

Current Matters



Nobles Cooperative Electric

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

November 2022
Vol. 14 Issue 11



More and more members are enjoying NCE's Grab-N-Go event

Nobles Cooperative Electric's (NCE) third annual Grab-N-Go served 1,668 meals. That's 379 more meals than 2021!

The Grab-N-Go (504-39-55) was a great way to meet with our members and serve them a hot meal (pork burger, chips, cookie and water) via our drive thru at both of our locations in Slayton and Worthington. Members averaged 3.64 meals, with many delivering meals to their harvesting farm workers. Each car that drove through also received a free rain gauge.



Energy saving tip

Is your home heating system ready for the winter chill? One of the easiest ways to keep your system running efficiently is to regularly replace filters. If your central air system has a furnace filter, it should be replaced about every 90 days. If your home is heated through warm-air registers, baseboard heaters or radiators, remember to clean regularly to boost efficiency.

Source: energy.gov

Mark your calendar

Nov. 24 Happy Thanksgiving!

Nov. 30 Electric bills due

Our offices will be closed November 24 and 25, but linemen will be on call for outages.

Find your location number and win a \$10 credit

If you find your location number (as it appears on your monthly electric bill) in this issue, you will receive a \$10 credit.

Auto Pay Winner: Jay Milbrandt

Take a minute to sign up for Auto Pay and you may win a \$25 credit on your electric bill. A winner is chosen each month. Members who are already saving time and money with Auto Pay will be automatically entered in our monthly contest.

2 Manager's Message

3 Apply now for the 2023 Youth Tour

4 Our youth = Our future



**General Manager
Adam Tromblay**

We are feeling the effects of supply chain shortages too

For most of us, life has returned to a new normal post Covid-19 pandemic. We are now enjoying going to concerts, movies, restaurants, and being with our friends and families. Some good things happened, we became more creative and found new ways to interact and to do business. But we still are experiencing our share of challenges.

(5-5-94) Your cooperative is feeling the effects of the post pandemic plant shut downs and supply chain disruptions. Not all of the effects are solely from the shut downs, as the war in the Ukraine, storms and consumer spending have all piled on top each other.

We used to be able to order transformers and could have them here in less than a month. That time has extended out to 52 to

200 weeks.

Your operations department is ordering transformers for the 2024 Construction Season without a locked in price just so we have what we need on hand to serve you. There is a similar timeline and cost associated with getting the wires we need. We ordered two bucket trucks in December 2020. That shipment date keeps getting pushed back and the price keeps increasing. NCE is hoping to get one of the trucks in April 2023 and the other is now back to November 2024. Future truck orders will have a four-to-six year lead time and so far at least a 25 percent increase in price.

2023 Budget

It's budget time and we are doing our best to improve the electrical system while working with the increasing costs of materials, fuel and power. We are and will continue to improve our operation to serve you with safe, reliable and affordable power.

Director Schwartau receives National Rural Electric Cooperative Association Regional Award for Outstanding Service



Mr. Schwartau has spent decades committed to serving electric cooperatives and their members. His impact has been felt across our region, and has reverberated strongly across National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) and even internationally.

Ron serves as board president at NCE and (12-35-32) has been a member of the board since 1991. He has also served on the Minnesota Rural Electric Association Board since 1997.

He represented the state of Minnesota on the NRECA Board of Directors from 2004 to 2020. During this time, he actively participated in numerous important endeavors. He was the Chair of the Education, Research, and Technology Committee and served on the Insurance and Financial Services Committee and the 2016 CEO Transition Committee. He has been a strong national leader in carrying forward the goals of NRECA International Founda-

tion's electrification efforts. He chaired the foundation, traveled to many overseas locations numerous times to help with the effort, and helped found the International Committee of 100.

Ron has also been active in growing his local community outside of the cooperatives. He is a small business owner as well as the owner of a grain and livestock farm.

He stays focused on making cooperatives stronger and working for cooperatives benefiting their communities. Ron has applied his extensive experience and readily offers assistance to cooperatives in continually (23-41-42) improving their governance and member services. His commitment to helping people and improving the lives of others has shown through in his dedication to rural electric cooperatives, extending back to 1991.

Congratulations, Ron! Thank you for all you do.



NCE's YOUTH TOUR CONTEST TO WASHINGTON, D.C.



Win a trip to Washington, D.C.! Enter the Youth Tour Contest for a trip of a lifetime. High school students (freshmen, sophomores, juniors or seniors) may apply. Since 1964, America's electric cooperatives have sent students to our nation's capital to give future leaders in co-op communities a front-row seat to American government. Youth Tour participants are the bright light for our future. They become leaders in our communities. Students on the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour will participate in leadership training, engage in one-on-one conversations with elected officials, jump-start their national peer network and tour Washington, D.C.

DATES:

June 13 - 18

WHAT DOES IT COST?

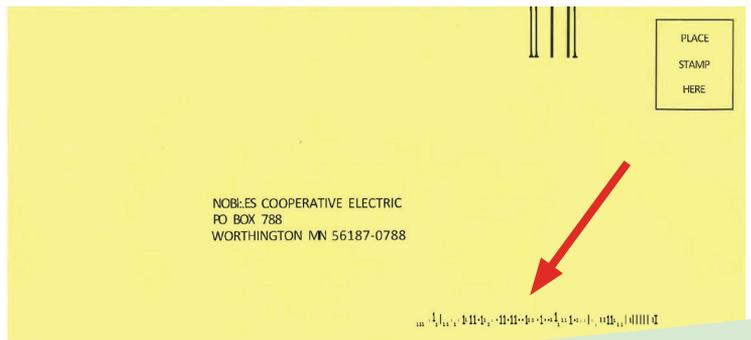
It is FREE!

WHERE CAN I APPLY?

Contact NCE or visit us online at: <https://noblesce.coop/youth-tour>

Take care when reusing NCE's remittance envelopes

Reusing an envelope is a great thing to do. Just make sure that all the original markings have been removed. Some members are paying other bills with these envelopes and they are being sent to us in error due to the bar code not being covered up with a white label or crossed out with a black marker.





The future of our communities is in our youth

It was an awesome day participating in the Southwest Minnesota Career Fair on October 6 with over 100 exhibitors (including NCE) and around 1,200 students in attendance!

Why choose a career at an electric cooperative?

- Local, community-focused organization
- Dynamic and exciting industry
- Competitive wages and excellent benefits
- Challenging roles where every day is different

Career opportunities:

- Lineworkers
- Operations managers

- Mechanics
- Accountants
- Human resources managers
- Communications professionals
- Administrative assistants
- System planners
- GIS personnel
- And many others

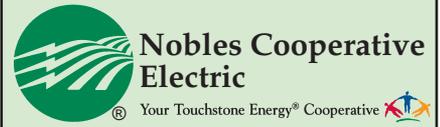
At NCE, commitment to our members is a top priority, and as a cooperative, we are guided by (22-66-13) the Seven Cooperative Principles, which include Education, Training and Information. We seek to provide education and training for our members—especially our young members.

Country Cupboard Slow Cooker Ranch Beef Pot Roast

- 4 lb. beef roast
- 1-1oz pkg. Hidden Valley Ranch Seasoning, Salad Dressing
- 3/4 c. beef broth
- 1 1/2 lb. potatoes, halved
- 4 lg. carrots, peeled and cut into 1-inch chunks

Place beef roast in the bowl of the slow cooker. Sprinkle the ranch seasoning mix over the roast and rub in well. Pour the beef broth around the roast. Set the crockpot to low and cook for 6 hours. Add the potatoes and carrots and cook for another 2 hours. Slice and serve hot.

Send your best **pumpkin as an ingredient** recipes to Nobles Cooperative Electric, ATTN: Tracey, P.O. Box 788, Worthington, MN 56187-0788. Entries must include your name, address, telephone number and NCE location number. All entries must be received by November 25. The winning recipe will be featured in the next edition of *Current Matters* and the winner will receive a **\$10 credit** on their electric bill.



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Email address

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Winter office hours

7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Monday through Friday
Oct. 1 - April 30

24-Hour outage service

800-776-0517

Gopher State One-Call

800-252-1166 or 811

Electrical inspectors

Murray County
Randal Maha - 507-274-5261
Nobles County
Austin Kurtz - 651-368-3021

General Manager

Adam Tromblay

Board of Directors

Ronald Schwartz, President - 734-3052*
Lee York, V. President - 879-3497*
Cindy Hokeness, Sec./Treas. - 478-4965*
Jerry Beckering, Director - 227-4074*
Timothy Bickett, Director - 605-670-5294
Gary Clarke, Director - 605-201-1903
David Dorpinghaus, Director - 605-695-7816
**Telephone prefix 507*

Next Board Meeting

December 21, 2022

*This cooperative is an equal
opportunity provider and employer.*

