



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.

Trustees

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

Personnel

Bill Swango **General Manager**

Erika Ackley	Dave Kirker
Alice Baird	Chris Koenig
Steve Campbell	Rodney Little
Kacee Cox	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

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*.

Annual meeting recap and reminder to VOTE



APPROXIMATELY 300 MEMBERS AND GUEST braved the hot and humid weather on Aug. 27 to attend Adams REC's 76th annual meeting. For the first time in years, the annual meeting was moved to the Adams County Fairgrounds. There were displays, activities for children, equipment on display, and, of course, the meal. I think most people didn't leave the confines of the one air-conditioned building. That was very understandable since the heat index was around 100 degrees.

The business meeting began with the invocation by Rev. Darrell Myers Jr., the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag, and Rep. Doug Green singing the National Anthem. Reports were given on the financial condition of the cooperative — updates on new projects, a report from President Charles Newman, and a report from Bill Roberts from Ohio's Electric Cooperatives, Adams REC's state-wide service organization and wholesale power supplier, on national and state-wide cooperative issues.

This year's annual meeting will be evaluated by Adams REC staff and the board of trustees to determine the location and format of next year's event. We will be passing that information along in future issues of *Country Living*.

Your voice counts in every election

On another note, this is an early reminder that Nov. 8 is the general election date. Exercise your democratic right by going to the polls and voting.

Ohio electric cooperatives and Adams Rural Electric Cooperative supports the national "Co-ops Vote" campaign. In 2012, rural voter turnout was down a staggering 18 percent. We need to remedy that in 2016 — there's too much at stake. There are millions of cooperative members eligible to vote, and together, we have the gravity to impact election results.

So here's your checklist for this election. Express your point of view — stand up and cast your vote.

1. Register to vote by Oct. 11.
2. Remember that early voting starts Oct. 12 (avoid the lines).
3. Absentee/mail-in ballots are available by contacting your county election board.
4. Visit www.action.coop to let your voice be heard on issues important to co-ops.
5. Vote on Nov. 8 if you haven't voted early. ☞

76th Annual Meeting

BY ALICE L. BAIRD

THE 76TH ADAMS RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC., Annual Meeting of the Members was very different this year. For the first time in many, many years, it was held at the Adams County Fairgrounds.

At the registration tables, members received an umbrella, meal tickets, and prize ticket. They moved on to register their prize ticket for the drawings for one of four 32-inch TVs, then got an Adams REC hat and a filled book bag for each child.

There were a variety of activities for those who chose to be outside. A Tesla car was an attention-getter, and Adams REC equipment was on display.

Chandler, Susie Huff, Dan Fristoe, and Dennis Hoop.

Then it was time for the business meeting. General Manager Bill Swango introduced Rev. Darrell Myers Jr., who gave the invocation. President Charles Newman called the meeting to order, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and Rep. Doug Green did a wonderful job singing the National Anthem.

President Newman thanked everyone for coming out on such a hot day. He recalled his parents telling him to “do what you can to carry on what others have started. Help your community. Pass on something better to your kids.” That good advice is also the cooperative way. Charles said how proud he was to have been a trustee for Adams REC, to carry on what those before him had begun. He also thanked co-op employees for their dedication and hard work. 420650015

Swango spoke about the numerous advances and upgrades that have been accomplished in the past year. Some of these improvements include a new radio system for communications, both for our trucks and in the office; a system inventory and digital mapping system; a vehicle locating system; an outage management system that predicts where an outage is and what device is open; and the latest project, a new meter reading system. And, in good news for the cooperative and its members, these upgrades have been

completed without borrowing money.

Erika Ackley, manager of finance and administration, reported that there was a decrease in revenue for 2015 and an increase in the cost of purchased power. Nearly 58 percent of the total revenue received was spent on power generation and transmission. The cost of the purchased power is passed through from Buckeye Power, our generation and transmission cooperative. This shows on your bill as “generation and transmission.”

Erika also reported that in 2015, \$196,743 in capital credits was retired to the estates of deceased members. The amount of the general retirement of capital credits in November was \$340,382, which paid the balance of 1992 and 32 percent of 1993 capital credits to those members who received service for those years.

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From left, William Seaman, Dale Grooms, and John Wickerham were all re-elected to the board of trustees.

Bounce houses and sno-cones, provided by Backyard Inflatables LLC, were a big hit with the children, and South Central Power Company personnel presented safety demonstrations every half-hour.

In the Merchants Hall, a health fair was presented by employees of Adams County Regional Medical Center, while bluegrass gospel music was presented by “Almost There.” Chris Koenig, supervisor of purchasing, metering and safety, displayed the Energy Wall, which caused people to stop and ask questions. Lineman Matt Isaac was on hand to talk about his trip to Guatemala with Project Ohio, and Engineering Coordinator Ronald Lynch was there to talk about the co-op’s new mapping system.

Back in the Administration building, delicious pulled pork sandwiches were provided by JTs Stove-top BBQ. Each half-hour, a ticket was drawn for a TV. The winners of the four 32-inch TVs were Shirley

Charlotte Willett retires after 35 years of service

Adams Rural Electric trustees and employees celebrated the retirement of Charlotte Willett, along with her family, on Aug. 31. Charlotte was presented with a gift by General Manager Bill Swango, then, with an abundance of delicious food and an awesome cake, the celebration began.

Charlotte began her career with Adams in February of 1981. She began as a billing clerk and also held positions as billing supervisor, customer service representative, and most recently, accountant. Charlotte had a good relationship with the members, and she always had a ready smile for each one.

Charlotte and her husband, Mark — who retired on the same day — enjoy traveling and plan to call their camper “home” for a while. Sounds exciting!

After a little more than 35 years with the cooperative, on the day of her retirement, a fellow employee asked Charlotte what she planned to do the rest of the week. Her ready reply was, “Whatever I want to!”

We wish Charlotte and Mark the very best, and we trust that she will enjoy a healthy and happy retirement.



76th Annual Meeting

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Guest speaker Bill Roberts, vice president of Finance/CFO at Buckeye Power, spoke about the Environmental Protection Agency’s Clean Power Plan. He said this plan, which is currently under review by a federal appeals court, may result in larger overall financial investments. However, he said Buckeye Power has re-affirmed its commitment to providing clean, safe, reliable, and affordable power.

President Charles Newman introduced Jeff Newman, CPA, to announce the results of the mail-ballot voting for trustees. Re-elected for three-year terms are M. Dale Grooms, District 3; William Seaman, District 4; and John Wickerham, District 7.

I would like to thank everyone who worked so hard to make this year’s annual meeting a success.

As always, if you need information concerning the scholarship program, capital credits, or calendar of events, or if you have any other questions or comments, please feel free to contact me at the office at 937-544-2305 or aliceb@adamsrec.com. ☺

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*Pay online at www.adamsrec.com; just click on the “Pay Your Bill” link and follow the instructions. You can pay by credit/debit card or from your checking/savings account.

*Pay by phone with our payment hotline. Dial 1-800-809-6352 and follow the directions. You can pay by credit/debit card or from your checking/savings account.

*Sign up for Direct Payment to have your payment automatically drafted from your bank account — call the office to find out how to sign up.

If you have any questions about which payment method is the best one for you, please call Adams REC at 937-544-2305.

Capital credits retirement

Capital credits refunded to the estates of Adams Rural Electric Co-op members for August 2016 totaled \$14,885.10. Estates paid in 2016 to date totaled \$121,265.21.

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



Outage Reminder

If you experience a power outage, please do not attempt to notify the office by Facebook or e-mail. Facebook and e-mail are not continuously monitored, especially in the evenings or on weekends. This type of communication could delay restoration time. **Please call the office at 937-544-2305 or 1-800-283-1846 to report a power outage.**



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October

- 1 Annual Old Fashion Draft Horse, Mule, and Pony Field Days.** Glen-Dale Park, 2915 Fawcett Road, 6 miles south of Peebles. **Contact Dale Grooms at 937-544-3123.**
- 1 39th Annual Miller's Anniversary Customer Appreciation Day and Cookout.** Miller's Bakery & Furniture, 960 Wheat Ridge Road. **Contact Miller's at 937-544-8524.**
- 1-2 Caraway's Fall Pumpkin Days.** Caraway Farms, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Fun for the entire family! Dozens of local vendors, entertainment, kids' games, and our famous cow train! **Call 937-544-7292.**
- 7-9 Wheat Ridge Olde Thyme Herb Fair & Harvest Celebration.** **Contact Kim Erwin at 937-544-8252.**
- 7-9 Adams County Trade Days.** Adams County Fairgrounds. **Contact Darlene Anderson at 937-205-7141.**
- 9 14th Annual Jack Roush Day at the Riverbarn.** Named after Manchester's own hometown racing legend Jack Roush. This is a day of festivities that features hundreds of classic cars. If you are a muscle car fan, plan on spending the day with us. **Contact Buster at 937-549-3628 or Ray at 937-544-3154.**
- 22 Aaron Tippin performance.** Red Barn Convention Center. Dinner is at 5:30 p.m. and the concert at 7. **Contact 1-800-823-9197, ext. 121, or visit www.redbarnconventioncenter.com/upcoming-events.com.**
- 30 Page One-Room School House Event.** 2-4 p.m. at the corner of Page School Road off of Vaughn Ridge Road. Program is "Halloween." **Contact Mary Fulton at 937-587-2043.**

November

- 11 Veterans Day Parade** Starts at 11 a.m. in West Union. **Contact Sam Kimmerly at 937-386-0293.**
- 18-19 The Mid West Dream Center "Christmas Bazaar" fundraiser.** 4 to 8 p.m. Friday, Oct.18, and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 19. **Contact Rhonda Burton at 513-218-9759.**
- 19 Grits @ Glamour Tour with Lorrie Morgan & Pam Tillis.** Red Barn Convention Center. Dinner is at 5:30 p.m. and the concert at 7. **Contact 1-800-823-9197 ext. 121, or visit www.redbarnconventioncenter.com/upcoming-events.**
- 26 Adams Country Christmas.** Adams County Courthouse Square in West Union. Event begins at 5:30 p.m. with a welcoming ceremony at 6:30 p.m.