

Bedford Rural Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



One of 14 electric cooperatives serving Pennsylvania and New Jersey

Bedford REC
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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President & PREA Director
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East St. Clair Twp.

Vice President & Allegheny Director
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West St. Clair, Pavia, and Lincoln Twps.

John J. Dirienzo Jr.
Attorney

OFFICE HOURS
Monday through Friday
7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

Bedford REC establishes scholarship program



Brooks Shoemaker
General Manager

EACH fiscal year, Bedford Rural Electric Cooperative returns profits earned during the year to its member-customers based on their energy purchases. Some of these refunds, known as capital credits, often go unclaimed by the persons entitled to them because they are unable to be located. Often, members move and leave no forwarding address

or pass away without a next-of-kin residing at the same address. In the past, these unclaimed capital credits were forwarded to the Pennsylvania State Treasurer's office as unclaimed property.

After receiving approval from the state to keep the money to be used locally for scholarships, the membership was notified about the scholarship opportunity. The committee of eight reviewed the applications of the seven interested students. All entries were kept anonymous until the committee made the selections.

Bedford Rural Electric is pleased to announce the three winners of our \$1,000 post-secondary scholarships for 2008. High school seniors committed to continuing their education at an accredited post-secondary institution, and whose parent or guardian's primary residence is served by the cooperative were eligible. Applicants submitted a short, 100-word essay describing why they deserved a scholarship and a committee of cooperative members selected the recipients based on scholastic achievement, financial need, and civic and community endeavors.

The one-time scholarship awards go to graduating seniors who not only excel in the classroom but also in extracurricular activities and community involvement. The winners inspire a new generation of scholars through their honors and achievements as National Honor Society

members, scholastic award winners, varsity athletes, class officers, FBLA award winners, and volunteers for numerous churches and charities.


The first three recipients of the \$1,000 scholarships were introduced at this year's annual meeting. Dan Koontz and Tammy Hess, members of the committee, introduced the trio. Koontz told of the hope to present a larger number of the \$1,000 annual scholarships each year in the coming years.

Morgan Barkman, a senior at Everett Area High School, is the daughter of Paula and Nathan Barkman of Breeze-wood. She has been accepted at Penn State, Altoona Campus, with plans to study business or finance. Rachel Shumaker, a senior at Chestnut Ridge Senior High School, is the daughter of Paula and David C. Shumaker Jr. of Imler. She has been accepted at the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown with plans to major in elementary education. Olivia Webb, a senior at Chestnut Ridge Senior High School, is the daughter of Detra and Ken



SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS: From left, Morgan Barkman, Everett Area High School, Rachel Shumaker and Olivia Webb, Chestnut Ridge High School.

Webb of Manns Choice. She has been accepted at Grove City College with plans to major in business management.

On behalf of the cooperative, congratulations! We are proud to offer these awards to such a talented group of young leaders. 

Three area young people to attend annual Youth Tour

IT IS NOT unheard of that young people today have visited the nation's capital. In fact, many school districts have included that destination in their schedule of field trips. Brett Braley, Liza Mearkle and Ariel Watters will experience Washington, D.C., in a special way as they attend the annual Youth Tour, representing Bedford Rural Electric Cooperative.

The trio will join other cooperatives' representatives from across the country this June 15-20, touring the city, learning and experiencing history and meeting with their governmental representatives.

The three representatives were selected from the three school districts served by Bedford REC. They are selected from Bedford REC member families based on scholarship, academic performance and community involvement.



Brett F. Braley, the 16-year-old son of Bruce and Nancy Braley of New Paris, will represent the Chestnut Ridge School District. With aspirations of becoming a writer,

Brett considers creative writing a major study interest.

As a member of the Student Council, National Honor Society and Spanish National Honor Society, he still finds time to participate in track, forensics, Key Club, Future Business Leaders of America, the Model UN, and serve as a Junior Executive. He has received awards in FBLA, forensics, math, science, English and history.

In addition to the scholastically related activities, he has participated in several dramatic productions, the American Cancer Society and the MS Walk.

Bedford Area School District will be represented by 16-year-old Liza Mearkle. Although undecided about her career goal, the daughter of Randy and Letricia Mearkle of Bedford considers literature and journalism to be among her favorite things.



Liza has participated in FBLA, the Technical Team, Envirothon, Leadership I, and track and field. She has also participated in Youth Leadership Bedford County, the Truth Generation Youth Group and the Everett Rifle Club. She also worked at Stottlemeyer's Groom and Board.



Ariel Watters, the 16-year-old daughter of Evan and Della Watters of Everett, will represent the Everett Area School District.

While maintaining a 3.7 grade point average and membership in National Honor Society, Ariel finds time for many musical and dramatic interests. Involved in the chorus, she is a member of the Tribe and the Dreamcatchers and has participated in PMEA District, Regional and All-State Choruses, as well as ACDA Men and Women's Honor Choir. As a clarinet player, she participates in the marching, concert, jazz and pep bands.

Performing in several high school musicals, she recently held the lead in "Once Upon a Mattress." She is extremely active in Drama Club, this year serving as president, and has performed or been backstage in over a dozen productions of the Bedford County Players. She is active in the youth group of the Snake Spring Valley Church of the Brethren and has also performed in the Frank Ramirez production of "Angels Everywhere."

In 2007, she was nominated and received an Isaacs Award from the Altoona Community Theatre. Also, in 2007, she was selected as the Fall Foliage Queen and attended the Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership Seminar. This year, she participated in the MS Walk, placing third, raising over \$2,100 for Bedford County.

Listing her interests and hobbies as singing, acting, music, speaking, writing, scrapbooking, and spending time with her family and friends, Ariel noted that she is currently researching the Holocaust and she hopes to eventually write a

play about not bullying, tolerating others and accepting differences.

As these young persons leave the area for a short time, the members of Bedford Rural Electric Cooperative can proudly say we are sending some of our best to this year's Youth Tour. ☀



Our Energy, Our Future
A Dialogue With America

IT'S OUR TIME.

It's our time to lead America in a national dialogue – about America's climate change goals and energy challenge. It's time to raise awareness. Have the hard conversations with our elected officials. Empower people. It's not us versus them. It's me. It's you. It's all of us. Together. It's about the energy to effect positive change. It's about the power of conversation. It's about the power in all of us, to find the right answers.



IT'S ABOUT OUR ENERGY. OUR FUTURE.

Let's get the conversation going. Visit www.ourenergy.coop and start the dialogue. Don't have access to a computer? Stop in the office, we have one you can use. It's always logged on to ourenergy.coop. Don't use a computer? We'll provide letters for your legislators – just sign them, fill in your name and address and drop them in the mail. It's that easy!

Enjoy the convenience of automatic bank drafting



▶ NO MORE CHECK WRITING

▶ NO MORE POSTAGE

▶ NO MORE LATE CHARGES

Bedford Rural Electric's E-Z Pay program is the easiest, most convenient way to pay your electric bill. It saves you time and money and it's free. All you need is a checking or savings account and we'll do the rest. Your payments will be sent directly to us from the bank. You'll save the time, postage costs and hassle involved with paying bills. Complete the attached form and return it to our office. If you need more information, give us a call or stop at the office.

WHEN WILL MY ACCOUNT BE DRAFTED?

Payments will be deducted from your account on the due date, which is the 20th of each month. If that date is a Saturday, Sunday or a holiday, your payment will be deducted on the next business day.

WILL I STILL GET A BILL IN THE MAIL?

Yes, you'll receive your bill as usual. However, there will be no balance due. Instead, the bill will indicate that your account was automatically drafted.

IS THERE A CHARGE TO USE E-Z PAY?

No, neither Bedford Rural Electric nor your bank charges a fee for this service.

CAN I RESCIND MY E-Z PAY AUTHORIZATION?

Sure, you may cancel at any time. Just provide us with a written, signed termination notice. We must receive it prior to the first business day of the month for it to be effective for the next billing.

WHEN WILL MY AUTHORIZATION BECOME EFFECTIVE?

It normally becomes effective with the second billing after we receive your authorization. Of course, just check the balance due section of your bill to see if your payment was drafted.

WHAT ABOUT MY METER READING?

Just call it into the office and leave it on our voice mail system or write it on your bill stub and mail it to the office.

BEDFORD RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC. E-Z PAY ENROLLMENT AUTHORIZATION FORM

Name

Address

City State Zip Code

Bedford Rural Electric Account Number (s)

Bank Name Bank Phone Number

Address

City State Zip Code

Bank Account Number Bank Routing/ABA Number

Account Type: Checking Savings Please attach a voided check or deposit coupon.

I authorize the Bedford Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc. (BREC) to initiate monthly drafts on the account shown above to pay my electric bill. I understand that payments will be deducted from my account on the 20th of each month (or the next business day if the 20th falls on a Saturday, Sunday or holiday). I agree to maintain sufficient funds in this account to complete the draft. Drafts rejected due to insufficient funds are subject to the cooperative's normal non-sufficient funds (NSF) check fees. Also, two NSF draft notices will result in my termination from this program. This authority shall remain in effect until I provide BREC with a written, signed termination notice. Such notice must be presented to BREC prior to the first business day of the month. BREC reserves the right to terminate this program at any time. Participation is limited to members whose accounts are in good standing.

Account Holder Signature Date

Levelized billing

Tired of seeing your electric bill fluctuating during those cold winter months or those hot summer months? Try Bedford REC's levelized billing program.

Levelized billing prevents drastic changes in your bill, even in the coldest or hottest months of the year. This can help you budget your finances more consistently each month.

No surprises

Levelized billing is based on a rolling 12-month average. A levelized bill is based on the average of the previous 11 months' billing and the current month's billing for electric service used.

No settlement

Because the levelized billing amount is recalculated each month based on a rolling average, the need to settle up a balance will be necessary only if you move or decide to cancel your participation in the program.

Join anytime

If Bedford REC has been providing electric service for your home for at least one year, you are eligible to participate in levelized billing and you can join the program at any time. We'll simply calculate your levelized payment based on the average billing for your home during the last year. Having one

year of history allows us to calculate the most accurate levelized amount.

Sample bill calculations

To arrive at your levelized amount, Bedford REC adds your current month's usage to the last 11 months, then divides the total by 12. It is then rounded to the nearest dollar. The following example calculates a sample bill.

January	\$295.87
February	224.33
March	210.12
April	135.59
May	115.59
June	103.56
July	113.53
August	122.76
September	114.75
October	92.83
November	164.43
December (current)	185.27
Total: \$1988.63/12	You Pay \$166

If you would like to go on our levelized billing program, please complete the form below and mail it to:

Levelized billing application

Bedford Rural Electric Cooperative
P. O. Box 335
Bedford, Pa 15522

Print Name _____

Signature _____

Address _____

City _____

State, ZIP _____

Telephone No. _____

Account No. _____

Office Closing

Bedford REC's office will be closed on Friday, July 4, in observance of Independence Day.

Trading Post

SERVICE: Custom Poultry Butchering. Phone Gerald Mowry, Osterburg 276-3952.

FOR SALE: Fresh dressed chickens. Phone Gerald Mowry, Osterburg 276-3952.

WANTED: Local farmer looking for land to lease in Bedford County area. Phone 484/797-2670.

FOR SALE: Kalamazoo cook stove. Black and white. Very good condition. Phone 814/623-6894.

TROUBLE CALL SCHEDULE

In case of trouble ...

- First Check your fuses or circuit breakers.
- Second Check with your neighbors, if convenient, to see if they have been affected by the power failure.
- Third **Call 24-hour number, 623-7568**
OR call 1-800-808-2732 during office hours
 (Please help us save money - only use this number if toll charges apply.)

Please give person receiving call your name as it appears on your bill, your telephone number and your map number if known. Any specific information about the outage will also be helpful in pinpointing the problem.

Alternate numbers ...

Troy Mock	Week of June 9	276-9759
Greg Miller	Week of June 16.....	839-0037
Al Hileman	Week of June 23	766-9971
Jim Seymour	Week of June 30	839-2848
Ed Hankinson	Week of July 7	733-2495
Scott Bischof	Week of July 14	839-4640

In case you cannot reach any of the above ... Call:

Jim Wood	Bedford.....	623-6121
James Clark	Everett	652-9791
Mark Rowan	Bedford.....	623-7890

During widespread power outages, many members are calling to report power failures, so you may receive a busy signal. Please be patient and try again in a few minutes.