



COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY



Since 2004, Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative (SREC) has provided 650 individual scholarships totaling \$511,500 through the Federated Youth Foundation. This ongoing commitment to supporting youth reflects the true spirit of cooperation by following cooperative principles #5: Education, Training, and Information, and #7: Concern for Community.

This year, SREC was proud to continue this commitment by awarding thirty-five, \$1,000 scholarships at the Annual Meeting in April. The scholarship will be sent to the students post-secondary school to help cover second-semester tuition and is given after students successfully complete their first semester of post-secondary education, earning at least twelve college credits with a minimum "C" average.



2025 Scholarship Recipients

Ashlynn Droessler
Southwestern
High School



Studying Graphic
Design at Western Tech

Benjamin Culver
Kickapoo High School



Studying Welding at
Southwest Tech

Benjamin Payne
Seneca High School



Studying Welding &
Fabrication at
Western Tech

Blake Droessler
Iowa-Grant High School



Studying Theology at
Emmaus University

Braelyn Meinert
Argyle High School



Studying Conservation
Law Enforcement at
UW-Stevens Point

Braylyn Quick
River Ridge High School



Studying Animal
Science at
UW-River Falls

Brooklyn Donar
Cuba City High School



Studying Nursing at
Southwest Tech

Caleb Tranel
Cuba City High School



Studying Plumbing at
Kirkwood Community
College

Claire Huser
Platteville High School



Studying Biology at
UW-LaCrosse

Elizabeth Pierce
Potosi High School



Studying Physical
Therapy at Clarke
University

Elizabeth Wright
Wauzeka-Steuben
High School



Studying Nursing at
Southwest Tech

Ella Gruetzmacher
Lancaster High School



Studying Business
Management at
UW-LaCrosse

Emma Jensen
Lancaster High School



Studying Elementary
Education at
UW-Madison

Grace Manning
Boscobel High School



Studying Dental
Assistant at
Southwest Tech

Hayden Hall
Platteville High School



Studying Healthcare at
UW-Madison

Isaac Crist
Darlington High School



Studying Ecology
Restoration & Resource
at UW-Platteville

Isaiah Groom
Potosi High School



Studying Construction
Management at
UW-Platteville

Jayden Kopp
Fennimore High School



Studying Welding at
Southwest Tech

Jessa Braudt
Fennimore High School



Studying Biochemistry
at UW-Madison

Josie Statz Lauper
Homeschooled



Studying English at
Patrick Henry College

Levi Palzkill
Belmont High School



Studying Ag. Power &
Equipment Technician
at Southwest Tech

Matthew Winch
Fennimore High School



Studying Dairy & Food
Animal Management
at UW-Madison

McKenna Helms
Fennimore High School



Studying Radiologic
Science at UW-LaCrosse

Mikaela Gross
Pecatonica High School



Studying Marketing at
Loras College

Noah Adrian
Cassville High School



Undecided
Southwest Tech



Nolan Wolf

Lancaster High School



Studying Precision Ag.
at Southwest Tech

Olivia Donovan

Walvert Catholic
High School



Undecided
UW-Whitewater

Reese Belscamper

Lancaster High School



Undecided

Rita Achenbach

Prairie du Chien
High School



Studying Veterinary
Medicine
Undecided

Rosa Gierke

Shullsburg High School



Studying Engineering
at UW-Platteville

Skylor Miller

Kickapoo High School



Studying English
Education at
UW-LaCrosse

Sophia Gruetzmacher

Lancaster High School



Studying Psychology
at UW-Madison

Sydney Mowry

Benton High School



Studying Sonography
at UW-LaCrosse

Taitin Riley

Mineral Point
High School



Studying Musical Theatre/
Political Science at
Northwestern University

Trisha Gillitzer

Wauzeka-Steuben
High School



Studying Nursing at
Southwest Tech

YOUTH LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

UW-STOUT | JULY 15-17, 2025

Join other high school students from around the state at the Youth Leadership Conference, a by-teens, for-teens event held on the campus of UW-Stout in Menomonie! Develop your leadership skills, explore cooperative career opportunities, experience a college environment, meet new people, and have fun!



Who should apply? Students of Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative (SREC) members entering their sophomore, junior, or senior year in the fall of 2025.

What does it cost? It's free! All registration costs are covered by SREC.

Interested in joining the fun? Visit sre.coop/youth-leadership-conference to learn more and apply.

Last call! Applications are due by June 12, 2025.

Honoring CHARLES "CHUCK" SIMMONS



Rest easy, Chuck

November 26, 1949 - April 30, 2025

With a heavy heart we share the passing of Charles "Chuck" Simmons on April 30, 2025.

Chuck represented SREC members in District 3 on the Board of Directors from 2009 until his passing. He was elected Chairman of the board in 2012, a position he held with tremendous pride until he stepped down in April 2025. During his tenure, he served as a Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association (WECA) Legislative Committee representative and was elected as Wisconsin's representative on the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) board of directors. He was a dedicated leader who cared deeply for the members in his district as well as all SREC members.

Chuck cherished board meeting days, often arriving early to chat with fellow board members and share stories about his grandchildren over coffee.

Chuck and his wife of 52 years, Marlene, resided in Eastman, WI. They had three children and nine grandchildren. Chuck loved attending his grandchildren's sporting events, golfing, and rooting on the Green Bay Packers, Chicago Cubs, and Wisconsin Badgers.

He graduated from UW-Platteville with a bachelor's degree in education. After 28 years as an agent and district sales manager for American Family Insurance, he retired in December 2013.

He was involved in many local organizations, including St. Wenceslaus Parish, Chamber of Commerce, Kiwanis, and Rotary Clubs, and was active in the Knights of Columbus working for People with Intellectual Disabilities.

His broad smile and infectious laugh will be truly missed by many. Please keep his family in your thoughts and prayers. We know this is not goodbye, but instead, "See you later."



"The members of Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative couldn't have asked for anyone better to represent their interests. He always and forever had the members at the end of the line in the front of his mind." - Steve Lucas, CEO



Steve Lucas, CEO

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