



SERVING OUR MEMBERS IN THE YEAR AHEAD

By Jesse Singerhouse, General Manager

As the calendar turned to 2023 your cooperative began to focus on our strategic objectives for the year ahead. Each year our biggest goal is to work as a cooperative to safely deliver you reliable energy that is affordable and environmentally responsible. Those are big picture objectives for us, and there are many things we work on each day to deliver on those goals.

We always begin with safety in mind. We want our staff to work safely each day and go home to their families. Our staff conducts regular safety briefings before and after each job, they attend safety training throughout the year, and we have a safety committee that meets to develop ways to work even safer. We also want our members to safely use electricity. Make sure you call 811 before starting any project that includes digging and please consult a licensed electrician before doing any wiring.

Reliability of electric service is of great importance to our members. At Dunn Energy our focus is on keeping your power reliable on the local level. We don't control the weather, the electric grid, or the transmission lines, so we have to focus on the maintenance and upgrading of our own distribution system. This year we will be completing larger projects in the Connorsville and Elk Mound areas. These projects will include upgrading wire and equipment serving those areas, with a goal of increased reliability and better service. We will also be upgrading several smaller lines and clearing rights-of-way in the Caryville, Rock Falls, and Connorsville areas. We don't sell any more energy when we do these projects, but an investment in our system is a benefit to our members, and the cooperative as a whole, with increased power quality. (140019035)

Part of keeping your power costs affordable is looking for ways to grow our cooperative and make it more efficient. Growth within our service territory only comes as new homes and businesses are added and when expansions

take place at existing accounts. We are excited about the growth opportunities that exist within our system. We work with the local economic development organizations, townships, and communities to help foster growth. If you are considering adding electric heat, expanding your farm or business, or adding a residential development or business to our system, please reach out. We will be glad to assist you in any way we can. The County Highway T area in Chippewa County/City of Eau Claire is poised to see some commercial development in the near future. We are

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excited to serve the new Country Jam facility in the summer of 2023. We will also see some growth from increased electric vehicle sales in our area. Much of the charging will take place at home, so we will look to develop more programs that help our members use energy wisely and efficiently.

In 2023 we will also work to make the energy you receive more environmentally responsible. As we announced last May, we will be partnering with One Energy Solar to develop two small-scale solar projects in our service territory. Each project will be about 12 acres in size and provide enough energy over the course of the year to power 400–600 average-sized homes. One project will be located in the town of Hay River and the other in the town of Tainter and they should be on-line by the end of the year. We also have just a few shares remaining in our community solar farm near Downsville that we would like to sell if there are members interested. If you are exploring solar energy for your own account, please give us a call early in the process so we can walk you through all the details.

As you can see it will be another busy year for the cooperative. We look forward to working day in and day out to serve the needs of our members in the year ahead.

Working for You

Hidden Account Numbers

If you find your account number hidden in the pages of this magazine and you call and tell us before the next issue is mailed, we'll put a **\$50 credit** on your electric bill. Happy hunting!

Last month's winners were Jonathon Coffman and Brianna Smith.

COOPERATIVE PRINCIPLES AND EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS: A PERFECT MATCH

While today's world is radically different than it was when Dunn Energy was founded, our cooperative values have stood the test of time and remain just as relevant today.

Our top priority is providing safe, reliable, and affordable energy, but we also want to be a catalyst for good in our community. Because we are your local electric cooperative, co-op revenues stay right here in our community. In turn, we invest in our diverse community base through

scholarship programs, charitable giving, educational programs and more. We strive to make long-term decisions that improve and enrich the communities we serve. (10514001)

Each year Dunn Energy provides educational scholarships to 15 high school students who are embarking on higher education, as well as one non-traditional scholarship for someone going back to school to further their education after being in the workforce a while or raising their family. We also provide a scholarship at CVTC in memorium of

Todd Bauer, a lineman we lost too early to cancer. His scholarship benefits a person going into the Electrical Power Distribution Program.

We believe in supporting the future generation of leaders in our communities. To make it as convenient as possible, you will find copies of both the youth scholarship application and the non-traditional scholarship application in the following pages of this month's magazine. Applications are due the first week of March.

THE SEVEN COOPERATIVE PRINCIPLES

Cooperatives around the world operate according to the same set of core principles and values, adopted by the International Co-operative Alliance. These principles are a key reason why America's electric cooperatives operate differently from other electric utilities, putting the needs of our members first.



1 VOLUNTARY AND OPEN MEMBERSHIP

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.



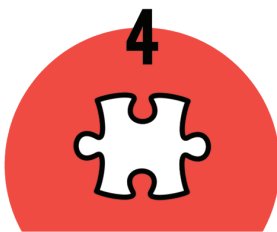
2 DEMOCRATIC MEMBER CONTROL

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.



3 MEMBERS' ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION

Members contribute equitably to, and democratically control, the capital of their cooperative. At least part of that capital is usually the common property of the cooperative.



4 AUTONOMY AND INDEPENDENCE

Cooperatives are autonomous, self-help organizations controlled by their members. If they enter into agreements with other organizations, including governments, or raise capital from external sources, they do so on terms that ensure democratic control by their members.



5 EDUCATION, TRAINING AND INFORMATION

Cooperatives provide education and training for their members, elected representatives, managers, and employees so that they can contribute effectively to the development of their cooperatives.



6 COOPERATION AMONG COOPERATIVES

Cooperatives serve their members most effectively and strengthen the cooperative movement by working together through local, national, regional and international structures.



7 CONCERN FOR COMMUNITY

While focusing on member needs, cooperatives work for the sustainable development of their communities through policies accepted by their members.



Youth Scholarship Application

Each year Dunn Energy awards local high school students from our membership educational scholarships, to promote advanced education. We firmly believe our future lies within these young leaders. Dunn Energy will choose 15 applicants at random as the winners of the \$1,000 scholarships.

Name: _____ DEC account no. _____

Permanent address: _____

Home phone: _____ E-mail address: _____

Name of parent/guardian who is a member of Dunn Energy: _____

How you want your parents listed in the program: _____

High school you attend: _____

School you propose to enter: _____

Please list three goals you have for the future:

THIS SECTION IS TO BE FILLED OUT BY SCHOOL COUNSELOR OR PRINCIPAL

1. Name of applicant _____

2. Does the applicant have at least a four-year cumulative GPA of 3.0 on 4.0 scale? YES / NO

Signature Principal/Counselor

Date

Return application to:
Dunn Energy Cooperative
P.O. Box 220
Menomonie, WI 54751

Or by email to:
jolene@dunnenergy.com

Applications are due the first Friday in March

Qualifications:

1. Parent or guardian of student must be a member of Dunn Energy Cooperative.
2. Student must be a graduating high school senior and plan to begin college or vocational training the following year.
3. Student must hold a 3.0 GPA or better on a 4.0 scale.
4. Complete basic application and have it signed by guidance or school official.
5. Checks will be presented to students after Dunn Energy Cooperative receives a copy of your first semester college grades.

Disbursement of scholarships will be awarded after all qualifications are met and with receipt of transcripts and verification of enrollment from eligible recipient.



**Dunn Energy
Cooperative**

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Non-traditional Scholarship Application

One \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded to an eligible student returning to a university, vocational, or technical college after spending a minimum of three (3) years in the workplace or raising a family.

Name: _____ DEC account no. _____

Permanent address: _____

Home phone: _____ E-mail address: _____

Current school and program you are enrolled in: _____

How far along are you in your program? _____

Why did you choose to go back to school? _____

Return application to:
Dunn Energy Cooperative
P.O. Box 220
Menomonie, WI 54751

Or by email to:
jolene@dunnenergy.com

Applications are due the first Friday in March

To be eligible:

1. The applicant or their spouse must be a member of Dunn Energy Cooperative and a bona fide resident of the cooperative's service territory.
2. The applicant must be in good standing with Dunn Energy Cooperative.
3. The recipient must have maintained a 2.5 (or better) grade point average during their current quarter or semester of post-secondary education.
4. The recipient must be enrolled in a course of study leading to an associate's or bachelor's degree or certificate.
5. The recipient must be enrolled with a minimum of five (5) credits and be in good standing at the school they are attending.
6. Children of full-time DEC employees or directors are not eligible.
7. The non-traditional scholarship will be limited to a one-time award. After receiving a scholarship, the individual will not be eligible for future awards.
8. The program must be a minimum of one year.

Disbursement of non-traditional scholarships will be awarded after all qualifications are met and with receipt of transcripts and verification of enrollment from eligible recipient.

Jesse Singerhouse, Manager

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Jolene Fisher, Editor



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