



MESSAGE FROM THE COOPERATIVE

2025
New year, new
goals, same mission



Glenn W. Miller
PRESIDENT/CEO

As we step into the dawn of another year, I want to express my heartfelt appreciation for your unwavering support and trust in Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative. This year promises new opportunities, fresh collaborations, and continued growth, and we could not be more excited to share it with you! January is only beginning, and our calendars are already full of exciting opportunities to help better serve you.

Keeping the lights on and helping our local communities thrive is a big job, one that demands a commitment to listen and lead. In January, several members of your board of directors will be meeting with fellow trustees at the 2025 Directors Conference, allowing time to collaborate, share innovative ideas, and address the evolving challenges facing electric cooperatives. In addition to the Directors Conference, other board members will be attending National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's "The Road to Resiliency Education Program," which will focus on the board's role in creating a culture of resiliency and learning how to respond to disruptions such as supply chain challenges, inflation, rising costs, and energy transition.

Personally, I will be meeting with fellow presidents/CEOs from across the United States at the annual CEO conference, where we will learn new strategies and methods to improve our leadership skills and gain insight in an ever-changing business environment. These conferences are always exciting and inspiring. We look forward to these opportunities to learn, improve, and grow.

While education within the cooperative is of utmost importance, we also believe in promoting higher education amongst our youth. One day, they will be the

voice of our cooperative and our community. This month, applications will be available for HWECC's 70th annual scholarship competition. That's right: 70 years of investing in the youth of Holmes and Wayne counties. We will be offering 10 scholarships totaling \$20,200, a wise investment to help our local youth pursue their academic dreams. We are happy to report that last year's winner, Ella Saal, is currently enrolled at Ohio State University, studying agricultural science. If you are interested in learning more about this year's competition, please visit our website at www.hwecoop.com.

While we are empowering our youth at home, one of our Class A linemen, will be traveling to Jalapa, Guatemala, in early January to join forces with other volunteer lineworkers in bringing first-time electric access to the village. Upon completion, 93 homes, two elementary schools, one health center, and a few small businesses will benefit from access to electric power. We are grateful for all the co-op lineworkers willing to leave their homes and families for an extended period to empower communities far away. Please keep these selfless individuals in your thoughts and prayers as they embark on this journey. We look forward to sharing more about the experience once the mission is complete.

The first 31 days of the year will be very exciting! And for the remaining 334 days, I am filled with optimism for the innovative solutions we will explore, for the challenges that we will overcome, and for the continued opportunity to serve you.

On behalf of Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative, we wish you a Happy New Year filled with positivity, success, and cherished moments.



THANK YOU

A special recognition to the following employees and board members who are celebrating milestones in their careers with the cooperative. Thank you for your dedicated service to HWEC!



RONNIE SCHLEGEL

Board trustee,
40 years



NOLAN HARTZLER

Supervisor, GIS mapping
& SCADA, 20 years



ROBYN TATE

Human resource/community
relations director, 20 years



TIM VICKERS

Contracting coordinator/staking
tech, 20 years



MATT MORRIS

Class A Ilneman,
10 years



JONATHAN BERGER

Board trustee,
10 years



JUDY BADGER

Member service representative,
5 years

Happy retirement

33 years - Lisa Sutton

(Pictured right) Lisa began her career with HWEC in March 1991 in customer service. Since 2002 she has acted as the billing supervisor. In her retirement she looks forward to traveling and seeing her family more, gardening, hiking, and enjoying time outdoors.

28 years - Lisa Figley

(Pictured left) Lisa began her career with HWEC in February 1997. She has been a member service representative her entire career, you may have been greeted by her at the front desk! In her retirement she looks forward to spending more time with her four granddaughters who reside in Florida, creating more flower gardens, riding her motorcycle, traveling out west, and enjoying the outdoors.



Your dedication and commitment to HWEC have brought you to this moment of well-deserved retirement. Here's to a future filled with happiness!

2025 GRADS

Are your parents Holmes-Wayne Electric members? If so, you could win more than

\$7,600

in scholarships!



Deadline to apply: January 24, 2025

To obtain rules and applications for the Children of Members Scholarship, visit hwecoop.com or your high school guidance counselor.



Winter storm safety

Snow and ice storms can lead to downed power lines and outages. Remember the following tips to stay safe and warm should you find yourself in the dark after severe winter weather.

Never touch a fallen power line and always assume all wires are electrically charged. Report your outages immediately to Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative.

- Text “outage” to 55050
- Mobile app – SmartHub
- Call us toll-free 866-674-1055

When you use our text feature or mobile app, your outage is immediately placed in our outage management system for dispatchers and line crews.

- * Avoid contact with overhead lines during cleanup and other activities.
- * Take special care not to overload a generator. Use appropriately sized extension cords to carry the electric load. Make sure the cords have a grounded, three-pronged plug and are in good condition.

caution, and make sure spaces are properly ventilated to avoid deadly carbon monoxide buildup.

- * Make sure carbon monoxide detectors and smoke detectors are working properly. Test each once a month by pressing the TEST button.
- * Do not use a gas-powered oven for heating because it might go out or burn inefficiently, leading to carbon monoxide poisoning.
- * Do not use a gas or charcoal grill inside the home and do not use charcoal briquettes in the fireplace.
- * If you use a portable generator to power a heating source, be sure the generator is located outside your house in an open area that’s sheltered from moisture. Never use a generator in an attached garage.

- * In the event of an outage, an alternate heating source — such as a fireplace, propane space heater, or wood stove — may be used, but treat any of those with



Holmes-Wayne
Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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