# WATTS NEW

### April 2024

The 87th annual meeting and Health Fair was held at the Agriplex Building on March 7, 2024. The meeting was well attended by 182 members of the association, and 205 members and their spouses took advantage of the health fair. Complimentary blood draws and blood pressure checks were also offered to members. The 4-H Leadership Board provided a delicious luncheon for the Wheatland REA members. Directors Sandra Hranchak and Robert Brockman ran unopposed and were elected for the two open 3-year positions for District #2 on the Wheatland REA board.

General Manager Jason Wright addressed the recent rate increase, Headquarters updates and projects completed in 2023. The changes in the billing system were also discussed.

Three employees received tenure pins this year and were presented at the annual meeting to employees for their years of service - General Foreman Jared Call (20 years), Journeyman Lineman Chuck Hiatt (20 years) and Apprentice Meter Technician Poston Anderson (5 years).

Member Services Manager AL Teel was recognized for his 41 years of service, and it was announced that he will be retiring at the end of March!

We were able to start the three-phase conversion in the Glendo area earlier than expected this year as mother nature has been cooperating with us so far. This project will bring three phase power to the North and East of the Town of Glendo, mainly serving the cabin area.

#### MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

DISCOVERY DAY IS SATURDAY MAY 4, 2024 AT THE PLATTE COUNTY FIRE TRAINING CENTER.

STARTING MAY 6, 2024 OUR SUMMER HOURS WILL BE MONDAY-THURSDAY 7:00 AM - 5:30 PM.

If you need to make a payment arrangement or want to inquire about energy assistance programs, we are here to help you with that. If you are struggling with a high bill and want to discuss options please give us a call 307-322-2125.

#### **Rebates**

Wheatland REA offers rebates! Here are some of the items: Heat pumps, clothes dryers, induction cooktops, LED lamps or fixtures, refrigerator and/or freezer recycling, outdoor electric power equipment, commercial and industrial electric motors. Don't forget to always look for the Energy Star! Rebates must be submitted within 90 days of installation. Call (307) 322-2125 for more information!

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Wheatland REA 2154 South St. Wheatland, WY 82201 (307) 322-2125 (800) 344-3351

#### **Board of Directors**

Robert Brockman, President (307) 331-0909

Amy Miller, Vice President (307) 331-0821

Jack Finnerty, Secretary/Treasurer (307) 331-2100

Sandra Hranchak, Director (307) 331-8918

Doug Smialek, Director (303) 968-7435



Did you know?

On May 4, 1941 an annual meeting was held at the Masonic Temple. Everyone received a light bulb!

#### With the start of the farming here are a few things to remember:

• Start each morning by planning your day's work. Know what jobs will happen near power lines and have a plan to keep the assigned workers safe.

• Keep yourself and equipment at least 10 feet away from power lines in all directions, at all times. Use a spotter when moving tall equipment and loads.

• Use care when raising augers or the bed of a grain truck. It can be difficult to estimate distance, and sometimes, a power line is closer than it looks. Use a spotter to make certain you stay far away from power lines.

• Always lower equipment extensions, portable augers, or elevators to their lowest possible level, under 14 feet, before moving or transporting them. Wind, uneven ground, shifting weight, or other conditions can cause you to lose control of equipment and make contact with power lines.

• Be aware of increased height when loading and transporting larger modern tractors with higher antennas.

• Never attempt to raise or move a power line to clear a path. If power lines near your property have sagged over time, call your utility to repair them.

• Don't use metal poles when breaking up bridged grain inside and around bins.

Electrical work around the farm can pose hazards. Often, the need for an electrical repair comes when a farmer has been working long hours and is fatigued. At such times, it's best to step back and wait until you've rested.

## Strawberry Shortcake Ingredients:

- 2/3 cup sugar
- 1/4 cup shortening
- 1 large egg, room temperature
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1-1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/2 cup whole milk
- 1 cup heavy whipping cream, whipped
- 1-1/2 quarts fresh or frozen strawberries, sliced

**Directions:** In a bowl, cream sugar and shortening. Add egg and vanilla; beat well. Combine dry ingredients and add alternately with milk to the creamed mixture. Spread in a greased 9-in. square baking pan. Bake at 350° for 20-25 minutes. Cool on wire rack. Cut into nine servings. Split each serving horizontally and fill with whipped cream and strawberries. Replace top of cake; garnish with a dollop of whipped cream and more berries. Serve immediately.

We'd love to try your tried and true recipes if you'd like to share! Please submit them to a.baker@wheatlandrea.com

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