



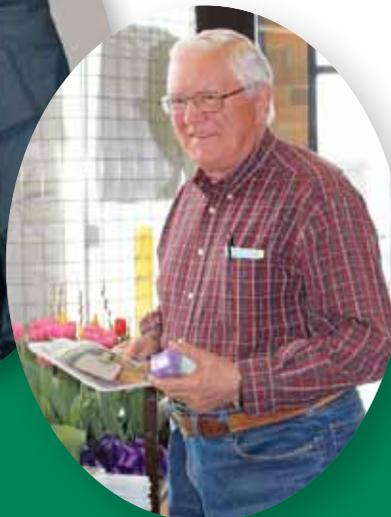
ANNUAL MEETING

Oakdale Electric Cooperative's **2014 Annual Meeting**

Saturday, April 5, 2014
Tomah High School

Registration: 9 a.m.
Business Meeting: 10 a.m.

- Director elections
- Annual reports
- Chance to win prizes
- Door prizes
- Lunch to follow business meeting



 Find us on
Facebook

*Watch for your annual
report booklet in March*

Marching in with Employee News

New Face for the New Year

Deana Protz started the new year off as Oakdale Electric Cooperative's communication and public relations specialist. Originally from Middleton, Wisconsin, Deana graduated from UW-La Crosse in 2006 with a degree in recreation management. She has more than 10 years of experience in marketing, communication, and youth leadership with the majority of her career spent in non-profit youth management, and most recently advertising and marketing.



This big-city girl married a small-town boy and has called Tomah home for the past six years. Deana and her husband truly enjoy the perks of small-town living, where everyone really does know your name! Sitting still just isn't an option for this duo. Deana and her husband love taking advantage of all the great outdoor activities this area boasts, including hiking, biking, paddling, and Deana's favorite, running. An avid distance runner, she is anxiously awaiting the springtime to lace up her sneakers and hit the ground running with her two best four-legged friends.

Working for Oakdale Electric Cooperative (OEC) is a dream come true for Deana.

"I feel extremely blessed to be able to work for a company whose vision and values fall so perfectly in line with my own," Protz stated. When asked to describe the OEC culture in three simple words, Deana chose supportive, kind, and passionate.

"I am looking forward to many rewarding years ahead as I continue to educate and inform our members on important cooperative issues," she said.

Welcome, Deana! ■

Apprentice Lineman Addition

Oakdale Electric Cooperative (OEC) welcomed Eric Flock as its newest apprentice lineman on January 6, 2014. Eric graduated from Chippewa Valley Technical College with a degree in Electrical Power Distribution in 2012. He has previously worked for Oakdale Electric as a summer employee, as well as for Dairyland Power and MJ Electric. In his free time, Eric enjoys hunting and playing softball in the summer months.



We are pleased to have Eric Flock back into the Oakdale Electric family! ■

Proud of our Graduate

For the past four years, Josh Von Haden worked for Oakdale Electric Cooperative as an apprentice lineman. This program included 8,000 hours of on-the-job training and 640 hours of classroom based training at Chippewa Valley Technical College. We are proud to announce Josh Von Haden completed the State of Wisconsin Apprenticeship Program and is now a certified journeyman lineman. He will continue his employment with Oakdale Electrical Cooperative and providing exceptional service to our members. Josh grew up in rural Tomah, Wisconsin, and is proud to live, work, and serve the community in which he was raised!

Congratulations Josh! ■



Left to right: Randy Larson, instructor; Josh Von Haden; Bruce Ardelt, general manager; Glenn Pampuch, line operations superintendent.



For the second year in a row, Oakdale Electric Cooperative (OEC) is having a photo contest for members' photos to be featured in our 2015 calendar and website. Get ready, shutterbugs, to capture our service area's natural beauty. Distinct features such as bluffs, marshes, rolling hills, forests, and prairies make for an ideal scenic photo opportunity. Again, winning photos will be used in our 2015 calendar and may be used in cooperative publications as well as on our website.

Contest rules, entry forms, and photo release forms can be picked up at our office or viewed on our website, www.oakdalerec.com.

Photo Contest Criteria

- Photos must reflect the greater rural Oakdale Electric Cooperative's service area.
- Emphasis in photo should be on landscape and nature, not a person.
- Photos will be judged by OEC employees.
- Photos must be submitted between February 1, 2014, and August 15, 2014.

Photo Contest Rules and Details

- Contest will run from February 1, 2014, to August 15, 2014.
- Limit of two photos submitted per member.
- Photos may be of any appropriate subject or scene, but must be taken in the Oakdale Electric Cooperative service area.
- Must be 18 years or older to enter contest.

- Member must own rights to photo.
- A completed entry form must accompany each photo.
- A permission form must be completed and signed for any photograph of a minor child.
- Photos must have a horizontal (landscape) orientation.

Photo Contest Entry Options

- Email: Deana Protz, dprotz@oakdalerec.com. Digital photos must be at least 300 dpi and 8" x 10". Do not send scanned photos, as they are not high enough quality to be used in print publications.
- Mail: P.O. Box 128, Oakdale, WI, 54649.
- Drop Off: Oakdale Electric Cooperative Office – 489 N. Oakwood St, Oakdale. Printed photos may be submitted. Original photos will not be returned. Photos must be quality studio prints, as photos on home printers or copy machines are not high enough quality to be used in print publications. Do not write on the photo.

Photo Tips

- Be sure your photo is clear and sharp. Fuzzy photos cannot be made sharp enough to print.
- Look at your photo with a critical eye. Ask yourself if it would be of interest to a wide variety of people.
- Make sure the background of the photo does not detract from the subject of the photo.
- Study photos in newspapers and magazines and analyze what makes them appealing.
- Have fun and be creative! ■

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NATURAL GAS CLEAN COAL

America needs an
ALL OF THE ABOVE STRATEGY
to keep electric bills affordable

VISIT ACTION.COOP

TELL EPA TO RECONSIDER ITS "ALL-BUT-ONE" APPROACH



Be Ready Before a Storm Strikes

Lights out?
Store these
items at home in
case of an outage.



Water

Three-day supply,
one gallon per
person per day.

Tools

Flashlight and
extra batteries,
can opener,
wind-up radio.



Food

Three-day supply
of non-perishable,
high-energy food.

First Aid, Medicine

First aid supplies,
hand sanitizer,
and at least a
week's supply of
medications for the family.



Documents

Include copies of passports, birth
certificates, and insurance policies.

Learn more at
www.Ready.gov.



Source: American Red Cross, Federal
Emergency Management Agency

YOUTH NEWS

Scholarship Update

If you're planning to continue your education at a college or university next fall, we may be able to help you! Check out our website, www.oakdalerec.com, for updated information about our scholarship program.

Youth Leadership Congress

Calling all high school juniors! Check with your high school guidance counselor for information about this summer's Youth Leadership Congress on the UW-River Falls campus July 16-18. You won't want to miss out on this rewarding opportunity!



Energy Efficiency

Tip of the Month

Programmable thermostats can save up to \$160 a year in energy costs. Match thermostat settings to your schedule: cold when you're away and warm when you're at home. In winter, set the thermostat to 68 degrees during the day (lower at night when you're snug in bed). By turning your thermostat down 10 to 15 degrees for at least eight hours, you can shave 5 to 15 percent from your heating costs.

Source: TogetherWeSave.com,
U.S. Department of Energy



Oakdale Electric Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner



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info@oakdalerec.com
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7:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

24-Hour Emergency Power
Restoration: (800) 927-6151
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866-392-4307
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Diggers Hotline:
For underground cable locates
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information, call (800) 242-8511.