

# New Enterprise Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



One of 14 electric cooperatives  
serving Pennsylvania and New Jersey

## NEW ENTERPRISE RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

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### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Secretary  
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Asst. Secretary  
**Curtis Brant**  
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**Brian McCoy**  
**Mark Swope**

### OFFICE HOURS

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

### EMERGENCY OUTAGE NUMBERS

814-766-3221  
1-800-270-3177

# COOPERATIVE CONNECTION

## Remembering Our Cooperative Pioneer



**ONE YEAR AGO, IN THIS** column, we celebrated Robert Guyer's 65 years of service to New Enterprise Rural Electric Cooperative (REC) members as he — a cooperative pioneer — announced his retirement from the board.

At the annual meeting of members in June 1956, Bob was elected to the board of directors; he was 27 years old. New Enterprise REC was just 18 years old. The April 2022 column highlighted details of a day I spent with Bob as he shared his

cooperative story.

Bob passed Feb. 6 at the age of 94. He was a faithful and loyal man to God and to the rural electric program. At his church service, I shared a quote with the congregation from the book, "The Next Greatest Thing." The book tells the story of how the quality of life in rural communities was improved through the work of local farmers and business and homeowners, who had a vision to share the miracle of electricity. The quote reads as follows: "The greatest thing is to have the love of God in your heart. The next greatest thing is to have electricity in your house." The quote is attributed to a farmer who was addressing a group in a rural Tennessee church in the early 1940s.

I listened to Bob that day, and his story was the same as the one written in the book. He remembered when switches were thrown at homes and when a section of line was energized for the first time. Everyone would clap, praise the lineworkers, directors, and community leaders, and pray for the miracle they had just experienced. The day I sat down with Bob was a day I will never forget.

That spring day in Woodbury, we were transported back to a time when a generation was grateful for having electricity. The more I thought, I began to realize the book that details our path to electricity in rural communities throughout this land was telling Bob Guyer's story.

We are blessed to have had such a faithful, caring leader whose passion for serving God, the residents of our community, and the members of this great rural electric cooperative was unwavering in doing the best he could for others. That passion was instrumental in building the organization that provides the safest, most reliable energy you are all a part of today. Through his work, Bob has changed the lives of past, current and future generations in our community.

Shortly before he passed, he asked if the cooperative could be a part of his final service. After 65 years of serving and putting others first, it was the cooperative's turn to show appreciation for a man who had given thanklessly of himself for so long and for so many. God bless. 

**MARK MORRISON**  
GENERAL MANAGER/CEO

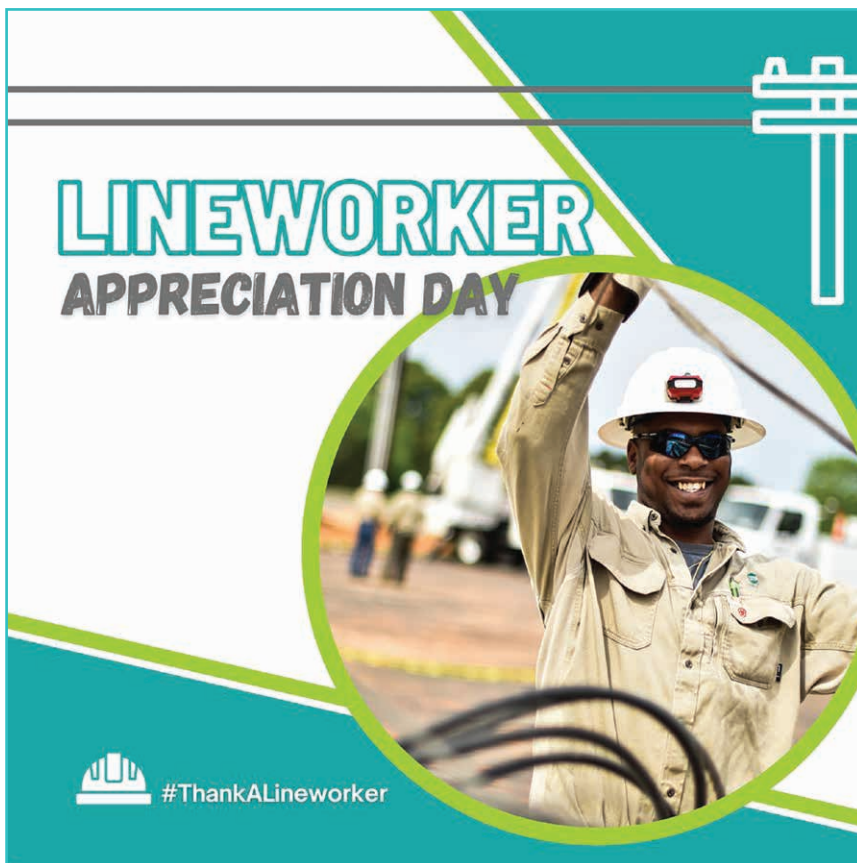


# Lineworker Appreciation Day is April 10

**ELECTRIC LINeworkERS PROVIDE** an essential service: They install and maintain overhead and underground power lines that keep electricity flowing. These specialized workers are on call 24/7 in case severe storms or other circumstances cause the power to go out.

Lineworkers work with high-voltage electricity, often at great heights, and in all kinds of weather conditions. Maintaining the power grid is physically demanding. To become proficient, most lineworkers go through a technical training program and first learn on the job as apprentices under the careful eye of seasoned lineworkers who have earned journeyman status.

Electric power line installers and repairers held approximately 126,600 jobs in 2021, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Nearly half of these employees worked for electric power generation, transmission and distribution utilities.



## Safety comes first

Lineworkers spend numerous hours in safety training each year and must understand and apply crucial safety regulations.

Protective clothing is required to shield lineworkers since they work around high voltages. Collectively, gear components can weigh up to 45 pounds.

According to the BLS, electric power line installers and repairers typically:

- ▶ Install, maintain or repair the power lines that move electricity
- ▶ Identify defective devices, voltage regulators, transformers and switches
- ▶ Inspect and test power lines and auxiliary equipment
- ▶ String (install) power lines between poles, towers and buildings
- ▶ Climb poles and transmission towers and use truck-mounted buckets to access equipment

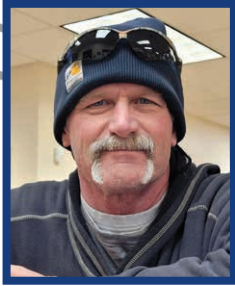
- ▶ Operate power equipment when installing and repairing poles, towers and lines

- ▶ Know and implement safety standards and procedures

When a problem is reported, lineworkers must identify the cause and fix it. This usually involves diagnostic testing using specialized equipment and repair work. To work on poles, they usually use bucket trucks to raise themselves to the top of the structure, although all lineworkers must be adept at climbing poles and towers when necessary. Workers use specialized safety equipment to keep themselves from falling when climbing utility poles and towers.

Storms and other natural disasters can cause extensive damage to power lines. When power is lost, line repairers must work safely and efficiently to restore service. We salute our lineworkers who work around the clock to keep the power on. Their safety, as well as yours, is our top priority. 🇺🇸

# Meet our Linemen



**MARK**

**Experience:** 36 years

**Best part of being a lineman:** Working outside and serving the members.

**Mark's spare time:** He enjoys camping, riding motorcycles, side-by-sides, and snowmobiles, and being with friends and family.



**RANDY**

**Experience:** 34 years

**Best part of being a lineman:** Working outside.

**Randy's spare time:** He enjoys building things.



**ZAC**

**Experience:** 12 years

**Best part of being a lineman:** Working outside and with a good group of guys.

**Zac's spare time:** He enjoys cutting trees and being with his family.



**ROMAN**

**Experience:** 20 years

**Best part of being a lineman:** Working outside and with high voltage, and seeing the scenery change.

**Roman's spare time:** He enjoys working on cars, off-roading, playing guitar, camping and being with his family.



**KYLER**

**Experience:** 6 years

**Best part of being a lineman:** Working outdoors and serving the community he grew up in.

**Kyler's spare time:** He enjoys yard work and woodworking.



**CONNER**

**Experience:** 9 years

**Best part of being a lineman:** Driving by work the crew has done to tell his wife, "I did that."

**Conner's spare time:** He enjoys spending time with family and friends.

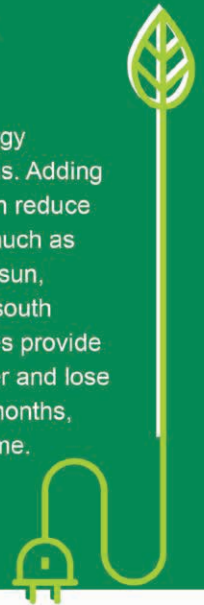


The office  
will be closed on  
**Friday,  
April 7, 2023,**  
in observance of  
Good Friday.

## Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

This planting season, include energy efficiency in your landscaping plans. Adding shade trees around your home can reduce surrounding air temperatures as much as 6 degrees. To block heat from the sun, plant deciduous trees around the south side of your home. Deciduous trees provide excellent shade during the summer and lose their leaves in the fall and winter months, allowing sunlight to warm your home.

Source: [energy.gov](https://energy.gov)



# SAVE THE DATE



**85TH ANNUAL MEETING - JUNE 1, 2023**