LIGHTPOST-1/r--

Published for members of Northeastern Rural Electric Membership Corporation

JULY/AUGUST 2019

NREMC.com



Join us for a fun evening September 7

Saturday, September 7, promises to be one of the most unique Member Appreciation Nights we've ever had!

This year, during our Member Appreciation Night and Annual Meeting, be entertained by one of the most popular a capella groups in the country – VoicePlay. VoicePlay came onto the music scene when they were named a top finalist on NBC's singing competition show – *The Sing Off.* Since their television debut the group has been performing their family-friendly, humor-filled shows to sell out crowds across the United States and abroad.

And now they are bringing their antics to the stage at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum in a private free concert just for Northeastern REMC members. If you haven't seen a professional a capella group perform, you shouldn't miss this. It will amaze you that despite the sounds of full instrumentals, their complete show is performed using their voices only. Their performance includes hits from Broadway shows, Disney, country and classic rock. Many of their performances can be found on YouTube.

Here are some details you'll need to know for September 7:

- Doors open at 5:30 p.m.
- Reservations are not required. To register, simply bring the top portion of the ballot you will receive in the mail in August
- Register by 7 p.m. and receive a free gift
 PLUS a \$10 energy bill credit
- Four directors will be elected to the board of directors
- Enjoy the Family Fun Area face painting, caricatures, photo-ops, and more
- Bucket truck rides for children over 50 inches tall
- Exhibit area featuring an all-electric vehicle
- Special guest Icy, the Komet's mascot
- Win front row seats for the concert and a photo-op with the performers

All members will receive a ballot and instructions for voting in a specially-marked envelope that will arrive in the mail in early August. Members have the opportunity to vote for directors online, by mail, in our office lobby, or during our Member Appreciation Night. See candidate bios on next page. All pre-meeting voting ends September 4.

Four board members to be elected during annual meeting

As a member of Northeastern REMC you can have a direct voice in how it operates. Each year every REMC member is given the opportunity to elect fellow members to its board of directors. This privilege is unique in that most other electric utilities do not allow their customers to select its board members.

On Saturday, September 7, four directors will be named to our board. Directors selected to represent Districts 5, 6 and 7 will serve a three-year term. The district 9 director will be finishing the unexpired term of former director Jane Scott. Every REMC member has the opportunity to vote for all district directors. Voting is not limited to the district in which you live. Votes can now be cast online, by mail, in our lobby, or at our annual meeting.

We value your input and encourage you to vote for our leadership and to attend our Member Appreciation Night and Annual Meeting to show support of your electric cooperative. We look forward to seeing you September 7.

District 5 UNOPPOSED



Donald Dafforn is a lifetime farmer in Smith Township. Dafforn has represented District 5 on the Northeastern REMC board for 33 years. During his tenure on the board he has completed the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's Director Certification, Board Leadership Certification and the Directors Gold Certification programs. He has represented the board on Northeastern's safety committee for the past 27 years.

Dafforn is a Veteran of Foreign Wars, a member of Farm Bureau Co-op, a member of the American Legion Post 157 and attends Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church. He lives on East 300 North in Churubusco. He is the parent of five children and grandfather to 15.

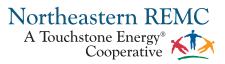
District 7

Vote online, by mail, in our office lobby, or at our meeting!

Voting has been made even easier for you this year. We have added a secure voting option in our office lobby. If you would like to cast your vote prior to the meeting, you can now come in and do it at our office during regular business hours: 7:30 a.m.- 4:30 p.m. Monday - Friday, beginning Wednesday, August 7 through Wednesday, September 4. If you need assistance with the computer, our employees are very willing to help you.

Save the top of your ballot!

Make registering at the meeting quick and easy by bringing the top of your ballot sheet with you when you come to the Coliseum. Turning it in when you register also qualifies you for all the cash door prizes being given away during the night!



N O P P O S E



Ш

Cathy Egolf has been a Northeastern REMC board member for the last two years.

Egolf retired from education after 33 years having taught at Columbia City High School, been a high school principal and a superintendent. She was honored as Indiana Administrator of the Year by the Indiana Association for Educational Office Professionals in 2004.

Egolf is a Certified Covey Trainer and Facilitator for The 7 Habits of

Highly Effective People. She has facilitated and been the guest speaker at numerous meetings and workshops across the country. She has been a member of Rotary International and has served on multiple boards of directors.

Egolf and her husband Gary have been REMC members most of their married life. After retirement they renovated the Egolf Grain Elevator and now call it home. They enjoyed raising two children and now love playing with nine grandchildren.

District 6



Joe Kruyer has served on the board of directors of Northeastern REMC representing District 6 since 2013 and has completed the Credentialed Cooperative Director program. Since 2014 Kruyer has served as Facilities Engineering Manager for BAE Systems. In this capacity he manages facilities and plant engineering.

For over five years prior to his transition to BAE Kruyer was the Plant Mechanical Engineer at Steel Dynamics in Columbia City. In this

capacity he oversaw operation of the plant's water treatment facilities, utilities and fire protection systems. He also led construction and maintenance projects from bidding stage through completion and start-up.

For 22 years prior to joining SDI, Kruyer worked for General Motors Corporation where his responsibilities involved supervision, project management, plant/facilities engineering, maintenance and manufacturing engineering. He also served on GM's Energy Conservation Team.

Kruyer earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree from the University of Notre Dame and a Bachelor of Science Degree in Environmental Engineering from Purdue University. He also earned a Masters Degree in Manufacturing Engineering from General Motors Institute (GMI) and a Masters Degree in Facilities Engineering and Design from Kettering University.

An REMC member since 1987, Kruyer lives on Bent Tree Lane in the Glens of Liberty Mills and attends The Chapel. He has two children and five grandchildren. Kruyer volunteered as the site captain/construction supervisor during the creation of the Three Rivers Junction Playground in Indian Trails Park. He has also volunteered for mission work in Belize and Guatemala as well as storm relief work in Mississippi and Indiana.



John Harvey Lawrence, manager of Excellent Value LLC, has lived at 5925 Hemingway Run in the Woodlands of Liberty Mills in Southwest Allen County since September, 2018. He has been doing business in Indiana for over 20 years, managing seven LLC's which own 14 properties in the area including an all-electric home.

Lawrence earned a BS Degree in Printing Equipment Design from Rochester Institute of Technology and a MBA, with a concentration

in Finance and Case Studies, from Northern Illinois University. Lawrence worked his way through college as a project engineer, surveyor and estimator and worked with Westinghouse engineers on quality control during the construction of a nuclear power plant.

Lawrence's career has involved new business development, developing technical contracts, and the purchase and production of high-tech plastic manufacturing equipment. He has worked with corporate engineers to specify equipment to include plant electrical supply and distribution, and was a production superintendent responsible for hiring, training and supervising employees. Lawrence collected input from plant engineers and staff on ways to reduce power demand then specified purchase of energy efficiency equipment and scheduled equipment to reduce demand factor.

Lawrence volunteers to assist primarily seniors and veterans in avoiding scams. In doing so he works closely with teams to resolve business concerns.

Lawrence served with 1st Infantry Division of the Army in Vietnam, US and Germany. He and his wife of 52 years, Molly, have one child and three grandchildren.

NEW THIS YEAR!

Candidate Videos

Learn more about your director candidates (a) nremc.com



District 9

Carol Cooper has been a member of Northeastern REMC since moving to the area in 2006. She resides on McComb Road in Huntertown.

Cooper has earned a Ph.D. in Chemistry from Wayne State University in Detroit and is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh's Executive MBA program. She received her undergraduate degree from Wayne State University.

Currently Cooper is Chief Operating Officer of Dermal Research Laboratories. She and her business partner hold several patents for oral and topical pain relievers for both people and animals. For 25 years prior to this she was involved in product development, purchasing and internal consulting for the Bayer Corporation in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and Raleigh, North Carolina. Cooper was also a chemistry professor at LaRoche College in Pittsburgh.

In her spare time, Cooper is active in the Sweet Adelines International Chorus and is a big supporter of the Summit City Chorus. She has sung with the Pride of Toledo Chorus and the Towns of Harmony Chorus. Cooper also serves as Vice President of the Fort Wayne area Philanthropic Education Organization (PEO) for which she has conducted educational programs and is developing a local scholarship program for graduating high school seniors.

Cooper has two sons, Mark and Greg, and four grandchildren.

Walker named VP of Member Services

Northeastern REMC welcomes Jaime Walker as the cooperative's new Vice President, Member Services.

Walker has served as the Director of Member Services at Steuben County REMC since 2011. She has held board leadership positions with Steuben County's Junior Achievement of Northeast Indiana and the Steuben County Community Foundation, and is a founding member and former Chairperson of the Young Professionals' Network of Steuben County.

Walker is a native of Auburn, IN and attended Indiana University, where she received a B.A. in Communication and Culture and Journalism. Prior to Steuben County REMC she worked for the World War II Museum in Auburn.



We look forward to having Walker join us at Northeastern beginning August 1. She replaces Doug Ferrell, who retired in May.

Service Availability Charge adjustment coming in September

To maintain the quality, reliability and stability of the services we provide, it is necessary for us to adjust our monthly Service Availability Charge beginning September 1.

Whether you use a lot of electricity or just a little, the cost of getting electricity to each member's location remains the same. Whether you use electricity regularly each month or just on occasion, your electric utility must make the investment in substations, power lines, transformers, and all the services that allow us to ensure your electricity comes on at the flip of a switch. This flat monthly rate is a fair and equal way to allocate the costs of providing reliable service to all members regardless of usage. It is similar to charges that other REMCs and electric utilities bill their customers.

For many years, every Northeastern REMC member has been paying \$19 per meter to cover their fair share of cost, despite the fact that our cost of bringing power to every meter is actually \$36. NREMC's charge is currently the lowest among cooperatives in Indiana. A recent Cost of Service Study, performed by an independent third party, validates the need for an increase. The monthly increase, beginning September 1, will be \$6 on each bill.

The good news is that despite this increase, the average member (using 1105 KwH per month) will see very little, if any, increase on their bill due to a projected \$.05 drop in overall rates to compensate for this.

Northeastern has minimized increases by managing costs and implementing a number of cost-saving measures, strategic planning efforts and increased productivity. Some of those services include automatic payment options, prepay service, budget billing, energy audits and many new energy efficiency programs. Check our web site regularly for updated tools and educational material to help you manage your usage.

SPOTLIGHT

FREE energy consultations!

Is your home not staying cool? Spending too much on energy costs? Let our Certified Energy Advisor help you figure out how to be more comfortable AND save money. No cost/no obligation. Contact Jeanne Hasty at 625-3700, x 403, or j_hasty@ nremc.com.

The best price around

We have the best prices around for Nest programmable thermostats. It is a great way to save money, especially during air conditioning season. Check out our prices and incentives... including up to \$150 credit towards installation... at nremc. com.

Holiday office hours

Our office will be closed on Monday. September 2, to celebrate Labor Day. Most of your member needs, including paying your bill or reporting any power interruptions, can be handled anytime using our SmartHub app.

Our Vision Service, Satisfaction and Safety -Second to None!

Our Mission

To meet our members' on-going need for reliable energy service at a good value while meriting trust and confidence.

2018 Financial Report

Member Owned • Serving Over 29,000 Households & Businesses

Northeastern REMC A Touchstone Energy*

			2018	2017
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS for the year ended December 31	Operating Revenues		\$111,708,065	\$100,749,932
	Operating	Purchased Power	\$89,690,823	\$81,437,805
	Expenses	Other Operations	7,712,638	7,413,458
		Maintenance	2,784,965	2,562,623
		Depreciation	5,003,939	4,740,580
		Taxes	2,058,925	1,895,934
	Other Interest and Deductions		123,762	110,802
	Total Operating Expenses		\$107,375,052	\$98,161,202
	Interest on Noncurrent Liabilities		\$2,065,746	\$2,112,528
	Operating Margins		\$2,267,267	\$476,202
		G & T and Other Capital Credits	\$468,444	\$1,008,719
	Margins	Interest Income	38,020	38,662
		Miscellaneous	298,480	88,993
	Total Non-Operating Margins		\$804,944	\$1,136,374
	Net Margins		\$3,072,211	\$1,612,576
	Assets		2018	2017
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET December 31	Utility Plant	Electric Plant (at cost)	\$141,514,471	\$135,998,270
	ounty Flant	Construction Work in Progress	812,072	897,170
		Accumulated Depreciation	(63,615,105)	(60,697,146)
	Net Utility Plant		\$78,711,438	\$76,198,294
	Total Other Assets and Investments		\$15,655,478	\$16,010,935
	Current Assets	Cash and Temporary Investments Restricted Cash	\$518,634 0	\$773,433 0
		Accounts Receivable	9,783,776	9,037,089
		Accrued Utility Revenues	1,584,778	2,403,629
		Materials and Supplies	1,067,028	1,255,575
		Current and Accrued Assets	351,400	489,554
	Total Current Assets		\$13,305,616	\$13,959,280
	Deferred Charges		\$6,927,505	\$7,755,525
	Total Assets		\$114,600,037	\$113,924,034
	Equities and Liabilities		2018	2017
	Equilies and Li	abinue5	2010	2017
	Equities	Memberships	\$394,155	\$387,660
		Patronage Capital	40,982,311	40,307,466
		Other Equities	13,606,263	12,696,497
	Total Equities		\$54,982,729	\$53,391,623
	Long-Term Debt		\$38,653,532	\$40,232,283
	Current	Current Maturities of Noncurrent Liabilities	\$1,578,780	\$1,871,723
	Liabilities	Notes Payable	5,500,000	5,000,000
	Liubinitio	Accounts Payable	7,891,817	7,556,419
		Current and Accrued Liabilities	5,417,919	5,451,230
	Total Current Liabilities		\$20,388,516	\$19,879,372
	Total Deferred Credits		\$575,260	\$420,756
	Total Equities and Liabilities		\$114,600,037	\$113,924,034
	quou u			\$110,021,004



4901 East Park 30 Drive Columbia City, IN 46725 PRSRT STD U.S. POSTAGE PAID NORTHEASTERN REMC



These guys want to meet you PAGE One

Get to know all your director candidates

PAGE Two



LIGHTPOST

Questions? E-mail memberservices@nremc.com Office Hours: Monday–Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. 260-244-6111 (Columbia City) or 260-625-3700 (Fort Wayne). Line Locating: Please call 811 at least 2 full business days prior to digging.