

# Connections

March 2025

For the member-owners of Federated Rural Electric



Volume 29, Issue 3


## Members have moved away...so help us find them for their capital credits pay day



Have these former cooperative members gone astray? No, they likely have just moved away. Help them find their way back to us. Your electric cooperative is trying to reunite former members with unclaimed capital credits. Their “pay day” is issued once we have a current mailing address.

These former cooperative members have moved or died; we no longer have their current address or estate address. Yet, they are still owed capital credits or their share of a profitable year.

Help Federated Rural Electric and Brown County REA (BCREA) locate these far away members and provide us new addresses. Their capital credits check was returned last year — address unknown. If you know the current location for any of these former members, please have them call or e-mail the appropriate cooperative with their new address and/or phone number. We’ll then mail their capital credits check. In addition, BCREA’s list also includes older, uncashed accounts payable checks. For older Federated unclaimed capital credits listing, go to their website.

If we do not receive new addresses on these missing members, their unclaimed capital credits checks are donated to a tax-exempt organization. Brown County Rural Electrical Association and Federated Rural Electric donate unclaimed capital credits to their Operation Round Up programs. Brown County REA’s Round Up Trust donates to charitable organizations, individuals and families in crisis and scholarships in the co-op’s service area. Federated’s Round Up Trust Board awards nine high school scholarships and awards the rest to other Operation Round Up recipients. 

### Former Federated

**members:** Call Angie direct 507-849-7847 or 1-800-321-3520 (extension 2233) or e-mail [ziemer@federatedrea.coop](mailto:ziemer@federatedrea.coop).


Becker, Linda	Bancroft, IA
Bell, Amy	Welcome
Bezdicek, Lawrence S.	Jackson
Blount, Shannon	Jackson
Bong, Clyde V.	Welcome
Bowman, Jeanette	Fairmont
Braun, Colleen	Jackson
Brawdey, Valarie	Welcome
Brooks, Michael & Rose	Walcott, IA
Burmeister, Chris Lee	Mankato
Buzick, Tim	St. Croix Falls, WI
Charnecki, Gary A.	Fairmont
Christensen, Gene	Worthington
Clay, Harold	Dakota City, IA
Crowell, John	Denver, CO
Curtis, John	Welcome
Daniels, Evelyn	Minneapolis
Dollen, Sasha	Fairmont
Dominguez, Jenni	Heron Lake
Dopp, John	Lake Park, IA
Draper, Alexander	Fairmont
Egdorf, Daniel	Round Lake
Erickson, Evan	Lakefield
Eusebio-Piyano, Jorge Luis	Heron Lake
Gaffke, Ronald	Finland
Gamble, Wayne	Sioux Falls, SD
Gartner, Kay S.	Sioux Falls, SD
Gilb, Jeremy J.	Fairmont
Gilbertson, Troy	Sherburn
Glaser, Shelly	Okabena
Gordon, Natalie	Fairmont

— Continued on Page 2

### At A Glance



Never worry about remembering to pay. Sign up for Auto Pay today!

Life is busy! Sign up for Auto Pay where your electric bill (and Broadband bill) are automatically paid using bank withdrawal from your checking or savings account on the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month (or the next business day). Find the sign-up form on our website under billing. Otherwise, call or e-mail [billing@federatedrea.coop](mailto:billing@federatedrea.coop). 



# Yay! Help us find these members who moved away!

— Continued from Page 1

Grant, Patty	Bigelow
Grefe, Jennifer L.	Fairmont
Grunewald, Juanita	Windom
Haneman, Jake	Kasson
Hansen, Misty	Jackson
Hernandez, Jonathan H.	Heron Lake
Hillmer, Jay & Deborah	Stafford, VA
Hines, Lois	Truman
Hoffman, Barbara	Fulda
Isder, John & Lori	Armstrong, IA
Janssen, Terry, C/O Trelonnie Hennings	Round Lake
Jenniges, Jeremy	Lakefield
Johanning, Tom	Valley Springs
Johnson, Phillip	Estherville, IA
Kleinhesselink, Gary	Orange City, IA
Korthouse, Josh	Wilder
Robert Krueger Trust, C/O Jerry Beck	Spicer
Krumwiede, James	Sioux Falls, SD
Kruse, Ryan & Mia	East Tawas, MI
Kuhle, Tom	Worthington
Kutnink, Rhonda	Fairmont
Lamphere, Craig	Roseville
Larson, Scott	Estherville, IA
Lemier-McGowan, Ruth	Fairmont
Ling, Eric	Round Lake
Little Hoop, Elizabeth	Heron Lake
Lomastro, Carol	Fairmont
Lopez, Edgar	Federal Way, WA
Lucas, Kristie K.	Northrop
Marsh, Mike	Spencer, IA
Mason, Shannon	Truman
McCormick, Bryan	Janesville, WI
McDonald, Brady	Welcome
Meyer, Dale	Northrop
Meyeraan, Ronnie & Amy	Odin
Miller, Luke	Granada
Mortensen, Brian	Royal, IA
Munich, Heath	Welcome
Olson, Irene	Fairmont
Park Construction Co	Minneapolis
Past, Larry & Marie	Eau Claire, WI
Pavelko, Rene	Lakefield
Peterson, Opal	Sherburn
Peterson, Vickie L.	Windom
Pittman, Raymond & Sara	Fairmont
Pohlman, Bruce	Belle Plaine
Polzin, Jason & Amanda	Estherville, IA
Poulson, Elaine	New Ulm
Reinke, Jerome	Fairmont
Roth, David L.	St. Paul
Shaw, Lorenzo E.	Jackson
Shumski, Michael	Welcome



Smith, Kenneth & Cheryl	Mapleton, IA
Sobkoweit, Jessica R.	Sherburn
Sorenson, Kyle & Jennifer	Lakefield
Steffen, Pat	Lakefield
Stevens, Sheri	Windom
Stroman, Delois	Welcome
Sugden, Krystalyn M.	Heron Lake
Sunseri, Carol A.	Fairmont
Svoboda, Pat	Welcome
Trevino Jr., Manuel	Sherburn
Wahdan, Alex	Jeffers
Walker, Steve	Waseca
Wallace, Scott	Lincoln, NE
Weaver, Eric	Estherville, IA
Weir, Garth	Welcome
Wells, Adam	Fairmont
Withers, Bill	Custer, SD
Wood, Donald	Windom
Wright, Beverly	Estherville, IA

**Former Brown County members:** Call 794-3331 or 1-800-658-2368. Otherwise, e-mail [bcra@bcra.coop](mailto:bcra@bcra.coop).

Susan K. Achman	New Ulm
Dorothy Almer	Lake Wilson
Leilah Anderson	Winthrop
Brian Anderson	New Ulm
Robby L. Andrews	Bartow, FL
Gary A. Baumberger	Hutchinson
Jason & Jennifer Bejarano	Hanska
Dr. John Bengtson	Dassel
Jason & Maria Birkeland	Sleepy Eye

Arden Black	Fairfax
Rick Black	Winthrop
Dennis Blackstad, C/O Sadie Rice	Delano
BOC Gases Inc.	Murray Hill, NJ
Nicole Borson/Roethler	New Ulm
Jerry & Destiny Bosma	Mound
Leah Bouton	Mosinee, WI
Beverley A. Bowley, C/O David Bowley	Kingston, Ontario
Larry Boyum	Franklin
Jerry L. Braam	Fairfax
Thomas & Elisabeth Buker	Brainerd
Shanna M. Bunce MD	Eugene, OR
James A. & Robyn L. Bundy	Hanska
Douglas Byro	Madelia
Jeremy Callander	New London
Adolfo Carillo Garcia	Comfrey
Cendant Mortgage	Mt. Laurel, NJ
Citizens Comm #5623	Spokane, WA
Lloyd C. Cochran	De Forest, WI
Curless Flying Service, C/O Harlet Curless	Astoria, IL
David Daniels	Marshall
D-D Money Inc, C/O Dennis E. Sperl	New Ulm
Manuel Z. Dehoyos	Comfrey
Carly J. Dekkers	Hawarden, IA
Delite Outdoor Inc	St. Paul
Jake Dietz	New Ulm
Tania K. Domeier	Sartell
Daniel Earl	New Ulm
Brent Engel	Lake Crystal
Robert H. Evers	Springfield
Exetare Partnership	Gary, SD
Isidor Faerber Jr.	New Ulm
Harold Falk	Hanska
Daniel Falk	Mankato
Farmers Home Administration	Glencoe
First Preston/Minnesota	Spring Lake Park
Ray Flygare	Worthington
Timothy J. Forster	New Ulm
Harris Fredrickson, C/O Ronald J. Dietl	Lafayette
Dennis H. Freitag	Lewisville
John Gag, Jr, C/O Arlene Kopietzki	Waldorf
Becky Geiger	New Ulm
Norbert J. Gleisner	Leesberg, FL
Michael D. Gohr	Boyd
Jesus Gonzales	Hanska
Mark H. Green	Courtland
Wallace A Guggisberg	New Ulm
Kay L. Haas	New Ulm
Daniel Haggemiller	Winthrop
Steve Hall	New Ulm
Jason J. Hansen	New Ulm


— Continued on Page 6

# Matches are no match for electric lighter

How often have you tried to light a candle or campfire and the matches are missing or the gas lighter stick is empty? That's so frustrating!

See the light! Switch to an electric rechargeable lighter. It uses plasma arc technology that is windproof and flameless. That's perfect for campfires, lighting charcoal for grilling or wet conditions. It features a rechargeable lithium battery. Power it up using the USB charger cord to your computer, vehicle charger or power bank. The LED lights indicate when the electric fire stick is fully charged, which works for about 500 lightings. Safety features include a six-second power off and an external safety lock switch to keep children safe from accidental lighting.

Look for a model that features the flexible neck design. You can bend the flexible neck to reach inside a candle; avoid burning your fingers, which can occur with matches.

Look at your local hardware store, Walmart or Amazon. One may cost around \$9 or buy two for approximately \$12. 

**See the light! Flip the switch and start using a rechargeable electric plasma lighter for candles, camping and grilling — how thrilling!**



## Safety

### Avoid being in a jam! Look out for these utility scams!

Scammers will try anything to deceive utility customers. We want to keep you safe. Learn about these utility scams so you can avoid being in a financial jam!

#### Payment due immediately

Never make a utility bill payment to anyone calling on the phone, coming to your door, texting you or e-mailing you for immediate utility payment, especially if your account is current or on Auto Pay. Hang up if caller asks you to go purchase a gift or debit card to settle your account balance. Always call your utility company at the number provided on your bill or the utility's website if you have a question about payment or billing information; do not call the scammer back at the same number used to call you.

Your electric cooperative will send a past due or disconnect notice before ever disconnecting for nonpayment. At that time your electric cooperative may call to work with you on payment arrangements or credit card payments. Know your utility payment options: online, by phone, automatic transfer from your bank account, debit/credit card, mail, drop box or in person. The only time a cooperative employee may come to your door for payment is for disconnection due to nonpayment. The employee will drive a marked cooperative vehicle. This step occurs only after trying to



work with the member to receive payment. This is why it is important to provide the co-op with any updates to your phone number or e-mail address.


#### Overpayment call

With a new scam twist some scammers will call claiming you, the customer, overpaid your electric bill. If you receive a call, text or e-mail from someone claiming you overpaid a utility bill and need to provide your banking or credit card information to receive a credit, it's very likely a scam. In most cases your electric cooperative will apply a credit to your account to cover future charges or refund an overpayment with a mailed check to your address on file.

#### Power restoration rip off

Don't fall for a power restoration rip off. Scammers may contact you and offer to restore power quickly or in a preferential order if you make an immediate payment. These scams occur after major storms or disasters with widespread outages. We will never request or

require payment to restore power after a storm.

If post-storm repairs to customer-owned equipment are necessary, we will advise you to work with a licensed contractor. If any charges are applicable, you will be billed through your existing electric account and address on file with the cooperative. 

— Courtesy of Utilities United Against Scams



# Federated Focus

## Iowa complaint process posted

If you have a concern or complaint regarding



Federated Rural Electric, it should be addressed to: Scott Reimer, general manager, Federated Rural Electric, PO Box 69, Jackson MN 56143-0069 or call 507-847-3520.

If Federated does not resolve your complaint, you may request assistance from: Utilities Board, Department of Commerce, 350 Maple St., Des Moines IA 50319-0069 or call 515-281-5979.

If your complaint is related to service, rather than rates, and Federated does not resolve your complaint, you may request assistance from the Utilities Division.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

## 2025 residential rebates offered



Go to Federated's website for the 2025 rebate forms ([federatedrea.coop](http://federatedrea.coop)) or call the office to

request that one be mailed.

- \$25 Energy Star dehumidifier or Smart Wi-Fi thermostat.
- \$75 for Energy Star refrigerator or freezer with proof of recycling the old unit.
- \$500/ton for a ground source heat pump or \$600 for a ductless air source heat pump.
- \$1,000 for a SEER2 14.3-16.1 air source heat pump.
- \$1,500 for a SEER2 16.2 or higher air source heat pump.

A copy of the sales receipt must be submitted with all rebates. Look for these rebates as a bill credit.

Find the business/farm energy-efficiency rebate forms on our website for lighting, motors and more.



Scott Reimer

# Manager's Message

## After February's cold snap, we welcome spring's arrival

We spring ahead to Daylight Savings Time March 9 at midnight. Plus, the spring equinox marks the first day of spring with equal daylight and night hours between March 20-21. We look forward to spring as we come out of the February deep freeze. Was it considered a polar vortex? Some say yes, while some say maybe. Load control was called upon frequently to soften the peaks. Thank you all who are load control participants, as well as those who voluntarily reduced usage. Likely several peak days were seen. Our primary wholesale power supplier, Basin Electric, saw an all-time system peak.

## Welcome Troy Post as our new District 2 director!

We welcome a new director to the board room. Troy Post attended his first meeting in February representing District 2. See story on Page 5. Welcome Troy!

## Ethanol plant closing impacts our electricity sales

Federated received the unfortunate news that Green Plains Ethanol in Fairmont closed due to various reasons. We hope that they will come back online this fall after harvest. Certainly, no guarantees exist. The loss of sales was felt and the forecast needed to be updated to reflect the loss, as well as the reduced purchases. Our financial team will be monitoring this monthly. Already we are identifying items that may be cut to offset the reduced margins. We will not let this negatively affect our reliability or members' service; we will get through this.

## April 1 rate adjustment appears on May's electric bills.

An unrelated change that will take place starting in April is the 2025 rate adjustment. The February *Connections* newsletter story, along with the March electric bill insert, provide the details. This all came about prior to the Green Plains' closure and no adjustments were made to rates due to that.

## Election results impact on energy policies?

The 2024 elections were pivotal for policies affecting electric co-ops. President Donald Trump's victory and Republicans' majorities in Congress could bring major changes to environmental rules, permitting requirements, funding programs and tax incentives that touch on co-ops' daily operations. This is a very fluid situation and will be a moving target. I will attend the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C. in early March to hear the latest. We hope that policies hampering progress are eliminated, allowing the industry to do what needs to be done to keep the lights on and affordable.

## Building remodel update as details are finalized

We have selected a general contractor and a series of meetings in March will result in a timeline. I am hopeful the project will get underway in June of 2025 and be completed by the end of the year or early 2026. What we understand is the most efficient way to do this is to vacate the building so contractors can have access to every part of the affected area. Thus, our office will be closing to foot traffic and relocating temporarily. We are working on a location and will report to you as soon as we get that nailed down. We will set up a way for members to access employees as needed, probably through scheduling appointments.

The payment drop box is something that members like to use; however, in the event that it becomes inaccessible, I will put in a plug for some of the other payment options. Here's a breakdown of use by members: ACH (Auto Pay or automatic bank transfer) tops the list at 45 percent; credit cards at 25 percent; paper checks at 23 percent; with e-checks and cash around 7 percent. The preferred method is ACH, as no fees apply. Paper checks or cash have no fees either, but requires manual entry by staff. Credit card and e-check all have fees associated with them, which end up costing Federated a percentage of the charge. Hopefully, you are willing to make the switch to the ACH program to avoid any hassles during construction. If so, our staff is ready to assist you. See the story at the bottom of Page 1.

# Troy Post appointed to fill District Two Director term

Federated welcomes Troy Post, Brewster, as the new District Two director. The Nominating Committee met to fill this position due to a retirement, providing names to the Board of Directors; they appointed Troy as the director until the August Annual Meeting elections. Then members will vote to fill the one-year term remaining for this district.

Troy is the second generation to serve as a director in this district. His dad, David Post, served as the District Two director from 1990 to 2010.

"First, I would like to thank Darwin Voss for his many years of service to Federated's Board," Troy stated. "I was excited to apply and be chosen. My dad was also pretty excited. Thanks to the support from my wife, Gwen, and my brother, Eric, in our farming operation, here I am. While a lot has changed



since my Dad was on the Federated Board, our family has always been thankful for the high level of service and commitment that the employees of Federated have provided. We also appreciate the benefits of member ownership in the cooperative."

Post is the co-owner of Post Swine

Farms, finishing pigs, plus raising corn and soybeans. Post previously worked for the Veterinary Medical Center in Worthington as a clinic tech/manager in the early 1990s. He then managed the feed department and was the interim general manager for the Okabena Farmer's Co-op in the mid to late 1990s. He is involved in the St. Paul Lutheran Church in Rost Township, belongs to the Sons of the American Legion, Pheasants Forever and the Minnesota Corn/Soybean Growers. Post graduated from Heron Lake-Okabena High School and earned an AAS degree in small business and accounting from the University of Minnesota in Crookston.

Troy and Gwen have two married children (Erika and Jacob) who both reside in Brandon, South Dakota.

Congratulations Troy and welcome to Federated's Board of Directors! 🎉

## Join us on a mini-vacation for the power plant & coal mine tour; Sign up for August 20-22 trip, as limited number of seats exist

Join us on a three-day trek across the Dakota Plains to tour the Antelope Valley power plant and the Coteau lignite mine August 20-22. In addition, tour the Garrison Dam.

Depart from Jackson August 20 on the air-conditioned charter bus. Plenty of movies, games and frequent rest stops break up the day.

The big tour day is August 21. Depart Bismarck, North Dakota, for the Garrison Dam, power plant and mine. Take the elevator to the top of the power plant to see the view; peek into the coal-burning furnace and enjoy the bus ride into the lignite open pit mine, weather permitting. In the evening enjoy a relaxing supper and riverboat ride on the Missouri River.

On August 22 the group heads back home. Enjoy periodic rest stops and return to Jackson in the early evening.

As a cooperative member-owner, learn about these sources of your electricity. The cost is only \$157 per Federated member or \$314 per Federated couple. The fee includes the cost for the hotel, bus, all meals, riverboat and snack breaks.

Federated shares the tour bus with two Iowa co-ops so just 15 seats are available. Call with your credit card to reserve your seats or send in your contact info with your check payment and coupon. Call Federated (507-847-3520 or 800-321-3520, press extension 2224 for Andrea). If you have gone before, please do not sign up again so other members may learn more about their power supply. 🎉



**August 20-22, 2025**

**Basin Tour Registration**

**1 Federated member for \$157**  
 **2 Federated members for \$314**

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Paid \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/state/zip \_\_\_\_\_

*Mail to: Federated Rural Electric, ATTN: Andrea, PO Box 69, Jackson MN 56143-0069 with the check or call 507-847-3520 or 1-800-321-3520 extension 2224 for Andrea and pay with credit card.*

# Okay, do you know where these formers members live today?

— Continued from Page 2

Jerome A. Hanson, C/O Roy J. Lodes ADM  
Bellevue, NE  
New Ulm

Douglas B. Harris  
Penny Hasse  
Wayne Havemeier  
Robert Hazelton  
Leslie Helget  
Loraine Henning  
Mark Henningson  
Eric & Tina Hertling  
David Heyer  
Kurt Heyer  
Kenneth L. Hicks  
Vickie Higdem  
Charles J. Hillesheim  
Jeanette Hillesheim  
Lois L. Hornick  
Marilyn Hovland  
Daniel C. Irlbeck  
Shawn E. Jakes  
Dale C. Jensen  
Elaine Johnson  
Gary L. Johnson  
Pearl I. Johnson Estate, C/O Jeff Hopman  
St. James  
Sleepy Eye  
Aberdeen, SD  
Holiday Island, AZ  
Lake Crystal  
Dale J.  
Loveland, CO  
Fairmont

Ralph Klingler  
Klossner Klippers, C/O Kristine Hagberg  
Lafayette  
New Ulm  
New Ulm  
Noble, OK  
Sleepy Eye  
Shakopee  
Perham  
New Ulm  
Claremont  
Watertown, SD  
Silver Lake  
Chanhassen  
Hanska  
Suwanee, GA  
Sleepy Eye  
New Ulm  
New Ulm  
New Ulm  
Las Vegas, NV  
Geneva Sondag  
Hanska  
New Ulm  
Denver, CO  
Madelia  
Shakopee  
New Ulm  
Springfield  
Baxter, IA  
Springfield  
Sleepy Eye  
Mankato

Thomas Meyers  
Leland L. Miller  
Dean Miller  
Leeza G. Moe  
Moe's Sandy Lane, C/O Trent Moe

Jeanette Moeri  
John Claud Monro  
Francisco Montaivo  
Harry R. Montanye  
Terry A. Moore  
Joseph Morales  
Alice Murphy Trust, C/O Marlene Pelton  
Trustee  
Green Valley, AZ  
St. Peter  
Willmar  
New Ulm  
Buffalo  
New Ulm  
Hanska  
Chanhassen  
Duane A. Olson, C/O Bryan Olson P.R. Nicollet  
David E. Pace  
Wayne Paulson  
Nicole M. Paulson  
George Pavelek  
Shawn Peters  
Matthew D. Petersen  
Dorothy Pfeiffer  
Angie & Jeremy Pidde  
Scott S. Pieper  
Braylynn Pitschka  
Allen E. Porter, C/O Tad Ulrich (POA)  
Cannon Falls  
New Ulm  
New Ulm  
New Ulm  
New Ulm  
Lake Crystal  
Eldora, IA  
North Mankato  
Gibbon  
Mankato  
Sleepy Eye  
Sleepy Eye  
Hanska  
LaSalle

Romberg & Petermann Farms LLP, C/O Jon Petermann  
Sleepy Eye  
Dewayne Sadler, C/O Winthrop State Bank  
Winthrop  
Robert W. Sahli, C/O Mary Lou Sahli  
Mankato  
Madelia  
New Ulm  
Scherer Properties Corp, C/O Mark & Matt Hagberg  
Lafayette  
Darrel D. Schmidt  
Steven J. Schoener  
Laporte  
Rita K. Schoof  
New Ulm  
Gary Schreyer  
New Ulm  
Carmen Schumacher Fischer  
Sleepy Eye  
Jason Schutz  
Sleepy Eye  
Marjorie M. Schwaegerl  
Sleepy Eye  
Thomas R. Sirovy  
Pine River

Eileen M. Siskel  
Marlyn D. Smith  
Michael W. Smith  
Patricia South  
Russell Sperl  
Debbie L. Spicer, C/O F&M  
New Ulm  
Bank of  
New Ulm  
Dean Spilde  
Glyndon  
Jason E. Stiernagle  
Garrison  
Angeline Sturm  
Springfield  
TCF National Bank  
Minneapolis  
Douglas E. Tharp  
Normal, IL  
Linda Theis  
Elmore  
Douglas Thorson  
Peoria, IL  
John Tornow  
Hurst, TX  
Alice Trebesch  
Walnut Grove  
Loen D. Troidahl  
Mankato  
Phillip C. Turgeon  
Hanska  
Twenty 1st Century Wireless  
Edina  
U.S. Geological Survey  
Mounds View  
Ray H. Van Wyngarden  
North Conway, NH  
Verizon Wireless  
Spokane, WA  
Saimi Vogl  
New Ulm  
William D. Walters, C/O Enclave at Parkview  
Fort Worth, TX  
St. James  
Rebecca Walz  
Butterfield  
Viola A. Watkins  
Burns, OR  
Patrick R. Weber  
Eric Webster Family Trust, C/O Sally Webster  
St. Peter  
Doreen L. Weckwerth, C/O Deb McDermott  
Big Lake  
Layn A. Westcott  
Oakdale  
Aaron Whitney  
New Ulm  
Steven D. Wilke  
Lewisville  
Cathy Williams  
New Ulm  
Richard O. Wilner  
Stacy  
Bert Wilson  
New Ulm  
Jesse L. Wozniak  
Gibbon  
Dennis Yetter  
Max Creek, MO  
Chad Zobel  
New Ulm (LA)



Oh happy day! Your co-op is sending “thanks” your way! Thanks for taking time to help former members receive their capital credits “back pay.”



## Whip up your favorite meringue recipes to share with all of us

Springtime calls for a light and fluffy dessert using meringue! Share your favorite meringue recipes with us, whether it's for a cookies, pie or torte. Send your favorite meringue recipes to Editor, Federated Rural Electric, PO Box 69, Jackson MN 56143-0069 or e-mail to christoffer@federatedrea.coop by April 25. Add your name and phone number. Thanks for sharing with us! ☺

### Egg Yolk Chocolate Chip Cookie Bars

by Jessica Nachreiner, Comfrey

If you made an angel food cake and find yourself with an abundance of egg yolks, this is a great recipe to use them up!

- |                                |                               |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 c. softened butter           | ¾ tsp. baking soda            |
| 1 c. light brown sugar, packed | ¾ tsp. baking powder          |
| ½ c. white granulated sugar    | 1 tsp. salt                   |
| 5 large egg yolks              | 2½ c. all-purpose flour       |
| 2 tsp. vanilla extract         | 2 c. chocolate chips, divided |

Preheat your oven to 350°F and prepare a 9x13" baking pan with non-stick spray. In a large bowl beat together the butter and sugars until combined and fluffy. Beat in the egg yolks and vanilla extract. Then beat in the baking soda, baking powder and salt. Add the flour and use a large spoon or spatula to mix the dough together. Stir in 1¾ c. of the chocolate chips (the rest will go on top). Spoon the dough into your prepared baking pan. Use the spoon to evenly spread and gently flatten the dough. Sprinkle the remaining ¼ c. of chocolate chips on top and gently press them into the dough. Bake the bars at 350°F for 25-30 minutes or until the edges are lightly browned and the center no longer looks wet. Allow the bars to cool completely in the pan placed on a cooling rack. ☺

### Natalie's Monster Bars

by Elizabeth Shimon, Granada

- ½ c. butter
- 1 c. sugar
- 1 c. brown sugar
- 3 eggs
- 1½ c. peanut butter
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 2 tsp. baking soda
- 4½ c. old-fashioned oats
- 1 c. M&Ms
- ¾ c. chocolate chips

Mix all together and press into a greased 9x13" pan. Bake at 350° for 20 minutes. Don't overbake! ☺



### Get your ducks in a row...

Turn to your electric co-op for your next water heater & hot, bubbly bath!



Refrigerator rebates!


Take advantage of our Energy Star refrigerator or freezer rebates with the recycling of the old unit. Find the form on our website or call us! ☺

**MARCH SPECIAL!**

---

**Get a free cellular communicator when upgrading from a landline**

with three-year monitoring agreement.



**888.264.6380 • heartlandss.com**

*A subsidiary of your local electric co-op*

**Always call first:**

**1-800-252-1166**

Call Gopher State One Call before doing any digging more than 12" deep — 48 hours before digging for foundations, trees and tiling.

Register at [www.gopherstateonecall.org](http://www.gopherstateonecall.org) or call 811. Call a licensed electrician to locate the underground lines on your side of the meter. ☺



**Thanks for visiting our Jackson Home Show Booth February 22**

The Broadband team attended the 2025 Jackson Farm & Home Show February 22 at the Jackson County Central High School. The team loves the opportunity to connect with our customers face-to-face and answer questions and talk about our fiber-optic buildout projects. One of our technicians brought along our fiber optic home demo and answered a lot of technical questions people had about how fiber connects to their home and what changes they could expect when switching from a fixed-wireless service.

The most common question answered was “When is fiber optic coming to me?” While we aren’t able to provide specific dates and plans yet, Federated is committed to connecting all of our members to fiber optic internet. We know how important it is for rural communities, like ours, to have those connections, especially today where more and more of our lives are intertwined with technology. We will keep you all updated here with buildout phases and timelines until fiber optic internet is available to each of our members.

If you missed us at the Jackson Farm & Home Show our team will also attend the Fairmont Farm & Home Show April 11-13 at the Martin County Fairgrounds. This show will be a great opportunity for members living in the Martin County Border-to-Border grant area to come with their questions and see the equipment used to serve their homes during construction. Property owners in the grant area should have received either an e-mail or a letter in the mail with more information about the buildout and a Construction Consent form to fill out and return. If you have not received anything from us regarding the buildout, please contact our office; we will send one your way! ☎️



info@federatedbroadband.coop • www.federatedbroadband.coop

**507-847-1001 or 1-833-847-8001** 



Official monthly newsletter published  
77100 US Hwy 71, PO Box 69  
Jackson, MN 56143-0069  
E-mail: info@federatedrea.coop  
Website: http://www.federatedrea.coop  
Facebook.com/Federated  
Phone: 507-847-3520 or 1-800-321-3520  
Office hours: 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday

Scott Reimer, General Manager

David Meschke, President — 507-236-4896  
Glenn Dicks, Vice President — 507-840-1075  
Jon Saxen, Secretary/Treasurer — 507-236-7027  
Tyler “Red” Ayers — 507-840-1011  
Bruce Brockmann — 507-399-3487  
Troy Post — 507-360-5537  
Scott Thiesse — 507-399-6427

The Board of Directors generally meets the last business day of the month at 8 a.m. at the Jackson office. Regular board meetings are open to the membership. Members interested in discussing business items should contact the general manager or president three days before the meeting.

## Broadband now offers phone service for their customers



Federated Broadband is excited to announce we are ready to connect you to phone service through us. Our VoIP (Voice over Internet Protocol) systems are up and running and we have a few customers and business already connected!

If you currently have a landline phone you would like to switch over, we can verify that the number is portable and schedule a set up time. Otherwise, if you are looking to add a new home phone, we can provide you with a new number and phone system. Residential VoIP services start at \$25/month and business services start at \$30/month.

Contact our office today to learn more about how Federated Broadband can be your one stop shop for internet, TV and phone! ☎️