

# acec NEWS

July 2021  
Volume 23 / Issue 7



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



## ELECTRIC VEHICLES GAINING MOMENTUM



ANNUAL MEETING  
DRIVE-THROUGH

SCHOLARSHIPS  
ANNOUNCED

SUMMER  
FAIRS



**A MESSAGE FROM**  
*Your General Manager*

**Hollie McCormick**  
EVP/General Manager

## Strategic Planning

Successful organizations look forward. Not just to the next day or week, but much further ahead. A company like Allamakee-Clayton Electric Cooperative, now in its 83rd year, could not have survived for so long without planning for the future. Strategic planning is one of many responsibilities maintained by the cooperative's elected board of directors and the cooperative's management team.

ACEC's strategic plan provides direction and focus for the cooperative. It identifies specific results to be achieved and establishes a course of action for achieving them, which helps create alignment within the organization. ACEC conducts strategic planning sessions every 2-3 years.

During the month of June, ACEC Board of Directors and select staff met for a two-day strategic planning session. We took a deep dive into all the different things happening at your electric cooperative. We broke it out into conversations focused on strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats. This ended up being an immense amount of information!

We were fortunate to have staff from CFC (Cooperative Finance Corporation) facilitate the session. This was helpful as it kept us on track and focused. Additionally, we held the session off-site, so we could channel our attention on the tasks at hand and minimize distractions.

### BOARD BRIEFS | June 28, 2021 Meeting

- Reviewed and discussed the June 24th and 25th strategic planning session
- Converted the Co-op's line of credit to long-term debt
- John Young, of Dairyland Power Cooperative (ACEC's power supplier) presented information on Dairyland's power cost rate structure
- Approved donations to Clayton County 4-H, Fayette County Fair and Clayton County Fair
- Interviewed three potential directors to fill former director Larry Lamborn's District C vacancy
- The next Board Meeting will be Monday, July 26, 2021

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

### 2021 ANNUAL MEETING DRIVE-THROUGH

The Cooperative's Annual Meeting will be held in a drive-through format this year. If you were not able to attend last year, we encourage you to add this to your day. It's a great opportunity to visit with directors and employees and we want to visit with you! Director elections for **Districts B and C** will occur via mail or can be dropped off during the drive-through service at the Cooperative on Monday, September 13 between the hours of 1:30 – 6:30 p.m. Look for more information in next month's annual report.

In today's rapidly changing world, increasingly complex scenarios call for increasingly complex solutions. I believe it is important to incorporate the voices of all departments, our board and management - everyone adds valuable thoughts and ideas! We are proactively identifying challenges and opportunities to be faced by the cooperative in the next 1-5 years, and even beyond.

We are actively setting our strategic objectives which will then be assigned and become objectives of differing departments. Each department within ACEC will have specific goals and initiatives that will help support our overall strategic goals.

Strategic Planning is important to us. We need to continually be disseminating information pertinent to our co-op individually, and the industry. This prepares us for continuous improvement and a successful future. However, I can tell you with certainty that every topic that comes before us, we ask the most important question of "*How will this affect our members?*" That is truly at the start and heart of every plan. That is one thing that has not changed in 80+ years of doing business and that is the cooperative difference!

Stay Cool and Have A Great Summer,

# Scholarship Winners

**2021 Scholarship Winners:** Allamakee-Clayton Electric Cooperative is proud to announce it has awarded \$2,000 in scholarships to three graduating seniors who plan to further their education in an electric related field.

**Congratulations to these deserving students!**



**Augustus Ehlers**

**Edgewood-Colesburg High School**

Parents: Richard & Jodi Ehlers, Edgewood

*NORTHEAST IOWA COMM. COLLEGE  
HVAC/INDUSTRIAL ELECTRICIAN*

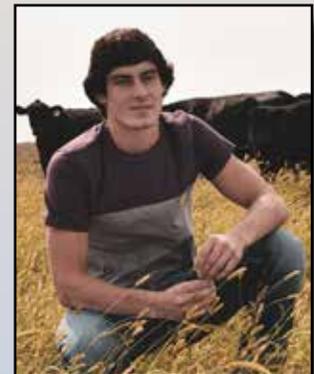


**Brayden Lenth**

**Postville High School**

Parents: Terry & DeAnn Lenth, Postville

*NORTHEAST IOWA COMM. COLLEGE  
COMMERCIAL/RESIDENTIAL ELECTRICIAN*



**Owen Kime**

**Sumner-Fredericksburg High School**

Parents: Ed & Lori Kime, Sumner

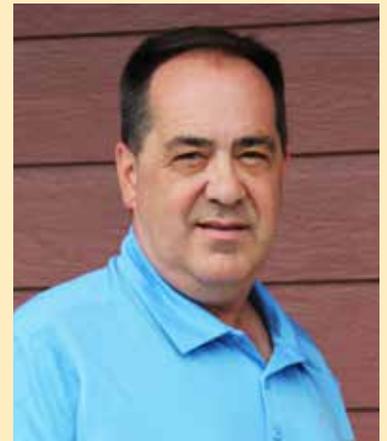
*HAWKEYE COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
INDUSTRIAL ELECTRICIAN*

## Board of directors appoints Greg Formanek

We were all greatly saddened when director Larry Lamborn passed away this spring. Since then, ACEC's board of directors has been operating with an open seat, which according to our bylaws, can be filled by the remaining board members appointing a replacement for the duration of the unexpired term. At its June meeting, our board of directors appointed Greg Formanek to fill that seat.

Greg represents board district C as a rural resident who has been a member of ACEC since 1989. Greg has been a partner in Heying Lumber in Calmar and an owner of Superior Building Center in Monona, both with son Brent. Greg has been a past board member of MFL MarMac School Board, past Tri-City board member, and past treasurer of the MFL Men's Club. Greg and his wife Julia reside near Farmersburg.

In addition to providing reliable electric service at an affordable price, Greg feels the Cooperative should continue to be a reliable source for electrical safety education and promote energy savings programs for its members. He also believes that "engaging younger members in the Cooperative is important." While in high school, Greg had the opportunity to participate in an REC sponsored leadership program that gave him great insight into what an electric co-op is all about. "The Youth Tour and scholarship programs are great programs, and I think the Cooperative should continue to promote and educate our youth about the Co-op model and careers that are available at a rural electric cooperative in order to retain them in our rural areas."



# ELECTRIC VEHICLES GAINING MOMENTUM

**POPULARITY:** As electric vehicles gain popularity nationwide; many car manufacturers are creating new electric models to appeal to consumers. Electric vehicles may have higher sticker prices than traditional gas-powered vehicles, however, their lifetime costs can end up being less due to lower maintenance and fuel costs.

Since electric vehicle technology is constantly improving and prices keep decreasing, consumers are starting to consider electric vehicles for their next purchase. There is an electric model out there for everyone, depending on your priorities and preferences.

**AFFORDABILITY:** For many, affordability is most important when purchasing a new vehicle. There are several budget-friendly options for those that want an electric vehicle but do not want to break the bank. One of the most popular and relatively most affordable electric options is the Nissan Leaf. The 2021 Nissan Leaf has a Manufactured Suggested Retail Price (MSRP) of \$31,670 according to Car and Driver Magazine.

Another affordable electric vehicle is the 2021 Hyundai Ioniq Electric with an MSRP at about \$33,245. The Hyundai Ioniq Electric has one of the highest miles per gallon equivalent (MPGe) ratings compared to other electric vehicles, at 133MPGe, meaning it uses electric power very efficiently, thus needing fewer charging sessions. Additional benefits of the Hyundai Ioniq Electric include high safety scores and a long warranty.

For those interested in a relatively budget-friendly luxury vehicle, the 2021 Tesla Model 3 could be an option to consider. With a starting MSRP of \$38,690, the car provides a sophisticated interior while delivering great efficiency and 263 miles of range.

**MILEAGE RANGE:** Some consumers may instead prioritize a greater mileage range on their electric vehicle to eliminate range anxiety. Several new electric vehicle models have an especially large range.

The 2021 Tesla Model S Long Range Plus has the largest range currently available on the market at 402 miles of maximum range. Using a Tesla Supercharger for only 15 minutes can get you about 130 miles of range on the 2021 Tesla Model S, but this car comes with the hefty MSRP price tag of about \$81,000. Another option that is a little more affordable but still provides a modestly long driving range is the 2021 Chevrolet Bolt, with a maximum range of 259 miles and an MSRP of roughly \$36,600. The Chevrolet Bolt is a strong competitor among many electric vehicles, making it a solid choice as an everyday car.

Many of the electric vehicles discussed in this article can be found in the U.S. News and World Report or Car and Driver Magazine with additional details and buyer reviews.

**BEFORE PURCHASING:** Check the current market price for the vehicle you are interested in to make sure it is within your budget. If you are buying through a dealer, ask any important questions before finalizing the purchase. Having a plan for charging your new vehicle will also be critical, either at home or at public charging stations. Before purchasing any new vehicle, be sure to appropriately research which model will work best for you and your family.

**EV CHARGERS:** The service to your home is sized to meet the demands of your house as they existed when the service was connected. Adding an EV charger creates the risk of overloading the wires and transformers powering your home. Overloaded services can fail and leave you in the dark with an uncharged EV. Contact ACEC before adding an EV charger.

**EV CHARGER REBATES:** ACEC offers a rebate of \$800 for a Smart e-vehicle charger (Charge brand sold by ACEC).

- Charger must be purchased from ACEC and installed in 2021.
- Charger must be installed on ACEC electric lines.
- Charger must be a wall-mounted 240V hardwired unit.
- Charger must participate in ACEC's load management program.

Contact Ryan Wagner at our office for more information on EV Charger Rebates.



## Consider home charging options for electric vehicles

Electric vehicle (EV) owners have multiple options for charging their vehicle at home. There are three common EV charging levels: Level One, Level Two and DC Fast Charge.

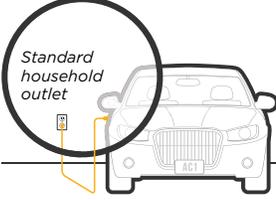
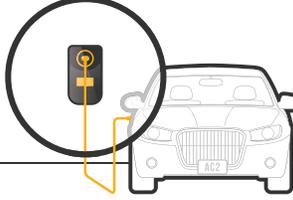
**Level One** is the most basic charging level. If you choose this option, your EV will typically include an adapter that plugs into a typical 120-volt outlet. This is the easiest and cheapest charging solution, but it will take much longer to charge your EV.

**Level Two** is about three to five times faster than Level One, but this level of charging often requires separate purchases and installation. The EV is plugged into a 240-volt outlet, which is used for larger appliances, like a clothes dryer. Most homes do not include a 240-volt outlet in garages, so the outlet must be installed by a licensed professional. You typically see Level Two charging stations at shopping malls, office buildings and multi-family community spaces.

**DC Fast Charge** stations are typically seen near high-traffic public areas, like gas stations, rather than in homes. This is the fastest charging level, with the ability to charge an EV at 80% in under 30 minutes. As EVs continue to become more popular, you can expect to see more DC Fast Charge stations throughout Iowa.

If you're charging an EV at home, please contact Ryan Wagner at [rwagner@acrec.coop](mailto:rwagner@acrec.coop). EV charging creates additional energy demand. The time of day you charge your EV can have an impact on the grid *and* your monthly energy costs. By letting us know about your EV charging levels, we can help ensure your home is prepared for the additional energy consumption.

### Electric Vehicle Charging Levels

AC Level One	AC Level Two	DC Fast Charge
 <p><i>Standard household outlet</i></p>		
<b>VOLTAGE:</b> 120V 1-Phase AC	<b>VOLTAGE:</b> 208V or 240V 1-Phase AC	<b>VOLTAGE:</b> 208V or 480V 3-Phase AC
<b>AMPS:</b> 12-16 Amps	<b>AMPS:</b> 12-80 Amps (typ. 32 Amps)	<b>AMPS:</b> <100 Amps
<b>CHARGING LOADS:</b> 1.4 to 1.9 kW	<b>CHARGING LOADS:</b> 2.5 to 19.2 kW (typ. 6.6kW)	<b>CHARGING LOADS:</b> 50-350 kW
<b>VEHICLE CHARGE TIME:</b> 3-5 Miles per Hour	<b>VEHICLE CHARGE TIME:</b> 10-20 Miles per Hour <i>20+ for some EV models</i>	<b>VEHICLE CHARGE TIME:</b> 60-80 Miles in 20 Minutes

Sources: Advanced Energy and EPA

## Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

During summer months, run large appliances that emit heat (like clothes dryers and dishwashers) during the evening when it's cooler.

This will minimize indoor heat during the day when outdoor temperatures are highest.



## Summer Rates In Effect June through August

	<u>June - August</u>	<u>Sept. - May</u>
<b>SINGLE PHASE RATES</b> (set on May 1, 2020)	13.8¢ per kWh	12.3¢ per kWh
<b>DUAL FUEL LOAD MGMT. RATES</b> (set on May 1, 2020)	12.0¢ per kWh	7.1¢ per kWh

This is a summary of residential-type rates.  
If you have questions about these or any other rate classifications, call (563) 864-7611.

# Postville Big Four Fair



ACEC employees Hollee McCormick, Ryan Wagner, Brenda Hackman, Jeff Cox, and Donna Schultz get ready for the Big 4 Fair parade.



Ryan Wagner shows Nate, Braely, Cory, Kade, Kasmui & Hallie Meyer (members of ACEC) some of the Tesla Electric Vehicle features.



Jonathan Oakland enjoyed the Tesla Demonstration.



Nancy Everman was one of the judges at the Fair.

Sophia Palmer was proud of her beautiful dog that won a Blue Ribbon at the Big Four Fair.



Skyways is offering **FREE Wi-Fi** at the **Allamakee County Fair July 21 - 25** and at the **Fayette County Fair July 20 - 24.** Enjoy fast, reliable internet on us!



Aandi & Jessica Deering (ACEC Employees) and their family won Best of Show for their barn quilt #62, at the Big Four Fair 100th Year Anniversary.

## Visit us at the County Fairs!

Stop by to see Sonja and learn more about our FirstCall lifeline product and get a coupon for a free installation!



Ryan Wagner and Brenda Hackman will be at the fairs with our Tesla EV, and will be giving out promotional items. Dates:



- Allamakee County Fair .....Thursday, July 22nd (11 am - 5 pm)
- Fayette County Fair .....Friday, July 23rd (1 pm - 6 pm)
- Clayton County Fair .....Friday, August 6th (noon - 6 pm)

# Outdoor Grilling Recipes

## Bacon & Parmesan Roasted Asparagus

12 strips of bacon  
2 bundles of asparagus  
1 T. Parmesan  
½ a lemon  
Sea salt & pepper to taste

Bring grilling temp to 375°. Spray cooking spray or sprinkle olive oil on a 9" x 13" grilling pan. Line strips of bacon on the pan.

Cook bacon for 15-20 minutes, or until desired crispness. Transfer bacon to paper towel and drain all but 1 T. of bacon grease from the pan.

Trim asparagus ends. Spread spears onto the baking sheet, rolling them around to coat in reserved bacon fat. Sprinkle with Parmesan cheese and crumble on cooked bacon. Cook for 18-20 minutes, or until tender.

Squeeze on juice of half a lemon before serving.

*Jessica Deering, Postville*

## Tequila Chicken

### Marinade

¼ c. tequila  
1 T. salt  
1 T. sugar  
3 T. chopped cilantro (I use more)  
4 cloves of garlic (I use more)  
¼ cup fresh lime juice  
1 jalapeño pepper, seeded and chopped  
1½ c. virgin olive oil (I use less)

Blend in food processor - slowly adding the olive oil to emulsify. Put 6 boneless skinless chicken breasts in a freezer bag and pour in marinade. Refrigerate 3-36 hours (the longer the better in my opinion).

Grill and enjoy!

*Becky Engelhardt, Postville*

### Have an idea for a recipe topic? Send it our way!

Send your favorite recipes and/or recipe topics to Jenny McIntyre, ACEC, PO Box 715, Postville, IA 52162 or [jmcintyre@acrec.coop](mailto:jmcintyre@acrec.coop).

You'll receive a \$5 bill credit if your recipe is printed.

Please note – recipes must be received by the 25<sup>th</sup> day of the month before intended publication.

**September — CROCK POT DIPS**

**October — LOOSE MEAT SANDWICHES**

**November — THANKSGIVING LEFTOVER MEALS**

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**ACEC  
SunSource**



## THE COOPERATIVE'S SKYWAYS DEPARTMENT WELCOMES A FAMILIAR FACE

Allamakee-Clayton Electric Cooperative is very happy to have a familiar face back at the Cooperative again. Daren Kaepfel worked at ACEC for 21 years as our Manager of DBS (DirecTV) and Internet Operations. Daren now joins the Skyways Department on a part-time basis to assist with our internet deployment projects. He will be meeting with customers and planning installs.

Daren resides in Harpers Ferry with his wife Mary. They have three sons: Brian, Chad & Jason. They have seven grandchildren and three step-grandchildren. In his free time, he likes to go boating, UTV riding, work in their yard and spend time with his family.

Daren is looking forward to meeting people on the job and representing ACEC in his new role at the co-op.

**Welcome, Daren; we're happy you are here!**

## FIND YOUR SERVICE NUMBER

Three *Service Location* numbers are hidden within the text of this newsletter. The numbers are from three different regions of our service area – **two are worth a \$5 bill credit and one is worth a \$10.00 bill credit** if found. To claim the credit, the number must be yours and you need to notify us when you find it.



## CONTACT ACEC

### HEADQUARTERS

229 Highway 51 • PO Box 715  
Postville, IA 52162

### PHONE NUMBERS

**LOCAL** 563-864-7611

**TOLL-FREE** 888-788-1551

**PAYMENT LINE 24/7** 833-284-5051

**UNDERGROUND CABLE LOCATING** 811

**SKYWAYS INTERNET SOLUTIONS**

800-864-1611

### WEBSITE

acrec.com

### OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

### OUTAGES

888-788-1551 or 563-864-7611

### IOWA STATE ONE CALL

811

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**JEFF BRADLEY**, President, Wadena

**MICHAEL D. GIBBS**, Vice President, Waterville

**CINDY HEFFERN**, Sec./Treas., Harpers Ferry

**ROGER ARTHUR**, Sumner

**GREG FORMANEK**, Farmersburg

**ARLYN R. FOSSUM**, Waterville

**JERRY KELEHER**, Elkader

**DONALD E. McCORMICK**, Harpers Ferry

**ALAN STEFFENS**, Clermont

### MANAGEMENT STAFF

**HOLLEE McCORMICK**, EVP/General Manager

**DAVID DECKER**, Director, Finance & Administrative Services

**BRENDA HACKMAN**, Manager, Economic Development & Community Relations

**JENI KOLSRUD**, Manager, Information Technology

**JENNY McINTYRE**, Manager, Marketing & Communications

**JASON TROENDLE**, Director, Operations & Engineering

**RYAN WAGNER**, Manager, Member Services

   **STAY CONNECTED**



Allamakee-Clayton Electric Cooperative, Inc.

PO Box 715 - Postville, IA 52162-0715

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## Renewable Energy

You can support renewable energy, protect the environment and reduce our dependence on fossil fuels when you purchase *Evergreen* renewable energy for your home, farm or business.

*Evergreen* is a voluntary renewable energy “green power” program available through Allamakee-Clayton Electric Cooperative. *Evergreen* renewable energy comes from the wind, sun and waste-to-energy sources such as landfill gas and livestock manure.

In addition to your normal electric bill, you pay a small extra charge each month to offset the additional cost of renewable generation. Now even more of your electricity can come from renewable generation resources.

**Yes!** I want to participate in the *Evergreen* renewable energy program.

**Please sign me up at the following level:**

- I would like \_\_\_\_\_ 100 kWh blocks\* of (Fill in number) *Evergreen* renewable energy. I understand this will add \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to my monthly energy bill. (Blocks x \$1)
- Please provide me with more information.
- I understand that this amount is in addition to my monthly energy bill.

\* One block of 100 kWh represents approximately 10% of the average residential monthly electric use (1,000 kWh).

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Return completed form to Allamakee-Clayton Electric Cooperative, PO Box 715, Postville, IA 52162

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 