

HIGHLINES

NEWS FOR THE MEMBERS OF PELLA COOPERATIVE ELECTRIC



Take An Active Role in PCEA's Election!

Serve on the nominating committee!

Pella Cooperative Electric Association is looking for members to serve on the nominating committee. The committee serves the membership by seeking members to run for election to the PCEA Board of Directors.

Committee members learn and follow the policies and processes of being a nominating committee member, which are found in the co-op's bylaws. The committee meets at least once between December and the April 4, 2023 Annual Meeting.

If you're interested in serving on the nominating committee or have any questions about the process, don't hesitate to call the Cooperative at 1-800-619-1040.



PCEA's 2021 Nominating Committee

Pella Cooperative Electric

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

2615 Washington St.
PO Box 106
Pella, IA 50219

1-800-619-1040
www.pella-cea.org
service@pella-cea.org



Open weekdays: 7:30 am - 4:30 pm;
excluding holidays

Board of Directors

President Duane Ver Ploeg	Asst. Secretary/Treasurer Darrell Boot
Vice President Steve Inskip	Director Carroll Hoksbergen
Secretary Bryce Arkema	Director Jon Van Woerkom
Treasurer Bob Van Soelen	CEO Doug Stewart

Pella Cooperative Electric is a not-for-profit, member-owned electric cooperative, governed by an elected Board of Directors. This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer. See pella-cea.org > Non-discrimination Statement for more information.

Honoring Our Own This Veterans Day

Friday, November 11 is a Veterans Day - a day to recognize, honor, and thank our military veterans who have served our great country. PCEA is proud to recognize three of our own employees who wore the uniform and served our country.

- Matt Ainsworth, Journeyman Lineman, served in the U.S. Marine Corps Forces Reserves from 2001-2007.
- Lance Fremel, Journeyman Lineman, served in the U.S. Marine Corps from 2003-2007.
- Brandon Stone, Plant Accountant, served in the U.S. Army from 2006-2014.

Thank you Matt, Lance, and Brandon for serving our country and to all our veterans protecting our freedoms - we honor and thank you this Veterans Day.



*"As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them."
- President John F. Kennedy*



*Journeyman Lineman
Matt Ainsworth*



*Journeyman Lineman
Lance Fremel*



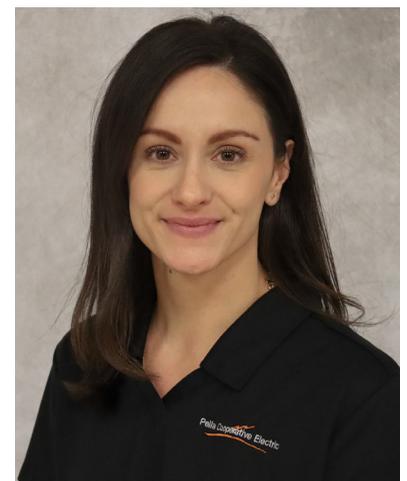
*Plant Accountant
Brandon Stone*

PCEA Welcomes Lindsey Pickerell to the Team

PCEA would like to give a warm welcome to our newest employee Lindsey Pickerell! Lindsey is our Billing Specialist and has hit the ground running. She's no stranger to the Cooperative world as she previously spent 10 years at Chariton Valley REC in Albia.

Lindsey and her husband, Tom have two children, Dylan and Hayes, and reside in Pella. We're excited to have her join our team!

Be sure to tell her hello if you find yourself in the Coop office soon. Welcome to PCEA Lindsey!



*Lindsey Pickerell
Billing Specialist*

PCEA Director Achieves Credential in Electric Utility Competencies

Jon Van Woerkom, Pella Cooperative Electric Association's (PCEA) District 1 Director recently received the Credentialed Cooperative Director (CCD) certificate from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA).

An ever-changing business environment has imposed new demands on electric cooperative directors, requiring increased knowledge of changes in the electric utility business, new governance skills, and a solid knowledge of the cooperative principles and business model. Electric cooperatives in Iowa have a commitment to work through NRECA to sharpen this body of knowledge for the benefit of their electric cooperative consumer-owners.

The NRECA CCD program requires attendance and demonstrated understanding of the basic competencies contained in five core courses:

- Director Duties and Liabilities
- Understanding the Electric Business
- Board Operations and Process
- Strategic Planning
- Financial Decision Making

NRECA represents the nation's more than 900 private, consumer-owned electric cooperatives, which provide electric service to more than 42 million people in 47 states.

Van Woerkom has been a PCEA member since 1986 and was elected as the district 1 director in 2019. He owned and operated Pella Glass & Home Improvement Inc. for 24 years before selling the business in 2020. Van Woerkom has also been a volunteer fireman in Pella for 34 years.



PCEA President (left) shaking hands with PCEA District 1 Director Jon Van Woerkom

**THE GREATEST NUMBER OF HOME-COOKING FIRES OCCUR ON
THANKSGIVING DAY**

Make sure smoke alarms work!
Test them by holding the button on the front; you should hear a loud beep to confirm the batteries are good.

Keep anything that can catch fire (oven mitts, towels, curtains, wooden utensils, etc.) away from your stovetop.

If you are simmering, baking, roasting or boiling food, check it regularly with a timer.

Remain in or near the kitchen at all times while you are cooking.

Keep children at least 3 feet away from the stove or where hot food or liquids are being prepared.

Pella Cooperative Electric
Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

*Source: International Association of Fire Fighters

The infographic features a central illustration of a woman in a red dress cooking at a stove in a kitchen. A small child in a red shirt is standing nearby. The background is a light gray with various kitchen items like a stove, oven, and cabinets. The text is arranged around the illustration, with dotted lines pointing to specific areas. The top of the infographic has a dark gray header with the title and two turkey icons. The bottom left has the Pella Cooperative Electric logo and the bottom right has the source attribution.

Stan Eysink to Retire December 30

After a 44-year career at Pella Cooperative Electric Association, Stan Eysink is hanging up his lineman gear on December 30, 2022.

Stan joined the Cooperative as summer help in 1977 at 17 years old during his senior year at Pella Community High School. Following his graduation, Stan returned to the Cooperative and was later hired as an apprentice lineman.

“Looking back when I started, I really give credit to the linemen who trained me with such patience,” remarked Stan. “I respected and admired them for showing us young guys how to do things right.”

Working his way through the on-the-job training apprenticeship, Stan later became a journeyman lineman. Around 2001, Stan also evolved his career into the Member Relations Manager, spending more time taking care of members’ concerns and new member accounts. He continued working as an on-call lineman when and where help was needed.

“I’ve really enjoyed the variety of things I’ve done over the years,” said Stan. I’ve set poles, built miles on miles of line, worked in all kinds of weather, and so many other things. It has been an honor and privilege to not only serve the fantastic PCEA membership, but to work with such a great group of fellow employees and board of directors. I look forward to coming back to visit the Cooperative often.”

CEO Doug Stewart has worked with Stan for the past 10 years and says he is excited to celebrate his retirement but he will be truly missed at the Cooperative.

“I want to congratulate Stan on an exceptional career at Pella Cooperative Electric,” remarked Stewart. “Stan’s loyalty, service, and dedication to the membership is unmatched and will be greatly missed. After the many years of hard work, Stan deserves a terrific retirement.”

According to PCEA Board President Duane Ver Ploeg, Stan has been a key influence in the growth and strength of the organization’s commitment to the mission, vision, and values across his 44-year career.

“I want to sincerely thank Stan for his service to the PCEA membership,” said Ver Ploeg. “Stan has been an integral part of the REC and his contributions will always be valued and remembered. He has been a joy to work with and will be missed.”

Pella Cooperative Electric extends a sincere thank you to Stan for his service to the membership during his career and wish him the best in his retirement. **Please join us for a retirement party open house at the PCEA office on Friday, December 16, from 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.**



*Stan Eysink
Member Relations Manager*

A festive Thanksgiving banner with an orange background. On the left, there are several pumpkins and gourds. On the right, there is a cornucopia overflowing with various autumn produce like pumpkins, gourds, and vegetables. The text is centered in white.

Happy Thanksgiving!
Our office will be closed November 24th and 25th.