

**ROLLING HILLS  
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE**

# NEWS

## Rolling Hills Electric Co-op, Inc.

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785-534-1601 or 800-530-5572

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## FROM THE MANAGER

# Rolling Hills Returns \$650,000 in Capital Credits to Members



**Doug Jackson**

How familiar are you with the “cooperative difference” and what that entails? One of the many differences a cooperative offers its consumer-

members is the return of capital credits, which your board of trustees recently approved. Consumer-members who received service from Smoky Hill Electric, Jewell-Mitchell Electric or NCK Electric anytime from 1993-1996 will receive a “patronage refund” credit on their December electricity bill. If the consumer-member no longer has an active account, a check will be mailed to the last known address on file.

The cooperative pays back its margins, or the money left after bills are paid, by retiring capital credits to members. Rolling Hills Electric is a not-for-profit utility owned by the consumer-members who receive or have received electricity from us. The cooperative relies on its consumer-members to cover the operating costs on a day-to-day basis.

The third cooperative principle, Members’ Economic Participation, refers

to the money Rolling Hills Electric needs to cover the operating costs, which comes directly from the members paying their monthly electric bill.

“Patronage” is the money you pay for your bill each month. Each year, the board allocates the margins to your capital credits account based on your patronage.

The board then examines the cooperative’s financial position and determines whether to retire capital credits to its members. **THIS YEAR, THE BOARD APPROVED RETIRING THE REMAINING MARGINS FROM 1993, 100% OF 1994-1995 AND 32% OF 1996 TOTALING \$650,000.**

If you or someone you know who was a past member who has had a change of address since leaving our service, please let them know to contact our office at 785-534-1601 during business hours (Monday-Friday from 8 a.m.-5 p.m.) to update their contact information.



# RHEC in the Community

## Co-opportunity Day Picnic

Farmway Credit Union, Central Valley Ag and Rolling Hills Electric, all local cooperatives in Beloit, kicked off National Co-op Month on Oct. 7 by hosting the annual Coopportunity Day Picnic for the public in the Rolling Hills Electric shop in Beloit.

Employees from each co-op assisted in setup, cooking, serving and clean-up. Members and guests were served burgers, baked beans, chips, cookies and iced tea. Approximately 225 meals were served, including to-go meals. The turnout was a success despite the much cooler weather that day. It was a fun fall day spent with our members and the community!



Left: Members and guests enjoying their free lunch. Right: Representatives from Central Valley Ag, Farmway Credit Union and Rolling Hills Electric serve members.



Our linemen are in charge of the grilling each year — they always do a fabulous job!

## Safety Demos

Rolling Hills Electric has been busy the past few months with safety demonstrations! We've done safety demonstrations at the Alton Jubilee on Aug. 27, Kids Day on the Farm at Rosebrook Farms in Lincoln on Sept. 8, and for the Osborne County First Responders on Oct. 28.

The electrical safety demonstration is for ALL ages and reminds everyone to use caution around power lines and how to respond if they ever find themselves in a situation that involves electricity. Contact Catie Mellies, member services, if your group would be interested in a free electrical safety demonstration at 785-534-1601.



Left: Doug Errebo showing kids how different materials can be conductors of electricity. Right: A safety demo for an engaged audience of first responders.

## Shirley Becker is Retiring!

**SHIRLEY BECKER**, our beloved membership clerk — the face and voice you've all come to know and love whether calling in or walking into our office — will be retiring on Feb. 1, 2023.

Please help us start her celebration early and **WISH HER WELL BY CALLING IN TO OUR OFFICE 785-534-1601 OR SENDING HER A NOTE WITH YOUR NEXT BILL PAYMENT!**



## Welcome Remi Stroede!

If you have called into the Rolling Hills office lately, you may have noticed a new voice on the other end to assist you.



**Remi Stroede**

**REMINGTON "REMI" STROEDE** joined the Rolling Hills Electric family in October taking on the membership clerk/receptionist position.

Stroede grew up in the Beloit and Cawker City area and graduated from Beloit High School. She is currently working toward an associate's degree with an emphasis in agriculture from Fort Hays State University.

She and her boyfriend recently became parents to a beloved fur baby named Ivy, a German shorthaired pointer. In her spare time, she enjoys camping, hanging with friends, watching movies, and spending time on the boat.

"I am very excited to work at Rolling Hills Electric," Stroede said. "Already, I have learned many new things and met so many new people in such a short amount of time. I am thankful for everyone that has helped me get to where I am today. Special thank you to the Rolling Hills staff for taking the time to teach me everything I need to know and for being patient with me while I learn all the new ropes."

Join us in welcoming Remi to the cooperative family!

## Drive-Thru Trick-or-Treating

This was the first year RHEC participated in this event and it was a huge success!



It was pretty spooky around our shop for Halloween, the ghosts and goblins were taking over our bucket trucks!



Big THANK YOU to Kristi Clark and Tanya Peters for braving the pouring rain and serving all the drive-thru trick-or-treaters at our office.



## Applications Due Dec. 30 for All-Expenses-Paid Trips and Scholarships



Summer 2023 may seem like a long time away as fall fades and winter approaches, but finding and selecting stellar delegates for youth trips takes time. Rolling Hills Electric is now accepting applications from high school juniors who are interested in competing for a “trip of a lifetime.” In addition to the two trips to be awarded, each recipient will receive a \$500 scholarship upon high school graduation.

To be eligible, parents’ or guardians’ primary residence must be on Rolling Hills Electric’s power lines. We encourage all eligible students to apply for the summer youth trips!

Rolling Hills Electric Cooperative will sponsor **TWO DELEGATES** for these youth trips.

- ▶ One high school junior will go to **WASHINGTON, D.C.**, as part of the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour.

- ▶ One high school junior will go to **STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, COLORADO**, for the Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp.

Rolling Hills Electric pays for transportation, lodging, meals and other incidental costs incurred with all trips. The safety of our students and chaperones is our top priority. If trip coordinators feel that travel is unsafe, we will cancel the trips. In this case, we may ask delegates to participate in an alternate activity for an award.

For an eligible high school junior to enter the competition, applications must be submitted and received **BY DEC. 30, 2022**. Application details are online at <https://rollinghills.coop/apply-our-youth-programs>.

Summer will be here before you know it. Don’t delay; enter today!

### 2023 YOUTH TOUR APPLICATION

Applicant Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Student Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Student email \_\_\_\_\_

Grade \_\_\_\_\_ School \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Parent(s) or Guardian(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Electric Account # \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian(s) Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian(s) email \_\_\_\_\_

*I agree that all information supplied in this application is accurate and true.*

Applicant Signature \_\_\_\_\_