



**Oakdale Electric
Cooperative**

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

October is National Cooperative Month

Celebrate with Oakdale Electric Cooperative

Oakdale Electric Cooperative is inviting all to celebrate cooperatives in Wisconsin—and across America—during National Cooperative Month.

Every October, cooperatives are recognized for the qualities that make the business model unique. Seven cooperative principles set us apart from other businesses: voluntary and open membership; democratic member control; member's economic participation; autonomy and independence; education, training and information; cooperation among cooperatives; and concern for community.

"Cooperative membership is unique," said Bruce Ardel, general manager. "Electric cooperatives are committed to

providing members with safe, reliable, and affordable electricity, but there's more to it than that. We're local, and that means we care about our community. This is why we support our communities through programs such as Operation RoundUp®, student scholarships, employee blue jean donations, Youth Leadership Congress, and hotline safety demonstrations."

Oakdale Electric Cooperative is proud to be part of America's cooperative network, which includes more than 47,000 cooperative businesses serving more than 120 million people nationwide.

Electric co-ops provide power for many badger state residents, with 26 electric co-ops serving 233,740 members. Other co-op

businesses thrive in our state too, with Wisconsin's co-op economy employing almost 19,000 residents and generating more than \$8 billion in revenue annually.

Oakdale Electric Cooperative is one of over 900 electric cooperatives, public utility districts, and public power districts serving 42 million people in 47 states.

"In the 1930s, rural America needed electricity just as much as anyone else," Ardel said. "It was a major challenge that big utilities weren't interested in tackling. So, the men and women of rural America banded together and made it happen. And that's why we celebrate in October—we celebrate the power of working together for the common

good and bettering the quality of life for our friends and neighbors."

All members are invited to attend our Member Appreciation Day and pancake breakfast on Saturday, October 1, from 7:30 – 11 a.m. at our headquarters facility in Oakdale. This annual celebration not only includes a free pancake breakfast, but also has energy education booths; kid's activities including bounce house, face painting, T-shirts, and petting zoo; bucket truck rides; giveaways; and door prizes for all members! This is a great opportunity to join with co-op employees and other members while celebrating National Cooperative Month.

For more information on Member Appreciation Day visit www.oakdalerec.com.

**All members are invited
to attend our Member
Appreciation Day
Breakfast on
Saturday, October 1**

MY CO-OP



2016 MEMBER PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS

Calendars will first be available at Member Appreciation Day on October 1. Afterwards, calendars will be available for pick up at our office during office hours, Monday – Friday from 7:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Limit one calendar per member.

January

Craig Hillman:
Sunrise in
the fog.
La Valle (1)



February

Debra Schotten:
Morning
hoarfrost on
trees.
Mauston (2)



March

Michael Zellmer:
Summer barn.
Tomah (3)



April

Dawn Mecozzi:
After a storm.
La Valle (4)



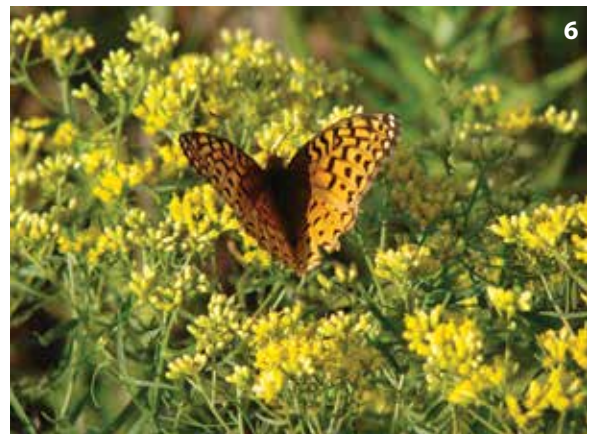
May

John Froelich:
Biker and
roadside flowers.
Tomah (5)



June

Dolores
Marusarz: A silver
bordered fritillary
seeks nectar.
Lyndon Station (6)





7



8

7. July

Jan Thyberg:
Golden glow
of sunset after
a storm.
La Valle (7)

8. August

Dawn Mecozzi:
On the lake.
La Valle (8)



9



10

September

Christy Johnson:
Sandhill
cranes among
the colorful
landscape. *New
Lisbon (9)*

October

Brenda Verbsky:
Fall barn.
Tomah (10)



11



12

November

Ashley Waege:
Quiet, peaceful
morning.
Tomah (11)

December

Beth Wroblewski:
Fox squirrel
feeding on
sunflower seeds.
Wilton (12)



13

Cover

Debra Schotten: Cornfield and bluff.
Mauston

**Get your cameras ready
to start snapping!**

The 2017 Member Photo Contest runs
February 1 – August 25, 2017.
For more information contact
dprotz@oakdalerec.com.

MY CO-OP



WATCH YOUR OCTOBER BILL FOR YOUR CAPITAL CREDIT REFUND

Oakdale Electric Cooperative members will be experiencing one of the benefits of membership this month when capital credit refunds are applied to active accounts. Refunds were applied to the October bills, which members should receive around November 1.

Capital credits represent your ownership of this non-profit, member-owned cooperative. Capital credits are created when the cooperative has earnings, income minus expenses. At the end of each year, these earnings are spread proportionately to all active cooperative members according to each member's energy purchases from Oakdale Electric Cooperative that year.

Capital credits accumulate in an account in each member's name and are paid as a percentage each year. Members are eligible for capital credit refunds following three years of receiving electric service from the cooperative. The size of the percentage is determined by the cooperative's board of directors according to the cooperative's financial condition.

Checks will be issued to those who no longer receive electric service from Oakdale Electric Cooperative but are still owed capital credits.



Did you purchase a new qualified energy star appliance this year?

If yes, submit your rebate forms before December 30, 2016. Visit www.oakdalerec.com to obtain rebate forms and for more details on this program.

Bruce Ardel, General Manager

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Deana Protz, Editor



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Office Hours: Monday–Friday, 7:30 a.m.–4:00 p.m.
24-Hour Emergency Power Restoration: 800-927-6151
Toll-free Online Bill Payment 866-392-4307

Diggers Hotline: For underground cable locates and power line clearance information, call 800-242-8511.