



PLEASE JOIN US AT YOUR COOPERATIVE'S ANNUAL MEETING

By Jesse Singerhouse, General Manager

Dunn Energy Cooperative's Annual Meeting will be held on Thursday, May 18 at our office in Menomonie. Registration will begin at 5:30 p.m. and a light buffet-style dinner will be available as well. The business meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. Ballots for your director election were mailed in late April. They must be returned to the cooperative before the annual meeting or you can bring them with you. Please take time to vote for your representatives on the board.

I always say that this is your annual meeting. Yes, the staff coordinate the meeting and do much of the presentation, but as a member-owner of Dunn Energy this is truly your meeting. As a cooperative we are governed by and for our members. Having a meeting to elect your representatives to the board of directors, learn about the fiscal performance of your investments into the cooperative, and discuss topics impacting your cooperative is important. If you can't attend the annual meeting, I encourage you to look over the annual report that was mailed to all active members in April.

The annual meeting will also be a chance to recognize our scholarship winners. Each year, your cooperative awards 15-\$1,000 scholarships to graduating high school students whose parents are members of the cooperative. We also award a scholarship to a non-traditional student who is a member, and a third scholarship to an Electrical Power Distribution student at CVTC in memory of Todd Bauer, one of our former lineman. These scholarships are funded each year by unclaimed capital credits. We put that money to work investing in the future of our workforce.

The meeting will feature a speaker from the Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association (WECA), which is the state trade association for over 20 electric cooperatives. We will talk about third-party ownership of renewable energy

If you cannot attend in person we plan to live stream the meeting on our Facebook page beginning at 6:30 p.m.

systems. An effort is underway by outside companies to chip away at the strongly regulated energy system we have in Wisconsin. As a local cooperative we make decisions based on the needs of our members. We are not motivated by profits or tax credits. We are motivated by serving you with safe, reliable, affordable, and environmentally responsible energy. As outside groups try to insert themselves into the local energy market without investing in reliability or wanting to follow the rules of power distribution in the state, we think that leads to a weaker energy system for our members. We will discuss this and several other issues at our meeting to keep you informed.

This annual meeting is also bittersweet, as we say goodbye to our Board President, Larry Amble, as he retires from the board. After 12 years of service to the cooperative, Larry has reached his term limit. Unlike many organizations, and most other cooperatives, Dunn Energy bylaws state that any board member shall not serve more than four consecutive three-year terms. Larry has been a strong and dependable voice in the boardroom and he has served the membership well. We thank Larry for his service.

Cooperatives are truly special organizations and each year I'm excited to host the annual meeting and welcome our members into their cooperative. If you cannot attend in person we plan to live stream the meeting on our Facebook page beginning at 6:30 p.m. I'm looking forward to sharing more about what your cooperative accomplished in 2022 and what we are working on in the year ahead. If you ever have any questions about your cooperative please let me know. I hope to see you at the annual meeting.

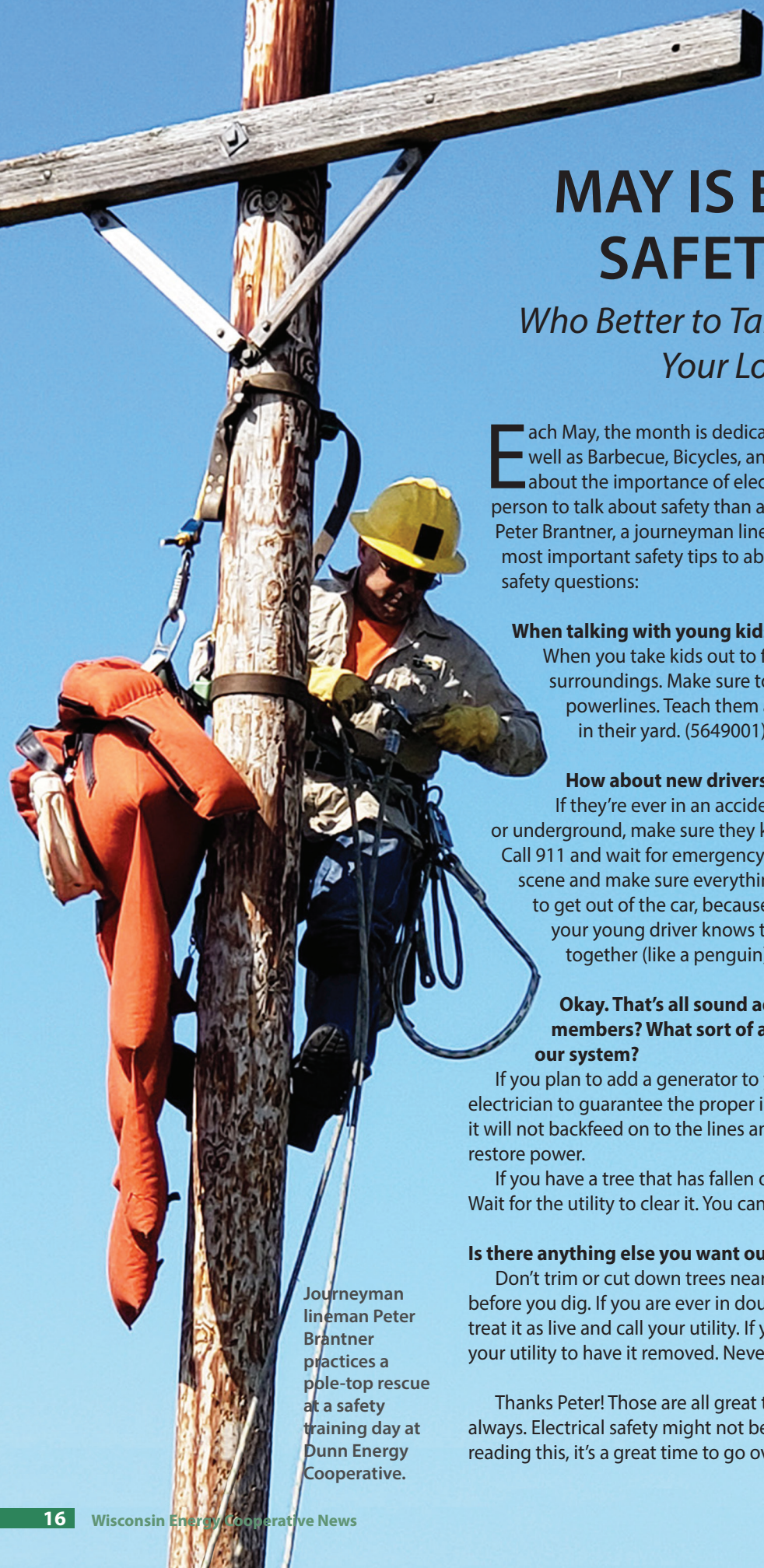
NOTE: In the Notice of Nominations in the April issue, there was an error in Karl Varnes' address. His address is N13202 530th St., Ridgeland, WI 54763. The address has been corrected on all subsequent publications.



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 Robert & Kimberly Cropp and Lori Larson.



MAY IS ELECTRICAL SAFETY MONTH

Who Better to Talk Electrical Safety than Your Local Lineman?

Each May, the month is dedicated to bringing attention to Electrical Safety (as well as Barbecue, Bicycles, and Blood Pressure!). Here at the co-op, we think about the importance of electrical safety on a daily basis, so there's no better person to talk about safety than a lineman. We took the opportunity to talk with Peter Brantner, a journeyman lineman, about what he thinks are some of the most important safety tips to abide by. Here are Peter's answers to some general safety questions:

When talking with young kids, what should parents make sure they know?

When you take kids out to fly a kite, make sure you are aware of your surroundings. Make sure to teach them **not** to fly kites around overhead powerlines. Teach them about the dangers of the electrical equipment in their yard. (5649001)

How about new drivers? What should parents talk to them about?

If they're ever in an accident with any electrical equipment, overhead or underground, make sure they know the safest place they can be is in the car. Call 911 and wait for emergency services and your utility to arrive to secure the scene and make sure everything is off before leaving the vehicle. If you have to get out of the car, because of fire or other imminent danger, make sure your young driver knows they must jump clear of the car with their feet together (like a penguin) and hands off the car.

Okay. That's all sound advice, but what about our more mature members? What sort of advice do you have for the homeowners on our system?

If you plan to add a generator to your service, make sure to hire a licensed electrician to guarantee the proper installation. That way when using the generator it will not backfeed on to the lines and injure a lineman who's working on the line to restore power.

If you have a tree that has fallen on the line, do not attempt to remove it yourself. Wait for the utility to clear it. You can't tell by looking at a line if it's energized or not.

Is there anything else you want our members to know about electrical safety?

Don't trim or cut down trees near powerlines. Always remember to call 811 before you dig. If you are ever in doubt about if a line is energized or not, always treat it as live and call your utility. If you cut a tree and it falls on the powerline, call your utility to have it removed. Never remove it yourself.

Thanks Peter! Those are all great tips to remember, not just this month but always. Electrical safety might not be on your mind on a daily basis, but if you're reading this, it's a great time to go over these tips with the loved ones in your life.

Journeyman lineman Peter Brantner practices a pole-top rescue at a safety training day at Dunn Energy Cooperative.



OUTDOOR ELECTRICAL SAFETY TIPS FOR KIDS

Share these **ELECTRICAL SAFETY TIPS** with children and teens to help keep them safe.

1 DO NOT climb or sit on green boxes or other electrical equipment.



2 STAY AWAY from electrical equipment marked "keep out," "high voltage" or "danger."

3 NEVER ENTER the fenced area around a substation to retrieve an item or pet.



4 FLY kites, remote-control devices and drones FAR AWAY from overhead power lines.



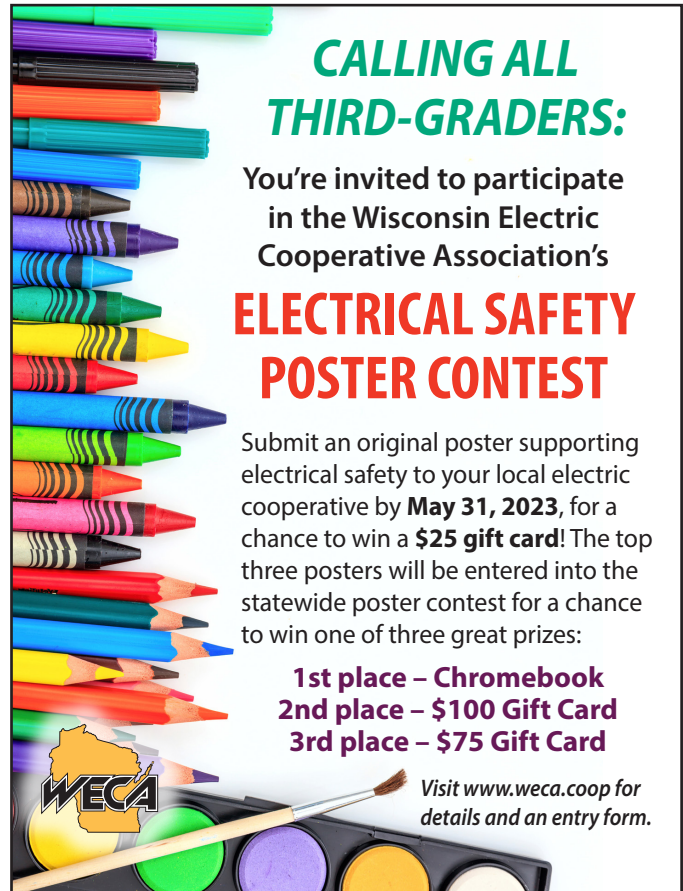
CALLING ALL THIRD-GRADERS:

You're invited to participate in the Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association's **ELECTRICAL SAFETY POSTER CONTEST**

Submit an original poster supporting electrical safety to your local electric cooperative by **May 31, 2023**, for a chance to win a **\$25 gift card!** The top three posters will be entered into the statewide poster contest for a chance to win one of three great prizes:

- 1st place – Chromebook**
- 2nd place – \$100 Gift Card**
- 3rd place – \$75 Gift Card**

Visit www.weca.coop for details and an entry form.



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Congratulations, Scholarship Recipients

At Dunn Energy Cooperative we are excited to again award 15 - \$,1000 scholarships to local youth whose parents are members of our cooperative. The quality of all of the applicants was impressive. They each displayed the level of community involvement and achievement it takes to be a success.

Our mission at Dunn Energy is to make a difference one member at a time. We hope that our scholarships make a difference in the lives of the recipients and we challenge them to continue to make a difference throughout their lives.

On behalf of all of our members, we are honored to present \$1,000 scholarships to:

- ★ **Catlynn Kissh** (Andrew & Cassandra Kissh) from **Menomonie High School** is interested in studying at UW-Stout
- ★ **Alayna Brantner** (Nic & Joslyn Brantner) from **Durand High School** is interested in studying at UW-River Falls
- ★ **Ella Peterson** (Craig & Krissy Peterson) from **Colfax High School** is undecided
- ★ **Milo Gehring** (Roger & Becky Gehring) from **St. Croix Lutheran Academy** is undecided
- ★ **Addie Christopherson** (Tim & Callie Christopherson) from **Prairie Farm High School** is interested in studying at UW-Stout
- ★ **Jaycie Luzinski** (Loren & Pam Luzinski) from **Menomonie High School** is interested in studying at CVTC
- ★ **Quincy Cook** (Carrie & Chad Cook) from **Menomonie High School** is interested in studying at UW-Madison
- ★ **Ryan Bartig** (Steven & Sally Bartig) from **Elk Mound High School** is interested in studying at UW-Madison
- ★ **Lucas Hanson** (Jay & Stephanie Hanson) from **Elk Mound High School** is interested in studying at UW-Eau Claire
- ★ **Caleb Zeilinger** (Paul & Kelly Zeilinger) from **Durand High School** is interested in studying at CVTC
- ★ **Kaci Wittig** (William & Melissa Wittig) from **Durand High School** is interested in studying at CVTC
- ★ **Kyle Irwin** (Dave & Kris Irwin) from **Colfax High School** is interested in studying at U of M – Twin Cities
- ★ **Allison Schmitt** (Ken & Laura Schmitt) from **Colfax High School** is interested in studying at UW-River Falls
- ★ **Abbygail Schlough** (Douglas & Heidi Schlough) from **Boyceville High School** is interested in studying at U of M – Twin Cities
- ★ **Haylie Rasmussen** (Brad & Laura Rasmussen) from **Boyceville High School** is interested in studying at UW-River Falls

Non-traditional Student Scholarship Winner:

- ★ **Shari Briggs** from Ridgeland is studying to be nurse at **Chippewa Valley Technical College**

Jesse Singerhouse, Manager

N5725 600th St., P.O. Box 220, Menomonie, WI 54751
715-232-6240
www.dunnenergy.com

Jolene Fisher, Editor



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