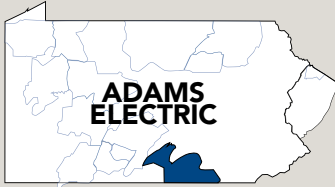




Adams Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



One of 14 electric cooperatives serving Pennsylvania and New Jersey

Adams Electric Cooperative, Inc.

1338 Biglerville Road
P.O. Box 1055
Gettysburg, PA 17325-1055
1-800-726-2324

Gettysburg District

1380 Biglerville Road
Gettysburg, PA 17325

York District

200 Trinity Road
York, PA 17408

Shippensburg District

10 Duncan Road
P.O. Box 220
Shippensburg, PA 17257

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Glenn E. Bange, President
Nadine M. Hubner, Vice President
Jay E. Grove, Secretary
Thomas J. Knaub, Treasurer
David A. Frey
Jay A. Herman
S. Eugene Herritt
Dale E. Myers
F.L. "Ray" Schwartz
Steve Rasmussen
CEO/General Manager

District Office Hours

Monday through Thursday
7 a.m. - 5 p.m.*

*By pre-scheduled appointment only

Check out adamsec.coop

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Local Pages Editor: Kami Noel, CCC

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Guest Column



The power behind your power

By Mike Feathers, *Operations Manager*

YOU'VE likely noticed Adams Electric's crews out and about — especially with the high-wind events we've had recently — working on power lines and other electrical equipment in your community. It's no secret that a lineworker's job is challenging, but it's also essential and must be done in all weather conditions. This month, as we recognize Lineworker Appreciation Day nationally on April 11, consider these interesting facts about electric lineworkers.

The work can be heavy — in more ways than one. Did you know the equipment and tools that a lineworker carries while climbing a utility pole can weigh nearly 50 pounds? That's the same as carrying six gallons of water. Speaking of utility poles, lineworkers are required to climb poles ranging anywhere from 30 to 120 feet tall. Needless to say, if you have a fear of heights, this likely isn't the career path for you.

Lineworkers must be committed to their career — because it's not just a job, it's a lifestyle. The long hours and ever-present danger can take a toll on the worker and their family. In fact, being a lineworker is listed in the top 10 most dangerous jobs in the U.S.

Lineworkers often work non-traditional hours, outdoors, in very difficult conditions. The job requires highly technical skills, years of training and hands-on learning. Did you know that becoming a journeyman lineworker can take more than 7,000 hours of training (or about four years)? That's because working with high-voltage equipment

requires specialized skills, experience, and ongoing mental preparation. Shortcuts are not an option, and there is no room for error in this line of work. Safety has to be the priority.

Despite the many challenges, Adams Electric's lineworkers are committed to powering our local communities. During severe weather events that bring major power outages, lineworkers are among the first emergency responders. They must be ready to leave the comfort of their home and families unexpectedly, and they don't return until the job is done, often several days later.

Adams Electric has 25 lineworkers and another nine union employees who are responsible for keeping power flowing around the clock. They maintain nearly 3,000 miles of power lines across five counties and approximately 1,800 square miles. In addition to the highly visible tasks lineworkers perform, their job today goes far beyond climbing utility poles to repair a wire. Today's lineworkers are information experts who can pinpoint power outages from miles away. Line crews now use tablets, drones, and other technologies to map outages, survey damage, and troubleshoot problems.

So, the next time you see a lineworker, please thank them for the work they do to keep power flowing, regardless of the time of day or weather conditions. After all, lineworkers are the people behind your power. Please join us as we recognize them on April 11 and use the hashtag #ThankALineworker on social media to recognize our local hardworking lineworkers. 🌟

COMMUNITYconnections

POWERING LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

The search for funding

By Kami Noel, CCC, *Communications/Member Relations Coordinator*

WHEN someone falls on hard times, they're often not looking for a handout, but a hand up. For nearly 20 years, Lisa Beaver has been the key for many Adams County residents seeking assistance.

Beaver is the emergency services coordinator for South Central Community Action Programs (SCCAP) and an administrator for Adams Electric Cooperative's Project Helping Hand (PHH) fund.

"PHH helps the families that fall between the cracks," Beaver says. "Families who made too much money six months ago and need help now don't qualify for state assistance. Adams Electric helps its members by thinking outside the box, giving families that needed extra step to weather the storm."

With April 1 of every year being the end to the "winter moratorium," residents who have been avoiding paying their utility bills all winter — either for lack of funds or other reasons — now find themselves in a sticky situation.

"Most people live paycheck to paycheck," Beaver says. "They don't realize assistance is even an option because they assume they're not eligible."

The partnership between SCCAP and Adams Electric has existed for



HEARTFELT THANKS: Lisa Beaver of SCCAP Adams County, right, and Adams Electric's Member Services Representative Kelly Murren prepare a Project Helping Hand collection bin for donations.

more than 15 years and helps an average of 92 members per year. Clients are assessed based on need and income, but through SCCAP, other available services can also be found.

"I remember back around 2008, [Adams Electric] came to us with a plan to help its membership avoid shut-off notices and past-due bills," Beaver says. "The cooperative listened to our recommendations and came up with a program where it didn't just hand out money, but made people accountable for it."

Project Helping Hand is available one time per year to those eligible and provides \$250 toward a member's past-due bill balance. But to be a recipient, the member must first pay 25% of his past-due balance and apply for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) during the winter months. Even for a rejected application, assistance can often be found through other programs, such as the Salvation Army. A few churches also offer crisis assistance.

"People think they need to do it on their own," Beaver says, "but it's worth a phone call because if there's a resource there, why not use it?"

For tenants who are renting residential homes, there is also the state Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) that launched in 2021 as a response to the pandemic. Through this program, funds could be available for struggling members for rent and utility assistance, dating as far back as 12 months or as far forward as three months of missed payments. In 2022, a similar program is expected for homeowners who need help with mortgage and utility payments.

"We're still waiting for the final paperwork and regulations to come down on that one," Beaver says.



Lisa Beaver

While Beaver says she can't completely define whether the COVID-19 pandemic increased or decreased the number of people in need of assistance, she did say the clientele has changed and the paperwork has grown.

"Before COVID-19, I can say our clients were mainly seniors and some single parents on food stamps," she says. "Now, we have tons of families who are seeing drastic income changes, and the need is different."

"The most important thing I can tell people is just don't wait. Call! If I don't have the funds now to help you fix a problem," Beaver adds, "we will always do our best to find a resource that can help with whatever the situation is that presents itself."

If you are a co-op member struggling to pay your electric bill or any of your utilities, consider contacting our PHH partner agencies, including SCCAP of Adams County, SCCAP of Franklin County, the Community Progress Council in York County and Neighbors in Christ in Cumberland County. Our own member services representatives are also available by phone or office appointment at 800-726-2324. We can send you our "Where to Turn for Help" brochure, which is also available at adamsec.coop under "My Publications." ❁

Candidates seek support in upcoming election

Adams Electric's Credentials & Election Committee has certified three candidates to run for election to the board of directors, one each in zones 2, 6 and 7.

Below is a short biography and a statement from each candidate about why they would like to serve as a director. For additional information about each candidate, visit adamsec.coop.

Meet the candidates



Jay A. Herman

Zone 2: Jay A. Herman of Aspers has been a member of the co-op all of his life, living on the family farm his parents bought in 1949. He is finishing his first term as a cooperative director, having been elected in 2019.

Herman is a Credentialed Cooperative Director and has earned Board Leadership and Director Gold certifications from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA).

Herman, a semi-retired programmer/analyst, has worked for Knouse Foods Cooperative for more than 50 years in the information technology department. He is a life member of the Heidlersburg Fire Company and has held numerous offices in the organization over the years. He also served on the district board and executive committee of the Southern Pennsylvania District of the Church of the Brethren.

Candidate statement: *"I have lived all my life on the family farm that my parents bought in 1949. I attended Penn State and then worked on the family farm for a few years and then went to work at Knouse Foods Cooperative. I have worked there for over 50 years in the information technology department as a computer programmer/analyst. As a life member of the Heidlersburg Fire Company, I have served our community in many ways. I have served on the district board and executive committee of the Southern Pa. District of the Church of the Brethren. My knowledge of business and technology and of our community should help me to be a valuable member of the board of directors of Adams Electric Cooperative."*



Nadine M. Hubner

Zone 6: Nadine M. Hubner of Felton has been a co-op member for more than 20 years and was elected to the co-op board of directors in 2013. Hubner served as board secretary from 2015 to 2019 and currently serves as vice president. She is the president of Adams Energy Resources, LLC.

Hubner is a Credentialed Cooperative Director and has earned Board Leadership and Director Gold certifications from NRECA. She serves on the Executive Committee and is the liaison to the Scholarship Committee and chair of the Governance Committee.

In her community, Hubner serves on the York County History Center's Building and Grounds Committee, the National Endowment for the Humanities Grant Review Task Force, Leadership York Board of Directors, and the Government Relations Committee for the Byrnes Health Education Center. She

is also a member of the Hopewell Fish & Game Association.

Hubner was the 2018 York County Economic Alliance Spirit of York County Appointed Public Official of the Year, a Leadership York Alumnus of the Year and a Russell Moul Memorial Award recipient.

She is a graduate of the University of Connecticut with a bachelor's in therapeutic recreation service education and has a master's from the State University of New York at Brockport in public administration.

Candidate statement: *"It is very gratifying serving an organization that puts members first. I intend to continue focusing on your expectations for reliability, affordability, safety and community improvement while seeking opportunities to advance Adams' leadership position. It is an honor and privilege to serve on your behalf. Thank you for your continued support."*



Jay E. Grove

Zone 7: Jay E. Grove of Shippensburg has been a director of the Adams Electric board for 29 years and currently serves as secretary. Grove served as president of the board for 11 years and vice president for 13 years.

Grove is a Credentialed Cooperative Director and has earned Board Leadership and Director Gold certifications from NRECA. He serves as vice president of Adams Utility Service Company. He also serves on the Mid-Atlantic Cooperative Solutions, Inc., Board and is chair of the Audit Committee.

He is chairman of the Allegheny Electric Cooperative, Inc. Board of Directors and served previously as vice president and secretary. With Allegheny, he serves on the Power Supply Committee and the Administrative Services Committee.

In the community, Grove serves Hope Reformed Presbyterian Church, Shippensburg, as chairman of its administrative team. He also is a member of the finance team and property team. He also serves on the vacancy board of Southampton Township, Franklin County, and volunteers for the Shippensburg Tractor Pullers Association.

He was the 1995 recipient of the Kiwanis Club of Chambersburg Agricultural Achievement Award and more recently received the Shippensburg FFA Honorary Chapter Member Degree.

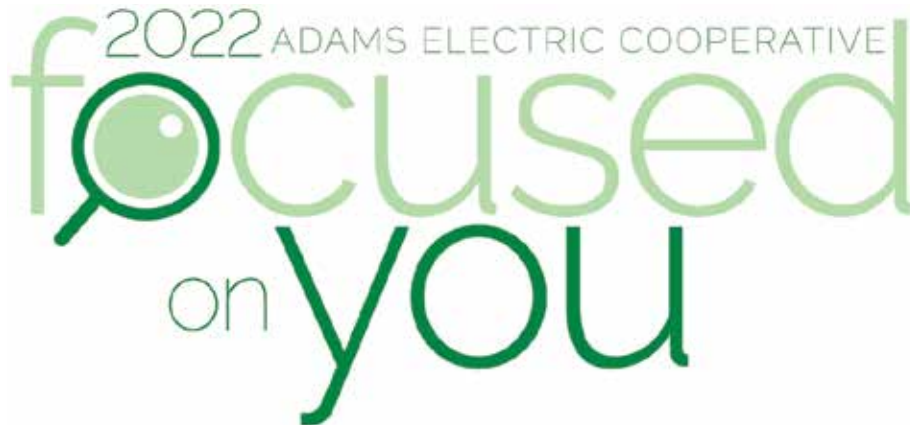
He and his wife, Peggy, have four adult children and three grandchildren.

Candidate statement: *"Adams is doing a great job bringing the members reliable power at a reasonable cost, all while implementing energy efficiency and new technologies. I want to use my business and leadership experience to keep it that way."*

Register now for member drive-thru or meeting

This announcement constitutes the official notice of the Adams Electric Cooperative Business Meeting to be held Thursday, May 19, from 11 a.m. to noon in the Gettysburg District truck garage, with entry via 1338 Biglerville Road, Gettysburg. The meeting will be followed by three drive-thru events, one in each of the cooperative's district office locations, also May 19, from 2 to 6 p.m.

All active memberships are invited to attend; however, preregistration is required, and only one timeslot may be selected per membership. The business meeting will be in person with brief reports given by the board president and the co-op's CEO/general manager as well as a representative of the Credentials & Election Committee. The meeting will begin promptly at 11 a.m. and conclude no later than



noon. A question-and-answer session will be held, and participants will receive their member gifts at the conclusion of the meeting.

Then, beginning at 2 p.m., drive-thru events will open at each district office location:

- ▶ 1338 Biglerville Road, Gettysburg;

- ▶ 200 Trinity Road, York; and
- ▶ 10 Duncan Road, Shippensburg.

Each membership must be preregistered to attend. Registration requires selection of a one-hour timeslot between 2 and 5 p.m., with the events wrapping up by 6 p.m. During the drive-thru, all visitors must remain in their vehicles for safety and ease of participation.

Those registered will receive a meal to take home, a small gift and a \$10 bill credit once the drive-thru circuit is completed. Up to five expired lightbulbs may be exchanged for new LED bulbs at the lighting station. Also available to each membership will be a copy of the cooperative's annual report, including financials and a breakdown of the cooperative's sources of power supply. Members who have not voted in the director election will be provided a ballot.

A registration form will be mailed in April to every active membership account and will include a board of director election ballot. Memberships registered to attend the business meeting or a drive-thru by April 15 will receive a confirmation postcard by mail the week of May 10. PLEASE bring this card with you to the event check-in. It will have a personalized barcode that will need to be scanned for your bill credit to be applied. It will also list your registration location and assigned timeslot. To register online, visit adamsec.coop/2022-annual-meeting. ❁



TRAINING AND EDUCATION: Adams Electric Cooperative welcomes a group of students and families from the Harrisburg Homeschoolers Association for a high-voltage electricity demonstration and discussion on staying safe around electrical equipment. Manager, Safety/Key Accounts/Accounting Mike Johnson, left, shows some of the personal protective equipment lineworkers use to keep themselves safe when working on live power lines and equipment.

A rising star in energy savings

MANY of us might recall that way back in 2007, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) passed the Energy and Independence Act. Well, actually, you probably don't remember that at all. What you probably remember is watching the news a few years later and realizing the future of incandescent lightbulbs was quite dim.

While this legislation included a wide range of recommendations for the energy industry, the main and probably most memorable requirement was that new lightbulbs use 25% less energy. As a result, there was a huge push between 2012 and 2014 to replace older, incandescent lightbulbs with newer, more energy-efficient versions.

Oftentimes, regulations come and go without much fanfare. However, when incandescent lightbulbs were phased out, it directly impacted lightbulb choices and left many of us wondering what all the fuss was about.

Traditional incandescent bulbs produce light by heating a wire filament to a temperature that results in the generation of light. Incandescent bulbs were popular because they were inexpensive and available in a wide range of colors. However, much of their energy went into heat production and very little toward emitting light.

Incandescent lightbulbs also have a very short lifespan, lasting only about one year on average. Although they are no longer available in U.S. stores, the energy costs associated with the once-popular bulb, along with its stunted lifespan, far outweigh the initial savings at the cash register. Since incandescent bulbs produce a lot of heat, they may cause burn injuries and pose a fire risk.

Nowadays, the three most popular lightbulbs are the light-emitting diode (LED), the halogen incandescent and the compact fluorescent light (CFL). According to the National Electrical Manufacturers Association, in the third quarter of 2018, lightbulb orders

MAKE THE SWITCH

SAVE MONEY and REDUCE ENERGY USE by replacing outdated lightbulbs with newer, more efficient LED lights.

SafeElectricity.org

MAKE THE SWITCH: Bring your used, intact CFL or LED bulbs to the cooperative's drive-thru annual meeting and receive new LED bulbs at the bulb recycling station of the event. The co-op will safely recycle the used bulbs and exchange one LED for every two CFLs returned. (Limit of five bulbs per member).

were broken down as follows: LEDs accounted for 65%, halogens made up 28% and CFLs were 7%.

What makes LEDs different? LED lightbulbs work when an electrical current passes through a microchip, which illuminates the tiny light sources we call LEDs, and the result is visible light. LED lightbulbs produce light up to 90% more efficiently than traditional incandescent lightbulbs. They also include features that keep the bulb cooler to the touch, which avoids potential injuries and fire risks.

LEDs are also safer than their closest competitors, CFL and halogen bulbs. CFLs contain a small amount of mercury, which is dangerous if ingested. In addition, this type of bulb should not be thrown in the trash. Halogen bulbs operate at very high temperatures, which means they can cause burns to the skin, if touched. They can also, in some cases, cause a fire when, for example, they are

knocked over or come in contact with something flammable.

Moreover, many LEDs are rated with a lifespan of 50,000 hours. That means if one is used eight hours a day, it is projected to last 17 years. Residential LEDs, especially those that are designated with the Energy Star logo, use at least 75% less energy and last 25 times longer than incandescent lighting, according to the DOE.

In comparison, halogen lightbulbs last about a year, and CFL bulbs about three years (both based on eight-hour-a-day usage).

LEDs help the environment while reducing energy costs. According to the DOE, their widespread use is on track to save the equivalent annual electrical output of 44 large electric power plants, with a total savings of more than \$30 billion by 2027.

For more information about electrical safety and energy efficiency, visit SafeElectricity.org. ❁

NEWSworthy

NOTES FROM AROUND YOUR COOPERATIVE

Ownership Rewards surpass \$50 million

IN 2022, Adams Electric Cooperative is returning \$2.1 million to its members. Since 2015, this benefit has been referred to by the cooperative as Ownership Rewards, and the co-op will reach a milestone this year: surpassing the \$50 million mark for total rewards returned to members. Ownership Rewards exist because Adams Electric is a not-for-profit electric cooperative owned by its members. We don't have shareholders or investors who take a portion of the revenue we collect.

The third cooperative principle revolves around members' economic participation. Economic participation is best measured through members' ownership or equity in the cooperative. Each member's ownership is tracked separately and fluctuates based on two main factors:

1. **Allocation of margins.** Any money we take in that's more than what we need to operate the co-op belongs to our members. To record how much of that surplus belongs to each member, the board of directors allocates it based on how much of that surplus is attributable to that member. Allocations increase members' ownership or equity in the cooperative.

2. **Return of Ownership Rewards.** The board of directors annually decides how much money can be returned to members as Ownership Rewards each year, while still maintaining an appropriate financial position for the cooperative. This return of funds decreases members' ownership or equity in the cooperative.

While we can never be sure that each year will bring a return of Ownership Rewards, the board of directors strongly believes that you should be rewarded as a member of the cooperative and will do its best to continue this practice in the future. ❁

New to the team

Noah Staub of Hanover joined Adams Electric Feb. 14 as a staking technician in the Gettysburg District. Before joining the cooperative, he worked for Columbia Gas as a crew leader. Staub received his diploma from YTI Career Institute in heating, air conditioning and refrigeration. ❁



Noah Staub



NIGHT LIFE: Fourth-Year Apprentice Jason Stanley took this photo of his reflection on a hillside right of way, where he had climbed a pole to make repairs on Feb. 19 around 8 p.m. A windstorm on Feb. 18 qualified as a "major event day" for the co-op, causing 12.76 minutes of average power interruption per member to be recorded. Co-op outages peaked around 6:30 a.m. with a large outage near Fairfield, Adams County, which took more than 1,000 members out of power individually, with 2,500 out across the five-county service territory. Crews started their day before midnight on the 17th and restored the last outage around 8:30 p.m. on the 18th. All of the co-op's resources were deployed, as well as two contractor crews from O'Connell Electric and tree crews from Asplundh Tree Expert, LLC. The areas hit hardest were Fairfield, Germany Township, Lake Heritage, and Carroll Valley in Adams County and East Hopewell Township in York County. High winds and outages continued through Feb. 19, with major issues in Fawn Grove and Warrington Township in York County and Menallen Township in Adams County.



CONCERN FOR COMMUNITY: Adams Electric Cooperative was honored to be able to assist the Pleasant Hall community in Letterkenny Township, Franklin County, by donating funds for the purchase of two Milwaukee battery-operated chainsaws for the Pleasant Hall Volunteer Fire Department. On hand at our Shippensburg District office to celebrate the occasion are, from left, fire company representatives Earl Ray Martin and Jarret Rine, Shippensburg District Superintendent Mike Chamberlin, firefighter Curtis Benedict, and Shippensburg linemen Brad Varner, Ryan Gelnett, Brian Atherton, Bill Collingsworth, Jordan Hoke, Ty Hensley, and Mark Cramer.



**Digging into
an Outdoor
Project?**



Before you dig, dial 811 or visit www.call811.com to protect underground utilities. Careless digging poses a threat to people, pipelines and underground facilities. Contact 811 first and help keep our community safe.



April is National Volunteer Month!

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!

Thank you to the member volunteers of Adams Electric Cooperative who give their time and talents to contribute to the cooperative!

Are you a team player?

Sign up online at: adamsec.coop/be-co-op-volunteer



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Cooperative, Inc.**

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For more information,
visit adamsec.coop or
call 1-800-726-2324.