

## Manager's message: Join us at the Annual Meeting!



One of our biggest events of the year is coming up when KEM Electric will host our annual meeting for you, the members

we proudly serve. I always look forward to this event because it's a great opportunity for me and our employees to talk with our members and hear what's on their minds.

We hope you'll join us for the annual meeting, which will take place on June 15 in Napoleon. We thank you in advance for getting involved

because your participation means so much to us.

During the annual meeting, we'll share a few brief business updates as well as having a lot of fun too! We'll have, tasty food from and of course – prizes!

Spending time with you and hearing your take on our community's energy future is so important to us. In fact, it's essential because everything we do is shaped by the members of our community. As we navigate major changes in the coming years, we need to hear from you and your neighbors to inform our planning as we strive to meet the long-term needs of all KEM Electric members.

Every year, we invest funds to

make updates to our local system, which helps maintain reliability and grid resilience. Think of it this way: every time you pay your electric bill, you're actually investing in your local area because all the money we take in stays here. By making these investments in our local system, we can ensure you have reliable power for everyday life.

We hope you'll exercise the benefits of your co-op membership and join us for the annual meeting on June 15. We look forward to seeing you!

-Jason Bentz



KEM Electric will award two, **\$500 Luck of the Draw scholarships** to be drawn at our annual meeting on June 15 in Napoleon. Learn more in this month's issue of *North Dakota Living*.

### OFFICERS

Chair.....Victor "Chuck" Wald  
Vice Chair..... John Beck  
Secretary-Treasurer.....Carter Vander Wal

### DIRECTORS:

Dean Dewald • Dean Hummel  
Carmen Essig • Neil Meidinger

### CO-GENERAL MANAGERS/CEOS:

Travis Kupper  
Jason Bentz

## SAFETY STARTS WITH ME

Kevin  
Foreman



### Safety Starts With ME: Down and Dangerous

If you see a downed power line, always assume it is energized and dangerous. Avoid going near it or anything in contact with the powerline.

If you are in an accident with a utility pole, your vehicle may be charged with electricity. If this is the case and you step out of the car, you will become the electricity's path to the ground and could be electrocuted. Loose wires and other equipment may be in contact with your car or near it—creating a risk for electrocution if you leave the vehicle.

“While downed lines can sometimes reveal they are live by arcing and sparking with electricity, this is not always the case. Power lines do not always show signs that they are live, but they are just as lethal,” said Kevin Horner, Foreman at KEM Electric.

After an accident, stay in the car, and tell others to do the same. If you come upon an accident or see downed power lines, do not approach the accident scene. If you see someone approaching, warn them to stay away as it energizes the ground up to 35 feet away. Call 911 to notify emergency personnel and utility services. Do not leave your vehicle until a utility professional has told you it is safe to do so.

If you're in an accident, the safest place to be is almost always inside the car. The only circumstance when you should exit the vehicle is if it is on fire—and those instances are rare. If you must exit the vehicle, jump clear of it with your feet together and without touching the vehicle and ground at the same time. Continue to “bunny hop” with your feet together to safety. Doing this will ensure that you are at only one point of contact and will not have different strengths of electric current running from one foot to another, which can be deadly.

If Horner, could give members one piece of advice it would be, “Always stay away from downed powerlines, as they can be very dangerous.”

### Explore it, Adore it, and SAVE!

In partnership with the Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation, KEM Electric Cooperative is once again making excursions to Medora more affordable for families.

This summer, our members are eligible for a 15-percent discount off the following reservations:

- Tickets to the Medora Musical
- Pitchfork Steak Fondue
- Gospel Brunch Tickets
- Bully Pulpit Golf Course
- Old Town Theater shows
- Lodging at the Badlands Motel, Elkhorn Quarters, Rough Riders Hotel

and Medora Campground

Touchstone Energy members can use the code “TOUCH2023” for the discount. The code is good for reservations by phone, website or in-person.

**POWER**  
FOR GENERATIONS

**SEE YOU AT THE ANNUAL MEETING**

JOIN KEM ELECTRIC FOR YOUR ANNUAL MEETING ON  
**THURSDAY, JUNE 15, 2023**  
NAPOLEON, NORTH DAKOTA

### Attend KEM Electric's Annual Meeting

The annual meeting is a special time for co-op members to gather, share experiences, hear from co-op leadership and, perhaps most importantly, vote to elect your new board members. Join KEM Electric Cooperative for the 2023 annual meeting, which will be held at 7 p.m. on June 15 in Napoleon, North Dakota at the American Legion Barry-Hoof Post #72.

KEM employees work hard to host this fun event, and we encourage you to attend and exercise some of the many rights you have as a member of an electric cooperative. We know the food, entertainment, and prizes are the best parts of the meeting, but there is so much more to the event.

Read more about KEM Electric's annual meeting in this month's issue of *North Dakota Living*.