



The Energizer

DECEMBER 2022 | STEUBEN RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

OFFICE LOCATIONS

Bath District Office
9 Wilson Avenue
Bath, NY 14810
(607) 776-4161
(800) 843-3414

Cherry Creek District Office
5966 South Rd
Cherry Creek, NY 14723
(716) 296-5651
(800) 883-8236

OFFICE HOURS

Bath District Office
Monday - Friday
7:30 am - 4:00 pm

Cherry Creek District Office
Monday - Friday
7:00 am - 3:30 pm

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- District 1 - James McCormick
- District 2 - Janice Hoad
- District 3 - Edward Borkowski
- District 4 - Walter Longwell
- District 5 - Gerald Chase Jr.
- District 6 - Gordon Foster
- District 7 - Robert Nichols
- District 8 - Randy Stankey
- District 9 - William Moss III



SREC's 78th Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Members of Steuben Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc. was held Saturday, October 15, 2022, at the Canistota-Greenwood High School. Members enjoyed Stearns chicken barbecue together with early morning donuts, coffee, cheese and games.

The annual meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by the invocation, offered by Pastor Veronica Seeley. Board President, James McCormick welcomed attendees to the meeting and introduced the Cooperative's board of directors, management, and special guests.

James McCormick presented the President's report that included the Cooperative's financial condition, current highlights of programs and plans, and future outlook. Bryant Dillon presented the General Manager's report that included accomplishments over the past year and an outlook on where the Cooperative is heading in the future. In addition, the 2021 Annual Meeting minutes, Nominating Committee Minutes, Secretary and Treasurer reports were approved by majority vote of the members.

Bryant Dillon, then called on Robert Tyson, attorney for Steuben Rural Electric Cooperative, who gave the results of the 2022 board election. This year, there were three districts on the election ballot - Districts 1, 2 and 9. James McCormick, of District 1, Janice Hoad, of District 2 and William H. Moss III., of District 9, all ran unopposed and were reappointed to another three-year term. Also on the election ballot was District 4. Walter Longwell, of District 4, ran unopposed and was appointed to fill the remaining one year of a three-year term.

The board recognized the following for their years of service to the Cooperative; Gordon Foster, Director 40 years; Kim Cruse, Bookkeeper 10 years; and Nick Hess, Forester 5 years.

Two hundred twenty-four members registered at the annual meeting. Next year's meeting is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, October 14th.



2022 Annual Membership Meeting - Board of Directors



Line workers - Evan Green and Douglas Hosmer-Smith



Members enjoying donuts, cheese, and coffee



Present/Retired Employees - Doug Hildsdorf, Tracy Davis, and Richard Swift

HOLIDAY MESSAGE

As you go about your lives this time of year, the glow of decorated homes, the hustle and bustle of businesses, and the sights and sounds of families gathering for celebrations remind us of the importance of our work.

SREC remains dedicated to ensuring your safety and comfort throughout the year. It is a great responsibility and a great privilege to be an essential part of your daily lives at both your homes and your businesses.

Cooperative employees and members have worked together through all seasons as we continue to meet challenges and opportunities on our path to success.

On behalf of the dedicated staff and leadership of Steuben Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc., I extend warm wishes for a holiday season filled with peace and joy. I am grateful for you, SREC members, for your continued support and wish you a wonderful new year.

— James McCormick, Board President

Energy Saving Resolutions You Can Afford to Keep

1. Set the water heater temperature to 120 degrees.
2. Get a water heater blanket.
3. Seal air leaks around windows, doors, and plumbing.
4. Turn off lights when you leave the room.
5. Replace regular bulbs with LED light bulbs.
6. Unplug electronics and chargers not in use.
7. Use a programmable thermostat.
8. Run only full loads in the washer or dishwasher.
9. Use a smart power strip for electronics.
10. Adjust your thermostat when going to bed or leaving home.

Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act Update

The Climate leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA) is a plan signed into law on July 18, 2019 to address climate change and reach net zero emissions in New York State. This legislation calls for 70% of New York State's electricity to come from renewables by 2030 and 100% zero emissions electricity by 2040. Furthermore, this ambitious legislation calls for economy-wide emissions reduction of 85% from 1990 levels by 2050.

The Climate Action Council (CAC) is a 22-member Council co-chaired by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and NYSERDA. The CAC was tasked with the development of a Draft Scoping Plan, which will serve as the path to implementation of the CLCPA and overall climate goals. This Draft Scoping plan was issued on December 30, 2021 and was open for public comments until July 1, 2022.

We encourage members to review the Draft Scoping Plan and Draft Scoping Plan Overview. For additional information on the Draft Scoping Plan, please visit: <https://climate.ny.gov/Our-Climate-Act/Draft-Scoping-Plan>. Some of the key recommendations to meet the energy goals include:

- ◇ Moratoriums on new gas and fossil fuel infrastructure
- ◇ Methane emissions mitigation in waste and agriculture
- ◇ Large-scaled carbon sequestration opportunities include lands and forests and negative emissions technologies
- ◇ Substantially reduce vehicle miles traveled while increasing access to public transportation
- ◇ No new natural gas service to existing buildings
- ◇ Prohibit propane, natural gas and oil equipment in new homes in 2024
- ◇ Prohibit/limit traditional heating systems in existing homes in 2030
- ◇ Ban use of natural gas appliances (dryers, stoves, etc.) in homes in 2030
- ◇ No gasoline vehicles sold in New York in 2035
- ◇ Acknowledges need for nuclear facilities through 2029
- ◇ Low carbon fuels such as bio-energy or green hydrogen have a role
- ◇ Investments in development of zero emitting resources

On or before January 1, 2023, the Climate Action Council must submit the final scoping plan to the governor, the speaker of the assembly and the temporary president of the senate and post such plan on its website. With warning signs from other states regarding overall grid stability, such as California, we need to ensure that policymakers are taking responsible steps to protect the dependability of the New York State grid. Without rapid advancement in technology, questions about grid stability and safety are serious concerns.

We are also concerned with the financial impact that this may have in other sectors of the economy for our membership. In our low-income and low populations density territories that we serve, the costs associated with upgrading homes, coupled with the necessary distribution system upgrades, will have a crippling effect on our most vulnerable communities without significant resources and support from State programs. As published by the CAC, the costs for the transition are estimated to be in the range of \$280-340 billion. This is a significant cost to our member, when New York contributes approximately four-tenths of one percent of global greenhouse gas emissions.

The goal of transitioning into less dependence on fossil fuels and contributing to a cleaner future is a must. Respectively, we need to be sure that the costs are manageable and grid reliability is not jeopardized. Steuben Rural Electric Cooperative has filed public comments on several draft plans and proceedings related to the CLCPA jointly with other public power utilities, citing many of these issues. We will continue to keep our members informed about energy related issues in our quarterly newsletters and through social media.



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Energy-Efficient Holiday Decorating Tips

With the holidays here and home decorating to do, costs and energy savings should be on the brain. So as you put the finishing touches on that giant lighting display, be sure to read these energy-efficient holiday decorating tips below:

BUY LED LIGHTS

Those old incandescent holiday lights you have been putting up forever are terribly inefficient, and despite careful storage, often emerge only halfway lit with many being tossed in landfills. Instead, save a bundle by replacing them with energy star qualified LED light strands. In addition to using 70% less energy than traditional bulbs, they're brighter, eco-friendly, and are safer, as they are much cooler than incandescent lights. In addition, they are easier to install. Multiple strings of LEDs can be connected end-to-end without overloading a wall socket. They last ten times longer, have no filaments or glass to break, and costs are similar to the age-old standard.



USE LIGHT TIMERS TO SAVE

Set timers for lights to automatically turn on when it gets dark and off in the middle of the night. You can save money by keeping light displays on only 8 hours of the evening (when you can see them).

CREATIVE DECORATING

Not everything is about strands of lights. Reflective ornaments and tinsel are just as bright at night, so getting creative with your lighting display can multiply your resources for shine. You could even mirror your next door neighbors' frighteningly costly display with a string of silver bells on your railing. Don't forget the ribbons, wreaths, garland, and tinsel, for electricity-free age-old traditions that still bring holiday cheer.

Steuben Rural Electric Co-op Interdepartmental News

SREC Director Achieves Credential in Today's Electric Utility Competencies



Edward Borkowski recently received the Credentialed Cooperative Director (CCD) Certificate from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA). An every-changing business environment has imposed new demands on electric cooperative directors, requiring increased knowledge of changes in the electric utility business, new governance skills and a solid knowledge of the cooperative principles and business model. SREC has a commitment to work through NRECA to sharpen this body of knowledge for the benefit of their electric cooperative consumer-owners. The CCD prepares directors to fulfill their fiduciary duty as elected directors serving on behalf of their membership. Congratulations Edward on achieving your CCD Certificate!

SREC Welcomes New Board Member



At the annual meeting held on Saturday, October 15, 2022 the members elected Walter Longwell to fill the remaining one year of a three-year term for District 4 Bath. Mr. Longwell and his wife Laurie reside in Bath. Mr. Longwell has been a Cooperative member for 45 years. He and Laurie have three sons Greg, Nathan, and Brett and six grandchildren. He is the owner of Longwell Lumber Company in Bath. Mr. Longwell was a member of the Steuben Rural Electric Nominating Committee and was also a Director of the Landfill Gas Project for ten years.

SREC Welcomes New Employee



Steuben Rural Electric Cooperative is pleased to announce the addition of one full time apprentice line worker to our operations department. Marissa Carlineo recently joined Steuben Rural Electric in the Bath District as an apprentice line worker on October 17, 2022. Marissa is a graduate of Corning-Painted Post High School and a graduate of the Southeast Lineman Training Center in Trenton, Georgia. She previously worked for a local utility company. Marissa resides in the Campbell area. Please join us in welcoming Marissa to the Cooperative. 762000

PAYMENT ASSISTANCE

Need help paying your electric bill?

Here at Steuben Rural Electric Cooperative we want you to know that there are resources and actions to help assist you with your electric bill this winter.

First and foremost, contact us as soon as possible if you cannot pay your bill on time. You may be eligible for a payment arrangement. Your household may also be eligible for the Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP), which is based on household income and size.

The New York State Home Energy Assistance Program provides payment assistance for income eligible residents to use towards their 2022-2023 heating bills.

If you are eligible, you may receive one regular HEAP benefit per program year and could also be eligible for emergency HEAP benefits if you are in danger of running out of fuel or having your utility service shut off.

This year's regular HEAP benefits opened on November 1, 2022. The emergency HEAP benefits component will open on January 3, 2023.

For eligibility, including guidelines and how to apply contact your local Department of Social Services or the NYS OTDA hot-line at (800) 342-3009.

This program helps prevent the disconnection of utility service, energy crisis and long term energy cost burdens for eligible families.

We urge you to contact them immediately to avoid disconnection if you feel you are eligible for assistance.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

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THE TRADING POST

For Sale: 300 6-cylinder Ford motor; Dodge truck parts; some 14" tires; Yamaha moped. Call 607-527-8891 or 607-346-3208.

For Sale: 8-ft, extra wide folding aluminum ramps (1 set). Like new, cost \$250.00 new, asking \$100.00. Call 607-794-2510 from 9-5 p.m.

For Sale: New 2022 Coleman off-road ATV asking \$2700.00. Call 607-359-3896.

For Sale: Kohler & Campbell Piano, very good condition - \$150.00; Mad River canoe, good condition - \$500.00; exterior steel door (80"x32") - \$150.00; pressure treated deck section w/ approx. 30 spindles - \$25.00; Brother Copier,

good condition - \$40.00; firewood - \$45.00. Call 607-661-6348.

For Sale: Animal lures & baits, deer lures & cover scents, hunting/trapping supplies. Supply catalog - \$1.00. Bill Russ Trading Post in Addison. Call 607-359-3896.

For Sale: Trapping supplies. Grandview Fur Center in Bradford. Call 607-583-4600.

Wanted: Raw fur & deer hides. Grandview Fur Center in Bradford. Call 607-583-4600.

Free: Electric organ, very good, medium size. Call 607-359-3896.



CHECK THE LIST... Unclaimed Capital Credits

A list of unclaimed capital credit checks can be found at <https://steubenrec.coop/capital-credit-information>.

Statement of Nondiscrimination

Steuben Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc., is an equal opportunity provider and employer. In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, domestic violence victim status, family/parental status, salary history, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202)720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800)877-8339. Additionally, program information

may be made available in languages other than English. To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at: http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by mail:

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410
Fax: (202) 690-7442
E-mail: program.intake@usda.gov

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.



The Trading Post Rules: Only members of SREC may submit ads. Ads must be submitted by the 26th of January in order to be published in the February newsletter. You can submit ads by mailing them to Steuben Rural Electric Cooperative, 9 Wilson Ave, Bath, NY 14810 or by email to kcleveland@steubenrec.com. All ads must be typed or printed clearly. Include your name and account number on all submissions. Ads are not allowed to be automatically repeated. They must be resubmitted for each issue. The cooperative reserves the right to edit material for content and/or space as necessary. Ads are published on a first-received basis with no guarantee your ad will appear.

Disclaimer: Items in the Trading Post are published at the request of our members. SREC does not endorse, recommend or assume any responsibility for the products advertised.

HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

- Dec. 23 - Christmas Holiday
- Dec. 26 - Christmas Holiday
- Jan. 2 - New Year's Holiday
- Jan. 16 - Martin Luther King Jr.
- Feb. 20 - President's Day

THIRD PARTY NOTIFICATION

In accordance with the provisions of the New York Codes, Rules and Regulations, Steuben Rural Electric Cooperative is required to permit a residential member to designate, in writing a third party to receive a copy of every notice of disconnectinuance of service to the member, provided that such third party indicated in writing a willingness to receive these notices, please contact the main office at (607) 776-4161 for a copy of the applicable paperwork.



\$10 IS HIDING IN THIS ISSUE

Please read your newsletter carefully. If you spot your account number hidden in this newsletter, please contact Steuben Rural Electric Cooperative immediately to claim a \$10 credit on your bill!

