



BENEFITS OF BEING A *member*

What does it mean to be a member?

Simply put, we wouldn't exist without our members, and we value your input and participation in the co-op. We have programs and resources available for our members. Here are a few perks of your membership:

- Opportunity to run for a board position
- Vote at the Annual Meeting
- Margins are refunded to members
- Participate in co-op programs
- Member-only scholarship
- Free leadership camp for students
- Energy-efficient programs through Focus on Energy
- Local knowledge about renewable energy

OCTOBER IS CO-OP MONTH

You may know that we're an electric cooperative, but what does that mean?

Cooperatives were created by a group of people (members) to achieve a common goal. In our case, that took place in 1937 when locals wanted to get power to people and farms in rural areas. You may know of a few businesses and not even know they're a co-op (ACE Hardware, Sunkist, Ocean Spray, Land O'Lakes, and many more!)

What makes a co-op different from other electric companies?

We're a member-owned organization, which means that our board of directors is made up of local ACEC members, elected by the members.

I've heard of patronage capital, but how does it impact me?

Unlike investor-owned utilities, we allocate the co-op margins back to our members called patronage capital. Patronage allocations are your ownership in the co-op, typically allocated to members in the spring each year. Read more about this year's general retirement (a.k.a. refund) on the back page.

Do co-ops get involved in their communities?

You bet we do! We support our communities in a variety of ways including our Toys for Tots program, Stuff the Bus donations, STEM Grants, Operation Round-Up, and more.

We're glad you're part of the co-op family. Thanks for your membership, and happy co-op month!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NOVEMBER 1

STEM Grants are due! Encourage educators you know to apply. Visit our website for the application and to learn more.

OCTOBER 14 & NOVEMBER 10

Stop by our Wautoma office from 8–11 a.m. or our Pardeeville office from 1–4 p.m. to chat with our general manager, John.

NOVEMBER 25 & 26

Our office will be closed for Thanksgiving. Normal business hours will resume on Monday, November 29.

OPERATION ROUND-UP MAKES A DIFFERENCE



Pictured left-right: Nolan Drews, Owen Gould, Zach Cupery, Jackson Breitlow

Randolph Cambria-Friesland (RCF) FFA was awarded \$5,000 to expand the food bank project at their land lab. These expansions included materials to build fences around their garden beds and to build new raised beds.

"The RCF FFA chapter is always striving to build our communities and grow our students into leaders. Our land lab provides an opportunity for us to support our community and give to those in need. This grant from ACEC provides us with the needed funds to keep our land lab going. These funds provide us with a means to keep our land lab functioning and expanding, and allows us to continue donating all of the produce we grow to those in need." said Lauren Frances, agriculture teacher at Randolph High School and FFA advisor.

A large variety of produce is harvested from their land lab each year. Produce includes peppers, raspberries, cantaloupe, watermelons, grapes, potatoes, green beans, tomatoes, rhubarb, radishes, carrots, flowers, and much more. Not to mention, they also produce hundreds of bottles of honey, which is incorporated into the curriculum at Randolph school district. Honey is the only product from the land lab that is sold. Everything else that is harvested gets donated to Living Hope Food Pantry in Fox Lake and Beaver Dam Food Pantry.

South Burr Oak United Methodist Church was awarded \$1,699 to purchase an AED for their congregation.

"Your group has made it possible for a small, older congregation to be safe while in church, or in the functions we host ... weddings, funerals, yearly chili supper, and our yearly rummage sale." said church member Linda Barclay, who applied for the grant.

Pictured left-right: Back row - Al Alatalo, Judy Bacon, Bob Warzynski, Edie Felts-Podoll. Front row - Larry Bacon, Fay Alatalo, Glenda Warzynski, Linda Barclay.



Approximately 6,800 members of ACEC contribute to the Operation Round-Up program every month by rounding their bill up to the next dollar amount. The Operation Round-Up board of directors meets quarterly to review applications from individuals and organizations. More information about Operation Round-Up can be found on our website at [acecwi.com/operation-round-up](https://www.acecwi.com/operation-round-up).



ENERGY ASSISTANCE

As we approach the fall months, we know that our electric bill typically rises due to shorter days and colder weather. Members may qualify for assistance to help with utility bills.

Adams County: (608) 339-6767
Columbia County: (608) 742-4088
Dane County: (608) 267-8601
Dodge County: (920) 887-7990

Green Lake County: (920) 294-4070
Marquette County: (608) 297-3124
Portage County: (715) 344-5999
Sauk County: (608) 356-8887

Waupaca County: (715) 258-6820
Waushara County: (920) 787-1830
Wood County: (715) 421-8659

october is co-op month

CO-OP MONTH GIVEAWAYS

Our members are awesome, and this month we're showing our appreciation by giving all members a chance to win these giveaways:

- 1 member will win a 42-inch Insignia Fire TV
- 5 members will win a \$100 bill credit
- 5 members will win a \$25 gift card to Kwik Trip

HOW TO ENTER:

Take our short survey about electric vehicles on our website at acecwi.com/giveaway. You may also give us a call at (800) 831-8629 or visit our Friendship office and our customer service representatives can record your survey responses for you.

Survey entries will be accepted until October 31 and winners will be selected at random on November 1.



CHRISTMAS COOKIE RECIPES

Who doesn't love a fun, new Christmas cookie recipe? We know we do! The holidays are just around the corner and we're asking for your help with putting a different spin on our holiday card. This year we'd like to feature a tasty cookie recipe.

Submit your Christmas cookie recipes and pictures of the cookies on our website at acecwi.com/submit-a-recipe, or mail your recipe to us at ACEC, ATTN: Marketing, P.O. Box 70, Friendship, WI 53934.



The winning recipe will not only be featured on our holiday card, but the winner will also receive a Kitchen Aid mixer!

The deadline to submit Christmas cookie recipes is October 31.

AUGUST GIVEAWAY WINNERS

Congratulations to Penny and Ken and Sue for being the winners of August's giveaway of electric lawn equipment for enrolling in paperless billing.



Adams-Columbia
Electric Cooperative

CONTACT US

Customer Service & Billing
(800) 831-8629

IVR Payment
1(844) 219-1223

Power Outages
(888) 928-2232

Diggers Hotline
(800) 242-8511 or 811

Email
acec@acecwi.com

Website
www.acecwi.com

Follow us on social media
@ACECWI

Business Hours
Monday - Friday,
7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Friendship Lobby Hours
Monday - Friday,
8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Friendship Office
P.O. Box 70
401 East Lake Street
Friendship, WI 53934

Pardeeville Office (Drop Box Only)
W6290 State Road 33
Pardeeville, WI 53954

Wautoma Office (Drop Box Only)
N1519 State Road 22
Wautoma, WI 54982

Did you know you can compare
this year's and last year's energy
usage in SmartHub?



SAFETY MESSAGE



OCTOBER 17-23 IS NATIONAL TEEN DRIVING SAFETY WEEK

Do you have a young driver in your family? Or need a refresher yourself on what to do if your vehicle comes in contact with utility equipment? Keep your teens safe and teach them what to do if they are near a downed power line after a storm or auto accident by watching the License to Live video: safeelectricity.org/license-to-live



\$2.3 MILLION REFUNDED TO MEMBERS

The board of directors approved approximately \$2.3 million to be retired (refunded) to current and former members. When you're a member of the co-op, you accrue patronage capital based on how much you are billed each month.

Retirements (refunds) will be issued to those that have patronage capital allocated to them in the years 2003 and a portion of 2004.

If you had service with us during these years and your retirement is less than \$250, you may see a bill credit on your November statement. If your retirement is over \$250, a check will be mailed in November.

To learn more about patronage capital and watch a video that explains the process, visit acecwi.com/news-information/patronage-cap or scan this QR code.



Employee Spotlight

Brett Kemink
Journeyman Line Technician

Brett is a lineman at our Pardeeville office and has worked for the co-op for 14 years.

"I've enjoyed working at the co-op, the environment, and the people I work with."

We appreciate your dedication to safety. Thanks for keeping the lights on, Brett!

Briefing of the Board Meeting

July 21, 2021

Board Action Items:

- Approved Annual Meeting Minutes with changes suggested by former Director Vedder
- Approved June expense vouchers

The full board meeting summary can be found on our website at acecwi.com/news-information/meeting-mins.

october is apple month

NO FUSS APPLE PIE

PREP TIME - 30 MINS | COOK TIME - 60 MINS

INGREDIENTS

- Apples, sliced & peeled
- 2 c flour
- 1/2 c white sugar
- 1 1/2 sticks butter
- 1/2 c white sugar & 1 tsp cinnamon mixed together

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Mix 2 cups flour, 1/2 cup white sugar, 1 1/2 sticks butter together, and spread in a 9x13 greased pan.
2. Cover with peeled and sliced apples.
3. Mix 1/2 white sugar and 1 teaspoon cinnamon. Sprinkle this over apples.
4. Mix 1 cup white sugar, 1 1/2 cup flour, 1 stick butter, softened, and top pie. Bake @ 350 degrees for 1 hour.



Topping:

- 1 c white sugar
- 1 1/2 c flour
- 1 stick butter

Recipe from Jane Bortz of Beaver Dam, WI