

Vernon Electric Cooperative

"Information for our member-owners."

Vernon Electric Values our Veterans

Vernon Electric Co-op has always had a high percentage of its workforce coming from a military background. Many of the skills learned in the military are also skills important to operating a rural electric cooperative. Today nearly 20% of our workforce are veterans.

This Veteran's Day (November 11), Vernon Electric Co-op salutes America's veterans for their historic and ongoing service and sacrifice to our nation.

Thank You Veterans!



Pictured l to r are: Matt Hirschfield (Army National Guard), Andy Hefel (Army), John LaDue (Marines), Jason Johnson (Army Reserve), Don Gander (Army)



Celebrating the Month of Cooperatives



Director, Dan Giese chats with some members while making sure there was plenty of hot coffee and hot apple cider.



The Westby Robotics Team showed off their robot's skills. Their team is partly sponsored by a grant from Vernon Electric Cooperative in the amount of \$2,000.



These kids enjoyed pretending to be a line worker during the Open House. Someday they may be the real thing!



A big crowd was on hand to enjoy some tasty food at Vernon Electric's Open House to celebrate Co-op Month.

Prize winners

The winner of the registration prize of a \$50 bill credit was **Lester Meyer** of Viola.

Irene Bakken, Genoa, won a \$25 bill credit for having the closest guess to the 154 pieces of candy in the candy jar.

Sharon Gilbeck, Westby, won a \$25 bill credit for having the closest guess to the weight of the 45.2 lb. pumpkin.

Catriona LaDue, Westby, won a \$25 bill credit for having the closest guess to the length of wire on the wire reel. The wire reel contained 710 ft. of wire.

Ole Yttri Achieves Credentialed Cooperative Director



Electric cooperative directors earning NRECA education certificates during the past year were identified during the combined Regions 5 and 6 meeting recently in Minneapolis. Wisconsin directors achieving Credentialed Cooperative Director (CCD) status include our very own Ole Yttri who represents our members in Division VII (Towns of Webster, Stark, Liberty, Kickapoo, and Forest).

Ole successfully completed five courses that focused on basic governance knowledge and the essential skills required of cooperative directors. The CCD prepares directors to fulfill their fiduciary duty as elected officials serving on behalf of their membership.

Vernon Electric Cooperative has a 10-member board of directors serving 3-year terms. Members elect their board representatives through mail balloting. To learn more about being a Director, please visit our website, www.vernonelectric.org and look under the menu item, "About Us".

Fair Winners

Vernon Electric Co-op members had the opportunity at this year's Vernon County Fair to enter a chance to win one of ten \$50 bill credits. And the winners are...

- Mary & Steve Berg – Genoa**
- Justin Bramstedt – Viroqua**
- Linda Servais – Chaseburg**
- Jim Baker – Viola**
- Travis & Jennifer Anderson – Viroqua**
- Roger Humfeld – Westby**
- Erma & Tim Erickson – Viroqua**
- Daniel Hendrickson – Viroqua**
- Orrin Stakston – Westby**
- Marcus Christianson – Viroqua**



Keep an Eye Open for our Sub-Contractors



Karcz Utility Services will be checking poles and underground facilities for us this winter. They may need to cross or have access to private property to access Vernon Electric

Co-op equipment in the right-of-way. Thank you for your consideration while they do this important work to keep your electricity reliable.

Energy Assistance Available for Qualifying Members



The winter heating season has now begun. It's important for you to make every attempt to keep current on your electric bill. We understand that things do happen that put financial burdens on people. Certain government organizations can offer heating assistance or point you in the direction of a group that can help.

The Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program (WHEAP) administers the federally funded Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and Public Benefits Energy Assistance Program. LIHEAP and its related services help more than 230,000 Wisconsin households annually.

Eligibility

You may be eligible for weatherization services if:

- You received benefits from WHEAP or your gross income for the last three months is equal to or less than 60 percent of Wisconsin's state median income (SMI) for your family size.
- Your dwelling/apartment has not been weatherized before.
- Your household meets certain priorities that may include a high energy burden or use, and elderly or disabled member or a child under six.

For more information and application details, please contact your local Department of Human Services (DHS) office:

Vernon County DHS	608-637-5210
La Crosse County DHS	608-784-4357
Monroe County DHS	608-487-9356
Crawford County DHS	608-326-0248
Richland County DHS	608-647-8821
Sauk County DHS	608-356-8887
Juneau County DHS	608-847-5988
First Call for Help	211 or 800-362-8255

(First Call for Help 2-1-1 is another resource that will help you to find other agencies in your area that may be able to assist you with payment towards your electric bill.)

WHEAP Income Guidelines for the 2018-2019 Heating Season

HOUSEHOLD SIZE	3 MONTH INCOME	ANNUAL INCOME
1	\$ 6,870.00	\$27,480
2	\$ 8,983.75	\$35,935
3	\$11,097.75	\$44,391
4	\$13,211.50	\$52,846
5	\$15,325.25	\$61,301
6	\$17,439.25	\$69,757
7	\$17,835.50	\$71,342
8	\$18,231.75	\$72,927