



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.

Thank you to the employees of Adams REC

Trustees

Charles L. Newman President
 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	Andrew Seaman
Steve Hoop	Kimberly Smith
Matt Isaac	Gary Tolle
Jared Johnson	Mike Whitley
Dave Kirker	Charlotte Willett

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*.

IT TAKES ALL OF THE EMPLOYEES of our cooperative to keep it running smoothly — those who work outside in all types of conditions as well as those who tirelessly answer the phones and respond to our consumers' needs. I would like to take a moment to recognize the employees of Adams Rural Electric.

I will begin with the linemen and equipment operator, those who often work in brutal weather conditions to ensure we all have safe and reliable power. In fact, linemen are often first responders during storms and other catastrophic events, working to make the scene safe for other public safety officers. Thanks to linemen Mike, Dave H., Steve, Dave M., Chad, Andrew, Matt and Jared and equipment operator Rodney. Working with electricity is an inherently dangerous task, and helping to foster a culture of safety for all workers is a major priority.

While line work is highly visible, with trucks and equipment bearing the Adams REC logo, there are many people behind the scenes who also work to help keep the lights on. With over 1,300 miles of line, it is a continuous uphill battle keeping trees cleared from the right-of way. We have four employees who work in the right-of-way department using brush mowers, bucket trucks and chippers, and at times, clearing areas by hand-cutting. Thanks John, Dave R. Dave K. and Gary.

The operations and engineering department ensures that the electric distribution system is well-maintained. These employees are responsible for planning ahead and continually monitoring existing equipment and resources along with assisting new members with obtaining electric service. Metering and the purchase of equipment and material are also vitally important for continued reliability. Thanks to Operations Manager John, Staking Engineer Ronald and Metering, Purchasing Supervisor Chris.

Our front office staff includes customer service representatives who answer calls and questions about billing and energy use. They work with members who are applying for new electric service or who need to reconnect or disconnect a service. Also at the front counters, we have employees who answer the phone and take payments. Thanks to Customer Service Representative Kim and Cashiers Joyce and Joan.

The accounting and finance department is responsible for the financial well-being of Adams REC. It includes billing, collections, accounts payable and working with our financial lenders. While we are a member-owned cooperative and operate differently than investor-owned utilities, we are still a business. As such, the accounting department ensures that revenue collected from the membership exceeds our expenses. Typical expenses include the money we pay for electric power (58 percent of revenue), equipment, new technology, upgrades to



General Manager's Report
 by Bill Swango

Adams REC awards scholarships to 6 area students

BY ALICE L. BAIRD

On Feb. 19, Roger Rhonemus, former Adams County commissioner; Chris Koenig, supervisor of purchasing, metering and safety for Adams REC; and I were very privileged to meet and interview 11 very talented and outstanding students. These young men and women are determined to achieve their goals, and I have no doubt that they will be successful in their chosen fields.



Natalie Wagner



Garrett Stanfield

Noah is the son of Lonnie and Diane Ward of Peebles. Noah plans to attend Shawnee State University, where he will be working toward a career in environmental or electrical engineering.

Although we could only choose six scholarship recipients, all of the students who were interviewed are to be commended for their successes thus far and for their determination to make their dreams become

I am pleased to announce that **Natalie Wagner** of Eastern Brown High School and **Garrett Stanfield** of Mason County High School have been chosen as the recipients of the first-place scholarship awards of \$1,100 each. By placing first at Adams REC, Annie and Noah are also eligible to compete for scholarships of up to \$3,400 on the state level.

Natalie is the daughter of Pete and Janet Wagner of Russellville. Natalie has chosen to attend Wilmington College, where she will work toward her goal of a career in agricultural education.

Garrett is the son of Harvey and Greta Stanfield of Manchester. Garrett plans to attend the Redlands Community College in Oklahoma and then go on to Oklahoma State University, where he will study animal science and genetics.

Second-place scholarship awards of \$600 each will go to **Ashley Hackworth** and **Garrett Miller** of West Union High School.

Ashley is the daughter of Derrick and Rebecca Hackworth of Blue Creek. Ashley plans to attend either Northern Kentucky University or Muskingum University, where she will be working toward a degree in elementary education.

Garrett is the son of Gary and Janet Miller of West Union. Garrett plans to attend Shawnee State University and pursue a career in plastics engineering.

Our third-place scholarship awards of \$400 each will go to **Rebecca Sonner** of North Adams High School and **Noah Ward** of Peebles High School.

Rebecca is the daughter of Marty and Susan Sonner of Seaman. Rebecca plans to attend Marshall University, where she will pursue a career in finance. 1410050024

reality. We at Adams REC wish you all the very best in your endeavors.

If you need information concerning the youth programs, 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.

Thank you, employees

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the infrastructure, employees and other expenditures. Thanks to Manager of Finance and Administration Erika; Accountant Charlotte; and Billing Supervisor Kristina.

At a small co-op, many people do a number of different jobs, but the administrative assistant probably more so than any. From arranging meetings, preparing board material, assisting with customer service, handling capital credits, preparing Adams REC's *Country Living* pages, and making sure everything is ready to go for the annual meeting, she has her plate full. Thanks, Alice.

All of our departments work closely together to serve you because you, the member, are at the heart of everything we do. The electricity we provide literally powers our communities.

And it takes every person in the co-op to deliver on this promise. ☺

As a member, you have a voice

in the operation of your cooperative

Election procedures

Adams Rural Electric Cooperative's policies and procedures are determined by an elected board of directors who are also member-owners of the cooperative. The Adams REC service territory is made up of nine districts, with one board member representing the cooperative from each district.

You, as a cooperative member-owner, have the privilege to vote for the trustees who sit on the board of your cooperative. It is the responsibility of the board of trustees to see that the cooperative remains financially stable. The board must continually look ahead to anticipate the needs of the membership, such as the building of new substations and replacement of damaged or outdated equipment. They must keep abreast of changing legislation, rising costs and new technology in order to make decisions that will not only keep the cooperative financially viable, but also able to supply the best electric service possible to the membership.

You can make your voice heard each year by casting your votes by mail-in ballot for the trustees. The results of the election, as well as updates on the status of the cooperative, are announced at the Annual Meeting of the Members, which will be held this year on Saturday, Aug. 27, at the Adams County Fairgrounds.

Following is information on the nominating and election of trustees excerpted from Adams REC's code of regulations.

General powers

The entire business and affairs of the cooperative shall be managed by a board of nine (9) trustees which shall exercise all of the powers of the cooperative except such as are: by law, the Articles of Incorporation or the Code of Regulations conferred upon or reserved to the members.

Election and Tenure of Office

The service territory of the cooperative is divided into nine districts; one board member shall be elected from each district. Board members shall be elected for three-year terms by mail at the Annual Meeting of the Members, with three trustees elected each year. No person shall be eligible to become or remain a trustee who is not a member and bona fide resident in the district within the service area of the cooperative which they are to represent.

Nomination

It shall be the duty of the board to appoint, not less than thirty (30) days nor more than ninety (90) days before the date of the mailing of the notice of the meeting of the members at which members of the board are to be elected, a committee on nominations consisting of not less than five nor more than eleven (11) members who shall be selected so as to ensure equitable representation on the committee to the geographic areas constituting the service area of the cooperative.

Nominations shall include at least two candidates from each district for a board member representing such district, which is to be filled at the next Annual Meeting of the Members. No person shall be voted upon for membership on the board who has not signified his willingness to serve if elected.

The notice of the Annual Meeting of the Members, as well as, ballots and instruction for the return of the ballots shall be mailed at least thirty (30) days before such meeting. Any twenty-five (25) or more members may make other nominations by petition more than fifteen (15) days prior to the mailing of the notice of the meeting of the members.

Please contact us if you have any questions about the election process of your cooperative.

Outage reminder

If you experience an outage, please call the office at 937-544-2305 or 1-800-283-1846. If you post on Facebook, or e-mail your outage information, it could prolong the restoration time. E-mails and Facebook are not continuously monitored, especially in the evenings or on weekends.

Capital credits retirements

Capital credits refunded to the estates of Adams Rural Electric Co-op members for February 2016 totaled \$17,878.86. Estates paid in 2016 to date total \$33,443.69.

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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 about 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 5:30 p.m. 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. 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. **Contact 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 is at 7. **Contact 1-800-823-9197, ext. 121, or visit www.redbarnconventioncenter.com/upcoming-events.**

May

- 6 **Wheat Ridge Amish School Benefit Auction & Supper.** Supper starts at 4 p.m. and auction at 5 p.m. Located at Ridge Way Lumber on Wheat Ridge Road. **Contact 937-544-7566.**
- 6-8 **Grand Opening - Gallery 32 Arts & Crafts Fair.** 2586 Burnt Cabin Road. Celebrate our Craft Fair on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Please visit our web store at www.gallery32antiques.com to see all that we offer! **Contact 513-767-1974.**
- 6-8 **Adams County Trade Days.** Adams County Fairgrounds. **Contact Darlene Anderson at 937-205-7141.**
- 7-8 **Free fishing weekend.** Throughout Ohio, but it's a good time to sample the fishing locally at Adams Lake and Ohio Brush Creek & Ohio River.
- 14 **Ohio Brush Creek Sweep.** Interested participants must contact Bill Wickerham at Adams County Soil & Water. **Contact Bill Wickerham at 937-544-1010.**
- 21 **Scioto Brush Creek Sweep.** Interested participants must contact Bill Wickerham at Adams County Soil & Water. **Contact Bill Wickerham at 937-544-1010.**
- 21 **John Conlee.** Performance at the Red Barn Convention Center. Dinner is at 5:30 p.m., and the concert is at 7. **Contact 1-800-823-9197, ext. 121, or visit www.redbarnconventioncenter.com/upcoming-events.**