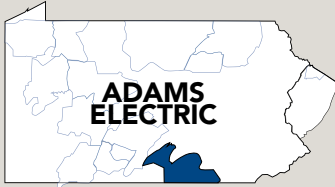




# Adams Electric Cooperative, Inc.

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  
Jay A. Herman  
S. Eugene Herritt  
Dale E. Myers  
F.L. "Ray" Schwartz

### District Office Hours

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

Check out [adamsec.coop](http://adamsec.coop)

Like us on Facebook at  
[Facebook.com/AdamsEC](https://www.facebook.com/AdamsEC)

Local Pages Editor: Kami Noel, CCC

*This institution is an equal opportunity  
provider and employer.*

## From the CEO/General Manager



# Planning for the future

By Steve Rasmussen

IF YOU could look into a crystal ball and foresee what 2021 has in store for us, how much would you want to know? This time last year, I certainly don't think anyone could have predicted what 2020 would bring for us ...

So rather than making predictions, we used the fourth quarter of 2020 to plan for the uncertain future. We held staff meetings, board meetings, team meetings and even a Member Advisory Committee (MAC) meeting — all responsibly under CDC guidelines — and asked not the question, “What now?” but “What next?”

We talked about COVID-19 uncertainty and some potential worst-case scenarios and how to responsibly forge ahead. We continued to test new (to us) means of communications, like Microsoft Teams and Zoom. We even held our first TeleTown Hall meeting, using our MAC Committee as our sounding board. I have to say, as a potential technology for large group meetings, the response was relatively positive.

During our town hall meeting, I invited our board and MAC member-volunteers to participate in some candid conversation, and we spent the better part of an hour discussing recent co-op events, including the rebalancing of director zones, the process for appointing a new Zone 9 director, and the co-op's COVID-19 response.


We polled those participating and asked which of our COVID-19 responses so far has been the most meaningful to the membership. While the results were close, the special bill credit the board authorized (totaling \$1 million)

that was returned to our members to help with their bills last spring was the winning initiative, followed by some new initiatives to help our members with past-due balances and trying to maintain member engagement without in-person meetings and events.

You'll be glad to know the board is taking those comments and the current economic uncertainties into consideration as they work toward passing a budget for next year. Scheduled for a vote in late November was a proposed budget with a relatively stable impact on the membership.

For members with a residential account, your bill should remain mostly unchanged. There will be a realignment of charges from the energy section, with some small decreases offset by some small increases in the distribution section. Commercial accounts will likely see an overall slight increase based on the cost to provide service to those members. Details of the finalized rate realignments will be in the January issue of *Penn Lines*.

As for the continuance of virtual meetings, we're making contingency plans to continue to engage all of our members through more video presentations, polls, social media posts and possibly a larger-scale, virtually live TeleTown Hall or similar type of event. While we'd much rather connect with our membership in person, the safety and health of our members and employees is what needs to be our priority. Let's just hope it's not the true wave of the forever future!

Here's to hoping I “see” you in the new year! 

# COMMUNITYconnections

POWERING LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

## In changing times, a Santa tradition continues

By Thomas Hand, *Penn Lines Correspondent*

THIS YEAR has been unconventional, to say the least, and it's clear this holiday season will be different than any that came before. Across the country, community events are either going virtual or are being called off entirely. In Hanover, York County, the holiday parade and the Christmas tree-lighting ceremony have already been canceled, while other contests and activities are being held via social media.

"The biggest challenge is how to create the same spirit in the virtual experience that someone would get during an in-person experience," says Justine Trucksess, the executive director of Main Street Hanover. "While the virtual events aren't able to truly replicate the joy of the kids decorating their bikes for the Christmas parade, we hope that sharing the decorations online will create goodwill and cheer for all."

Santa's Cabin, however, is still on track to be held as an in-person event. The log cabin has been a mainstay of Hanover's holiday celebration since 1936, providing local children and their families an opportunity to visit

with Santa, take photos, and receive goodies. Since the event's inception, only three cabins have been used. The first, built in 1936, was only featured for one season, while the second cabin served as Santa's headquarters in downtown Hanover for 80 years and was finally retired after 2017. An updated cabin, funded by the Fraternal Order of Eagles No. 1406, Hanover, made its debut in 2018.

For the event to proceed safely, Santa will greet visitors from behind plexiglass, and visiting groups will be spaced 6 feet apart while waiting for their turn. Volunteers will have their temperatures logged, and the cabin itself will be sanitized regularly.

"With all that is going on, if we are able to bring joy to children and their families in a year where many will be struggling, it is important that we try," Trucksess says. "We hope that the community will enjoy this tradition and appreciate what we are trying to do. A cabin visit, even with a plexiglass barrier, is better than none at all."

Last year, over 2,500 children stopped by the cabin to visit with Santa and the hope is many will come again.

"From the beginning of our planning,



PHOTOS COURTESY OF HANOVERSANTACABIN.COM

**SANTA'S HEADQUARTERS:** The "new" Santa's Cabin, built in 2018, was made possible through a donation from the Fraternal Order of Eagles No. 1406. The mailbox, sign and several other features were repurposed from the previous cabin.

Santa and the Hanover Christmas Committee volunteers were committed to doing all that we could to make in-person visits possible, while monitoring the COVID-19 situation closely," Trucksess explains. "Santa shared with us that 'We do this for the children.' I couldn't agree more. We do all of this to bring smiles to children's faces. In a year where so much of their lives looks different, we wanted to give them one holiday tradition they could look forward to."

The volunteers at Main Street Hanover have gone to impressive lengths to show their community that although certain celebrations have been changed, the spirit of the season lives on. Details and dates for Santa's Cabin and other holiday events can be found at [mainstreethanover.org](http://mainstreethanover.org). Information is subject to change, and visitors are advised to check the website for updates. Adams Electric is a local supporter and sponsor of Christmas in Hanover activities. 🌟



HANOVERSANTACABIN.COM

**THE ORIGINAL:** The first Santa's Cabin, which was built in 1936, was used for one Christmas, but its popularity sparked a tradition that continues today.

# Director candidate forms available

INTERESTED in the director election process or serving on the co-op board of directors? Are you a cooperative member in good standing with your name on the account for more than a year, and reside in:

- ▶ Zone 1 - ADAMS COUNTY – Townships of Cumberland, Freedom, Liberty and Mount Joy; and the Borough of Carroll Valley.
- ▶ Zone 5 - YORK COUNTY – Townships of Heidelberg, Jefferson, Manheim, North Codorus, Penn and West Manheim.
- ▶ Zone 8 - CUMBERLAND COUNTY – Townships of Lower Mifflin, North Newton, Southampton and Upper Frankford.

Director candidates must meet all membership qualifications as set forth in the co-op's bylaws. The membership will then

elect one director from each of director Zones 1, 5 and 8 to help direct the business of the cooperative for the next three years. Each candidate must complete a petition packet, including filling out a personal profile and statement of candidacy, among other requirements.

Candidates must also secure signatures and addresses of at least 15 Adams Electric members on an official petition.

Candidate packets may be picked up at any district office of Adams Electric by appointment, beginning Dec. 1, 2020. All required paperwork must be "actually and physically received" at a co-op office before 5 p.m. Jan. 28, 2021.

For more information, contact the communications department at the co-op at 1-800-726-2324. Learn more about director responsibilities at [adamsec.coop/director-responsibilities](http://adamsec.coop/director-responsibilities).

## Directors earn national certifications

TWO MEMBERS of the Adams Electric Cooperative, Inc. Board of Directors received their Director Gold certificates in 2020 for continued cooperative education from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA), and another earned his Credentialed Cooperative Director (CCD) certificate.

The Director Gold program provides advanced learning opportunities to cooperative board members who have already completed NRECA's CCD certificate and Board Leadership Certificate (BLC). Those who achieved renewed Director Gold status this year are board Secretary Jay Grove of Shippensburg and Director FL. "Ray" Schwartz of Fairfield.

To earn the certificate, board members must earn three continuing education credits by attending various director courses and conferences within a two-year period. After the Director Gold certificate is achieved, directors must continue to earn three credits every two years to maintain the standing.

In addition, Dale Myers of Glenville received his Credentialed Cooperative Director certificate from NRECA. The CCD curriculum provides new co-op directors with the essential knowledge and skills required of cooperative leaders. 🌞



CERTIFIED LEADERS: Adams Electric Cooperative board directors, from left: Ray Schwartz, Jay Grove and Dale Myers, are recognized for receiving leadership certificates from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association during 2020.



# NEWSworthy

NOTES FROM AROUND YOUR COOPERATIVE



**CO-OP ACCOLADES:** Directors and employees celebrate a combined 270 years of service to Adams Electric Cooperative at a 2020 Employee Recognition event held outdoors in October. CEO/General Manager Steve Rasmussen, back left, celebrates with those receiving service awards including, from left: Lynn Wallas, 35 years; Lori Kemper, 20 years; Kornell Kuntz, 30 years; Director Gene Herritt, 35 years; Mike Johnson, 15 years; Director Glenn Bange, 15 years; Ty Hensley, 5 years; Laura Kooztz, 25 years; Tom McMaster, 10 years; Michele Colyer, 5 years; Tony Spangler, 15 years; Mitch Orchowski, 30 years; Brooke Thoman, 5 years; and Dave Bolton, 25 years.

## HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE

Give the gift of safety!

- Portable Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter (GFCI)**  
Designed for locations where there is not a permanent GFCI installed, these devices detect an abnormal flow of electricity and stop it before anything starts to electrocute.
- Outdoor Remote Control Outlet Switch**  
Leaving outdoor lighting on overnight can be costly and pose a potential hazard. An alternative to smart lights, this remote control outlet allows you to turn outdoor lights on or off remotely.
- Tamper Resistant Outlets (TROs)**  
Created for homes with young children, TROs are made specifically for home use that can block coins or other objects from being inserted into the outlet. Because they help keep children safe, the National Electrical Code requires TROs in new homes and apartments.
- Heavy Duty Extension Cord**  
Protect service safety. Two often the only one designed specifically for larger projects are powered by extension cords that are constructed for the environment in heavy outdoor use.

Learn more at [SafeElectricity.org](http://SafeElectricity.org)

SEND A PRESENT FROM  
ADAMS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

# GIVE THE GIFT OF ELECTRICITY

Call 1-800-726-2324 for more info



# For the sons and daughters of our Co-op Members



## HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS FOR SENIORS

Adams Electric awards up to 30 scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 each to high school seniors (one per public school served in co-op territories, plus up to eight vocational, and up to five homeschool, cyber school, other). The cooperative works in partnership with the Adams County Community Foundation to administer these scholarships. Applications, deadlines and the decision-making process may vary. Please visit [adamsec.coop](http://adamsec.coop) to see which option applies to your local high school.

## UNDERGRADUATE COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

Adams Electric Cooperative awards up to eight scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 each to college students who are currently enrolled in and taking classes at a post-secondary school or accredited training program (two-year, four-year or trade/technical) AND are sons or daughters of a co-op member.

The cooperative works in partnership with the Adams County Community Foundation to administer these scholarships. Applications are accepted each year from January through mid-March.

Applications are reviewed by Adams Electric's Scholarship Committee. Apply online beginning Jan. 1 at [adamsec.coop](http://adamsec.coop).



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