CLARKE
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.
Safety Driven • Energy Smart • Community Invested
Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Volume 85, No. 6 | June 2025

HEADLINES

SAFETY DRIVEN | ENERGY SMART | COMMUNITY INVESTED

THE COOPERATIVE DIFFERENCE

Board Approves Patronage

Clarke Electric's 2024 financial audit is complete!

The audit was conducted by FORVIS, LLP, of West Des Moines and presented by auditor Cheryl Clauson during the cooperative's April board meeting.

The results? Everything was found to be accurate, transparent, and in line with government auditing standards.

This annual audit gives your board of directors an important tool to:

- Monitor the co-op's financial health;
- Ensure regulatory compliance; and
- Uphold the trust and integrity of our cooperative.

What Does This Mean for You?

SAM WALKUP
Mgr. of Finance

At that same meeting, the board voted to return more than $1 million back to our member-consumers. That's the cooperative difference!

Here's what was approved:

$725,000 from 2024 margins will be allocated back to members as patronage capital

We're also returning $350,000 from 2011, and part of 2012 allocations

How You'll Receive It

Current members will see a credit on their December bill.

continued on page 4

The Clarke Electric Cooperative office will be closed Thursday and Friday, July 3-4 for Independence Day

Nominate a local volunteer and they could win $3,000 for their charity!

Contest entries accepted at IowaShineTheLight.com during the month of June

SHINE THE LIGHT
Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives of Iowa

COMMUNITY INVESTED

See complete list of the 2025 Scholarship winners on page 3

CONGRATULATIONS
Class of 2025

Reading pays! We have hidden two of our members' account numbers in this issue. If you find your member location number, call during June to have $10 deducted from your monthly energy account.

Contact Us Before You Build a New Grain Bin

If you're considering building a new grain bin this spring, remember that it's important to first contact Clarke Electric Cooperative.

Clarke Electric Cooperative will provide assistance in planning for a safe environment for everyone working and living around grain bins.

The State of Iowa requires specific clearances for electric lines around grain bins, with different standards for those filled by portable and permanent augers, conveyors and elevators.

The drawings on this page show the specific clearances required for both scenarios. If you have any questions, please call Clarke Electric at (800) 362-2154. 33-31-01-03

According to the Iowa Electric Safety Code found in Iowa Administrative Code Chapter 199 -- 25.2(3) b.: *An electric utility may refuse to provide electric service to any grain bin built near an existing electric line which does not provide the clearances required by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) C2-2017 "National Electrical Safety Code," Rule 234F.*

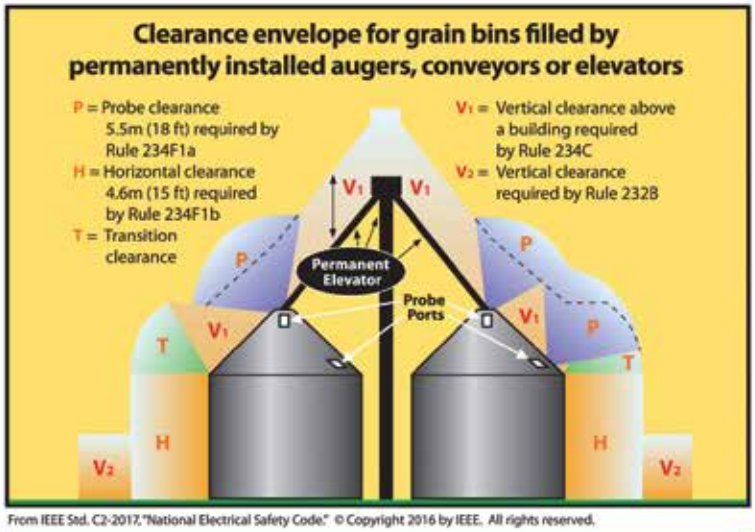
This paragraph "b" shall apply only to grain bins loaded by portable augers, conveyors or elevators and built after September 9, 1992, or to grain bins loaded by permanently installed augers, conveyors, or elevator systems installed after December 24, 1997. (As adopted by the Iowa Utilities Board)

Clarke Electric Cooperative is required by the Iowa Utilities Board to provide this annual notice to farmers, farm lenders, grain bin merchants, and city and county zoning officials. If you have any questions concerning clearance regulations, please contact the cooperative.

Disclaimer: These drawings are provided as part of Iowa electric cooperatives' annual public information campaign and are based on the 2017 edition of the National Electrical Safety Code. To view the actual drawings, refer to that publication. Every care has been taken for the correctness of the contents for these drawings. However, the Iowa Association of Electric Cooperatives and its member cooperatives accept no liability whatsoever for omissions or errors, technical inaccuracies, typographical mistakes or damages of any kind arising from the use of the contents of these drawings, whether textual or graphical.

NOTE TO OUR MEMBERS

If you have more than one account and would like to consolidate them into one itemized bill, please contact our office for details. Ask for "invoice account options."



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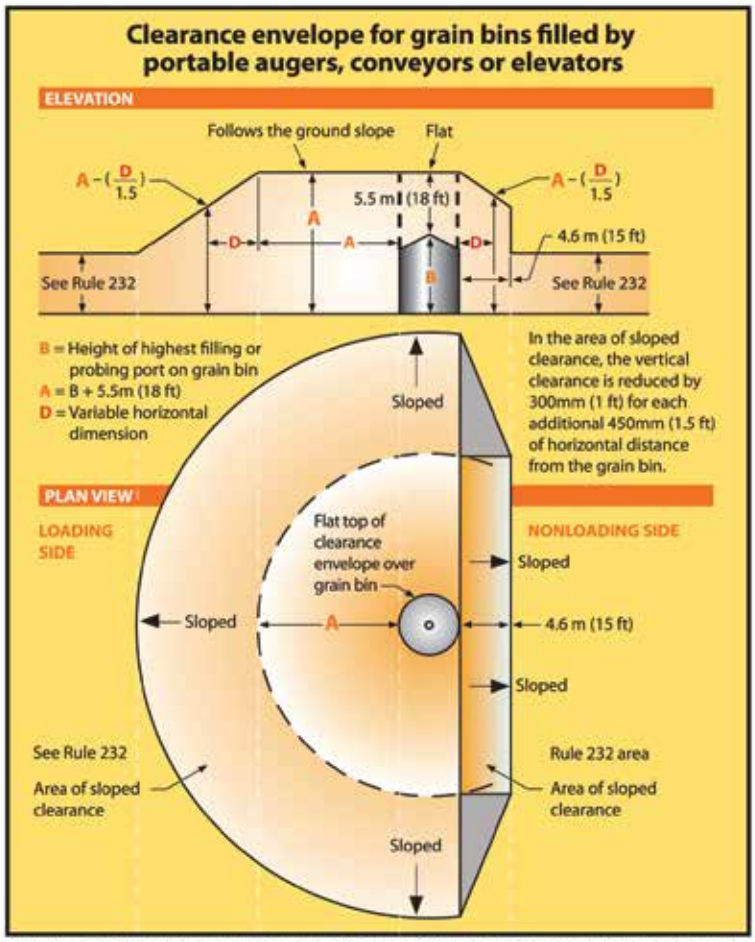

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Looking Out for You:
April Outages

Equipment failure: 6
Trees: 5
Maintenance: 3
Lightning: 1
Motor Vehicle: 1
Undetermined: 1

Congratulations, 2025 Scholarship Winners!

Clarke Electric has awarded $10,000 in scholarships to 17 area seniors to assist them as they continue their education beyond high school. As a local electric cooperative, Clarke Electric supports the youth in our communities with an annual scholarship opportunity in accordance with our cooperative principles. Congratulations to these students as they embark upon their futures!

Caden Carruthers
Southeast Warren

Ryder Collins*
Clarke

George Dutrey IV
I-35

Morgan Fisher
Clarke

Brendan Goering
I-35

Anden Hall
Central Decatur

Moyra Hicks
Clarke

Hallie Ingram
Wayne

Rachel Jaurigue
Clarke

Tara Johnson
I-35

Cora Keller
I-35

Alyssa Kent
Clarke

Samuel Kerns
Chariton

Erika Narber
Chariton

Kenzie Robinson
Wayne

Brady Streeter
I-35

Alyvia Van Gundy
Martensdale

** Ryder is planning to attend lineman school*

ENERGY SMART

Decatur Co. Conservation Receives ORU Funds

Clarke Electric recently presented the Decatur County Conservation Board with a check for $2,500 to help rebuild the Bur Oak shelter at the Little River Rec Area near Leon.

Funds were awarded from CEC's Operation Round-Up program in which CEC members may opt to "round up" their electric bill to the nearest dollar. 55-36-02-00

Pictured are Jason Gibbs and Sam Walkup from CEC, front row, right, presenting the check to Kimberly Miller with the Decatur County Conservation Board. Students from Central Decatur's carpentry class who are assisting with the project are also pictured.

WHAT CAN WE DO FOR YOU? @ cecnet.net

Statewide outage map

Leased Light Program

SmartHUB

Rebates & Online Forms

Operation Round-UP

Call Before You Dig

Email newsletters

RECare

Co-op Completes Rollout of New AMI Technology

The project to update Clarke Electric member's meters to use modern technology is now complete. Nearly 7,000 meters were replaced over a period of eight months following two years of research and planning.

For the first time in the history of our cooperative, we received 100% of our month-end billing reads remotely! This meant that we didn't have to send staff out to read meters or troubleshoot faulty metering equipment, effectively saving our co-op – and you – money.

Over two years ago, our staff began researching the latest generation of advanced metering infrastructure (AMI) to replace a system nearing its end of life. Honeywell's solution was selectd which allows us to collect data over a cellular network and enables an array of reporting tools that will provide us with trends, patterns, and other data we can use. Even more exciting than the overall performance of the AMI system are operational efficiencies being driven by near real-time outage notification alarms and power quality events.

So, what does that mean for you? For one thing, we are actively responding to and, oftentimes, restoring power before our members are aware that they are without power. It also means we can analyze voltage and current interval data to quickly find and repair failing equipment such as connectors, member wiring, transformers, etc.

BRAD WILSON
Manager of Engineering

Using the new metering data, Clarke proactively made repairs on nine connections and replaced eight overloaded transformers on service orders in the last three months. Future outages were prevented in every instance and one repair to member-owned wiring potentially prevented a structure and grass fire.

This is a new way of doing business for Clarke and we are working diligently to process large amounts of data and automate our workflows. Please continue to report your outages and any power quality issues you may experience.

We are excited about what the future holds with options for alternate rate offerings, advancements in energy efficiency programs, and comprehensive engineering analytics. Look for updates in our monthly newsletter as we share case studies and dive deeper into how our technology is becoming increasingly integrated to better serve you.

Burns caused by faulty wiring were caught and repaired before further damage could occur thanks to new AMI meters.

Patronage...from pg. 1

Former members will receive a check by mail.

If your amount is under $5, we'll hold it until it adds up to that minimum for a future payout.

Issuing bill credits helps us save money on postage and processing as another way we look out for your bottom line.

Thank you for being part of Clarke Electric. We're proud to operate with transparency and to return margins to the people who make it all possible: you, our member-consumers.

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(641) 342-2173 | (800) 362-2154
cecnet.net

OFFICE HOURS
Mon.-Fri.: 7:30 AM - 4 PM

Summer Hours (May 5-August 21)
Mon.-Thurs. 7 AM-4 PM, closed Friday
Phones answered Mon.-Thurs. 7 AM-4 PM
and Fri. 7:30-11:30 AM locally
Outside depository available 24/7

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Ed White
Vice President: Randy Rouse
Secretary: Randy Barnard
Treasurer: Lydda Youmans
Asst. Sec./Treasurer: Larry Keller

Directors
Liz Beck
Cody Miller
Zach Robinson
Natalie Rydl

GENERAL MANAGER
David Opie

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.