

# New Enterprise Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



One of 14 electric cooperatives serving Pennsylvania and New Jersey

## NEW ENTERPRISE RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

3596 Brumbaugh Road  
New Enterprise, PA 16664-8814  
814-766-3221 • 1-800-270-3177  
FAX: 814-766-3319  
Website: [www.newenterpriserec.com](http://www.newenterpriserec.com)

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Leroy D. Walls**  
President  
**Timothy Newman**  
Vice President  
**David Bequeath**  
Secretary  
**Merle Helsel**  
Asst. Secretary  
**Curtis Brant**  
Treasurer  
**Brian McCoy**  
**Mark Swope**

### OFFICE HOURS

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

### EMERGENCY OUTAGE NUMBERS

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

## New Enterprise REC Annual Meeting



**MARK MORRISON**

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW FOR** the 88th annual meeting of the members of New Enterprise Rural Electric Cooperative (REC).

This year's annual meeting will be held from 4 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 2, at the Southern Cove Power Reunion Grounds, 145 Cave Road, New Enterprise. Based on member survey results, the meeting will remain a drive-thru event. (For more details, see the notice on page 14C.)

The grounds will be set up with a few stops for members. At the first station, members will be able to donate unexpired, nonperishable food items, which will be donated to local food


banks. Your donation will register you in a drawing, where we will give away two \$100 New Enterprise REC bill credits.

Members will then proceed to registration, where they will receive the cooperative's annual report, registration packet and voting materials for this year's director election. Upon registration, members will qualify for a \$35 electric bill credit.

This year, incumbent Directors Merle Helsel, Area 3, Tim Newman, Area 6, and Curtis Brant, Area 7, are running in uncontested races. As a result, Merle, Tim and Curtis will be re-elected to serve a three-year term.

Members will hear reports from the board president and me, the general manager/CEO, via a radio broadcast. The messaging will share cooperative highlights, news and meeting details. Directors and employees also will be available to answer any questions during the event.

You will receive, by mail, your Annual Meeting Notice, and a meeting registration card in May. Please return your registration card as you have done in the past, and we will see you at the annual meeting.

Please feel free to give us a call at 800-270-3177 or 814-766-3221, or stop in the office to let us know how we are doing. 

**MARK MORRISON**  
GENERAL MANAGER/CEO



Come to the annual meeting to receive your \$35 bill credit!

# New Enterprise REC Director Nominees

The 2026 Nominating Committee met at the New Enterprise Rural Electric Cooperative (REC) facility and recognized the following individuals as nominees to serve on the board of directors. Because there were no other submissions or requests for nomination, the following directors will be re-elected at the 2026 annual meeting and serve an additional three-year term in their respective areas.



**AREA 3 — Merle Helsel** is a retired professor of Allegany College of Maryland, where he taught accounting, law and finance in the Business and Economics Department from 2001 to 2016. Merle earned a Bachelor of Science in law enforcement and corrections from Penn State University

in 1973 and a Juris Doctor from Dickinson School of Law in 1981.

Prior to becoming a professor, Merle was the chief financial officer and later the president and CEO of First American National Bank of Pennsylvania. He practiced

law for many years and was also a principal organizer of Hometown Bank of Pennsylvania, which was formed in 2007. He has served as chairman of the bank's board of directors since its formation.

Merle has also served on the boards of several community organizations and is an active member of New Enterprise Church of the Brethren.

He has been married to his wife, Janelle, for more than 50 years. He has been a New Enterprise REC member since 1985. Merle has served on the cooperative board since 2014 as the assistant secretary and also the chairman of the Finance Committee.



**AREA 6 — Timothy Newman** is a professional land surveyor who worked for the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation for 27 years before transferring to the state Game Commission, where he worked for six years. He served as the chief of surveys for both agencies before retiring in

2018. Tim currently works for AWK Consulting Engineers in Harrisburg as a survey manager.

A 1981 graduate of Forbes Road High School and a

1985 graduate of Williamsport Community College, Tim attends New Grenada Church of God. He lives in the New Grenada area with his wife, Robin. They have four children and three grandchildren.

Tim has been a New Enterprise REC member since 1986. He has served on the cooperative board since 2003, holding the offices of treasurer, secretary and currently vice president. Tim also represents New Enterprise REC on the Allegheny Electric Cooperative, Inc. Board of Directors.



**AREA 7 — Curtis Brant** was born and raised on his family's dairy farm in Fulton County. Upon graduating in 1977 from Forbes Road High School, Curtis continued to work with his parents on the farm.

Curtis and his wife, Donna, joined New Enterprise REC as members in 1979. They have three children and eight grandchildren.

He is a member and deacon at Pleasant Ridge Church of the Brethren and a Fulton County gideon. Curtis and Donna took over the operation of the family dairy farm, Laidig View Farm, in 1996. They continue to farm along with their son.

Curtis became a New Enterprise REC director in 2015. He serves as treasurer and is chairman of the Policy Committee.

# Drive-Thru



**Join New Enterprise Rural Electric Cooperative for our drive-thru annual meeting, which will be held at Southern Cove Power Reunion Grounds  
145 Cave Road  
New Enterprise, PA 16664,  
from 4-7 p.m. Tuesday, June 2.**

Each membership that registers at the meeting will receive a \$35 credit on their electric bill.

**Don't forget to bring a unexpired, nonperishable food item for the local food banks and you will be entered to win a \$100 bill credit!**

Directions to the Southern Cove Power Reunion Grounds:

#### **From Bedford I-99**

Follow I-99 North to Exit 7 PA 869 toward St. Clairsville/Osterburg. Follow 869 East for 3.5 miles over Brumbaugh Mountain; at the bottom of the mountain, turn right onto 869 East for 2.5 miles. Turn right onto Cave Road for 0.5 miles. The Southern Cove Power Reunion Grounds are on the right.

#### **From Woodbury**

Head southwest on PA 36 South toward Everett. Turn right onto PA 869 West toward New Enterprise for 2.5 miles. Turn left onto Cave Road for 0.5 miles. The Southern Cove Power Reunion Grounds are on your right.

#### **From Saxton**

Follow PA 26 South, then turn right onto PA 36 North toward Loysburg for 3.8 miles. Turn left onto PA 869 West toward New Enterprise for 2.5 miles. Turn left onto Cave Road for 0.5 miles. The Southern Cove Power Reunion Grounds are on your right.

#### **From Waterfall**

Follow PA 655 North, then take a sharp left onto PA 913 West for 1.7 miles. Turn left onto Wells Valley Road for 4.9 miles. Turn right onto PA 915 North for 9.4 miles. Turn left onto PA 26 South for 4.9 miles. Turn right onto PA 36 North toward Loysburg for 3.8 miles. Turn left onto PA 869 West toward New Enterprise for 2.5 miles. Turn left onto Cave Road for 0.5 miles. The Southern Cove Power Reunion Grounds are on your right.

## ARE YOU AN OFFICIAL MEMBER?

New Enterprise Rural Electric Cooperative (REC) is a member-owned cooperative. What does that mean for you? It means we are a business owned by those it serves.

You, our members, elect representatives to the board of directors to govern the cooperative. And as a member, you can exercise the right to vote for your representatives each year at our annual meeting in June.

**Only 'official' members can participate in the meeting.**

The individuals listed on the membership are allowed to vote, participate in the meeting and receive a bill credit.

Now is the time – before the annual meeting – to review your bill and make changes to your membership, if necessary. If you cannot attend the meeting but your spouse or significant other who is not listed on the account can attend, please call the office for a new membership form and add their names to it.

There is no charge to add a person to your established account.

If only one name is listed on your account, only that individual has the right of membership.

That said, any person listed will be an official part of your membership, have account access, and will be able to attend the cooperative's meetings, vote, and receive any additional benefits.

This issue often comes to light during the annual meeting drive-thru when we are unable to give ballots, credits, and more to those who are not listed on the account, such as a spouse or a relative. Much like your bank account, only those listed have access to it. Therefore, it is very important that you review your billing statement now and let us know if we can help you make any changes before the annual meeting.

See you in June!

# Our Poles are not Bulletin Boards

**WENDY CONLEY**, MEMBER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE

**ARE YOU PLANNING A YARD SALE** or running for office? Do you have a lost pet and you'd like the community to know about it?

If so, please do not post those signs on the cooperative's utility poles.

Signs posted on our poles create a hazard for our lineworkers. In certain locations, our lineworkers need to climb the poles. Nails and tacks can increase the risk of injury if they snag or puncture our lineworkers' protective equipment, such as rubber gloves.

These gloves help insulate them from high voltage and keep them from being electrocuted. When our lineworkers are working after dark, they may not see the nails in the pole as easily as they could during the day.

We also do not permit basketball hoops, satellite dishes, birdhouses, tree stands and flags to be attached to our poles. When attaching such items, you are also putting yourself in danger because of your proximity to the high-voltage lines on the pole.

According to Section 6905 of the Pennsylvania Crimes Code, it's against the law to drive nails, tacks and other sharp objects into utility poles.



We value the safety of our lineworkers and members every day, so please stop posting signs on our poles. 🚫

## MEMORIAL DAY



★ HONORING ALL WHO SERVED ★

The office will be closed  
on Monday, May 25.

### TIPS TO AVOID ENERGY SCAMS



If you receive a call from someone stating you have overpaid your energy bill and you should provide your banking information or a credit card number to receive a refund, hang up because it's likely a scam. If you overpay your bill, your utility will apply the overpayment credit to your account balance or mail a check. They will not call and request your banking information to issue the refund.

*Source: Utilities United  
Against Scams*

