co-op member-consumer. **25741** Minors may be nominated with consent from their parents or legal guardians.

The three winners will be announced in September and featured in *Iowa Electric Cooperative Living* magazine.

Go to [www.IowaShineTheLight.com](http://www.IowaShineTheLight.com) to review the contest rules. Contest entries will be accepted at this website starting on June 1. Help us shine the light on community volunteers this summer and consider making a nomination.



## Basin Bus Tour



Spots are filling up for the Basin Bus Tour. The 2023 tour dates are August 9-11. This is a great opportunity to learn more about the source of electricity. Tours are scheduled **3961** for the Antelope Valley Power Plant, the Coteau Lignite Mine, the Garrison Dam and a gas-fired peaking plant.

Plans are to depart from Sibley to Bismarck, North Dakota on August 9 with plenty of movies, games and frequent rest stops to break up the day. Tours are planned for August 10 with a riverboat supper on the Missouri River to conclude the day. The trip wraps up on August 11 with a final tour and return to Sibley in the early evening.

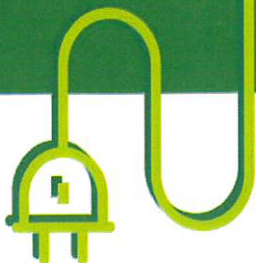
This member only trip is \$300 per couple. The fee includes the cost for the hotel, bus, all meals, riverboat, and snacks.

Osceola Electric Cooperative joins with 2 other co-ops to make this trip possible. Reserve your spot today! Call Osceola Electric at 712-754-2519.

## Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

The location of your thermostat can impact your HVAC system's ability to maintain an ideal indoor temperature.

For maximum accuracy, thermostats should be placed in the center of the home, away from air vents, plumbing pipes and exterior doors. Avoid placing items like lamps and televisions near your thermostat, which can cause the HVAC to run longer than necessary. Avoid installing thermostats in rooms that tend to feel warmer or colder than the rest of the home. Do not place furniture in front of the thermostat, which can block air flow and result in inaccurate readings.



## RECare Consumer Contribution Plan

Your Rural Electric Cooperative has always extended a helping hand to those in need of it. Now, in response to actions by the Iowa General Assembly, your REC has established RECare, a program of members helping members.

RECare will provide funds to be distributed by local community action agencies to help pay winter heating bills

and assist in weatherization of homes of low income consumers of this Cooperative. You may make a one-time contribution or you may make a monthly contribution that will be automatically added onto your monthly electric bill. You may also make your contribution part of a matching fund, if there is one established. Even a dollar a month pledge will help others.

### Customer Authorization Form

Yes, I want to be a part of members helping members and contribute to RECare.

I will make a one-time contribution to RECare. My check is enclosed

I will contribute \$\_\_\_\_\_ per month to RECare. I understand that this amount will be billed monthly.

My gift is a matching fund gift. The matching fund is \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Account Number \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: RECare, Osceola Electric Cooperative,  
P.O. Box 127, Sibley, IA 51249

### Questions or Complaints

There may come a time when you have a question regarding your electric service or billing. Maybe you have a complaint. If so, we would like to know. Please call us at Osceola Electric Cooperative and ask for the General Manager. Our number is 712-754-2519 or 888-754-2519.

If your complaint is related to service

disconnection, safety or engineering standards, or renewable energy and Osceola Electric Cooperative does not resolve your complaint, you may request assistance from the Iowa Utilities Board by calling 515-725-7321 or 877-565-4450, by writing to 1375 E. Court Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50319-0069 or by emailing [customer@iub.iowa.gov](mailto:customer@iub.iowa.gov).

