

Vernon Electric Cooperative

Vernon Electric Helps Support Dairy Breakfast

Wall-Stone Holsteins, in rural De Soto, was this year's host to the Vernon County Dairy Breakfast. Kevin Walleser and Dr. Anne Marie Elwing own and operate the farm with their twin sons William and Emil. Vernon Electric Cooperative has provided power to the farm since the first day the lights came on. Some Vernon Electric directors, employees, and their families were on hand to help with the breakfast that morning and to make sure they had all the power they needed to serve thousands of people. Everything went great. Congratulations to Wall-Stone Holsteins and the Vernon County Dairy Promotion Committee on another successful Dairy Breakfast.

Debby & Dan Korn, Jan McDonald, and Melissa Haakenson-Seelow take a break from serving food. Dan is a VEC Director, Jan is the wife of VEC CEO, Joe McDonald (took this photo), and Melissa is a Member Service Representative at VEC.

"Information for our member-owners."



VEC journeyman line worker, Mike Berger, was on standby at the farm to make sure there was plenty of power, and also helped make sure the place stayed tidy.



Thanks to all who made the Dairy Breakfast a success!

VEC line worker, Isaac Weik, helping to prepare some delicious scrambled eggs.

Lighting Key to Reduced Energy Use



Energy-efficient lighting is the driving force behind declining U.S. household energy use, according to a professor at the University of California–Berkeley. Professor Lucas Davis said his research and data from the Energy Information Administration and Census Bureau indicate that between 2010 and 2015, household energy consumption declined in 48 of the 50 states, and U.S. households now use less power than five years ago.



The decline is a sharp departure from the previous two decades. Household energy use grew 12 percent in the 1990s and 11 percent in the 2000s, Davis said.

He ascribes the turnaround to energy-efficient lighting, noting the installation of more than 450 million LEDs, more than 900 times as many as were in use in 2009, and more than 70 percent of households using at least some compact fluorescents.

LED prices have fallen 94 percent since 2008, Davis said, with a 60-watt equivalent LED bulb, using 85 percent less power than an incandescent, now available for about \$2.



Energy Efficiency Rebates Available – Lighting Rebates

- LED Bulb\$1
- Occupancy Sensor\$5
- LED Exit Sign\$5
- LED Fixture\$1 per 800 lumens in the fixture
- T5 fluorescent fixture.....\$6 per bulb in the fixture
- T8 fluorescent fixture (replacement only) ...\$4 per bulb in the fixture

Eligibility Criteria

- Items must be new, purchased in 2018 and must be installed on Vernon Electric's lines.
- Rebates are in place through December 31, 2018. Funds are limited, so members are encouraged to submit as soon as possible.
- Rebate not to exceed 20% of the cost of bulb or fixture.

- All documentation listed below is required and must be submitted no later than 3 months after purchase date.
 - ▲ Lighting Rebate Form (available at www.vernonelectric.org or by contacting our office)
 - ▲ A copy of your receipt or invoice for each item purchased
 - ▲ For all fixtures, include packaging or documentation showing number of lumens and number of bulbs per fixture as required

To see all rebates available for water heating, appliances, heating, ventilation, heat pumps, lighting, agriculture, commercial, water conservation, solar energy, and energy audits, visit our website or request information by mail.

VEC Members attend Dairyland Power Annual Meeting

The theme of the meeting was Renewed Commitment, emphasizing the long-term commitment Dairyland has with its member distribution cooperatives to serve co-op energy consumers. Barbara Nick, President and CEO, spoke about how future success hinges on understanding the “job” cooperative members “hire” Dairyland to do. “We provide competitively priced, reliable and sustainable power. Today is about renewing our commitment to that job.”

Nick emphasized the importance of evolving in step with a changing energy environment. “Providing competitive service in the future will look different, and we are committed to preparing for it. Dairyland is investing in the future of beneficial electrification. In 20 years, we will be ready to thrive in a smart new energy world... whatever it looks like.”

Rob Chapman, Electric Power Research Institute’s Vice President, Energy & Environment, provided the keynote speech, *Efficient Electrification*. Chapman’s address underscored how new efficient technologies will benefit society and consumers, while also enabling continued economic growth. “It is a win-win-win outcome,” said Chapman. “Technology advances, economics, policy and environmental drivers will lead to increased adoption of electric end-use technologies replacing their fossil fuel equivalents.”

Dairyland Chief Financial and Administrative Officer (CFO/CAO) Phil Moilien provided a 2017



Board directors, staff, and member delegates representing Vernon Electric Cooperative attending Dairyland Power Cooperative’s 77th Annual Meeting: from l to r, Bill Anderson, Alan Berg, Bernadine Hornby, Richard Nemeč, Joe McDonald, Craig Buros, Dan Hofslie, Dave Dregne, Steve Woodhouse, John LaDue, Orlan Bakkum, Dave Olson, Dan Korn, Tom Erb, and Scott Yaun. Mark Cade, and Dave Maxwell, not pictured.

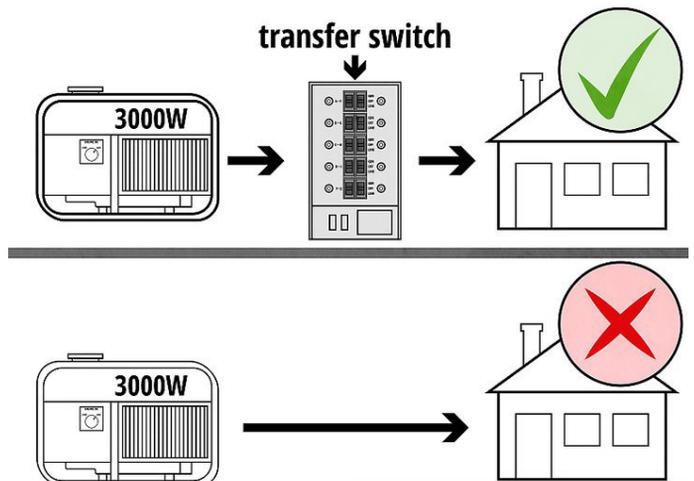
Financial Report: “I’m pleased to report that Dairyland is financially strong and stable. We remain in alignment with our Strategic Priority of maintaining and enhancing financial strength, which must be balanced with maintaining competitive rates and service.

“2017 total margins were \$27 million, compared to 2016 margins of \$23.1 million. Dairyland’s net generation and purchased power totals were up slightly at 6 billion kilowatt-hours (kWh), compared to 5.7 billion kWh in 2016. Class A member loads [includes Vernon Electric Co-op] had a slight increase to 4.9 billion kWh from 4.8 billion kWh. Total operating revenues for 2017 increased to \$441.4 million, compared to \$414.8 million in 2016, due to increased sales to our Class A members and higher market prices.”

Prepare for Storms, But Avoid Tragic Accidents

Vernon Electric Cooperative supplies electric service through a utility transformer at your location. The transformer steps the current down from 7,200 volts to the 120/240 volts needed by your appliances and household equipment. When you run a standby generator without a double-throw switch installed on your system, it is possible to feed 120-volt current back into the transformer. The transformer then steps it up to 7,200 volts, potentially giving a lethal shock to anyone who is trying to repair a damaged power line or is otherwise in contact with the power line or something it is touching, for instance, a fence.

Please consider the safety of our line workers, your family, your neighbors and their children. Have your standby generator installed by a licensed electrician.



WIKI How to Connect a Portable Generator to a House

Do The SUMMER SHIFT

- Set your thermostat to 78 degrees between 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.
- Utilize a programmable thermostat to do the “Summer Shift” for you.

Have a Happy and SAFE 4th of July!