Summer storm
Immediate co-op response
Satisfied member-owners

Chuck and Anna Mae Cullen,
Member-Owners,
Capital Electric Cooperative

IN THIS ISSUE

• Wing Service Center expands
• Meet the co-op’s Wing employees
• Youth Tour recap
• Capital credit claims
• Meeting minutes … and more
Wing Service Center expands to better serve rural membership

STORY AND PHOTOS BY CARMEN DEVNEY

Rural Wing and the surrounding areas may be a quiet part of the Capital Electric Cooperative service area, but it’s an important one as far as membership and planning. It has the most miles of line per-consumer of anywhere in the cooperative system.

Capital Electric maintains a service center in Wing, where two linemen patrol and update lines and poles, and fix outages. No other utility has a constant presence in the area.

The small outpost, which was originally built on the west side of McClusky and relocated to its current site in Wing, is more than 50 years old. As trucks and equipment have improved in technology, they’ve also gotten bigger. The outpost cannot store a Digger Derrick truck, which is needed to set transformers and change out poles. When poles need to be set in rural Burleigh and Sheridan Counties, linemen who work out of Capital Electric headquarters have to drive a truck from Bismarck to the site, which takes time and money.

After much discussion and consideration, the Capital Electric board of directors approved the construction of an additional work and storage space adjacent to the current outpost in Wing. This summer, work was completed on the 48’x60’ building, which has two stalls large enough to accommodate a Digger Derrick, as well as ample space for equipment and materials.

Doug Mork, member services director for Capital Electric, says the new building was constructed with energy efficiency in mind. It is fully insulated, it features a lot of natural light and energy-efficient lighting, and it utilizes in-floor heat.

Electric boilers are highly efficient radiant-heat units known for providing a comfortable, even heat. Here’s how they work: By running warm water through plastic pipes in the floor, you create radiant heat transfer that heats your body and objects in the room; not just the air around you. When the boiler reaches its set point and the floor is warm, a sensor shuts down the boiler.

Installing in-floor heat has many benefits:

- Electric heat is a stable and affordable source of energy, in comparison to the fluctuating prices of natural gas and propane.
- Dust, air contaminants, bacteria and low humidity levels — all problems associated with forced-air heating — are nonexistent in a home or shop with a radiant heating system.

Capital Electric Cooperative will work on landscaping around the updated service center this summer. The co-op also plans to fence the supplies in the yard for public safety.
• When a boiler is used in conjunction with a secondary heating source, such as natural gas or propane, Capital Electric gives members a discounted load-controlled rate.

“In a building like this for the time we use it, it’s an absolute no-brainer. You don’t need hanging fans to push the air down. You simply have the heat where you want it,” Mork says.

He advises members who are building a garage or shop to consider installing an electric boiler for convenience and comfort.

“An in-floor heating system is totally desirable. It’s one of the easiest to install, easiest to maintain, and most efficient because you have even heat throughout,” he says.

For more information about in-floor heat, or for information on any of Capital Electric Cooperative’s electric heat products or services, call Doug or Josh in the member services department at 701-223-1513, or visit www.capitalelec.com and click on Energy Efficiency and Products.

Meet the linemen who work in Wing

**Jesse Goehring**

Jesse Goehring joined Capital Electric in October 2013. A graduate of the Bismarck State College lineworker program, Goehring is an apprentice lineman who will continue his education in the Apprenticeship Training and Safety program through the North Dakota Association of Rural Electric Cooperatives until he earns journeyman status.

Originally from Ashley, Goehring joined the United States Army after he graduated from Ashley High School, and served a few years in Alaska before doing a one-year deployment in Iraq as part of the 1st Brigade, 25th Infantry Division Stryker Combat Team. He says he felt compelled to serve after the United States became the target of terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001.

Goehring says he likes to hunt, fish and trap, and has really enjoyed living and working in Wing.

“I like serving the farmers and rural community,” he says.

**Corey Bruner**

Corey Bruner started working as the lead lineman in Wing at the end of June. He filled the position vacated by Rick Gieser, who terminated his employment to start a utility construction company.

Originally from Drake, Bruner graduated from the Bismarck State College lineworker program in 2008. He says he chose to become a lineman because he likes the outdoors, and knew the job would vary every day.

Bruner has worked for Montana-Dakota Utilities (MDU) in Sheridan, Wyo., and for Cass County Electric Cooperative in Lisbon. Most recently, he’s been working for MDU in Bismarck.

A member of Capital Electric Cooperative from Lincoln, Bruner says he applied at the co-op because he knew several of the linemen and had heard good things about the cooperative. As a member and as a former employee at Cass County Electric, Bruner is very familiar with cooperatives. He says, “I like how co-ops run, how they do business and that they are member-owned.”

Bruner hopes to find a place to live in the Wing area in the next couple of months.

When he’s not working, he likes to hunt and fish.

Members, please welcome Corey Bruner to our cooperative!
On June 19, a storm damaged parts of the Capital Electric Cooperative distribution system. In the Bismarck area, 82-mph winds caused considerable tree damage that snapped power lines and poles. At least 12 poles broke; two of which were caused by a roof striking them as it was blown off a nearby commercial building. In all, more than 900 Capital Electric members lost power as a result of the storm. Line crews were dispatched that evening and worked throughout the next day to restore power. We thank our member-owners for the patience and support they showed, as outages were being repaired.

Mother Nature causes power outages in the summertime, too! Make sure your generator is safe and ready for operation — before the power goes out.

Capital Electric linemen who helped repair the storm damaged included: Lance Diebold (boom operator), Steve Kuball (bucket), Seth Lothspeich (far right), and contractor Frank Vetsch.
If you have a generator, know how to use it safely

Tips for safe generator operation:

Read and follow all manufacturer operating instructions.

- **Never** connect a standby generator into your home’s electrical system.

  1) **For a stationary generator** - A professional should have installed an approved double-throw switch, which keeps your house circuits separate from the utility.

  2) **For a portable generator** - Plug your appliance directly into the outlet provided on the generator.

- Set up and run your generator in a **well-ventilated area outside the home** — out and away from your garage — away from doors, windows, and vents into your home. The carbon monoxide the generator produces is **DEADLY**.

- **Start the generator first**—BEFORE connecting appliances.

- **Use a heavy-duty extension** cord to connect electric appliances to the outlet on the generator.

  Learn how to keep your family safe at:

  [SafeElectricity.org](http://SafeElectricity.org)

Keep calm and co-op on

Neighboring Touchstone Energy Cooperatives joined forces to show the “Power of Human Connections” at the Independence Day parade in Mandan. More than 70 employees from Capital Electric Cooperative, Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative, Basin Electric Power Cooperative, the North Dakota Association of Rural Electric Cooperatives and National Information Solutions Cooperative handed out candy to co-op member-owners and their families who lined the street. Taking part in the parade is one way our area cooperatives show their Touchstone Energy commitment to community, and thank the military men and women who serve this great nation so we can be free.

The theme of this year’s parade was, “Show Your Colors … Red, White & Blue.”

Several Capital Electric employees and their families joined the festive event. They are featured in the photos above.
EYES OPENED TO PEOPLE AND PLACES

Electric Cooperative Youth Tour recap
BY ABIGAIL WU

My Youth Tour experience was greater than I could have imagined. I am so thankful for Capital Electric Cooperative’s sponsorship to go on this trip to Washington, D.C. with a group of other high school students from North Dakota and Montana, each sponsored by their own local electric cooperative. I expected to have an exciting trip, but I could not have expected how much I have learned, how many friends and memories I have made, and how much my eyes have been opened to other people and places.

During our Youth Tour trip, we were given the opportunity to explore many incredible monuments and museums. The city of Washington, D.C. is filled with history, and after taking AP U.S. History this past school year, the museums and monuments were brought to life. Visiting the Newseum, especially, was an incredible experience because I love news and journalism and am interested in pursuing a related career. I was able to read newspapers from different time periods, which allowed me to learn about events like the Vietnam War and the Civil Rights movement from the perspective of someone living through it. To see the history and progress of our nation displayed not only in print, but also in more modern venues of media such as television and social media, was inspiring.

Since students from all across the United States come to the Youth Tour, I was able to meet so many new people from different places. The kids I met from Georgia during the riverboat cruise of the Potomac River taught me about southern hospitality, sweet tea, and when and where to say y’all. A few students from Montana educated me about ranching and heifers. During our bus ride singalongs, our North Dakota group helped me develop an appreciation for country music. By the end of the trip, we knew each other so well that a friend and I created most likely “awards” and handed them out to our North Dakota-Montana group. When I submitted an essay to win the trip, I remember reading that the Youth Tour would be “the trip of a lifetime” and that it would create “lifelong friendships.” It has been exactly that.

Overall, the Youth Tour trip was absolutely incredible and more than I could have asked for. Thank you, Capital Electric, for your involvement in the community, and for your investment in youth.

A student at Century High School, Abigail Wu is the daughter of Capital Electric Cooperative members Zongjian Wu and Fengchun Zhao.
CAPITAL CREDIT CLAIMS

Listed below are the names of former Capital Electric Cooperative, Inc. members who had capital credit checks mailed to them in June of the year 2009. These checks have been returned to Capital Electric Cooperative by the postal service because they could not locate the members at the address on file. A further search by Capital Electric personnel has not turned up their whereabouts.

If you received electrical service from Capital Electric Cooperative, Inc. any time during the year 1993 and your name is on this list, please contact our office. If you know of the whereabouts of members on this list who received electrical service from Capital Electric Cooperative, Inc. any time during the year 1993, 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, 2015. Notice is hereby given that any of the aforementioned unclaimed capital credits outstanding after Dec. 1, 2015 will be forfeited pursuant to Section 10-15-34.1 and 10-15-23 of the North Dakota Century Code.

2ND NOTICE – AUGUST 2015

ADVANCED ELECTRIC INC.
ALBIN, TERRY R.
ANDERSON, NEIL
BAILEY CONSTRUCTION INC.
BAILEY, DON
BAILEY, JENNIFER
BAUER, NATE
BEARSHEART, WYATT
BITZ, DAVID A.
BLOOM, JOYCE M.
BOOTH, JUDSON M.
BORKERT, AUGUST
BREHM, MICHAEL
BRIGHT, EDWARD S.
BROCKMAN, KRISTI L.
BRUCK, JOHNNY W.
BUCK, VICKI L.
CAMPBELL, MICHAEL L.
CARSON, DOREEN
CARSON, GREG
CHARLESWORTH, WARREN
CHRISTENSEN, JEAN
CLOOTEN, JOAN E.
COMMERCIAL HOME BUILDERS INC.
CONITZ, DENISE D.
CREATIVE PRODUCTS
CUSTOM DESIGNERS & BUILDERS 1
DANIEL, PATRICIA L.
DEAN, JAMES A.
DECKERT, DAWN
DESORMEAUX, JOEY A.
DESORMEAUX, MICHELLE R.
DIEDE, KENT
DOCKTER, SHANE B.
DOERR, GREG
DƯCHENEAUX, CLAUDINE
EADES, JIMMY D.
EMINETH, ALICE
ERICKSON, CARLE
ERICKSON, ELSIE
FAITH INDEPENDENT BAPTIST CHURCH
FEIST, LISA J.
FEIST, TERRY A.
FLECKENSTEIN, DEAN
FONTENOT, JOHNNIE W.
FOTH, BRUCE
FOTH, SHARON
FREADHOFF, KIRK
FRENCH, CRAIG ALAN
GAROSKI, PETER
GARTNER, DAVE
GARTNER, HELEN
GEINERT, LYNEA
GEVEDON, CHARLOTTE A.
GILBERTSON, PAMELA A.
GILBERTSON, STEVEN E.
GOULET, TODD D.
GOULET, TRICIA M.
GRECO, MICHAEL A.
GREER, LORI L.
GROVE, ERIC N.
HAASE, JEAN
HARTMAN, CHARLES J.
HARTMAN, LORI ANN
HAYDEN, GARY
HEITKAMP, MICHAEL C.
HOFF, LORI K.
HORNING, ANNETTE
HORST, ELLA
IBRAHIM, A. H.
JENSEN, STEVE
JOHNSON, TAMMIE
JOYCE, KAREN
JPB INC.
KAISER, TIM
KELLERMANN, KAREN L.
KIESZ, PAMELA M.
KOLAND, KEITH
KOST, SHANE M.
KREEGER, RANDI
KREEGER, ROBERT
KUPPER, HARDIS
KURIHARA, CATHERINE M.
LAGRO, BRENDA
LAGRO, STEVE
LANDENBERGER, MIKE
LANG, TOM
LEE, JANET E.
LERVOLD, VIOLET J.
LINK, CHRISTOPHER B.
LINK, DAWN
M & J TRUCKING
MABIN, PAT M.
MALLUM, PATRICIA L.
MALONEY, LOIS
MALONEY, TROY
MANN, VIDA
MARTIN, GEORGE A.
MASON, MICHAEL R.
MAY, KRIS
MBM INC - MCDONALDS
MCEAIN, DANIEL P.
MCEAIN, JANELL E.
MCCLoud, TIM
MCDONALD, MARLY D.
MCDONALD, SHEILA A.
MCKAY, DALINDA
MECK, LARRY
MERIDITH NEW HERITAGE
MERTZ, JENNIFER JQ
MERTZ, ROBERT
MISSOURI VALLEY SPEEDWAY
MITZEL, GREG
MITZEL, KIM
MOHS, KIRBY
MOLDENHAUER, HOLLI
MORROW, JENAE
MORROW, PAUL
MORSETTE, ALFRED
MOSBRUCKER, HELEN
MULLINS, CAROL
NELSON, CARRIE
NELSON, MICHAEL
NILES, RANDY
NO DAK PLUMBING & HTG INC.
NORDGAARD, BRAD
NORDGAARD, CARLA
ODY, L PATRICK
ODY, TAMMY DAHL.
OHARA, DAVID J.
OLSON, LEROY
OLSON, ROGER
PATNEAUD, JONI M.
PEKARSKI, DALE
PHILIPS, JULIE A.
PHILLIPS, MURRAY E.
PIETZ, DAWN
PIETZ, RICHARD
POLIVODA, NADEZHD
POLIVODA, VASIL
PRA T, DONALD N.
PRA T, WINNIFRED
COYNE
RATH, SHEILA C.
RHONE, KATHY
RICHTER, GLYNIS R.
RICK, ARTHUR G.
RICK, SHIRLEY M.
ROBINSON, MARK D.
ROEHRICH, TRACY
ROHRI CH, BOB
ROHWE LLER, JANESSA
RUSSELL, ROGER
SAHR, DAWN
SAHR, JEFFREY J.
SCHLOSSER, CHERYL
SCHMITT, JOE
SCHMIDT, DAWN
SCHNEIDER, DEBRA
SCHNEIDER, RICHARD
SCHUMACHER, LARRY F.
SEVCIK, GLENDA
SKIPLE, STEVE
SKROK, ARLENE F.
SKROK, KENNETH F.
SMITH, CARLA J.
SMITH, VINCENT J.
STEE N, JAY E.
STREND, ALLEN D.
SUBWAY NORTH INC.
SWENSON, MONTE L.
THOM, FRAN
THOM, NEIL E.
THORBerg, ROBERT V.
TRUSTY, NICOLE
TWINN, LENA
TWO BEARS, WILLIAMETTE
USTANKO, KARI
VETSCH, RANDY
VOLK, MARY C.
WAEGE, BRYAN
WAEGE, LORI A.
WALCH, BETTY
WETCH ONE AUTO SERVICE
WIEG, CLYDE K.
WIEG, MICHELLE
WILCOX, JACQUELINE K.
WILCOX, WILLIAM C.
WILDROSE PROPERTIES
WILLIAMS, BETTY
WINKLER, REUBEN
WINKOWITSCH, TAMMY
WOEHL, KATHARINE A.
WOEHL, TRACY C.
WOLF, DARREL G.
WOLFE, SHAWN
WOLFF, HAROLD M.
XXI CENTURY LTD
ZIMMERLE, PAMELA K.
ZIMMERLE, THOMAS J.
Board minute excerpts  
June 26, 2015

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Capital Electric Cooperative, Inc., was held Friday, June 26, 2015, at Capital Electric headquarters in Bismarck.

Minutes and agenda: It was moved, seconded and carried to approve the minutes of the Reorganizational Meeting and Special Meeting held June 2, 2015, as well as the minutes of the board meeting held May 18, 2015 as presented.

Financial review: Prior to the board meeting, Directors Eckroth and Haugen-Hoffart reviewed the May 2015 check register and expenditures. Eckroth reported all checks were in order. It was moved, seconded and carried to approve May expenditures in the amount of $2,805,521.95.

Business department report: The Manager reviewed the May financial and statistical report with the board. The total kilowatt-hour (KWH) sales for May 2015 were below budget by 5.8 percent. The total kilowatt-hour revenue is budgeted at $2,999,932, but we are currently at $2,926,678.

The margin for May is $5,002.51 versus the budgeted margin of $7,796.76, under budget by $2,794.25. The year-to-date KWH sales are under budget by 5.1 percent and electric revenue is under budget by 6 percent.

Business department report: The Manager reviewed the May financial and statistical report with the board. The total kilowatt-hour (KWH) sales for May 2015 were below budget by 5.8 percent. The total kilowatt-hour revenue is budgeted at $2,999,932, but we are currently at $2,926,678.

The margin for May is $5,002.51 versus the budgeted margin of $7,796.76, under budget by $2,794.25. The year-to-date KWH sales are under budget by 5.1 percent and electric revenue is under budget by 6 percent.

The financial margin for May is $142,784 versus the budgeted margin of $211,794, under budget by $69,010. The year-to-date margin is $729,843 versus $812,140, budgeted under budget of $82,297.

Capital Electric began billing 79 new services in May, bringing our active services to 18,694 versus 17,881 at this time last year, or a net increase of 813 accounts over the last 12 months.

The Business Manager reviewed the comparison of actual-to-budgeted expenses for the month of May and for the year-to-date through May 2015. Accounts receivable balances as of June 25, 2015, were reviewed.

Refi-RUS direct notes: The prepayment agreement and other forms regarding the CoBank refinace have been sent to Rural Utilities Service and they have assigned us a closing date of July 22, 2015.

Health Care Trust: A proposed timeline has been drafted to keep moving along the path to establish the ND REC Health Benefits Trust. The North Dakota Association of Rural Electric Cooperatives (NDAREC) plans to have the ND REC Health Benefits Trust established by July 22, 2015.

As budgeted during the 3rd quarter of 2015, we expect to need to drawdown funds from Federal Financing Bank (FFB) in the amount of $1,000,000 to $2,000,000, depending on the timing of contractor payments and other cash requirements. We recently locked in long-term rates on a significant portion of our remaining quarterly FFB debt, leaving us heavy on long-term maturities, although at very good historical interest rates.

Estate retirements: 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:

- Merle Sherman $1,071.28
- Kenneth Fitzgerald $1,457.25
- Claude Streep $ 908.18
- Keven Barstad $1,742.55
- Gordon Voegle $67.85
- Leona Bertsch $172.10
- Rich Gieser $203.46
- Steven Sonoga $296.52
- Donald Baglien $1,251.24
- Sean Stockert $79.34
- Chand Humann $162.49
- Marilyn Skaro $115.30

TOTAL: $7,369.33

Engineering and operations report: The Manager reviewed the written report from the engineering and operations department. We completed 40 work orders this month, adding 52 new customers to the system.

Fischer, 3rd Generation and Gieser Utility Contracting continue to trench in new services, and VIP continues to work on our overhead rural rebuild.

Our line crews were busy cleaning up after the storm on June 19, 2015. There were a lot of trees in the overhead line, and 12 poles were broken. Corey Bruner, lead lineman for our Wing outpost, will start on June 29, 2015.

BEK Communications installed fiber-optic cable to our control building at our Central Power Electric Cooperative Ward distribution substation, and Midco installed fiber-optic cable to our control building at our Central Power Horizon distribution substation. We also installed a cell phone at Montana-Dakota Utility’s (MDU) East Bismarck substation for our TWACS communications.

The contractor will be framing the pad for the control building at the Mott substation, and then will pour it.

Member services department: The Manager reviewed the member services written report.

Wing Service Center building: The Wing Service Center building project is progressing.

Communications and public relations department: The Manager reviewed the written report from the communications and public relations department.

Cooperative System Integrity Fund: Following discussion, it was moved, seconded and carried to participate in the Fund by deducting 5 percent from the Capital Electric patronage capital refund for 2015 to be used for all purposes authorized by the fund.

Public Service Commission (PSC) Case No. PU-13-871: Following review of the District Court case, it was the consensus of the board to appeal the decision to the North Dakota Supreme Court.

2016 annual meeting: It was moved, seconded and carried to hold the 2016 annual meeting at the Ramkota hotel on June 1, 2016. Various ideas to improve the annual meeting were discussed.

Central Power/Basin Electric Power Cooperative: Hilken reported on Central Power/ Basin Electric matters. The total margins for the first five months were $1.7 million. Horizon II substation is on track to be completed in 2015, and the contract was awarded to the low bidder.

Basin Electric: Basin Electric is moving forward with RUS buyout at a cost of $100 million in penalties, fees, etc.

Safety report: There were no lost-time accidents this month.

NDAREC: No meeting will be held until July 2, 2015 in Medora. No action was taken on the Bis-Man Community Foundation funding request.

Mid-West Electric: Rain has improved the generation forecast, which may result in rate stability for 2016.

Nation Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA): Hilken and Liuska were appointed as delegates to the NRECA annual meeting.

National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation (CFC): Kramer was appointed delegate to CFC with Eckroth as the alternate.

National Information Solutions Cooperative (NISCO): Haugen-Hoffart was appointed delegate and Olson was appointed alternate to NISC.

Federated: Vilhauer was appointed delegate and Patrie was appointed as alternate.

RESCO: Wrangham was appointed as delegate, Olson was appointed as alternate and Nygren was appointed as 2nd alternate.

Following discussion it was moved, seconded and carried to send a $250 memorial to the family of Jim Kerzman.

Next board meeting: The next board meetings will be held July 28, Aug. 21, Sept. 25, Oct. 23, Nov. 20 and Dec. 17, 2015.

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the meeting, without objection, the regular meeting was adjourned at 1 p.m.