

Cooperative Members Elect One New, Two Incumbent Directors

The Eau Claire Energy Cooperative members elected Michael Schummer as a new director in a close race against incumbent Darlene Baglien Tuesday evening, March 13, at The Plaza Hotel & Suites in Eau Claire. In other races at the cooperative's 70th Annual Meeting, incumbent Gyneth Slygh maintained her seat against challenger Andrew Bourget and incumbent Clarence Boettcher won over Kenneth Stahl.

Board Chairman Robert Gadwill called the 70th Annual Meeting of the Eau Claire Energy Cooperative to order at 6:30 p.m. with more than 500 members and their families in attendance. The annual meeting included director elections and a Member Questions and Answer Forum. Federated Youth Scholarship winners were introduced. Youth Ambassadors were also introduced and acknowledged for participating in the Youth Ambassador Program, which was initiated in October 2005.

Cooperative Board Officers Elected

At their Reorganization Meeting on Wednesday, March 29, the Eau Claire Energy Cooperative Board of Directors elected the following officers:

Robert Gadwill Chair
Gyneth Slygh Vice Chair
David Myren Secretary

Other board members include John Bilderback, Clarence "Butch" Boettcher, Jeffrey Frieberg, Lamoine Myers, Jerry Graham, and newly elected director Michael Schummer.

With the headquarters located between Eau Claire and Fall Creek, Eau Claire Energy Cooperative provides reliable and affordable electricity, propane gas, and related energy services to residential, business, and farm members in Eau Claire County plus portions of Chippewa, Dunn, Pepin, Buffalo, Trempealeau, and Jackson Counties.

As a Touchstone Energy Partner, Eau Claire Energy Cooperative prides itself in the personal service it offers to its members. The following statistics are as of December 31, 2006:

- Numbers of members served 10,247
- Miles of electric distribution
line owned 1,607 miles
- Number of employees 38
- Total assets \$34,538,683

More information about Eau Claire Energy Cooperative is available by calling 715-832-1603 or 1-888-832-1604 or by visiting them on the Internet at www.ecec.com.

Eau Claire Energy Cooperative Board Officers



Robert Gadwill, Chair



Gyneth Slygh, Vice Chair



David Myren, Secretary



Eau Claire Energy Cooperative Board of Directors



*Robert Gadwill, Chair
District 2*



*Gyneth Slygh, Vice Chair
District 7*



*David Myren, Secretary
District 6*



*Jerry R. Graham, Director
District 1*



*Michael Schummer, Director
District 3*



*Lamoine Myers, Director
District 4*



*John Bilderback, Director
District 5*



*Jeffrey Frieberg, Director
District 8*



*Clarence Boettcher, Director
District 9*



WHERE THE FUN NEVER STOPS!

Where can you go for some of the newest and coolest entertainment and action? Action City. It's full of fun and exciting things to do for the entire family! Compared to some of the entertainment spots in Wisconsin Dells and fun parks across the nation, Action City offers something for all ages and genders. Bump each other around in the bumper cars or zip around the indoor race track in the go-karts. Go climb a wall that looks like a volcano. Zap your friends in a cool game of glow-in-the-dark laser tag. Test your reflexes at more than 100 arcade games. Action City offers all of these fun-packed activities indoors which makes it even better no matter what the weather.

According to Karen Kraus, Action City's marketing director, the idea for the entertainment center was the "brainchild" of co-owner Mark Steil a number of years ago, well before the center opened in November 2005. "It's a fun place for everyone, no matter what the age," she said.

You will see teens, grandparents, youngsters —people of all ages joining in the fun! Kraus continued, "The adults enjoy it, too. Many times you will see some adults being prodded into trying some of the games. And after awhile you will see their kids are having difficulty dragging Mom and Dad out the door. They are having too much fun!"

More Outdoor Games Planned

Co-Owners Tom Hahn and Mark Steil pose in front of the ever-popular indoor go-carts. Another track, this one outdoors on a slick track, is slated to open this spring,

along with an outdoor moving flag maze. Designed to encompass more than 8,000 square feet, this attraction will allow people to wind their way through a

maze of colored flags with prizes for completing the maze in an allotted time. The moveable walls will enable Action City to change the maze's course, encouraging people to come back to try it again and again. Try their new outdoor mini golf, too!



How to Find the Action

Action City is easy to find. It's located off Highway 93 just south of I-94; you can see all the activity as you travel by on the Interstate. Turn onto Lorch Avenue and travel to the end of the street and you're there! Or visit them on the Internet at www.actioncityfun.com for examples of the exciting games and attractions offered.

Mmmmm... mmm... mmm!

No cardboard pizza here!

Curb your hunger with a variety of food offerings like Monkey in the Middle Pizza and Erberts & Gerbert's sub sandwiches.

Plus, Action City offers food delivery to homes and businesses within a three-mile radius.



Parties and FUN-Raisers Galore!

Birthday parties and meetings are in demand at Action City. Special menus can be arranged for groups as small as 20 or as large as you can imagine.

(Continued on page 29 ►)

Youth Serve 79 Patrons at Community Table

ECEC's Youth Ambassadors prepared and served a delicious home-cooked meal for 79 patrons of The Community Table on Saturday, April 7, the day before Easter. Eau Claire Energy Cooperative provides the food and the student Youth Ambassadors prepare and serve the meal. The Community Table works with area volunteer groups to offer hot meals once a day for local patrons.

Students from area high schools conduct many community service projects during the school year as part of their participation in the cooperative's high school Youth Ambassador Program for sophomores, juniors, and seniors.

Thank you to the following students for taking a Saturday out of their busy schedules to prepare and serve the meal:



Joshua Howard, Fall Creek High School; Kayla Pocernich, Altoona High School; Nicole Sundly and Brandon Withers from Fall Creek High School ham it up for a moment after serving over 140 multi-colored marshmallow Easter Peeps to the patrons. It's become a tradition for the Easter Peeps to be part of their spring meal presentation.

- Joshua Howard, Fall Creek High School
- Kayla Pocernich, Altoona High School
- Nicole Sundly, Fall Creek High School
- Elizabeth Ranzenberger, Home School Association
- Brandon Withers, Fall Creek High School
- Nathan Walhovd, Altoona High School;
- Emma McCarthy, Eau Claire Regis High School
- Amanda McCarthy, Eau Claire Regis High School
- Max Thorsbaken, Eau Claire Memorial High School
- Signey Olson, Eau Claire Memorial High School
- Amanda Naylor, Eau Claire Memorial High School

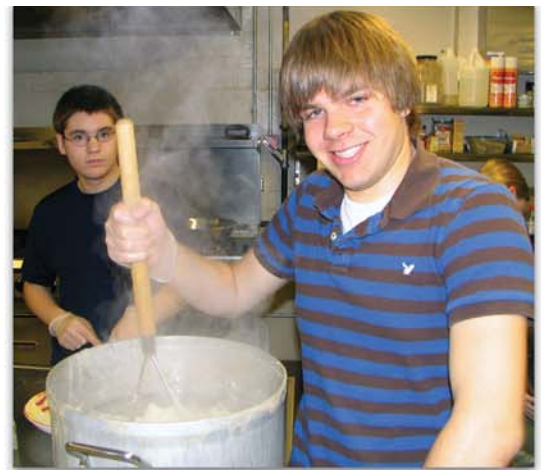
Next Meeting and Community Service Project

The next Youth Ambassador meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 9, at 12:00 noon at the Eau Claire Energy Cooperative headquarters. The next community service program is the spring highway cleanup (date to be announced). For more information on either event, contact Mary Kay Brevig at 715-836-6471 or toll free 888-832-1604, extension 218.

If you would like to join Eau Claire Energy Cooperative's Youth Ambassador Program, visit our web site at www.ecec.com and click on Youth Programs. This year's program ends in May and the next program begins in September. ■



Youth Ambassadors Max Thorsbaken and Amanda Naylor discuss the fine art of creating the liquid gold (brown sugar and butter) for the fresh-cooked carrots.



Above left: The first shift of Youth Ambassadors departs after preparing a delicious meal of 25 pounds of meatloaf, 25 pounds of real homemade mashed potatoes, gravy, 20 pounds of carrots sweetened with brown sugar and butter, 120 homemade deviled eggs, fresh oranges, and assorted breads and rolls, and, of course, marshmallow Easter Peeps. Beginning their shift at 9 a.m., the first shift of the following Youth Ambassadors checked out at 11:30 a.m. Left to right are Amanda McCarthy, Emma McCarthy, Amanda Naylor, Max Thorsbaken, and Elizabeth Ranzenberger. Above right: In the background, Nathan Walhovd works on mixing the cooked egg yolks for the homemade deviled eggs while Max Thorsbaken hand-mashes the large pot of boiled potatoes. Right: The day is not over until the clean-up crew is done. Signey Olson sweeps the kitchen floor while Joshua Howard cleans up the serving counter. Every single surface must be thoroughly washed down, including the counters, stoves, sinks, and floors. Below right: Kayla Pocernich proudly displays the colorful Easter Peeps display. Below left: Emma McCarthy, Elizabeth Ranzenberger, and Amanda McCarthy prepare the homemade mashed potatoes for the warming roaster prior to serving.



Grilling Season Brings Safety Tips

Grilling season is upon us, and it's time to make sure your propane gas grill is in top condition for the best grilling and for the safety of you and your family.

- Do not use a propane gas cylinder if it shows signs of external damage, such as dents, gauges, bulges, fire damage, corrosion, leakage, or excessive rust.
- Before grilling, make sure the propane cylinder is secured to the grill as directed by the manufacturer.
- After grilling, the cylinder must not be stored indoors or within any enclosed space.
- Always open the grill hood before lighting, and light



according to the manufacturer's instructions.

- Never use gasoline or kerosene to start the fire.
- Always grill in a well-ventilated area. Do not grill indoors or close to the side of a building.
- Use foil or a drip pan to catch juices and help avoid grease fires.
- To see how much propane is left in your cylinder, run a wet finger down the side. The wet streak will evaporate faster over the empty part of the cylinder.
- To return the cylinder valve on or off, remember "Righty tighty – Lefty loosey." ■

SO LONG, DOG DAYS.



Even in the dog days of summer when humidity and heat turn ugly, a Heil® Air Conditioner will keep you surrounded in super-cool comfort.

Heil high-efficiency air conditioners are engineered to save you energy year after money-saving year. With Heil's hundred-year heritage

of dependability, you can count on quiet operation, long-life performance, and a comfortable climate in your home.

When the summer turns ugly, Heil is a beautiful thing to have.



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Breakfast in the Valley 2007





Make Sure Electricity Stays Your Friend With Safe Practices

We can't imagine our lives without electricity, a powerful friend we depend on for nearly everything. However, electricity can become a deadly enemy if safety precautions are not met.

According to the Electrical Safety Foundation International (ESFI), electricity kills 400 people and injures thousands more each year. It causes 140,000 fires each year and is responsible for billions of dollars in property damage.

What are the top electrical hazards?

- Aging electrical systems, combined with growing power demands. Call a qualified electrician to perform an inspection if you are remodeling, adding electrical equipment, or experiencing "overload" problems such as dimming lights or discolored outlets.
- Overloading surge suppressors and power strips.
- Power line contacts with equipment, ladders, and gardening tools. Before you prune, climb, or dig, assess the situation for electrical hazards. Call your statewide locating service at least three working days before you dig. Never attempt to trim trees that contact power lines; call your local energy cooperative to get the job done safely.
- Call before you dig! Call Diggers Hotline at 800-242-8511 for a free locating service. They will contact all appropriate utilities who will locate the utility lines. Be sure to call at least three business days prior to digging. ■

Action City

(Continued from page 16a)

Many schools and non-profit organizations have held "Fun"raisers at Action City. In fact, Big Brothers Big Sisters recently held a "FUN-raiser" there with Action City giving back 25 percent of the game and foods proceeds.

Earn Prizes While You Play

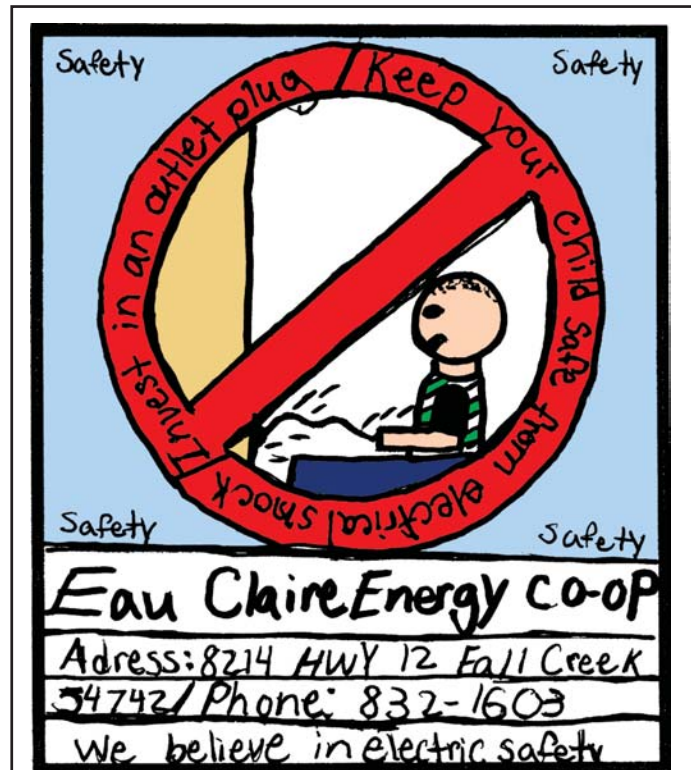
As people play many of the arcade games they can earn tickets for prizes. Pictured in front of the enormous variety of prizes available for gamers, Karen Kraus indicated the prizes are often high-tech, like Ipods and big-screen TVs, so they appeal to everyone. If you don't want to spend your tickets on a particular day, no problem. The tickets accumulate on your Fun License play card and you can return another day to spend them.



Bigger and Better Action for the Future

What more could Action City do to entertain? Bigger and better action is set for the future of the facilities. According to Kraus, a feasibility study has been done regarding building a hotel and water park on the premises. The owners are putting the final touches on the research and paperwork and hope to move forward with a groundbreaking this fall. Stay tuned for more action at Action City. Eau Claire Energy Cooperative has served Action City with electrical service since 2005. ■

Action City Hours: Sunday–Thursday, 11 a.m.–9 p.m.; Friday, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.–11 p.m.



Design an Ad Winner

This ad was designed by Michael Guite, a fifth-grader at Meadowview Middle School, as part of the Eau Claire Leader Telegram Design an Ad contest. Michael's hobbies are drawing, hockey, and other sports. His favorite food is tortellini, and at school he enjoys gym class the most.

Eau Claire Energy Cooperative

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Mary Kay Brevig, Editor

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Eau Claire Energy Cooperative

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