

WATTS Current

September 2006

For Our Members

Annual Meeting Thursday September 7, 2006

Location: Palace Ballroom Farley

Registration: 10:00 AM - 12:30 PM

Lunch: 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Business Meeting: 1:00 PM

•Prizes

•Board of Directors Election

•Visit the display area:

- ≈American Cancer Society
- ≈Burmeister Electric Company
- ≈Cooper Power Systems
- ≈Fletcher-Reinhardt, Inc.
- ≈MVEC Metering Display -
Learn how to read the electronic meters.
- ≈Park Farm Winery
- ≈Sarah's Candle Creations
- ≈Sunset Nursery & Garden
- ≈The Energy Group
- ≈Visiting Nurse Association, Dubuque-
Free blood pressure checks.
- ≈Youth Tour Winners



Your Candidates for Director

Maquoketa Valley Electric Cooperative is YOUR Cooperative, attend the Annual Meeting and make your vote count.....

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Maquoketa Valley Electric Cooperative



Did You Know?

You use 15-25 gallons of hot water for a bath, but less than 10 gallons during a 5 minute shower?



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Notice of Annual Meeting of Members

The Annual Meeting of the members of Maquoketa Valley Electric Cooperative will be held at the Palace Ballroom, 27317 Olde Farley Road, Farley, Iowa at 1:00 PM, Thursday, September 7, 2006, to take action upon the following matters:

- The reports of officers and committees.
- The election of three directors of the Cooperative for a term of three years each.

The terms of the following directors expire upon the date of this Annual Meeting:

- Bruce Reade Jones, Cedar and Linn Counties
- Larry Swanson Delaware County
- Charles McCullough Dubuque County

All other business which may legally come before the meeting or adjournment of adjournments thereof.


In connection with the election of directors scheduled for this meeting, the following members have been nominated for director by the Nominating Committee appointed by the Board of Directors of the Cooperative pursuant to the Bylaws.

- Larry Swanson Delaware County
- Al Faber Dubuque County
- Charlie McCullough Dubuque County
- William Hacke Jones, Cedar and Linn Counties
- Frederick Loes Jones, Cedar and Linn Counties

You are urged to attend this meeting, hear the reports of the officers, vote for directors, and transact such other business as may come before the meeting.

The Annual Meeting is conducted in English. If you are not conversant with this language and plan to attend, contact the Cooperative in advance so an interpreter can be provided. If you have any disability and need special accommodation to have a full and equal enjoyment of this program, contact the Cooperative prior to the meeting to make arrangements. Dated at Anamosa, Iowa this 25th day of August, 2006.

Request For Absentee Ballot



Please send absentee ballot to:

Name _____

Address _____

Account Number _____

Absentee Ballot may be requested no earlier than 10 days before meeting date.
Completed ballot must be received at the office at 109 N. Huber Street, Anamosa, IA 52205 by **September 5, 2006.**

Office Closed

The Anamosa office of Maquoketa Valley Electric Cooperative will be closed Thursday, September 7 due to the Annual Meeting. In case of emergency or outage, please call our answering service at 1-800-927-6068.

Our energy is *always* working for you!



Summary of Articles and Bylaws

Membership

Article VII of the Articles of Incorporation provides that “any individual, firm, association, corporation, partnership or other organization or any individual acting as an accredited representative of any firm, association, corporation, partnership or other organization may become a member in this Association by applying for a membership certificate***agreeing to purchase from the Association the amount of electric energy***and agreeing to comply with and be bound by these Articles of Incorporation, the Bylaws of the Association, and such rules and regulations***. Husband and wife may jointly become a member***. (If two individuals hold a joint membership together they shall be jointly entitled to one (1) vote***.)”

Annual Meeting

Bylaw II of the Bylaws provides that “An Annual Meeting of the members shall be held between August 1 and November 1 of each year with the exact date to be set by the Board of Directors.” Article VIII, Section 3 of the Articles of Incorporation indicates that the members shall be “entitled to receive ten (10) days written notice of the time and place of all meetings and of the purpose of all special meetings.”

Attention Heat Plus Members

MVEC continues to offer an optional electric space heating rate, “Heat Plus”, for members with electric heating systems. Electric heat may include ground source heat pumps, air source heat pumps, baseboard, electric boilers and an electric furnace.

Members must be enrolled in the Heat Plus program to be eligible for our electric heat rate from October 1 through May 31 billing cycle. The rate is currently \$.0345 per kWh and currently has a \$.0040 per kWh power cost adjustment for a net rate of \$.0385 per kWh. Electric heat usage during other times of the year will be billed at the full standard rate.

While our members are used to seeing a fluctuating power cost adjustment (PCA) on their main electric bills, this is the first time a PCA has been applied to

Directors

Article IX of the Articles of Incorporation provides that “the Board of Directors shall be made up of (9) members of the Cooperative. The Directors serve for a three-year term. Each year the terms of three Directors expire on the date of the Annual Meeting.”

Nominations and Election of Directors by the Members

Article IX of the Articles of Incorporation indicates—“There shall be four (4) numbered geographic districts***. Two Directors representing each district and one serving at large. Candidates for election to the Board of Directors shall be nominated by a nominating committee***. Any fifty (50) or more members may make other nominations***. The election of Directors shall be by ballot and each voting member shall be entitled to cast one (1) vote for each Director to be elected.”

Please do not hesitate to contact the Cooperative office should you have any questions concerning membership requirements or the procedure of nomination and election of Directors at the Annual Meeting of the Cooperative.

the Heat Plus bill. The difference between the main bill and the Heat Plus bill is the Heat Plus PCA is not expected to fluctuate monthly and should remain at the \$.0040 per kWh for the 2006-07 heating season.

The power cost adjustment reflects the fluctuating cost (increase or decrease) in the wholesale power costs paid by MVEC. Each rate has its own PCA calculated based on the cost to serve that class of member. The PCA allows the Cooperative to adjust for power cost purchases without having to raise base rates and is the most fair and effective way of meeting our goal to keep your costs as low as possible.

If you have questions on the Heat Plus program, how to enroll, or its rates, please contact Gary Weber at 800-927-6068.



Your Candidates for Director

Delaware County



Larry Swanson

1488 Hwy 13
Manchester

Wife: Sandy
1 Adult Son
1 Adult Daughter

◇ Owns and operates corn/soybean farm north of Manchester.

◇ Graduate of Iowa State University, with degree in Agricultural Business .

◇ Member of First Lutheran Church; Past Church Council President.

◇ Member of board of Delaware County Farm Bureau; current board treasurer; chair of legislative committee.

◇ Member of board of Foundation for Future of Delaware County.

◇ Past member, Delaware County Extension Council and 4-H Youth committee.

◇ Interests include travel and reading.

◇ MVEC member since 1971.

◇ MVEC board member since 1991, serving as Vice President since 1995; Earned NRECA Credentialed Cooperative Director Certificate in October, 1998.

Dubuque County



Al Faber

2183 Recker Road
Hopkinton

Wife: Maureen
Children: 4
Grandchildren: 1

◇ Raises hogs, corn and soybeans.

◇ Lifelong resident of Dubuque County.

◇ Graduate of University of Iowa College of Business.

◇ DeKalb Seed dealership.

◇ Cascade Mutual Insurance board member.

◇ Knights of Columbus member.

◇ Parish Council, past member.

◇ MVEC member since 1979.

Dubuque County



Charlie McCullough

17858 Prairie Creek Road
Bernard

Wife: Mary Jo
Sons: 4
Daughters: 2
Grandchildren: 7

◇ Owns and operates Century Family Farm with his family.

◇ Raises beef cattle, corn, soybeans, oats and alfalfa.

◇ Member of Holy Family Parish.

◇ Served on parish council and as parish trustee.

◇ Previously served as director on several Cooperative Boards.

◇ The McCullough's have been MVEC members since 1963.

◇ MVEC board member since 1997. Earned NRECA Credentialed Cooperative Director Certificate.



Jones, Cedar and Linn Counties



William (Bill) Hacke

8387 - 130th Street
Center Junction

Wife: Marie
Sons: 2
Daughter: 1
Grandchildren: 4

- ◇ Farms, raises cattle.
- ◇ Operates Midland Grain; grain dealer, 20 years.
- ◇ Assists son with used car dealership.
- ◇ Cascade Communications board member, 34 years.
- ◇ Member of St. John's Lutheran Church.
- ◇ Iowa National Guard, 6 years.
- ◇ Past Farm Bureau board member.
- ◇ Past Jones County Soil Commissioner.
- ◇ Past Director Jones County Cattlemen.
- ◇ MVEC member, 45 years in Washington and Madison townships.

Jones, Cedar and Linn Counties

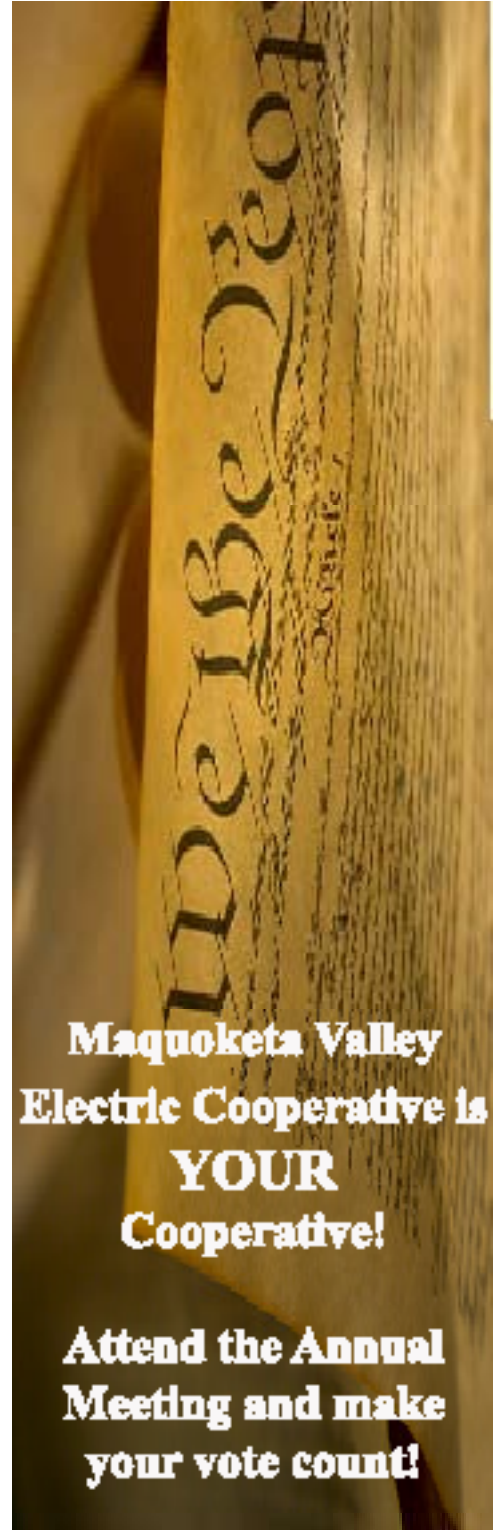


Frederick (Rick) Loes

4385 Co. Rd. D61
Cascade

Wife: Pat
Children: 9

- ◇ Farmer for 50 years. Beef producer; former hog producer.
- ◇ Sold a portion of farm to son and now works for him.
- ◇ Owner of 8 residential lots of which 4 were recently sold.
- ◇ Recently built a new home utilizing geothermal.
- ◇ Cascade Mutual Insurance board member since 1980.
- ◇ Knights of Columbus member.
- ◇ American Legion member.
- ◇ Farm Bureau member for 45 years.
- ◇ Township Trustee.
- ◇ Iowa National Guard, 6 years.
- ◇ Member of St. Matthias parish council, 4 years.
- ◇ MVEC member since 1960.





School Success

Susan Uthoff, ISU Extension Nutrition & Health Specialist

All ready for the new school year? Got a new backpack filled with all the right stuff? Getting a good night's sleep for every school day? Remembering to eat breakfast and walk to school?

Eating right and being active are essential for school success. Students who are nutritionally and physically fit have the energy, stamina, self-esteem and brain-power to do well in the classroom and on the athletic field.

Studies show that both nutrition and fitness can have a significant impact on daily attendance, classroom participation, test scores and even behavior. Brain research indicates that power nutrition combined with physical activity leads to optimal learning and helps all students make the grade. Changes in the foods offered to students can help reduce discipline problems and improve the overall learning environment. Students at hundreds of schools across the US, are happily chugging water and juice and eating bagels, yogurt, fruit and low fat sub sandwiches. Many studies prove that kids will buy, and enjoy, healthful foods and beverages when they are readily available to them.

The "secret" is to involve the whole school in creating a healthy nutrition environment. The kids can help choose the items they wanted to buy; the organizations like PTA might help purchase a vending machine for fresh foods; and the school foodservice staff can make nutritious changes in the cafeteria.

A big part of school success is having a good breakfast. Oatmeal makes a great breakfast. Cut back on your grocery bill and make your own instant packets.

For each packet you will need a plastic sandwich bag and ½ cup quick oats. Put oatmeal into the plastic sandwich bag and add a dash of salt if desired. To use, empty packet into a microwave safe bowl. Stir in 1-cup water or milk. Microwave on HIGH 2 ½ to 3 minutes. Stir before serving.

Variations:

Apple Cinnamon Oatmeal: To each packet add a teaspoon or more sugar, 1/4-teaspoon cinnamon and 2 tablespoons chopped, dried apples.

Sweetened Oatmeal: To each packet add 1 teaspoon or more sugar or sugar substitute.

Cinnamon-Spice Oatmeal: To each packet add 1 teaspoon or more sugar, ¼ teaspoon cinnamon, and a scant 1/8-teaspoon nutmeg.

Oatmeal with Brown Sugar and Raisins: To each packet add 1 tablespoon packed brown sugar and 1 tablespoon raisins.



**BACK TO SCHOOL
SAVINGS FROM
MAQUOKETA VALLEY
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE!**

**STATE-TO-STATE
LONG DISTANCE
ONLY 6.7¢
PER MINUTE**

Make the smart decision and switch to a long distance plan that makes sense! Enjoy these great benefits:

- State-to-state long distance only 6.7¢ per minute!
- In-state calls only 7.9¢ per minute!
- Calling card rates are only 9.9¢ a minute!
- You do not need to be a Maquoketa Valley Electric Cooperative member to sign up!

1-877-671-4004



*Taxes and other regulatory charges not included. Certain restrictions and early termination fees may apply. Please call for details. In partnership with TransWorld Network, Corp.



Basic Service Charge

Several members have inquired about the line item on the bill that says ‘Customer Charge’. Questions ranged from “is this my cost to be a customer?” to “is this my share of the costs to operate the marketing programs?” and everything in between.

Because the ‘Customer Charge’ is neither of the above, and remains confusing to members, we have decided to change the name of this charge to more accurately reflect what it truly is: the cost to provide the poles, wires and similar infrastructure to your property whether you use any electricity at the location or not.

We have made a change to our Electric Tariff to change the words ‘Customer Charge’ to ‘Basic Service Charge’. This wording change is just that, words, and does not change any fees, rates or costs on your bill.

The Basic Service Charge is a monthly charge that represents the costs associated with building and maintaining the electric lines and poles to your home, farm or business. In following our Tariff guidelines, this cost is currently set at \$17.00 per month for single-phase service or \$40.80 per month for three-phase service. This charge will continue to appear on your monthly bill as it has for several years and is not a new charge. The charge will appear on your bill regardless of how many kilowatt-hours you used and will even appear if you didn’t use any kilowatt-hours. This is a necessary cost to have the service ready just in case you choose to use it. The cost is very similar to the basic telephone service charge you pay each month to have telephone service, whether you choose to make a call or not.

Maquoketa Valley Electric Cooperative’s mission is to provide you the best possible service at the lowest possible cost. We are always putting our energy to work for you and invite you to call us anytime you have questions about our billing processes or any other matter relating to your electric cooperative.

Did You Know?

Most devices continue to consume power when they’re switched off!



One easy remedy, unplug appliances when you are out of the house.

Watts The Answer?

1. Maquoketa Valley Electric Cooperative members will be electing how many directors? _____
2. MVEC continues to offer an optional electric space heating rate, “Heat Plus”, for members with _____ heating systems.
3. The cost to provide the poles, wires and similar infrastructure to your property whether you use any electricity at the location or not is called the _____

Mail you answers in with your energy bill or email them to dreyhons@mvec.com.

Two winners will each receive a \$10.00 credit on their energy bills.

Name: _____

Address: _____

August winners:

Roberta Sievers, Olin

Howard Klauer, Bellevue



Maquoketa
Valley Electric
Cooperative
Welcomes All
Area Students
Back To School!

Visit Our
Web Site

at www.mvec.coop or

Email direct to the following departments:

Billing Questions	billing@mvec.com
Product or Service Questions	memberservice@mvec.com
Maintenance Issues	maintenance@mvec.com
Dividend Questions	patronage@mvec.com
New Service Questions	engineering@mvec.com
Management	management@mvec.com

Our Energy Working For You!



Maquoketa Valley
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Anamosa, Iowa 52205-0370

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Anamosa, Iowa 52205
319-462-3541 or 800-927-6068

OFFICE HOURS
Monday thru Friday
7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Web Site: www.mvec.coop

After Hours Call Center

800-582-8998

After hours you may also call the service person
in your area to report outages or trouble on the line.

Anamosa, Dallas Paustign.....319-462-4848

Cascade, Pete Boffali.....563-852-3180

Dubuque, Rick Olson.....563-582-3668

Ferley, Jim Lehman.....563-744-3005

LaMotie, Brett Cox.....563-773-8614

Manchester, Dan Peterson.....563-927-6491

Maquoketa, Jerry Strooper.....563-652-5014

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