

## SAFETY MESSAGE

Grilling outdoors is not only a good way to keep your house cooler and lower your energy bill, it's a great way to enjoy warm summer days with family and friends – but more than half of grill fires occur during these peak months. Each year, grill fires cause thousands of injuries and millions of dollars in property loss, according to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). Most grill fires can be prevented with proper maintenance and safe use. For more grilling safety information, visit [safeelectricity.org/blog/grilling-safety](https://safeelectricity.org/blog/grilling-safety).

### Briefing of the Board Meeting

March 18, 2025

#### Board Action Items:

- Approved February board vouchers
- Approved board policies
- Approved 2024 allocation of margins
- Approved GM expenses

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

### 5 WAYS TO REDUCE USE DURING EXTREME HEAT

75

During periods of extreme heat, the demand for electricity can skyrocket, placing additional strain on the grid. By working together to lower our electricity use, we can reduce pressure on the grid.

1. Raise your thermostat setting a few degrees higher than usual.
2. Cook with smaller appliances to save energy.
3. Keep blinds, curtains, and shades closed during the hottest part of the day.
4. Use fans to circulate air, which can make you feel cooler without needing to lower the thermostat.
5. Shift energy usage to off-peak hours when demand is lower.

## SUMMER STUFFED SHELLS

PREP TIME - 30 MINS | TOTAL TIME - 1 HOUR

### INGREDIENTS

- 1 12 oz package jumbo shells
- 1 Tbsp oil
- 1 onion, chopped
- 1 zucchini, chopped into 1/2" pieces
- 3 cloves garlic, chopped
- 2 c ricotta
- 1/2 c grated Parmesan
- 1 c corn kernels
- 1/4 c basil leaves, chopped
- 1 1/2 c shredded mozzarella
- 1 lemon
- 3 c mariana sauce
- salt and pepper

### INSTRUCTIONS

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. In a large pot of boiling water, cook shells until al dente.
2. In a large skillet over medium heat, heat oil. Add onion, stirring occasionally. Add zucchini, garlic, salt, and pepper. Stir occasionally until zucchini is lightly browned and softened. Transfer to a large bowl and let cool.
3. Add ricotta, Parmesan, corn, basil, 1/2 c mozzarella, zest and juice from lemon, and cooled zucchini mixture to the bowl. Stir to combine and season with salt and pepper.
4. Spread marinara sauce in the bottom of a 9"x13" dish. Stuff each shell with about 2 Tbsp of mixture and arrange in a dish. Top with the remaining 1 c mozzarella.
5. Bake until cheese is beginning to brown and sauce is bubbling, about 25-30 minutes.

Recipe from [www.delish.com](https://www.delish.com)



# THE WIRE

Adams-Columbia Electric Cooperative • June 2025

Empowering Our Communities



## TRANSFORMER DONATION TO LIGHT UP NAVAJO



We recently donated 64 salvaged 10 KVA transformers, a mix of underground and overhead units, to the Navajo Tribal Utility Authority for the Light Up Navajo initiative. Light Up Navajo is a mutual aid project where crews from around the country work to build and install electric facilities for families of the Navajo Nation in Arizona who don't have access to electricity.

To learn more about Light Up Navajo, visit [www.weca.coop/light-up-navajo-initiative](https://www.weca.coop/light-up-navajo-initiative).

## CO-OP LEADERS ADVOCATING FOR YOU

Last month, our co-op leaders gathered in our nation's capital to advocate for our members during the annual Legislative Conference.

This conference provides opportunities for co-ops to bring key energy issues and priorities to the political forefront and represent their members in D.C.

Conversations focused on:

- Enhancing grid reliability to meet the growing energy needs of our members
- Ensuring access to federal funding opportunities that promote innovation
- Streamlining federal permitting processes to support our local communities with smart energy policies



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### JUNE 20

Our general manager, Jon, will be at our Wautoma office from 8:00 - 11:00 a.m. and our Pardeeville office from 12:30 - 3:30 p.m. for Discussion Day.

### JULY 4

Our office will be closed for Independence Day.

### JULY 15

The next deadline for our Operation Round-Up program.



## WE WANT YOUR PHOTOS!

Would you like to see your photo featured in our co-op calendar? Submit your Countryside Landscape photos on our website! Photos submitted will be considered to be used in our 2026 calendar. Photos can be in color or black and white and should be horizontally oriented. All photos submitted may be used in future newsletters, cooperative publications, or other marketing materials.

Ready to submit? Visit [www.acecwi.com/submit-your-photos](http://www.acecwi.com/submit-your-photos) to submit your photos by July 31, 2025.



## ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

Thank you to all members who attended our Annual Meeting this year. For an event recap, visit [www.acecwi.com/annual-meeting](http://www.acecwi.com/annual-meeting).

Our bylaws state we must provide the annual meeting minutes to the membership via our newsletter before the minutes are approved. Members have not less than 30 days to request corrections to the minutes as published. If corrections are requested, the board considers the proposed corrections and may take any action that in the board's reasonable judgment is appropriate.

The Adams-Columbia Electric Cooperative Annual Meeting was held on May 7, 2025, at the Adams-Columbia Electric Cooperative Friendship Office, in Friendship, Wisconsin. Board Chair Aaron Hoernke called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. The meeting was conducted in accordance with the Meeting Rules and Voting Procedures that had been adopted by the Rules committee and provided to the members prior to the meeting.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all in attendance.

Director Adam Jones gave the Invocation.

Safety and Environmental Coordinator Eric Johnson gave a safety message on surge protection.

Attorney Jessica Shrestha announced that there were 551 registered members that cast absentee ballots, electronic ballots or registered in person.

Board Secretary Gary Skolarz read the Affidavit of Notice of Annual Meeting and Proof of Mailing.

Finance Manager Liz Hendricksen presented a summary of the 2024 year end financials.

General Manager Jon Congdon took the floor and recognized the following groups for their contribution to the Co-op, ACEC's Board of Directors and past Directors, current and former employees, Operation Round-Up Board of Directors, Rules Committee members. Special guests in attendance were Tim Clay from WECA, Katie Marquardt representing Alliant Energy. Mr. Congdon continued with the cooperative highlights from 2024.

Attorney Jessica Shrestha announced the results of the election which are as follows:

District 3 - Aaron Hoernke received 19 in person votes, 479 online votes and 10 absentee votes for a total of 508.

Winner for District 3 - Aaron Hoernke

District 5 - Jon Ebert received 22 in person votes, 488 online votes and 10 absentee votes for a total of 520.

Winner for District 5 - Jon Ebert

Board Chair Aaron Hoernke stated that there was no unfinished business for 2024 and no new business. Hoernke declared the 2025 Annual Meeting adjourned at 5:37 p.m.



## CONTACT US

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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 sign up  
for auto pay through your  
SmartHub account?



## SOLAR TIPS



### Contact ACEC before installing solar

There is necessary paperwork that needs to be completed before we can interconnect to your solar system.

Before getting started with installing solar or other renewable energy source, call us at (800) 831-8629 or email us at [acec@acecwi.com](mailto:acec@acecwi.com).

### Learn the solar process

Watch our short video to learn how solar generation works, tips to consider while researching contractors, and what you can do to prepare your home prior to installing solar. For everything solar on our website, visit [www.acecwi.com/connecting-der-systems](http://www.acecwi.com/connecting-der-systems).



### Do your homework

Take the time to learn about your options and review our solar frequently asked questions page on our website: [www.acecwi.com/solar-frequently-asked-questions](http://www.acecwi.com/solar-frequently-asked-questions).

### Settling with one contractor

We recommend contacting a few companies to get multiple bids before signing a contractor for work to be completed. Members can research solar installation companies on Focus on Energy's website.



### Explore solar rebates available through Focus on Energy

Members may qualify for rebates through Focus on Energy for installing solar!

Specific zip codes may also receive an additional incentive.

Check out rebates at [focusonenergy.com/residential/solar-for-homes](http://focusonenergy.com/residential/solar-for-homes).



## DON'T FORGET!

### Falling for scams

If you see an advertisement about solar stating you'll owe nothing on your energy bill or that your system can be installed for free, it's probably a scam. It's crucial to stay educated and informed!







Morgan  
Gove



Morgan  
Newlon



Morgan  
Stadler



Natalie  
Boggess



Natalie  
Gneiser



Natalie  
Weidner



Nathan  
Gneiser



Nicholas  
Katsma



Nicholas  
Medema



Nolan  
Drews



Nora  
Murphy



Olivia  
Bue



Olivia  
Eagan



Olivia  
Eckert



Olivia  
Zuehls



Owen  
Daliege \*



Rachael  
Weickert



Randi  
Murch



Reagan  
Drews



Riley  
Kaminski



Robin  
Anderson



Samantha  
Raley



Samantha  
Sipla



Samuel  
Berruecos Morales



Samuel  
Salzman



Sean  
Bollinger



Simon  
Wolfe



Stephanie  
Hoekstra



Syd  
Bue



Sydney  
Harris



Talya  
Wenger



Tanner  
Treutel



Taylor  
Hoffman



Taylor  
Konopacki



Teagan  
Treutel



Theodore  
Clay



Trevor  
Brouette



William  
Karg \*



Zachary  
Cupery



Zoe  
Gross



Zoey  
Nawrot

**Not Pictured:**  
Alex Wood  
Ava Gravunder  
Daniel Gaffney  
Erin Blader  
Nicholas Gabriel  
Spencer Garbacz

## Congratulations 2025 Scholarship Recipients

This year, we've awarded \$181,000 to 173 recipients, four of them being awarded the Jon Steinhaus Lineworker Scholarship to pursue a career in electrical power distribution. Those students have a star (\*) by their name.



Abigail  
Cattanaach



Abigail  
Edwards



Abigail  
Katsma



Addison  
Kolls



Addison  
Smykal



Alayna  
Panich



Alexa  
Boerboom



Alexa  
Cour



Alexa  
Guelig



Allyson  
Brenner



Anastasia  
Morrow



Anikah  
Castillo



Ashton  
Brusveen



Ashtyn  
Wiersma



Bella  
Klitzke



Benjamin  
Felle



Benjamin  
Truehl



Bianca  
Brown



Brady  
Abitz \*



Brianna  
Buechner



Brianna  
Reimer



Brianna  
Wiersma



Caitlin  
Meyers



Caleb  
Nehmer



Caleb  
Stadler



Cali  
Eastling



Cami  
Culver



Carlee  
Beach



Carson  
Hirst



Charlene  
Wendt



Charlie  
Hughes



Chase  
Beckett



Chloe  
Kerschner



Claire  
Bischel



Clara  
Kubis



Clara  
Wendt



Colten  
McMillen



Courtney  
Isselmann



Craig  
Ward



Dana  
Doherty



Darek  
Trzebiatowski



David  
Trzebiatowski





Devin  
Foulkes



Diana  
Gabriel



Dillan  
Sztuczko



Drew  
Mattirsch



Ella  
Steers



Emma  
Braaksma



Emma  
Hamilton



Katelin  
Wessley



Katelyn  
Rau



Katelyn  
Saeman



Kayla  
Garbacz



Kendra  
Schwoerer



Kennedy  
Condie



Kennedy  
Smit



Emma  
Hoffman



Erin  
Ruis



Ethan  
Isselmann



Faith  
Kindschuh



Gage  
Anderson



Gavin  
Bruss



Gavin  
Ghys



Kiarra  
Kahl



Kiley  
Weckwerth



Kinsley  
Kahl



Kloey  
Daliege



Kyle  
Betz



Kyler  
Fenske



Kylie  
Rimmert



Genna  
Garrigan



Gregg  
Hammel



Gretchen  
Heller



Grey  
Gerzmehle



Griffin  
Garrigan



Hailey  
Bronkhorst



Hallie  
Anderson



Landon  
Keller



Laura  
Koehler



Lauren  
Konrath



Leah  
Vander Galien



Lily  
Evans



Lincoln  
Smith



Lindsay  
Drews



Hayley  
Moore



Hoyt  
Keller



Hunter  
Peschel



Jack  
Wiedmeyer



Jack  
Yelk



Jacklyn  
Greening



Jacob  
Alexander



Lucas  
Prange



Lucy  
Gratz



Lucy  
Murphy



Luke  
Radzikinas



Macie  
Van Baren



Mackenna  
Belter



Macy  
Cross



Jacob  
Betz



Jacob  
Rockwell



Jakob  
Schmucki



Jamie  
Damm



Jaxon  
Hanson



Jaydon  
Hendershott



Jenna  
Wentland



Madelin  
Gratz



Madeline  
Johnson



Madysun  
Selthofner



Makenna  
Rettler



Maria  
Lauer



Mason  
Fox



Matthew  
Isselmann



Jessica  
Malecki



Jill  
Bohn



Jordan  
Schwoerer



Joshua  
Ward \*



Kamren  
Westphal



Karissa  
Rettler



Karley  
Beaver



McKenzie  
Prosser



Meaghan  
Berkahn



Melanie  
Koopmans



Melanie  
Prince



Mia  
Rigden



Michaela  
Doyle



Morgan  
Ghys