



the power of human connections

sparks

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

a monthly newsletter from Steele-Waseca Cooperative Electric

March 2022

Is your bill more than you expected?

The electric bill enclosed in your Sparks newsletter is for usage experienced during January 2022, which was considerably colder than a year ago. So whether it was your furnace, portable electric heaters, heat lamps, and/or block heaters, etc., they all had to operate more during those frigid stretches of winter weather.

inside connections

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- 4** Cookin' Connection; SWCE community solar update; Steele County Tip Line
- 5** Using generators safely; New construction reminders
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- 8** Remembering Don Larson; Programmable thermostats save energy; Daylight saving time reminder

calendar of events

March

- 2** Ash Wednesday; Dr. Suess' birthday; National Read Across America Day
- 3** "The Star-Spangled Banner" became U.S. national anthem in 1931
- 4** National Employee Appreciation Day
- 13** Daylight saving time starts
- 14** National Pi Day 1075032
- 17** St. Patrick's Day
- 20** First day of spring; International Day of Happiness

Steele-Waseca Cooperative Electric hosts electric vehicle safety training for area fire departments

Personnel from nine area fire departments were in attendance Tuesday, Jan. 18, for a First Responder EV (Electric Vehicle) Safety Training session in the warehouse of Steele-Waseca Cooperative Electric.

Owner and Facilitator Jack Volz of Safety and Security Consultation Specialists, LLC, shared information on types of electric vehicles, EV emergency response techniques, disabling electric vehicles, and dispelling EV myths with firefighters in attendance.

Minnesota is working to become the Midwestern leader for plug-in EV use and recently adopted clean car standards with a goal for 20% of all passenger vehicles in the state to be electric by 2030. There were nearly 7,000 EV registrations in the state in 2018. That number, the Minnesota Department of Transportation estimates, jumped to 20,000 in 2021 with 61% being fully electric and 39% plug-in hybrids.

While studies show EVs are just as



Nine area fire departments were represented, Jan. 18, at an electric vehicle safety training presentation in the warehouse at Steele-Waseca.

safe to drive as conventional cars—both types of vehicles undergo the same extensive, long-established safety testing process—a question often asked is how emergency response might differ between traditional vehicles and EVs.

Knowing members wanted more in-
(EV safety training continued on Page 3)

Former Steele-Waseca General Manager Donald Larson dies at age 91

Former Steele-Waseca Cooperative Electric General Manager Donald Larson died Monday, Jan. 3, at Birchwood Cottages in Owatonna.



Donald Larson

Larson had a 45-year career at Steele-Waseca, which included 23 years as general manager.


Born Oct. 8, 1930, in Waseca to Arthur and Alma (Seljeskog) Larson. Don attended District 10 school and graduated from Waseca High School in 1948. He married Maxine Drache on July 5, 1952, at St. John Lutheran Church in Owatonna.

Don attended Dunwoody Industrial Institute of Minneapolis and graduated in 1950. He started working at Steele-Waseca in June 1950 until November of that year. He worked for Montgomery Ward in St. Paul and Radio Johnson in Waseca. Don began full-time at Steele-Waseca as a groundsman on Aug. 27, 1951. After six months, Don was transferred into the office where he prepared work orders and was given charge over the warehouse, meter department, and radio system operation. He later helped in accounting and advanced to the position of engineering aide.

In a letter to the membership published in the January 1973 *Sparks* newsletter, Board President Donald Som-
(Donald Larson continued on Page 8)

Published monthly by
Steele-Waseca Cooperative Electric
 2411 W Bridge Street, PO Box 485
 Owatonna MN 55060-0485

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Website: www.swce.coop  Find us on Facebook
 Email: info@swce.coop

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Office Hours

8:00 a.m.–4:30 p.m., Monday–Friday

Operations Office Hours

8:00 a.m.–3:30 p.m., Monday-Friday

For Customer Service, Billing Questions and Power Outages Phone:

507-451-7340 or 800-526-3514

Before calling to report an outage

1. Check fuses and circuit breakers in your home and on meter pole.
2. Check with your neighbors to see if they have power.
3. Look for possible causes such as a tree branch on wires, a broken pole, twisted wires, etc.

To leave a non-emergency message whenever SWCE's Office is closed:

Phone 507-451-7340 or 800-526-3514 and listen to the prompts. Please have your account number, phone number, and name on the account available.

Call **Before You Dig**
Gopher State One Call
811 or 800-252-1166

48-hour notice required for ALL underground cable locations

manager connection



By Syd Briggs,
 General Manager

As the energy industry continues to change, technology is paving the way for innovation in the way energy is used, produced, stored and shared.

Consumers are interested in more green energy alternatives while smart homes and apps make managing energy use and paying your electric bill more convenient than ever.

While the changing energy market has created more options for consumers, it has also resulted in more utility scams and misleading information.

Utility scams are common because of the vast number of utilities that exist, and consumers are understandably anxious with the threat of disruption to their electric, heating or water service. Second, new products and services in the energy industry provide an opening for scammers and pop-up companies to provide misleading information or shoddy products and services.

Avoid phone scams

A common phone scam typically begins with a phone number that appears to be from a valid utility company. The scammer will claim you have a past due balance on your account, and threaten to disconnect service without an immediate payment.

It's not uncommon for the scammer to demand that you use a prepaid debit card or money order, often within a very short, urgent time frame to pay the "past due" amount.

You can combat this scam by being aware of the status of your account. Never give your banking or personal information



Kim Wilson (I'm the KW in 'KW Saves kWh's')
 SWCE Member Services Supervisor

over the phone to someone you did not call. If you have a question or concern about your energy bill or the status of your account, please call Steele-Waseca Cooperative Electric directly at 507-451-7340 or 800-526-3514. Do not use the phone number given by the scammer or the number displayed on your caller ID.

Use trusted sources

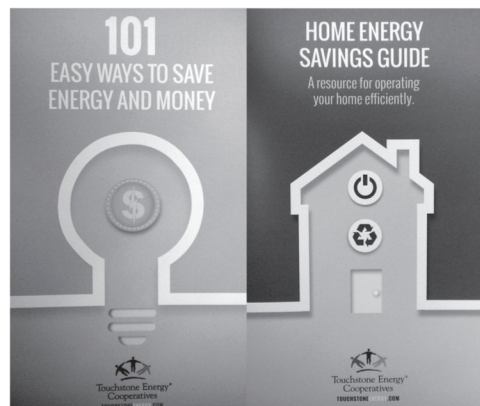
With the stretches of extremely cold weather this winter, you may notice a higher electric bill, and wondering how you may use electricity more efficiently.

With being a Touchstone Energy® Cooperative, Steele-Waseca Cooperative Electric has brochures from Touchstone Energy promoting energy solutions regarding efficiency. The publications available inside the public entrance at Steele-Waseca include, "101 Easy Ways to Save Energy and Money," and, "Home Energy Savings Guide," a resource for operating your home efficiently. 30584

Steele-Waseca has also enhanced energy efficiency ideas on our website, swce.coop, and on the co-op's Facebook page. Member Services Supervisor Kim Wilson has produced these tips so members may utilize them around their home.

In this ever-changing environment, it's important to remember you have a trusted energy advisor—your local electric cooperative. We are a community-focused organization that works to efficiently deliver affordable, reliable and safe energy to our members.

Remember, we're just one call or click away, so please reach out with any questions about your electric service or bills—we're here to help.



 #swceTRUST

Great River Energy to sign agreement with Apex Clean Energy for 400-megawatt Discovery Wind

Agreement will deliver power from one of the region's largest renewable resources via high-voltage direct-current transmission line

Great River Energy (GRE) has reached an agreement in principle with Apex Clean Energy to receive renewable energy from a 400-megawatt (MW) wind energy project in McLean County, North Dakota.



GRE has long had operations in McLean County through its 1,100-MW Coal Creek Station power plant and the western terminus of the HVDC transmission system. Great River Energy is in the process of selling the power plant and transmission system to Rainbow Energy Center and Nexus Line, respectively. The transactions will be finalized upon approval from GRE member-owner cooperatives and progress toward successful implementation of the Discovery Wind project.

The Discovery Wind project, expected to reach commercial operations in 2025, will be the single largest wind project in North Dakota and will deliver renewable energy over the 436-mile high-voltage direct-current (HVDC) transmission system.

The project will fulfill a significant portion of the renewable energy needs for GRE's power supply transition and deliver wind energy west of the Twin Cities. The electric cooperative announced in 2020 plans to phase out the remaining coal in its power supply portfolio and more than double its renewable energy.

"We are transforming the way we produce electricity and serve our member-owner cooperatives," said GRE President and Chief Executive Officer David Saggau. "Our members will enjoy stable wholesale electric rates for years while providing clean and reliable energy to Minnesota and parts of Wisconsin."

Great River Energy is also converting the coal-based Spiritwood Station power plant located near Jamestown, North Dakota, to be fueled primarily with natural gas and developing a 1-MW, multi-day grid battery in Cambridge, Minnesota.

The agreement with Apex Clean Energy comes less than two weeks after Great River Energy announced it secured capacity on the HVDC transmission system for renewable energy development. Discovery Wind's location near an existing power plant provides a unique opportunity to interconnect a very large project to the constrained Midwest electric grid.

"The announcement shows our dedication to being partners in clean energy with Great River Energy, and it delivers on verbal promises we made when we first announced our intent to purchase Coal Creek Station," said Rainbow Energy Center and Nexus Line President Stacy Tschider. "This is just one of many carbon neutral objectives we intend to fulfill, culminating with the successful implementation of carbon capture and sequestration at Coal Creek Station."

GRE's power supply transition has the cooperative on track to reduce its carbon dioxide emissions by more than 80% by 2025, achieving Minnesota's emissions target decades ahead of schedule.

ta's emissions target decades ahead of schedule.

"Working with Great River Energy, Rainbow Energy Center and Nexus Line, not only will we deliver clean power to a major market, but we will be able to use capacity on an existing pathway to do so—a rare and valuable arrangement in the saturated MISO (Midcontinent Independent System Operator) market," said Apex Clean Energy President and Chief Executive Officer Mark Goodwin. "This innovative solution enables the Discovery Wind project, thereby delivering a multitude of benefits to its North Dakota community, including both preserving and creating critical local jobs."

Apex Clean Energy was founded with a singular focus: to accelerate the shift to clean energy. For more information about Apex, visit apexcleanenergy.com.



Great River Energy, based in Maple Grove, Minnesota, is a not-for-profit wholesale electric power cooperative that provides electricity to 28 member-owner distribution cooperatives, including Steele-Waseca Cooperative Electric. Together, the systems provide power to approximately two-thirds of Minnesota geographically and parts of Wisconsin, serving more than 700,000 families, farms, and business. Learn more at greatriverenergy.com.

#swceINNOVATION

(EV safety training continued from Page 1)

formation on this topic, it became a priority for Great River Energy (GRE) and its member-owner cooperatives to provide firefighters and emergency response crews with information they need to safely respond to incidents involving EVs.

"Safety is the top priority for Great River Energy and our member-owners," said Rodney DeFouw, member electrification strategist at GRE. "We see this training program as an opportunity to expand our safety efforts to be inclusive of when electricity is used as fuel for transportation as more consum-

ers switch to electric vehicles."

Manufacturers build in fail-safe measures that shut down an EV's battery when its voltage exceeds safe limits; however, there are still special considerations for first responders to keep in mind when responding to an EV-involved accident.

"There are some precautions emergency responders need to take in terms of making sure there's no discharge from the battery that might injure them or injure the occupant they're trying to get out," said David Harkey, president of the Insurance Institute for Highway

Safety, in a 2021 interview following the organization's set of tests that looked into EV safety.

GRE is partnering with Safety and Security Consultation Specialists (SASCS), LLC, a first responder training company based in southern Minnesota, to conduct EV training sessions in their cooperatives' service territories. Each training session focuses on educating attendees on the types of EVs they could encounter while on duty, how to shut down/disable an EV, EV-specific crash and fire response, as

(EV safety training continued on Page 5)

Slow Cooker Beef Sandwiches

Erin Thorman

Northfield

3-4 lb. chuck roast
1 jar pepperoncinis
sandwich rolls
provolone cheese

Put roast and pepperoncinis, including liquid, in slow cooker. Cook on low 8-10 hours. Remove beef and shred. Toast rolls, put beef on rolls, and top with provolone cheese.

Please use a 3 x 5 card when submitting your recipe. The member whose recipe is published will receive a \$7 energy credit.



Steele-Waseca Cooperative Electric's solar subscribers will see a 19 kWh credit per panel on this month's statement for energy generated during January 2022. Learn more about community solar and The Sunna Project by visiting Steele-Waseca's website, swce.coop. #swceINNOVATION

Was your account number in Sparks?

Each month five account numbers are printed in *Sparks* and a total of \$35 in energy credits is divided among however many of those numbers are found. For example, if all numbers are found, a credit of \$7 will be applied to the members' following month's electric bills; or, if only one number is found, that member receives the full \$35 credit. Members finding their numbers who have a load management receiver on their dual fuel, electric water heater, air conditioner, or genset will receive an additional \$7 credit. When you find your number, phone our office no later than the 7th of the month following receipt of the *Sparks*, or the amount will be forfeited.

February issue of Sparks



Numbers found:

Mark/Karen Nigon
Charlie/Lisa Trier

Numbers not found:

Dallas Akre
Stacy Ernste-Voegele
Brandon Johannsen



Sparks in brief . . .

• **Want easy energy payments?** Sign up for **EnergyPay Plus**, our automatic payment plan, or **Energy Prepay**, our discounted advance payment plan. Contact our office for details. You may also pay your bill online at www.swce.coop. By entering your Steele-Waseca username and password you can also view a 13-month history of your account.

• **If you have changed or added phone numbers**, please contact SWCE to update your contact information.

• **Need a new water heater?** For information about our Westinghouse Electric Water Heater Program, phone Cindy Butterfield at our office between 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m., 446-4204 / 800-526-3514.

• **January temps** – The average high temperature for January was 20° F, while the average low was -1° F. This resulted in 1,706 Heating Degree Days (HDDs), and 0 Cooling Degree Days (CDDs). They compare to last year's average high of 27° F and average low of 12° F. This resulted in 1,396.5 HDDs and 0 CDDs.

• **ENERGY STAR® Rebates** – In 2022, all ENERGY STAR refrigerators/freezers (with recycling), electric clothes dryers, dehumidifiers, central air conditioners, air and ground source heat pumps, light emitting diode (LED) bulbs purchased (limit 5) are eligible to receive rebates (may not be combined with special promotions). Rebate request forms must be submitted within 90 days of purchase. Rebate forms are available at www.swce.coop. For more information or to receive a rebate request form, phone Cindy Butterfield at 446-4204 or 800-526-3514.

• **Steele-Waseca's tree service contractor** – Carr's Tree Service, Inc., is contracted to do SWCE's tree trimming. To report a tree concern, phone:

507-451-7340 / 800-526-3514

STEELE COUNTY TIP LINE

866-878-7964

TO BE USED TO REPORT ANY CRIME OR SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY ANONYMOUSLY

COVERS ALL OF STEELE COUNTY INCLUDING THE CITIES OF:

**OWATONNA ELLENDALE
BLOOMING PRAIRIE MEDFORD**



Generate Safely.

Never use a portable generator indoors.

Do not plug generators into standard electrical outlets.

Use heavy-duty extension cords to connect appliances into the generator.

Start the generator before connecting appliances.

#swceSERVICE

(EV safety training continued from Page 3)

well as dispelling myths surrounding EV batteries. 1055627

“When we embarked on this venture with Great River Energy, we found that much of the information that was being taught to first responders [about EVs] was not true,” said Volz. “Because of this, SASCS contacted the vehicle manufacturers to design our program from the ground up. The training program we have developed has information that is crucial for all emergency responders to know. SASCS is dedicated to keeping our responders safe while they respond and work at emergency incidents.”

Arrowhead Cooperative, one of GRE’s 28 member-owner cooperatives, was the first to host one of these training sessions in December 2021.

DeFouw is continuing to work with SASCS and Great River Energy’s member-owners to host more of these training sessions throughout the year.

(Content courtesy of Great River Energy)

#swceCOOPERATION

If you are planning...
Let us know in advance!

Home Addition

Alternative Energy Source

New Barn, Building or Grain Storage

SWCE Steele-Waseca Cooperative Electric

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

2411 West Bridge Street, Owatonna MN 55060
 507-451-7340 • 800-526-3514
 info@swce.coop • www.swce.coop

If you are planning a home addition, a new or expanded outbuilding, a new grain storage facility or maybe a wind or solar system, please contact us. This allows us to prepare for the change in your electric service, and offer assistance.

- I. Home Addition** (involving electric heating or cooling system changes).
- II. New building, barn or grain facility**
- III. Alternate Energy** (wind or solar electric)

If you are planning any of these projects, we may need to make changes and upgrades to your electric service and the equipment that provides power to your prospective project. Without sufficient lead-time to accomplish this, you may experience a delay in the completion of your project.

ad connection

give away

LOTS OF CROCHET THREAD, mostly white. 462-3698.

FREE ONLINE CLASSIFIEDS, you place & remove your own ad on SWCE's website, swce.coop, these are separate from Sparks & will not appear in Sparks unless mailed, delivered, or emailed to SWCE.

wanted

YOUNG COUPLE FROM COUNTRY WOULD LIKE BUILDABLE LOT, 5-10 acres, west Nfld, Dundas area. 213-0692.

SOMEONE WHO COULD BUILD A GARAGE FOR US NEAR HOPE, any recommendations appreciated. 612-598-4005.

FORD DIESEL SKID STEER. 330-1849.

GUNS; AMMO; JD MOWERS; TACKLE; ESTATES. 279-0431/Mark.

BARN, GRANARY, &/OR OUTBUILDINGS, I remove to repurpose the lumber; **OLD TIN; BARN SIDING; LUMBER**. 330-0258/Tim.

JD BUCKET LOADER for JD 734 Series. 412-3775.

YOUTH MODEL CENTERFIRE RIFLE for deer hunting. 612-669-4166.

GARDEN TILLER, 5-8 hp. 663-1275.

POSTAGE STAMPS from olden times, fair prices paid, all SWCE locations. 676-0970 for information.

UNWANTED BIKES & LAWN MOWERS, \$ paid on delivered. 330-3178.

JUNKERS/REPAIRABLES, trucks or cars, top \$ paid. 332-2300.

USED/WASTE OIL, 200-gal. min. 420-7429/Quentin.

PERSONS LOOKING FOR HELP IN THEIR HOME: housekeeping, cooking/meal prep, local current references. 412-7045.

for sale

SKID LOADER TIRES, \$225 or \$600 for (4); **8' SNOW BUCKET**, \$500; **GERMAN SHEP. PUPS**, \$500. 330-3945.

9T GRAIN BIN w/elec. auger, best offer; **STORAGE FOR RENT:** boats, trailers. 475-2322.

All area codes are 507 unless otherwise noted

HONDA 300 FOURTRAX ATV, new carb. & fuel shut-off, \$1400/obo; **JD 1032 SNOWBLOWER**, \$240/obo. 451-9614/home or 213-0600/cell.

MINI STORAGE UNITS, Blmg Prairie. 456-2957.

BEAR COMPOUND BOW w/(7) broadhead arrows, zipper case & other accessories; **ALSO, BEAR RE-CURVE BOW**, hard to find, all for \$40. 301-1360.

SCHWINN MEN'S MTB, F.S. Alloy, 21 spd, 26x175, \$100; **TREK 800 WOMEN'S MTB**, single track, 24 spd, 26x175, \$100. 330-3178.

SNOW TIRES, P215-78-R15, 50% tread remains, \$20/pair. 334-9583.

APPROX. (225) HO TRAIN CARS, mostly Athearn & Roundhouse; Railroad Model Craftsman Magazines, 1968-83; (7) GP38-2 eng., \$3000. 440-8831.

SHINGLING & LIGHT CONSTRUCTION; TREE REMOVAL, free estimates. 456-0296.

RENTAL, Izaak Walton League Bldg., 4 mi. south of Owat., seats 100, full kitchen, grill, Wi-Fi, \$125. 451-7946.

GRAVEL TRUCK AVAILABLE FOR ALL YOUR DELIVERY NEEDS: rock, gravel, dirt, etc., 15.5-ton capacity. 456-7774.

7" HERSCHEL FIELD CULTIVATOR SWEEPS, \$9.50/each. 456-7633.

BUILDABLE RIGHTS in Webster Township, Rice County. 612-919-4130 for info.

BEACHFRONT VACATION CONDOS FOR RENT in Fort Myers Beach, South Padre Island & Mexico, visit www.sandysbeachfrontcondo.com for details & photos. 612-865-9604/Sandy.

ALFALFA/GRASS MIX HAY BALES, full size, small square, great quality, no rain. 451-2978.

FORTUNE CREEK TRL LOTS, the covenant allows for a pole shed, starting at \$75,000. 838-5033/John.

GRASS HAY, no rain, average 45-lb. bales, excellent horse hay. 456-8951.

CLIMATE CONTROLLED UNITS FOR RENT, 11'x9' to 16'x10'. 332-4623

1978 14' LUND ALUM. BOAT w/(2) Lund seats, new tires on trailer, 25-hp EL Mercury motor, \$1200/obo. 581-6828.

APPROX. 200 LBS. OF FROZEN SABREVOIS RED GRAPES for wine making, juice, or jellies, sold in 15-lb. bags. 330-1154.

FUEL PUMP for a 1998 Ford Ranger, also fits many other years & models, only used for 100 miles, \$60/obo. 465-8244.

TREE TRIMMING, REMOVAL, & STUMP GRINDING, pro climber & aerial lift to U of M guidelines; **2007 FRONT CHROME BUMPER** for an F-650, like new. 456-1609.

(2) TRAILER TIRES ON RIMS, ST175/80R13, 5-bolt rim, both for \$75. 491-4565.

STIHL COMMERCIAL EQUIPMENT, exc. cond., HS81T 24" hedge trimmer, KM110R & KM130R Kombi units w/many attachments—paddle broom, polesaw, tiller, & more! 612-978-1219.

SKID QUICK TACH ROUND BALE HUGGER, damage-free bales, bought new in 2019, used (1) season, stored inside, exc. cond., \$2300. 210-4275.

KATAHDIN HAIR SHEEP, ewe & ram lambs; **HEREFORD BULLS & HEIFERS**. 451-2722.

8' PICKUP TOPPER w/slider window, \$40; **1985 FORD F-150**, 4x4, clean, \$1800. 334-2673.

AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERD PUPS: great companion, family & working dogs, registered & ready to go mid-Feb. 456-3419.

FIREWOOD, mostly oak, \$100 for standard pickup load. 323-1539.

ENGINES, TRANSMISSIONS, USED AUTO & TRUCK PARTS, 30-day warranty on eng. & trans. 332-2300.

FARM FRESH EGGS, \$2.50 a dozen. 461-9422.

TENOR & ALTO SAX; SMALL DORM REFRIG.; VINTAGE PURINTON POTTERY CANISTER SET; OAK MUSIC STAND; SNAPPER GAS WEED/BRUSH CUTTER. 461-3450.

CHICKEN EGGS, \$1.50/dozen. 456-9212.

JD 1750 CORN PLANTER, (6) row; **KEWANEE 380 21' DIGGER**. 583-2026.

GRASS HAY BALES, small square, \$4/each. 612-756-1131.

FBO FLYING CLUB: (1) share in Cessna 172, (2) shares Ercoupe, must be qualified to fly, insurable. 382-6151/Ben.

55-GAL. DRUMS, \$10; **ALUM. SEMI FUEL TANK**, \$200; **BLUE-POINT TOOL CART**, \$150. 380-4291.

(For Sale ads continued on Page 7)

Sparks Free Classified Ad Form for all SWCE Members

Ads need to be received in our office by **March 4** to ensure being printed in the April Sparks. Please print neatly or type your ad of **20 words or less** on this form. We reserve the right to edit ad copy to allow space for more ads. Ads received after the 4th will be printed in the May issue.

For Sale Wanted Give Away

Phone # _____ Account # _____

Name _____

Clip and mail to: SWCE, PO Box 485, Owatonna MN 55060-0485, deliver to the SWCE office, or email your ad to: sparks@swce.coop.

travel

Call 4-Seasons at 373-4705 or 373-2473, from 9 a.m. to noon Mondays, to learn more about their tour information.



TRUST OUR EXPERIENCE. LOVE YOUR VACATION.

ad connection

(For Sale ads continued from Page 6)

WALK-BEHIND SNOWBLOWER w/cab, purchased in 2018, \$725; **TORO RIDING LAWN MOWER**, purchased in 2015, \$2100. 334-8613/Joyce.

CANON MX340 PRINTER, copy/fax/scan, comes w/(4) blk PG-210 XL cartridges & CL-211 color cartridge, also comes w/owner's manual & troubleshooting manual, \$250. 334-3804.

FIREWOOD, \$80/qtr cord, \$300/full cord; **ONIONS & POTATOES**, \$1/lb., Nfld area. 651-357-5092/Paul.

FIREWOOD, mix of oak, sugar maple, ash, & elm, well split & most has dried 2 yrs, \$80/truckload. 332-7590.

(2) **DOWNHILL ROSSIGNOL SKIS**. 678-978-7444.

DUMP TRAILER, \$1700; **SNAP-ON WELDER**, \$500; **1995 CHEV. 3500HD**, flatbed dump 5th w/w plate, manual trans., 24v Cummins eng., \$7500. 271-6592.

APPLE G4 COMPUTER SYSTEM w/monitor, CD/DVD, & speakers; **BARI SAX**; **EARTHWAY GARDEN SEEDER**; **AIR COMPRESSOR**, 120v. 340-0506.

HORSE TACK: saddles, blankets, halters, etc. 414-719-5357/Liz.

ELEC. TRANS. POLES, var. lengths, 13'-25', \$3/ft; **NH SUPER 55 HAY RAKE**, always shedded, \$600; **HOLSTEIN BEEF 1/4'S & 1/2'S**, \$2.50/lb hang. weight + process. at Herda's, Fbo, \$ only. 339-8577.

2-DRAWER 36" LATERAL w/locks, \$30; **4-DRAWER 42" LATERAL** w/locks, \$75. 338-0967.

(2) **PORTABLE FISH HOUSES**. 524-4637.

24" SNAPPER SNOWBLOWER, \$150; **60-RDS 17 REM FIREBALL**, \$95; **32-RDS REM 444 MARLIN**, \$50; (2) **BOXES 50-RDS FED 410, 2.5"**, 7.5 shot, \$60. 461-1191.

16' LUND FISHING BOAT w/25-hp Johnson, new swivel seats, Minn Kota trolling motor, depth finder, anchor, lights, & oars. 451-9445 or 413-2819/cell.

(9) **BIG ROUND BALES OF GRASS & CLOVER MIXED HAY**, stored inside. 210-1006.

 #swceAPPRECIATION

Steele-Waseca Cooperative Electric (SWCE) assumes no liability for the content of, or reply to, any item posted. The party posting any advertisement assumes complete liability for the content of, and all replies to, any advertisement and for any claims against SWCE as a result thereof, and agrees to indemnify and hold SWCE harmless from all costs, expenses, liabilities and damages resulting from, or caused by, any advertisement or reply thereto.

Steele-Waseca Cooperative Electric seeking assistance in locating former members

Capital credit checks for the following former Steele-Waseca Cooperative Electric members have been returned to the co-op because their mailing addresses are no longer accurate. 1023950

If you know any of the following former members and can provide information about them, please call Hlou Yang at the Steele-Waseca office during regular business hours.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Mark/Vickie Anderson | Apache Junction, AZ |
| Michael/Beth Arentz | Lonsdale |
| Leona G. Barten | Belle Plaine |
| Duane H. Barwald | Dodge Center |
| Sandra A. Bartels | Northfield |
| Debra Behne | Owatonna |
| Thomas/Laurie Bergeson | Kenyon |
| Daryl/Frances Blom | Northfield |
| Charles A. Boucher | Merrifield |
| Shirley A. Bramstedt | Randall |
| Mary Ann Bremseth | Hayfield |
| Larry/Elizabeth Brewer | Faribault |
| Edward/Patricia Buretta | Owatonna |
| James R. Burke | Austin |
| Mark D. Cates | Faribault |
| Chad/Kara Christensen | Owatonna |
| Robert Darveaux Jr. or Anita Anger | Kenyon |

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Alcid Jr./Barbara DeMars | Medford |
| David D. Demmer | Owatonna |
| Erickson Drywall c/o Elwyn Erickson | Sartell |
| Daniel/Jeanne Feist | Northfield |
| Patrick H Gavin | Claremont |
| G. Thomas Gillard | Owatonna |
| Douglas D. Gray | Eyota |
| Frank A. Green | Ellendale |
| Tracy or Kirby Hannem | Ellendale |
| Timothy/Deb Healy | Inver Grove Hghts |
| Lon A. Hillberg | Hastings |
| Tracy Hofner or Rick Freund | Pine City |
| Harold W. Howard | Claremont |
| Reed/Suzanne Huber | Springbrook, WI |
| Steven/Lavada Jensen | Ellendale |
| James E. Jewison | New Richland |
| Scott K. Johnson | Blooming Prairie |
| John D./Mary Jane Kerling | Belt, MT |
| Thomas P. Kispert | Claremont |
| Robert J. Krell | Blooming Prairie |
| Sean/Rhonda Kylo | Owatonna |
| Jennifer L./Michael A. Leppert | Fblt |
| James L. Lervik | Northfield |
| Mary & Elliot Eisman | Owatonna |
| Steven L. Maas | Faribault |
| Ronald E./Joan A. Mansmith | Albrt Lea |
| Douglas M. Matejcek | Lakeland |
| Peter F./Susan M. Menzel | Owatonna |
| Mary L. More | Waukee, IA |
| John D./Ann M. Neal | Penobscot, ME |

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|
| John M. Novak | Faribault |
| Janice K. Oster | Lonsdale |
| Harry P./Shari K. Pemrick | Wyoming |
| Timothy R./Jeanne Pengra | Lake Havasu City, AZ |
| Debra L. Pieper | Slayton |
| Lori Prokop | Bruce, WI |
| Rick Pumper | Northfield |
| Loren/Deborah Quaale | Kenyon |
| Mark Rezac | Waldorf |
| Louis P. Rolf | Faribault |
| Thomas R./Mary A. Schafer | Dennison |
| Larry N./Linda Schmidt | Hayward |
| Elmer Simacek | New Richland |
| Richard J./Joyce E. Simcox | Owatonna |
| Charles/Christine Skinner | Northfield |
| David L. Tatge | Faribault |
| Loren Tatge | Faribault |
| Carl E. Ulrich or Pamela J. Black | Owatonna |
| Shannon T. Wiebler | Faribault |
| Terance W. Wilkowske | Lake Havasu City, AZ |
| William Frost | Dahlonega, GA |
| Lloyd M. Samuelson | Tyrone, GA |

 #swceCOOPERATION




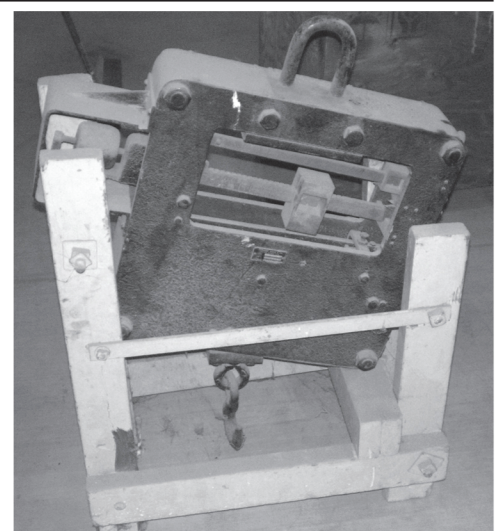
WOMEN IN CONSTRUCTION WEEK
MARCH 7-11

We recognize the hard work and contributions made by all women in the construction industry.

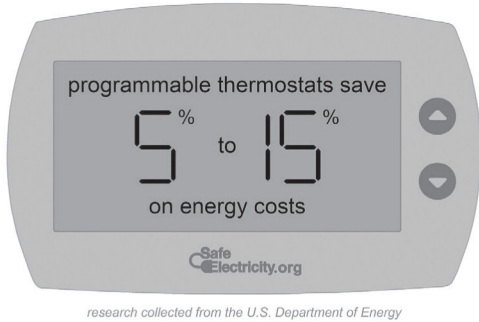
#WomenInConstructionWeek

Hanging scale for sale

Steele-Waseca Cooperative Electric has a hanging scale (pictured right) for sale that still works, but is no longer being used at the co-op. Steele-Waseca will accept \$100/obo for the scale. For more information or to purchase the scale, please contact Line Supervisor Matt Rohman at 507-451-7340, or toll-free 800-526-3514. 



 #swceAPPRECIATION



research collected from the U.S. Department of Energy



#swceINNOVATION

(Donald Larson continued from Page 1)

members stated their reasons for selecting Larson, Nov. 24, 1972, as general manager following the sudden death of then General Manager Howard McKee, "Since 1966 Mr. McKee counseled and helped Don to prepare for a position of General Manager for an electrical cooperative. He was given an opportunity to go to the University of Nebraska where he took the Management Intern Course. He has also taken many other Management Courses related to the cooperative needs in this area.

"Mr. McKee's sudden and untimely death brought the decision that had to be made by the board of directors. We had a young man familiar with our organization - trained and counseled by the most competent manager we feel has ever managed a cooperative. Mr. Larson has the support of the directors, employees, and the many members that he has helped in performing the many tasks assigned to him."

During the 1960s and '70s, Don was among those representing Steele-Waseca as part of 16 other electric cooperatives who built the generating facility known today as Coal Creek Station in North Dakota.

In 1985, Don was honored with the Jaycee "Boss of the Year" award. During the Halloween ice storm in 1991, Don, employees, and board members delivered food to the line technicians who worked for days restoring power.

Don retired from Steele-Waseca on Jan. 5, 1996. The employees published a letter in the December 1995 *Sparks* newsletter, which included, "The employees of Steele-Waseca Cooperative Electric express their sincere gratitude to you for the past 45 years. You have watched many of us 'grow up' here and have been a fellow employee, and dedicated boss. While you have always demanded excellence from us on the job, you have also understood what is really important in life and that is our families." 23192

Larson was a member of the Owatonna Toastmasters Club, Owatonna Rotary, a Mason of the local Lodge of Owatonna, involved with the Chamber of Commerce board, member of the Owatonna Shriners, Crusaders Club, and member of St. John Lutheran Church.

During his vacation time and after his retirement, Don and Maxine enjoyed nearly 33 years in Mesa, Arizona.

Don is survived by his son, Greg, of Owatonna; daughter Joy Kwedor of Casper, Wyoming; sister, Pat Wuger of Owatonna, two grandchildren, four great-grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews.

A memorial service was held Tuesday, Jan. 11, at St. John Lutheran Church in Owatonna. An interment was conducted at North Waseca Lutheran Cemetery in rural Waseca. **SWC**



#swceLIFE+