



James Anderson
General Manager

YOUR RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

With our 81st annual meeting fast approaching on a new date, April 27, at the Ladysmith High School, with a dinner immediately following, it's a good time to think about your rights, responsibilities, and the expectations of your elected directors. Democratic control is one of the Seven Cooperative Principles that JREC operates by.

Rights of Members JREC members have many rights, the most important of which are as follows: Adopt and amend the articles of incorporation and bylaws; elect and, if necessary, remove directors; require officers, directors, and other agents to comply with the law, its articles of incorporation, bylaws, and membership contracts; hold directors and officers liable for damage injurious to members; and examine annual reports and monthly meeting minutes as published in the *WECN* magazine and the JREC website.

Responsibilities of Members While members are granted various rights, they are also charged with several responsibilities. Members must be informed about their cooperative. They must know what the cooperative is, what it can do for them, its purpose, objectives, policies, and the issues it faces. Members obtain information through annual reports and other communications, and by talking to the manager and directors. To effectively exercise their right of ownership, members need a good understanding of JREC's present situation and projected operations. JREC counts on the monthly *WECN* magazine to get important information about the co-op into the hands of members. This provides our members with vital information on current projects and concerns at JREC as well as other information. JREC also keeps its members informed through the website, social media, bill messages and inserts, and direct mail throughout the year.

Members are responsible for reading, understanding, adopting, and amending articles of incorporation and bylaws. Before voting to approve bylaw amendments, members need to determine how the amendments will affect the cooperative. JREC relies on our Rules and Resolutions Committee, made up of members and not directors, to review each proposed bylaw with legal counsel, and members should consider their recommendations as the committee has reviewed these proposed changes or additions in depth.

Responsibilities of Electing a Director Although the cooperative is a democratically controlled form of business, members cannot make decisions. Elected directors are entrusted to make these decisions. Members select individuals from among their peers with the best judgment and business management skills to represent them on the cooperative's board of directors. Electing a representational board of directors is one of the most important of all member responsibilities. Once

elected, the board of directors decides what the co-op will do.

The manager and staff carry out the direction of the board. For many electric cooperatives, it can be difficult to replace directors as openings occur. Serving as a director for JREC is a very important job—one that can be extremely challenging, requiring a lot of hard work and commitment. Many of our member-owners are just not interested in becoming a director, and others say they would be happy to serve if asked.

Directors must consider the membership and put aside their own personal feelings as they make important decisions for JREC. It is up to the membership to make sure each director is performing in the best interest of JREC members. Members should evaluate each current director who is up for re-election based on his or her performance and representation of the cooperative as part of the election process.

Member Interaction with Directors, Staff, and Speakers

By attending the JREC annual meeting, which is open to all members, members can hear an update from the board president, CEO, finance manager, operations, auditor, and other staff about the financial health as well as projects, issues, and concerns of the co-op. The JREC annual meeting lets our members know about the co-op's past year's performance, and looks ahead to the new year. The JREC annual meeting is also the members' opportunity to ask questions that concern them, as the meeting provides direct access to the board of directors, the CEO, and other key staff members.

Together We Make it Work

To be a meaningful and useful organization, JREC must have members who understand it, and take their rights and responsibilities seriously. If we cannot encourage our members to be active participants by serving as directors, serving on committees, attending our annual meeting, etc., we will be left with members who do not understand how the cooperative works. It takes all of us—members, directors, management, and employees—working as a team to make JREC successful.

UPCOMING DEADLINES

Petition for Director Nomination and Resolution deadlines – February 26

Anyone wanting to run for a director position needs to submit the Petition for Director Nomination according to the requirements by February 26. The petitions were mailed to each active member residing in the three districts up for election (Districts 2, 7, and 8) in early January.

February 26 is also the deadline for submission of proposed resolutions. This will permit the Rules & Resolution Committee adequate time to consider the resolution and to obtain any additional information needed to make an informed decision.





PUT MONEY BACK IN YOUR POCKET THROUGH THE ENERGY SENSE PROGRAM

We all like to find ways to save money, especially when you are dealing with higher ticketed items like appliances. Look no further, as the Energy Sense rebate program is one way we can help you do just that—save money!

If you purchase new energy efficient appliances, lighting, or take measures to reduce your energy consumption this year,

check and see if you qualify for one of our energy rebates. To qualify, you must purchase and/or install the item in 2019. Full details of all rebates available, rebate forms, criteria, and documentation requirements can be found online at jrec.com. Some of these incentives/rebates can be found on the below list. Incentives and rebates are subject to change without notice.

2019 Energy Sense Incentives



All incentive eligibility criteria for each measure can be found online at www.jre.com or call 715-532-5524 or 715-634-4575.

Agricultural/Commercial/Industrial			
Circulation Fan	Fans under 36" must be ≥ 18 pounds force/kW Fans 36" & over must be ≥ 21 pounds force/kW	\$1	inch
Exhaust Fan	Fans under 36" must be ≥ 18 cfm/watt @ 0.05" SP Fans 36" and over must be ≥ 21 cfm/watt @ 0.05" SP	\$1	inch
Electric Forklift Battery Charger	Must be "controlled" as defined by cooperative	\$200	each
Dairy Plate Cooler / Well Water Pre-Cooler		\$500	each
Dairy Refrigeration Heat Recovery with Electric Backup	Used with controlled electric water heater	\$300	each
Low/Zero Energy Livestock Waterer	500 watts or less, insulated tank	\$50	each
Scroll Refrigerant Compressor	\$1,000 cap per compressor	\$30	HP
Variable Frequency Drive (VFD)	\$1,000 cap per drive; minimum of 1 HP	\$30	HP
Electric Appliances			
Clothes Dryer	Must be ENERGY STAR, must be electric	\$25	each
Clothes Dryer – Heat Pump		\$50	each
Clothes Washer	Must be ENERGY STAR	\$100	each
Dehumidifier	Must be ENERGY STAR	\$25	each
Dishwasher	Must be ENERGY STAR	\$50	each
Refrigerator	Must be ENERGY STAR ≥ 10 cubic ft.	\$100	each
Recycling – Freezer	Must be working appliance	\$25	each
Recycling – Refrigerator	Must be working appliance	\$25	each
Recycling – Room Air Conditioner	Must be working appliance	\$25	each
Audits/Assessments			
Home Energy Audit		\$150	
Audit Recommended Improvements	20% of cost of measures implemented, \$500 cap	varies	each
Compressed Air Audit	20% of cost of audit, \$500 cap	varies	each
Conservation			
Electric Vehicle Charging Station	Must be "controlled" as defined by cooperative; Capped @ cost	\$200	each
Flow Restrictor – Faucet	1.5 GPM or less; Capped at 20% of cost	\$1	each
Flow Restrictor – Shower	2.5 GPM or less; Capped at 20% of cost	\$5	each
HVAC			
Heat Pump – Air Source & Mini-Split	SEER 14+, HSPF 8.2+, or EER 11+	\$200	ton
Heat Pump – Commercial Air Source & PTHPs	Less than 20 tons: EER 11+; 20 to less than 60 tons: EER 10.5+ ; Greater than or equal to 60 ton: EER 10+	\$200	ton
Heat Pump – Geothermal		\$400	ton
New Furnace with ECM Blower Motor	Variable speed motor (not multi-speed) "or" AFUE $\geq 95\%$ & Eae ≤ 670 kWh/year	\$35	each
Lighting			
LED Lamp (Residential)	Capped at 20% of cost; 5 lamp minimum	\$2	lamp
LED Lamp (Non-Residential)	Capped at 20% of cost; 5 lamp minimum	\$2	lamp
LED Fixture (Residential)	Capped at 20% of cost	\$1	per 800 lumens
LED Fixture (Non-Residential)	Capped at 20% of cost	\$1	per 800 lumens
LED Exit Sign	Capped at 20% of cost	\$5	sign
Occupancy Sensor	Capped at 20% of cost; doesn't include motion detector fixtures	\$5	each
Touchstone Energy® Home Program			
New Home	Must meet 1 of 5 program/code requirements	\$500	each

A BUCKET LIST MUST

If you have a bucket list and one of those items is to learn how to ski, Dave and Sue Vohs, owners of Christie Mountain, would love to help you make it happen. Christie Mountain, opened in January 1977, is nestled in the blue hills of Rusk County in Bruce. It truly is a Northwoods getaway destination for all ages.

Dave and Sue welcome your family to the hill for fun, excitement, and an experience that has been built through years of providing guests with top-notch service at an amazing value. You will find 30 ski trails for all skill levels, 26 of them lighted, along with tubing.

The facility has snow-making capabilities. They begin the season with a 20- to 40-inch base and make snow as needed throughout the season. However, you will find two trails that consist of natural snow only. The ski and tubing hills open just after Thanksgiving and tend to stay open until the third week of March, weather permitting.

Dave explained, “Christie Mountain is not only for those who want to learn to ski. Anyone wanting to have a memorable winter experience with friends and family can find it at Christie Mountain—



Dave and Sue Vohs,
owners of Christie
Mountain

ski, snowboard, or snowtubing.”

You can also find a cliff jump at Christie Mountain, which is one of a only few found in the Midwest.

Don’t know how to ski or snowboard, or feel you could use some help? No problem.

“We offer inexpensive lessons, because we want people to learn how to ski safe and the right way, so they do have fun and they can come back,” said Sue.

Qualified instructors are ready to teach you the fundamentals of skiing or snowboarding, or maybe just provide a refresher. The Ski Patrol also plays a big role in keeping you safe and assisting skiers on the hill. Over 100 volunteers make up the Christie Mountain Ski Patrol. These volunteers come from around the area and as far as Colby.

Younger skiers also can take advantage of Kinderschool, a group ski lesson designed for children between the ages

of 3 and 7. Christie Mountain also holds a Rail Jam for kids in February, with prizes donated from local organizations.

Don’t have your own ski or snowboard equipment? Again, no problem—check out the ski shop where you will find a wide variety of skis and snowboarding equipment. Sue said the equipment has changed over the years, and the new skis are shorter and make skiing easier, so it may be better to just rent your equipment when you arrive.

The Christie Mountain ski shop also offers tuning, edging, waxing, and repairs, so dust off those skis, bring them in, and enjoy a great day and/or night on the hill.

You can warm up in the cozy chalet and enjoy a snack, meal, or beverage at the snack bar. Adults can enjoy the full-service bar. That’s not all—enjoy a longer stay by renting Christie Mountain’s Northern Boundaries log cabin—available throughout the year and ▶




MY CO-OP



located on site. This cabin sleeps seven—all you need to bring are food and a toothbrush. More information can be found at Northern-BoundariesCabin.com.

Once the snow melts, you can enjoy guided rock climbing on the Christie Mountain's rugged crags. Rock climbing lessons and equipment are available—reservations are required. September brings the annual Leaf it to Rusk, with lots of events throughout the county and at Christie Mountain. Take a beautiful chairlift ride and enjoy the amazing colors of fall. New this year is the Gravel Grinder bike race.

"We want people, especially in the area, to be able to enjoy what we've got and want to come back," said Sue. She continued, "We keep the county in which we serve in mind. We also offer many specials that make it even cheaper for people to enjoy a day at the hill."

Be sure to look for more details on events, rates, hours, snow conditions, lessons, and group rates at christiemountain.com or call 715-868-7800. Christie Mountain is more than just a ski hill. Be sure to check it out and then check off that box on your bucket list. 

To learn about more seasonal fun in the area, read about the Tony Wise Museum of the American Birkebeiner in Hayward on page 24.



MULTIPLE SCHOLARSHIPS available through JREC

Jump River Electric Cooperative is again offering two \$400 scholarships (per school) to graduating seniors who attend one of the 11 area high schools and whose parents or guardians are active members of JREC. See your guidance counselor for details and an application.

These same high school students, along with non-traditional (at-large) students who are active members wishing to continue their education, can also apply for either of these two \$500 scholarships:

1. **LCO Community College Scholarship** – student must attend this college
2. **Lineworker Scholarship** – student must attend a one-year Electric Power Distribution/Line-worker post-secondary vocational school

We are not done yet! JREC will also award two more \$500 scholarships to non-traditional (at-large) members wishing to continue their education. Applications can be found online at jrec.com or picked one up at our offices. Deadlines vary by school and application type.



Stocking Winners: Wide-eyed joy tends to be the first reaction from each child when they realize the entire stocking, full of toys, is for them. This year's winners are shown above. Left to right: Alexander, 2, of Sheldon (right), with JREC CEO Jim Anderson; Nina, 5, of Hayward; Naomi, 7, of Ladysmith (right), with JREC Worker Order Accountant Jessica Bingham.

James Anderson, General Manager/CEO

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After-hour emergency service, call 866-273-5111

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Denise Zimmer, Editor



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