



## SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

Once again, scholarships will be available to college, vocational, and technical school-bound students through the CWEC Operation Round Up program. Both traditional and non-traditional students are encouraged to apply. To be eligible, either the student or parents must have their primary residence located on CWEC lines and participate in Operation Round Up. Applications are available from your high school guidance counselor, on our website at [www.cwecoop.com](http://www.cwecoop.com) (Member Services tab), or by contacting Brenda Mazemke at 715-677-2211 or by emailing her at [brenda.mazemke@cwecoop.com](mailto:brenda.mazemke@cwecoop.com).

Since the CWEC scholarship program began in 2005 we have provided more than \$180,000 in scholarships to area students. Giving back to the community is one of the cooperative principals; furthering the education of our members is another.

The deadline for returning completed applications is Friday, April 1, 2016. Please mail your completed scholarship application to the address below, or drop it off in person at the CWEC office in Rosholt.

CWEC  
Attn: Scholarship Program  
P.O. Box 100  
Rosholt, WI 54473

Scholarship winners must maintain a minimum 2.0 grade point average and full-time student equivalent during their first quarter or semester of college or vocational-technical school. Payment will be made upon completion of the first quarter or semester of college, vocational, or technical school and will be issued to the student. The recipient will need to provide the cooperative with a copy of his/her grades and proof of enrollment for second semester.



By Mike Wade,  
President & CEO



Central Wisconsin  
Electric Cooperative  
Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

## FROM HERE TO THERE

If you haven't done so, mark your calendar for Saturday, April 9, to attend our 78th annual meeting of the membership at the Rosholt High School. We look forward to catching up with you, sharing ideas, and enjoying a morning together. The event will be a great opportunity for you to learn more about your cooperative and the programs we offer, and to get to know your co-op staff. Come join us for an informative meeting.

Please notice that we will be running articles each month that describe the cost-of-service study that is currently in progress. This study evaluates our electric rates to ensure we are adequately collecting revenue and allocating costs. The study will be completed soon and the board will have the information necessary to determine if a rate adjustment is needed. To keep you informed of the progress, please read these articles designed to help you understand the cost-of service study and the development of electric rates.

**Mark your calendar for  
Saturday, April 9,  
to attend our 78th  
annual meeting.**

I would like to send a special thank you to the Nominations Committee for spending a Saturday morning meeting with members interested in running for our board of directors. The care you took in interviewing the candidates shows your

commitment to the cooperative. In addition, I appreciate the ideas that you bring to the co-op that illustrate how we can operate more effectively for the benefit of the membership.

February means Lobby Day in Madison for the electric cooperatives of Wisconsin. Lobby Day is the day electric cooperatives descend on the state capitol to discuss matters important to the cooperative and its members. Because our service territory covers multiple state assembly and senate districts, the directors and I split up to meet with each legislator. I am always pleased that our legislators are responsive to our needs and are committed to helping their rural constituents.

What a great job our Operation Round Up trust committee did in 2015 to approve donations for scholarships and charitable requests. When you "round up" your electric bill and contribute a few cents each month, we are able to do great things for our members and communities. I appreciate the hard work and dedication of the committee for overseeing this program and ensuring that our dollars go to those in need.

I know each of you has a busy schedule, but I hope that you will make time to come to our annual meeting in April. I look forward to seeing each of you there.



# CWEC 78<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING

**Saturday, April 9**

Rosholt High School  
346 Randolph St. West,  
Rosholt, WI

**Join Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative on Saturday, April 9, 2016 for our 78th Annual Meeting. The meeting will be held at the Rosholt High School in Rosholt.**

Registration for the meeting begins at 9 a.m., with members having an opportunity to socialize over coffee and rolls and view various displays.

Music by the lola-Scandinavia Band will be from 10–10:30 a.m. in the school auditorium. President & CEO Mike Wade and Board Chairman Anthony Buss, Jr. will keynote the meeting's business session, which begins at 10:30 a.m. During the business session, members will have the opportunity to hear how their co-op is faring financially, learn details about various services offered by their member-owned power supplier, and receive updates on state and federal regulatory issues of importance to electric co-ops. An election of two board positions will be held.

As a member-owner of an electric cooperative, you can voice your opinions at the annual meeting. This is an advantage cooperatives have over the investor-owned utilities, whose customers have no say in the management of the company and cannot vote for their board of directors.

Prizes will be given to all in attendance. In addition to many door prizes, one lucky member will have a chance to win a grand prize consisting of a big-screen TV. For all of the drawings, winners need to be present.

Lunch will be served after the business meeting, so make sure you stick around.

## ***Help Fill Our Local Food Pantry Shelves***

CWEC will be kicking off its food pantry drive at the annual meeting on Saturday, April 9, 2016. Bring three or more non-perishable food items that are not expired, and you will receive a FREE compact fluorescent light (CFL bulb). (limit of five bulbs per family)

Your generous donation helps fill the shelves of food pantries in our service area.

If you cannot make it to the annual meeting, we will be collecting food pantry donations at our office, located at 10401 Lystul Road, Rosholt, throughout the year, and you will still receive the free CFL bulb.

For more information call 715-677-2211.



# RATE STUDY:

## Revenue requirements

Last month, we informed members that the cooperative had engaged the services of a consultant to perform a rate study for CWEC. The purpose of the rate study is to determine whether the existing rates are sufficient to enable the cooperative to provide quality service to its members while meeting its service obligations to its lenders.

There are several phases to the rate study, and this month we will discuss the revenue requirement phase.

The revenue requirement is simply an analysis of the cooperative's existing revenues and expenses as a tool to predict future revenues and expenses. If we could accurately predict the future, this would be an easy process, but fortune-telling is not a recognized science. Instead, the traditional rate process utilizes a "test year." The test year is simply a 12-month period of time that is used to predict future periods. For our study we will use 2014 as our test year.

However, not every year is the same. If unusual events occurred during the test year, those events are "normalized" to more accurately reflect a normal year. Examples of normalizing a test year would be adjusting for unusual weather such as prolonged cold weather or heat or a drought.

The revenue requirement aspect of the study also examines investments needed, such as new poles, wire, and other plant maintenance necessary to provide safe and reliable electricity to our members. A determination is made as to what investments will be included in the rate base used to determine rates. Any investment that becomes part of the cooperative's rate base must be used and useful in providing electric service to members.

The revenue requirement portion of the study also looks at the cooperative's rate of return and examines how much patronage capital is contributed by members and how much debt is taken on by the cooperative. The study examines the cooperative's capital credit policy and whether our patronage

capital objectives are being met through current rates. CWEC will also review the cost of the debt it incurs versus the cost of its members' equity used in financing the operations of the cooperative.

Finally, the study will examine how much margin the cooperative should generate from rates to meet lender requirements. The margin is the difference between what the cooperative receives for providing electric service applied against what it costs to provide electric service. These margins, if any, are allocated to the members at the end

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of each year in accordance with the cooperative's not-for-profit member-owned status.

When the rate study is completed, it will be reviewed by the board in detail to determine what revenue needs to be collected from

members to fulfill our mission to provide a safe, reliable, and affordable power supply. You show confidence in your board of directors when you cast a vote for their election to the position. The board takes its responsibility to set fair rates very seriously. After all, they are members of the cooperative and pay the same rates.

We will also share the rate study information with and garner input from a Member Advisory Group. As we move through the process we will hold member forums throughout our service area to keep you informed.

Look for more information on the cost-of-service study in upcoming issues.



## DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

March 13, 2016

**Remember to move your clock forward one hour before you go to bed on Saturday, March 12, 2016.**



## DATES TO REMEMBER IN MARCH AND APRIL

### Rosholt Food Pantry

First and third Monday of each month for people of the Rosholt School District

3 p.m.–5 p.m.

The Rosholt Food Pantry would like to extend a sincere thank you to all of the people of the community who have so generously contributed to the Rosholt Food Pantry. If you need to schedule a different time for pickup call 715-570-3045 or 715-592-4570.



**Crossroads Community Mystery Dinner Theatre Presents: "Last Call At Chez Mort," by Lee Mueller**

March 4 & 5

\$35/person, advance ticket sales only. 5:30/6 p.m. dinner. WOWSPACE: 114 Vinal St., Wittenberg. For more information call 715-253-3525 or go to [www.wallsofwittenberg.com](http://www.wallsofwittenberg.com).

### St. Adalbert Parish "Friday Fish Fry"

Beginning Friday, February 5 through Friday, March 18 during Lent

Serving 4–7:30 p.m. Fish or shrimp, or combo with your choice of potato, coleslaw, bread, beverage, and one dessert. Cost – adults \$9.50 and child meals \$5.50 (only fish or shrimp). New location – served at St. Adalbert Church, 3315 St. Adalbert Rd., Rosholt. For take-out orders call 715-677-4518. Weekly raffle. Come share a great meal and good conversation.



### Iola Lions Health Fair

Saturday, March 12

7 a.m.–noon, Iola-Scandinavia Community Fitness and Aquatic Center, Iola. Cholesterol, blood glucose tests (don't forget to fast) free of charge, blood pressure, balance testing, information on diabetes, skin screening, chiropractic, acupuncture, and numerous health professionals. Free activities for the entire family will include swimming lessons, climbing wall, and an inflatable bouncing house and jumping house. Iola-Scandinavia LEO Club will be serving a pancake and sausage breakfast. \$5 adults, \$3 kids under 12. Sponsored by Iola Lions and ThedaCare Waupaca. For more information call 715-445-4024.

### Daylight Savings Tim Begins

Sunday, March 13

Don't forget to move your clocks ahead one hour before you go to bed on Saturday, March 12.

### CWEC Office will be closed

Friday, March 25



### Easter Sunday

March 27

### Walls of Wittenberg Presents: "Artists' Free Play: IV" – 9th Annual Juried Art Show

April 16–May 8, Saturday and Sunday

11 a.m.–3 p.m. Free. WOWSPACE: 114 Vinal St., Wittenberg. For more information and contest details call 715-253-3525 or go to [www.wallsofwittenberg.com](http://www.wallsofwittenberg.com).

### Walls of Wittenberg "Wine, Beer, & Cheese Gala" Art Show Opening

Saturday, April 16

7–10 p.m. \$25 per person tax-deductible donation WOWSPACE: 114 Vinal St., Wittenberg. For more information call 715-253-3525 or go to [www.wallsofwittenberg.com](http://www.wallsofwittenberg.com).

### Rural Health Initiative 5th Annual Wine & Cheese Tasting Fundraiser

Friday, April 22

7–10 p.m. Crystal Falls Banquet Hall, New London. Forty-five kinds of wine, seven brews from Pigeon River Brewing, 25 types of Wisconsin cheeses, and entertainment. For more information go to [www.wiruralhealth.org](http://www.wiruralhealth.org) or call Rhonda at 715-524-1488. Fundraiser for Waupaca and Outagamie Counties to benefit the Rural Health Initiative.

The April *Wisconsin Energy Cooperative News* magazine will include your 2016 Annual Report.



### 78th Annual Meeting set for Saturday, April 9, 2016

Mark your calendars and plan to attend the 78th Annual Meeting of Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative on Saturday, April 9, 2016, at the Rosholt High School.

To submit your community events email [brenda.mazemke@cwecoop.com](mailto:brenda.mazemke@cwecoop.com) or call Brenda at 715-677-2211.


### Mike Wade, President & CEO

10401 Lystul Rd., P.O. Box 100, Rosholt, WI 54473  
715-677-2211 • 800-377-2932  
[www.cwecoop.com](http://www.cwecoop.com)

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