COOPERATIVE(ONNECTION

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.

3596 Brumbaugh Road New Enterprise, PA 16664-8814 814-766-3221 • 1-800-270-3177 FAX: 814-766-3319 Website: www.newenterpriserec.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Leroy D. Walls President Timothy Newman Vice President David Bequeath Secretary Merle Helsel Asst. Secretary Curtis Brant Treasurer 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

Drive-Thru Back by Popular Demand



MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE 85th Annual Meeting of the members of New Enterprise Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.

This year's annual meeting will be held Thursday, June 1, at the Southern Cove Power Reunion Grounds, 145 Cave Road, New Enterprise, from 4 to 7 p.m. Based on member survey results from last year's event, we will continue the meeting format as a drive-thru event. The grounds will be set up for members to pass through registration, where you will receive

the cooperative annual report, registration packet and voting materials for this year's director elections. This year, directors for Areas 3, 6 and 7 have been nominated for the election. (See 16C for more about this year's candidates.) Registered members will receive a \$30 bill credit for attending.

Members will be able to hear reports from the board president and general manager/CEO via radio broadcast. Meeting messaging will share cooperative highlights, news and meeting details. Directors and employees will be available to answer any questions during the event.

You will be receiving your annual meeting notice and a meeting registration card by mail this month. Please return your registration card as you have done in the past, and we will see you at the drive-thru annual meeting. Please feel free to give us a call at 800-270-3177 or 814-766-3221, or stop in the office to let us know how we are doing.

MARK MORRISON GENERAL MANAGER/CEO



Receive a **\$30 bill credit** for attending your cooperative's 85th annual meeting.

Efficiency Upgrades to Help You Save This Summer

SPRING AND SUMMER ARE OPPORTUNE times for home upgrades and DIY projects. If you're planning to make improvements to your home, consider upgrades that promote better efficiency.

Here are a few projects that can help you save energy and money — and increase the comfort of your home.

Installing a smart thermostat is one of the simplest ways to manage home energy use and keep summer bills in check. Smart thermostats are easy to install and allow you to control your heating and cooling system from your phone. You can purchase an EnergyStar[®]-certified smart thermostat for as low as \$100, which can save you 8% on annual heating and cooling costs (about \$50 per year). This upgrade will quickly



pay for itself, and you'll gain insight into better ways to heat and cool your home.

Speaking of smart, additional devices like smart LED bulbs offer convenient control and help boost energy savings at home. With smart lighting, you can set a schedule for when and how your lights should be turned on or off. And the next time you head out to run errands and realize you left the lights on, all you have to do is turn them off through your phone. Smart lights come in a variety of shapes, colors, and brightness levels, and you can purchase bulbs for indoor or outdoor use. Schedule outdoor smart lights to illuminate your home at night and when you're out of town for better security.

While it's not as trendy as incorporating smart technologies, sealing air leaks around your home is a simple,

> effective way to save energy and lower your bills. Applying new (or replacing old) weather stripping around doors and windows can instantly make your home more comfortable and reduce energy waste. Applying caulk to fill gaps can also improve the seal of your home. Caulk can be applied to a variety of areas, including windows, doors, bathtubs and sinks.

> If your home feels too warm during summer (and too chilly during winter), even after you've sealed air leaks, your home may need additional insulation. Insulation is considered a more expensive efficiency upgrade, but if your home is under-insulated, additional insulation can make a big impact on reducing energy costs. The cost of new insulation depends on a variety of factors like materials, size of the home and whether you use a contractor. Typically, the project costs can be recouped in a few years and your home will immediately feel more comfortable.

There are additional efficiency upgrades that can make a big impact on energy use, like replacing old appliances with EnergyStar[®] models or replacing old, leaky windows with new, energy efficient windows. But these upgrades can be a bit pricey.

If you're wanting to make your home more energy efficient but you're not sure where to start, your best bet is to enlist the help of an expert to conduct an energy audit of your home. An energy audit can easily identify areas to boost efficiency, and then you can determine the projects you want to tackle first based on your budget and needs.

New Enterprise REC Director Nominees

The 2023 Nominating Committee met at the cooperative and placed the following individuals as nominees for director. Voting will take place at the cooperative's annual meeting in June.

AREA 3 — Merle Helsel is a retired professor of Allegany College of Maryland, where he taught accounting, finance, and law in the Business and Economics Department from 2001 to 2016. Merle obtained a bachelor's degree in law enforcement and corrections from Penn State University in 1973, and in 1981 received a juris doctorate from Dickinson School of Law.

Prior to becoming a professor, Merle was the chief financial officer and later the president and CEO of First American National Bank of Pennsylvania. He was also a principal organizer of Hometown Bank of Pennsylvania,

AREA 3 — Fred Mellott is owner of F.M. Mellott & Sons and Bull Run Trucking of New Enterprise and has been a cooperative member since 1996. He and his wife, Amy, live on their farm in New Enterprise. They have two grown sons, Cy and Toby.

Founded by Fred and Amy in 2006, F.M. Mellott & Sons, LLC offers heavy truck and industrial equipment repair and towing services at two locations in New Enterprise and Curryville. The business has grown to include two locations, two service trucks and seven full-time employees.

Bull Run Trucking, LLC (BRT) was founded in 2008 and specializes in oversized, overweight equipment transport, flatbed, and dump truck services. BRT currently has 10 trucks and eight employees.

Both businesses are operated by Fred and Cy.

AREA 6 — Tim Newman is a professional land surveyor who worked for the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation for 27 years before transferring to the Pennsylvania Game Commission, where he worked for six years. He served as the chief of surveys for both agencies before retiring in 2018. He now works for AWK Consulting Engineers in Harrisburg as their survey manager.

Tim is a 1981 graduate of Forbes Road High School and a 1985 graduate of Williamsport Community College. Tim

AREA 7 — Curtis Brant was born and raised on his family's dairy farm in Fulton County. Curtis graduated in 1977 from Forbes Road School. After graduating, Curtis continued to work on the farm with his parents.

He and his wife, Donna, became cooperative members in 1979. They are parents of three children and have eight grandchildren. Curtis is a member and deacon of Pleasant formed in 2007, where he currently serves as chairman of the board of directors.

Merle has also served on the boards of several community organizations and is an active member of the New Enterprise Church of the Brethren.

Merle is 71 years old and has been married to his wife, Janelle, for 50 years. He has been a New Enterprise Rural Electric Cooperative (REC) member since 1985 and has served on the cooperative board since 2014, where he is chair of the finance committee and assistant secretary.

Fred is a graduate of Northern Bedford High School and Penn State University with a bachelor's degree in agricultural science and a minor in agricultural engineering. Prior to venturing into business, Fred was employed as a parts salesman and grant administrator for Bedford County, project manager for Gwin, Dobson & Foreman Engineers, and a project estimator for Guyer Brothers, Inc.



MERLE HELSEL

FRED MELLOTT

Fred enjoys collecting antique tractors, steam engines and raising beef cattle on his farm. He is a member of the Southern Cove Power Reunion Association and currently serves as the organization's president.

Fred attends the Koontz Church of the Brethren, New Enterprise.

attends the New Grenada Church of God. He lives near New Grenada with his wife, Robin, and they have three children and three grandchildren.

Tim has been a New Enterprise member since 1986. He has served on the cooperative board since 2003, holding the offices of treasurer, secretary and currently vice president. He represents New Enterprise REC as treasurer of the Allegheny Electric Cooperative, Inc. Board of Directors.

Ridge Church of the Brethren and a Fulton County gideon. In 1996, Curtis and Donna took over operation of their family dairy farm, Laidig View Farm, and currently farm with their son.

Curtis became a New Enterprise REC Director for Area 7 in 2015 and currently serves as board treasurer and chairman of the policy committee.



TIM NEWMAN



CURTIS BRANT

Drive-Thru Meeting

SAVE THE DATE



Join New Enterprise Rural Electric Cooperative for our drive-thru annual meeting. The meeting will be held at the Southern Cove Power Reunion Grounds, 145 Cave Road, New Enterprise, PA 16664, on Thursday, June 1, 2023, from 4 to 7 p.m.

Each member who registers and attends will receive a \$30 credit on their electric bill.

Directions to the Southern Cove Power Reunion Grounds:

From Bedford I-99

Follow I-99 North to Exit 7 (PA 869) toward St. Clairsville/ Osterburg. Follow PA 869 East for 3.5 miles over Brumbaugh Mountain; at the bottom of the mountain, turn right onto PA 869 East for 2.5 miles. Turn right onto Cave Road for half a mile. The Southern Cove Power Reunion Grounds are on the right.

From Woodbury

Head southwest on PA 36 South toward Everett. Turn right onto PA 869 West toward New Enterprise for 2.5 miles. Turn left onto Cave Road for half a mile. The Southern Cove Power Reunion Grounds are on your right.

From Saxton

Follow PA 26 South, then turn right onto PA 36 North toward Loysburg for 3.8 miles. Turn left onto PA 869 West toward New Enterprise for 2.5 miles. Turn left onto Cave Road for half a mile. The Southern Cove Power Reunion Grounds are on your right.

From Waterfall

Follow PA 655 North, then take a sharp left onto PA 913 West for 1.7 miles. Turn left onto Wells Valley Road for 4.9 miles. Turn right onto PA 915 North for 9.4 miles. Turn left onto PA 26 South for 4.9 miles. Turn right onto PA 36 North toward Loysburg for 3.8 miles. Turn left onto PA 869 West toward New Enterprise for 2.5 miles. Turn left onto Cave Road for half a mile. The Southern Cove Power Reunion Grounds are on your right.

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