



CCECA ANNUAL MEETING & MEMBER APPRECIATION

We had an incredible turnout at our Member Appreciation Event on September 9, 2026! Thank you to all of our member-owners who joined us to celebrate the cooperative difference. Events like this are a reminder that CCECA is more than just poles and wires — we are a community built on support, connection, and shared purpose.

We're grateful for the chance to serve you each and every day, and we're proud of the strong tradition of member-ownership that truly sets our cooperative apart. Your continued support and involvement are what make it possible for us to keep delivering safe, reliable power while also giving back to the communities we call home.

From everyone at Calhoun County Electric Cooperative Association, thank you for making this event so special. Together, we are stronger — and together, we're powering a brighter future!

Every member who attended received an attendance gift and had the opportunity to enter into a drawing for the chance to win one of three door prize buckets that each included a \$25 Fareway gift card or one of five \$90 bill credits to celebrate 90 years of the cooperative.

This year's lucky winners for the door prize buckets were Travis & Taylor Freese, Dennis & Judy McKenney, and Jan Dougherty. The bill credit winners were Roger & Carolyn Sandgren, Tom & Theresa Hildreth, Ron Hanson, Mary Helmbrecht, and Darvin Nehman.

Prior to the annual meeting, each member was mailed an Annual Report that was included in the August edition of the Iowa Electric Cooperative Living magazine. The annual report can also be viewed online at www.calhounrec.coop/annual-meeting.



CELEBRATING THE COOPERATIVE DIFFERENCE

Each October, cooperatives across the country celebrate National Cooperative Month as a time to recognize the unique business model that puts people first and gives members a voice in the organizations that serve them.

At Calhoun County Electric Cooperative Association, being a cooperative is at the heart of everything we do. For 90 years, CCECA has been locally owned, locally governed and focused on providing our members with safe, reliable and affordable electricity. While a lot has changed since our cooperative was formed, our purpose has remained the same: serving the people and communities who depend on us.

As a CCECA member, you are more than a customer, you are a member-owner. That means the people receiving electricity from the cooperative are also the people who have a voice in its future. Members elect local representatives to serve on the Board of Directors, helping ensure decisions are made by people who understand the needs of the communities we serve.

That local connection is one of the things that makes the cooperative model special. Our employees live and work in the same communities as our members. We see our members at school activities, community events, local businesses, and around town. The decisions we make are about more than providing electricity; they are about building a strong cooperative that will serve local families, farms, and businesses for generations to come.

The cooperative difference can also be seen in the way we operate. Because CCECA is a not-for-profit electric cooperative, revenues collected beyond the cost of providing electric service are allocated back to members as capital credits. Over time, and when the cooperative's financial condition allows, those capital credits may be retired and returned to members.

National Cooperative Month is also an opportunity to recognize the cooperative principles that have guided organizations like CCECA for generations. These principles emphasize democratic member control, member participation, education, cooperation, and a commitment to the communities cooperatives call home. They aren't simply ideas written on paper they help guide the way we serve our membership every day.

As CCECA celebrates 90 years of service, National Cooperative Month holds even more meaning. Our cooperative was built by local people who came together to accomplish something they could not have done alone. Nine decades later, that same spirit of cooperation continues to move us forward.

This October, we are proud to celebrate our cooperative history, our members and the people who have helped make CCECA what it is today. Thank you for being a member-owner and for being part of our cooperative story.

Together, we have built a powerful past and together, we are creating a future focused on serving our members for generations to come.

CCECA SHINES A LIGHT ON LOCAL VOLUNTEERS

Each year, the Shine the Light contest, sponsored by the Touchstone Energy Cooperatives of Iowa, provides an opportunity to recognize the dedicated volunteers who make a difference in communities across the state. These individuals generously give their time, talents and energy to local organizations and causes, helping make rural Iowa a better place to live, work and call home.

This year, four local volunteers were nominated for the 2026 Shine the Light contest. While our local nominees were not selected as statewide winners, Calhoun County Electric Cooperative believes their commitment to serving others deserves to be recognized and celebrated right here at home.

To honor their service, the CCECA Board of Directors voted to make a \$250 donation to each organization represented by the four volunteers nominated from our cooperative. A total of \$1,000 was donated locally in recognition of the following nominees:

- **Alyson Dietrich** — Rockwell City Revitalization
- **Lynne Gentry** — Calhoun County Historical Museum
- **Stacy Corey** — Goins Park Revitalization Committee
- **Marlene Schossow** — Pomeroy Historical Society

Although the statewide Shine the Light contest recognizes a select number of volunteers each

year, CCECA knows the impact of volunteerism extends far beyond those selected as winners. Volunteers throughout our area work behind the scenes every day to preserve local history, improve community spaces, organize events and projects, and create opportunities that benefit their neighbors and future generations.

The four organizations receiving donations represent that spirit of service in communities throughout our area. By investing their time and talents, Alyson, Lynne, Stacy and Marlene are helping ensure the places we call home continue to grow, improve and thrive.

Supporting these volunteers and their organizations also reflects an important part of who we are as a

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cooperative. Concern for Community is one of the Seven Cooperative Principles that guide CCECA. As a locally owned and governed electric cooperative, our commitment goes beyond providing safe and reliable electricity. We also believe in supporting the people and organizations working to strengthen the communities we serve.

We are grateful not only for these four nominees, but also for the members who took the time to nominate them and share their stories. Recognizing local volunteers helps shine a light on the countless hours of service that often happen without recognition or expectation of anything in return.

CCECA congratulates Alyson Dietrich, Lynne Gentry, Stacy Corey and Marlene Schossow on their nominations and sincerely thanks them for their dedication to their communities. We are proud to support Rockwell City Revitalization, the Calhoun County Historical Museum, the Goins Park Revitalization Committee and the Pomeroy Historical Society with these donations.

Thank you to all of the volunteers throughout our service territory who continue to step up, lend a hand and make a difference. Your commitment demonstrates the power of community and reminds us that when neighbors work together, our entire cooperative community becomes stronger.

CCECA TEACHES ELECTRICAL SAFETY AT FARM SAFETY DAY

Calhoun County Electric Cooperative Association (CCECA) had the opportunity to participate in Farm Safety Day for South Central Calhoun and Manson Northwest Webster second grade students on September 11 at the Calhoun County Fairgrounds. The annual event was organized by Calhoun County ISU Extension and Outreach and gave students the opportunity to learn about a variety of important topics related to staying safe on and around the farm.

During CCECA's portion of the event, students learned about the importance of electrical safety, especially when living, playing and working around farms. Students learned about power line safety and different ways they can stay safe around electricity and electrical equipment they may encounter in rural areas.

As part of the presentation, students watched an electrical safety demonstration that showed the potential dangers associated with electricity and power lines. The demonstration provided students with a visual example of why it is important to always be aware of their surroundings and keep a safe distance from power lines and electrical equipment.

CCECA also discussed the importance of watching for overhead power lines when working around the farm. With large equipment commonly used during planting, harvest and other farm activities, being aware of power lines and maintaining a safe distance can help prevent serious accidents. Students were encouraged to remember these safety lessons and share what they learned with their families.

Farm Safety Day provides a valuable opportunity for local students to learn important lessons they can use throughout their lives. By introducing electrical safety at a young age, CCECA hopes students will better understand the dangers associated with electricity and the role they can play in keeping themselves and others safe.

CCECA is proud to partner with local organizations like Calhoun County ISU Extension and Outreach to provide safety education to the communities we serve. We appreciate the opportunity to participate in Farm Safety Day and thank everyone involved in organizing the event, as well as the South Central Calhoun students for being great listeners and participants!



ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

As winter approaches, now is the time to inspect your home for air leaks around windows. Leaks reduce indoor comfort and lead to higher heating costs.

If you can see daylight around the edges of a window frame or if a window rattles slightly when touched, air is likely leaking.

Caulking and weatherstripping are simple, effective methods for sealing windows. These materials are available in a variety of compounds and forms, each designed for different types of surfaces. Choose the right product and apply it properly to reduce heat loss, improve comfort and lower energy bills.



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SCAN ME



CCECA Service Territory LIHEAP Resource Centers

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Rockwell City, IA 50579
712-297-7721

Greene County
New Opportunities
1401 N. Elm Street
Jefferson, IA 50129
515-386-2719

Sac County
New Opportunities
1710 West Main
Sac City, IA 50583
712-662-3236

Pocahontas County
Pocahontas Outreach
406 NW 7th Street
Pocahontas, IA 50574
712-335-3335

Webster County
1325 1st Avenue South
Fort Dodge, IA 50501
515-576-7774

Reach Us

REGULAR OFFICE HOURS:
8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
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SUMMER OFFICE HOURS:
7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. M-Th
7:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. F
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October Member Challenge

Find the answers within the stories, features, and content of this newsletter and you could win a prize. **Send your answer to memberchallenge@calhounrec.coop, clip and mail to: Calhoun County Electric Cooperative, PO Box 312, Rockwell City, IA 50579 or submit on our website: www.calhounrec.coop/member-challenge-submission.** You may mail your entry along with your electric bill payment, but remember there is a deadline!

Entries for this issue **must be received by October 1st**. Three names will be drawn from all correct entries. Members will receive a **\$10 credit** on their account. Members who answer the questions correctly and participate at least 4 times throughout the year, will be eligible for a \$100 Calhoun County Electric Cooperative Pre-Paid Debit card, through a random drawing, at the end of the year.

There are no winners this month due to no member challenge in August as the Annual Report took the place of the August newsletter.

1. This year _____ local volunteers were nominated for the 2026 Shine the Light contest.
2. Students learned about power line _____ at Farm Safety Day.
3. As winter approaches, now is the time to inspect your home for _____ leaks around your _____ and doors.

Name _____



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