### New Enterprise Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



One of 14 electric cooperatives serving Pennsylvania and New Jersey

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#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Leroy D. Walls
President
Timothy Newman
Vice President
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Asst. Secretary
Curtis Brant
Treasurer

Robert Guyer Mark Swope

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

Emergency Outage Number 814-766-3221 1-800-270-3177

#### From the General Manager/CEO



### **Annual meeting notice**

By Mark Morrison

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, our 2020 annual meeting, which had been scheduled for Thursday, June 11, has been canceled to protect the health and safety of our employees and members.

MARK YOUR calendars now for the 82nd annual meeting of the consumer-members of New Enterprise Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc. This year's meeting will be held at the Northern Bedford County High School, 152 NBC Drive, Loysburg, on Thursday, June 11, 2020. Attend this year's meeting and join others in:

- ▶ A family-style turkey dinner served by the Northern Bedford County High School Band students from 4 to 6:45 p.m.
- ► Entertainment will be the Dan & Galla Musical Show from 5:45 to 6:45 p.m.
- ▶ Business meeting from 7 to 8 p.m.
- Reports will be given by officers and general manager/CEO.



2019 ANNUAL MEETING: Board President Leroy Walls gives a look back at the past year and a look forward into the coming year at the 2019 annual meeting.

- Election of three directors to serve the cooperative for a three-year term
- Transaction of business properly brought before the meeting.

Official annual meeting notices and registration cards will be mailed out in late May. Only consumer-members are eligible to vote at the annual meeting (consumer-members are those who have paid a \$5 membership fee). If you are unsure if you have paid your membership fee, please contact the office at 814-766-3221 or 800-270-3177 for verification.

The Northern Bedford County High School Band students and parents will serve our meal. All members of the household are encouraged to attend. Two free adult and two free children's meal tickets for those living in the same household will be provided for each membership present. In addition, one free guest ticket per membership for someone living outside the household will be allowed. Additional tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for age 12 and under. Reservations must be made by June 1. Dinner is by reservation only.

If you have paid a membership fee and have not received an official annual meeting notice and reservation card in the mail by the end of May, please call the office.

## **Youth Tour 2020**

EACH YEAR in June, approximately 1,800 rural electric cooperative high school juniors participate in the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association Youth Tour in Washington, D.C. New Enterprise Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc. is proud to participate in this wonderful program. This year, four students from our service territory were selected to participate. Unfortunately, due to the coronavirus, the Youth Tour program was canceled this year. However, we wanted to recognize these outstanding students.

Olivia Higgins, Andrew Lazor and Bethany Shawley, all from Northern Bedford County High School, and Alexa Melius, who attends Tussey Mountain High School, were selected to represent New Enterprise REC at the 2020 NRECA Youth Tour. As part of the application process, each student composed a short essay on the topic, "What are the benefits of an experience such as Youth Tour for a high school junior?" Below are portions of each student's essay:

Olivia Higgins writes: "Spending five



days in Washington, D.C., would help me to be more understanding of what our cooperative and other cooperatives do across the country. The mon-

uments we visit on this tour have all been an important reflection of events that have shaped our country, and to experience this while meeting new teenagers like me is a bonus."

Andrew Lazor is looking forward to



enhancing his public speaking experience and leadership skills. He writes: "The tour will also teach us respect as we visit places like the Holocaust

Museum, the Iwo Jima Sunset Parade and Arlington National Cemetery, all of which help us reflect on past events for our country and the world."

Bethany Shawley writes: "Youth Tour provides students an opportunity to learn a great deal about the history of



our country." She recognizes that the rural electric program was created by President Franklin D. Roosevelt and his vision of leadership emphasized

a value in bringing electricity to rural America. Bethany states, "Students will have the opportunity to visit many of the monuments while on Youth Tour, and this experience will give students a deeper understanding of the history of our country."

Alexa Melius writes: "This opportu-



nity gives high school juniors the experience to broaden their leadership skills. It gives teenagers a chance to work with new people and deepen their social

skills. Surrounding yourself with new people gives an opportunity to learn more about diversity among large groups of people."

Best wishes to the New Enterprise REC 2020 Youth Tour students and all students who were selected to participate in Youth Tour this year.

#### A NOTE TO MEMBERS

New Enterprise REC is taking necessary precautions to maintain service to members during the COVID-19 pandemic. At this time, we have taken some internal measures to protect our employees and the membership. We have temporarily closed the lobby to the public; however, there is a drop box along the driveway at the cooperative and a night deposit box available near the main entry doors at the cooperative office for payments. If you wish to use our electronic payment options, simply give us a call, and we can walk you through the set-up procedure.

We have also extended the winter disconnect moratorium and will work with members as needed during this difficult time. If you experience a power outage, please call 814-766-3221 or 1-800-270-3177 as you have always done, and cooperative employees will respond to restore power.

I would like to extend a note of thanks to the membership, directors, staff, and employees for their understanding and support during this stressful and unusual time. We will beat this together. As always, feel free to call the office should you have any questions and stay safe out there.

Sincerely, Mark Morrison General Manager / CEO



# Pole with a history

Each year, the cooperative plans for replacement and upgrades of facilities and equipment to best serve our members. Last year was no exception. One of the areas we looked at was pole replacement. Poles are a large capital investment with a typically long life span. Just how long varies, depending on several factors. So, when we ran the reports of poles set that should be nearing the end of their useful life, we were surprised by at least one of them and had to check it out with a closer look.

We made a trip to Waterfall to the home of cooperative member Bill Shore and found a service pole indeed had a manufacturer's birthmark dated 1939. Surprisingly, the 25-foot, class 6 pole was in good shape and had several inspection tags on it from over the years. The homeowner was gracious enough to give us some history of the family farm before we changed the pole out for a newer model.



