



By Mike Wade, President & CEO

OCTOBER IS THE MONTH TO CELEBRATE COOPERATIVES...AND EAT PANCAKES



Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative
Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

When it comes to the four seasons, I enjoy fall the best and especially the month of October. I have fond memories of my kids dressing up for Halloween and the cool weather that came with it. Living in Wisconsin has given me a greater appreciation for fall because of the dramatic changing of the seasons. The colors of the autumn leaves are vibrant and vary from tree to tree. Although October marks the transition from summer to fall, it also means celebrating what it means to be a cooperative.

October is Co-op Month, which has been a nationally recognized celebration since 1964. This is the month that we

acknowledge the benefits that cooperatives all across the country bring to their members and communities. It is a time for our co-op to reflect on the principles we share with other cooperatives and the value we provide. Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative is proud to be a part of the cooperative family and we strive to adhere to the seven cooperative principals:

- 1) Voluntary and Open Membership
- 2) Democratic Member Control
- 3) Members' Economic Participation
- 4) Autonomy and Independence
- 5) Education, Training, and Information
- 6) Cooperation Among Cooperatives
- 7) Concern For Community

October is also a time to show our

appreciation to our members at our annual Member Appreciation Breakfast. The pancake breakfast will be held on Saturday, October 29 beginning at 8 a.m. The Board of Directors and staff of CWEC want to extend our thanks and appreciation for allowing us to provide electric service to you and be an integral part of the communities in which we serve.

October is also the month that the cooperative returns to you a portion of your capital credits. Capital credits are the revenues that remain at the end of the year once all expenses are paid. These revenues, or margins, are then assigned to members based on the amount of energy consumed during the year. Annually, the board approves the retirement of a portion of these capital credits and members see a credit on their electric bill. It's just another way that cooperatives add value back to their members.

Come join us at our Member Appreciation Breakfast on Saturday, October 29. We will have arts and crafts vendors so bring your wallet and start your Christmas shopping early. Learn more about your cooperative, visit with your fellow cooperative members, and enjoy some of the best pancakes and sausage in Central Wisconsin. See you then.

MEMBERS RECEIVE CAPITAL CREDITS

One of the benefits of being a member of Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative (CWEC) is that members are eligible to receive capital credits, which represents their ownership in CWEC.

For 2022, active members whose retired capital credits are less than \$100 will receive a credit on their September electric bill, which will be mailed to members in October. Checks will be mailed in October to active members whose retired capital credits amount to more than \$100. Checks, with a minimum of \$10, will also be mailed to all offline members who receive retired capital credits.

BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

The July regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative was held in-person on July 28, 2022 at 7:55 a.m. The following is a summary of the meeting activities. The agenda, minutes of the June 30, 2022 meeting, new and terminated memberships, monthly safety and compliance report, and estate capital credit retirements were approved.

Action Items

- a. Monthly Financial Statements and Reports were approved. Finance Committee reviewed checks written and the board and CEO expenses.
- b. The Governance Committee did not meet this month.
- c. The board reviewed Board Policy 407 – Sale of Material & Equipment and Pole Release Form and made no recommended changes.
- d. The board discussed the Rate Workshop and Cost of Service Study presentation as presented by CFC staff. Additional information will be gathered and presented at a future board meeting for further discussion.
- e. Mr. Wade reviewed the process and timeline for preparing the 2023 budget and goals, as well as the format of the final document that is presented to the board at the November board meeting.
- f. Mr. Wade and Ms. Patoka gave an informational presentation to the

board on how the co-op is preparing for future employee retirements as part of succession planning.

- g. The board discussed scheduling a Strategic Planning Workshop with CFC in April 2023. A date will be scheduled with CFC and confirmed back to the board.
- h. The board approved holding the annual Joint Committee Dinner on Wednesday, October 19, 2022.

Operations and Engineering – Mr. Kurtzweil gave an update on the completion of the Trucker Hill Radio Tower Project and the improvement it has made to our service territory. Crews are working on the Wittenberg Substation, as well as continuing to clean up from the June storm. Inventory supply is closely being monitored to limit issues with low stock and shipping delays.

Accounting and Finance – Ms. Shower reviewed financial reports.

Member Services – Ms. Mazemke reported we have received some great photos for the Photo Contest. Bowler School Tech Department has submitted an application for the STEAM Grant.

Administrative Services – Ms. Patoka will also begin serving on the WECA Education Committee.

President and CEO – Mike Wade, CEO, reported on his submitted report. Meeting adjourned at 1:25 p.m.



OPERATION ROUND UP CONTINUES TO HELP AREA COMMUNITIES

WHAT IS OPERATION ROUND UP?

Operation Round Up provides funds for worthwhile causes, including member hardship cases, educational purposes including scholarships, and charitable organizations. It is funded by volunteer donations from CWEC members, allowing them the opportunity to give back to our local communities, a few cents each month. Electric bills are simply “rounded up” to the next whole dollar amount. The monthly “round up” could be as little as a single penny, but never more than 99 cents. The average donation is \$6 annually, which is tax deductible. Operation Round Up is an opt-out program.

The funds are held separately from any CWEC funds and are administered by a member Board of Trustees. Applications are made for grants and these are reviewed quarterly for disbursement of funds.



Above, left to right: Elderon VFW Auxiliary representative Bea Mathison (left) and Operation Round Up board member Rita Betker; Iola American Legion representative Lyle Mork and Operation Round Up board member Sue Halverson. Left: Scandinavia Booster Club representative Wayne Luck (left) and Operation Round Up board member Mark Forseth.



3RD QUARTER RECIPIENTS

- **\$1,500 – Scandinavia Volunteer Fire Department** to help with the purchase of five Self Contained Breathing Apparatus units.
- **\$1,000 – Scandinavia Booster Club** to help purchase playground equipment and make improvements to the community park in Scandinavia.
- **\$500 – American Legion Post 239 and Auxiliary Unit 239 of Tigerton** to help purchase and repair products for their kitchen, front door, and stain for the building.
- **\$500 – VFW Auxiliary to Elderon Memorial Post 8068** to provide a homemade Veterans Day and Christmas card to the Shawano and Marathon County veterans at King Veterans Home, with \$20 for them to spend as they wish.
- **\$250 – Project Backpack** to help pay for providing bags of food to students in need in five school districts per week.
- **\$200 – American Legion Post 14 of Iola** to help sponsor its 95th anniversary fundraiser event needs.



Top row, left to right: Project Backpack representative Pastor Logan and Operation Round Up board member Sue Halverson; Tigerton Legion Auxiliary representative Virginia Kauffman and Operation Round Up board member Kevin Mueller. Above: Scandinavia Fire Department representative Gary Marx (right) and Operation Round Up board member Mark Forseth.

**TOTAL
OPERATION
ROUND UP
FUNDS
DONATED:
\$598,489**

BREAKFAST IS ON US!



Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative **MEMBER APPRECIATION BREAKFAST**

Saturday,
October 29, 2022
8-11 a.m.

Main Office in Rosholt,
10401 Lystul Road

Come join the fun, as Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative will host a pancake breakfast as a way to show its appreciation to its members.

- Door Prizes
- Kids Costume Contest
- Bounce House for Kids
- Halloween Treat Bag for Kids
- Hotline Demo
- Paper Recycling
- Free Blood Pressure Screening provided by Rural Health Initiative staff
- Craft & Gift Fair with 25+ local vendors



Costume
Contest Judging
at 9:45 a.m.

Bike Drawing
at 10 a.m.



Craft & Gift
Fair!



- ◆ Bring a new unwrapped toy to donate to our Toys for Tots toy drive and we'll enter you in a special prize drawing.
- ◆ Bring canned food items to be donated to local food pantries and receive one LED light bulb for every three food items. (Up to 15 limit)



LILY GOLLON WINS ELECTRICAL SAFETY POSTER CONTEST

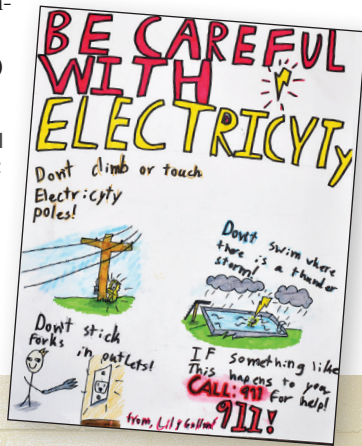
“Oh my gosh I won.” That’s what Lily Gollon thought to herself when she found out that she had won the WECA statewide Electrical Safety Poster Contest.

“I never really won any art contests before,” Gollon said.

Lily’s mom, Melissa, confirmed that Lily was “super excited” after finding out she had won.

Gollon, a student at Rosholt Elementary School, entered the poster contest after Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative (CWEC) informed the local school dis-

Lily Gollon with her parents and her third-grade teacher at Rosholt Elementary School – left to right: Joseph Gollon; Lily, holding her winning poster; Melissa Gollon, holding the Chromebook that her daughter won; and art teacher Natalie Ockwig. At right is Lily’s winning poster.



tricts within its service area about the poster contest for third-graders. Rosholt Elementary School was one of the schools contacted.

“I made it a requirement for both of my third-grade classes that they would make the poster and then it was up to the parents to send back the permission slips for who actually got to participate in the contest,” said Natalie Ockwig, art teacher for the Rosholt School District.

Ockwig added that she talked to both classes about poster design and composition.

Gollon said she came up with the ideas for her poster after watching videos in class about the importance of being safe around electricity.

As one would expect, Gollon loves drawing. Her mom said she watches YouTube videos about drawing, and is drawing all the time. One of her favorite YouTube channels to watch is Moriah Elizabeth, who hosts videos about creating different pieces of art.

“She makes a lot of different types of art,” Melissa Gollon said about Lily.

“She knows how to do many things. She’s musically inclined. She has a wonderful imagination. She’s a very gifted and well-rounded kid.”

Ockwig concurred that Lily Gollon is a talented artist, and wasn’t surprised to hear she won the local competition of the poster contest.

“When I found out she won the state competition I was super excited for her,” Ockwig said, adding, “She’s a pretty talented child. I kind of thought that she might have a good shot with her drawing ability.”

For her efforts, Gollon won a \$25 check from CWEC for winning the local portion of the poster contest, as well as a \$25 gift card and new Chromebook from Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association.

Melissa Gollon said Lily has been using one of her grandma’s devices and doing different drawings with a stylus program, so she was excited to win a new Chromebook.

“I’ve heard that the Chromebook is supposed to be top of the line, so we’re really excited,” said Melissa Gollon. “It’s been kind of a toss-up figuring out what would be a good device for her, and is inclined with her abilities. But it also has the proper parental protections. It’s supposed to be a very secure system to use. We’re very fortunate.”



She added, “The Rosholt school has been wonderful and they’ve done everything they can to boost her and work with her.”



Central Wisconsin
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Our Mission

We are your trusted energy partner and provider of valued community support.