

# THE WIRE

Adams-Columbia Electric Cooperative • January 2022

## Save the Date

### ACEC'S 35<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING

Wednesday, May 18, 2022 | Pardeeville High School



#### IDEAS FOR THE CO-OP

When members have an idea or change they'd like to suggest to the co-op, they can submit their idea as an advisory resolution. Simply put, members can submit their ideas to the co-op by February 18. After this deadline, advisory resolutions are reviewed by the Rules Committee. They decide whether or not the resolutions submitted are recommended for the board of directors to consider.



#### RUN FOR A BOARD SEAT

If you live in district 3 or 5 and are interested in running for the board, check out the director qualifications on our website. The process for running for the board is done through nomination by petition. You need to get signatures from 25 ACEC members (1 signature per membership) and return your nomination papers to our office by February 18.

Board members govern our co-op, attend training to learn more about the industry, and keep us on a successful path toward future co-op goals.

Visit [www.acecwi.com](http://www.acecwi.com) for more information about advisory resolutions and nomination by petition.



DISTRICT  
MAP



ADVISORY  
RESOLUTIONS



DIRECTOR  
QUALIFICATIONS

#### District 3 Townships

- Big Flats • Coloma • Monroe • Richfield
- Colburn • Hancock • Preston • Strong's Prairie

#### District 5 Townships

- Crystal Lake • Marquette • Neshkoro • Saxeville • St. Marie
- Harris • Mecan • Packwaukee • Seneca • Warren
- Leon • Montello • Princeton • Shields

The April issue of *The Wire* will include all of the Annual Meeting information.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### JANUARY 12 & FEBRUARY 16

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.

### FEBRUARY 1

Our Time-of-Day rate changes from 5–8 p.m. to 7–11 a.m.

### FEBRUARY 1

Deadline to turn in applications for our STEM Grant. Encourage educators you know to apply.

### FEBRUARY 18

Advisory resolutions and nomination by petition papers are due to the co-op.

### MARCH 4

Deadline to submit applications for our educational scholarship.



We're thrilled to announce that we've donated toys to 2,498 children in 2021. Toys, stocking stuffers, and books were donated to the following programs in our service area:

- Adams County Angel Tree
- Waushara County Holiday Project
- Marquette County Giving Tree
- Green Lake County Angel Tree
- Sauk County Children's Giving Tree
- Gertrude Christian Children's Fund in Randolph
- Christmas Tree Project in Pardeeville
- Children's Wisconsin in Baraboo
- NICC Foundation in Columbus

We're beyond thankful for the partnership of our programs listed above for distributing donations to families, and for the 83 businesses throughout our service area that were donation sites. This is the largest our program has ever been, with a record of the most children we've ever donated to.

This collective effort wouldn't be possible without the support from all of the communities we serve. Thank you for helping us make a difference in the lives of so many local families in need!

## EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP



Our educational scholarship is now available! This program is open January 1 - March 4. Members of Adams-Columbia Electric Co-op and children of members that are enrolled in post-secondary education, vocational to graduate studies, are encouraged to apply.

### HOW TO APPLY

The application, information and directions, and reference forms are available on our website. The deadline to apply is Friday, March 4.

Visit [www.acecwi.com/co-op-programs/scholarships](http://www.acecwi.com/co-op-programs/scholarships) to learn more. Students that have received a scholarship in the past are also encouraged to apply.

Remember, this program adds no cost to your electric bill. It is funded entirely from unclaimed patronage capital checks that are issued by the cooperative.



## STEM GRANT

Help us spread the word about our STEM Grant! Educators with curriculums in the areas of science, technology, engineering, and math can apply for a grant of up to \$500.

### HOW TO APPLY

Our simple application only takes a few minutes to complete for the opportunity to be awarded \$500. The application asks for school information, details about the STEM project, impact on the students, and more.

### DEADLINES

The deadlines are February 1, May 1, August 1, and November 1. Applications are reviewed quarterly after these deadlines.

### WHO CAN APPLY

Funding is available for public, public charter, private, Christian schools, home schools, and organizations in our service area for classrooms with students K-12.

### WHAT HAVE GRANTS BEEN AWARDED FOR

STEM carts, graphing calculators, 3D printers, coding, and robotics are just a few examples of what classes have been awarded funds for. To view a full listing of all awarded STEM Grants, visit our website at [www.acecwi.com/stem-grant](http://www.acecwi.com/stem-grant).

# NATIONAL CUT YOUR ENERGY COSTS DAY

It's time to explore where and when we use the most energy in our home or business and cut our energy costs. Start the new year with SmartHub, our online portal for members to access their account(s) for billing history, usage information, co-op news, and more.

Our SmartHub app is your go-to tool to see when you consume energy and how much. With daily usage breakdown, multiple ways to compare your energy consumption, average weather temperature, and even 15-minute intervals of usage, the SmartHub app can help you determine when you are consuming the most energy.

In addition to SmartHub, we also have a usage calculator on our website. You can enter the watts of the electronics you're using and the hours per day those items are used. Visit [www.acecwi.com/energy-usage-formula](http://www.acecwi.com/energy-usage-formula) to try it out for yourself.

Visit our website to set up a SmartHub account and to learn about all of the features SmartHub offers. Be sure to download the mobile app too!



Use power strips to turn off multiple electronics at once



Make sure your refrigerator door seals are airtight



Turn your thermostat down a few degrees in the winter



Turn off your water heater when going away on vacation



Replace light bulbs with LED's



Wash clothes in cold or warm water



Seal air leaks with caulk



Utilize the sun for additional warmth

## SUBMIT YOUR FARM PHOTOS



The theme for our 2023 calendar is "Life on the Farm". We're seeking winter photos at this time. Please send us pictures for our 2023 calendar of barns, animals, farm equipment, landscapes, or anything that resembles what life on a farm is like. Submit your photos on our website at [www.acecwi.com/submit-your-photos](http://www.acecwi.com/submit-your-photos).



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](mailto:acec@acecwi.com)

Website  
[www.acecwi.com](http://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

Enroll in Auto Pay through the  
SmartHub app by using a credit  
card or bank account information.





## SAFETY MESSAGE

Ice and snow-covered roads are a common enemy for everyone this time of year. Help us spread the word about our License to Live video, which explains step-by-step what to do if you are involved in a car accident and your vehicle hits electric utility equipment. Remember, even though you can't see sparks, power lines and transformers could still be energized!

Take a few minutes to watch this video and share it with your loved ones, it may save a life someday. Visit [safeelectricity.org/license-to-live](http://safeelectricity.org/license-to-live) to watch the video, or scan this QR code.



### Briefing of the Board Meeting

October 19, 2021

#### Board Action Items:

- Approved policies
- Discussed budget, approved travel and education for 2022
- Approved resolution authorizing amendment of RS Plan A
- Approved September expense vouchers
- Director Kelly attended Operation Round-Up meeting
- Director Skolarz and Ebert attended WECA courses and gave reports

The full board meeting summary can be found on our website at [www.acecwi.com/news-information/meeting-mins](http://www.acecwi.com/news-information/meeting-mins).



### Employee Spotlight

*Garin Gavinski*  
*Journeyman Line Technician*

Garin works at our Friendship office and has been employed at the co-op for 13 years.

"I work with a great group of guys and enjoy what I do."

We appreciate your hard work and dedication, Garin!



## HOMEMADE CHICKEN & DUMPLINGS

**PREP TIME - 90 MINS**  
**COOK TIME - 75 MINS**

### INGREDIENTS

#### Chicken Recipe Ingredients:

- 3 lbs chicken
- 2 Tbsp vegetable oil
- 2 stalks celery, cut into 1/2" pieces
- 1 1/2 c chopped onion
- 3 cubes chicken bullion
- 3 c water
- 1 bay leaf
- 1/4 tsp black pepper
- 6 carrots cut into 1/2" pieces
- 1/3 c flour
- 1/2 c cold water (in addition to the 3 cups listed above)

#### Dumpling Ingredients:

- 1 1/2 c flour
- 2 tsp baking powder
- 1/2 salt
- 1/2 nutmeg
- 1 tsp parsley
- 2/3 c milk
- 1 egg slightly beaten
- 2 tsp vegetable oil

### INSTRUCTIONS

#### Chicken Instructions:

1. Brown chicken in vegetable oil in a large pan with a lid.
2. Add all of the next six ingredients to the pan of chicken. Bring to a boil and let simmer for an additional 25 minutes.
3. Add the carrots to the pan and simmer until tender (about 20 minutes)
4. Remove the chicken from the pan. Dissolve flour and water (1/2 cold water) add to the juice mixture in the pan to thicken.
5. Once thickened, add the chicken back to the pan. Time to make the dumplings.

#### Dumpling Instructions:

1. Add the dumpling ingredients to a large bowl and mix until moist.
2. Take a teaspoon and drop dumplings into the pot of chicken. Put a lid on and simmer for 18 minutes.
3. Time to enjoy this wonderful meal!

Recipe from Michelle Kessler of Pardeeville, WI