


Adams-Columbia Electric Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner



**By Jay A. Porter,
PE, Chief
Executive
Officer**

ADAMS-COLUMBIA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE HOLDS 30TH ANNUAL MEETING

Members and guests of Adams-Columbia Electric Cooperative (ACEC) gathered at the Adams/Friendship Fine Arts Center in Adams on May 16, 2017, for the organization's 30th Annual Meeting. This is the first time the annual meeting was held at this new facility.

Pre-meeting entertainment was provided by Vicki Jenks, Wild Rose. Board Chairman Kendal Nichols gavelled the meeting to order at 6 p.m. Bruce Mohns sang our National Anthem; members followed his performance by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Director Karen Fahey, Pine River, offered the invocation; Ken Miller, manager – safety, gave a timely safety message for members and guests.

There were 92 registered members present who cast ballots for director candidates in each of two districts, plus one at-large director's seat. Re-elected for three-year terms were incumbent directors: Kendal Nichols, Wisconsin Dells; Scott Link, Cambria; and Karen Fahey, Pine River.

Attorney Niles Berman spoke briefly about proposed changes to the cooperative's bylaws. Members voted unanimously to approve the changes. The bylaw changes had been shared with the membership in recent months; members had the opportunity to discuss the changes prior to the annual meeting.

This was my first annual meeting at Adams-Columbia since officially starting as chief executive officer last July. My time at the podium included a financial overview for the cooperative,

and a report on operational and programming highlights from the past year, with a glimpse into projects for 2017.

Two member-proposed advisory resolutions were introduced for consideration. After discussion and a report from the Rules Committee, the first advisory resolution with suggestions on member access to board proceedings failed to pass by a vote of the membership; a second advisory resolution was introduced, but failed for lack of a second to the motion.

Although the proposed member advisory resolution on board proceedings failed to pass, the board of directors discussed the topic at their May meeting. Their recommendation is to make board

meeting minutes available for review on our cooperative website at www.acecwi.com. As space permits, we will also publish the board meeting minutes in our member newsletters.

Board officers elected at a reorganizational meeting following adjournment of the annual meeting are: Kendal Nichols, Wisconsin Dells, chairman; Lawrence Becker, Montello, vice-chairman; Cheri Gibeaut, Endeavor, secretary; and Scott Parr, Friendship, treasurer.

Each registered membership received a four-pack of LED lamps. Congratulations to Pat Bartsch, Plainfield, for being selected from those members who completed a brief survey form. She will receive a \$50 credit on her electric bill.



Board officers elected at a reorganizational meeting following adjournment of ACEC's 30th Annual Meeting on May 16 were: (seated l-r) Treasurer Scott Parr, Friendship; and Secretary Cheri Gibeaut, Endeavor; (standing l-r) Chairman Kendal Nichols, Wisconsin Dells; and Vice Chairman Lawrence Becker, Montello.

MY CO-OP



Starting this fall, I will be available one day per month at our Pardeeville and Wautoma service centers. We are working on a schedule for each location and will share them with you next month. I am regularly available at our Friendship headquarters, and the other offices by appointment. Just give me a call.

We are now in the heart of the summer storm season. While it doesn't happen often, severe weather can result in downed power lines. Stay away from downed lines or any situation that looks potentially dangerous. Power lines can easily be hidden in twisted tree branches and other storm debris. Remember that those lines may still be energized and should be considered extremely dangerous. Keep your distance and warn others to stay away, too. If you see one, please call us ASAP!

ACEC offers classes on powerline safety that are available for school groups, first responders, and adults of all ages. If you're interested in scheduling a powerline safety class, please contact us at 800-831-8629, or on our website, www.acecwi.com.



1. CEO Jay Porter welcomed members to the annual meeting.
2. Pre-meeting entertainment was provided by Vicki Jenks, Wild Rose.
3. ACEC's Shawn Pietrzak opened the door for members arriving at the annual meeting.
4. After 12 years of service, Alan Kelsey retired from ACEC's board of directors. He is pictured with his wife, Margaret.
5. This crew of ACEC employees made meeting registration quick and seamless.

DO YOU DEPEND ON LIFE-SUPPORT EQUIPMENT?

ACEC maintains a list of known members who depend on life support equipment. Every reasonable effort is made to notify these households about planned outages. It isn't always possible to give prior notice but our hope is to minimize concern and give critical care members the opportunity to make alternate plans.

Those who rely on electricity for health needs should consider purchasing a standby emergency generator. Other options are to have extra medical supplies on hand or to seek shelter in another neighborhood.

Being on ACEC's critical care list does not guarantee that you will receive

priority for restoration of service, especially during a major power outage. A physician's signature is required before a member can be added to ACEC's life support list. ACEC members can get the proper form for their doctor to complete by talking with a customer service representative at 800-831-8629.

Rural Development Loan

Our funds are available to business facilities and community development projects to create and retain jobs in rural Wisconsin. Funding up to \$250,000 is available for: acquisitions, refinance, construction, inventory and more.

Long-term • Fixed Rate • Low-Cost Financing

Adams-Columbia Electric Cooperative and USDA have partnered to bring you affordable, low-cost business loans.

Contact: Patrick Gatterman
Loan Servicing Specialists
 608-339-5426 • pgatterman@acecwi.com

MY CO-OP

CALLING ALL SHUTTERBUGS!

Enter your photos in ACEC's Member and Youth Photo Contest! Winning photos will be featured in our 2018 Member Calendar.

Submit your photos at www.acecwi.com by Friday, August 18, 2017





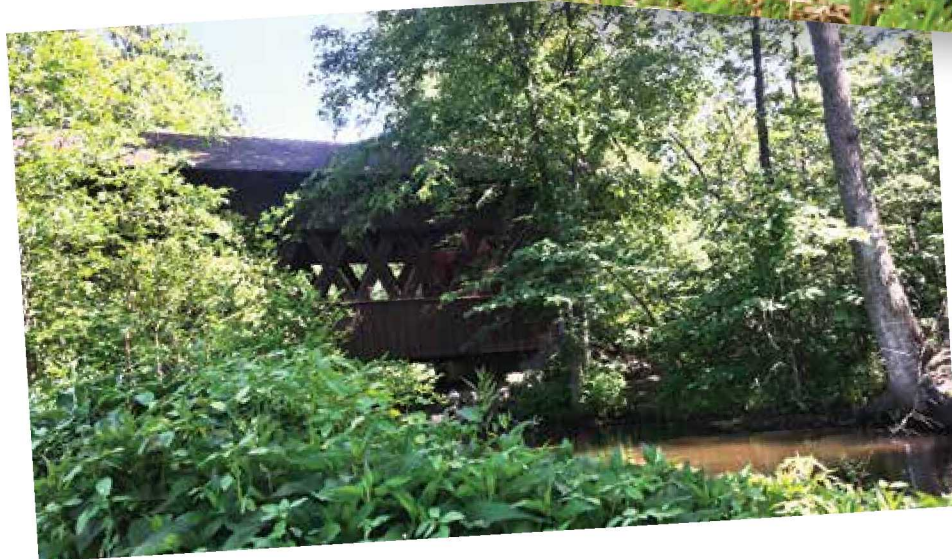
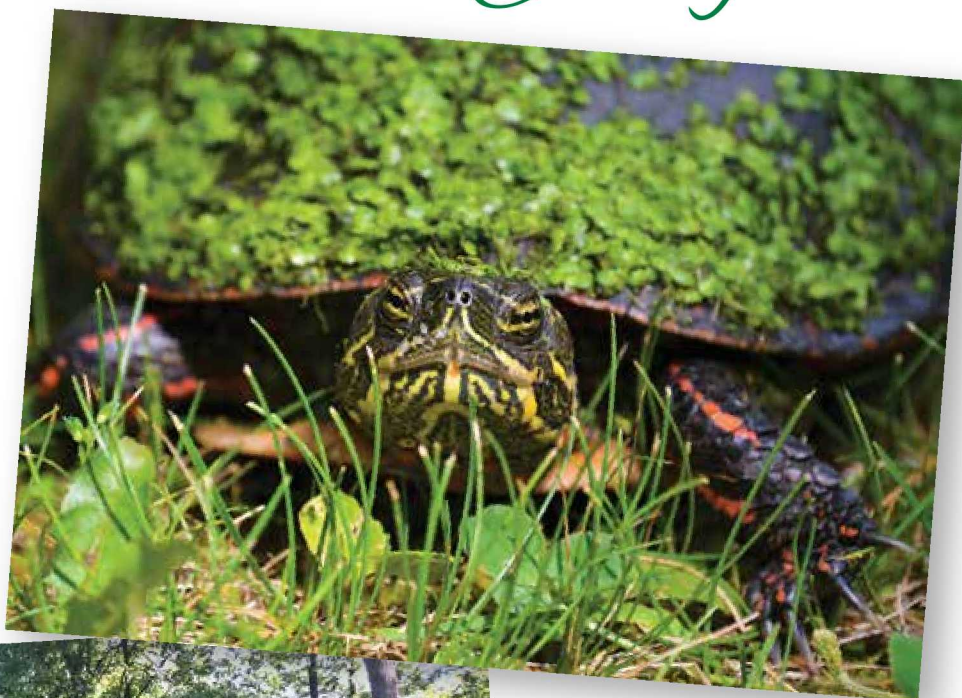
ACEC Calendar Photos

July

Columbia County

**Member photo by
Andrea Mezera**

This month's featured member photo is from Andrea Mezera. She is an avid outdoors person, which gives her quality time to find interesting photos. This photo was taken in Andrea's back yard, on Lazy Lake in Fall River. The painted turtle was still covered in duck weed after crawling out of the water. After a few quick photos, the turtle continued her search for a perfect location to lay eggs.




Waushara County

**Youth photo by
Emma Hanson**

Emma Hanson is a sophomore at Wild Rose High School. She is the daughter of Mark and Holly Hanson. Emma enjoys kayaking, reading, and swimming, along with being with her friends. Her featured photo gives us an interesting view of the covered bridge near Saxeville. In terms of photo composition, Emma makes effective use of framing, with some strong leading lines.



Adams-Columbia Electric Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

Customer Service & Billing
Power Outage Reporting
Diggers Hotline
www.acecwi.com

800-831-8629
888-928-2232
800-242-8511

Jay A. Porter, PE—CEO
Keith Wohlfert—Editor

Friendship Service Center

401 East Lake Street • P.O. Box 70
Friendship, WI 53934-0070
Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 7:30 – 4:00

The Friendship Service Center is located in the Village of Friendship, in Adams County. From Highway 13, travel east three blocks on East Lake Street. Lake Street is also marked as County Highway J.

Adams-Columbia Electric Cooperative maintains operations facilities in Pardeeville and Wautoma. These facilities are not open for general business; however, drive-up payment stations are available at both locations. ACEC employees will meet with cooperative members in Pardeeville and Wautoma by prearranged appointment only.