

# Connections



May 2023

## 87th Annual Meeting

South Central Electric held its 87th annual meeting at the Windom Community Center on March 30th. It was great to see our members in person again at the annual meeting. Board President Ron Jorgenson lead the meeting. Guest speaker Bob Sahr, East River Electric CEO, spoke about the cooperative's energy supply and meeting future energy needs.

Vice President Michael Miest announced this year's scholarship and youth tour winners. The Washington D.C. Youth Tour Essay contest winner is Jarrett Durham of St. James. The Basin Electric \$1,000 scholarship winner is Kari Matejka of Sherburn. For the first time South Central Electric gave away two \$500 scholarships in honor of past General Manager, Tom Malone. Charles Dammann of Sanborn and Sydney Borntager of Trimont each won a \$500 scholarship.

Secretary Brad Asendorf announced the results of the elections held via mail-in ballot. The cooperative received 905 ballots.



Members enjoyed a turkey dinner before the official meeting. It was great to see our members in-person once again.



Kari Matejka of Sherburn was the winner of the \$1,000 Basin Electric scholarship. Kari plans on attending Dakota State University in Madison, South Dakota.



Charles Dammann of Sanborn was the winner of a \$500 Tom Malone scholarship. Charles plans on attending Ridgewater College in Willmar.



### ELECTION RESULTS

Approve minutes of 2022 annual meeting .....	Yes <b>869</b> ✓	No 4
Approve 2022 financial report .....	Yes <b>865</b> ✓	No 5
Approve unanimous election of Directors districts 2 & 7 .....	Yes <b>894</b> ✓	No 6
Director for District 4 .....	Michael Miest <b>637</b> ✓	Andrew Karau 237



Jarrett Durham of St. James is the winner of this years Washington D.C. Youth Tour Essay contest. Jarrett won a free trip to Washington D.C. with students from other electric cooperatives from Minnesota.



Sydney Borntager of Trimont was the winner of a \$500 Tom Malone scholarship. Sydney plans on attending Buena Vista University in Storm Lake, Iowa.



# Operation Round Up<sup>®</sup> Supports Community Projects

The South Central Electric Association Trust Board met for their Spring meeting and awarded \$7,500 to local organizations and scholarships. The Trust Board received over \$37,000 in requests with a record high number of applications. It is difficult to turn projects away, unfortunately the requests were much higher than available funding. Funds are received by the South Central Electric Trust through the Operation Round Up<sup>®</sup> program that rounds up member bills. Funds are used to support local organizations and scholarships. Applications are taken each Fall and Spring.

## Organizations receiving funds this Spring

Cottonwood County Ag Society	\$500	.....
Madelia Fire Department	\$1,000	.....
Westbrook Playground	\$500	.....
Godahl Recreation Association	\$500	.....
Little Chargers Childcare	\$1,000	.....
Jeffers Fire Department	\$1,000	.....
Cottonwood County Historical Society	\$400	.....
Railroad Days Rail Run Special Needs Run	\$100	.....
Galena 4-H Club CPR Project	\$500	.....
Trimont Fire Department	\$1,000	.....

## Scholarships

Isaiah Rogotzke, Sanborn	\$250	.....
Diana Sargent, St. James	\$250	.....
Aspen Kosbab, Welcome	\$250	.....
Jordan Linscheid, Butterfield	\$250	.....

# 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.



# SOUTH CENTRAL ELECTRIC TO DISTRIBUTE \$734,568 IN CAPITAL CREDITS TO MEMBERS

South Central Electric will be distributing \$734,568 to members with patronage in 2000 to 2002 along with Great River Energy patronage from 1994 to 1997. Those that earned capital credits and have active accounts will see the capital credits posted on their March electric usage bill. This would be the bill members received the end of April. Members with capital credits exceeding \$600 or who no longer have active accounts will be mailed their capital credits.

## A Safe, Happy House

Four Easy Ways to Boost Electrical Safety at Home

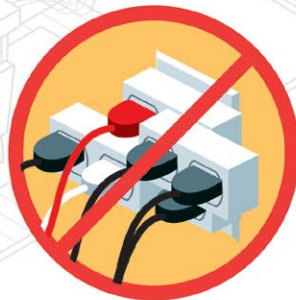
**DON'T**  
place flammable items, like potholders, napkins or dish towels near the stove while cooking.



**DO**  
keep electrical devices away from water to prevent electric shock.



**DO**  
ensure you're using the correct wattage in all light fixtures.



**DON'T**  
overload electrical outlets with more devices than the circuit can handle.

May is National Electrical Safety Month.

## SCEA WATER HEATER PROGRAM

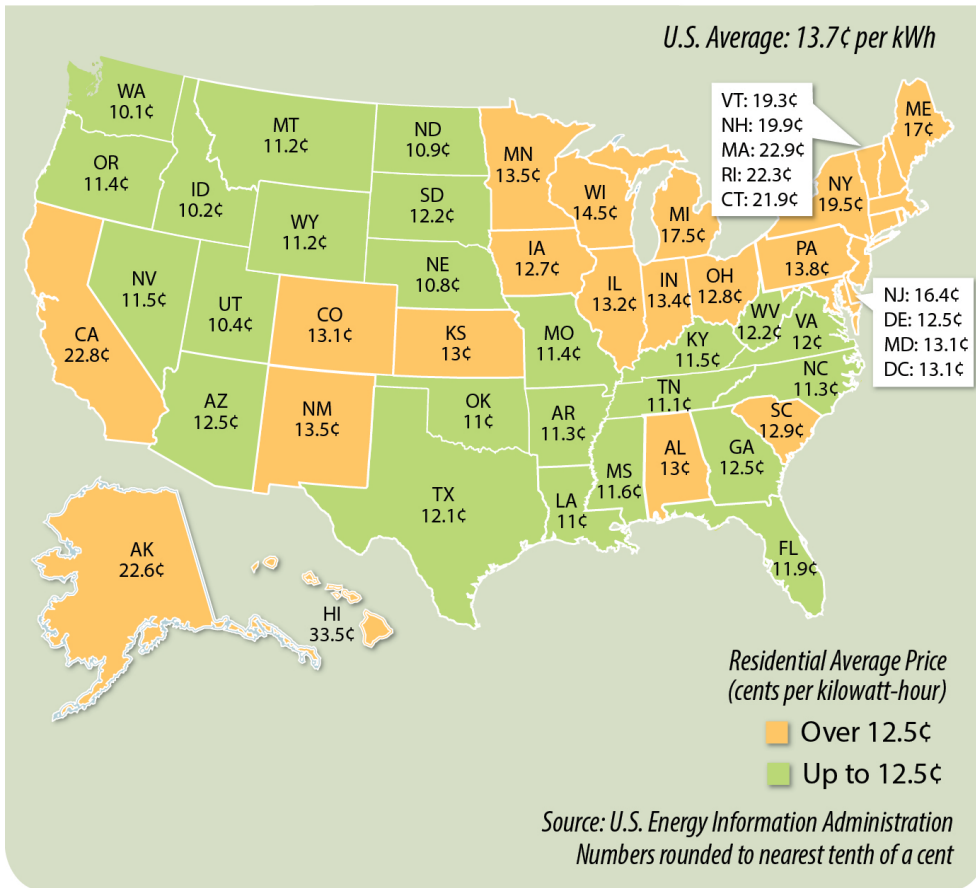
SCEA's peak shave water heater program provides members with a Marathon water heater at a discounted price for participating in the load management program.

The cost for water heaters is **\$750**. This is a great value for members. SCEA pays the cost of the electrician to wire the water heater and radio control. The member would pay any costs incurred by a plumber.



# Average Prices for Residential Electricity

2021 figures, in cents per kWh



Official monthly newsletter

## South Central Electric

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Ron Horman, General Manager

**Board of Directors**  
President, Ron Jorgenson  
Vice President, Michael Miest  
Secretary, Brad Asendorf  
Treasurer, Matt Peters  
Brent Imker, Director  
Mark Sandberg, Director  
Bill Kunz, Director

The Board meets the fourth Tuesday of the month at South Central Electric's building at 71176 Tiell Dr., St. James, MN.

Please see our website for a summary of the board meetings.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at [http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\\_filing\\_cust.html](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html), or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).

## Protect your home and family with a Briggs & Stratton home standby generator



You can be confident that South Central Electric works hard every day to keep your lights on. For those times when mother nature strikes, we still have you covered with our generator program. You can purchase a whole home Briggs & Stratton Power Protect generator from South Central Electric. If you lose power, the generator automatically takes over. When power is restored, it automatically shuts down. Power when you need it without the hassles of portable or PTO generators.

### Estimated Cost of \$8,000 to \$11,500 includes:

- Briggs & Stratton® Power Protect DX with industry leading 10-year warranty.
- Minnesota winter ready with battery warmer, oil heater & battery charger.
- Automatic transfer switch.
- **Electrician installation.**

Generators run on LP or Natural Gas. Estimate does not include costs of gas installation from your gas provider.



Call our office to learn more at  
**(507) 375-3164**

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OUR WEBSITE!

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