
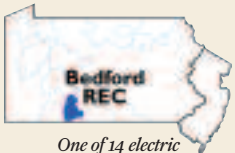


Bedford Rural Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



One of 14 electric cooperatives serving Pennsylvania and New Jersey

Bedford REC
P.O. Box 335
Bedford, PA 15522
814/623-5101

Email: support@bedfordrec.com
Website: www.bedfordrec.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President & PREA Director
Owen L. Miller
East St. Clair Twp.

Vice President & Allegheny Director
C. Robert Koontz
Colerain, Snake Spring and South Woodbury Twps.

Secretary
Donald Hoenstine
Kimmel and King Twps.

Treasurer
Reuben R. Lafferty
Juniata Twp., Bedford County, and Allegheny Twp., Somerset County, New Baltimore Boro

Assistant Secretary
Earl W. Garland
East Providence Twp., Bedford County, and Brush Creek Twp., Fulton County

Assistant Treasurer
William Howard Atkinson
Monroe and West Providence Twps., Everett Boro

Wayne M. Hillegass
Napier and Harrison Twps.
John R. Koontz
Bedford and Cumberland Valley Twps.
Ned H. McDonald
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

Cooperative's 70th annual meeting coming in April



Brooks Shoemaker
General Manager

THE COOPERATIVE'S 70th annual meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 8, 2009, at Heartland Hall, which is located 2.5 miles north of the Bedford Turnpike Interchange, on Business Route 220, near Cessna. Registration starts at 12:30 p.m., and the meeting begins at 1:30 p.m.

During the registration hour, attendees may take advantage of free blood pressure screening. Light refreshments will be served and every registered member receives a small gift. Be sure to visit the display area for industry related safety and efficiency information.

One Lane Bridge, the husband-and-wife duo of Paulette and C.W. Shaw, will provide the musical entertainment. They perform together throughout the Mid-Atlantic States, specializing in gospel, country and patriotic music. They amuse and entertain the audience using various costumes, spectacular lighting effects, crowd participation and patriotic salutes to our country and armed forces.

Each year, the annual meeting is the defining moment for all cooperatives across the United States. Why? Because it presents the opportunity for voting members to democratically control the future of their cooperative. Each member, young or old, large or small user of electricity, has an equal voice by voting for their member-representatives, the board of directors. What better way of

mapping the future of the organization than by helping to decide who sits on the nine-member board of directors?


Directors are elected for three-year terms, with three of the nine seats up for election each year. The following pages contain profiles of the six candidates vying for the three director seats being contested this year. Each of them was either selected by the Nominating Committee or they submitted a petition signed by 15 fellow members requesting that they be added to the ballot. Additional nominations may also be made from the floor during the meeting.

Mark your calendars now and plan to join us on April 8. The official notice of the meeting will be mailed to you in late March. To simplify registration, please tear off the bottom section of the notice and bring it with you to the meeting. Remember, every vote counts!

Interesting tidbit

Tankless (instantaneous) water heaters are sometimes mentioned as an alternative to conventional water heaters. Be careful — sometimes they don't produce enough water for multipurpose households, and some consumers have to upgrade their electric service to accommodate the added electric load. Since they cost more up front, other energy-saving investments have faster paybacks!

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

For each degree you turn the thermostat back on the furnace, it saves 2 percent on your heating bill. 

Director Nominees

Following are profiles of cooperative members nominated for the three seats up for election this year on the Bedford REC Board of Directors. Elections will be held at the Bedford REC Annual Meeting, set for April 8, 2009, at Heartland Hall, Bedford, Pa.



DISTRICT 2
WAYNE M. HILLEGASS

Wayne M. Hillegass currently represents District 2 on the Bedford Rural Electric Cooperative Board of Directors. In September 1999, he achieved "Credentialed Cooperative Director" status from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association. He previously served on the boards of Allegheny Electric Cooperative, Inc. and Continental Cooperative Service.

For 19 years, Hillegass worked as a millwright for P.P.G. Industries. He retired in 1993 from Hercules Inc., where he had worked for 16 years.

A graduate of Schellsburg Napier High School, Hillegass and his wife, Irene, reside at 822 Holler Road, Buffalo Mills. They have three children and four grandchildren.

Hillegass served in the U.S. Navy from 1948-1952. He is a member of the Buffalo Mills United Methodist Church and a lifetime member of the Hyndman VFW Post 7375, where he is past commander, trustee and director. A member of the Scottish Rite Consistory, Valley of Cumberland, Hillegass is also member and past master of Hyndman Lodge F&AM, and received the Grand Master Award in 1984.

He enjoys hunting, fishing and traveling in his free time.

Candidate's Comments: *"My objectives are to see that our members receive reliable and affordable service."*



DISTRICT 2
ROBERT L. MORRIS

Robert L. Morris resides at 186 Freedom Lane, Schellsburg, and is a director nominee for District 2. A 1982 graduate of Chestnut Ridge High School, he has been employed by Cannondale Corporation for 24 years

Morris is the father of two children: Breena, who lives at home, and Ryan, who lives in Claysburg. He is the past president of the All American Car Club and enjoys model trains, collecting coins and comic books.

Candidate's Comments: *"I would like to be a part of making decisions in our community, also to understand what the duties of a director are and to be able to understand how a business is run so I could own and operate my own business one day."*



DISTRICT 4
DONALD E. HOENSTINE

Donald E. Hoenstine currently represents District 4 on the Bedford Rural Electric Board of Directors, a position he has held since 2003. Hoenstine is a 1967 graduate of Claysburg Kimmel High School. He and his wife, Sandra, reside at 207 Baughman Road, Imler, and are parents of two daughters, Julie and Faith.

Hoenstine retired from Conrail in 1999. He served in the U.S. Army from 1969-1971, is a member of the Advisory Council at Pennknoll Village and attends the Claysburg Bible Church.

In his spare time, he enjoys gardening.

Director Nominees

Candidate's Comments: *"Since my election to the board in 2003, I have become aware of the challenges that cooperatives will encounter as we provide reliable power to our members at the lowest possible cost. If re-elected, I will continue to work to help our cooperative meet these challenges."*



DISTRICT 8 WILLIAM "HOWARD" ATKINSON

William "Howard" Atkinson currently represents District 8 on the Bedford Rural Electric Cooperative Board of Directors, a position he has held since 2003. He retired from Atlantic Dairy Cooperative in 1992. He and his wife, Linda, reside at 10671 Clear Ridge Road, Everett. They have five children and 10 grandchildren.

A graduate of Triadelphia High School, Wheeling, W.Va., Atkinson received a bachelor's degree in agriculture from West Virginia University. He served with the U.S. Navy in China from 1945-1946.

Atkinson is a member of the Trinity Lutheran Church, Bedford, a 50-year member of the F&AM Ohio Lodge No. 1 and the Scottish Rite Lodge, Wheeling, a member of B.P.O. Elks Lodge, American Legion Post No. 1 in Wheeling, and VFW Post 2088 in Everett. In his free time, he enjoys golfing and hunting.

Candidate's Comments: *"As a director, I will continue to support the policies that provide our members with the best service at an affordable price and will continue to listen to your voice in representing the members of Bedford Rural Electric Cooperative."*



DISTRICT 8 GARY M. BLANKLEY

Gary M. Blankley, director nominee from District 8, has been employed by the First National Bank of Pennsylvania, Everett Branch, for the past two years. A 1964 graduate of Everett Area High School, Blankley received a certificate in "Advanced School of Banking" in 1991.

He and his wife, Deborah, reside at 133 Clarion Road, Everett. He has two children, Angela and Brad. Blankley is a member of the Everett United Methodist Church, where he is a certified lay speaker and Sunday School teacher. He is vice president of the Everett Lions Club, a member of the Sunrise Rotary Club and director of the Everett Cemetery Association.

His hobbies include reading and hunting.

Candidates Comments: *"I desire to become more familiar with how a utility cooperative functions and believe it is important for all residents to serve in some way for the betterment of the community in which they live. I have 25 years experience in finances, which I hope would be beneficial to the Bedford REC Board."*



DISTRICT 8 DENNIS S. DRENNING

Dennis S. Drenning, a candidate for director of District 8, is employed by the U.S. Postal Service as a rural carrier. A 1971 graduate of Everett Area High School, he earned a bachelor's degree from West Virginia University.

He resides at 115 Drenning Road, Everett, and is a member of Everett F&AM Lodge 524, Everett Rod and Gun Club, and Everett Cemetery Board. He serves as president of the Bedford County Rural Letter Carriers.

His hobbies are gardening, fishing, woodworking and antique cars.

Candidate's Comments: *"I view the invention of electricity as the single most important invention of the 20th century. I would like to be part of seeing the prosperous continuance of electricity into our future and the future of our children."*

Do phantom loads haunt your home?

Many everyday appliances – instant-on TVs, microwave clocks, VCR displays, telephones, computer attachments, and any device that sports a cube-shaped transformer on the end of its cord – consume electricity even when they appear turned off. Often called standby or “phantom” loads, these energy guzzlers cost U.S. consumers more than \$1 billion per year and waste billions of kilowatt-hours of electricity.

On average, most homes carry a total phantom load of between 1.5 kilowatt-hours and 4 kilowatt-hours per day, which adds several dollars each month to your electric bill.

Plugging phantom load-causing appliances into a plug-strip equipped with its own power switch can help eliminate their energy-wasting ways. When you need to use the appliance, you simply switch the power-strip on. You then turn it off when you're done.

Consumers can find appliances with minimal standby loads by looking for the ENERGY STAR label.

Emergency Power Needs

As a service to our members, Bedford Rural Electric needs to be aware of situations where special needs exist. Please provide the following details:

(Please print clearly)

Account: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Special Needs: Medical

Farming/Livestock

Other _____

Each year, our goal is to provide service with no outages. Unfortunately, that is not a realistic expectation. Outages do occur and during severe storms, service restoration may take several days or longer. Therefore, we strongly recommend that our members with special needs install standby backup generation equipment. Please contact our office for more information on this type of equipment.

E-BILL

Bedford Rural Electric Cooperative is pleased to announce the arrival of E-Bill, our electronic bill presentation and payment program! With the use of secure, state-of-the-art technology, it is a safe and convenient way to receive your bill. As a cooperative member, you now have the ability to view and pay your bill online!

As an E-Bill user, you will be notified every month by email that your bill is available to be viewed and paid. A link will be provided to take you directly to our website where you can log in and view your billing history, look at several dif-



ferent graphs to analyze your consumption, and ultimately select your method of payment; using electronic check or VISA, MasterCard or Discover credit card. As an added convenience, meter readings can also be submitted through the E-Bill site, as a final step in the payment process or in a separate transaction.

With the ability to view your bill online in a printer-friendly version, E-Bill eliminates paper waste and the added cost of printing and mailing your bill. It's a fast and simple way to manage your electric bill and best of all, it's free!

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 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 ...

Al Hileman	Week of March 2	766-9971
Jim Seymour	Week of March 9	839-2848
Ed Hankinson	Week of March 16	733-2495
Scott Bischof	Week of March 23	839-4640
Gary Lafferty	Week of March 30	842-9925
Scott Shook	Week of April 6	623-2395

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.