



# BECOMING MORE EFFICIENT ONE MEMBER AT A TIME

By Jesse Singerhouse, General Manager

Day in and day out, our staff works to safely provide our members with reliable, affordable, and environmentally responsible energy. Since we are a cooperative, we have to work together, both staff and members, to help make Dunn Energy stronger and more efficient. There are several things a member can do to help the cooperative achieve those goals.

Members can take advantage of billing solutions to make the process of receiving and paying energy bills simple. Visit [dunnenergy.com](http://dunnenergy.com) to create a SmartHub account. You'll be able to view your usage history, report outages, and contact certain departments at the cooperative directly. You can also activate the e-bill feature in SmartHub, having your bill delivered to your inbox as soon as it is available, instead of waiting for the mail. You'll help save the cooperative and yourself money by lowering printing and postage costs.

You can take it one step further and set your account up for recurring payment using a credit/debit card or via ACH directly out of your savings/checking account. The payment is drafted on the 20th of each month (or the first business day after the 20th if it falls on a weekend or holiday) and helps save cooperative staff time by not having to process those payments manually each month.

As an end-user, you can also help the cooperative be more efficient

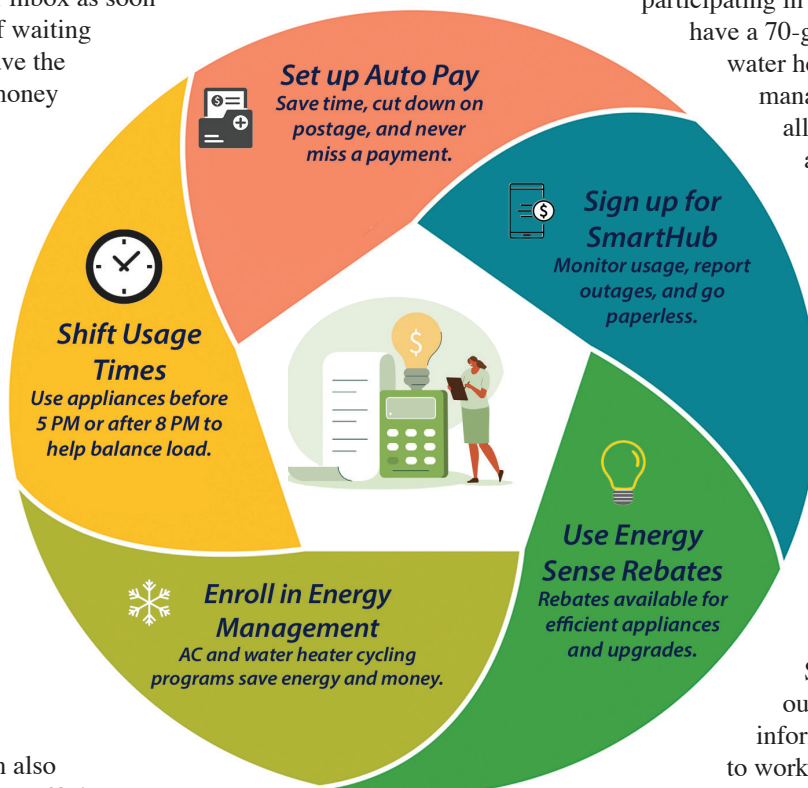
by paying attention to when you use energy. If you can shift your large appliance usage to outside the hours of 5-8 p.m., that helps balance load. Even if you unstack your usage (e.g., don't run everything at the same time), that helps reduce demand on the energy grid. However, if you don't want to think about it, you can have the co-op do it for you through an energy management program. (962001)

If you have a central air conditioner, a Dunn Energy technician can install a device that allows the cooperative to occasionally cycle your air conditioner (15 minutes on and 15 minutes off) during times when the cooperative needs to manage energy on the grid. Several hundred members are already saving up to \$24 per year by

participating in the A/C program. If you have a 70-gallon or larger electric water heater, there is an energy management program that can allow you to save up to an additional \$48 per year for occasional controls to manage energy loads. Both of these programs are free to enroll in. Just give us a call!

The cooperative also has an Energy Sense rebate program you can check out for even more energy efficiency incentives. You can find incentives on appliances, heating and cooling, and more.

Contact our Member Services department or visit our website for additional information. We look forward to working with you to help make your cooperative even stronger.



# AMID STORMS, DUNN ENERGY COOPERATIVE HOLDS 88TH ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS

**T**ornado watches and warnings. Weather radio and cell phone alerts. Despite the hazardous weather, 109 members attended the annual meeting on Thursday, May 15, including special guests Rob Richard, president & CEO of the Wisconsin Energy Cooperative Association, State Representative Rob Kreibich, and guest speaker Adam Accola of the newly formed Dunn Economic Development group.

Board President Jeff Gasteyer led the meeting. In his speech he spoke about general cooperative facts, the challenges the cooperative faced in 2024, and community support.

Gasteyer spoke about the over \$25,000 in Operation Round Up grants that were given out in 2024. These grants were made possible by members who round their bills up to the nearest dollar. Grants were awarded to local, not-for-profit organizations including The Wisconsin Foster Closet, Food Harvest Ministry, and the Durand Women's Club. These organizations provided necessary school supplies and food donations to those in need in our area.

In closing, he spoke about the future of Dunn Energy Cooperative. "The energy industry is changing rapidly,



In the hours leading up to the annual meeting, storms rolled across the Dunn Energy Cooperative service territory. Singerhouse started the meeting by showing those in attendance the live outage map and talking about outage response.

from AI technology, data centers, and changing government regulations, to new carbon-free sources of generation," said Gasteyer. "I assure you Dunn Energy will be ready as we navigate the ever-changing landscape."

General Manager and CEO, Jesse Singerhouse, spent time with the membership talking about the Cooperative's extensive safety program and the importance of the daily effort

by employees. "Recently our team hit a milestone of driving over 2 million miles without an accident. That is an incredible achievement and I'm very proud of the safety culture we have here at Dunn Energy," said Singerhouse.

He also recognized this year's 20 recipients of \$1,000 scholarships and the several employees who reached milestones in 2024: Landan Romsos (10 years), Tyrel Blanchfield (15 years),



Left: Members in attendance at the annual meeting. Right: Board chair, Jeff Gasteyer, addresses the members who attended the 88th Annual Meeting at Dunn Energy Cooperative.





Dee Fox (20 years), Becky Weber, Pat Rhude, and Brian Jiskra (25 years each), and John Hestekin (35 years). He thanked those employees for their dedication to the cooperative. (174003)

Other recognition was given to the two directors retiring from the board after fulfilling their maximum of 12 years of service to the cooperative. Brian Johnson and Ed Hartung were thanked for their service and given a meter lamp as a token of the cooperative's appreciation.

Operationally, Singerhouse went over the cooperative's 2024 financials, as well as some interesting figures relative to Dunn Energy. This included noting that by having 232 irrigation accounts, Dunn Energy is one of the largest Wisconsin cooperatives in regard to irrigation load.

Guest speaker Adam Accola spoke

about the importance of economic development in rural areas. His organization is working on the issues of housing, business retention and expansion, and business attraction.

He noted that 80% of new jobs and capital investment come from companies that already exist in the greater Menomonie area, and his number one goal is to provide assistance with issues that could force a company to close or relocate to a new community.

The business meeting ended with the election of directors. Two new directors, Patrick Lindgren in District 2 and Diane Traxler Fredrick in District 5, joined incumbent Jeff Gasteyer as the ticket winners in Thursday night's election.

Singerhouse ended his remarks to

*Working for You*

members, talking about the cooperative business model. "The cooperative business model is very near and dear to my heart," said Singerhouse. "Because it is people working together to serve a purpose. That is a powerful thing and something we can use in all aspects of our life."

Despite the challenges of 2024, and the hours leading up to the meeting, it was evident the cooperative spirit is alive and well. Members showed up to support their cooperative and a successful meeting was held.



Left: Several members of the first class of The Power Connection: Conversations with Your Cooperative were recognized by Singerhouse and Gasteyer. Right: Pictured from left to right are Jeff Gasteyer, Patrick Lindgren, and Diane Traxler Fredrick. These individuals were elected for a three-year term on the Dunn Energy Cooperative Board of Directors.

## 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 Erik Feia and Paul & Jean Krumenauer.

# A FOND FAREWELL: TWO DIRECTORS RETIRE

Following our Annual Meeting this May, two valued members of our Board of Directors stepped down after completing their full terms. Each of these individuals dedicated 12 years of service to Dunn Energy Cooperative—and we want to take a moment to thank them sincerely for their time, leadership, and commitment. Their insight and steady leadership have been instrumental in shaping the direction of our cooperative, always with our members' best interests at heart.

## Brian Johnson



Brian served District 2, which is the northern corner of the Dunn Energy service territory, from Hay River to Cooks Valley, and up to the Barron County line.

Johnson was an active participant in the boardroom. He served as an officer in the Secretary/Treasurer role and more recently as the board vice president. As a voice for our membership, Brian played a key role in strategic planning sessions. He also advocated for members at the State and Federal levels during trips to the capitals for Education and Lobby Days.

## Ed Hartung



Ed represented District 5, which is the Townships of Sherman and Menomonie and just a little south into the Townships of Weston and Dunn. This is Ed's second complete term on the Dunn Energy board of directors. He first served in the 1990s.

In his years on the board, Ed has seen an incredible change in technology, power generation, equipment, employees, and much more. With a sharp eye, his focus in the board room helped keep the cooperative financially strong and rates affordable.



Thank you, Brian and Ed, for your leadership and commitment to the cooperative spirit!

**Jesse Singerhouse, Manager**

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