



By Mike Wade,
President & CEO

CWEC RETIRES OVER \$250,000 OF CAPITAL CREDITS MONEY

Thank you to everyone that sent in photos for our 2019 calendar. As always, it was a tough choice to narrow the selection to the ones we needed. We have a membership with an eye for capturing natural beauty and the landscapes and wildlife to create dramatic images. Thank you for your continued participation to help us create a wonderful calendar for all of our members to enjoy.

Also, thank you to the members of the Operation Round Up Trust for your hard work in selecting recipients for the contributions made by our members. You spend many hours reviewing applications and ensuring that our fund dollars make their way to individuals and organizations that need our help. The Operation Round Up program has been such a powerful force to help our communities and those who have a

special need. If you have not signed up to participate in this program, please contact our office and ask to speak to a Member Service Representative.

In keeping with our cooperative principals, the board of directors approved the retirement of capital credits in the amount of \$253,849. Capital credits represent each member's ownership of the cooperative. They are the margins credited (or allocated) to the members of the cooperative based on their purchases from the cooperative in previous years. If your capital credits were part of the retirement, you will have noticed a credit on your electric bill or have received a check in the mail. As the cooperative is financially able, it is a privilege to return a portion of your investment in the cooperative to you.

We have begun work on a capital and expense budget for the new year of 2019. Our board of directors is presented with a fairly comprehensive list of goals



**Central Wisconsin
Electric Cooperative**
Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

at their November board meeting and a detailed budget at their December board meeting. The 2019 budget will include a large number of maintenance projects that help us improve reliability, but will also include some new items that will help us provide greater value to our members.

Happy Thanksgiving to each of you, and be safe as you travel this holiday season.

ELECTRICAL SAFETY
TIP OF THE MONTH



Never leave a space heater unattended. Unplug it before leaving the room or going to bed.

MY CO-OP

BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative was held at the headquarters in Rosholt at 7:56 a.m. on August 30, 2018. The following is a summary of the meeting activities. The agenda, minutes of the July 26, 2018 meeting, new and terminated memberships, and the monthly safety and compliance report 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 CEO reported on the minimal use accounts on load management for the past 12 months.
- c. The board approved Tammy Meverden to fill the Operation Round Up vacancy in sub-district 1(b).
- d. The board selected the CFC District 5 director and the At-Large director candidates.
- e. The board selected the 2018 CoBank Central Region Stockholder candidate.
- f. The board approved the attendees to the 2019 Director

Conference Schedule for NRECA, CFC, and CoBank conferences.

- g. The board reviewed the presentation given by operations on the 2018 underground inspection results.
- h. A presentation was given by the CEO of his visit to the West Riverside Energy Center.
- i. The CEO reported on data received from the CH Guernsey Financial Analysis.

Operations and Engineering – The Tigerton radio tower will be decommissioned within the month. Groenier Substation will be upgraded the first of November. CWEC sent a crew to assist Adams-Columbia Electric Cooperative with storm damage.

Accounting and Finance – Staff members attended a week of in-house NISC training and best practices solutions.

Member Services – Photo contest will be coming to a close soon. Work has started on the planning for the Member Appreciation Breakfast in October.

President and CEO – A field visit was done to Kratzke Machining and Fabrication Company.

The board reviewed the written report of Economic Development Activity for August 2018.

Meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m.



PROGRESS CONTINUES ON THE WEST RIVERSIDE ENERGY CENTER

As we mentioned earlier this year, Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative (CWEC) is a partial owner of the new West Riverside Energy Center that is under construction near Beloit. This new power plant is a 726 MW (mega-watt) natural gas combined cycle facility that will be operated and primarily owned by Alliant Energy. CWEC, Rock Energy Cooperative, and Adams-Columbia Electric Cooperative will own a total of 60 MW or about 8.2 percent of the facility.

The project is nearing 50 percent completion, and over 1,000,000 man-hours have been expended on the new generation



facility. There continues to be a significant focus on safety as there has not been a lost-time accident to date and very few recordable safety incidents. Approximately 620 men and women representing the various crafts are on-site working on the project. Engineering design of the facility stands at 99 percent complete and will continue to be adjusted as the project moves towards completion.

“During a recent visit



to the site, I was impressed with the commitment to a safe and healthy work environment by Alliant and the general contractor, AECOM,” said CEO Mike Wade. “The project is on schedule and under budget and we are looking forward to seeing its completion in early 2020.”

By owning a small share of the West Riverside Energy Center, CWEC is able to own some of its needed generating capacity. Because we own generating capacity, we are able to reduce our monthly peak demand by the amount of ownership. Although we will have other costs related to ownership of the plant, this reduction in peak demand costs will have a positive impact on all member’s electric bills.

IT’S NEVER TOO LATE TO SAY THANK YOU

“The reward of one duty is the power to fulfill another.” –George Eliot

On July 27, Army veteran Gary Jacobson had the privilege to participate in the EAA-sponsored Northeast Wisconsin Old Glory Honor Flight. The flight took 130 veterans and their families from Wittman Regional Airport in Oshkosh to Washington, D.C., for the day to sightsee and to be thanked for their countless sacrifices.

Gary, who served from 1966 until 1968, was among the group of men and women fortunate to go along. For Jacobson, the experience was touching.

“Some people don’t like coming home. For some, it can bring back bad experiences that they would rather leave behind. For others like me, this experience allows us to feel proud again,” Jacobson said.

Gary and his fellow veterans’ flight left early on the 27th, and returned later that evening. When they arrived to D.C, they were welcomed with a musical ensemble and a sea of adoring supporters.

For veterans who have not participated in the honor flight before, Gary encouraged them to do so.

“It was a great experience. It was worth it. We were able to see the Vietnam Memorial, the Arlington Cemetery, the Smithsonian, the Lincoln Memorial, and even the White House,” he said.

During the event, a mail call was issued. All of the veterans were handed packages filled to the brim with letters and thank-you notes from loving friends and family, a gesture that meant the world to our brave veterans.

Gary can attest to how much good the honor flight does for our veterans. Aside from allowing them to feel prideful



of their service again, the flights also remind them that we will forever be thankful for their service and countless sacrifices.

Gary and his wife, Sue, have been members of Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative for 45 years. We thank you for your bravery and service!



Tom Fucik, representing the Iola Historical Society, accepts a donation from Sue Halverson, Operation Round Up board member.



Robyn Grove, Iola Library director, accepts a check from Marie Skowen, Operation Round Up board member.



Andrea Graham, Tigerton Main Street program manager, accepts a check from Pastor Clifford Kessen, Operation Round Up board member.

CWEC AWARDS OPERATION ROUND UP DONATIONS

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 co-op members. Recent beneficiaries of co-op members' generosity include: Iola Historical Society facility enhancement project, Iola Village Library expansion project, Tigerton Main Street, Inc. new

steel door, Chet Krause Park project, Down Syndrome Association of Central Wisconsin support for the First Annual Awareness Walk, and Wittenberg Aquatic Center support for the "Rock'n The Farm" Run. To date Operation Round up has donated over \$480,000 to families in need, charitable organizations, and students with scholarships. Thank you for your generous support.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY REBATES AVAILABLE



Did you know your cooperative offers rebates for energy efficiency upgrades? If not, we're pleased to inform you we offer rebates for all sorts of upgrades including Energy Star appliance purchases, insulation, new windows, heat pumps, alternative water heaters, LED lighting and much more. For a detailed listing please visit www.cwecoop.com or give us a call.

MEMBER BOB FILTZ HONORED

Robert (Bob) Filtz was honored on Monday, October 15, on Honor Flight - Mission #34. Filtz's daughter Beckie Gizzi had the honor of being his guardian.

Bob was in the Army in the early 1960s and spent 19 months of his time in Korea. He is a resident of Shantytown. He enjoys spending his days with his wife of 54 years, gardening, fishing, tinkering, and attending all sorts of local community events. He especially enjoys attending anything his children, their significant others, and grandchildren are participating in, and is an active member of the VFW Post 8068 in Elderon. He is also a prostate cancer fighter/survivor for the past 20 years. Bob has been a member of the co-op for over 40 years, and he is the brother of Director Sue Rombalski.

The Never Forgotten Honor Flight is a not-for-profit organization of dedicated volunteers providing veterans with closure, gratitude and respect by flying them to Washington, D.C., to visit their memorials. This trip is absolutely free for the veterans. The flights launch each year in April, May, September, and October to Washington, D.C. They are currently flying WWII, Korean, and Vietnam eras' veterans.

For more information about the Never Forgotten Honor Flight go to <https://neverforgottenhonorflight.com/>

We would like to thank Bob and all veterans for their service!



Daylight Savings Time Ends Sunday, November 4

Remember to move your clock back one hour before you go to bed on Saturday, November 3, 2018.



DATES TO REMEMBER IN NOVEMBER

Toys for Tots Drive

Now through December 7

Drop site at the CWEC headquarters, items will be distributed to needy children in our service area. For additional collection sites go to our website www.cwecoop.com, click on the Toys for Tots tab under Services. Monday-Friday: 7:30 a.m.–4 p.m. Rosholt. For more information call 715-677-2211.



9th Annual Share-a-Tea

Saturday, November 3

2–4 p.m. \$25 donation to benefit students in need in the I-5 School District, students \$15. Iola-Scandinavia High School Commons. Tickets available at the I-5 Elementary or high school office or call Toya at 715-445-3556 or Ila at 715-445-3478.

Veterans Day

Sunday, November 11



5th Annual Holiday Craft and Soup Sale

Saturday, November 17

9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Bowler Area Historical Society, 104 E Main Street, Bowler. Local craft vendors display and sell their work as well as the volunteers for the Historical Society serving homemade soups to eat on site, or to go. Proceeds benefit the Historical Society. For more information call: Patricia at 715-793-4460.

Thanksgiving Day Celebration

Thursday, November 22 and Friday, November 23

Office Closed
CWEC wishes you a safe and happy Thanksgiving holiday!

4th Annual Community Christmas Tree Decorating and Lighting

Friday, December 7

7 p.m. (new time) Help kick off the holiday season in the WOW Art Park where you can join in with the choir and fill the art park with Christmas carols. Hot cider along with cookies will be available for all. WOWSPACE, 114 Vinal St., Wittenberg. For more information call 715-253-3525 or go to www.wallsofwittenberg.com.



Christmas Craft Sale

Friday, December 7, 3–8 p.m.

Saturday, December 8, 9–3 p.m. Start out your month with this fun craft and bake sale, guaranteed to get your Christmas shopping off to a good start! Find gifts for family and friends, baked goods to enjoy now or later, and a wreath to deck your halls. WOWSPACE, 114 Vinal St., Wittenberg. For more information call 715-253-3525 or go to www.wallsofwittenberg.com.



To submit your community events email brenda.mazemke@cwecoop.com or call Brenda at 715-677-2211.

CALENDAR CONTEST WINNERS REVEALED!

The 2018 Member Photo Contest capturing “Life in Rural Wisconsin” is now complete, and the 22 winning photos have been revealed! The selected photos will be featured in the 2019 Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Calendar, first available on Saturday, October 27, 2018 at our Member Appreciation Pancake Breakfast.



Sue Hintz, Tigerton – cover
Greg Loescher, Iola – January
Judy Morey, Ogdensburg – February
Annette Schreiber, Bowler – March
Scott R. Maichle, Town of Almon – April
Steve and Karl Hanke, Wittenberg – May
Patricia Krzmarcik, Kronenwetter – June
Donn Lord, Tigerton – July
Raymond and Lisa Oksuita, Rosholt – August
Mary Ellie, Iola – September
Donn Lord, Tigerton – October
Sue Hintz, Tigerton – November
Annette Schreiber, Bowler – December
Scott R. Maichle, Town of Almon – January 2020

Honorable Mention

Mark Forseth, Iola
Donn Lord, Tigerton
Deb McCue, Iola
Greg Loescher, Iola
Mary Ellie, Iola
Steve and Karl Hanke, Wittenberg
Scott R. Maichle, Town of Almon
Sue Hintz, Tigerton

With over 30 entries this year, the voting committee had their work cut out for them. Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative graciously thanks all of the members that participated by sharing their beautiful works of art! Information for the 2019 contest will be available in February 2019. To view all of the winning photos go to www.cwecoop.com.

Thanksgiving Day Celebration

Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative will be closed Thursday, November 22, and Friday November 23, for the Thanksgiving holiday. Regular business will resume on Monday, November 26. From everyone here at CWEC, we wish you a safe and enjoyable holiday.



Mike Wade, President & CEO

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Brenda Mazemke, Editor



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