

MESSAGE FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER



Adams-Columbia
Electric Cooperative

By Jay A. Porter, General Manager

I'd like to start out this month's column by wishing everyone the best as families adjust to the new school year format. Schools are doing their best to keep everyone safe and I know it isn't easy. Learning a new routine and missing out on social interactions and sports have been challenging. I have one child and four grandchildren in school, and we've discussed this topic often. Our hearts go out to members with students in their household. As a reminder, keep washing your hands, continue practicing social distancing, and wear a mask when you can. We'll get through this.

Co-ops Vote September 22 is National Voter's Registration Day to get prepared for the presidential election coming up in a couple months. Check out the new website at www.nationalvoterregistrationday.org and learn how you can do your part.

RESP Loan Before the cold winter months approach, be sure to check out our Rural Energy Savings Program (RESP) Loan. This loan is available exclusively for members of our co-op to make energy efficient upgrades to their home or business. Visit our website to learn more about the loan and to apply.

Vehicle Auction We will be having a closed bid vehicle auction at our Friendship office on September 25 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. and September 26 from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. Vehicles available for bid are listed on our website. Our mechanics will be present to answer any questions you have. Bids are due by 12 p.m. on September 26.

Follow Us Online Be sure to follow us on social media to stay up to date with real-time co-op news, programs, services, outage information, events, and much more. We are on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter, so join us online!

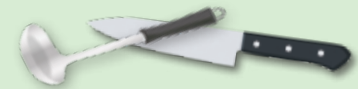
Jay's Discussion Day Each month I am at our Pardeeville and Wautoma offices with the door open for members who'd like to talk with me about any questions or concerns they may have. Dates for my discussion days are posted on our website and on our Facebook page each month. Whether you have a question or want to stop by to say hi, I'm here for you with my listening ears on. Members are always welcome to give me a call and schedule an appointment to meet with me if these dates don't work for you. I can meet members at any of our offices.

This month Jay's Discussion Day will take place on September 11. I will be at our Pardeeville office from 8–11 a.m. and our Wautoma office from 1–4 p.m.

Employee Spotlight



Jason is our network assistant which means he helps with anything our IT department needs. Whether you're locked out of your computer or need help accessing a program, he's your guy!



CHEESY HAM AND POTATO CHOWDER

INGREDIENTS

- 4 slices thick cut bacon, diced
- 1 medium yellow or sweet onion, diced
- 2 medium carrots, peeled and thinly sliced
- 3 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 3 cups whole milk
- 1 1/2 cups water
- 2 teaspoons Better Than Bouillon
- 1/2 teaspoon black pepper
- 1/4 teaspoon onion powder
- 1/2 teaspoon garlic powder
- 3 medium russet potatoes, peeled and diced
- 2 cups diced ham
- 2 cups shredded cheddar cheese

INSTRUCTIONS

Cook diced bacon in a Dutch oven until crispy. Remove bacon with a slotted spoon and set aside, leaving about 3 tablespoons bacon grease in the Dutch oven. Add onion and carrots to bacon grease and cook over medium heat until soft. Sprinkle flour over onions and carrots. Stir and cook for 1 minute. Gradually stir in milk and water. Add Better Than Bouillon, black pepper, onion powder, garlic powder and potatoes and bring to a simmer. Simmer for 15–20 minutes or until potatoes are soft. Turn heat to low and stir in ham and cheese until cheese is melted. Sprinkle bacon on top. Serve.

Adapted from a recipe from Spicy Southern Kitchen, spicysouthernkitchen.com



Living in rural America, just about anywhere you look there is a farm field. As we approach harvest season, there is a lot of large farm equipment in those fields and driving down the road. The size of this equipment is much larger than a car or truck, which means they are much closer to our overhead power lines and the drivers may not have the greatest view of their surroundings. As we like to say, "look up and live!" Keep an eye out for overhead power lines and underground equipment like green transformer boxes to stay safe.

NEW DATES!

ELECTRONIC RECYCLING

10 A.M. - 2 P.M.

Friday, October 2
Friendship Office

Friday, October 9
Wautoma Office

Friday, October 16
Pardeeville Office



HERE'S WHAT WE'LL ACCEPT

Cable Boxes
Cables & Cords
Cameras & Camcorders
Cell Phones/PDAs & Chargers
Clocks
Coffee Makers
Computer Towers
Copiers & Printers
Docking Stations
DVD/VHS/Blu-Ray Players
External Drives (All types)
Fans
Fax Machines
Hair Dryers
Holiday Lights
Internet Equipment of Any Kind
Laptops
Landline Phones
Monitors
MP3 & iPod Players
Network Equipment
Projectors
Radios
Satellite Dishes & Receivers
Scanners
Servers
Stereos & Speakers
Toasters
UPS & Jump Starters
VCR
Vacuum Cleaners
Video Game Consoles

Members may bring up to five items per membership including one TV or monitor. We are still following CDC guidelines by wearing face masks and practicing social distancing. We ask that you do not get out of your vehicle. Our employees will retrieve items from your vehicle and take them to the dumpster for you.

How can I save money when buying a smart thermostat?

We make it easy to get **\$50 cash back** on your purchase, no matter what kind of shopper you are. Here's two ways you can start saving today:

- Save \$50 instantly when you purchase a select smart thermostat at focusonenergy.com/marketplace.
- Purchase a pre-qualified smart thermostat online or in-store and then submit an online application at focusonenergy.com/smart within 60 days to receive a \$50 incentive check in the mail.

focusonenergy.com/smart

800.762.7077

REDUCING ENERGY WASTE ACROSS WISCONSIN

Focus on Energy, Wisconsin utilities' statewide program for energy efficiency and renewable energy, helps eligible residents and businesses save energy and money while protecting the environment. Focus on Energy information, resources and financial incentives help to implement energy efficiency and renewable energy projects that otherwise would not be completed. © 2020 Focus on Energy



Rate Adjustment Summary

Effective October 1, 2020

General Service Time-of-Day			
Facility Charge	\$1.08 per day		
Energy Charge	On-Peak	\$0.2975	October 1 - January 31: 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.
			February 1 - April 30: 7:00 - 11:00 a.m.
			May 1 - September 30: 12:00 - 6:00 p.m.
	<i>All On-Peak periods are in effect Monday through Friday, except holidays.</i>		
	Mid-Peak	\$0.0794	All other hours
	Off-Peak	\$0.0441	12:00 - 6:00 a.m. all days

ON-PEAK Periods:

All On-Peak periods are in effect Monday - Friday, except holidays.



October 1 -
January 31
5 - 8 P.M.



February 1 -
April 30
7 - 11 A.M.



May 1 -
September 30
12 - 6 P.M.

OFF-PEAK Period:



All Days
12 - 6 A.M.

MID-PEAK Period:
All other hours
7.94¢ per kWh



Stuff the
Bus School
Supplies
Drive



Thank you to members and employees who donated to our annual stuff the bus school supplies drive! We wish everyone a safe and healthy school year.

This year we gave our donations to United Way of South Wood and Adams Counties, Waushara County's Back to School Bash and Columbus Lions Club.

Electric Heat rates will no longer be available effective October 1, 2020.

Members impacted by this rate adjustment were mailed a letter in August.



Board Meeting Summary June 25, 2020

The monthly board meeting of Adams-Columbia Electric Cooperative was held on Thursday, June 25, 2020 at 8:35 a.m. The meeting was held at the Friendship Service Center, practicing safe distancing due to COVID-19.

Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by Director Vedder's invocation. A Safety Message was provided by Director Hoernke.

All directors were in attendance. Following is a summary of the meeting activities:

The agenda, consent agenda items, board expense vouchers, and the minutes of the May 27, 2020 regular board meeting and the organizational meeting minutes were approved.

Director Reports: Hoernke spoke of his goal to have some type of education at each meeting, building an agenda around what items the board members would like to learn about. This sparked discussion on education between the directors. A list will be developed for training of directors by importance.

Board Action Items:

- Board approved Bonnett attending the WECA course: Financial Decision Making on October 6, 2020.
- Board approved Board Policy #2-19 with a few minor changes.
- Alexander and Vedder have stated that they would not be running when their terms expire in 2021 and Gibeaut is undecided at this time.
- The discussion was held about the possibility of shrinking the size of the BOD down to seven from the current nine members. No decision was made.
- Hoernke asked each director to compose a list of their "Top 5" items from the recent Strategic Planning session for future BOD discussion.
- Vedder noted that he would like to push to change Chapter 185 with the WECA and asked for Porter's assistance.
- Board approved several rate changes as presented in Roberts' Support Services Report.

Departmental Reports: Departmental reports were reviewed. Kerska noted that the electronic recycling event was postponed to October, the Craft and Cork event was postponed to Spring 2021, and for June Dairy Month we are donating dairy products to Adams, Columbia, and Waushara County food pantries.

Meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

Board approved the June meeting minutes on July 29, 2020.

Please note any confidential or sensitive information has been edited for this summary.



Adams-Columbia
Electric Cooperative

Friendship Service Center

401 East Lake Street • P.O. Box 70
Friendship, WI 53934-0070

Office Hours: Monday – Friday,

7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

www.acecwi.com

Customer Service & Billing

800-831-8629

Power Outage Reporting

888-928-2232

Diggers Hotline

800-242-8511

**To make a payment anytime 24/7,
please call 1-844-219-1223.**

Jay A. Porter—GM

Haley Melby—Editor

ACEC Board of Directors

District 1

Gene Alexander

Term Expires 2021

District 2

Ethan Olson

Term Expires 2022

District 3

Aaron Bonnett

At-Large

Term Expires 2023

District 3

Aaron Hoernke, Chair

Term Expires 2022

District 4

Jon Ebert

Term Expires 2022

District 5

Gary Skolarz

Term Expires 2023

District 6

Cheri Gibeaut, Secretary

Term Expires 2021

District 7

Dietrich Vedder, Vice Chair

At-Large

Term Expires 2021

District 7

James Kelly, Treasurer

Term Expires 2023