

REA Energy Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



One of 14 electric cooperatives serving Pennsylvania and New Jersey



Chad Carrick
President & CEO

REA Energy Cooperative, Inc.
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Staff

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Indiana Operations Manager

Erin Bauer

ACRE Coordinator

Shane Cribbs

Network & Systems Manager

Dave Daugherty

Safety & Right of Way Manager

Jeff Dishong

Ebensburg Operations Supervisor

Lisa Gardill

Accounting & Finance Supervisor

Stacy Patterson-Hilliard, CCC

Communications & Marketing Supervisor

Local Pages Editor

Chris Masterson

Reliability Supervisor

Patrick McAndrew

Manager of Engineering

Bryon Roland

Purchasing & Facilities Supervisor

Brendan Short

Right-of-Way/Forestry Supervisor

Renee Spalla

Supervisor of Consumer Services

Chris Weller

Load Management Supervisor

Outages & Emergencies

1-800-332-7273

724-463-7273

Office Hours

Indiana Office: 7 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Ebensburg Office:

7 - 11 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Monday - Friday

Guest Column



A look back at 2017


By Stacy Patterson-Hilliard, CCC,

Communications & Marketing Supervisor

AS 2017 draws to a close, we stop and reflect on events of the past year. This was a very productive year for REA Energy, one full of many accomplishments. Let's take a look back at the past 12 months at your cooperative.

- ▶ **System Upgrades/Maintenance** – As part of an ongoing process of upgrading equipment, the cooperative upgraded 16.1 miles of line this past year. Construction was completed on the new Mariner Substation and a retaining wall at the cooperative's Georgeville Substation.
- ▶ **New Members** – From November 2016 through October 2017, 720 new members joined the cooperative.
- ▶ **New Employees** – Four new employees joined the ranks of your cooperative in 2017. Kim Winters, technical support specialist; Zachary Rusnak, journeyman lineman; Robert Osterberg, journeyman lineman; and Dawn Larch, member services representative, all work at the Indiana Headquarters Office.
- ▶ **Director Appointment** – With the retirement of longtime District 7 Director Jack Rising, the board appointed a new director to serve the balance of his term. Anthony Enciso is the new director for District 7, which encompasses White Township in Indiana County.
- ▶ **Area Meetings** – One area meeting was held in March for members in Districts 5 and 6. Nearly 280 mem-

bers attended the meeting at the Kovalchick Complex in Indiana.

- ▶ **Annual Meeting** – This year's 80th annual meeting was held Thursday, Sept. 21, at the Kovalchick Convention Complex, Indiana, Pa. In Districts 5 and 6, incumbents Robert Neese and John Learn ran unopposed and were re-elected to serve their respective districts. Officers for the board of directors for 2017-2018 are: Michael Bertolino, chairman; Wayne Farabaugh, vice chairman; and Robert Neese, secretary/treasurer. Rick Shope remained the PREA director as part of a two-year term, and Robert Neese was elected as the Allegheny director.
- ▶ **REA Energy Services** – REA Energy Services, our for-profit subsidiary, had another great year in 2017. We continued to sell and install various electrical services and heating, ventilation, and air conditioning products (HVAC). All profits flow back from the subsidiary to the cooperative, which reduces costs and helps keep rates low. In 2017, REA Energy Services achieved Elite Status for Fujitsu sales and installations, and began offering a 12-year warranty. In March 2017, REA Energy Services launched its own website, www.reaservices.com. Thank you from the board, management and employees for all your support through the last 80 years and for the years to come! 

Director Wayne Farabaugh earns Board Leadership Certificate

District 8 Director Wayne Farabaugh was recently recognized for earning his Board Leadership Certificate (BLC) for coursework completed with the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA).

In order to obtain the BLC, directors must initially complete the Credential Cooperative Director (CCD) certification. CCD courses focus on basic governance knowledge and essential skills required of cooperative directors.

The BLC courses focus in greater depth on specific industry and governance issues. Directors who have earned both the CCD and BLC are eligible to work toward the Director Gold certification, which was created to recognize directors who are committed to continuing their education beyond the first two certification levels.

Congratulations, Wayne, on a job well done!




RECOGNITION: District 8 Director Wayne Farabaugh, left, is congratulated by Pat Mangan, director of governance education at NRECA, for completing the coursework necessary to obtain the Board Leadership Certificate.

The seasonal switch

YOUR Touchstone Energy cooperative is more than your source of energy. We're also a valuable energy resource. It's why we provide co-op members with information that's as reliable and useful as the electricity we supply — everything from safety tips to kids' education to the latest information about renewable energy. Sharing our energy expertise with you is just another way we're looking out for every co-op member.

With the change in the weather, most have already made the seasonal switch from cooling to heating their home. Not only do we bring out our favorite sweaters and pack away the summer gear, but our home and energy habits also need to adapt to the new season. Here are a few ways you can do that:

- ▶ **Update Your Thermostat** – There are a lot of smart and programmable thermostats on the market. The key to successful savings is to make sure the thermostat is working around your unique schedule. When leaving the home, set your thermostat to lower the heat a few degrees. Once you return or shortly before you return, allow the heating system to recover to around 68 degrees Fahrenheit.
- ▶ **Drapes and Blinds** – Contrary to summer time, allowing direct sunlight into a home during the cold months is beneficial. Take advantage of the sunlight to warm the south side of your home. At night, close the drapes and blinds to create an extra barrier to prevent drafts.
- ▶ **Doors and Windows** – Wind and drafts are more common during the cold months. There's no better time than now to close holes, seals, and gaps around exterior doors and windows. Use a door threshold or sweep at the bottom to keep your heat from escaping. Make sure windows are locked and the outermost frame sealed from allowing cold air in.

To learn more about saving energy this winter and all seasons, visit <https://www.touchstoneenergy.com/together-we-save/overview/>. 



Director position opening

Due to a vacancy on the board of directors, REA Energy Cooperative, Inc. (REA) is seeking applicants to fill the next several months of the unexpired term from District 4. A special election will be held in September 2018 to serve out the remainder of the term.

Interested members from District 4 who meet the qualifications summarized below are encouraged to submit a detailed letter and résumé expressing their interest and explaining their unique abilities for serving as a director to REA Energy Cooperative, Inc., Attention: Stacy Hilliard, Communications & Marketing Supervisor, P.O. Box 70, Indiana, PA 15701 or email to: reaenergy@reaenergy.com.

Applicant information must be received at REA's Indiana headquarters office by 3:30 p.m. on Jan. 12, 2018. If you have any questions regarding the qualifications for appointment to the board of directors or District 4 boundaries, please call Stacy at 724-349-4800, extension 5874, or 1-800-211-5667, extension 5874.

SUMMARY OF DIRECTOR QUALIFICATIONS:

To be eligible for director candidacy, individuals must meet the following criteria and all other guidelines listed in the cooperative's bylaws:

- ▶ Be at least 18 years old;
- ▶ Signed and submitted an application for membership at primary residence;
- ▶ Received electric service at primary residence continuously for the past year;
- ▶ Not be employed by, or financially interested in, any business in competition with REA;
- ▶ Never been an employee of REA or any electric cooperative or association;
- ▶ Not a close relative of a director or employee of REA;
- ▶ Have paid all balances due REA within 90 days of billing during the previous one-year period;
- ▶ Have not been convicted of theft of services from REA; and
- ▶ Have not been convicted of, or pled guilty to, a felony or crime of moral turpitude.

Complete director qualifications are detailed in the cooperative's bylaws in Article III, Section 2. (a).

Further information on qualifications can be obtained from Stacy Hilliard at the phone numbers listed above.

District 4 encompasses members who live in Cambria, Jackson and Munster townships in Cambria County; and East Wheatfield and West Wheatfield in Indiana County. If you are interested in potentially serving on the board, but are unsure what district you live in, please call the office at one of the previously listed numbers.

The board of directors will consider all qualified applications and will determine appropriate next steps in its process of appointing someone to fill this position, including potential interviews, depending on the response to this notice.

REA Energy Co-op Connections discount list

700 Shop – 724-465-8411 – 25% off the regular price by showing REA card. Excludes North Face brand.

Allegheny Chesapeake Physical Therapy – 800-332-5740, ext 317 – \$10/Month Gym Memberships at Allegheny Chesapeake Physical Therapy's Ebensburg, Johnstown, Northern Cambria or Portage offices.

Aztec Travel Service – 724-349-1740 – \$25 off a 7-night or longer land package or cruise.

B & M Lawncare – 724-388-3478 – Free estimate on lawn care or landscaping.

Bassett Auto Repair – 814-487-4144 – Offer 1: Free tire rotation with purchase of an oil change. Offer 2: If your check engine light is on, stop by the shop for a free computer analysis of the problem.

Bender Auto Repair – 724-639-0047 – Offer 1: \$50 off insurance deductible. Offer 2: Free tire rotation with state inspection. Offer 3: Free tire rotation with oil change.

Benjamin's Restaurant – 724 465-4446 – 10% off total purchase, excluding alcohol or any special offers or coupons.

Blessings Photography – 814-472-8802 – 10% off sitting fee.

Boldin Associates – 724-840-3250 – 10% Discount Management Consulting for small and medium size businesses.

Britta's Cuts and Styles – 724-388-8959 – \$5 off any color service.

Byrne Millwork – 814-659-5106 – Offer: 5% off custom lumber sawing.

Cole's Auto Repair – 814-943-5021 – 10% off gross total on all invoices.

Country Hollow Collectibles – 814-674-8734 – \$10 off retail price of Nascar Diecast. Cannot accept credit cards.

Creative Dreams – 724-545-1862 – 10% off total sale, excluding food.

Creative Fabrics and Quilt Shop – 814-419-8227 – 10% off 1-yard cut of regular price fabric.

Custom Eyes, Face and Body – 724-354-6084 – Offer 1: Receive a free light microdermabrasion when you purchase a 1-hour facial for \$40. Offer 2: Purchase the "Girlfriend Package" (2 or more) which includes: a 1-hour facial and a 1-hour massage for \$80 and receive a free Par-

rafin Wax Mask Treatment when you mention this ad. Offer 3: Purchase the group package (4 or more) and receive your 30-minute facial and 30-minute massage for \$50 per person.

D. Edward Leasing Co, Inc. – 800-635-8756 – 10% discount on all yearly rentals.

D. C. Sales & Services, Inc. – 724-254-9920 – 10% discount on any invoice with a discount limit of \$50. Not valid with any other discount or promotion.

Daniel J. Carney, Inc. Water Treatment Systems – 814-886-2777 – \$100 discount on any system over \$1,500.

Darlene's Flower and Gift Shop – 724-354-3110 – Free Mylar balloon with any floral arrangement (\$25 minimum).

DD's Unique Boutique – 724-840-1769 – 10% off total sales.

Dog Hollow Speedway – 814-948-4252 – \$2 off grandstand admission.

Dr. William Fetchko – 724-354-3512 – Free home care kit with first visit.

Look for more ways to save in January's issue of Penn Lines.

Happy Holidays from all of us at REA Energy Cooperative, Inc.



Right-of-way management news

REA Energy contractors will be completing tree-trimming work in the following areas in December:

- ▶ Contractor crews from Asplundh Tree Expert Co. will be trimming the rights-of-way in the Washington, Belsano, Kenwood and Strongstown substation areas, in addition to emergency maintenance areas. Crews from Penn Line Service will be trimming the right-of-way of the St. Augustine Substation area.

Notification of work will be made to members in the areas affected. Contractors will perform all right-of-way work per REA Energy specifications. All crews will carry cards and have magnets on their vehicles identifying them as REA Energy contractors.

If you have any questions, call 724-349-4800, or you can view the specifications online at: www.reaenergy.com.

REA Energy's Ebensburg District office will close at 11 a.m. and the Indiana Headquarters Office will close at noon on Friday, Dec. 22, 2017, in observance of the Christmas holiday. Both offices will reopen on Tuesday, Dec. 26, 2017, at 7 a.m.

Both offices will be closed on Monday, Jan. 1, 2018. Please call 724-463-7273 or 800-332-7273 to report any power outages. Payments can be placed in the drop box at both locations or made online using the Member Portal at www.reaenergy.com.

Your Board of Directors



Michael J. Bertolino
Chairman
District 3



Wayne Farabaugh
Vice Chairman
District 8



Robert P. Neese
Secretary/Treasurer
District 5



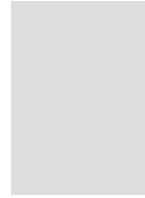
Herman Blakley
District 9



Sam Eckenrod
District 1



Anthony Enciso
District 7



Vacant
District 4



John R. Learn
District 6



J.R. "Rick" Shope
District 2