



**Dunn Energy
Cooperative**

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



By **Jesse Singerhouse,**
General Manager

COOPERATIVE OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

One of the guiding Cooperative Principles is Concern for Community. It is a principle that is near and dear to my heart and one that I can proudly say your cooperative takes very seriously. In fact, I

am probably an example of how an investment by Dunn Energy can pay dividends down the road.

Dunn Energy has always been a big supporter of the youth in our communities. Let me take you back to Spring 1991. I was a Menomonie High School student at that time. One day I received a note to report to the guidance office. I wasn't sure what that was all about, but I nervously made my way there. Mary Crownheart was my guidance counselor at the time and she said, "Jesse we have a leadership opportunity we think you would be perfect for." She told me that Dunn County Electric would like to sponsor me to attend the Youth Leadership Conference (YLC) at UW-River Falls (UWRF) that summer. She said I'd learn about cooperatives and the River Falls college, and have a great time.

Little did I know how that day would shape the course of my life. I attended the YLC that summer and spent three days on the UWRF campus learning about cooperatives, leadership, electrical safety, and more importantly, myself. I can truly say that attending YLC was one of the places where my leadership journey and my career path towards Dunn Energy Cooperative started.

Dunn Energy continues to invest in the future, not only through wires, poles, and meters, but also by investing in our youth. In this issue you'll find information about the 2020 Youth Leadership Congress. We will sponsor up to four students who are affiliated with DEC. The YLC continues to be a valuable event that electric cooperatives from across Wisconsin put on. Nationally, the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) puts on the Youth Tour, where young cooperative leaders from across the country gather each year to learn about leadership, energy, and cooperatives. Both of these events have the same purpose: to educate the future generation and strengthen the cooperative movement for years to come. (7260013)

At our December board meeting, your board of directors approved using funds from our unclaimed capital

credits to provide for youth scholarships. These are capital credits that have been advertised in our local paper and the *WECN* magazine for a period of time, yet no one has claimed them. So, this year we will invest over \$15,000 in the future of this cooperative and our communities in the form of scholarships.

These scholarships are for graduating high school seniors whose parents or guardians are members of the cooperative. If you know a student who is graduating this year and planning to attend a two-year or four-year school

next fall, encourage them to fill out an application.

DEC also offers a non-traditional student scholarship for a cooperative member who is going back to school. Look for more details in this issue and on our website.

Dunn Energy also supports countless other youth and

community organizations including local 4H and FFA programs. Our Operation Round Up program has also supported numerous youth events and initiatives, all with the goal of investing in the future generation and this community.

Job #1 at DEC will always be to deliver reliable, safe, affordable energy to our members. But there is more to it when you are a locally owned cooperative. We invest in this community to make it stronger today and tomorrow. I am proud to work for an organization that invests in our community, particularly our youth. To me, it really solidifies the cooperative difference.

Dunn Energy continues to invest in the future, not only through wires, poles, and meters, but also by investing in our youth.

Hidden Account Numbers

The incentive to find your account number has increased! 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 Jeanette Mathews and Donald Berg.



Youth Leadership Congress

UW-River Falls | July 14-16, 2020



The annual **WECA Youth Leadership Congress** is a dynamic three-day event for youth leaders across Wisconsin to develop their **leadership skills** while learning about the purpose, operation, and scope of **cooperative businesses**.

Take the opportunity to...

- See **what makes the cooperative business model different and successful**, and then apply this knowledge to fun and challenging cooperative activities.
- Identify and learn how to develop your own **leadership skills**.
- Discuss **cooperative careers** with professionals in the industry.
- Be **entertained and challenged** by highly acclaimed motivational speakers who understand teens and address topics that are important and relevant in your life.

This is a **by-teens, for-teens conference** that is planned and developed by a youth board elected at the previous year's event.

Who should apply?

- Students who will be sophomores or juniors next year, and whose parents are members of Dunn Energy Cooperative.
- Students active in their school and community.

What does it cost?

- All registration costs are covered by the generous support of electric cooperatives and the National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation.
- Interested students should fill out the form below and return it to Dunn Energy Cooperative.

Youth Leadership Congress Participant Application Form

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Gender _____ Grade entering in fall 2019 _____

Parent email (used to send links to online health forms) _____

Return this completed form to Dunn Energy Cooperative, P.O. Box 220, Menomonie, WI 54751-0220

2020 DUNN ENERGY COOPERATIVE SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarship applications for 2020 are now available. Contact your local high school guidance counselor, or call Dunn Energy at 715-232-6240 for more information. The scholarships are for \$1,000 and will be awarded at our annual meeting on March 21. Requirements are: (140019186)



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 in the following their senior 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.



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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

N5725 600th St., P.O. Box 220, Menomonie, WI 54751

715-232-6240

www.dunnenergy.com

Jolene Neisius, Editor



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