



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



Lila Shower,
President & CEO

MEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS HELP LOCAL COMMUNITIES

I hope that all our members have had a chance to get outside and enjoy the summer weather. It's been a busy summer for us at Central Wisconsin Electrical Cooperative (CWECC).

Luckily, we haven't had any severe thunderstorms come through the CWECC territory that knocked out power for an extended amount of time. Since we haven't had to spend extra time restoring power, we've been able to use the summer weather to complete construction and inspection work.

Our line crews and contractors have been busy extending new electric service to our members and performing needed maintenance work. Our vegetation management contractor is clearing around our overhead facilities so that we can access the lines during storms and bad weather. In many cases, our line crews and contractors are working along town and county roads. If you see our crews working along the roadside, remember their safety and slow down or move over.

In this issue of *Wisconsin Energy Cooperative News*, you will find a list of recipients who were awarded CWECC Operation Round Up scholarships for the first time. These scholarships are funded through our Operation Round Up program, which is funded by co-op members who have their monthly electric bills rounded up to the nearest dollar. On average the annual donation is around \$6 for a member.

In 2026, we awarded \$22,500 to new and repeat Operation Round Up scholarship recipients. New recipients were awarded

\$500 each, while repeat recipients were awarded \$200 each.

The Operation Round Up program began in 2004, and since that time a total of \$381,850 in scholarship funds has been awarded.

Operation Round Up funds are also used for charitable organizations and for individuals with hardships caused by medical issues.

In addition to distributing Operation Round Up funds, CWECC also distributes Federated Youth Foundation funds. The funds in the CWECC Federated Youth Foundation account include capital credits that were unclaimed by CWECC members. The funds can be used for community and worthy charitable causes.

Each year CWECC donates \$2,000 in Federated Youth Funds to two fire departments located within the CWECC service territory. The two recipients of \$2,000 this year were the Wittenberg and Kronenwetter fire departments.

By providing funds to individuals and community organizations through Operation Round Up and Federated Youth Foundation, the co-op is following one of the seven Cooperative Principles – Concern for Community. Our cooperative is in touch with the communities we serve. Our directors and employees live in these communities. That's why we work hard to achieve a better quality of life for our member-owners.

We take great pride in helping area communities and our members in those communities.

Have a great month!

BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative was held at 8:00 a.m. on May 28, 2026. The following is a summary of the meeting activities. The agenda, minutes of April 22, 2026, meeting, minutes of the Annual Meeting on April 9, 2026, new and terminated memberships, and the monthly safety and compliance report were approved.

Action Items

- Monthly Financial Statements and Reports were reviewed by the Finance Committee.
- Board Policy 502 – Member Attendance at Board Meetings was reviewed. Recommend no changes.
- Board Policy 601 – Identity Theft Detection & Prevention was reviewed. Board approved the recommended changes.
- Approved the 2025 Audit results.
- Director Rombalski was chosen as the WECA District 3 Meeting Voting Delegate.
- Approved Georgia Link for the Member Advisory Group.

Operations and Engineering – Mr. Kurtzweil submitted a written report. The ice storm clean up continues. A temporary 1,000 hour position was hired to help with miscellaneous duties. The Cooperative has applied for a storm water permit and zoning permit for the new Central substation. Karcz Utility Services is performing underground inspections in the Wittenberg and Tigerton areas.

Accounting and Finance – Financial reports were presented by Ms. Claussen. Disconnections were processed on May 19, 2026. Four accounts are still disconnected as of May 28, 2026. Initial storm damage information has been submitted to the state for assistance to cover costs.

Member Services – Mr. Lehman submitted a written report. Safe electricity demonstrations were performed at area schools for fourth grade students. The winners were announced for the electric poster safety contest. Three area students were chosen, and their posters will be forwarded to the state competition. Entries for the CWECC Member Photo Contest are starting to arrive. Members have until August 24, 2026, to submit photos. Three key account visits were made between April and May.

President and CEO – Lila Shower, CEO, reported on her submitted report.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

August heat can put your air conditioner to the test, making it a great time to check your system's air filter. A dirty, clogged filter restricts airflow, forcing your cooling system to work harder than necessary to keep your home comfortable. That extra strain can reduce efficiency, increase energy use and contribute to unnecessary wear and tear on equipment. Inspect your filter monthly during periods of heavy air conditioner use and replace it if it appears dirty. A clean filter supports efficient operation and can even enhance indoor air quality—helping you stay cool and comfortable during the hottest days of summer.



Congratulations

TO OUR 2026 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



Sam Anheuser



Benjamin Beck



Caleb Dahlstrom



Tanner Dent



Kaitlyn Dombrowski



Logan Drews



Kelsea Giese



Megan Gilmeister



Grant Hanson



Kamryn Hintz

With donations from Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative's members through the Operation Round Up program, \$22,500 has been awarded to students pursuing a post-high school education. Of that total, \$16,500 was approved by the Operation Round Up Trust Board to be awarded to first-time scholarship applicants who will be attending a technical college or university. The 33 students who will be receiving a \$500 scholarship are listed below.

CWEC also awarded \$200 Operation Round Up scholarships to 30 repeat scholarship applicants.

We thank our members who participate in the Operation Round Up program.

Sam Anheuser, Tigerton, Northcentral Technical College, Business
Michael Bassett, Rosholt, UW-Stevens Point, English Education & Ecology (No Photo Available)
Benjamin Beck, Iola, Martin Luther College, Biblical Language & Theology
McKenna Borchardt, Iola, Fox Valley Technical College, Accounting (No Photo Available)
Cohen Buss, Tigerton, Fox Valley Technical College, Electrician Certificate Program (No Photo Available)
Caleb Dahlstrom, Tigerton, Mid-State Technical College, Electrical Program
Tanner Dent, Tigerton, UW-Green Bay, Human Biology
Kaitlyn Dombrowski, Rosholt, University of Minnesota-Duluth, Business/Economics
Logan Drews, Tigerton, UW-Green Bay, Mathematics
Kelsea Giese, Custer, UW-Stevens Point, Communication Science and Disorders
Megan Gilmeister, Eland, University of South

Dakota, Political Science and Criminal Justice
Jacob Grezenski, Custer, Northcentral Technical College, Dairy Science Management (No Photo Available)
Grant Hanson, Wittenberg, UW-La Crosse, Exercise Science
Kamryn Hintz, Custer, UW-Stevens Point, Actuarial Science
Chekotey Horacek, Bowler, Northcentral Technical College, Electromechanical Technology (No Photo Available)
Gavin Kielblock, Tigerton, UW-Green Bay, Chemistry (No Photo Available)
Kyle Kostuch, Rosholt, Northcentral Technical College, Electrical Power Distribution
Evan Loiselle, Scandinavia, Northern Michigan University, Biology
Benjamin Miller, Bowler, UW-La Crosse, Business
Matthew Ostrowski, Rosholt, UW-Platteville, Civil Engineering
Sadie Ostrowski, Wittenberg, UW-Green Bay, Human Biology (No Photo Available)

Kayla Pliska, Rosholt, UW-Stevens Point, Environmental Science
Ava Printz, Iola, UW-Whitewater, Sports Marketing
Rhianna Rosenow, Wittenberg, Northcentral Technical College
Sadie Russ, Kronenwetter, Martin Luther College, Elementary Education (No Photo Available)
Brooklyn Simonis, Mosinee, Northern Iowa Area Community College, Business/Marketing
David Soik, Iola, UW-Stevens Point, Pre-Medical
Isabella Stegall, Eland, UW-Oshkosh, Nursing
Isabelle Trzebiatowski, Rosholt, UW-Eau Claire, Marketing
Jacob Trzebiatowski, Rosholt, Fox Valley Technical College, Diesel Technician Program
Rylee Vanden Heuvel, Ogdensburg, Bellin College, Nursing
Avah Weinreis, Iola, UW-Madison, Health Promotion and Health Equity
Lillian Welch, Tigerton, Northcentral Technical College, Pre-Nursing



Kyle Kostuch



Evan Loiselle



Benjamin Miller



Matthew Ostrowski



Kayla Pliska



Ava Printz



Rhianna Rosenow



Brooklyn Simonis



David Soik



Isabella Stegall



Isabelle Trzebiatowski



Jacob Trzebiatowski



Rylee Vanden Heuvel



Avah Weinreis



Lillian Welch

**SAVE
the
DATE**



The CWEC
Member
Appreciation
Breakfast will be
held
**Saturday,
October 24.**

PHOTO CONTEST DEADLINE APPROACHING



The deadline to enter photos in the Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative's annual "Life in Rural Wisconsin" photo contest is Aug. 24. Photos from the contest will be featured in the 2027 CWEC calendar.

Photo Contest Entry Options:

Email: Bert Lehman at bert.lehman@cwecoop.com

Mail: PO Box 100, Rosholt, WI 54473. (Photo(s) must be 8"x10" in size)

Online: www.cwecoop.com/member-photo-contest

Drop Off: Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Office – 10401 Lystul Road, Rosholt. (Photo(s) must be 8"x10" in size if dropped off at our office.)



For a complete set of rules as well as entry forms and photo release forms, visit our website at: www.cwecoop.com.

TIGERTON LUMBERJACK DAYS TO CELEBRATE 60TH ANNIVERSARY

Tigerton Lumberjack Days has been an annual event in the village of Tigerton since 1965. The only year the event was not held was 2020 because of COVID. This year's event is scheduled for Aug. 28-30 at Tigerton Community Park.

The Tigerton Advancement Association hosts Lumberjack Days each year the weekend prior to Labor Day weekend at Tigerton Community Park. The Tigerton Advancement Association was formed in 1963 by a group of business owners and two years later the organization launched Lumberjack Days.

"They decided they wanted to give a thank you to the people from the community for their support for the businesses throughout the year," said Wally Breitenfeldt, president of the Tigerton Advancement Association.

The initial Lumberjack Days was a one-day event that included a corn roast, bingo, music, and food. Back then it was held on Main Street in Tigerton. Eventually the event moved to its current location. For years Lumberjack Days included a carnival, but it eventually became too difficult to secure a carnival that would provide three or four rides the weekend before Labor Day, Breitenfeldt said.

"That's why we've gone to some of the small things we've done like the Strongman Contest, the bike giveaway, the beanbag tournament, and all that stuff," Breitenfeldt said. "We have kids Hot Wheels races now on Friday night."

Two of the biggest draws to Lumberjack Days is the parade through Tigerton on the Sunday of the event, which is followed by a Lumberjack Contest. Breitenfeldt said at first, local individuals competed in the Lumberjack Contest, but eventually the event saw semi-professionals competing.

"I remember one year it was absolutely pouring rain, and we moved bingo somewhere and we ended up underneath the shelter, and it was so flipping loud. It was unbelievable," Breitenfeldt said.

Due to financial reasons, the Lumberjack Contest moved away from semi-professionals to what it is today. The contest draws out-of-town participants, as Breitenfeldt said there is a group from Marinette who travel to Tigerton each year to compete.



The Lumberjack Contest, which features different class groups, is a popular event at Tigerton Lumberjack Days for both participants and spectators.

"The guy that has won the top Lumberjack prize award for the last how many years comes from Manitowoc every year, he's like 75 years old," Breitenfeldt said. "He just loves doing it."

He added, "They get a little bit of prize money, but it's more for bragging rights to see what they can do against everybody else."

Another draw for Lumberjack Days is the bike giveaway for kids.

"I think the first year we had 15 or 20 bikes," Breitenfeldt said. "Now we're typically between 50 and 60. That's all donated."

Many other activities have been tried at Lumberjack Days for an amount of time before being discontinued.

"We try to do some different things to get people to participate and get people down there to spend a little time, hopefully spend a dollar or two, so that we can make some money so we can give it all back," Breitenfeldt said.

All the money raised from Lumberjack Days goes back into the community in some way, such as supporting the ambulance service and fire department, scholarships for high school seniors, and youth sports, Breitenfeldt said.

At 2 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 29, longtime sponsor of the event Charlie's County Market will be recognized, as will more than 40 individuals and families who have been involved with the event for a long time.

"We can't do this without our sponsors and lots and lots of volunteers," Breitenfeldt said. "Some are helping for a couple hours and some are helping all weekend. A lot of it is behind the scenes. We really appreciate the fact that they take the time to help us out because it's a community event. It's a community event and it's all about giving back to the community."



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Our Mission

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