



Richland Electric Cooperative 2014

From the Manager... Working together, or going alone

Richland Electric Cooperative has long strived to be a self-sufficient organization. The idea that we could do things for ourselves is a rich tradition, probably owing to the fact that in the 1930's nobody else would build needed electric lines to our founding member's homes and farms. Today, we still seek out ways to do things for ourselves with our own staff, our own equipment and our ingenuity.

Following my last newsletter article I quickly found out how depending on others, whether man or machine, has its risks. Shortly after the newsletters were delivered I received an email from a member about a glaring error appearing not only once, but three times. The intended word- "whose", had been replaced three times with "who's" thereby changing the entire context of the sentence. I admittedly don't spend as much time proof-reading as I should but in this case I not only knew how the word I intended should be spelled, I used it properly in my writing--but then it got converted to the world of machines and there something went wrong. In researching the error we found the particular software that had changed the text from the right version to the wrong version. But, we had relied on something other than ourselves to get the job done correctly and failed to catch the error before it hit your mailbox. For those that thought this error appalling, I apologize.

This lesson did get me thinking about where we have went from doing things ourselves, to depending on something or someone else to do things for us. There are plenty. While depending on others can be risky it can be equally rewarding. Our cooperative is successful because our members work together, each bringing unique talents to make for a well-rounded organization. In fact, it is this interdependency that makes our whole industry, perhaps even our whole economy a benefit to all involved. Although, these dependencies can become very complicated.

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CALENDAR *of events*

August

29 Labor Day-REC & Genuine Telecom offices closed

September

4-7 Richland County Fair
20-21 Viola Horse and Colt Show

October

3-5 Wheels of Time
3-5 Center Color Fest
4 Canyon of Lights Parade- Richland Center
11 Richland Electric Cooperative Customer Appreciation Picnic
11 Hybrid Redneck Rally

November

22 Craft fair at the Richland Middle School 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
22 Craft fair, at the Richland Center Senior Center 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
27-28 Thanksgiving Day-REC & Genuine Telecom offices closed
26-December 31, 2014 Rotary Lights in the Park

(continued from cover...)

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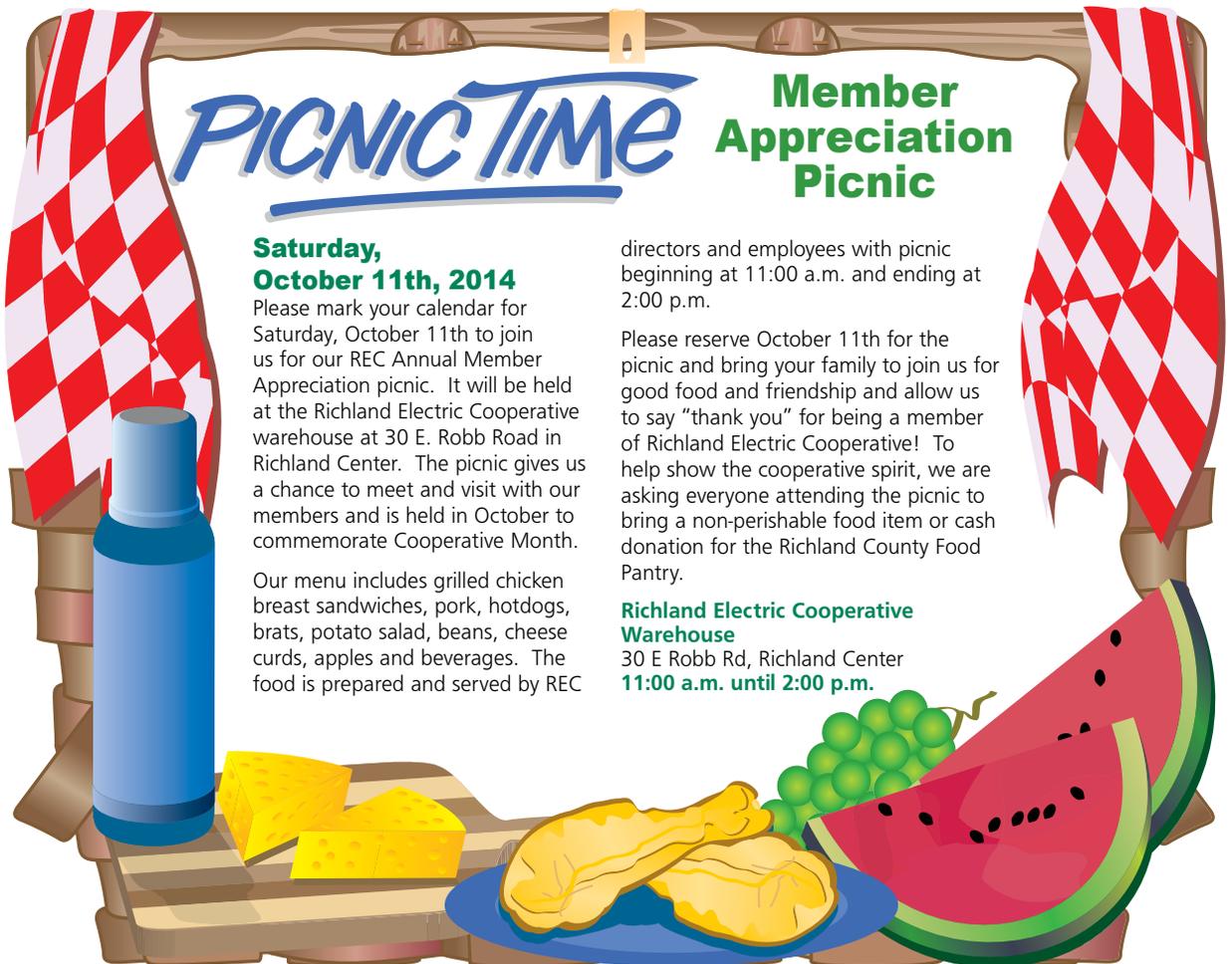
For example, we take a very keen interest in things such as railroads and other transportation issues because we know that we depend on those industries to deliver fuel to Dairyland Power generating units. Changes in that industry can greatly impact the wholesale cost of electricity. Or, we may be following the price of farm commodities so that we can understand what our farm members may need in future in terms of energy and plan

accordingly. Other issues including unrest in energy producing countries, unfair trade practices, and more can change how people use energy or which fuels they use. All of these and many more can have short-term and long-term impacts on our ability to deliver safe, reliable and affordable electricity.

Understanding all of the interactions between various segments of our industry as well as the industries upon which we

depend can help us protect our own interests. There is a time to rely on others and a time to rely on ourselves. Sometimes we must simply trust others to do what they say they will, because going it alone would be foolish. Yet, other times such as when a few people started this co-op, we must do it ourselves.

As always, if you have any questions or comments please feel free to call, write or send me an email to sclark@rec.coop



PICNIC TIME

Member Appreciation Picnic

Saturday, October 11th, 2014
Please mark your calendar for Saturday, October 11th to join us for our REC Annual Member Appreciation picnic. It will be held at the Richland Electric Cooperative warehouse at 30 E. Robb Road in Richland Center. The picnic gives us a chance to meet and visit with our members and is held in October to commemorate Cooperative Month.

Our menu includes grilled chicken breast sandwiches, pork, hotdogs, brats, potato salad, beans, cheese curds, apples and beverages. The food is prepared and served by REC

directors and employees with picnic beginning at 11:00 a.m. and ending at 2:00 p.m.

Please reserve October 11th for the picnic and bring your family to join us for good food and friendship and allow us to say "thank you" for being a member of Richland Electric Cooperative! To help show the cooperative spirit, we are asking everyone attending the picnic to bring a non-perishable food item or cash donation for the Richland County Food Pantry.

Richland Electric Cooperative Warehouse
30 E Robb Rd, Richland Center
11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

First Call Telephone

Are you worried about your aging parents living alone? Richland Electric Cooperative (R.E.C.) offers the affordable First Call personal emergency response telephone system so your parents, grandparents or other loved ones can get help at home quickly and easily during an emergency. For people with health or mobility problems, or for anyone who lives alone, the First Call system provides reassurance that in the event of an emergency, help is just moments away.

By simply pushing the pendant button worn on the wrist or as a necklace, the First Call system automatically calls the Cooperative Response Center (CRC) in an emergency.

A professionally trained CRC service representative will be able to talk and listen through the high quality speakerphone that's built into the special MainStreet Messenger telephone. The CRC representative will be able to summon appropriate

help, no matter what your need may be.

The First Call system from REC is currently installed in the homes and apartments of hundreds of area residents including Richland County and portions of Grant, Crawford and Vernon counties. Financial assistance for the First Call systems may be available through your local county Health & Human Services Dept. for qualified applicants. Contact them for complete qualification details.

COOK'S CORNER

Gluten-free Black Forest Trifle

Ingredients:

- 1 box (8 oz.) black cherry or cherry Jell-O gelatin
- 2 cans (11 oz. each) red tart cherries, liquid from 1 can reserved
- 3 Tbsp. maraschino cherry juice (*from a jar or maraschino cherries*)
- 1 (6-serving pkg.) instant vanilla Jell-O pudding
- 2-1/2 cups milk
- 8-inch gluten-free chocolate cake or brownies (preferably made the day before)
- 1 cup heavy whipping cream
- 2 tsp. granulated sugar
- Cocoa powder, grated chocolate, or chocolate curls for garnish
- Maraschino cherries for garnish

Instructions:

Prepare Jell-O gelatin according to directions except only use 1 cup of cold water instead of two. Let firm up for at least 4 hours or you can make the day ahead. Cut into about 1-inch squares. Mix reserved juice from the can of tart cherries with maraschino cherry juice. Prepare instant Jell-O pudding per the instructions using 2-1/2 cups milk instead of three. Let pudding set up for 5 minutes. Cut the cake or brownies into about 1-inch square pieces; you do not have to be very precise. Layer half of the cake into the bottom of a trifle bowl or clear glass serving bowl. Spoon some of the cherry juice mixture onto the cake, enough to moisten the cake but not drown it. Layer 1 can of drained tart cherries over the moistened cake, making sure the cherries go all the way out to the edges so they show up in the layers. Top with half of the pudding. Top with the cubed Jello, then add the remaining pudding, another layer of cake (moisten the same way as the first layer), and the remaining can of drained cherries. Whip the cream on high speed with the sugar until soft peaks form. Spread over the top of the trifle. Top with a dusting of cocoa powder, some grated chocolate or chocolate curls, and maraschino cherries. Refrigerate for about an hour to let the flavors meld or up to several hours ahead.

To make chocolate curls, take a bar of chocolate and warm it for about 15 seconds in the microwave. Run a vegetable peeler down the side of the chocolate. If curls do not form then the chocolate is not warm enough; warm a few more seconds. Keep cold until using.

Richland County Fair 2014

September 4th-8th

Mr. Ed's Magical Midway Admission

Adults 18 and older \$5.00
Seniors 62 and older \$3.00 *every day!*
Youth 12 to 17 \$2.00
Children 11 and younger . . . Free!

Fair Office • 647-6859



2014 Richland Electric Cooperative

1027 N. Jefferson Street
P.O. Box 439; Richland Center, WI 53581

www.rec.coop

Office Hours

Monday–Friday; 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Outages

Call (608) 647-3173; 24 Hours

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Doug Hill
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**Richland Electric
Cooperative**

Diggers Hotline

Electrical safety in your home, farm or business is extremely important. Diggers Hotline is a **MUST** call before digging or excavating anywhere. We have also listed safety tips that are important for you to know and links to other websites to learn more about electrical safety.

If you are doing any digging in Wisconsin, state law requires you to notify Diggers Hotline of your intent to work, and to allow for 3 working days prior notice before digging. Diggers Hotline is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and 365 days a year! If you should need to notify Diggers Hotline of your intent to dig, call one of the following:

- 811 (May not be able to access from all areas)
- Toll Free: (800) 242-8511
- Hearing Impaired (TDD): (800) 542-2289

For information on private customer lines, please call SM&P at 1-800-323-1719.



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