

August 2001

Our 48th year



NORTH DAKOTA



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**CO-OPS
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NORTH DAKOTA REC RTC MAGAZINE



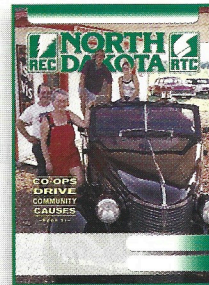
What's inside
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Our mission is to convey the power of human connections created through electric cooperatives and telephone cooperatives, doing so as part of an outstanding reading experience about North Dakota.

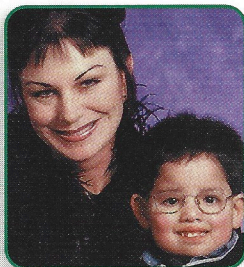
Our cover

11 Electric co-ops drive community causes

Pioneer Auto Club members Tom and Cherie Freidt and their kids, Tabis and Trisha, Mandan, are pictured next to their beautifully restored 1938 Chevy Cabriolet. The Pioneer Auto Club was a recipient of an Operation Round Up grant from Capital Electric Cooperative consumers. This grant, generated from pennies collected from consumers choosing to round up their electric bills, will help restore a historic North Dakota building to house a collection of 13,700 auto parts and tools at Buckstop Junction in Bismarck. This is one of several causes benefiting from North Dakota's family of electric cooperatives' commitment to communities. Turn to page 11 for more examples of how co-ops are devoted to the communities and people they serve. Our cover photo this month was snapped by Layn Mudder, a photographer from Mandan.

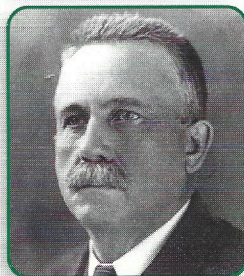


Features



16 Carlsen school celebrates 60 years

Since opening its doors in 1941, the Anne Carlsen Center in Jamestown has provided educational and personal needs for children with physical, mental and developmental disabilities. To celebrate the school's 60 years of dedicated and devoted service to youth, a celebration will take place in late August. Part of the celebration includes a benefit concert by acclaimed pianist Lorie (pictured at left) and her Pop Chamber Orchestra.



18 Oscar H. Will: N.D. seed developer

A native of New York, Oscar H. Will came to North Dakota in 1881 to fulfill his dream of developing seed varieties for his seed company in Bismarck. From flowers and fruit trees, to grasses and grains, learn how Will introduced seedlings that adapted to the Northern Plains environment.

For your local electric co-op's news, go to the CENTER PAGES!

Don't forget to read about what's happening at your electric co-op, by turning to the center pages found, you guessed it, in the CENTER of your North Dakota REC/RTC Magazine!

There, you'll find all kinds of information on services and programs offered by your electric co-op, who provides you with safe and reliable power.

Check out the CENTER PAGES and connect with your power provider!

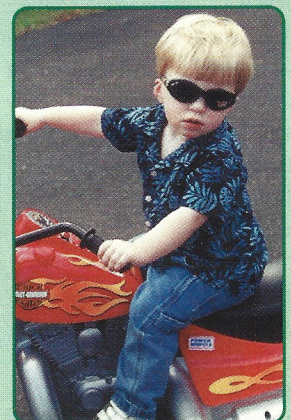
Touchstone Energy®
The power of human connections



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Shades of summer

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Steve Ellefson (right), a Pioneer Auto Club member and owner of the 1936 Ford cabriolet pictured, says the club will use a \$2,500 Operation Round Up grant from Capital Electric Cooperative members to help relocate and restore a historic building. Capital Electric manager, Lars Nygren (left), says since 1997, Capital Electric members have contributed \$128,000 through Operation Round Up. (Photo by Dana Rae Anderson)



"Those are pennies you or I would probably never miss, but when you put them together with 6,000 other people, they add up to a lot of money."

***—Gary VerDouw,
business manager,
Capital Electric Cooperative, Bismarck***

The Pioneer Auto Club has been entrusted with a historic collection which needs a home.

Collector Gene Scherer, Bismarck, has donated 13,700 auto parts and mechanic tools to the Pioneer Auto Club. Scherer has waved number 98 at auctions across the state, collecting parts ranging from pre-1920 brass carburetors to about 40 different radiator emblems.

"I thought that while I can still find some of those old parts, I'd better grab them now because in a few years, they won't be around," he says.

But now the collection, mostly from the 1910s to the 1940s, needs a home.

The Pioneer Auto Club will use a \$2,500 Operation Round Up grant from Capital Electric Cooperative members to help relocate and restore a historic North Dakota building to house the collection adjacent to Buckstop Junction in Bismarck. The building must be a minimum of 30 by 30 feet and have a link to North Dakota's past. Anyone with a possible building is encouraged to contact Darrell Goetzfried at (701) 663-2121.

The 120 club members, from across the country, have all donated to the project to create the only museum devoted solely to car parts, and they appreciate the additional Operation Round Up funds.

"You gather pennies together and pretty soon you have dollars and you can do something with those dollars," says club member Steve Ellefson, Bismarck. "This is an example of that."

Capital Electric Cooperative members have been participating in Operation Round Up since 1997. With 60 percent of the members rounding up their electric bills, the cooperative has raised \$128,000 and awarded 68 grants.

"It's not a lot of money. It's just getting a lot of folks to give a little money," says Capital Electric Cooperative manager Lars Nygren.



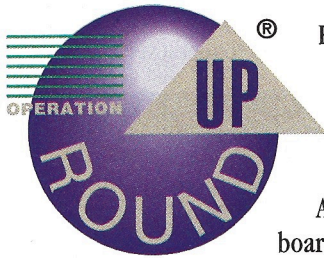
Kay and Sheldon Cartwright, Cando, will use the \$2,500 Operation Round Up grant they received from Northern Plains Electric Cooperative members to help Kay return home. (Photo by Luann Dart)

Donation assists Cando accident victim

The sky was crying the evening of Friday, Oct. 13, as Sheldon and Kay Cartwright drove from their home in Cando last year. Nine miles later, their lives changed forever.



The Pioneer Auto Club arrived in classic cars to accept a check for a new museum at Buckstop Junction in Bismarck.



Round Up funds are reviewed by a five-person board of directors, all of whom are members of Capital Electric's Member Advisory Committee. These board members are elected to serve three-year terms. The current board of directors consists of Ann Reich, Bismarck, president; Bev Vollmer, Wing, vice president; Phil McKenzie, Bismarck, secretary; Curtis Anderson, Bismarck, treasurer; and Todd Lasher, McClusky, director.

Since Operation Round Up was started at Capital Electric in

August 1997, \$117,216.04 has been awarded to 78 different individuals or organizations in need of assistance in the Capital Electric service area.

The Charitable Trust Board meets twice a year to review applications. Applications can be submitted from either individuals or organizations for Operation Round Up funds. If you would like to apply for Operation Round Up funds, contact Capital Electric for an application form.

If you currently do not participate in Operation Round Up, but would like to, please contact our office and we would be happy to set you up to participate in this most worthwhile cause. Together, we can make our pennies work to benefit our area!



Operation Round Up recipients gather for a picture.