

## You are invited to the Holmes-Wayne Electric Legislative Breakfast





Glenn W. Miller President/CEO

Randy Sprang Board Chairman

Friday, Aug. 1 • 8 a.m.

Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative office, Millersburg

Guest Speakers: U.S. Rep. Bob Gibbs U.S. Rep. Jim Rennaci (invited)

Limited seating for 200 HWEC members — RSVP today! Members already participating in ACRE Co-op Owners for Political Action<sup>®</sup> will be guaranteed a seat upon RSVP.

### Contact the office toll-free at 866-674-1055 to reserve your seat.

This is a wonderful opportunity for all members of the cooperative to attend a very informative and interesting meeting covering many of today's legislative topics.

Most importantly, this breakfast is an important venue to speak up, along with your cooperative, about the immediate concerns relating to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's proposed regulations and their impact on affordable electricity.

On Sept. 20, the EPA issued new proposed rules limiting the carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions of new coal- and natural gas-based power plants. The proposed rule sets stringent limits on CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from coal plants in particular, essentially requiring the use of "carbon capture and sequestration" technology (CCS) or eliminating coal as a potential fuel source for future power plants.

Because CCS is not proven to be a viable technology for power plants, the Obama administration has effectively abandoned its "all-of-the above" energy strategy and embraced an "all-but-one" approach that effectively prevents construction of new coalbased generation.

Electric cooperatives strongly oppose this shift and believe the proposed rule should be withdrawn. Co-ops support using a diverse fuel mix including renewables, natural gas, nuclear and coal to generate electricity, and support using demand response and energy efficiency programs that use energy wisely while keeping costs affordable.

Co-ops also continue to deploy new technologies and are researching even more cuttingedge technologies to meet the energy needs of the future.

If you are unable to attend this event, we strongly encourage you to use the website below to let the administration know that you want a secure energy future that will maintain American jobs and help prevent extreme increases in your electric bills.

### www.action.coop

## **Board of Trustees**

Randy Sprang, Chairman Dave Mann, Vice Chairman Barry Jolliff, Secretary/Treasurer Don Buren Kenneth Conrad Kenneth Bower Bill Grassbaugh Jackie McKee Ronnie Schlegel

6060 St. Rt. 83; P.O. Box 112 Millersburg, OH 44654-0112

Business hours 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

www.hwecoop.com

330-674-1055 (local) 866-674-1055 (toll-free) You can call 24 hours a day to report outages, submit meter readings and make payments.



# Cash back to our members 2013 allocation of capital credits

As a member-owned cooperative, Holmes-Wayne Electric is committed to providing reliable, competitively priced electric service while operating within the cooperative principles.

We sell and deliver electricity to our members at cost and maintain only a small margin, which provides working capital used to maintain the electric distribution system, to build and upgrade lines and to provide service to new members. However, because we are a not-for-profit cooperative, we return these margins to the members. These are called patronage capital credits.

Capital credits are returned to each member based on patronage — in our case, the amount of power purchased by the member.

Capital credits are assigned, or allocated, to each member/owner for the prior year. Your member-elected board of trustees oversees the financial well-being of the cooperative. As the financial status of the cooperative permits, the board will decide to retire, or distribute back to members, capital credits.

Capital credits are currently being retired on an industry average of a 20-year cycle. When these

capital credits are retired, they are returned via a check to current members and former members no longer on our lines.

This is one reason why you should always keep your cooperative apprised of your address. If you move off of Holmes-Wayne Electric's lines, you may have money coming to you that you have forgotten about!

You also receive an allocation of capital credits from our power generation company, Buckeye Power, which is also a cooperative. Holmes-Wayne Electric is a member/owner of Buckeye Power, which allocates capital credits to Holmes-Wayne Electric based on the same principles. We, in turn, allocate these capital credits to you. You are notified annually of your allocation of the capital credits assigned to your account for the prior year.

Please note in your May 2014 bill the information regarding the "2013 Allocation" for both Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative and our generation company, Buckeye Power. You will only have a "2013 Allocation" if you were a member of the cooperative in 2013.

# Keep us informed and safe

They're adorable and part of our families, but they can be dangerous to strangers. That's right — your family dog that plays with the kids can also become naturally very protective and aggressive.

During outages and maintenance of our system, HWEC line staff

may be on or beside your personal property to restore or maintain your power.

Please notify HWEC if you have a dog that is not secured and becomes aggressive with visitors. This allows our staff to be aware of any dangers as they try to work efficiently and safely to provide reliable electric service to you. You may contact the office toll-free 866-674-

1055 to register your dog.



## Know what's **below. Call** before you dig.

As spring construction and tree-planting projects begin, please remember to "know what's below" and call before you dig.

Call **811** within 48 hours of your digging project so utilities can mark the location of underground service lines to keep you safe!

# Please take a few minutes to complete our survey



Your thoughts and opinions about the cooperative help us to better serve you. In May, the cooperative will be working with NRECA Market Research Services to complete a member satisfaction survey. The surveys will be both by phone and e-mail, but not everyone will be contacted. If you are contacted, we would greatly appreciate a few minutes of your time to share your opinions of the cooperative.

We strive to provide all members with safe, affordable and reliable electric service. By participating in the survey, you will help us make decisions that benefit you, your family and your neighbors.

#### Thank you!

All information is confidential.

Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative, Inc. A Touchstone Energy<sup>®</sup> Cooperative K





Emily Elizabeth James of Shreve was awarded a \$750 scholarship from the Ohio Line Supervisors Association. James competed in the 2014 scholarship program in Columbus at Ohio Rural Electric Cooperatives, Inc., the service organization supporting electric co-ops in the state.

James is the daughter of Steven and Tamara James. Her father is a Class A lineman at Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative. She is a senior at West Holmes High School and is active in Student Council, softball and National Honor Society, and she also volunteers for Red Cross blood drives. James has been accepted at Mt. Vernon Nazarene University.

The Ohio Line Supervisor Association is composed of the line supervisors of 25 electric cooperatives in Ohio and West Virginia. The organization is associated with Ohio Rural Electric Cooperatives, Inc., a Touchstone Energy<sup>®</sup> Partner. A panel of independent judges reviews the applications and interviews the finalists before deciding on the winners.

# 2014 Annual Meeting: Your co-op cares for you!

We hope to see you at the 2014 Holmes-Wayne Electric Annual Meeting. This year's meeting will be Thursday, June 26, at West Holmes High School in Millersburg. All HWEC members will receive a formal invitation in the mail during the first week of June. This invitation will allow for members to RSVP for the event as well as vote in the 2014 HWEC Board of Trustees election.

This year's health and information fair will include tips for heart health and information on how your co-op cares for your community, your safety and your dollars. See you June 26!



Health and Information Fair: **5 p.m.** Dinner: **6 p.m.** Business Meeting: **6:30 p.m.** 

# Let HWEC help you with your budget

In today's harsh economy, we all are working with limited budgets. Many of us are cutting coupons, carpooling and reducing nonessential expenses.

Many HWEC members have taken advantage of the vast amount of suggestions and tools we provide to reduce your electric consumption and therefore reduce your bill.

To plan and budget your expenses more easily, Holmes-Wayne Electric offers budget billing. **Budget billing allows** 



you to manage your bill by averaging your annual consumption and avoid high bill surprises. The average is based on the last 12 months of electric use.

In extreme weather conditions, like winter and summer months, members consume more electricity to heat and cool their homes, and so their bills are usually higher. Because of weather and lifestyle practices, your consumption can change dramatically, so every January and July, HWEC will review your consumption history and adjust your set budget amount if needed to avoid a large balance due at the end of the budget cycle.

### The budget billing cycle runs July to the following June. Any balance due or a credit is posted on your June bill.

Your monthly bill will always show the actual kilowatthours you consumed based on the meter readings you provide. Every month you will be able to see your budget plan compared to actual consumption.

Plus, if you choose, you can have the convenience of paying your bill online every month at our website, **www.hwecoop.com**, or by our automatic withdrawal payment program. You can also call our toll-free number, 866-674-1055, 24 hours a day to pay your bill through the automatic phone system. This saves you the cost of postage every month.

If interested in the HWEC budget billing program, you may enroll at any time as long as you have been a member of HWEC for 12 months and have a zero balance. Please contact the cooperative at 866-674-1055 to discuss a budget plan for you.

Also be sure to check out all our money saving tips at **www.hwecoop.com** under "Energy Advisor." Learn easy and inexpensive ways to manage your electric consumption and bill.