IN THIS ISSUE

- Brothers invent the beast of grills
- Bismarck student earns Youth Tour trip
- Capital Electric awards $1,000 scholarship
- Capital credits
- Board minutes

DRAGN Grill is the toughest, most versatile grill ever created, and it was invented by two brothers from North Dakota.

Capital Electric Cooperative Members Anton (left) and Jon Roise (right) are the co-founders of DRAGN Grill, a tailgate grill for extreme outdoor environments.
Grilling is the soul of a good tailgate party, and no tailgater is complete without a good, quality, portable grill. But until recently, that was hard to come by. Most portable grills are cheaply made. The cooking area is limited, and the small gas containers struggle to heat up and run out fast.

But thanks to two brothers from North Dakota, that's about to change. Enter the DRAGN Grill.

It started out as a crazy idea. In 2013, Jon and Anton Roise were remodeling flooded homes in Minot when an idea struck. “We were there working one day, and we went to lunch. It took an hour to go to lunch and back, and the food was mediocre,” says Anton. “When we got back to the job site, I opened my tailgate, dropped it and set my cup on the tailgate. And, the tailgate liner looked like grill grates. So, I said to Jon, ‘Wouldn’t it be cool if the tailgate could be a grill?’ And, he said, ‘That’s a pretty good idea!’”

Seven years, five prototypes and eleven patents later, the brothers are seeking investors to breathe life into their invention – the DRAGN Grill. The DRAGN Grill is a portable gas grill that locks and docks in two seconds to a tailgate, backyard cart or outdoor kitchen via a one-of-a-kind docking plate. The high quality portable grill is virtually indestructible – and it can go anywhere.

“It can be a backyard grill, because we have a cart for it. We have a tailgate mount, so you can attach it to your tailgate and take it with you everywhere you go. But, even when you take it off the tailgate, it’s designed to be able to sit on a picnic table, as well,” says Anton. “It’s incredibly tough. You really can’t dent or puncture it. We’ve hit it with a hammer before, and the hood was fine.”

The premium grill is so tough, they call it, ‘The YETI of Grills.’ “YETI proved the market for premium products. Yeti is the mythical ice monster of cold. Well, the dragon is the mythical fire monster of heat,” says Jon. “We knew we had to make a tougher grill, because it had to be portable. And attached to a truck, it’s going to bounce around on the tailgate.”

Aside from its strength and portability, what makes the DRAGN Grill so different from other grills? It’s double-walled, and the inside is 100
percent stainless steel. The patented grease tray allows for easy clean-up and guarantees grease won’t leak out – no matter how you move it. And, each grill comes with a quick attach/detach gas hose. But, perhaps the most impressive part is the 10-year warranty – if you wear it out, they’ll replace it.

The DRAGN Grill is perfect for those who enjoy tailgating, hunting, fishing and camping. It’s also a great grill for construction workers and farmers.

“A lot of farmers have told us it’s great, because they go out in the field and combine for days and eat cold sandwiches day after day all summer long. So, they thought if there is a convenient grill right in the pickup, they could park the combine for 15 minutes and grill burgers or brats and then get back to work,” says Anton. Earlier this year, Jon and Anton displayed their grill at local tradeshows, and it was a hit. “People shook our hands and congratulated us,” says Anton. “They are definitely very excited about it. It just has so much curb appeal.”

The brothers hope to have their invention on the tailgates and in the backyards of their customers by 2020. Once the grill has hit the market, they hope to roll out more products that complement their initial vision. Future products include thermoses, sauces and subscription-based meat products.

For more information on the DRAGN Grill, visit dragngrills.com.
As part of its commitment to community and area youth, Capital Electric Cooperative (CEC) awards a $1,000 scholarship every year to a student who demonstrates academic and extracurricular achievement. Funded by Basin Electric Power Cooperative (BEPC), the scholarship is available to children of cooperative members. CEC is proud to announce the recipient of this year’s scholarship, Isaiah Germolus.

A 2019 graduate of Legacy High School, Germolus has big ambitions. “My long-term goal is to practice medicine with a specialty in geriatrics or oncology,” says Germolus. “I’d like to eventually end up in research.”

While in high school, Germolus participated in Boy Scouts and served as senior class president. He also competed in cross country, earning All-state honors in 2016, 2017 and 2018. A talented saxophone player, he received All-state Jazz honors in 2018. That same year, Legacy High School named him Jazz Performer of the Year.

“Isaiah is a true leader. He gives all impressions that he desires to bring out the best in others, as well as the greatness yet to be discovered in himself,” says Chemistry Teacher Ryan Bleth, Legacy High School. “He definitely has the traits to be a good doctor. His bedside manner and his generous compassion for his patients is not something he will have to force. It will be there already.”

Germolus competed against twenty-three very qualified candidates for the scholarship. The judges awarded the scholarship to Germolus due to his outstanding academic achievements.

“On behalf of Capital Electric, I would like to congratulate Isaiah on his achievements,” says General Manager Paul Fitterer. “He is more than deserving of this award, and we are happy to help him work towards his bright future.”

Isaiah lives in Bismarck with his parents, Allison and Paul Germolus, and his dog, Freya. He also has two brothers, Noah and Ben, who are also pursuing careers in science. This fall, Isaiah plans to attend the University of North Dakota and study biology.

Basin Electric Power Cooperative’s Member Cooperative Program is designed to encourage and recognize the achievements of the children of member-cooperative employees and consumers. Each year, the program awards 137 scholarships to children of member-cooperative consumers. CEC is proud to participate as a member-cooperative. For more information, visit capitalelec.com/content/scholarship.
In June, more than 1,500 teenagers from across America will descend on Washington, D.C. for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association’s (NRECA) Electric Cooperative Youth Tour. Sponsored by electric cooperatives nationwide, the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour is the opportunity of a lifetime for many teenagers. Essay contest winners receive an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C. Century High School Junior Jillian McCusker will represent Capital Electric Cooperative (CEC) on this year’s leadership trip.

“I was completely shocked that I was chosen,” says McCusker with a smile. “I was so surprised and so excited.”

This year’s essay contest required students to answer this question, “Electric cooperatives are member-owned and controlled. As a future member-owner of your cooperative, describe ways that smart technologies and social media might be used to communicate with young adults. How might they be used to increase awareness and interest in the many career opportunities with electric cooperatives?”

McCusker’s involvement in her high school’s DECA chapter and interest in marketing and writing helped guide her well-written essay, which provided several suggestions for content and recommendations for the use of specific social media platforms. “Using social media operations with intention ensures the target audience will be reached,” wrote McCusker. “Social media and smart technology are imperative toward gaining the attraction and attention of young adults, as these platforms shape the ideology and lifestyles of their age group. By utilizing social platform services, electric cooperatives have the ability to successfully recruit potential employees.”

While in D.C., McCusker will make new friends, interact with elected officials and learn more about her co-op and her country. “What really made me want to go on this trip was meeting new people and networking,” says McCusker. “I’m looking forward to interacting with new people from across the country and hearing their stories.”

She’s also excited to learn more about the cooperative business model. “One of the things that impressed me is that co-ops are member-owned. It’s really cool and inspiring,” says McCusker. “I’m interested in the business aspect. It seems really complex to me, and I’m excited to get further knowledge and information.”

McCusker lives in Bismarck with her parents, Kristie and Dave McCusker, and siblings, Anna, Derrick and Jenna. She is active in DECA, National Honor Society and tennis. In her free time, she enjoys traveling and hanging out with friends. Upon graduation, she plans to pursue a career in marketing.

CEC congratulates McCusker for writing an insightful essay and earning the opportunity to attend the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour. We’ll follow up with her when she returns from Washington, D.C., and share the highlights of her experience. ☝️
Capitol Credit Claims Notice of Redemption by Capital Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Listed below are names of former Capital Electric Cooperative, Inc. (CEC) members who had capital credit checks mailed to them in June of the year 2013. These checks have been returned to CEC by the postal service because they could not locate the members at the address on file. A further search by CEC personnel has not turned up their whereabouts. If you received electrical service from CEC any time during the year 1997 and your name is on this list, please contact our office. If you know the whereabouts of members on this list who received electrical service from CEC any time during the year 1997, please have them contact our office at (701) 223-1513.

Please keep in mind that not all of the capital credit amounts are large. However, we desire to get the money due to those who earned it and clear up our records.

We will redeem capital credits for those members on the following list who notify us prior to Dec. 1, 2019. Notice is hereby given that any of the aforementioned unclaimed capital credits outstanding after Dec. 1, 2019 will be forfeited pursuant to Section 10-15-34.1 and 10-15-23 of the North Dakota Century Code.

1st Notice - May 2019

ACHTENBERG, AARON
AGARD, MAURICE
AGUILAR, ALBIN
AL-KHALIDI, RATIP
ALLAN, LEE
ALLERY, SHERRI
ANDERSON, DALE
ANDERSON, MARK
ANDERSON, RICHARD
ANDERSON, PAMELA
APPELLGATE, SCOTT
ARLINE, SARA
AUS, MILT
BACHMEIER, TAMARA
BACHEMIEER, CHERRIE
BAD MOCCASIN, SIDNEY
BADLAND EXPRESS, PAM

BLUE BIRD, ATHEL
BOB TRUCKING, DAVID
BOEHM, EILEEN
BOHANNAN, JASON
BOLLES, EUGENE
BOLTE, MARK
BORCHERT, AUGUST
BORGEN, KAREN
BORTH, LINDA
BOTNER, MICHELLE
BOSS, BRENDA
BRAATEN, CARLY
BRACKETT, BRENDA
BRALEY, CYNTHIA
BRANDNER, JOHN
BRANDNER, KIM
BRAVEXHEART, DOLLY
BREDWICK, RHEANN
BREMNER, TIM
BRIDGES, DEBORAH
BROECKEL, J
BRUNELLE, LEE
BRUSVEN, JESSICA
BUDHOHLT, CHRIS
BUDGE, GARRY
BURDON, JOI
BURGHART, AMANDA
BURLEY, AIMEE
CAIN, GERALD
CAIN, TAUNNI
CARSON, CAROL
CARSON, DOREEN
CARTER, KAY
CASPER, JAMES
CASTEL, JENNIFER
CHENOWETH, SHARMA
CHESTER, JERALD
CHRISTENSEN, JEAN
CHRISTIANSEN, VERN
CLARK, BECKY
CLARK, SARAH
CLEDENEN, TIFFANY
CLOOTEN, JOAN
COMMERCIAL INTERI, OR SUP OF MT
CONNER, BERTHA
COOK, SUSAN
COOK, PAMELA
CORNEL, JAMES
CRAWLEY, MELISSA
CREATIVE PRODUCTS,
CRISLLER, JENNIFER
DAKOTA TRUST,
DANIEL, PATRICIA
DAVENPORT, SUSAN
DAVIS, CARL
DAVIS, PAUL
DAVIS, THOMAS
DAVISON, JODY
DELFS, THEODORE
DENNIS, KATHERINE
DILLOW, JOAN
DIXON, CHERRI
DOCKET, MARLIN
DOCKET, JESSICA
DORSCHER, MARIE
DOUGHTY, COLLEEN
DREMMANN, THOMAS
DRENSG, RHONDA
DUNKEL, JAMEE
DUPPONG, TIMOTHY
DUPRE, ROLANDE
DYAK, PETR
ELINS, ERIK
ELLINGSTON, DARREN
EMLER, DAWN
ENDERS, LEE
ENGELHART, RICHARD
ENNING, BARBARA
ENYART, JODY
ERICKSON, ELISIE
ERICKSON, VYETTE
ERICKSON, ROSS
ERICKSON, CALVIN
ERICKSTAD, KEITH
FABER, TINA
FARSTAD, TERESA
FAUL, MARK
FEIST, LISA
FEIST, REBECCA
FELTER, RACHEL
FETTIG, LEO
FETTTIG, BRIAN
FINNEMAN, SHELIA
FISCHER, DIANE
FLECK, JENNY
FONTAINE, BRADLEY
FOOTE, GEORGIA
FORDEXER, NEAKSKA
FOSS, GLORIA
FOX, KAREN
FRALICKS, AMY
FRANK, SANDRA
FRANKLIN, TROY
FRANKLUND, DAVID
FREDRICH, LEONA
FREDRICK, BRENDA
FREY, HEATHER
FRIECE, LUCIE
FRIED, ARNOLD
FRIOSTAD, NANCY
FRITZ, TOM
GAEBE, JOSH
GARCEAU, LAVON
GARNER GRAPHICS,
GARTNER, DAVE
GEROLE, BRIAN
GENEVA, SUSAN
GESSELCHEN-OSBORN, MICHELLE
GEYER, SHIRLEY
GLASER, TAN
GLATT, MICHAEL
GODDARD, NICK
GORDON, GWYN
GOYNE, JANICE
GR GRAPHICS,
GRABER, KIM
GRAD, ILEN
GREEN, DALTON
GREEN, CHRIS
GREEN POINT CREDI, T
GREENQUIST, GREGG
GRUNDVIG, NELSE
GRUVER, CYNTHIA
GULENKO, YELENA
GUNTER, KRISTA
HAAS, JEFF
HAGEN, TWILLA
HAIDER, ARLIN
HALL, JOSIE
HALSEY, JONELLE
HANSON, DONALD
HANSON, STAN
HARDY, LINDA
HARSCHE, CHERYL
HASTINGS, WILLIAM
HAUSER, ELLEN
HAYDEN, GARY
HAYES, SHEILA
HEGEL, JACOB
HEID, ROGER
HEIDT, TEDD
HEINEN, VICKIE
HEINIG, MARTIN
HENRIKSON, DAVID
HERTZL, ELIZABETH
HESSEL, ALLYN
HEUPEL, WILLIAM
HEUPEL, RAYMOND
HILDEBRAND, NANCY
HILLIARD, HOWARD
HIMMELSPACH, LINDA
HOODENFIELD, SUSAN
HOERNER, MARCY
HOFFMAN, TONYA
HOFFMAN, MICHELE
HOOVER, MAURY
HORNBERT, ROBERT
HURDLE, YOLANDA
HYLJUIJEN, ANN
INGA, SAMUEL
IVERSION, LYNN
JACOB, PHYLLIS
JAHNER, SHAWN
JANS, SANDRA
JANSSEN-ROUSSOU, KRISTI
JENON, LORI
JESSE, CHERYL
JOHANSEN, KARI
JOHNER, RICHARD
JOHNSON, CAROL
JOHNSON, JONATHON
JOHNSON, KEITH
JOHNSON, HIWELL
JOHNSON, JASON
JOHNSON, NADAE
JOHNSON, BOYD
JOHNSON, JENN
JOHNSON, MELANIE
JOHNSON, KELLY
JOHNSON, JULIE
JOHNSON, ROKAYNE
JOHNSTON, PAUL
JONES, MARTY
JOYCE, ALICE
JULSON, DEL
K P ENTERPRISES,
KAP, JASON
KALBERER, TRACY
The Board of Directors of Capital Electric Cooperative, Inc. (CEC) held its regular meeting on Thursday, April 18, 2019, at the co-op’s headquarters in Bismarck, N.D., pursuant to due notice to all directors. All directors were present at that time except Sheri Haugen-Hoffart who arrived at 9:15 a.m. Also present were Manager Paul Fitterer, Business Manager Luke Steen, Operations Manager Rick Dressler, Engineering Services Manager Greg Owen, Energy Services Supervisor Josh Schaffner, Communications and P/R Director Wes Engbrecht and Attorney Carol K. Larson of Pringle & Hengstad, P.C., who acted as recording secretary.

Financial Review:
Prior to the board meeting, Directors Rex Hollenbeck and Kyle Hilken reviewed the March 2019 check register and expenditures. They reported all checks were in order. It was moved, seconded and carried to approve March expenditures in the amount of $3,571,176.00.

Management Reports (Business Department, Operations and Engineering, Member Services and Public Relations/Communications):
Business Department Report: The business manager presented the March 2019 financial and statistical report to the Board. The total kWh sales for March was over budget by 3.6 percent. The actual monthly electric revenue was ahead of budget by 3.4 percent. CEC’s load factor was below budget, leading to additional costs of $37,381. The total operating margin for March was -$324,920, versus the budgeted amount of $129,020. The major variance is due to an accounting correction of $356,880 that was doubled in February as part of a change in booking the electric heat purchase power in the month it was used. Similarly, the total margin for March was -$198,911, versus the budgeted amount of $252,894, behind budget by $451,805.

2019 year-to-date (YTD) sales are ahead of budget by 2.7 percent. YTD revenue is above budget by 1.9 percent. Total YTD margin was $1,189,236, versus the budgeted amount of $1,185,020.

CEC began billing five new services in March, bringing the total kWh sales for March was $811,339, ahead of budget by $337,897. Total YTD margin was $1,189,236, versus the budgeted amount of $1,185,020. The business manager reviewed the comparison of actual to budgeted expenses, cash flow statement and monthly power cost for the month of March 2019. Accounts receivable balances as of April 17 were reviewed.

FFB Payoff Request: RUS will be releasing some guidelines on their process in the near future.

Allocation Notices: The 2018 capital credit allocation notices will be mailed on or about April 26, 2019.

Real Estate Reports: Following review of the financial condition of the cooperative and recommendation by management, it was moved, seconded and carried to authorize payment of capital credits to the following deceased members’ estates:

- Drin Jacobson $ 841.06
- Melissa Jiras $ 470.11
- Joel Zahn $ 729.96
- Laura J. Sundahl $ 91.90

Quarterly Write-offs: After discussion, it was moved, seconded and carried to write off $4,471.64 for the first quarter. The total 12-month write off is $39,147.18.

Operations Report: Dressler reviewed the written report from the operations department. There were six secondary cable faults and one primary cable fault due to the spring thaw.

Central Power Electric Cooperative had a regulator bypass burn in the Riverview Substation which they replaced the next day. CEC is starting to retire the overhead line and poles in the 4k’s subdivision.

Fischer Contracting has started a cable replacement project in the Skyway Park, and VIP Contracting is working on CEC’s first rural rebuild of the year north of the Riverview Substation.

Engineering Report: Owen reviewed the written report from the engineering department.

CEC completed one work order this month. CEC participated in a planning meeting at Central Power Electric Cooperative regarding the 2019 construction work plan.

CEC personnel met with contractors to discuss the 2019 work plan and review the new inventory procedure for obtaining materials from the CEC yard.

Engineering and operations employees met with local HDR engineers to prepare for the engineering studies to be conducted in 2019 and 2020. Verizon meters continue to be received for the new metering system changeout.

CEC has a few more steps to complete with NISC before the system outage map is ready to go live on the co-op’s website.

Discussion continues on the tower land and corner lot owned by CEC.


CEC completed 23 service orders in March.

Electric Vehicles (EV) Update: CEC hosted the Leadership Bismarck-Mandan Alumni Association group on April 2 for a presentation on the potential of EVs. Mike Berg and Josh Schaffner met with the Department of Transportation on establishing a public EV charging network throughout the state. Berg and Schaffner answered utility and charging related questions for the group and presented options and recommendations for initial infrastructure.

Management Training: Schaffner attended the NDAREC supervisor development program in Mandan along with other CEC management staff.

Demand Reduction: CEC is doing structure and price research into Level 3 charging systems for the EV charging network.

CEC continues to promote its water heater and A/C off-peak programs.

Energy Services Group: Jared Nygaard met with the N.D. Member Services leadership group on April 16 to plan their next meeting.

ERC Loans: There are no ERC loan applications for approval this month.

Communications, Public Relations and IT Department: Engbrecht reviewed topics of interest.

Nominating Committee Results: The nominating committee met on April 9. The committee approved all nominated candidates. Nominated candidates included Sheri Haugen-Hoffart for District 1, Arlene Olson for District 2 and Kyle Hilken for District 3.

Free Tree Giveaway: CEC will again giveaway a tree as a paperless billing promotion this April in conjunction with Earth Day.

IT Projects: CEC is continuing the new phone system project management and working on the SANS RC3 cybersecurity course.

Safety Report: There were no lost time accidents in March.

Without objection, the safety report was approved.

CPEC: Haugen-Hoffart reported on CPEC matters.

Basin: Fitterer reported on Basin matters.

Statewide Report: Director Deon Vilhauer reported on Statewide matters.

Midwest Electric Consumers Association—2019 resolutions were reviewed.

The Association for Cooperative Educators (ACE) holds a cooperative institute annually in the United States, Canada or Puerto Rico. Director Bill Patrie recommends that North Dakota bid to host the institute in Bismarck in 2020.

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the meeting, without objection, the regular meeting was adjourned.