



(L-R) Operations Manager Sam Howard, Linemen Jared Behreandt and Cory Andraschko, and GM/CEO Jim Anderson.

HAYWARD LINEMEN GRADUATE FROM APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

Congratulations to Cory Andraschko and Jordan Behreandt on their graduation from the Chippewa Valley Technical College apprenticeship program! The graduates were recently recognized at the 2019 Electric Utility Joint Superintendent’s Conference. Cory joined the Hayward line crew in 2015 and Jordan in 2017.

Did you know? To achieve journeyman lineworker status, participants must graduate from an 8,000-hour apprenticeship involving 640 classroom hours, safely perform on-the-job training, pass the statewide lineworker test, and earn recommendations by the apprentice’s supervisor.

“When you have the chance, thank the lineworkers you meet,” adds Jim Anderson, general manager/CEO. “They play a key role in your community as they work to keep the lights on and people safe no matter what the weather is or time of day.”

81ST ANNUAL MEETING – MOVED TO A NEW MONTH!

The annual meeting of the membership is fast approaching. As in the past, we will be holding the meeting at the Ladysmith High School auditorium; however, it will be several months earlier...April 27, 2019. Moving this meeting to April permits the board and management to provide information to the membership in a timelier manner.

The business meeting will begin at 10 a.m. with a chicken dinner to follow the meeting. Members will hear from the board president, general manager/CEO, and other various speakers. The cooperative’s financials will also be reviewed by the cooperative auditor.

More detailed information regarding this meeting, director election candidates, and any proposed bylaws will be in the April 2019 magazine. An absentee ballot will be mailed separately to each member at the end of March. Be sure to vote and let your voice be heard.



James Anderson
General Manager/CEO



ELECTRICITY IS OFTEN TAKEN FOR GRANTED

As we have experienced some rather challenging weather conditions this year, let’s take a moment to think about something that we often take for granted...electricity!

Members-owners of Jump River Electric Cooperative (JREC) are a fortunate group of people. JREC and the electricity we supply is at your command 24 hours a day, every day, 365 days a year. Not only do we provide this energy at a reasonable price, but we also provide all the energy you need no matter what those needs may be.

Let’s look at just a few of the many things we sometimes forget or may take for granted.

Electricity keeps us warm and cool as the temperature drops or raises outside. Electricity lights our homes, yards, and streets when evening comes, offering a sense of security. Electricity heats our water for bathing, laundry, and dishwashing. We can have a drink of water any time: hot or ice cold. Electricity keeps our food from spoiling. We can enter or leave a garage without exposure to the weather, good or bad, thanks to the electrically powered opener. We can even keep in touch with family, friends, or business associates on the phone or computer. Spending time in a warm workshop, using all our electric power tools, is another benefit from electricity. We can cook and enjoy watching TV or tune in to our favorite radio station.

These are the basic primary things that electricity does, not counting the spin-offs that occur because the above things happen. We can do these and a multitude of other things that most of us basically take for granted, every day, *for slightly less than 20 cents an hour, day and night, for our average member.*

The employees of JREC work hard to make sure that your lights stay on in all types of weather, day or night. So please take a second to reflect on how important safe, reliable, and affordable electricity that JREC delivers is to you our member-owner.

HERE'S A VALUE TO WAKE YOU UP.

POUND OF COFFEE	
1936.....	\$0.14
2019.....	\$8.08
PRICE INCREASE: 5,671%	
ELECTRICITY	
1936.....	\$0.05
2019.....	\$0.11
PRICE INCREASE: 120%	

We know you like your coffee hot and your electricity affordable. For the past 80 years, we've helped keep it a stable value.



PETERSON RETIRES AFTER 31 YEARS

Scott Peterson retired this past February after more than 31 years of service to the cooperative, the board, and its members. Scott's immediate plans include spending more time snowmobiling this winter. In the summer, he plans on taking trips on his motorcycle and enjoying more time on the golf course.

Scott has played a key role in many of the changes JREC has experienced over the years. He was involved in changing from an all paper or manual work process to a new computerized system in the early '90s. As we all know technology doesn't stand still,

and neither did Scott. Through various positions throughout his years with JREC, his knowledge and talents were put to use in implementing a lot of those changes, including metering system changes and billing processes.

We would like to thank Scott for those years of service and wish him well in his retirement.



COOPERATIVE POLICIES OVERHALLED

Over the last several months, the board of directors and management worked together along with legal counsel to review, consolidate, and update the cooperative policies. Throughout the process, policies were reviewed to be sure they were consistent with current legal requirements or standards, were not duplicated or in contradiction to other policies, and met the current needs of the cooperative.

As a result of this review, policies are now grouped into two categories: board and member. You can now view the board policies online at jrec.com/bylaws-policies. The member policies are being finalized and will be added to this same page once completed. If you have any questions, please call our office at 715-532-5524.

TAX-EXEMPTION FORMS

If you or your business qualify for tax exemption, a Wisconsin Sales and Use Tax Exemption Certificate needs to be on file at our office for the sales tax to be exempt from your electric account. You can download the form at www.jrec.com by clicking on the orange Member Info button on the home page.

OVER \$10,000 IN JREC SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE IN 2019

Jump River Electric Cooperative (JREC) will be offering a variety of scholarships to its active members or their dependent students. Giving back to the community is one of the cooperative principles; furthering the education of our members and their youth is another. JREC is proud to help our members and their students meet their educational goals.

22 \$400 Scholarships Available to Area Youth The \$400 JREC Scholarships are available to local graduating seniors whose parent(s) or legal guardian(s) are active members of JREC and are currently attending one of the following high schools: Bruce, Flambeau, Gilman, Hayward, Ladysmith, Lake Holcombe, LCO, Rib Lake, Stanley-Boyd, Chetek-Weyerhaeuser, and Winter. Two scholarships will be awarded per school. Contact your school's guidance counselor for a scholarship application.

\$500 JREC-John Hirschfeld Jr. Memorial Lineworker Scholarship Members wishing to enter a one-year Electric Power Distribution/Lineworker post-secondary school program can apply for this scholarship. This includes local graduating seniors whose parent(s) or legal guardian(s) are active members attending one of the 11 schools outlined above, or at-large (non-traditional) active members.

\$500 JREC-Allen Beadles Memorial Scholarships will be awarded to two at-large (non-traditional) active members who are continuing their post-secondary education.

\$500 JREC-Charles Kagigebi Memorial Scholarship will also be available to one at-large (non-traditional) active member attending the LCO Community College.

A non-traditional student is defined as a parent(s) of a dependent student or self that is an active member of JREC and has received his/her GED or high school diploma for a minimum of one year prior to applying for the scholarship.

Monies for these scholarships come from the Federated Youth Foundation, which is funded through unclaimed capital credits. Deadlines vary by school and application type. Applications can be picked up from the schools' guidance counselor, where applicable, or online at www.jrec.com. Deadlines vary by scholarship type and school.



THE LONELIEST HOME APPLIANCE

What goes on behind closed dishwasher doors? For many, nothing. In fact, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) reports that dishwashers are the least used home appliance. Of the 80 million U.S. households having a dishwasher, roughly 16 million (20 percent) never use it over the course of a year, according to DOE data.

For these households, that's a costly mistake. Cleaning a typical load of dishes in a dishwasher uses 37 percent less water than washing by hand, saving the average household nearly 5,000 gallons of water per year. Also, using a dishwasher, rather than hand washing, can cut your annual energy costs by more than \$40, according to ENERGY STAR®.

Stop the drain on your budget

If your dishwasher isn't fulfilling its potential, stop wasting energy and water and start using it. Here are some money-saving tips:

- Scrape dishes instead of rinsing before loading them into the dishwasher. Pre-rinsing dishes can use up to 20 gallons of water.
- Only run your dishwasher when there's a full load and use short wash cycles for lightly soiled dishes.
- Use a rinse agent and the air-dry setting, rather than the heated drying cycle.

If your dishwasher is older or in need of repair, purchase a



new ENERGY STAR certified unit. ENERGY STAR dishwashers use less energy and water than standard models. Be sure to take advantage of the \$50 rebate JREC offers on Energy Star dishwashers. You can find out more about the rebates available to you through the Energy Sense Program online at jrec.com.

You can find articles like this by signing up for the free Questline eNewsletter available from your cooperative. Questline also has an Ask the Expert section and a large archive of Energy Efficiency articles. Signup for your free issue of this eNewsletter at jrec.com.

Q&A

Q: Can I make my payment to JREC through a third-party website?

A: JREC urges members to stay away from third-party websites when making payments. Many websites, such as doxo.com, accept payments for hundreds of businesses. These websites make payments electronically or by check on a member's behalf. Most of them charge users processing fees to send payments. Please be aware that sites like these are using the cooperative's logo and information without permission and are NOT affiliated in any way with JREC. Payments made through these sites are not guaranteed—they may not arrive on time, may not be applied to the account properly, and could result in late fees or disconnections. Please do not use third-party websites when making a payment to the cooperative.

Instead, pay your bill online at jrec.com using a credit card. You find the link to Bill4U on our home page of jrec.com. This online application is available 24/7 for members to pay their electric bills with no additional processing fees. You can also pay your bill in person, by mail, or use our outside drop-off box.

LONGTIME MEMBERS

We want to hear your stories

Individuals who have held a JREC membership since the 1950s or before are asked to contact Denise at 715-532-5524. JREC would like to share your story about the early days on JREC lines with our membership and at our annual meeting. Many of our newer members may not have had the opportunity to hear stories of what life was like before electricity and in the early years of homes and farms being electrified. Please call us and share those stories so we can share them with our membership.





FIND IT AT JREC.COM

As announced a few months ago, a new cooperative web-site has been launched to enhance member communications. Each month we will explore the new website and provide you with examples of what you can now find online at www.jrec.com.



For instance, maybe you are looking ahead to spring landscaping projects and want to ensure you plant the right tree in the right place. If so, go to jrec.com/right-way-maintenance for detailed tree planting safety guide.

Willie Wiredhand reminds us:

Trees beautify our neighborhoods, our homes, and when planted in the right spot, can even help lower energy bills. On page 13 of this magazine you will read more on how to landscape for energy efficiency. However, the wrong tree in the wrong place can be a hazard.

As you plan your tree and landscape plantings, consider that trees and shrubs need space to grow both above and below ground. Reduce fire hazards, power outages, and the need for frequent pruning with proper selection and planting of trees near utilities.

Remember, call Diggers Hotline (dial 811) at least 72 hours before you begin any digging project.



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37th Annual Rusk County

Farm, Home & Garden *and* Sports Show

MARCH 16, 2019

9 a.m.–2 p.m. • Ladysmith High School
Located on State Highway 8 at the east edge of Ladysmith

All area residents are invited. Come in, view the displays, have lunch, and meet your local dealers and industry representatives. Stop by the JREC booth and discover the many member advantages and services offered by your cooperative, including Viasat Internet.

Go to www.jrec.com for details.

NOON LUNCH

James Anderson, General Manager/CEO

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After-hour emergency service, call 866-273-5111

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JREC is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Denise Zimmer, Editor



Jump River Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Since 1938

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative