



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

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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](http://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*.

## Adams REC returns patronage capital to its members

RECENTLY, ADAMS REC completed a general retirement of capital credits and returned funds to those who were members of the cooperative in 1993 and 1994. If you were a member in those years, you may have already received a check or a credit to your account; if not, you should receive one in the next few days.

The Adams Rural Electric Board of Trustees approves general retirements based upon the financial condition of the cooperative. This year's general retirement of capital credits was for the remainder of patronage for the year 1993, and 34.5 percent of 1994 patronage. The total retirement amount was \$504,226.

Retirements to the estates of deceased members through October of this year has totaled \$148,501. With the general retirement and retirements to estates, Adams REC will have returned almost \$7.7 million to its members since retirements began.

Capital credits, or patronage capital, are each member's share of margins. Margins are the amount of money that remains after expenses are deducted from the revenue earned by the cooperative during the year. These margins are allocated to the member's capital credit account and then returned to the member in a general retirement on a rotating basis — currently around 22 years.

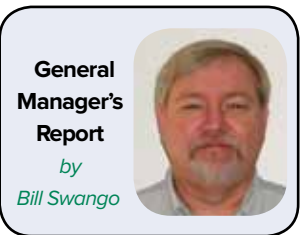
Allocations are made on a percentage basis of revenue collected from the members. Allocations and retirements are made to residential members as well as businesses and commercial accounts. The total of capital credits assigned to each member represents the value of his or her ownership in the cooperative. 3500588701.

Adams REC operates on a nonprofit basis for the benefit of its members. Through their patronage, members furnish capital for the cooperative to operate. The patronage funds long-term capital projects, offsetting the need to borrow money and increasing the value of the members' investments.

### New meters set

The cooperative continues to install new meters. Areas where meters will be installed in the near future include Unity, Wheat Ridge, Emerald, Pondlick, Bentonville, and the surrounding areas. Employees will notify you when they change the meter, if you are home. They will leave a door hanger stating your meter has been changed if you are not at home.

Please have a merry Christmas and happy New Year! Don't forget to enjoy the season and remember the reason. ☺



General  
 Manager's  
 Report  
 by  
 Bill Swango

## Capital credits retirements

Capital Credits refunded to the estates of Adams Rural Electric Co-op members for October 2016 totaled \$17,443.42. Estates paid in 2016 to date total \$148,501.33.

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

# This-n-that

BY ALICE L. BAIRD

## Scholarships for Members' Children

IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN! Adams Rural Electric Cooperative again will be offering scholarships to graduating seniors from this area who have made the choice to continue their education. To be eligible to apply, the student must have:

- A parent or guardian who is a residential member of the Cooperative, receiving service from August 2016-June 2017;
- All basic credits for college or proper vocational or technical school;
- A current career grade-point average of 3.5 on a 4-point scale or better; and
- Been accepted to an accredited college or proper vocational/technical school (must be enrolled at the time the award is issued).

Adams REC scholarship awards for 2017 will total \$4,200. A total of six scholarships will be awarded: Two first-place scholarships of \$1,100 each will be awarded to a boy and a girl; two second-place scholarships of \$600 each will also be awarded to a boy and a girl; the two third-place scholarships of \$400 each will be awarded to either boys or girls. The deadline for submission of an application to the office is Jan. 31.

Students can get an application from their guidance counselor, at the co-op office or online at [www.adamsrec.com](http://www.adamsrec.com). You will find it under Info Center or the Member Services tab. The application may be completed online and printed, but not saved.

The first-place winners from Adams will then be eligible to compete for an additional scholarship from Ohio's Electric Cooperatives, up to \$3,500. See the full-page ad within these local pages for more information.

## Are you prepared for winter?

At the risk of repeating myself, if you have not already made preparations for the cold, snow, and ice, you might want to get started. There is no substitute for preparation when it comes to winter storms and potential power outages.

My No. 1 word of advice would be, if you have a medical condition that requires the use of electrical equipment, invest in a generator. Adams REC line crews work very hard to get power restored as quickly as possible; however, you need to be prepared in the event of a major or prolonged outage. So, let me say it again: If you have a medical condition that makes you dependent on electricity, invest in

a generator, or have a plan to go somewhere where there is power. Being prepared for possible extreme weather could mean the difference between an inconvenience and a tragedy.

If you do experience an outage, please call the office. We do not continuously monitor emails or Facebook — especially in the evenings or on weekends.

## Merry Christmas!

If I mentioned an overloaded electrical outlet, what Christmas movie would come to mind? Christmas Story, of course. Sparks flew, the lights went out, and still he didn't get the hint; an overloaded outlet is dangerous. Take a lesson from Ralphie's dad's mistake, and don't overload electrical outlets or extension cords this Christmas season or any time of the year.

Consider purchasing LED lights this year. They stay cool and are more energy efficient than the incandescent bulbs. Check your lights for broken bulbs or damaged cords. Test your lights by connecting each strand before using them. Remember to turn off your holiday lights before you leave the house or go to bed. These are just a few safety tips to help ensure your holiday joy doesn't get cut short because of electrical problems.

Christmas is my favorite time of year. Sure, there is hustling and bustling, and nerve-wracking situations, but I love Christmas. I love the message, the music, the lights, the decorations, the secrecy, the food, family fellowship, and on and on.

It seems we are so busy throughout the year, that it is hard to slow down long enough to just relax and enjoy our family and friends. I hope that you can make time to cherish your family and those you love, and even surprise a stranger by wishing them a "Merry Christmas."

Time seems to be passing so quickly. I wish for you the best Christmas ever, filled with joy and peace and blessings! I also wish you a happy and prosperous New Year!

Keep in mind that the Adams REC office will be closed on Dec. 23, Dec. 26 and Jan. 2 so that our employees can enjoy the holidays with their families and friends. (In the event of an outage, call the office and the answering service will be available to take your call).

As always if you need information or have 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](mailto:aliceb@adamsrec.com). ☺

# 2017 GRADS: ARE YOUR PARENTS ADAMS REC MEMBERS?

## IF SO, YOU COULD WIN UP TO \$4,600 IN SCHOLARSHIPS!

- \* First-place winners in both girls' and boys' divisions receive a \$1,100 scholarship from Adams REC and will go on to compete for a \$3,500 statewide scholarship through Ohio's Electric Cooperatives.
- \* Ohio's Electric Cooperatives will distribute a total of 18 scholarships.



TO OBTAIN RULES AND APPLICATIONS FOR THE  
**CHILDREN OF MEMBERS SCHOLARSHIP:**

- Stop by the co-op office or call the office at 937-544-2305
- Contact Alice Baird, Adams REC, P.O. Box 247, West Union, OH 45693
- Visit [www.adamsrec.com](http://www.adamsrec.com)
- Pick one up from your guidance counselor
- Deadline to apply: January 31, 2017

**OHIO'S ELECTRIC  
COOPERATIVES**

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives 

**Paying your bill has never been easier!**

*3 ways to pay with:*

**NO ENVELOPES!**

**NO STAMPS! NO DRIVING!**

*ONLINE AT OUR WEBSITE*

*BY PHONE*

*DIRECT PAYMENT*

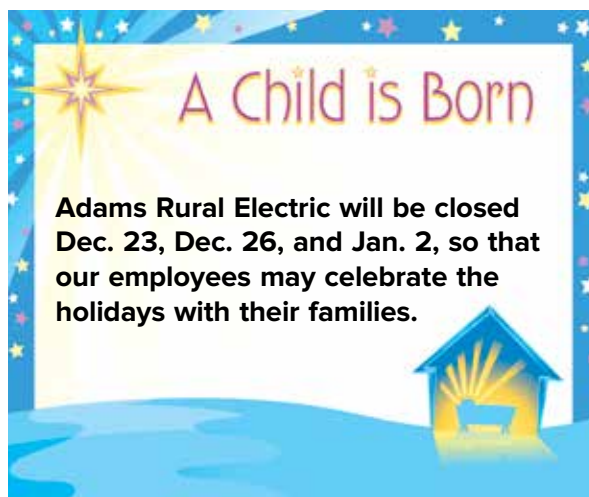
*FROM YOUR BANK ACCOUNT*

\*Pay online at [www.adamsrec.com](http://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 for questions or 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.



Adams Rural Electric will be closed Dec. 23, Dec. 26, and Jan. 2, so that our employees may celebrate the holidays with their families.



## 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.*



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## December

- 3**     **Peebles Christmas Celebration.** Lighting of the Christmas tree and other holiday events. Starts at 6 p.m.
- 11**    **Page One-Room School House Christmas Event.** 2 p.m. at the corner of Page School Road off of Vaughn Ridge Road east of West Union off State Route 125. **Contact Mary Fulton at 937-587-2043.**
- 12**    **Adams County Historical Society Christmas Meeting.** 7 p.m. at the Heritage Center. **Contact Mary Fulton at 937-587-2043.**
- 17**    **Adams County Audubon Christmas Bird Count.** **Contact the Cincinnati Museum Center's Edge of Appalachia Preserve at 937-544-2880.**
- 21**    **Lighting the Serpent.** 4-8 p.m. (Rain or wind date Dec. 22.) **For more information, visit [serpentmound.org](http://serpentmound.org).**