


Members, please join us!
Friday, June 5, 2026
 Polk-Burnett Electric Co-op, Centuria
MEMBER APPRECIATION DAY
 11AM - 1:30PM
 Lunch, giveaways, bounce house
 Drawing for 10 \$50 bill credits

ANNUAL MEETING
 1:30 - 2:30PM
 Co-op report, election results
 bylaw vote, member Q&A
 Drawing for 10 \$50 bill credits



May 2026

POWERLINES



We hope you'll join us June 5 for our Annual Meeting & Member Appreciation Day

by General Manager Steve Stroshane, left, and Board President Ed Gullickson, right

One of our favorite days is coming up on June 5, when the employees and directors of Polk-Burnett will host our Annual Meeting and Member Appreciation Day for you.

During the meeting, we'll share a state-of-the-cooperative report, co-op financials and board election results. It's also a time to hear from you and have some fun, too! We'll have activities for the kids, a delicious lunch (hamburgers, baked beans, potato salad and root beer floats) and an appreciation gift (beanie hats) for all members who attend.

Spending time together is important to us, because everything we do is shaped by you, our members. As we plan for the years ahead, we appreciate hearing from you. Your feedback helps us set strategic priorities. As a cooperative, we are motivated by service to our members and community.

We hope you'll join us Friday, June 5. Our Member Appreciation Open House begins at 11 a.m., followed by the 88th Annual Meeting at 1:30 p.m. All activities take place in the co-op garage and outside. Members are asked to enter on the north side of our Centuria office; registration begins at 11 a.m.

You can see more event details and read proposed bylaw amendments on polkburnett.com or call us at 800-421-0283. We look forward to seeing you!

Three co-op board directors run unopposed in spring election



Polk-Burnett Electric Cooperative is holding an election this spring for board directors serving co-op districts 1, 2 and 3. Ballots mailed April 27 to members in those districts with instructions to vote by mail or online.

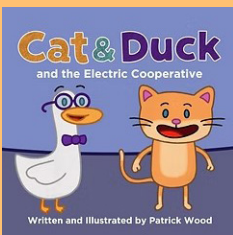
District 1 includes parts of Osceola, Alden and Garfield townships, and Farmington and Somerset townships. Incumbent director *Cindy Thorman* of Osceola is running unopposed.

District 2 includes part of Osceola township, and St. Croix Falls, Eureka, Sterling, Laketown and Milltown townships. Incumbent director *Mike Morris* of Luck is running unopposed.

District 3 includes part of Garfield and Alden townships, and Lincoln, Blackbrook, Clear Lake, Vance Creek, Star Prairie, Forest and New Haven townships. Incumbent director *Ed Gullickson* of Amery is running unopposed.

As a co-op, Polk-Burnett is owned by its members and governed by a board of directors elected from its membership. Directors serve a three-year term and attend monthly meetings to guide policy and budget decisions for Polk-Burnett Electric Cooperative. Election results will be announced at Polk-Burnett's 88th Annual Meeting, Friday, June 5.

*"Co-op directors are local members who live and work here; they understand and listen to our community. Local board governance is one of the greatest advantages of our co-op business model."
 ~ General Manager Steve Stroshane*



Investing in our next generation: Explore electricity with us

In addition to investing in youth through scholarships (back), we are committed to engaging and educating young minds through tours, safety demonstrations and storytime. Co-op employees volunteer in our community and share experiences with students about the world of electricity, electrical safety, solar energy and co-op careers.

Solar Energy Exploration: Tour our SunTuria Solar array and gain insights into solar energy. This experience is suitable for middle school and high school students.

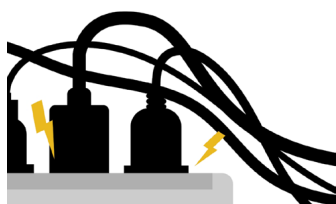
Career Discovery: Discover cooperative careers, including linework, technology, finance, communications and engineering. This exploration is tailored for middle and high school students.

Electrical Safety Education: Learn how to stay safe around electrical equipment in your yard, home and community, as well as what to do if you're in a car accident with power lines. This valuable information is available for all ages.

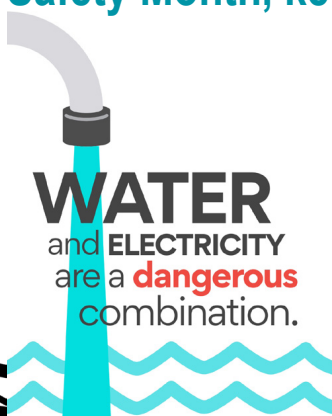
New for 2026: Storytime at local libraries, where we'll read to kids about the adventures of Cat & Duck! If you're a teacher or lead a youth group, call us to energize your students! 800-421-0283, ext. 333

May is Electrical Safety Month, keep your home and family safe!

AVOID OVERLOADING electrical circuits.



WATER and **ELECTRICITY** are a **dangerous** combination.



LIGHT BULBS should match the **RECOMMENDED WATTAGE** for all fixtures.



EXTENSION CORDS should only be used as **TEMPORARY** solutions.



Co-op awards \$154,000 in scholarships to Class of 2026

Polk-Burnett Electric Cooperative will present its largest scholarship to the Class of 2026, with 77 sons and daughters of co-op members receiving \$2,000 each to continue their education after high school! In addition, one Polk-Burnett scholarship candidate was selected to receive an extra \$1,000 scholarship from Dairyland Power Cooperative, our wholesale power provider, and two students were chosen to be our local delegates for the Electric Co-op Youth Tour of Washington, D.C. in June.

"Our board of directors is very supportive of co-op scholarships that strengthen education and co-op families," said Polk-Burnett General Manager Steve Stroshane.

Congratulations, 2026 Polk-Burnett Scholarship winners, by name and school:

- | | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Alyssa Anderson, Clear Lake | 27. Vincent Henton, Somerset | 54. Rowan Prokop, St. Croix Falls |
| 2. Lewis Anderson, Grantsburg | 28. Alex Hoff, St. Croix Falls | 55. Ruby Rengo, Grantsburg |
| 3. Sierra Andert, Somerset | 29. Derek Hohler, Somerset | 56. Jocelyn Richardson, Tartan |
| 4. Hattie Antonich, Grantsburg | 30. Jacob Hutter, Somerset | 57. Daisy Roehm, Luck |
| 5. Elijah Argetsinger, Argetsinger Academy, Youth Tour Delegate | 31. Wyatt Jensen, Frederic | 58. Aaron Rysdam, Osceola |
| 6. Maryalyce Batchelor, Osceola | 32. Reece Jensen, Grantsburg | 59. Wade Skramstad, Somerset |
| 7. Sophia Becker, Rice Lake | 33. Adeline Juneski, Osceola | 60. Kevin Slechta, Osceola |
| 8. Cameron Chadwick, Frederic | 34. Amelia Kelch, Luck | 61. Courtney Slechta, Osceola |
| 9. Marley Coe, Webster | 35. James King, Frederic | 62. Abbigale Smith, Webster |
| 10. Waylon Cole, Osceola | 36. Justin Kwolek, Grantsburg | 63. Vanessa Spataro, Amery |
| 11. Kyra Cox, Unity | 37. Aiden Lamb, Webster | 64. Kira Stone, Stillwater |
| 12. Laurel Craker, Luck | 38. Bennet Lechman, St. Croix Falls | 65. Dallis Strehlo, Webster |
| 13. Chase Crosby, Shell Lake | 39. Bailey Loberg, Luck | 66. Sydnee Sweeney, Amery |
| 14. Eloise Crowe, Unity | 40. Norman Luedtke, Webster | 67. Kaitlyn Tempel, Osceola |
| 15. Launa Daniels, Unity | 41. Lily Macknick, Osceola | 68. Jadya Thaemert, Unity Dairyland Power Co-op Scholarship |
| 16. Riley DeMoe, Osceola | 42. Elsie Marek, Homeschool | 69. Levi Thayer, Amery |
| 17. Jackson DeMoe, Osceola | 43. Carter Marincel, Osceola | 70. Eleonore Treague, Webster |
| 18. Brena Dimler, Clear Lake | 44. Zane Mattson, Luck | 71. Elizabeth Treague, Webster |
| 19. Olen Eck, Osceola | 45. Teresa Meier, Grantsburg | 72. Ana Ulrich, Osceola |
| 20. Isaiah Fugate, Unity | 46. Carter Meyer, Amery | 73. Archer Utke, Osceola Youth Tour Delegate |
| 21. Mya Gardner, Cumberland | 47. Kylie Meyer, Amery | 74. Elayna Wieser, Webster |
| 22. Lexi Geyer, Osceola | 48. Jada Nick, Frederic | 75. Addyson Williams, Osceola |
| 23. Jackson Gingras, Unity | 49. Davis Noeldner, Somerset | 76. Elliot Wilson, St. Croix Falls |
| 24. Elinor Hagen, Osceola | 50. Blade Nybeck, Cumberland | 77. Brooke Wolf, Webster |
| 25. Rylee Hall, Osceola | 51. Piper Olson, Grantsburg | |
| 26. Asher Havranek, Osceola | 52. Lily Peterson, Somerset | |
| | 53. Elise Pratt, Osceola | |

Since 1987, Polk-Burnett has given more than \$1.4 million in scholarships to support co-op students. Scholarships do not affect electricity rates for members; they are funded with unclaimed Capital Credits that would be forfeited to the state if not used for education, and by the generosity of co-op members who donate their Capital Credits. To donate Capital Credits, visit polkburnett.com or call 800-421-0283.



SPECIAL CO-OP MEMBER PRICE ON MARATHON WATER HEATER

100-GALLON ON LOAD CONTROL



\$950

plus tax

A 100-gallon Marathon® water heater is an investment that pays for itself in energy savings. When you install it on the off-peak rate, it's one of the most cost-effective ways to heat water for your home.

- Costs no more to operate than 50-gallon tank
- Durable and built to last with corrosion-free tank


800-421-0283, x318 | polkburnett.com





Help protect the Karner Blue butterfly

Polk-Burnett follows eco-friendly practices to protect the Karner blue butterfly. We mark habitat sites under power lines, and ask co-op members and employees to tread carefully in these areas each spring and summer. The Karner blue butterfly is often found near purple lupine plants in sandy soil.



Spring planting guide

Planting a tree or shrub this spring? Make sure full-grown trees and branches won't grow into the right-of-way and touch power lines.

Branches must be at least 15 feet away from power lines in yard areas and at least 20 feet away from power lines in all other areas. **Maintaining a clear right-of-way under power lines reduces outages and improves safety for everyone!**

Tree branches on power lines are a common cause of blinks and outages. A clear right-of way provides access for maintenance and outage repairs, prevents fires and is required by state and federal code. Thank you for your help!

PS: Always contact Diggers Hotline, 811, before planting to prevent injuries and damage to underground utilities.

IF YOU RECEIVE AN EMAIL SURVEY, WE APPRECIATE YOUR FEEDBACK TO HELP US IMPROVE.

All members who submit a survey will be entered in a drawing for a \$50 bill credit.

Polk-Burnett is your local Touchstone Energy Cooperative. Reliable power with efficiency and extraordinary service.

Follow us on Facebook. Sign up for our SmartHub app.

800-421-0283 • polkburnett.com



Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer | Member Owned | Community Focused

