

# THE WIRE

Adams-Columbia Electric Cooperative • March 2022



*You're invited*

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

Wednesday, May 18, 2022 | Pardeeville High School  
Registration at 5:00 p.m., Business Meeting at 5:30 p.m.

All members are invited to join us at our 35<sup>th</sup> annual meeting. As a cooperative, members have the opportunity to make their voice heard and vote for their board of directors. Our board of directors are in charge of making important decisions about strategic planning, rates, policies, and other cooperative business.



**VOLUNTARY  
& OPEN  
MEMBERSHIP**

### CO-OP PRINCIPLE #1

Cooperatives are voluntary organizations open to all persons able to use their services and willing to accept the responsibilities of membership, without gender, social, racial, political or religious discrimination.



**DEMOCRATIC  
MEMBER  
CONTROL**

### CO-OP PRINCIPLE #2

Cooperatives are democratic organizations controlled by their members, who actively participate in setting policies and making decisions.

The elected representatives are accountable to the membership. Members have equal voting rights (one member, one vote).

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### MARCH 23 & APRIL 13

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.

### APRIL 15

Deadline to submit applications for our Jon Steinhaus Lineworker Scholarship.

### APRIL 15

Deadline to submit applications for Operation Round-Up.

### MAY 1

Deadline to submit applications for our STEM Grant. Encourage teachers you know to apply!

## MEET OUR CONTRACTORS

ACEC works with a variety of highly skilled contractors. Below are a few contractors you may see working on our system, or within our service area. When you see crews from these companies, they are working on our behalf to help us provide the best service possible for you, our members.

### KARCZ UTILITY SERVICES

Karcz takes care of maintaining our underground equipment and our pole testing.

This year, they'll be working on underground equipment in the Quincy, Columbus, and Richford areas. Pole testing will be done in the Plainfield, Coloma, and Lewiston areas.



### ALLEN STEELE CO. INC.

They're the starting point for the majority of new services we install. They typically arrive a day or so before our crews complete their work.

When our crews arrive, we wrap up the installation of service.

Located in Baraboo, they travel throughout our service area to help us with cable plowing.



### 4CONTROL

4Control helps tackle the vegetation jobs which include herbicide spraying.

You may see their crews walking along our right-of-ways and near our substations.

They help us overcome some of the challenges our crews face with invasive plants in our service area, like poison ivy.



### ZIELIES

Zielies crews work on a different level of our vegetation management than 4Control by trimming trees in our area.

Trees can cause quite the hazard if they are too close to our overhead power lines or other equipment.

Their crews help manage the distance of trees near our distribution system.



## JON STEINHAUS LINEWORKER SCHOLARSHIP

Our scholarship is available beginning March 11 and will close on April 15. Eligibility includes anyone who is enrolled in an Electrical Power Distribution program in the United States. Visit our website to learn more about this scholarship opportunity at [www.acecwi.com/co-op-programs/scholarships](http://www.acecwi.com/co-op-programs/scholarships). Applications must be postmarked by April 15 to be considered eligible.



In order to consider your application, the following items are required and must be submitted:

- Completed Application
- Three Reference Forms
- High School Transcript
- Post-Secondary Transcript (if available)



Forms must be submitted by emailing Heather Smith at [hsmith@acecwi.com](mailto:hsmith@acecwi.com), or mail to:

**Adams-Columbia Electric Co-op**  
**ATTN: Scholarship Program**  
**P.O. Box 70**  
**Friendship, WI 53934**





## THANK A LINEMAN

Celebrate Lineman Appreciation Day with us on April 18. This year, we're looking to our members to show our linemen some love.

Whether our crews have made an impact on your life by quickly restoring a power outage, or you simply have a "thank you" comment you'd like our line crews to see. Submit your stories and comments on our website by visiting [www.acecwi.com/thank-a-lineman](http://www.acecwi.com/thank-a-lineman). You may also mail us a written letter with your stories to **Adams-Columbia Electric Co-op, ATTN: Marketing, P.O. Box 70, Friendship, WI 53934**, or drop off your letters at our Friendship office. Please send us your submissions by April 15.

### HEY KIDS!

We'd love to see your hand-drawn pictures to share with our line crews on Lineman Appreciation Day too! Draw a picture for our linemen to thank them for their work and we'll be sure to share it with them. You can print off a coloring sheet on our website too.

Drawings can be submitted on our website, mailed in, or dropped off at our Friendship office. Your drawings will surely put a smile on our linemen's faces.



## LOBBYING FOR OUR MEMBERS

Board Directors Jon Ebert and Aaron Hoernke had the opportunity to discuss key electric cooperative issues with Wisconsin senators and representatives at WECA's Education & Lobby Days in early February. Assembly and senate bills that were discussed included virtual annual meetings, wild parsnip, electric vehicles, and third-party community solar.

When your board of directors engage with political figures to express the importance of these topics, our senators and representatives get a true understanding of electric cooperatives, and the issues that impact us most.



*Pictured above are Senator Joan Ballweg with Director Jon Ebert, and Representative Alex Dallman with Director Jon Ebert and Marketing Coordinator Haley Melby.*



**Adams-Columbia  
Electric Cooperative**

## CONTACT US

Customer Service & Billing  
(800) 831-8629

IVR Payment  
(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 Operation Round-Up  
through the SmartHub app to make  
a difference in your community.



Download on the  
App Store

GET IT ON  
Google Play

## SAFETY MESSAGE

Spring is creeping just around the corner, which has many of us itching for spring projects. If you have outdoor landscaping or home projects in mind, be sure to call Diggers Hotline at 8-1-1 at least 3 business days before any digging. A variety of underground facilities may be on your property, including electric wires, gas pipes, fiber or communication cable, water lines, and much more. Learn more by watching the What Lies Beneath video by visiting <https://safeelectricity.org/what-lies-beneath-video/>.



### Briefing of the Board Meeting

**November 29, 2021**

#### Board Action Items:

- Approved Rules & Regulations for 2022
- Approved quote from Baycom for radio system
- Approved test pilot for a co-gen net metering rate
- Approved October expense vouchers
- Ebert to attend Operation Round-Up meeting in January

**December 13, 2021**

#### Board Action Items:

- Approved 2022 budget and work plan
- Approved 2022 Federated Youth Foundation budget

View the full meeting summary on our website:  
[www.acecwi.com/news-information/meeting-mins](http://www.acecwi.com/news-information/meeting-mins)



### Employee Spotlight

*Derek Pavelec  
Purchasing Assistant  
& Warehouse Lead*

Derek has worked for the co-op for 13 years and was recently promoted to Purchasing Assistant & Warehouse Lead.

"Since I started working at ACEC, I have learned a lot about the electrical industry and watched how we have evolved with new products and technologies. I'm excited for my new position and how we will continue to evolve in the future."

We're glad you're a part of the team,  
Derek!

## MACARONI - PIZZA STYLE

PREP TIME - 20 MINS | COOK TIME - 45 MINS

### INGREDIENTS

- |                                 |                                    |                              |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| • 1 1/2 lbs burger              | • 2 jars pizza sauce               | • small jar sliced mushrooms |
| • 8 oz medium-sized shell pasta | • 2 c shredded mozzarella cheese   | • 1 tsp oregano              |
| • diced onion                   | • 1 small package pepperoni slices | • 1 tsp garlic salt          |
| • minced garlic                 |                                    | • 1 tsp pepper               |



### INSTRUCTIONS

1. Brown meat, onion, and garlic. Set aside.
2. Cook pasta and drain.
3. Mix all ingredients together. Put in greased casserole dish. Bake covered for 30 minutes, then bake an additional 15 minutes uncovered. Serve with a salad or garlic bread.

Recipe from Suzanne Erdman of Portage, WI