

- Poster contest winners
- Annual meeting June 15
- Q&A on electric vehicles



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% discount on the following reservations:

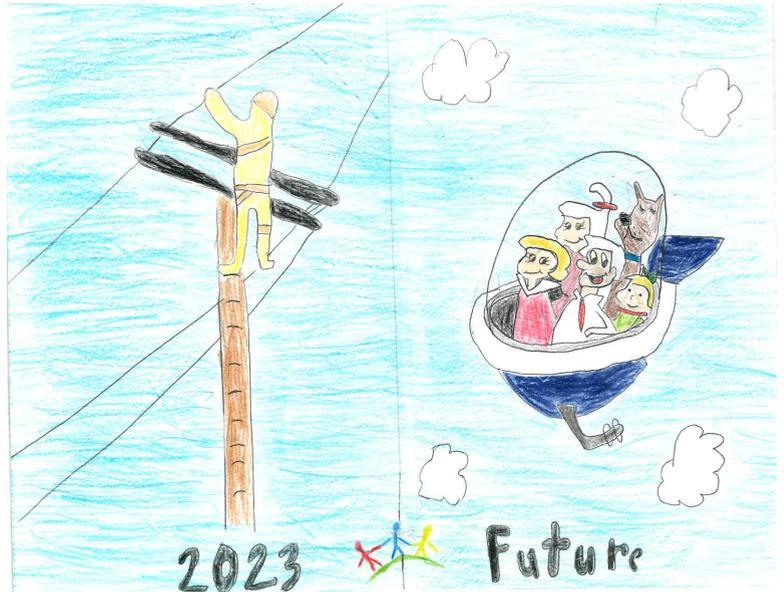
- Tickets to the Medora Musical
- Pitchfork Steak Fondue
- Gospel Brunch tickets
- Bully Pulpit Golf Course
- Old Town Theater shows
- Lodging at the Badlands Motel, Elkhorn Quarters, Rough Riders Hotel and Medora Campground

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

Congratulations to the City of Wishek on your 125 Anniversary!
KEM Electric wishes you a joyous celebration!



Winner, Megan Van Beek's artwork.



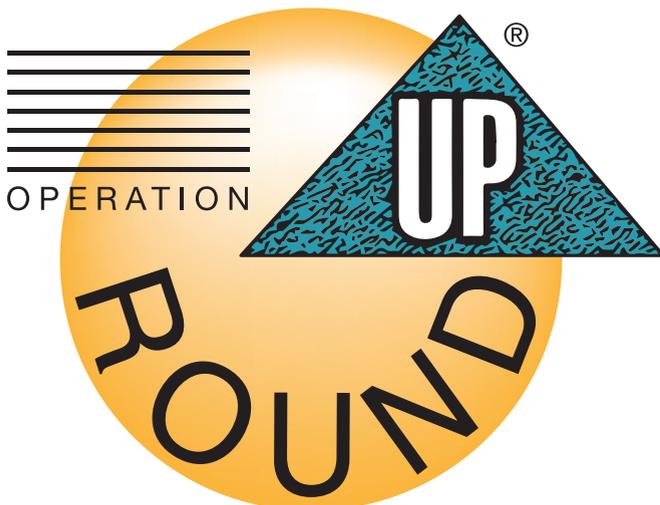
Winner, Shonda Haak's artwork.

Annual poster contest winners announced

KEM Electric Cooperative continues to receive a strong message from children in the area, as posters were received for the annual poster coloring contest.

Students were instructed to concentrate on KEM Electric's annual meeting theme: Power for Generations.

The winners included Megan Van Beek, daughter of Rick and Donna Van Beek from Strasburg, and Shonda Haak, daughter of Steve and Sherri Haak from Hague. ⚡



Operation Round Up deadline approaching!

Our members who participate in Operation Round Up, "round up" their bills to the nearest dollar and that amount is donated to local charities in our service area. All funds stay in the community to benefit the members of KEM Electric Cooperative.

The deadline for applications is June 30. For more information visit: www.kemelectric.com/operation-round-grant-application. ⚡

KEM ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE INC. Linton, ND

OFFICIAL NOTICE OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS

The annual meeting of the members of KEM Electric Cooperative Inc. will be held at the American Legion Barry-Hoof Post 72, Napoleon, at 7 p.m. CT on Thursday, June 15, to take action on the following matters:

1. Election of three directors

In connection with the election of three directors scheduled to be held at this meeting, the following members have been nominated for director by petition, which is in accordance with the bylaws of the cooperative:

District 4

Victor J Wald, Napoleon

District 5

Dean Dewald, Dawson

District-at-Large

Carmen Essig, Lehr

2. For the transaction of such other and further business that may come before the meeting or any adjournment or adjournments thereof.

3. The board of directors of KEM Electric Cooperative Inc. is proposing one amendment to cooperative bylaws.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO BYLAWS OF KEM ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE:

The board of directors of KEM Electric Cooperative Inc. is proposing an amendment to cooperative bylaws.

In 2022, the cooperative members approved an amendment to bylaw 306. That amendment allows electronic voting by cooperative members when so ordered by the board of directors. The proposed amendment to bylaw 404 changes the timing set out in the petition process. This will facilitate electronic voting.

Currently, nominating petitions are to be filed at the cooperative offices not less than 45 days prior to the date of the annual meeting. Petitions are not to be signed more than 90 days prior to

the date petitions must be filed. The proposed amendment provides that petitions must be filed not less than 90 days prior to the meeting date and petitions are not to be signed more than 60 days prior to the date petitions must be filed.

Proposed bylaw amendment:

404 Member Petition – Form

(a) Each petition shall contain the following:

1. The name of the member nominee.

2. The director position for which the member nominee shall run.

3. The printed names, addresses and telephone numbers, date of signature, and original signatures of each member signing the petition.

4. At least 10 signatures of the members of the respective district, or members at-large, as the case may be.

(b) In the case of joint members, the signature of one or more than one joint member shall constitute one joint signature.

(c) Firms, associations, corporations or body politics shall have the right to place one signature on a petition, the same as other members, by the signature of a duly appointed representative.

(d) Petitions may not be circulated or signed more than 90 60 days before the date when petitions must be filed pursuant to this bylaw. Any signature to a nominating petition obtained more than 90 60 days before that date may not be counted.

(e) All petitions must be filed at the principal offices of the cooperative not less than 45 90 days prior to the date of the meeting of the members, as fixed by the board of directors.

(f) After verifying that a petition complies with this bylaw, the secretary of the board of directors shall post a list of nominations for directors at the principal office of the cooperative at least 30 60 days before the meeting of the members.

This notice is given pursuant to bylaw 1401 of the bylaws of KEM Electric Cooperative Inc. ⚡

MANAGER'S MESSAGE:

Get involved! Join us at the annual meeting



Jason Bentz

One of our biggest events of the year is coming up when KEM Electric Cooperative 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 and have a lot of fun, too. We'll have tasty food and 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! ⚡



Your co-op, your vote

As a member of the community, you have a perspective that is valuable, and we invite you to share it with the co-op.

At our annual meeting – which will be held June 15 – co-op leaders will discuss priorities and challenges, and discuss the financial health and priorities for the coming years. The annual meeting is also the time to vote for new board members who will represent you, the members of the co-op. Board members are local members, just like you. If you don't vote, you're not only missing the opportunity to support a candidate that shares your views and concerns, but you're also allowing others to chart a course that impacts your future.

KEM Electric wants to ensure your voice can be heard, even if you are unable to attend the

annual meeting. That's why the KEM Electric board decided to use voting online or by mail this year, to make voting and having your voice heard even easier.

What can you expect?

As in the past, your cooperative will continue to offer the opportunity to vote in person at the annual meeting. KEM Electric has added a second option for members to vote online and by mail, making it even easier for your voice to be heard. KEM Electric will be utilizing a third party vendor to handle mail-in ballots to ensure security and member anonymity.

Members should have received a voting packet in late May with voting instructions. ⚡



High School seniors: Attend annual meeting for a chance to win \$500!

KEM Electric Cooperative will award two, \$500 luck-of-the-draw scholarships to be drawn at our annual meeting on June 15 in Napoleon. All high school seniors who have not been previously awarded a scholarship and whose

parents/guardians are members of KEM Electric are eligible for this scholarship. Students must attend our annual meeting with at least one parent/guardian and are required to RSVP for the meeting. ⚡

Luck-of-the-Draw Scholarship Application

My parent(s)/guardian(s) are members of KEM Electric

**LUCK OF THE
DRAW
SCHOLARSHIP**

Name: _____ Account # _____

Address: _____

Email address: _____

Phone #: _____

College attending: _____

High school: _____

Signature: _____ Date _____



**Return to: KEM Electric Cooperative ■ 107 S. Broadway / P.O. Box 790 ■ email: info@kemelectric.com
Linton, ND 58552-0790 ■ by June 13, 2023**

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 power line.

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, a foreman at KEM Electric Cooperative.

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 a downed power line 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 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 power lines, as they can be very dangerous." ⚡

Coming to a town near you!



KEM Electric Cooperative wants to meet our members where they are, so we have some new and exciting things to come in 2023! Follow us on social media and be on the lookout for some future popup events!



Q&A on electric vehicles

You've likely heard or read that most automakers are transitioning many or all of their new vehicles to electric-only models over the next 10 years. Regardless of the type of car you drive today, the electrification of the transportation sector is underway.

As we receive inquiries about electric vehicles from KEM Electric Cooperative members, we thought it would be helpful to respond to some of those frequently asked questions in this month's issue of *North Dakota Living*.

Q: Why is KEM communicating about electric vehicles?

A: It's no secret that consumer interest in electric vehicles (EVs) is growing, and KEM Electric is providing information about EVs so our members can make informed decisions when considering an EV purchase.

Q: Can I charge my EV using an existing outlet or do I need a special outlet?

A: All EVs come with a 110-volt-compatible (Level 1) charging unit, which can be plugged into any standard household outlet. For an eight-hour overnight charge, this will enable traveling 36 to 40 miles a day. If you typically drive longer distances or are in a hurry, a Level 2 charger takes about half the time and provides about 180 miles of range over an eight-hour charging period. A Level 2 charger must be installed by a licensed electrician.

Q: Does the outside temperature affect the range of an EV?

A: Outside temperatures, particularly colder weather, can impact the range of an EV. Unlike a gas-powered vehicle, where the heat is mostly coming from the engine, an EV must produce

cabin heat and manage an optimal battery temperature with energy that comes from the battery, which can reduce battery range.

Q: Should I let my co-op know if I plan to purchase an EV?

A: If you plan to purchase an EV, please let us know so we can better serve you. As more members look to purchase an EV, KEM Electric must ensure we have the necessary electric infrastructure in place to meet future EV charging needs, without jeopardizing the ability to keep reliable power flowing to our local homes and businesses.

As your local energy provider, KEM Electric is best suited to advise and help our members and local businesses plan for the electric vehicle future.

Please reach out to KEM Electric before purchasing a charger, as it could have a large impact on your electric bill and may not be supported by KEM Electric's existing infrastructure. ⚡

BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

- Approved the March 27 Board Minutes.
- Approved Agenda.
- Heard co-general manager/CEO Report
- Updates were given on Cooperative Family Fund and Grid Resilience and Innovation Partnership (GRIP) projects.
- Heard financial report
- Heard operation report
- Heard manager of member relation report



KEM ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE INC.

DIRECTORS:

Victor Wald, ChairmanNapoleon
 John Beck, Vice ChairmanLinton
 Carter Vander Wal, Sec.-Treas. Pollock
 Dean Dewald, Director..... Dawson
 Carmen Essig, Director.....Lehr
 Dean Hummel, Director..... Hague
 Neil Meidinger, Director Zeeland

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

MANAGEMENT:

Travis Kupper Co-GM/CEO
 Jason Bentz..... Co-GM/CEO

**Report outages to the following toll-free number:
 800-472-2673**

Hazleton, Linton and Strasburg exchanges' phone number: 701-254-4666

FIND US ON:



OFFICE HOURS:

Monday through Friday,
 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Website: kemelectric.com / Email address: info@kemelectric.com