



July 2026

OEC Current

The Otsego Electric Monthly Newsletter

www.otsegoec.coop



OTSEGO ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

P.O. BOX 128
HARTWICK, NY 13348

OFFICE HOURS:
7:30 - 4:00
MONDAY - FRIDAY

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Board of Directors

Gary Potter
President

Charles Arnold
Vice President

Edward Clarke
Treasurer

Steve Child
Secretary

Fred Braun Jr.
Director

Amy Parr
Director

Patrick Hooker
Director

Timothy R. Johnson
CEO

Offical Notice and Invitation

The Cooperative's 82nd Annual Meeting will be held in person, Wednesday, August 19th at Cooperstown Central School located at 39 Linden Ave, Cooperstown, NY. Registration will open at 5:00 P.M. with the business meeting to begin at 7:00 P.M.

Official notice and an open invitation are hereby extended to all bona fide members and their families of the Cooperative to come and take part in the proceedings.

This year, our BBQ Chicken Dinner will be proudly provided by the **Hartwick American Legion** from 5:00 P.M. until 6:45 P.M. A portion of each meal sold will go directly toward supporting the **Veterans Memorial Project** in Hartwick, NY. This will help them move closer to the completion of this meaningful tribute. To show our appreciation for our veterans, all pre-registered veterans in attendance are invited to enjoy a free dinner as a heartfelt thank you for their service. Dinner tickets will not be sold at the meeting - please register early!

OFFICAL BUSINESS

The official Business Meeting of the Cooperative will include: President and CEO annual reports and the election of three directors. OEC's financial report, as audited by Mostert, Manzanero & Scott, CPAs will also be available at the registration table.

A Nominating Committee composed of: Bruce Phillips, Susan Mathieson, George Weiss, Thomas Clapperton, Greg Horth and Mark Stillwell met June 17, 2026 to review petitions for nomination for directors to be elected to a new term. Nominees are Ed Clarke (3-year term), Charles Arnold (3-year term), Amy Parr (3-year term).

President of the Board of Directors

Secretary of the Board of Directors

Celebrating the 250th Anniversary of America: A Milestone of Freedom and Unity

This year marks a historic milestone—the 250th anniversary of the United States of America. Since July 4, 1776, when the Declaration of Independence was signed, America has grown into a nation defined by resilience, innovation, and the pursuit of liberty.



As we celebrate this quincentennial, we reflect on the nation's journey—its struggles for equality, moments of triumph, and ongoing commitment to democracy. It's a time to honor the founding ideals that continue to inspire millions around the world.

Join us in commemorating this special occasion with community events, educational programs, and moments of gratitude for the freedoms we enjoy. Here's to 250 years of progress and to shaping an even brighter future together. Happy 250th, America!



Career Day

This June, we had the exciting opportunity to participate in a local career fair dedicated to 2nd and 3rd graders, giving young students a chance to explore a wide range of future careers. We loved sharing what we do every day, and the kids had a blast trying on gear, examining tools, and testing their strength to see if they could handle a tool belt! Many students were confident they were ready to climb a pole, and we might have sparked a few future linemen and women along the way. It was a rewarding experience to inspire the next generation!



OEC Safety Corner

FARM SAFETY

EQUIPMENT REACH

Make sure EVERYONE is trained on safe practices around electricity. Utilize these safety tips for you, your employees, seasonal workers, family members, and anyone else accessing your farm.

- Know the dimensions of any far-reaching equipment, such as chemical sprayers, tillage equipment, other extensions or augers.
- Machinery extension dimensions include length when extended horizontally and upright for transport.
- Always use the lowest (shortest) setting for extensions when moving loads.
- These power-line safety principles also apply to arms, booms, truck beds, ladders and other items or mechanisms that extend, lift, or are far reaching.

If your equipment does hit a power line, pole, or guy wire, do not leave the cab. Immediately call 9-1-1, warn others to stay away, and wait for the utility crew to cut the power.



Farmers are the backbone of our communities, providing the food and resources we rely on every day. Keeping them safe is a top priority, ensuring they can continue their vital work and sustain our way of life.



STAY COOL THIS SUMMER

without breaking the bank



Summer heat can strain both your comfort and your budget. As temperatures soar and energy demand peaks in the late afternoon and evening, it's time to take action.

7 cost effective tips to help lower energy consumption:

1. Request a home energy audit from your local utility to reduce energy loss.
2. Change your air filter regularly to help your HVAC system work efficiently.
3. Increase your thermostat by two degrees and set it to a higher temperature when you're away.
4. Install a smart or programmable thermostat for automatic temperature control.
5. Run dryers, washers and dishwashers during off-peak hours in the early morning or late evening.
6. Wash full loads of laundry in cold water. Detergent, not hot water, cleans the clothes.
7. Reduce indoor heat by limiting cooking and the use of heat-producing appliances during the hottest parts of the day.



Shift Timing, Shift Savings

As summer heats up, our homes tend to use more electricity, especially during the hottest parts of the day when demand from our members is at its peak.

Think of our electric grid like a busy highway. During rush hour, traffic slows down, congestion builds, and everything gets backed up. When drivers adjust their travel times—even slightly—it helps ease the traffic jam. The same idea applies to energy use.

Simple changes in your daily routine can make a big difference. For example, doing laundry later in the evening, running the dishwasher before bed, using a delayed timer on appliances, grilling outside instead of using the oven, hanging laundry to dry, or turning on ceiling fans instead of air conditioning—all help reduce strain on the grid during peak hours.

Morning - 6 A.M to 9 A.M.

Evening - 5 P.M. to 9 P.M.

These might seem like small actions, but collectively, they add up! That's part of the cooperative difference. As a member, you're not just a customer—you're part of a community working together to power our future and keep costs down for everyone.

As always, we thank you for your continued support and understanding!

Upcoming Annual Meeting Highlights

- Live Music By the 'Old Masters Jazz Trio'
- Backpack Giveaways for K-12 students in Attendance
- Many Door Prize Raffles
- Bill Credit for Attendance

- Dinner Supporting a Local Veterans Memorial
- Many Vendors & Organizations from our local communities
- Stay informed about your Cooperative

Call today to register!



Annual Meeting - BBQ Chicken Dinner Ticket

If you would like to order a dinner or pre-register, please call us or return the coupon located below along with the \$10 per dinner payment. Please make checks payable to Otsego Electric Cooperative. Please do not include your payment in the same check as your electric bill payment. No Dinner tickets will be sold at the dinner.

****Proceeds will be donated to the Hartwick Veterans Memorial - located in Husky Park, Hartwick, NY, which is in the process of being built to honor all of our Veterans.***

BBQ Chicken Dinner Tickets

Enclosed please find \$_____

Please Reserve _____ Dinner Tickets at \$10 each

Name(s) _____

If you are a veteran or active military, please contact the office directly to reserve your FREE dinner as a thank you for your service.

**Please note there is a limit of 4 dinners per member at the \$10 rate - additional dinners can be purchased at \$20 each if needed.*



Upcoming Office Closures

- Friday, July 3rd
- Monday, September 7th