

New Enterprise Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



One of 14 electric cooperatives serving Pennsylvania and New Jersey

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

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From the General Manager/CEO



80 years of the cooperative difference!

By Mark Morrison

THIS YEAR'S annual meeting of the membership of the New Enterprise Rural Electric Cooperative (REC) marked 80 years of reliable, affordable electric service provided to the membership.

The evening began with an outstanding turkey dinner prepared by the Northern Bedford County (NBC) Band students and parents. The membership was in good hands as the band director, parents and students transformed the cafeteria into a full-service restaurant. Over 500 meals were served that night, and I'm sure there wasn't a single attendee who left hungry. Great job, NBC Band parents and students!

The business meeting opened with a fantastic testimony to the hard work and dedication of cooperatives everywhere by Pastor Chris Heinlein, New Enterprise Church of the Brethren. Pastor Chris hit a home run in my eyes with his moving words about the cooperative story. His opening to begin the meeting walked us through a timeline of electric cooperatives and their mission. At the outset of the cooperative program, here and across this country, farmers joined together to help their neighbors get "the electric." Today, 80 years later, the same holds true. We are more than the electric company; we are a cooperative of neighbors helping neighbors in times of need, building communities and

creating a better way of life for those closest to us. Thank you, Pastor Chris, for your touching and powerful devotions to begin our meeting.

Board President Leroy Walls addressed the membership with the president's report. His remarks reinforced the dedication and leadership qualities of the members of the board of directors, past and present. He cited similarities between past and present issues the board faces to ensure solid footing for our cooperative. He then highlighted some technological efficiencies the board is supporting to improve communication, finances and outage response for the membership.



ANNUAL MEETING: Board President Leroy Walls opens the 2018 annual meeting.

Walls pointed out that, although methods and processes may change over time through emerging technology, one thing holds true: our commitment to delivering safe, reliable, and affordable electric service.

I followed up with the management report detailing the financially stable condition of the cooperative and plans *(continues on page 14b)*

Attention, landlords

BE SURE when renting your properties out, you have the renter(s) put the account into their name. By putting the account in the renter's name, you as a landlord aren't responsible for any unpaid bills.

The renter will need to call or come to the office to take care of a few things before the account can be put into their names.

Any new account pays a \$5 membership fee. A security deposit may need to be paid if their credit is average or below average. Membership papers

and a Sales Tax Exemption Certificate need to be completed.

Occasionally, a person has been on our electric lines before and has left without paying their final bill. This amount would need to be paid along with the fees listed above before service can be placed in their names.

So, remember, be sure your renter takes care of their entire obligation with the co-op before you give them the keys. This protects you, the landlord, from being responsible for a bill that isn't yours. ☀

A new way to make your payment

Life can get so busy you aren't sure which end is up.

That is the reason New Enterprise REC has installed a new drive-up payment drop box. The box is located on the left side of the drive coming in. Now, if you are in a hurry, it is raining or you just don't feel like getting out of the car, you can drop your

payment off without getting out of your vehicle.

This doesn't mean we don't want people coming into the building — you are always welcome to stop at the office.

Any payment deposited into the box after 7 a.m. will be credited to your account the next business day. ☀

From the General Manager/CEO

(continued from page 14a)

for the cooperative's future. In my short address at the meeting, I touched on some issues we are working on. The first is the use of LED lighting technology. By now, you all should have received a pack of four LED lightbulbs in the mail from the cooperative. This energy-saving initiative was embraced by New Enterprise REC, as well as every one of the other 12 electric cooperatives in Pennsylvania and one in New Jersey. The benefit of installing these bulbs immediately will result in lower electric bills for members and reduced energy capacity purchases for the electric cooperative.

I also spoke of the importance of our right-of-way maintenance program and its benefit to reduce outages. We also have taken advantage of emerging technology and installed a new line of tools and devices out on the line, which will reduce outage restoration time.

Our meeting concluded with a presentation of the 2017 Youth Tour program. New Enterprise REC was represented in Washington, D.C., by five local students. During their weeklong trip to the nation's capital, they toured monuments, met with legislators and networked with thousands of other electric cooperative Youth Tour students from across the country.

A special thanks to the members who served on the various committees for the annual meeting, the NBC Band boosters, parents, and students for preparing and serving a great meal, and to all the members who came to the business meeting.

It is my pleasure to be a part of the 80-year history of New Enterprise REC. Please call or stop by if you have any thoughts or questions about the cooperative. ☀



DRIVE THROUGH: To make life a little easier, a drive-up drop box is now available. This drop box will be checked each business day.

Don't forget to "Like" our Facebook page: New Enterprise Rural Electric Cooperative.



DORM ROOM 'ELECTRIC SAFETY 101'

College is an experience unlike any other. The surroundings, people, food and classes are all new. You might be looking for some things that remind you of home to comfort you, and the perfect place to do this is in that tiny space called your dorm room. Before you hang posters and wires everywhere, take these Touchstone Energy Tips into consideration so that your room isn't just comfortable but also safe.

An unsafe room can cause an electrical fire, which sends a whole building up in flames. According to statistics, 1,800 fires take place in student dorms and fraternity/sorority housing each year across the nation.

- ▶ Do not overload extension cords, power strips or outlets.
- ▶ All appliances indicate how much wattage is consumed when operated; that rating can be found on the appliance itself and often within the use and care booklet that accompanies the product.

- ▶ Be wary of electrical outlets that get too hot to touch. If an electrical outlet becomes so hot you cannot leave your hand on it, you have a potential fire hazard.
- ▶ Do not connect multiple extension cords together. Extension cords should not be used as a long-term solution when you need another outlet. The longer an extension cord is, the more chance it can be damaged over time.
- ▶ Do not place cords under doors or carpets.
- ▶ Do not staple extension cords.
- ▶ Use lightbulbs with correct wattage for lamps.

Before heading to college, it's a good idea to find out what is and isn't allowed in the dorm room. A lot of places prohibit hot plates, halogen lightbulbs and candles. If something doesn't look safe, talk to your resident adviser. Many resident halls have old wiring and even with renovations, the dorm wiring often can't handle all the appliances and gadgets students try to plug in. Your dorm room is your new home and you should feel comfortable in it.

Open, unfold, read, write check, send, shred, recycle or....
Skip the hassle with paperless bills.

Paperless billing lets you:

- View and pay anytime, anywhere
- Get email reminders

Go to www.newenterpriserec.com, Pay Online, My Profile, Update my Printed Bill Settings and go paperless. You will receive a \$5 credit on your next paperless statement.

Want to save more time, go with our Auto Pay Program. With Auto Pay we deduct your account balance from your checking or savings each 20th of the month. Contact our office at 814-766-3221 or 800-270-3177.

Go with Auto Pay and receive a \$5 credit.



What is allowed on an electric pole?

NEW ENTERPRISE Rural Electric Co-op's electric equipment, cable TV or telephone wires are the only items allowed on an electric pole. An electric pole seems like a great place to hang signs advertising your yard sale or help in finding your lost pet.

You may think the pole looks ugly sitting in your yard. You think nailing



a few birdhouses will cover the ugliness. Nowhere to put your basketball hoop? Well, an electric pole would

make a great place — not.

When the pole is pierced with a nail, staple, or tack, moisture and insects creep into the pole and shorten the life of the pole.

Our linemen work around the clock in all types of weather. A lineman may need to climb a pole for maintenance purposes or to repair a problem causing an outage. When climbing a pole, the lineman doesn't want to encounter something hanging on a pole that shouldn't be there. This item can become a hazard. A small nail or staple can puncture their clothes and safety gloves opening the danger of a fall or electrocution.



Large items on poles, like a big sign or flag, can create a challenge for the lineman climbing the pole. If they slip and fall, these items could cause them



to be injured.

Below are examples of items that **SHOULD NOT** be on an electric pole:

- ▶ Satellite dishes
- ▶ Birdhouses
- ▶ Flower boxes
- ▶ Basketball hoops
- ▶ Deer stands
- ▶ 911 address signs
- ▶ Signs
- ▶ Nails, staples or tacks

Should items be found on a pole, they will be removed at the cost of the member responsible. Please help to keep our linemen safe as they work to keep your lights on. ⚡

Residential Generators

WHAT TO KNOW BEFORE YOU BUY

INSTALLATION TYPE	PRICE	OPERATION ¹	CAPACITY	LENGTH OF OPERATION ³
permanent	<i>expensive</i>	<i>automatic</i>	<i>whole house</i>	<i>can be indefinite</i>
portable	<i>more affordable</i>	<i>manual</i>	<i>typically partial ²</i>	<i>depends on fuel tank size</i>



¹ Permanent generators start upon loss of grid power. They also exercise themselves automatically.

² Frequently powered: refrigerator, pumps (well, sump, septic), furnace, some lights, stove.

³ Permanent generators use propane or natural gas, portable use gasoline. Permanent models offer significantly longer operating times.

Image of portable generator provided by SafeElectricity.org