

February 2018

FROM THE MANAGER— JIM HATHAWAY

Winter and the Electric Bill

January 2018 started off cold. Here in northern Wisconsin we are used to our winter being cold, but this year temperatures were a lot colder than normal. Temperatures struggled to get above zero for several days in a row and wind chills were minus 30 to minus 40 below zero. After a brief warm up, we were right back in the deep freeze.



"Our Energy Sense program has incentives to help you reduce your energy consumption."

When it gets that cold for that long, energy bills go up. The electric bill that accompanies this newsletter is probably higher than normal. "But I don't heat with electricity" you think. That may be true but no matter what you heat with, your furnace won't run without electricity to run the furnace fan. And like your furnace, the furnace fan probably ran overtime in January.

When it gets really cold people plug in block heaters to make sure their car starts in the morning. Or heaters for their tractors and other equipment. When it gets really cold people tend to stay at home more too. So the television and other forms of electronic entertainment may be used more. That increases the amount of electricity used, and the electric bill.

January also comes right after the winter solstice. That's when the earth is tilted farthest to the north and the sun hangs low on the southern horizon. The daylight hours are shortest in December and January. That means the lights in the house are on more. And that means more electricity used.

There are things that can be done to reduce the amount of energy used to keep your home comfortable. And Dunn Energy is here to help. We pride ourselves in being able to help our members find ways to save money on their energy bills. From conservation tips to rebates on efficient lighting, and heating, you can find something for you at Dunn Energy.

Our Energy Sense program has incentives to help you reduce your energy consumption. As a service to our members we will have a certified energy auditor come out and analyze your home and give you hints for ways to save energy. Members have to pay for the audit, but Dunn Energy will split the \$300 cost with the member. Just give us a call to schedule your home energy audit.

Why spend the money on a home energy audit? Well, some problems are easy to spot. If you always have icicles hanging from your roof in the winter, that's a sign that your attic insulation is not thick enough. But other problems are harder to spot and having the help of an expert makes finding the problems, and solutions, easier.

If you follow up on any of the recommendations that the home energy consultant makes, Dunn Energy will

pay for half of the project cost up to a maximum of \$500. We offer incentives to help reduce the cost of new, high efficiency ground source and air source heat pumps too. The co-op also offers rebates on LED lighting that will help reduce the cost of lighting your home.

Hopefully the worst of this winter's cold is behind us. But it is never too late to take steps to control your heating costs and reduce your electric bill. For more information, visit our web site at www.dunnenergy.com or give us a call at the office.



February

6 CVTC Career Tour – Chippewa Valley Technical College, Eau Claire – 9:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. – for more information email Christine at therightchoice@cvtc.edu or call 715-833-6300

10 The Snow Ball – Dunn County Historical Society, Wakanda Park, Menomonie – Pull out your best evening wear and dance the night away to live music! Wine and beer available and prizes throughout the night - For more information on ticket prices call 715-232-8685

If you have any upcoming events you'd like to post in our calendar, please call Jolene at 232-6240 or email her at jolene@dunnenergy.com.

Concern for Community

Towards the end of 2017, Dunn Energy Cooperative and its members, granted the Prairie Farm-Sheridan Fire Department funds to purchase high-visibility jackets for the firemen to wear when they are at car accidents and helping provide traffic control. Prairie Farm-Sheridan Fire Department is a small, non-profit volunteer department that covers 85-square miles and provides mutual aid to six surrounding fire departments.

Cooperative Principle #7

Concern for Community

While focusing on member needs, cooperatives work for the sustainable development of their communities through policies accepted by their members.



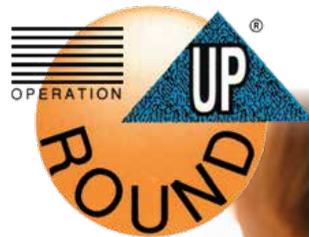
Pictured left to right (front row) Jon Huset, Chad Bowers, Charlie Selkow, Josh Olson, Jason Buhr, Joe Boesl; **(second row)** David Christenson, Matt Otto, Liz Boesl, Bud Lindemer, Lynn Barlett, Mike Boesl, Steve Amundson, and **(back row)** John Robinson, Cody Lindemer, Ken Boesl, Gary LaBlanc, Tim Raddatz, Tim Ambrose, Cory O'Brien

The Power of Cooperation

Operation Round Up® uses the power of cooperation to provide much needed grant dollars for community projects, 501©3 organizations and non-profit groups within the Dunn Energy Cooperative service territory.

If you, or a group you are a part of, are interested in applying for an Operation Round Up grant, you can find the application and our Giving Guidelines on our website at www.dunnenergy.com or by emailing Jolene for an application at jolene@dunnenergy.com. Grant applications are due March 31, June 30, September 30, and December 31 and reviewed shortly thereafter.

Thank you for your interest. Let's show the community the Power of Change!



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Spotlight



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

This newsletter is published for the members of Dunn Energy Cooperative. If you have questions or comments please give us a call. Visit the Energy Professionals at your local energy cooperative.



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