

SPRING 2023

"My grandfather used to say that once in your life you need a doctor, a lawyer, a policeman, and a preacher. But every day, three times a day, you need a farmer."

—Brenda Schoepp



CENTRAL REGION COOPERATIVE



NATE GIESEKE
CEO/GENERAL MANAGER

Your Farm, Your Cooperative

The USDA has made the statement that the 2022 crop year was the most profitable year in agriculture since the early 1970s. With escalated commodity prices for an entire growing season and the ability to lock in economical input costs, I can understand why producer net incomes are some of the highest in the past 50 years. Even with a couple of profitable years behind us things still remain stressful, as we all know how quickly this cyclical market and career can be. Central Region Cooperative has been diligent in managing risk and creating earnings for your cooperative and farm in the past few years. This should be noticeable through competitive input prices, grain bids, and the record cash and equity payments sent to the patrons for the 2022 fiscal year.

Central Region Cooperative has been diligent in managing risk and creating earnings for your cooperative and farm in the past few years.

more efficient with our people and equipment. Although we have seen historic increases in implements and supplies, through efficiencies, our cost per acre decreases each season. This allows us to upgrade facilities and rolling stock without additional debt. Overall expenses have also crept up very quickly. The cost of labor has increased over 40%, interest has tripled in less than 6 months and repair and

Even though it is too early in fiscal year 2023 to know what Central Region Cooperative's local and net income will be, I can point out many trends that help your management team adjust how we are operating throughout the year. CRC continues to see growth year after year in sales and gross margins. This growth allows us to be

INSIDE:

- Expansion Plan
- Spring Oil Sale
- Energy Tidbits Blog
- New Crop Contracts
- FY 2022 Financial Results

► GIESEKE FROM PAGE 1

maintenance costs are up nearly 60% due to large increases in parts cost and a harvest season that was tough on equipment. Overall, I am pleased with the performance of your cooperative through these first six months and look forward to another profitable year. It is one of our strategic goals to continue to increase the cash patronage and speed of equity payouts to our members.

When looking at the farmgate I am also optimistic for our producers and the 2023 growing season. Although we are in a global market with millions of complex situations

continually affecting markets, I still feel there is demand for your products at these historically high prices. Farmers are able to lock in healthy profits even with the hike in nearly all farm inputs. We have many qualified advisors who can help you on your farm, and we ask that you continue to work with your trusted partners at CRC. Don't hesitate to contact your local cooperative to discuss your personal farm strategy.



BRIAN MEYER
Project/Asset Management Lead

CRC Expansion Plans

Propane Bobtail loading facility was coming out of the planning stage and construction was in full swing. Planning for these facilities involved more consideration than where the current buildings would be placed and where the driveways would run, future patron needs and facility expansions to meet those needs could not be overlooked. Since the initial fertilizer plant and chemical facility went up, CRC added a million gallon liquid fertilizer tank, anhydrous ammonia storage tanks, and LP storage to meet those needs. All of those additions were set in an east-to-west line on the south side of the property, east of the dry fertilizer plant and the existing truck unload building. With that all being said, the reason for the placement of these facilities is a future rail spur was in the plan to support the inbound products to be delivered to the farms in season.

In the beginning of 2021, MNDOT offered a grant package totaling \$4.05 million dollars from the Minnesota Rail Services Improvement Program designated for rail

During the summer of 2018, the Fairfax Agronomy Center and

service improvements and construction. MNDOT received 21 applications requesting \$21.4 million for the rail improvement program. In July 2021, Central Region Cooperative was one of the seven selected for the program, being awarded \$500,000 to construct a new rail spur to serve dry fertilizer, LP, possible Nh_3 , and liquid fertilizer products.

With the exciting news of the grant we felt this was the time to start the 3600' spur line. Planning and bidding has been going on about a year and a half with the project start time scheduled to be spring of 2023. Improvement on the existing rail through Fairfax has been ongoing over the past few years. Culvert and rail replacement has shown a commitment for current rail to continue for years to come. Plans are to have the spur functional for fall of 2023 product fill.



Fairfax Agronomy has grown to be a high traffic area for dry fertilizer floaters, sprayers, pickups, semis, tractors and many other pieces of equipment needed to keep Central Region Cooperative running day-to-day. Currently running two undersized and outdated shops has shown to be a maintenance and repair problem in that area. Added

MEYER CONTINUED PAGE 3 ►

► MEYER FROM PAGE 1

to the average price of tractor, floaters, and sprayers being in the \$600,000-\$700,000 range, we need to house as much equipment indoors during the off-season as possible to try to expand the life of the machine. Our solution to this is the construction of a 100' x 155' shop with a 100' x 75' gravel floor cold storage addition added on. This will allow more employees to work at one site, keep the equipment used for the patron in peak condition and improve the longevity of the very precise and highly electrical machines. Construction is planned to begin spring 2023.

Another facility we're focusing our attention on at this time is BCA Products in Sleepy Eye, a division of Central Region Cooperative, manufacturers of lawn fertilizer and ice melt products. BCA Products continues to evolve with new business and automation to increase production

BCA Products continues to evolve with new business and automation to increase production speed, gaining efficiencies.

speed, gaining efficiencies. With the seasonal nature of the products being bagged, storage of finished product is important to fulfill the needs of commercial and private customers in the application seasons. A number of years ago, a 150' x 300' warehouse was built to satisfy needs at the time with room for future expansion. We have met future bag expansion and now the warehouse, like any other building ever built, is not big enough. CRC has room to expand to the south with a 150' x 300' addition to the current warehouse. This building will not be full the day it is built, but again, we are looking into the future for growth; any square foot not being

utilized for BCA Products will be space CRC can utilize for equipment storage, the same way planned in Fairfax, for improved longevity.

If you have any questions about any of these expansion projects, please feel free to contact me.



4 Step Revive and Thrive Lawn Care Program



Step 1 March, April & Early May	Step 2 Anytime	Step 3 Anytime	Step 4 September, October & November
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prevents crabgrass and fertilizes in one application Contains Dithiopyr for Pre and Post emergent crabgrass control for 180 days Non-staining formulation Develop a strong, disease resistant turf to remain robust throughout summer 3% Sulfur to balance pH 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contains VIPER™ with 4-way active herbicide for killing weeds Controls over 250 broadleaf weeds including dandelion, chickweed, and clover. High fertilizer analysis for fast growth, thickening, and lush green-up. 2% Sulfur to balance pH 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Helps fight off the stresses of summer – heat, drought, high traffic Slow release fertilizer that thickens and promotes a strong green lawn for the rest of summer Versatile fertilizer can be used year round Minimizes weeds by maintaining a healthy lawn 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepares your lawn for the stress of winter Root-building formula to withstand winter dormancy, encourage drought resistance, and increase plant hardiness Slow release nitrogen for your turf to store nutrients all winter and have it readily available in spring.



24399 225th Avenue
Sleepy Eye, MN 56085
1-888-454-4744

For Lawn Care Tips visit www.centralregioncoop.com/bca-products/lawn-care-fertilizer

Interest Rates on the Rise

DAN FILZEN
Credit & Risk Manager



It is no secret that Federal Reserve interest rates have been on the rise the past several months. Likewise, lending institutions and local bank rates have risen and become more of a factor in your production costs.

CRC may be able to help you with financing options. As in previous years, we have a couple direct options for financing. The CHS Accolade Program and Compeer Financial financing programs both have a simple one-page application for loans up to \$400,000, with higher limits available with additional information.

CRC works with Alliance Bank and First Security Bank with jointly sponsored buydown programs.

We also work with two local banks in offering some joint financing programs. With the 2023 crop year, CRC will offer programs in conjunction with Alliance Bank and First Security Bank. Both offer similar jointly sponsored buydown programs. To apply visit centralregioncoop.com and click on the Financing Programs in the top bar, and fill out one of the online applications. Please contact me at 507-426-8263, ext. 1122 or see me at the Fairfax office location for further details or any other needs you may have.



COMPEER
FINANCIAL



ALLIANCE BANK



First Security
Bank

NEWS CENTRAL

2022 Annual Meeting



Incumbent Directors were re-elected at the 2022 Annual Meeting, held on December 6, 2022.

A board seat from District 2 was removed upon the retirement of board member Bruce Froehlich.

There was a unanimous consent ballot electing Brian Broderius from District 1 and Steve Lax from District 3, who ran unopposed, to serve another four-year term on the now nine-member board.

Special recognition was given to Bruce Froehlich for his eight years of service to the cooperative.



Bruce Froehlich
Retired Board Member



Brian Broderius
District 1



Steve Lax
District 3





BUTCH ALTMANN
Agronomy Dept. Manager

Get your farm in the Sky System

Looking back at the fall of 2022, you and all of our applicators here at CRC did a lot of fixing on tillage equipment. The repair bills were extremely high but we were able to get the majority of the NH3 applied before the early shut down date of November 12 was upon us. Thanks to all of you who let us start early and run hard when the weather was cooperating, as it sure ended early. We had record acres covered across the entire area with NH3, dry fertilizer and chemical applications.

With the addition of the Bird Island location, we were able to central dispatch most of our application acres and things went extremely well. Again, with your help with planning and getting the acres turned in, we are able to go directly from field to field minimizing road time. We now have a system called Sky that allows all the CRC fertilizer plants to look at where all the fields are that need application, enabling us to dispatch the correct amount of equipment in each area to get it done. Please continue to work with your agronomist on getting every field you farm

“We now have a system called Sky that allows all the CRC fertilizer plants to look at where all the fields are that need application, enabling us to dispatch the correct amount of equipment in each area to get it done.”

in the system for spring.

With prepay season coming to the end, we have seen pricing on most of all the fertilizers become softer. Even though that is good news, it does not always immediately reflect in the price you have paid for this spring’s needs, as we buy fertilizer throughout the entire year. Like most retailers, we could not wait until January and February to buy all of your needs for the spring of 2023. It will not be until fall of 2023 when the full price reduction is seen at the farmer level. Hopefully the commodity price on your crops remain high throughout the summer.

We will continue to add and update equipment throughout the year. With your support we hope to continue to be able to provide you with the best of application equipment and services you have come to expect.

We look forward to working with you this spring.

Bird Island Phone System Updated

Central Region Coop has just installed a new interconnected phone system at the Bird Island location. This will allow all customers a better and easier way to communicate with any CRC locations.

Now Bird Island customers, like all CRC customers, can call any location and simply dial any extension of the individual with whom they wish to speak.

Bird Island Direct Line: 320-365-3655



**Know what's below.
Call before you dig.**

There are more than 2.5 million miles of pipelines in the U.S. 811 is a free, nationwide service designed to keep you safe when digging or excavating.

Call 811 to have underground utilities located before any digging project.

Visit enbridge.com/call811 for more information.



Matching Donations Raise \$85,000 for Area Organizations

The CRC board of directors disbursed donations to area food shelves, backpack programs, FFA Chapters and Fire/EMT organizations. Dollars were matched by the Land O' Lakes Foundation, CoBank Sharing Success Program and CHS's Seeds for Stewardship Program. Together, with matching grant dollars, CRC awarded \$85,000 to area organizations. Pictured are some of the donation recipients.



Fairfax Fire Department received a \$2,500 check from CoBank Sharing Success, and a matching check from CRC.



Hector Fire Department received a \$2,500 check from CoBank Sharing Success, and a matching \$2,500 from CRC.



Gibbon Fire Department received two checks, one from CHS Seeds for Stewardship, and from CRC, to be used for the purchase of a bin rescue trailer.



Sibley County Food Share received two checks, one from Land' Lakes Hunger Program, and from CRC.

We are grateful to have the opportunity to help support these organizations and future ag leaders!



RON TREBESCH
Feed Dept. Manager

Weather... We Like it, or Not

As I write this we are coming off the worst holiday season in my

44 years in the feed business. The week before Christmas started out Wednesday and Thursday with snow, high winds, and zero visibility. The plan was to have a half day off Friday, December 23, as well as the Christmas holiday weekend through Monday, December 26 allowing employees to enjoy time with family and friends. Well, let me tell you, that didn't happen. The men and women at CRC had to get a new game plan and that changed with the wind! Any time there was an opening in improved weather conditions these great people came in to do the job—mixing, taking orders from cell phones, driving in -44 degrees with zero visibility, and the grain department hauling ingredients so we could keep going. Let's also not forget the three agronomy guys who help out with feed in the winter. Who does this?!

CRC employees, needless to say, repeated this all again the weekend of New Year's Day – same weather, cold and snowy. I am proud of Central Region Cooperative employees and this cooperative. It got pretty hairy, sometimes taking up to three hours to deliver loads with

“If we don't change, we don't grow. If we don't grow, we aren't really living.”

—Gail Sheehy

drivers having flushed faces upon their return. CRC was one of the few coops or private companies that got this job done. I would hope all the patrons who received feed in this time frame would thank these people who “got 'er done.”

So if that wasn't enough, our General Manager received a call to help out a neighboring cooperative because of the delays from weather and, yes, we did that as well. Who does this? CRC and its employees.

We also recognize the shop employees who kept our trucks going in -44 degree weather that came mostly later when trucks got “tired.” We also need to recognize our LP drivers and the employees who moved snow to keep the cooperative moving while weather was striking our service area. I am very proud of the men and women in my department and all the others who work for this cooperative, and I hope all of you feel the same. So raise your glasses for a toast with me, for them, as they didn't get to enjoy theirs over the holidays.

Thank you to our patrons for the business and I hope you have a great year ahead.

FEED SERVICES

The Central Region Cooperative feed division offers competitive pricing, quality ingredients and a knowledgeable feed team to help you with each angle of your operation. Here are the services we can provide to help our livestock producers:

- ▶ **Custom ration and protein blend formulations**
- ▶ **Delivery of bulk and bagged feeds**
- ▶ **Grain milling and rolling**
- ▶ **Performance and financial projections**
- ▶ **Feed budgeting and tracking**
- ▶ **Grain bank services and ingredient contracting**
- ▶ **Forage and grain analysis**
- ▶ **Farm closeouts**
- ▶ **Nutrition consulting services**
- ▶ **Swine sourcing**





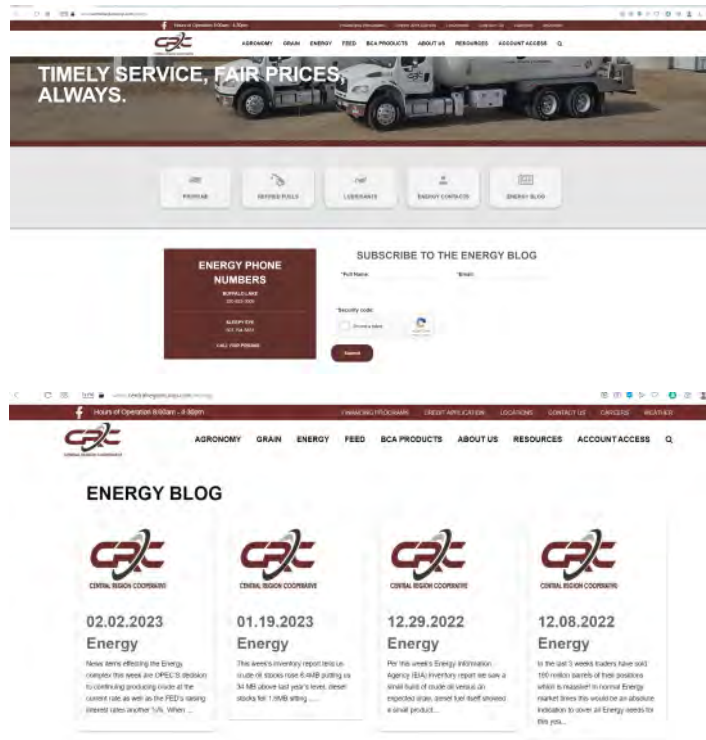
BILL PELZEL
Energy Dept. Manager

The Name of the Game

Constant planning, preparation, market analysis and positioning seem to be the name of the game in the Ag business and the Energy sector is not exempt from this. As we approach spring planting season, I would like to remind customers to reach out to us in the Energy office if you have not purchased diesel, gasoline, or propane products for your 2023 needs. We offer forward contracting options for all of these in bulk truck as well as transport quantities. The Energy admin staff at CRC is all very informed on current market conditions and can give recommendations to fit consumer needs based on market intel/analysis used daily by myself and others. Though we cannot guarantee procuring the lowest price of the year, we do pride ourselves in limiting risk and/or exposure to unfavorable high pricing.

Typically, every other week, I write an article called *Energy Tidbits* containing energy market technical, seasonal, and common sense tidbits of information in hopes it helps you, the patron, decide when to cover energy product needs. This article can be found on our CRC website under the Energy tab, scroll down past Lubricants where you will find the most recent updates under Energy Blog. If you would like to sign up to receive *Energy Tidbits* directly in your email, there is a sign-up form at the top of the Energy page. See example at right.

CRC is proudly able and fiscally willing to continue to upgrade locations as needed. This past fall we began improving our Buffalo Lake Cardtrol facility. Per State of Minnesota regulations, we needed to upgrade the



underground piping from our storage tanks to the dispensers, this improvement made it necessary to redo the concrete around the dispensing island and underground storage tanks. The project did not get completed as planned before mother nature took over in early December. Currently, we are operational only on the north side of the dispensing pumps. As soon as we are able this spring, we will pour concrete and get the Cardtrol facility up and running in its entirety. We apologize for any inconvenience and thank you for your patience as we push forward with this project.



Another exciting item to share is that we have added an additional two (2) 60,000 gallon propane storage tanks at our Fairfax east location, we now have four (4) 60,000 gallon storage tanks onsite to assist us in supplying patron propane needs! (see photo). Adding these two tanks gives CRC the option to transition to rail propane supply as we move forward. Because of our wonderful

PELZEL CONTINUED PAGE 9



hardworking staff and patron loyalty, we are proudly able to be forward thinking as we continue to identify projects that will make us a valuable partner for our customers.

The final current project I will mention that the Energy division has undertaken is a new and improved state-of-the-art Energy computer program. As we transition into this new program CRC hopes to streamline communication, pricing, customer account info, delivery and contracting details, etc. The goal is to make this information available at the customer fingertips, similar to what some of you are used to on the Agronomy side in

Grower 360. More information will follow as we move along in this process.

In closing, I would like to remind you to change your fuel tank filters prior to spring work, and if you would like the CRC fuel delivery drivers to do this for you please reach out to your respective Energy office. Also, do not hesitate to request us to sample the fuel in your storage tanks-- simple preventive measures like this can help prevent costly down time and repair issues.

Thank you for your patronage and support!



CHUCK BRAUN
Treasury Manager

I hope you were able to attend our annual meeting which was held December 6th in Sleepy Eye. If you missed it, here are some financial highlights from our fifth fiscal year ended July 31, 2022:

Total Net Sales	\$386,555,358
Gross Margin plus	
Other Operating Receipts	45,181,614
Local Net Margin	8,221,896
Net Income	9,084,002

CRC issued \$3,725,000 in cash patronage and \$1,242,000 in equity patronage to eligible patrons in November. For 2022, patronage was 75% in cash and 25% in equity. The Total Earned patronage amount displayed on the check stub(s) of your patronage check(s) should equal the Box 1 amount of your 1099PATR. Patronage covered the following products and services purchased between August 1, 2021 and July 31, 2022 (rates are per dollar of patron purchases):

Grain services (drying and storage)	\$.018683
Livestock feed	.008249
Gasoline and diesel fuels	.019946
Fertilizer	.014261
Fertilizer services	.151525
Chemicals	.022698
Seed	.013304
LP	.048322

Fiscal Year Highlights

CRC also paid patronage on grain purchased from patrons at a rate of \$.086474 per bushel.

CRC's by-laws require a patron to earn a minimum of \$25 in fiscal year patronage to receive a patronage check. CRC did not pass back any Section 199A deductions to patrons for 2022. The deduction amount in Box 6 on your 2022 1099PATR will be \$0.

CRC issued \$1,864,500 in equity retirement checks to patrons in December. CRC retired all remaining River Region Cooperative (RRC) equity issued in 2005, 58.5% of RRC equity issued in 2006 and all equity of legacy RRC customers who reached the age of 80 in 2022. CRC also retired all remaining outstanding equity of legacy South Central Grain & Energy (SCGE) patrons who reached age 72 or age 71 in 2022. If you did not receive a retirement check and believe you should have, contact your local office; we might not have your correct birth date on file.

REMEMBER: Equity retirement checks are not subject to income tax. You paid the income tax on your equity in the year it was credited to your account. Consult your tax advisor.

CRC mailed 2022 Forms 1099PATR to patrons the week of January 16th. Grain customers with a number in Box 3 of their 1099PATR form also received a 2022 Domestic Production Report detailing how the Box 3 number was calculated.

Seasonal Price Average Contracts New Crop Corn and Soybean 2023

Central Region Cooperative is offering a Corn and Soybean Seasonal Average contract that helps take some of the stress out of marketing your grain. This contract will give you an average futures price over a specified time period. The basis may be set at any time prior to delivery.

Grain will be priced on each Wednesday's close throughout the term of the specified contract (below) and will have one average futures price for all who join the program. For all who are in the program, there will be a 3 cent/bushel service fee for corn and a 5 cent fee for soybeans.

The contracts must be in 1,000 bushels minimum increments. All bushels committed to the program must be in it until the ending date.

Below is a graph of a seasonal corn chart over a 5, 10, and 15 year period of time. Tendencies exist where the grain markets are typically higher during planting and growing seasons. These contracts hope to capture those seasonal highs on an average futures price of the contract period.

Basis can be set any time prior to delivery. All you need to do is commit the bushels and let us handle the pricing.

For more details contact:

• **Carly Johnson (507) 794-3031 x2138**

• **John Cook (320) 833-3005 or**

• **Tanar Haala (320) 833-3006.**

The deadline to sign up is one day prior to the beginning of each pricing period.

Below is the list of dates you can choose from.

● 18 week new crop corn contract runs from **March 29 – July 26**

● 18 week new crop soybean contract runs from **April 26 – August 23**

● 14 week new crop corn or soybean contract runs from **May 3-August 2**





CARLY JOHNSON
Grain Operations Manager

Policy & Procedural Changes

Effective January 1, 2023, CRC went to a Non-Harvest Grain Storage

Policy. The load out charge for taking your grain out of storage or custom drying has been increased to 20 cents per bushel. Visit centralregioncoop.com, click on the [Grain](#) tab and then click [Storage Policies](#) for details.

Grain Check Procedure Changes

CRC is trying to improve the efficiency of its grain accounting customer service. Due to the volume of grain transactions, we would like to encourage our eligible customers, which are not currently doing so, to consider depositing their grain checks via Direct Deposit (ACH). (ACH transactions will be available the next business day after being processed.) Forms are available at centralregioncoop.com. Click the [Grain](#) tab, scroll down

and click on the [Grain ACH Form](#) tab, print and fill it out and return it to our grain accountants. Or, stop in our offices and ask us for the ACH form for grain checks.

We have also changed the process of how grain checks are issued. Checks will be available after 10 a.m. the following business day of sale – phone sales/in person or priced when delivered across the scale. Grain checks or ACH will only be issued upon request.

If you would like to defer your payment, please contact Grain Accounting. Deferred contracts need to be signed and returned to CRC.

You can also view your account information online. To get started, go to our website and click on [Account Access](#), then select [Sign up for Grower 360](#).

ONLINE CUSTOMER ACCOUNT ACCESS GROWER 360

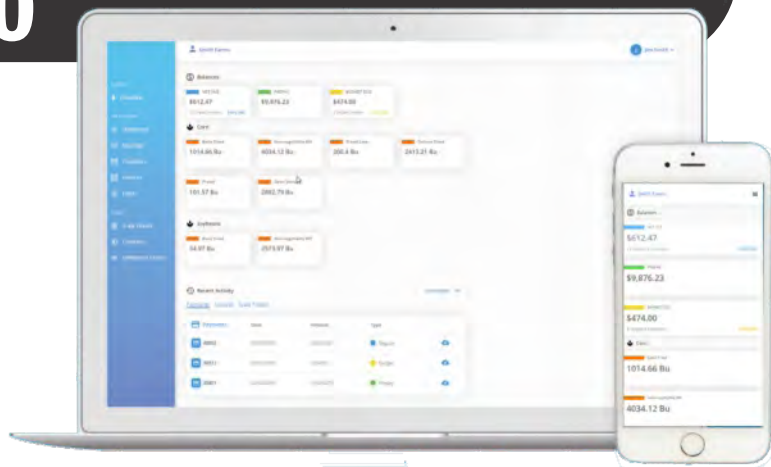


CRC offers an updated online portal for customers to access their account information.

Grower360 is designed with a 'mobile first' user

experience, with access to your account data on any device, anywhere, anytime!

Grower360 is a web application best supported by both Google Chrome and Safari.



Key features include:

- ✓ Account Details
- ✓ Grain Activity
- ✓ Detailed Field Data
- ✓ Receive Text or Email Notifications



To get started, visit www.centralregioncoop.com and click on the **ACCOUNT ACCESS** tab at the top of our home page.



TRACI SCHROEPFER
Safety Manager

Safety is Priority

Spring is just around the corner, which means everyone will be out and about enjoying the warmer weather. With that, also comes increased yard work, field work and other outdoor projects. While we all love being outdoors more, we need to keep in mind some general safety guidelines when working around the farm. Agriculture ranks among the most hazardous industries and those working on a farm or acreage are at very high risk for fatal and nonfatal injuries. Please take the time to read through the safety tips below and work towards keeping yourself and others safe around the farm this year.

TAKE CARE THIS SPRING!

1. REDUCE/AVOID FATIGUE

Take short, timely breaks. A 15-20 minute break and/or nap in the early afternoon fits in with the body's natural clock. If you are working long hours, try to take a longer break during the evening hours, which is the high risk period for accidents. Stay hydrated, use caffeine in moderation and have air conditioning in the cabin of your machinery if possible – as working in a cool environment will reduce fatigue.

2. BE CAUTIOUS WITH ANHYDROUS AMMONIA.

Do general inspections of anhydrous ammonia tanks before using them in the fields. Ensure any water tanks are full and easily accessible. Anhydrous ammonia, when spilled, can cause severe burns to eyes, lungs, and skin. Because it is attracted to water, the best way to minimize injury after a spill is to douse the victim with water. (See more details at right.)

3. CHECK YOUR EQUIPMENT.

Do an equipment check before heading out on the road. Safety guards, headlights, taillights, hazard signs, and all PPE should be checked before planting begins. Also, be sure to fold equipment into transport position, even when moving between fields. Make sure all exposed PTO units are properly guarded.

5. LOOK UP AND LOOK OUT.

Before you begin planting, scout the fields and make note of ditches and other hazards you may have forgotten about. Make sure employees know about them too. When moving augers and other large equipment, have another person act as a spotter for you to make sure you don't come into contact with power lines. If you are in a piece of equipment that makes contact, stay in the cab and call for help.

6. MIND YOUR MOVEMENT.

Whether you're riding in an uncomfortable cab for hours on end, lifting heavy objects the wrong way, or doing seemingly harmless movements over and over, you're at risk for injury. Pay attention to your movements and the ergonomics of the tools you are using, and stretch during breaks.



7 Tips for Safely Applying and Transporting Anhydrous Ammonia

1. Always wear the appropriate PPE, which includes NH₃-rated goggles, gloves (cuffed), long sleeves and long pants. Never wear contact lenses. Because NH₃ has little or no water, it aggressively seeks out moisture, be it from soil or your eyes, throat, lungs, or skin. Coming into contact with anhydrous ammonia can cause tissue dehydration, caustic burns, and frostbite.

2. Be sure to have a clean emergency water supply readily available at all times. It is required to have at least 5 gallons supplied with each nurse tank. An accessible personal eyewash bottle is also recommended.

3. Be careful when making connections and disconnections. Behave as though lines contain NH₃. Never assume a line is empty.

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4. Stand upwind when connecting, disconnecting, bleeding lines, or transferring anhydrous ammonia. Also, close, bleed, disconnect, and secure valves and transfer lines when taking breaks or disconnecting lines. Be sure to handle hose end valves by the valve body.

5. Park equipment away and downwind from homes, people, and livestock.

6. When towing a nurse tank, drive carefully. Stay under 30 mph when towing a full nurse tank and 35mph when towing an empty nurse tank. Display a slow-moving vehicle sign on the back, and be sure the tank is secured to the tractor or truck with two independent safety chains of suitable rating and a hitch pin with retainer clip.

7. If an accident or spill occurs, immediately call 911.



Spring Oil Sale



Our Best Prices Of The Year On Bulk/Packaged Oil And Grease!

10% Discount On Grease
\$0.75 Cents Per Gallon Off On All Bulk & Packaged Oil

Some Of The Available Bulk Products On Sale:

- Enviro Edge 5W-40
- TMS 15W-40
- Auto Gold 5W-30
- Qwiklift HTB
- TMS 10W-30

Promotion Will Run Through The End Of April.

**To Schedule A Delivery
Call One of Our Energy Offices Today!**



Buffalo Lake

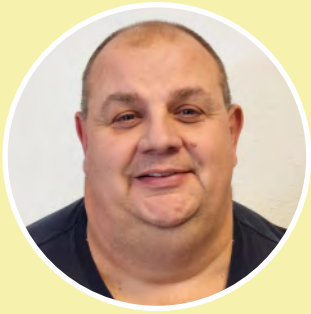
320-833-3009

Sleepy Eye

507-794-5831

Option 1

WELCOME



While new to CRC as an account manager, **Kevin Jeurissen** is very familiar with the area having worked 25 years with producers locally on crop protection products and services, specializing in precision agriculture. He enjoys spending time with his wife Elizabeth and their daughter Emily. In his free time, Kevin can be found sawing lumber or doing something in the wood shop.



Todd Wenisch joined the Sleepy Eye energy team in November as a propane service technician. He obtained his diploma in HVAC from South Central College-Mankato and has 15 years experience working in the heating and cooling business. He's also worked 20 years at his uncle's dairy operation. Todd grew up in Searles and has worked and lived in the area all his life. In his spare time, Todd likes to hunt, fish and play golf.

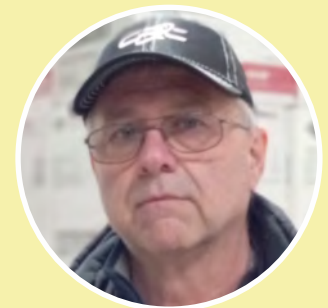
The Buffalo Lake grain department welcomed **Troy Schauer** last September as the fall harvest began. He works in operations and also does some trucking. Prior to coming to CRC, Troy worked in the millwright business and worked for the railroad. He enjoys spending time with his wife Ashley, family and friends and likes to hunt, fish and be outdoors.



Rodney (Butch) Weber rejoined the Gibbon grain team just before fall harvest. He worked at the cooperative back in the mid-90s for a few years. Butch recently obtained his Class A CDL and looks forward to driving truck. He and his wife Amy have three adult children and a newborn granddaughter. Butch enjoys hunting, fishing and spending time on the pontoon with his family and friends.



Propane delivery and service work is a new career for **Nathen Wendinger** who joined the energy team in December, but he's been found to be a quick learner. He is an experienced driver having worked the past five+ years in agriculture driving truck, operating farm and construction equipment and performing mechanical work. Nathen's favorite pastime activities include hunting, fishing and going on 4-wheeler trips.



TRANSFERRED TO NEW POSITION
Randy Sandquist
Agronomy
Operations Lead
(Fairfax)



TRANSFERRED TO NEW POSITION
Sandy Tauer
Chemical Warehouse Lead
(Sleepy Eye)

If you or someone you know is interested in working at Central Region Coop, see back page for current job openings.

EMPLOYEE CENTRAL



WELCOME BACK!

Josh Evenson grew up in Fairfax and worked in agronomy operations for legacy South Central Grain and Energy back in 2014-15, departing to take an employment opportunity in Alaska. He returned to the area last fall and helped the Fairfax agronomy team. In November, Josh began his new full-time position as an energy transport driver based out of Fairfax. Josh enjoys ice fishing, and helping out on the family farm.



WELCOME BACK!

Travis Schlueter, an experienced custom applicator, worked for CRC a couple of years before going to try something new. Travis found that he missed this work and returned in time to help with fall application, having only missed one spring planting and summer application season. CRC appreciates having him back serving customers and utilizing his strong mechanical skills. Travis enjoys spending time with his wife Megan and their families, and in his spare time, he likes to restore John Deere tractors and farm equipment.

2022 Service Awards

5 YEARS

Jonah Garnhardt
Austin Brandes
Steph Huiras
Alan Ott

10 YEARS

Scott Johnson

15 YEARS

Toby Neid
Joe Gehring

20 YEARS

Jim Janni
Perry Schneider

25 YEARS

Keith Renner
Carrie Firle
Gary Domeier

30 YEARS

Roger Precht

35 YEARS

Randy Watson

40 YEARS

Carly Johnson

45 YEARS

George Schwint

2022 Retirements *Good Luck!*



MARK CLOBES
LP SERVICE
MAY 2022
36 YEARS



TIM BEECK
AGRONOMY
FEBRUARY 2022
27 YEARS



SCOTT HAAS
GRAIN
SEPTEMBER 2022
16 YEARS



MIKE WELTER
AGRONOMY
OCTOBER 2022
13 YEARS



BRAD BORTH
LP DELIVERY
APRIL 2022
11 YEARS



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Sleepy Eye, MN 56085

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MANKATO, MN
PERMIT 609



Employment Opportunities

FULL-TIME

- Grain Operations (Fairfax)
- Feed Delivery Driver (Sleepy Eye)
- Agronomy Operations (Buffalo Lake, Fairfax, Sleepy Eye)
- Agronomy Account Manager (Sleepy Eye, Bird Island)

SEASONAL

- Agronomy Operations

Apply online at centralregioncoop.com, at any CRC location or by calling Human Resources at (320) 833-3003.



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LOCATIONS:

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320-365-3655

BUFFALO LAKE
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COSMOS
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FAIRFAX
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800-328-0131

GIBBON
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800-690-6534

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320-848-2252

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Main Office &
West Elevator
507-794-3031
800-757-0572

East Elevator
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Cobden Elevator
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Agronomy & Energy
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