

MCREA News



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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President Larry Hoozee
Vice President Tim Pegram
Secretary Casper Hergenreter Jr.
Treasurer Allyn Wind
Board Members
 David Arndt
 Randolph D. Graff
 Bill Midcap
 Brian Schlagel
 Cary L. Wickstrom

GENERAL MANAGER

Fred R. Grantham
Chief Operations Officer David Frick
Director of External Affairs
 Dave Henderson
Manager of Office Services Debby Gachne
Manager of Engineering Steve Sundet
Executive Assistant and Human Resources
 Gayle Volz

Morgan County Rural Electric Association is a member-owned cooperative that exists to provide goods and services that enhance the quality of life in rural America.

MAILING ADDRESS

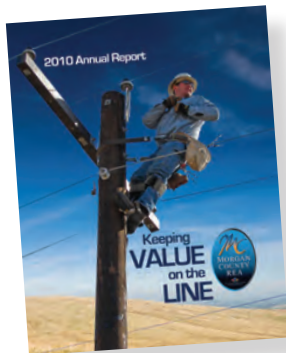
P.O. Box 738
 Fort Morgan, CO 80701-0738

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 970-867-3277 Fax

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 www.mcra.org Web



Morgan County REA's 74th Annual Meeting & Member Appreciation

Saturday, March 19, 2011
Glenn Miller Auditorium
Fort Morgan High School

11:30 a.m.

Registration, complimentary lunch, gifts and information booths

12:30 p.m.

Early Bird Prize drawing

1 p.m.

Annual Meeting, election of directors, management reports and prizes

Early Bird Prize:

Gift certificate for \$100 off your electric bill

(Must be in auditorium by 12:30 p.m. to win)

Annual Meeting Prize: \$1,000

(Name will be drawn from total membership and you must be present to win)

Grand Prize \$250

(Name will be drawn from members in attendance)

Interactive audience polling will again be a feature at our Annual Meeting

Pianist and singer Joelle Keith will perform before the meeting

MCREA Board Appoints New Director

Morgan County Rural Electric Association Board of Directors announced the appointment of Cary L. Wickstrom from Orchard as a director from District I. Wickstrom will complete the term of former director Marguerite “Micki” Baugh, whose retirement was effective November 1, 2010.

Wickstrom is self-employed and part-owner of Wickstrom, Inc., a diversified cattle feeding, ranching and farming operation in Morgan and Weld counties. He was raised in this area and is a graduate of Colorado State University with a degree in agricultural business. While attending CSU, he was a member of Farmhouse Fraternity.

He is not new to the cooperative business model, having served on the Wiggins, Horizon and M & M co-op boards. Wickstrom helped start and was the first president of the Colorado Conservation Tillage Association, is a past board member and president of the Colorado Wheat Administrative Committee and has served on the U.S. Wheat board. In addition to serving on the MCREA board, he is currently a member of the Farm Bureau, Colorado



Cary L. Wickstrom

Livestock Association, CSU Ram Club and CSU Beef Club.

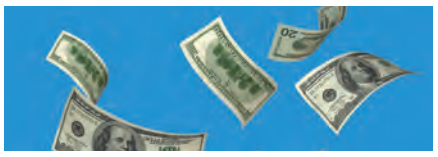
Wickstrom also has strong ties to the Weldon Valley School District as a former board of education member, where he says that he helped pass a bond election to build a new junior high and high school. He lists time with his family and friends, travel and snow and water skiing as hobbies and interests.

According to Wickstrom, he is excited to take the reins as an MCREA director. “I understand how important an efficient, well run and forward-

thinking electric cooperative is to our rural living and rural business,” he said. “I hope my business and board experiences can help contribute to Morgan County REA, and I look forward to working with the other directors and general manager.”

Wickstrom has two daughters — Leigha, 19, is a freshman at Colorado State University (a third generation Aggie, says Wickstrom proudly), and Tara, 12, is in the seventh grade at Weldon Valley.

Please join us in welcoming Cary Wickstrom to the Morgan County REA Board of Directors.



WIN \$25 OFF YOUR ELECTRIC BILL

Each month Morgan County REA gives two lucky members a \$25 credit on their electric bill, just by reading *Colorado Country Life*.

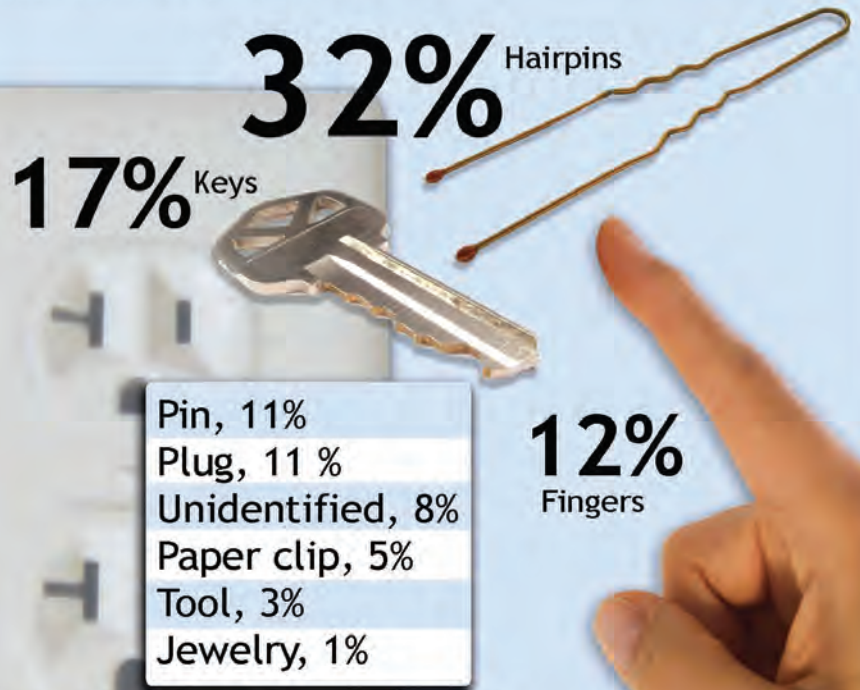
Congratulations, Howard H. Hettinger (account # 1615100). You saw your name and account number in the January edition of *Colorado Country Life*, and received a \$25 credit on your electric bill.

Sorry, Stanley J. May (account # 2163200). You didn't contact us. Your name and account number were also in January's *Colorado Country Life*.

There are two more MCREA member names and their account numbers hidden somewhere in this issue. If you find your name and account number, call member services at 970-867-5688 by March 31 to claim a \$25 credit on your electric bill.

Objects Commonly Placed in Electrical Outlets

Every year, 2,400 children are injured after inserting household objects into electrical outlets. These are the most common objects placed in outlets:



Source: Electrical Safety Foundation, Inc.



MEET MCREA'S CANDIDATES FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

These three gentlemen, all current board members, have submitted their petitions to once again serve on the Morgan County Rural Electric Association Board of Directors.

Board elections will take place at MCREA's Annual Meeting March 19. Here is some background information about each of the candidates.



Tim Peggram



David Arndt



Casper Hergenreter Jr.

Tim Peggram District 1

Tim Peggram has served on the board of directors for Morgan County REA since 2003, earning his Credentialed Cooperative Director Certificate through the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association in 2005 and the Board Leadership Certificate through the national association in 2009. He is the former treasurer of the MCREA board, and is currently serving as vice president.

Tim has lived in the Wiggins area since his teenage years, earned his associate degree from Northeastern Junior College in agribusiness and studied at the University of Northern Colorado before returning to farming. He raises irrigated corn, alfalfa and wheat and operates a cow/calf operation. Tim is very involved in the Wiggins schools and community by coaching basketball and is an active member of Summit Baptist Church in Wiggins. He cites riding motorcycles as one of his favorite hobbies.

Tim and his wife, Eileen, have five children: Jon, Jennifer, Jason, Justin and Joel.

David Arndt District 2

David Arndt was first elected to the MCREA Board of Directors in 1993. He fulfilled one term as treasurer in 1994 and served as board president from 2006 to 2010.

During his tenure, David has earned the Credentialed Cooperative Director Certificate through the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association by completing five one-day courses, including director duties and liabilities, understanding the electric business, board roles and relationships, strategic planning, and financial decision making. He has also been awarded the Board Leadership Certificate through the national association.

David and his wife, Pam, farm in the Weldona area. They have four grown children and 10 grandchildren. He is a past president of the Morgan County Fair Board and has been active with several youth organizations in our area.

Casper Hergenreter, Jr. District 3

Casper Hergenreter, Jr., is a longtime resident of Morgan County. He is completing his fifth term on the MCREA Board of Directors, and has served in every official capacity as an officer. During his tenure, Cap has achieved the Credentialed Cooperative Director Certificate and Board Leadership Certificate through the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

Cap is employed as the Colorado operator-manager of Grasslyn Incorporated, which operates a diversified crop farming operation located in Morgan and Yuma counties. He keeps active with his three grandchildren, woodworking, reading, watching sporting events and playing the occasional round of golf.

Cap and his wife, Deb, live in Hillrose and are the parents of Shelly M. Griffith, CPA, chief financial officer for Eben Ezer Lutheran Care Center in Brush; and Joel D. Hergenreter, supervisor of engineering with the John Deere Corporation based in Des Moines, Iowa.



DID YOU KNOW?

Wireless charging mats can charge three or four electronic devices at once, but they don't necessarily save energy. (John E. Miller, acct # 2011100)

In tests of these mats from the two leading manufacturers, the Cooperative Research Network

found that the devices consumed about 0.5 watts of power when they were plugged in but not in use. When compared to Energy Star-qualified chargers for cell phones and iPods, the wireless power mat is roughly equivalent to leaving four standard chargers plugged in all the time.

MCREA ANNOUNCES YOUTH TOUR AND YOUTH CAMP DELEGATES

Morgan County Rural Electric Association has awarded three local high school students all-expenses paid trips to participate in two youth leadership events this summer.

Heather Brown from Wiggins High School will represent MCREA at the 2011 Youth Tour held June 9-16 in Washington, D.C. Approximately 1,500 students attend the event annually.

The Youth Tour is an opportunity for high school students to learn about our government in a week of educational and fun events. Students from all over the United States, sponsored by their local rural electric cooperatives, converge to tour the exciting sites around the capital as well as meet with industry and government officials.

While in Washington, D.C., a full day is spent on Capitol Hill meeting with the Colorado congressional delegation, even eating lunch in the cafeteria with congressional staffers. In addition, the students are introduced to issues faced by rural electric cooperatives on a state as well as national level. (Steve and Loretta Denes, acct # 1705300)

A 4.0 student, Heather is currently a junior at Wiggins, where she is president of the National Honor Society, historian of the Future Business Leaders of America, and a member of the student council. She lists business as a major study interest, and enjoys playing her saxophone. Her parents are Scot and Carri Brown from Wiggins.

Dusty Johnson from Fort Morgan High School and Jordan Deslauriers from Brush High School have been selected to attend the Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp July 10-15, at the Glen Eden Resort. The Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp is designed to provide a better understanding of cooperatives, energy prices and legislative processes.

Since the camp is designed to develop leadership skills, it is



Heather Brown



Dusty Johnson



Jordan Deslauriers

run by the participants. The students elect a board of directors and the board then selects a general manager from the hopeful applicants. Every student attending the camp gets an active role in the cooperative. Students plan activities, games and a dance and banquet.

More than 100 students from Colorado, Wyoming, Kansas and Oklahoma travel to Glen Eden Resort, just 18 miles north of Steamboat Springs, every year for the camp.

Dusty is a sophomore at Fort Morgan High School and carries a 3.86 grade point average. She lists 4-H, FFA, junior varsity and varsity soccer, and the Student Senate as extracurricular activities. She enjoys studying politics and raising dairy goats. Her mother is Christine M. Johnson from Fort Morgan.

Also a sophomore, Jordan is a 4.0 student at Brush High School. She enjoys playing volleyball, basketball and track and has volunteered at Eben Ezer Lutheran Care Center in Brush. She would like to study medicine and engineering in the future and enjoys reading and puzzles. Roy Deslauriers from Brush is her father.

Students applied for either the Youth Tour or Leadership Camp by filling out an application and completing an essay on a topic chosen from a list provided by MCREA. Finalists also went through an interview process.

Why We Send You *Colorado Country Life*

We send *Colorado Country Life* to you because it is a convenient and economical way to share information with rural electric members. It takes the place of many mailings we would otherwise send to get information to you about our services, director elections, member meetings and the staff and management decisions you should know about as an owner of the co-op. The magazine also carries legal notices that would otherwise have to be placed in local media at a substantial cost.

And sending *Colorado Country Life* to you helps the cooperative fulfill one of its basic principles — to educate and communicate openly with members.

The board of directors authorizes the cooperative to subscribe to *Colorado Country Life* on behalf of the membership at a cost ranging from \$4 to \$5 per year, paid as part of your electric bill. The current cost of the magazine is 37 cents per copy, less than the cost of a first-class stamp.

