



P.O. Box 247, 4800 St. Rte. 125
 West Union, OH 45693
 Phone: 937-544-2305
 Toll-free 1-800-283-1846

Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Annual meeting changes coming in 2016

Trustees

Charles L. NewmanPresident
 Donald C. McCarty Sr. Vice President
 Kenneth McCann.....Secretary
 Blanchard Campbell . M. Dale Grooms
 Stephen Huff..... William Seaman
 William Wylie..... John Wickerham

Personnel

Bill Swango	General Manager
Erika Ackley	Chris Koenig
Alice Baird	Rodney Little
Steve Campbell	Ronald Lynch
Chad Daniels	Dave McChesney
Joan Drummond	Kristina Orr
Joyce Grooms	John Polk
John Hayslip	David Ralston
David Henry	Kimberly Smith
Steve Hoop	Gary Tolle
Matt Isaac	Mike Whitley
Jared Johnson	Charlotte Willett
Dave Kirker	Bill Young

Pay stations

Failure to receive your electric bill in no way relieves you, the member, from paying it. If you do not receive your bill, contact the office before the due date and we will issue another.

For the convenience of Adams REC members, we have established several ways to pay your bill:

- online at www.adamsrec.com.
- by phone at 1-800-809-6352.
- directly from your bank account.

Pay at these collection points:

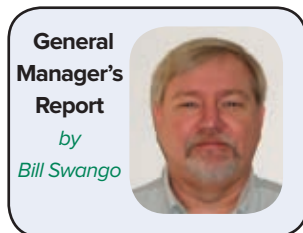
The First State Bank
 Georgetown, Hillsboro, Manchester,
 Peebles, Ripley, Seaman, West Union
 and Winchester

The National Bank of Adams County
 218 N. Market St., West Union

Hidden account number credit

Find your account number in the Adams REC local pages (the four center pages of this magazine), then call our office and you will receive a \$20 credit on your electric bill. You must call by the end of the month in which your account number appears. Your call affirms permission to publish your name as a winner in an upcoming issue of *Country Living*.

THE 2016 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERSHIP of Adams Rural Electric Cooperative will undergo significant changes. The changes, which Board President Donald McCarty mentioned in his address to the members at the 2015 annual meeting, are beginning to take shape. The 2016 meeting will feature a different venue, a change in the format of the meeting and the time of day that the meeting will be held.



This year's annual meeting will be at the Adams County Fairgrounds. Some of our longtime members, I'm sure, can still remember when the annual meeting was there in years past. Since that was before my time, I tried to research when the last one was held at the fairgrounds, and I believe it was in 1981 or 1982. The time of the meeting will be earlier in the day as opposed to the evening meeting that has been held for the last 30 years or so. The meeting will start mid-morning and conclude with the business meeting being at 1 p.m.

The meal will not be the traditional sit-down catered meal we have been having but will be a lunch-type meal. Because it is not catered and served, everyone won't have to eat at the same time. The time for eating will probably be between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

There will be displays, demonstrations and entertainment throughout the event. We also are planning to have activities for the children. Door prizes will be drawn throughout the day.

This will be the first change in the annual meeting in many years, and maybe everything will not go off without some kind of hiccup, but be patient with us. We want to make it more of a family atmosphere, and we are hoping to attract younger members and children of members, along with our members who have been attending for years.

The meeting will be held on Saturday, Aug. 27, and while that is still a ways off, we wanted to get this out to our members. We will pass along more information as things get finalized and it gets closer to the meeting.

Have a happy and blessed Easter! ☺



This-n-that

BY ALICE L. BAIRD

We have a winner

Virginia Koenig found her number in the February issue of *Country Living* magazine. Congratulations, Virginia! You will receive a \$20 credit on your electric account.

The number that appears in Adams REC's pages of *Country Living* is randomly chosen each month. Be sure to check each issue for your number. You could be the next winner of a \$20 credit on your electric account.

Updating contact info is very important

At various times and for various reasons, Adams Rural Electric may need to contact our members. The information that you provide is our source of contact. If that information is incorrect — for example, your phone number has changed or you no longer use your post office box, etc. — we have no way of knowing unless you make us aware of the change. There is a place on your bill stub to make changes to your address and phone number. Just check the box on the front and make your changes on the back and return it to the office. You can also clip the form below and mail it to the office, or call Adams REC and ask for the customer service department to make your changes. If you call in your information, please be prepared to confirm your identity. Only the member (the person whose name is on the account) or the member's legal representative, such as one with a power of attorney, can make changes to the account.

A correct phone number could be the means of avoiding disconnection of service. Throughout the year, we attempt to call each consumer before disconnection.

HAS YOUR INFORMATION CHANGED?
Please update your mailing address and phone number

Member name: _____

Account number: _____

New address: _____

New phone number: _____

E-mail: _____

Mail to: Adams Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.
P.O. Box 247
West Union, OH 45693

However, we can only use the number that is in the system for you, so if that number is not correct, we have no other recourse. 1314050012

A correct mailing address will help to ensure that you receive your bill. A forwarding address, if you move off Adams REC lines, will help to ensure that you receive your final bill, your deposit and/or membership refund check, if applicable, as well as your capital credits check(s) when the time comes.

Did not receive your bill?

We have received some calls from members who did not receive their bills. In this case, remember that failure to receive your bill in no way relieves you, the member, from paying it. If you do not receive your bill, contact the Adams REC billing department before the due date so that another bill can be issued.

Reminders

- Daylight saving time begins Sunday, March 13. Remember to set your clock ahead. It is also a good idea to test your smoke alarms at the same time.
- Remember that Adams REC will be closed on March 25, in observance of Good Friday. I would like to wish you all a very happy and blessed Easter season.
- If you have an outage, please call 937-544-2305 or 1-800-283-1846 to report it. **Please do not post to Facebook or email the information**, as this will prolong your time without service.

If you need information concerning the scholarships, calendar of events, or capital credits, or have any other questions or comments, please feel free to contact me at the office by phone at 937-544-2305 or e-mail at aliceb@adamsrec.com.



Capital credits retirements

Capital credits refunded to the estates of Adams Rural Electric Co-op members for January 2016 totaled \$15,564.83. Estates paid in 2016 to date total \$15,564.83.

In case of the death of a member of Adams Rural Electric, contact Alice Baird at 937-544-2305 or 1-800-283-1846.

Knowing what to do **SAVED THEIR LIVES**

Teens stayed safe after a car crash with an electric pole

WHEN TEENAGERS LEE WHITTAKER and Ashley Taylor saw a power line safety demonstration at their high school, they never dreamed what they had learned that day would be put to test. Only days later, Whittaker and Taylor, along with two classmates, were in a car that crashed into a utility pole, bringing live power lines to the ground.

“When people are involved in a car accident, electricity is usually the last thing on their minds,” explains Molly Hall, executive director of the Energy Education Council’s Safe Electricity program. “We’re usually more concerned about whether anyone was injured or how badly the vehicle is damaged. We can forget that by exiting the vehicle, we’re risking exposure to thousands of volts of electricity from downed power lines.”

If you are in an accident with a utility pole, your vehicle may be charged with electricity. If this is the case and you step out of the car, you will become the electricity’s path to the ground, and you could be electrocuted. Loose wires and other equipment may be in contact with your car or near it, creating a risk for electrocution if you leave the vehicle.

While downed lines can sometimes reveal they are live by arcing and sparking with electricity, this is not always the case. Power lines do not always show signs that they are live, but they are just as lethal.

After an accident, stay in the car, and tell others to do the same. If you come upon an accident involving power

lines, do not approach the accident scene. If you see people approaching, warn them to stay away. Call 911 to notify emergency personnel and utility services. Do not leave your vehicle until a utility professional has told you it is safe to do so.

The safest place to be is almost always inside the car. The only circumstance when you should exit the vehicle is if it is on fire, and those instances are rare. If you must exit the vehicle, jump clear of it with your feet together and without touching the vehicle and ground at the same time. Continue to “bunny hop” with your feet together to safety. This will ensure that you are at only one point of contact and will not have different strengths of electric current running from one foot to another, which can be deadly.

Whittaker, Taylor and their friends survived their accident because they had learned what to do. While they waited more than 30 minutes for line crews to arrive and deactivate the power line, Whittaker and Taylor made sure nobody left the car and warned those who came upon the accident to stay far away.

“Knowledge was crucial in keeping everyone involved in the accident safe,” Hall says. “We want to make sure that everyone knows what to do if they’re in accidents with power poles.”

For more information and to see Lee and Ashley’s story, visit SafeElectricity.org.



Lee Whittaker and Ashley Taylor, along with two classmates, survived a vehicle collision with an electric utility pole. The students had recently seen a safety demonstration on what to do in this type of situation, which ultimately saved their lives.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March

- 5 **13th Annual Adams County Amish Bird Symposium.** 9:30 a.m.-4:15 p.m. Join the Adams County Travel & Visitors Bureau and the Adams County Amish Community for a daylong celebration.
Registration required. Contact 1-877-232-6764.
- 14 **Adams County Historical Society Meeting.** 7 p.m. at the Heritage Center.
Contact Lynne Newman at 937-587-3358 or Mary Fulton at 937-587-2043.
- 18-20 **Spring Seed Blessing Peace Summit.** This festival will coordinate with sacred sites around the world to bless seeds and water and to promote peace in the new year.
For more information, visit www.serpentmound.org.
- 19 **Spring Equinox Drumming.** 8 p.m.-midnight. A free event open to the public. Please dress accordingly and bring your own flashlight, chair, drum and refreshments.
For more information, visit www.serpentmound.org.
- 19 **Sammy Kershaw.** Performance at the Red Barn Convention Center. Dinner is at 5:30 p.m. and the concert at 7 p.m.
Contact 1-800-823-9197, ext. 121, or visit www.redbarnconventioncenter.com/upcoming-events.
- 26 **Children's Easter Egg Hunt.** At the Wilson Children Home in West Union.
Contact 937-544-2511.

April

- 9 **6th Annual Quilt Show.** 1-4 p.m. at Stone Chapel United Methodist Church, 89 Trefz Rd., West Union. Bed turning at 2 p.m., mini doll bed turning at 3 p.m., door prizes, etc.
Contact Linda Copas at 937-544-3438 .
- 9 **Touch of Elegance Top Wedding Professionals of Southern Ohio.** 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Red Barn Pavilion.
Contact 1-800-823-9197 or cdugan@1ststopinc.com.
- 16 **Annual Adams County Historical Society Bus Tour.** Scioto County. 8: 30 a.m. to approximately 5 p.m.
Contact Lynne Newman at 937-587-3358.
- 16 **Loose Thread Quilters Quilt Show.** 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Peebles Methodist Church, 1370 Measley Ridge Road. Sharing the talents of local artisans with our community. Bed turning at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.
Contact Marilyn Wharton at 937-587-5714.
- 16 **David Ball.** Performance at the Red Barn Convention Center. Dinner is at 5:30pm. and the concert at 7 p.m. **Contact 1-800-823-9197, ext. 121, or visit www.redbarnconventioncenter.com/upcoming-events.**
- 23 **Chalet Nivale Preserve's Hiking Trails.** Grand opening and guided tours of Chalet Nivale Preserve's Hiking Trails. Tours by pre-registration.
For more information, visit www.arcofappalachia.org.
- 24 **Page One-Room School House Event.** 2-4 p.m. At the corner of Page School Road off of Vaughn Ridge Road. Program to be announced. **Contactt Mary Fulton at 937-587-2043.**
- 30 **163rd Bentonville Anti Horse Thief Society Banquet.** 7 p.m. at Burning Heart Camp in Bentonville.
Contact Verna Naylor at 937-549-3360.
- 30 **Brush Creek Motorsports Complex.** Season opener and fireworks. Located just 3 miles south of Peebles on State Route 41. Camping is FREE on race weekends!
Contact 937-544-3344 or stevepartin@brushcreekmotorsports.com.
- 30 **Gene Watson.** Performance at the Red Barn Convention Center. Dinner is at 5:30 p.m. and the concert at 7 p.m. **Contact 1-800-823-9197, ext. 121, or visit www.redbarnconventioncenter.com/upcoming-events.**