

SREC Annual Meeting Set For April 14

Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative directors and employees invite you to attend our annual meeting on Tuesday, April 14, 2009, at the Youth & Ag Building, Grant County Fairgrounds. Doors will open at 6 p.m., and dinner will begin at 6:30 p.m. Francis Brandt will provide musical entertainment from 6 to 7:10 p.m., and the meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m.

Each member in attendance (husband and wife joint membership counts as one) will receive a \$5 credit on their May bill. We will have a separate room for kids, with adult supervision, during the meeting. Members will also be eligible for a prize drawing at the end of the meeting for a \$100 credit, two \$50 credits, and fifteen \$25 credits. Even those of you who cannot attend but send mail-in ballots are eligible for a drawing of six \$50 credits. Directors for districts #3, #4, and #8 are up for election. See the biographies on the candidates starting on the following page.

You should receive your annual report packet in the mail by the last week of March. Please call our office and let us know if you do not receive it.

Scholarships!

College scholarships will be awarded through a drawing at the annual meeting. Twenty-four \$500 scholarships will be awarded to the following qualified applicants:

- High school students
- Home-schooled students
- Private-schooled students
- Non-traditional students

The \$500 scholarship will be applied after successful completion of your first semester of technical school or college. Transcripts must be mailed to the cooperative proving a "C" or better average with at least 12 credits. Upon receipt of the transcripts, a check will be made out to the school for the second semester tuition.

Qualifications:

- The student or the student's parent or legal guardian must be a member of Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative.
- The application must be mailed to this address PRIOR to April 7, 2009, to qualify: Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative, Attn: 2009 Scholarships, 231 N. Sheridan St., Lancaster, WI 53813. **SREC will call each student to verify receipt of application. If you do not hear from SREC by April 8, 2009, please call to verify SREC received your application.**
- The student must be present at the Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative annual meeting held on April 14, 2009 to win.
- The student must receive college credit for at least 12 hours at a minimum "C" average to be awarded the scholarship.

Simply fill out the application form on page 29 of this magazine and return it to the address stated above. Applications can be picked up at any of the SREC three offices: Lancaster, Darlington, or Gays Mills.

If you have questions regarding the 2009 Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative Scholarship please contact Megan Graney at 608-723-2121 or 800-236-2141. ■



Members are invited to attend the

71st ANNUAL MEETING

Tuesday, April 14, 2009

Doors open at 6 p.m.

Dinner begins at 6:30 p.m.

Meeting begins promptly at 7:30 p.m.

Grant County Youth & Ag Building, Lancaster
*across the street from
the co-op office*

Babysitting available for the kids!

PRIZES!



Meet Your Director Candidates

District 3

Raymond Martin

562329 Shanghai Ridge Rd. Wauzeka, WI

Raymond Martin and his wife, Luella, have been married for 50 years and have three daughters and eight grandchildren.

Raymond is a familiar face to cooperative members in his area, having already served as a member of the former Crawford Electric Cooperative Board of Directors. He was a director in 1999 when Crawford Electric merged with Grant–Lafayette Electric to form Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative, which Raymond says was a “good move.” At the time of the merger the board was downsized to nine members, with Don Walters representing this district.

“I have sat on many boards in my lifetime and have always been fortunate enough to be returned,” Raymond said. “With your help and support I will return here also. And if I am elected I will have the same values and determination that Don had.

“I cannot conclude without thanking Don Walters for his years of service and expertise. Thanks, Don, for a job well done, and we wish you well in your retirement years.”

Chuck Simmons

63476 Lohman Lane, Eastman, WI

Chuck Simmons and his wife, Marlene, live in Eastman Township, Crawford County. They have been members of Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative since 1999. They have been married for 36 years and have three children, Emily (Brian) Joachim, Ben (Dana) Simmons, and Brian (Katie) Simmons. They also have four grandchildren, with two more to arrive shortly.

Chuck is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin–Platteville with a bachelor of science degree in education. He is an agent for American Family Insurance in Prairie du Chien. He has been associated with American Family Insurance since 1987 and prior to that was a branch manager for Richland Center Federal Savings and Loan in Darlington. He was associated with the banking, savings and loan business for more than 16 years.

Chuck is a 30-year member of the Knights of

Columbus and for the past 10 years has been the state director in charge of the Committee to Help People with Intellectual Disabilities. As such, he is responsible for statewide fund-raising and approving grant requests in excess of \$650,000 a year. Simmons is also a member of the Rotary Club in Prairie du Chien, and he and Marlene are members of St. Wenceslaus Parish in Eastman.

“Electric utilities are facing some very interesting times and I would very much like to be involved,” Chuck said. “The demand for electricity is increasing as well as the demand for generating clean electricity and the development of alternative ways of producing this electricity. As the demand increases, the distribution and transmission systems will need to be updated in a safe and environmentally friendly way. The challenge will be to continue to provide our members electricity at a reasonable cost and to service their needs in times of emergency.

“I would be honored to represent you as the District 3 director of the Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative. I ask for your vote and support. It will be greatly appreciated. Thank you.”

Philip Toberman

30738 St. Hwy. 35, Prairie du Chien, WI

Phil Toberman and his wife, Carol, live in the township of Eastman where they have approximately 115 acres of woodland. They have three children and five grandchildren. Phil has been a member of Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative since 1972 and he’s also been a member of the Jump River Electric Cooperative in the township of Fork since 1975.

Phil has been retired from 3M for 10 years and still works at the 3M Employee Store one or two days a week. During his 35 years at 3M, he worked at numerous positions, starting in production and then as a supervisor for more than 32 years. Later, he moved to a project supervisor position as a 3M designated representative for outside contractors involved in plant engineering and maintenance projects throughout the 3M Prairie du Chien site.

“Serving the members of the co-op is something I’ve been long interested in, as I’ve watched my neighbor, Don Walters, perform as District 3 director,” Phil said. “I believe there are exciting, challenging, and major opportunities involving the co-op in the near future, and I feel it would be an honor to serve District 3.”

(Continued on page 28 ►)

Director Candidates

(Continued from page 5)

District 4

Harold Clark

7846 Shady Dell Rd., Mt. Hope, WI

Harold Clark and his wife, Myrna, own a small farm in Mt. Hope Township. They have four children, Mark (Marsha), Noreen (Randy) Engelken, Brent, and Rodney (Charlene) Clark. They have 11 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Over 56 years of marriage, the Clarks have farmed. Harold also worked at Advance Transformer for 10 years with perfect attendance, Cabela's for seven years, and Wal-Mart for two years, and he still works.

If elected, Harold said, "I will try to do my best to serve District 4. Thank you!"

Ellen Conley

12270 Roger Hollow Rd., Fennimore, WI

Ellen Conley and her husband, Dennis, have farmed for as long as they have been married—almost 29 years. They own their farm of 240 acres with 170 tillable acres in the Mt. Ida Township, city of Fennimore. They have been cooperative members for 28 years. They have two children, Emilee (John) Scheid and Josh. Their youngest daughter, Lacey, died in 1985. They have a granddaughter, Elizabeth Scheid, who will be 2 in September. Their family hosted the Grant County Dairy Breakfast in 1994 and in 1996 was selected as WGLR Farm Family of the Year.

"I enjoy the farm life most of the time, even though the milk prices make it stressful at times. We try to stay positive," Ellen commented.

Ellen has served as president of the Grant County Chapter of Wisconsin Right to Life for the past 11 years and was secretary a couple years before that. She's a member of St. Mary's Church and St. Anne's Sodality in Fennimore, and she served on the church council from 2003–2006. She's an FFA alumni member (the couple received an honorary degree in 1999). Ellen excels at bookkeeping for the farm, lawn care, remodeling their old farmhouse, fieldwork, calf care, and computer skills.

Ellen commented, "I have been a director for Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative for the past six years and have learned a lot and am still learning every day. I have completed a director leadership workshop and have attended

all WECA, CFC, WFC, and many of the NRECA meetings. I have taken classes and served on committees. One committee I am on that I really like is Operation Round Up—it is such a worthy cause and everyone benefits from this. The members give and you receive so much more. The small amount you give adds up. My husband and I are also members of ACRE (Action Committee for Rural Electrification).

"I am confident that SREC is a wonderful co-op, but there is always room for improvements," she added. "I will continue to strive to find its flaws and work hard to make its members satisfied. I will always be there to hear your concerns and comments so we can make the co-op even stronger. Rates are always a challenge, but we work very hard to do what is best for all of us at the time, and it has been an ongoing decision-making process. I take this role representing District 4 as a director very seriously, and will give the co-op, its members, and employees the hard work and respect they deserve.

"I would like the chance to stay on as your director and continue where I left off. Your 'megawatts' of support past and future is very much appreciated. Our cooperative members are our business!"

District 8

Norman Gordon

15011 Dublin Rd., Darlington, WI

Norman and his wife, Lois, own a 210-acre livestock farm and rent an additional 180 acres for cash crops in Darlington and Gratiot townships. They have four children, Diane, Cinda, Donna, and Roger, and eight grandchildren.

Norman has been a member of Lafayette, Grant-Lafayette, and now Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative for close to 50 years. He is also a member of the Lafayette County Farm Bureau. He is a former director of Lafayette Electric Co-op, Lafayette FS Co-op, and Lafayette County Farm Bureau. He served one term as president of the Lafayette County 4-H Leader Association and six years on the board of trustees at the United Methodist Church in Darlington. He is currently serving on the Pastor Relation Committee.

"Thank you for allowing me to be your representative on the board for the past 13 years," Norman said. "If re-elected, I will continue to work on being your voice for the cooperative, its members, and employees. I would appreciate your vote."

Ray Olson
9760 Hwy. U, Shullsburg, WI

(Note: The following biography is printed word for word as requested by the candidate.)

My Friends: Today we have a new group of politicians in Washington promising major energy and economic changes! In anticipation of these changes I have already taken UW-Platteville's latest energy courses where I studied wind power, fuels cells, hydrogen, and bio-fuels. To make a long story short, our new politicians intend to follow the Carbon Cap and Trade System now used in Europe. Our electric company will have two choices under this system. We will either be forced to pay part of the cost of developing someone else's energy project or another electric company will pay part of the cost of our green energy project (wind, bio, etc...)

The other major money issue for our electric company is the 700 billion dollar green energy package. My friends, if we have a good energy plan we may see federal grants and low interest loans on a magnitude not seen since the 1930's. Will we be on the receiving end of these two major events or will we be on the donating side, in effect shipping our money out to other areas as has just happen with the bankers bail out package.

Your vote will allow me as a newly elected board member to bring new energy ideas and a developing energy plan to our other board members for their consideration. Mom always used to say, "Every dark cloud has a silver lining." This one can be a once in a lifetime opportunity. Developing our wind resource blessing into a new energy system may help keep our energy cost stable by eliminating the price spikes of coal and its every increasing shipping cost.

- Bachelor of Science degree from UW Platteville in 1977
- Former Technical Service Representative for International Harvester
- Former Vocational School Instructor
- Farmer

Don't forget what my son Kevin said, "Vote for Ray because he is OK!"

I appreciate your understanding and thank you for your vote! ■

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

***deadline April 7, 2009**

Name _____

Phone No. _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP Code _____

Parent Name _____
(or legal guardian)

Address _____
(if different from student)

Cooperative Billing Account No. _____

Township _____ SREC District No. _____

High School _____

Qualified scholarship applicants should return this completed form to SREC no later than April 7, 2009. For more information about the scholarship program, please turn to page 4.



SCENIC RIVERS ENERGY COOPERATIVE
 Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Board of Directors

Tom Bennett, Chairman	Larry Butson, Director
Don Walters, Vice Chairman	Ellen Conley, Director
Sandra Davidson, Sec.-Trea.	Gerald Koeller, Director
Norman Gordon, Asst. Sec.-Trea.	Merlin Kvigne, Director
	David Stute, Director

Richard Kolb, Chief Executive Officer
Mary Erickson, Editor

231 N. Sheridan St. Lancaster, WI 53813 (608) 723-2121 800-236-2141 lancaster@srec.net	427 Main St. P.O. Box 127 Darlington, WI 53530 (608) 776-4415 800-236-6656 darlington@srec.net	303 Main St. Hwy. 171 P.O. Box 158 Gays Mills, WI 54631 (608) 735-4313 888-735-4314 gays-mills@srec.net
--	---	--

www.scenicriversenergy.coop