

FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER / CEO

Love on the line

New Enterprise Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



One of 14 electric cooperatives serving Pennsylvania and New Jersey

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OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Friday
7 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

EMERGENCY OUTAGE NUMBER

814/766-3221
1-800-270-3177



Rick L. Eichelberger
General Manager & CEO

NEW ENTERPRISE

Rural Electric Cooperative line workers don't work alone on our power lines. Whether they are climbing 50-foot poles, restoring power or clearing tree limbs to prevent future outages, they are never far from the hearts of the families who love them.

At this time of year, stores seem flooded with hearts, candy and cards professing true love. But to be honest, those sentiments pale in comparison to the bonds of love I see every time a storm sweeps through our area.

If the lights go out, our line workers' families send their loved ones out into the elements. When other electric cooperatives are in trouble after devastating hurricanes, tornadoes, ice storms and floods, our lineworkers have traveled as far as the Carolinas to bring the lights back on for complete strangers. Each time these brave line workers leave home to help those in need, their families are left behind, praying for a safe return.

Working with high-voltage electricity, line workers find themselves in life-and-death situations on a regular basis. That's why New Enterprise Rural Electric Cooperative focuses on safety first. We know the folks who love our line workers appreciate the time we take to make sure our employees get home safe every night.

Marrying into this profession isn't easy. Line workers are often on call, and must be ready to respond at a moment's

notice if our community needs them. This makes children's sporting events and family get-togethers hard to pull off sometimes. But the bold men who keep your power flowing do so because they know without their commitment, many of the things we've come to expect — hot and cold food, lights, entertainment — wouldn't be possible. By devoting their lives to working on utility lines, they connect all of us to a better way of life.

This Valentine's Day, I'd like to take a moment to thank the families who support and love our line workers who brave the elements and work long hours to keep power flowing to our homes each and every day. Thank you for putting your love on the line — we're committed to making sure the line workers you love return home safe.

New Enterprise Rural Electric line workers provide the public face of our mission to exceed expectations. They routinely work in rough weather and put in long hours. But they do it gladly, because they care about doing an exceptional job for you.

However, we have many people behind the scenes who also make our co-op the best it can be. We work to make bill paying easier and more convenient. We also make sure you have a positive and satisfying experience when you call or stop by our office.

And because we're a cooperative, we have a special responsibility to support the communities we serve and exceed expectations there, too. Whether it's a power outage or billing question, we're working hard to exceed your expectations. 

And the lights came on...Part 2

ON JUNE 13, 1938, a meeting was held at the New Enterprise Bank to discuss the idea of joining together to form a rural electric cooperative. For years, people had been joining together to make electricity come to their small corner of the area known as the Cove. Penn Central Power & Light did energize the lines, but they wouldn't come into the rural areas to build or maintain the lines.

There was no money in this, and Penn Central Power & Light needed to make a profit for their stockholders.

So the same people who built their own lines pledged their cooperation in working side by side with this new "light company." This new company would provide electricity to them, add more electric lines, plus maintain the old and new lines. A group of five men — E.W. Van Horn, H.L. King, C.P. Holsinger, J.L. Guyer and H.R. Snoberger — were the main organizers of the new company that would later be known as New Enterprise Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Approval from the federal government was needed to start the new association, so four of the five men headed to Washington, D.C., where they received approval for the new cooperative.

New Enterprise Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc. was incorporated on Nov. 18, 1938. New Enterprise Bank President E.W. Van Horn was very involved with the new cooperative. He was greatly opposed to using government loans from the Rural Electrification Administration (REA) to finance the cooperative. He saw an opportunity to help the local banks and the cooperative at the same time. The sales of bonds supported the formation of the cooperative. In addition to bonds, the cooperative borrowed \$25,000 from the New Enterprise and Woodbury banks.

By 1955, all loans were paid back,

making the cooperative debt-free. This debt-free status has remained in place.

The cooperative has been located in two different locations since 1938. The first office was on the second floor of the New Enterprise Bank building in the center of town. In 1960, a new office, warehouse and storage facility were built west of New Enterprise. An additional warehouse was built at the same

plumbing and water pumps soon followed. With electricity, came the electric iron and washing machines to help the women of the home. The men no longer had to worry about their barns catching on fire due to kerosene lamps.

The cooperative's territory was divided in late 1939, and another new rural electric cooperative was formed, called Bedford Rural Electric Cooperative (REC).

Bedford REC served western and southern parts of Bedford County.

New Enterprise Rural Electric Cooperative is celebrating its 75th anniversary in 2013. For 75 years, the directors and employees have strived to supply reliable and affordable electricity our consumer-members.

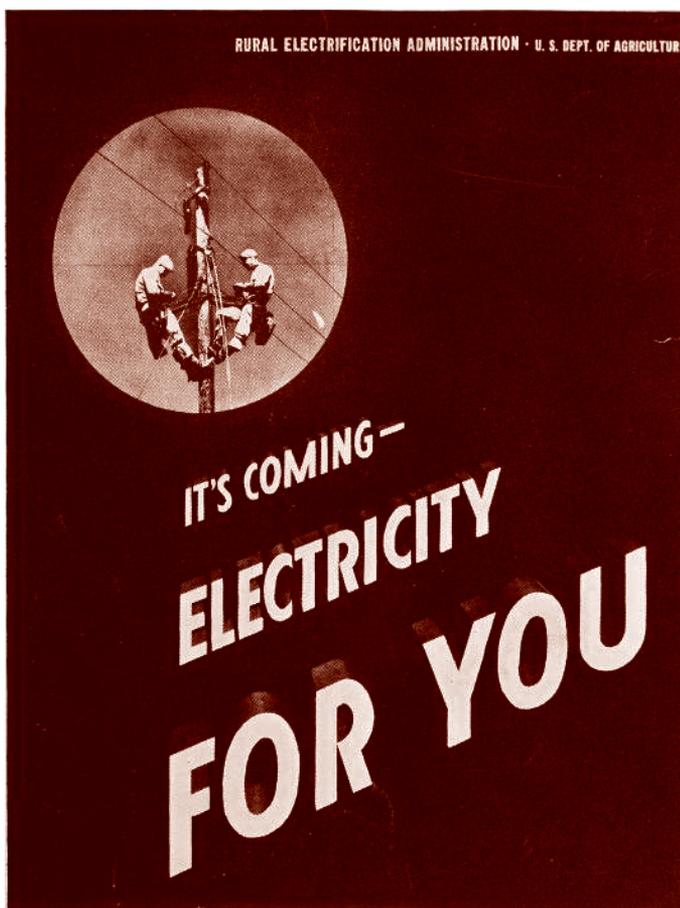
Today, more than 3,400 meters in Bedford, Fulton and Huntingdon counties are served by the co-op. The cooperative is governed by a seven-member board of directors elected by the cooperative membership at the annual meeting. Eleven people are employed to conduct the outside and inside work on a daily basis.

The only glance into life without electricity to those of us growing up with this wonderful convenience is during an outage. We have become used to flipping the switch

and having lights immediately. Or what about that fresh pot of coffee that is ready for us when we wake in the morning?

We owe a debt of thanks to the men and women who worked so hard to provide us with so many conveniences we take for granted each and every day. Where would we be without these people who saw a brighter future with electricity? 🌟

Information was compiled by Brawna Sell from historical documents at New Enterprise Rural Electric Cooperative. Part 1 was printed in the January issue of Penn Lines.



NRECA

location in 2001. Remodeling and a new office addition were completed in 2007.

When New Enterprise REC was first organized, it served much of Bedford County. In the first year of operation, 100 miles of new electric lines was added. Owners of the private electric lines like Southern Cove Lines "just gave the lines to the cooperative," according to recorded history. Many homes needed to be rewired to follow the REA specifications.

Electricity was one of the first conveniences installed in homes. Indoor



We would like to hear from you if you remember what it was like before the lights came on, or the day your family first received electricity. We would like to publish stories throughout 2013 of members' personal experiences living without electricity and their feelings when the lights did come on.

If you are interested in sharing your story, please contact Brawna at 814/766-3221 or 800/270-3177, extension 224, Monday - Friday 7 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Safe use of electric heating products add winter warmth

WHEN USED properly and safely, electric blankets and other heating devices can help keep you toasty during cold winter months. Here are a few safety tips for electric blankets and heating pads to keep in mind:

- ▶ Purchase items only if they have been approved by an independent testing facility, such as Underwriters Laboratories (UL).
- ▶ Inspect all cords and connections for cracks and frayed edges, which are a huge fire and injury hazard. Replace blankets or heating pads with faulty cords.
- ▶ Discard your blanket or heating pad if you see dark or charred spots on the surface.
- ▶ Do not put another cover on top of an electric blanket unless the safety instructions included in the packaging specifically state it's safe to do so. Some newer models protect against overheating.
- ▶ Once your electric blanket or heating pad is switched on, keep it laid flat — a folded device can cause a fire, as can a blanket that's been tucked in (which can bend wires).
- ▶ Never use heated bedding while asleep — look for a model with a timer that switches off automatically.

If you choose to use a space heater to supplement your home's heating system, some of the same rules of thumb apply, including purchasing a safety-certified model and reading the included safety instructions. More tips for space heaters:

- ▶ Keep units 3 feet away from combustible materials such as bedding, drapes, clothes and rugs. Space heaters also have parts that can spark, so avoid using them in areas where you store flammable liquids like kerosene and gasoline.
- ▶ In general, plugging space heaters directly into a wall outlet is best. If you must use an extension cord, make sure it's the correct type and boasts the right wire gauge size for your particular space heater. Otherwise, use a wall socket that can handle the load.
- ▶ Check safety instructions before using a space heater around water — some models are not intended for use in bathrooms.
- ▶ Be sure children are supervised around space heaters. Curious exploration can lead to electrical shock and burns.
- ▶ Finally, unplug and store the space heater in a safe place when you're not using it. ⚡

Sources: *Electrical Safety Foundation International, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission*

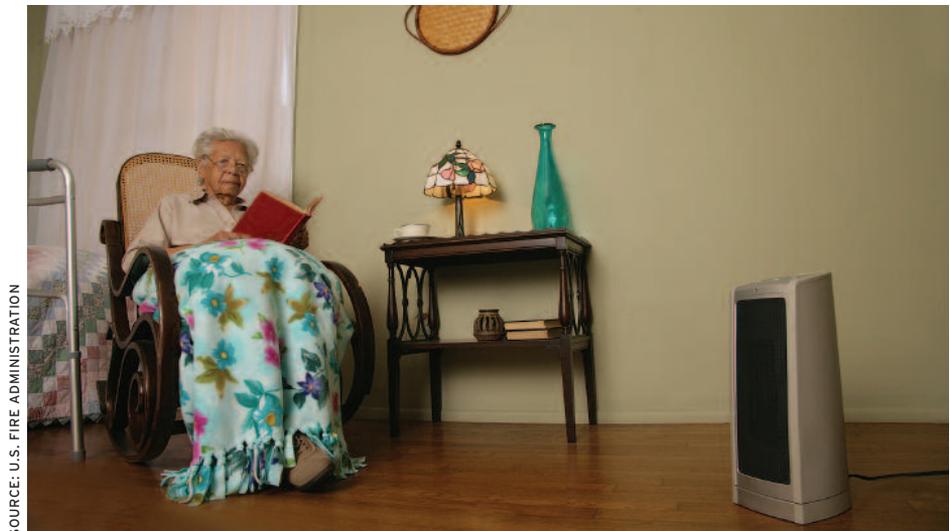
February co-op calendar:

FEB. 27

Service load limiters installed for past due accounts (last day to call Brawna at extension 224 to set up payment arrangements is Feb. 25)

FEB. 28

Payment and meter reading due



SOURCE: U.S. FIRE ADMINISTRATION

SPACE HEATER SAFETY: Keep your space heater at least 3 feet away from yourself and flammable items like blankets, drapes and rugs.

KIDZCORNER

Valentine Treat

What you'll need

- ➡ 3 oz. unsweetened chocolate squares
- ➡ 1/2 cup butter (1 stick)
- ➡ 3 eggs
- ➡ 1 cup sugar
- ➡ 3/4 cup light brown sugar
- ➡ 1 1/2 tsp. vanilla extract
- ➡ 3/4 cup all-purpose flour
- ➡ 1/2 tsp. baking powder
- ➡ 1/4 tsp. salt
- ➡ Confectioners' sugar (optional)



How to make it

1. Unwrap the chocolate squares and the stick of butter; place them both in a medium-sized saucepan.
2. Place the saucepan on the stove top and heat over medium-low, stirring occasionally, until the chocolate and butter are melted and smooth. Set aside until cool (this will take 15 minutes or so).
3. Meanwhile, heat the oven to 350 degrees. Lightly grease a 13- by 9- by 2-inch rectangular baking pan or a 9- by 9-inch square baking pan (the square pan will produce thicker, more cakelike brownies).
4. Crack the eggs into a large mixing bowl and whisk until foamy. Pour in the sugar and brown sugar and whisk until the mixture is well combined. Whisk in the vanilla extract, then carefully add the cooled chocolate mixture and stir until thoroughly combined.
5. In a medium-sized bowl, stir together the flour, baking powder and salt. Add this mixture to the egg and sugar mixture and beat for about 50 strokes or until the flour has been fully incorporated and the batter is smooth.
6. Pour the batter into the prepared baking pan and bake for 25 to 30 minutes for the 13- by 9- by 2-inch pan or 40 minutes for the 9- by 9-inch pan. Test the brownies for doneness. Cool thoroughly in the pan.
7. To cut the cooled brownies into uniform squares, use a sharp knife (adults only) to first score the top in a grid pattern, then slice the brownies and remove them from the pan.
8. For a fun Valentine's Day presentation, stencil confectioners' sugar hearts on top of each brownie. To make a stencil, cut out a heart from the center of a piece of paper. Place the stencil on top of the brownie and sift confectioners' sugar over it. Carefully lift the paper to reveal the confectioners' sugar heart. Makes 24.