

From the
**CHIEF OPERATING
OFFICER:**

**A
Special
Day**



by Craig Eccher
*Executive Vice President
and Chief Operating Officer*

By now, you should have received your invitation to Tri-County's annual meeting, which will take place July 9 at the Coudersport Consistory. I truly hope you consider attending.

The annual meeting is a day for you to exercise your rights as a cooperative member. You'll have the opportunity to share your comments, criticisms, compliments, and concerns about the operations of your electric cooperative. Our employees, management team, and board of directors will all be on hand for the event, so think of the annual meeting as a one-stop shopping place for all of your cooperative questions.

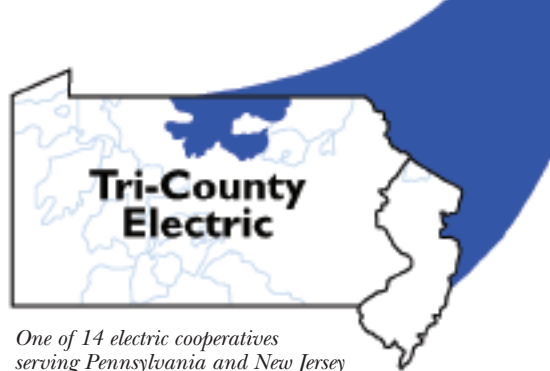
Dialogue with members at these annual events is very valuable to those of us at Tri-County who manage and govern the cooperative. We are able to gain insight into members' wants and concerns. And in turn, we hope we are able to provide members with a better understanding of Tri-County and its operations.

The dialogue that is opened up on annual meeting day has the potential to lead to positive changes that can leave a lasting impact on the cooperative.

That's why we think it is so important for members to join us at the cooperative's annual meeting. As a member-owner, this is your cooperative, after all.

While there, you will not only have a chance to talk with your elected directors and Tri-County personnel, you can also:

- Learn about what's new at the coop.
- Hear director election results. Director seats are up for grabs in districts 3, 5, and 9. The successful candidates will be announced during the business portion of the annual meeting.
- Obtain information about products and services Tri-County offers to members, such as surge protection, energy audits, and water heaters.
- Have a chance to win a great door



One of 14 electric cooperatives serving Pennsylvania and New Jersey

prize, including a television set, and a \$100 electric bill credit.

- Take part in a mini health fair hosted by Charles Cole Memorial Hospital.
- Enjoy a terrific chicken dinner prepared by the Consistory staff.

We've also lined up a top-notch speaker for the meeting in former Lt. Gov. Bill Scranton. He will be addressing members about some of the issues facing rural Pennsylvania.

In addition, we will be offering a high-voltage safety demonstration to show attendees the hazards associated with working on energized lines as well as safety precautions that our line crews observe when working on those lines. A local band, Enchanted Mountain Green, will perform prior to the meeting, which gets under way at 10:30 a.m.

Remember, kids are invited too. We've got a number of special activities planned just for them and will be giving away children's bicycles to three lucky youngsters in attendance.

I look forward to seeing you next month in Coudersport.

*Tri-County's offices
will be closed
Monday, July 4,
in observance of
Independence Day*

**Tri-County
Rural Electric Cooperative**

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative
22 North Main Street • P.O. Box 526
Mansfield, PA 16933
Mansfield – 570/662-2175
Coudersport – 814/274-8740
Web Site: www.tri-countyrec.com
E-mail: trico@epix.net

For Emergencies call
1-800-343-2559

Robert O. Toombs
President & CEO

Staff

Craig Eccher <i>Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer</i>	John Lykens <i>Sr. Director, Electric Operations</i>
Annette Fowler <i>Executive Assistant</i>	Bert Cunningham <i>Director, Human Resources</i>
Barbara Johnson <i>Director, Financial Services</i>	Alex F. Hartley <i>Director, Member Services</i>
Ralph Park <i>Sr. Director, Engineering Services</i>	

Board of Directors

Ferd W. Irish Chairman
Ralph E. Snyder Vice Chairman
Alston A. Teeter Secretary/Treasurer
Donald H. Blackwell	Alfred G. Calkins
James R. Davis	Jay E. Haldeman
Gerald A. Kite	Barbara J. Seeley

Summer Hours

7 a.m. - 4 p.m. (Mon.-Fri.)



Director elections slated for Districts 3, 5 and 9

Democracy will take center stage at Tri-County's 2005 annual meeting next month, with director elections highlighting the agenda.

Board seats up for election this year represent Districts 3, 5, and 9. Only members with accounts in those three districts may vote in this year's election.

In accordance with Tri-County's bylaws, director elections take place on a rotating basis, with three of the cooperative's nine districts electing directors each year.

If your account is located in one of this year's voting districts, you will be receiving a mail-in ballot a few days after you receive the annual meeting notification that Tri-County mails to members in June.

Please review the ballot, cast your vote and mail it back to Tri-County.

Election results will be announced at Tri-County's 2005 annual meeting on Saturday, July 9, at the Coudersport Consistory.

Elected candidates serve three-year terms. Tri-County directors are responsible for representing the needs and concerns of members in their districts. They also establish co-op policies and oversee business operations.

Two candidates are competing for the District 3 board seat. Challenger Nick Reitter is running against incumbent Ralph Snyder. Incumbent Barbara Seeley is running unopposed in District 5. Jay Haldeman, also an incumbent, is the sole candidate for District 9. A profile of each candidate follows:

District 3

District 3 serves members in Harrison, Bingham, Genesee, Osway, Sharon, and Ceres township in Potter County; Westfield and Brookfield townships in Tioga County.



Ralph E. Snyder

Ralph Snyder, retired dairy farmer and John Hancock insurance agent, is seeking re-election as District 3 director. A Tri-County member for 54 years, Snyder is serving in his 10th term as a director and is currently vice chairman of the Tri-County board. He has also served as the secretary/treasurer for the co-op board. Snyder serves on the C&T Enter-

prises and Wellsboro Electric Co. boards of directors. He is a member and elder with the Harrison Valley Christian Missionary Alliance Church and has been active in the North Fork Grange and the Gideons of Tioga County. Snyder and his wife, Beulah, reside in North Fort. They have six children.

"I have a good working knowledge of Tri-County and its affiliated companies," Snyder states. "I have the time and the interest to serve as your director. I am interested in the cooperative and am dedicated to serving the members to the best of my ability."



Nick Reitter

Nick Reitter is a retired professor from Alfred State College, where he taught electrical engineering technology. He also has work experience as an electrician and was project engineer for steam power control systems. A Tri-County member for 27 years, Reitter and his wife, Ann, reside in Genesee and have seven children.

Reitter's community involvement has included serving on the Genesee Library board of directors, church treasurer, member of the Genesee Grange, assistant Scoutmaster, member of the Ulysses Masonic Lodge #556, chairman of the board for Wonder Works, head of the Potter County 4-H Expansion and Review Committee, and teacher with the Potter County Educational Council.

Reitter says, "My background provides me the opportunity to help Tri-County stay on the leading edge of new technology. This can provide the members the best possible service in the most economical manner."

District 5

District 5 encompasses Jackson, Lawrence, Richmond, Rutland, and Tioga townships in Tioga County; Wells Township in Bradford County.



Barbara J. Seeley

Barbara Seeley is seeking re-election as director from District 5, where she and her husband, Robert, operate a dairy farm. The Seeleys,

who reside near Roseville, have been Tri-County members for 47 years. Seeley is seeking her fourth term as director. She is a member of the Roseville United Methodist Church, where she sings in the choir and serves as a Sunday school teacher. She is a member of the Tioga County Sports Hall of Fame, serves as judge of elections for Rutland Township, and competes on the national level in adult softball events.

"My husband and I have owned and operated a dairy farm since 1958," Seeley states. "Therefore, I have had to make many good decisions. We need to think of each member as we make important decisions for our co-op. As your director, I will strive to provide reliable service at the lowest possible cost."

District 9

District 9 serves members in Abbott, Stewardson, and West Branch townships in Potter County; Elk Township in Tioga County; East Keating and Leidy townships in Potter County.



Jay E. Haldeman

Jay Haldeman has been a Tri-County member for 35 years, serving as director for the last 15 years. He and his wife, Pauline, moved to Potter County after Jay retired from a mechanical contracting business that he owned and operated in Manheim for many years. He is a member of the Galeton Masonic Lodge 602, Valley of Coudersport Scottish Rite, Lodge 826 of the Loyal Order of Moose, a trustee of the Sweden Valley United Methodist Church, a retired master sergeant with the U.S. Army, and had served as a state constable, Abbott Township emergency management coordinator, and mayor of the Borough of Manheim in Lancaster County.

"I feel I've made a difference in our co-op during my years as director and am attending upgraded schooling constantly to keep current in this time of constantly and rapidly changing utility industry operations," Haldeman says.

Tri-County selects Youth Tour students

Six lucky high school juniors from Tri-County's service territory will join thousands of students from all over the United States this month for the National Rural Electric Youth Tour, a week-long tour of our nation's capital.

The students will visit historical sites including the Vietnam and Korean War memorials, the Smithsonian museums, National Cathedral, National Zoo and the new World War II Memorial.

Selected on the basis of an application, essay and extracurricular activities, the following students will represent Tri-County on the 2005 Youth Tour: Michelle Kurtz, Northern Potter High School; Anna Geist, Cowanesque Valley High School; Erin Dickerson, Oswayo Valley High School; Philip Risser, Northern Potter High School; Glenn Dunn II, Coudersport High School; and Kaitlin Shellenberger, Liberty High School.



Michelle Kurtz is the daughter of Edward and Bertha Kurtz of Westfield. The Northern Potter High School junior races stock cars, is a youth group organizer for her church and is a children's church teacher for 2- to 5-year-olds. Following high school, Michelle plans to attend a four-year college. Her career goal is to work in multimedia design.



Anna Geist is the daughter of Phil and Susan Geist of Westfield RR 4. A student at Cowanesque Valley High School, Anna plays on the school tennis and softball teams. She is undecided about her future plans.



Erin Dickerson is the daughter of Rod and Kim Dickerson of Shinglehouse. A junior at Oswayo Valley High School, Erin is a varsity member of the school's softball team, plays in the high school band, serves as president of the Pigs-R-U's 4-H Club, is active in Girl Scouts, and volunteers at dinners held at the Gene-see Fire Hall. She plans to pursue a career in the communications field after high school.



Philip Risser is the son of Martha and T. Kevin Risser of Coudersport. He is a member of the Northern Potter High School basketball, cross-country and track teams. He also serves as vice president of Future Farmers of America. Philip's future plans include attending a four-year college to pursue a degree in agricultural education.



Glenn Dunn II, the son of Glenn and Joanne Dunn of Coudersport, is a junior at Coudersport High School. Glenn is a volunteer firefighter and president of the junior firefighters, plays high school football and is active in Future Farmers of America. Glenn plans to attend a four-year college, with a career goal of becoming a mechanical draftsman.



Kaitlin Shellenberger is the daughter of Robert and Kathy Shellenberger of Roaring Branch. The Liberty High School junior is a library aide, volunteers at a nursing facility, has participated in Battle of the Books for three years, and is active in 4-H. She plans to study to be a paralegal following high school.

Those unwelcome signs of summer

Attaching signs to utility poles is not only unsightly, it creates safety concerns



for our line workers — and it's illegal.

Our line crews are required to climb up and down utility poles in all kinds of weather, day and night. Signs advertising yard

sales, parties, or political candidates that are nailed, stapled, tacked, or screwed into utility poles create a potential danger to our workers.

The safety of our linemen depends upon their ability to dig into poles with their climbing hooks. Nails and other metal fasteners can cause workers to slip while climbing, and climbers or boots may get caught on the fasteners, causing falls.

In addition, protruding nails, screws, and staples can cause cuts and other injuries to workers as well as damage clothes or protective gear.

Please don't endanger co-op linemen by cluttering power poles with signs. There are many better ways to get out your message.

Join Us at the 2005 Tri-County REC Annual Meeting

Saturday, July 9, 2005
Coudersport Consistory
Coudersport, Pa.

Highlights

Door Prizes
Lunch
Director elections
Children's activities
Entertainment



Family-In-Need Fund

It's 'common cents'

Tri-County makes it easy for co-op members to help out your neighbors through our Family-In-Need Fund. This volunteer program assists members of the cooperative who have hit hard times pay their electric bills.

Contributing is Easy

The Family-In-Need Fund works this way — you allow Tri-County to “round up” your monthly electric bills to the next dollar amount. The difference between the round-up amount and your actual bill amount — which can be no higher than 99 cents in one month — goes into this fund.

For example, if your electric bill is \$100.32, then you would pay \$101. The extra 68 cents goes into our member assistance fund to help financially distressed cooperative families.

In addition to being a great way to help neighbors in need, par-

ticipating in the program can also make balancing your checkbook easier.

A Few Cents Can Make a Difference

Your donation of less than a dollar a month doesn't amount to a large sum of money over the course of the year. On average, a member would end up contributing about \$6 annually to the program.

But your pocket change, when pooled with pennies from all of the other participating members of the co-op, can truly make a difference for a needy family struggling to keep its electric bill paid.

Here's How You Can Help

If you would like to help others, the Family-In-Need Fund is an easy way to do that. Just fill out the form below and enclose it with your next electric bill. If, at some point, you decide you no

longer want to participate, just call the office and ask to stop.

The success of this program depends on the generosity of members. Please send in your form today.



Yes! I want to become a volunteer for the Family-In-Need Fund!

I understand that my electric bill will be rounded up to the next dollar amount. My total bill will include my monthly contribution to the program, and I am responsible for paying that amount. I also understand that all I have to do to stop contributing to the Family-In-Need Fund is to call the office and ask to stop.

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Account Number: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Your donation is tax-deductible. Thanks for helping.