



# HILL COUNTY ELECTRIC NEWS & VIEWS

June 2022



1.877.394.7804    
hillcountyelectric.coop

## June CEO Message



Craig Gates  
General Manager/CEO

Thank you to those of you who were able to join us on Saturday, May 14th for Hill County Electric's 77th Annual Meeting of Members. It was nice to be able to meet in person again. I also want to thank all of you who voted by mail. It is always great to see the entire membership being able to participate in the decision making of the cooperative. We were incorporated in 1945 and began providing service to our members in 1947.

Like most cooperatives, HCE was created by farmers and ranchers to enjoy the benefits of electricity and providing service to Rocky Boy starting in 1949. We all owe a big thank you to those early pioneers who had the foresight to understand the importance of bringing electricity to the rural areas HCE still serves to this day.

HCE's mission is serving our members with affordable, reliable electrical service. Membership is open to everyone in our service area and each member has a voice in how the co-op is run. Democratic control is part of the cooperative business model, and all votes are equal. The board represents you, the members, from all of HCE's service area and make decisions that will lead HCE into the future. They take this commitment seriously and as I mentioned in my Annual Meeting Notice message, all five of our Trustees have received their Board Credentials from NRECA, which shows their commitment to the cooperative.

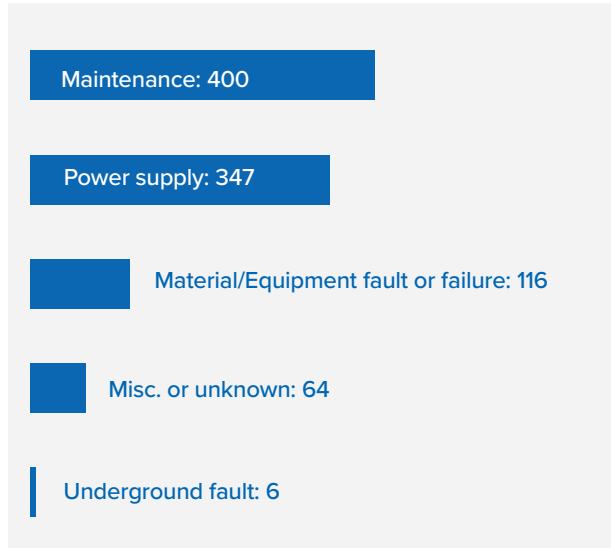


I've said it before, our linemen, electricians, office staff and management team are incredible and, in my opinion, second to none. The team works together day and night to make sure you have power year around, no matter the weather. Thank you to the HCE employees that planned and helped at the meeting. It really is a team effort by everyone!

*Note: Due to print deadlines, a complete review of the meeting will appear in next month's magazine.*

# HCE Happenings

Last month, Hill County Electric (HCE) had approximately 933 account hours affected by outages. Of these hours:



HCE CEO, Craig Gates presents Jordan Hagen with his Journeyman Lineman Certificate from the State of Montana

## Hagen Promoted to Journeyman Lineman

Hill County Electric Cooperative (HCE) congratulates Jordan Hagen on his promotion to Journeyman Lineman. Jordan completed the Pre-Apprenticeship Line Program at Montana Tech in Butte and joined the HCE crew as an Apprentice Lineman in 2019.

It takes three years to become a Journeyman Lineman. Over those three years, Jordan took 291 tests, in addition to completing 18 workbooks and closed book tests at the end of the workbooks. He also needed to complete 7,000 hours of on-the-job training broken out into 15 different categories. Once all of that was completed, Jordan was able to take the final test in Helena. The final test is a combination of a written test and showing competence in the pole yard with hands on work.

**Congratulations Jordan!**

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# Electrical Safety Checklist

Nearly half of all home fires occur during winter months. Take a few minutes to identify and correct any potential electrical hazards to ensure the safety of your home.

## SWITCHES AND OUTLETS

- **Are any switches or outlets warm to the touch?** **YES NO**  
 Warm switches or outlets indicate an unsafe wiring condition.
- **Are any outlets or switches discolored?** **YES NO**  
 Discoloration indicates dangerous heat buildup at these connections.
- **Do plugs fit snugly into outlets?** **YES NO**  
 Loose-fitting plugs can cause overheating and fires.

## CORDS


- **Are any cords cracked, frayed or damaged?** **YES NO**  
 Damaged cords can expose wires, causing shock or fire hazard.
- **Are any cords pinched by furniture or windows, or attached to anything with staples or nails?** **YES NO**  
 Pinching and/or stapling cords can damage the insulation, causing shock or fire hazard.
- **Do you use extension cords on a permanent basis?** **YES NO**  
 Extension cords should only be used temporarily.

## ELECTRICAL PANEL

- **Do you have recurring tripped circuit breakers or blown fuses?** **YES NO**  
 If yes, this could indicate you're exceeding a safe level of electrical current.
- **Do you have arc fault circuit interrupters (AFCIs)?** **YES NO**  
 AFCIs provide greater fire protection. Check your circuit breakers for the AFCI label.

Please note this is not a comprehensive safety checklist. Visit [ESFI.org](http://ESFI.org) for more information

Source: ESFI



# Swap and Shop

Welcome to our Swap and Shop! Feel free to post and find classifieds from other members!

Check out the current version online at [www.hcelectric.com/swap-and-shop](http://www.hcelectric.com/swap-and-shop). Ads submitted online are usually added within 2 to 3 business days. Due to print deadlines and space available, some ads may appear in the next magazine.

*\*Indicates photo available on our website version.*

## Wanting to Buy

Looking for an older pull-type camper for storage. Call 406.390.2276.

## Wanting To Buy

Looking for ornate hot water (heating) radiators, height of 30" or less. Call 540.624.0502.

## GM Muncie Transmission\*

GM Muncie 4-speed transmission with Hurst shifter linkage. Was coupled to HP 327 SBC engine, splines, gears, etc. In great condition, more information and photos are available. Asking \$1,200 OBO, call 540.624.0502.

## Antique Hot Water Radiators\*

Two antique hot water radiators from a working system. Under window sizes, one without legs. \$150 each, call 540.624.0502.

## John Deere Combine For Sale

1979 John Deere 6600 Combine with 22-foot header and 3424 hours. Good tires, clean, runs well and includes lots of extra parts. Call 406.355.4479.

## Tractor Accessories For Sale

Selling 3-point blade, 3-point chisel and 3-point dirt bucket for a small Dearborn tractor. Also a small 4M tractor for sale for parts. Call 406.670.9818 for pricing.

## Antique Crib

For Sale 1950's 6-year-old size baby crib. Call 406.378.2152.

## 2003 Honda Road Bike Honda VTX1800

Motorcycle includes windshield, backrest, storage tote and engine guard/footrest. Red in color, in excellent condition. Low mileage, stored in garage and covered, carefully ridden. For more information and pricing, call 406.378.2484 and ask for Paul.

## Air Nailer For Sale

Tools Stanley Air Nailer and nails. Asking \$120, call 406.220.3225.

## 2021 Puma Camper For Sale

2021 Puma Toyhauler, 25-TFC XLE Lite, sleeps up to 8 with lots of extras. Anti-sway hitch, rear camera, extra battery, plus more. Can haul two 4-wheelers. Asking \$25,000, call 406.220.3225.

## Flex-Coil Air Drill For Sale

57-foot Flex-Coil air drill, 3450 cart. Call Jim at 406.376.3215.

## Front End Loaders For Sale

Westendorf TA45 Loader with quick attach 7 ft. bucket and quick attach Bale Spear, JD Mounts. Also selling a Leon Loader with 7 ft. Bucket, International Harvester mounts. Call 406.398.5330.

## Versatile Tractors For Sale

850 Versatile, \$6,500 OBO and 145 Versatile \$2,500 OBO, call 406.355.4298.

## Wanting to Buy

Looking to buy 1955 to 1959 Chevy car or pickup to restore or driveable, call 406.326.2287

## 221 Singer Featherweight Sewing Machine

221 Singer Featherweight Sewing machine with attachments. Call 406.353.2934 for more information and pricing.

## Flexcoil Sprayer\*

67XL Flexcoil sprayer 113'. New 14.9-38 tires, double nozzle, 1,500-gallon tank, tons of extra parts plus good windshields. Great windproof sprayer, asking \$9,000. Call 406.945.0905.

## Miscellaneous For Sale\*

110-volt seed treater and a wheat heart 8-inch drag auger. Call 406.945.0905 for pricing and more information.

## 1973 Chevy Camper Special

Rebuilt 454 motor. TH400 transmission less with less than 1000 miles on rebuilt motor and transmission, 7200 lb. GVW. Asking \$1,000, call 406-547-2184.

Swap & Shop is a classified advertising section of the Triangle Communications and Hill County Electric websites and newsletters. It is maintained as a service to customers and communities wanting to buy, sell and announce non-commercial items. To have an ad included, simply enter all the pertinent information on the online form. An administrator will review the information within two business days and if approved, the ad will then appear. It will stay online for 60 days unless you notify us to remove or change it. It will also appear in any of the newsletters printed during that 60 day window. Triangle reserves the right to abbreviate ads and if the section is full, we will display ads on a first come, first-served basis. If you're unable to enter your ad online you may mail or e-mail it to us using the contact info inside the front cover of this magazine. Happy swapping and shopping.