



Glenn W. Miller President/CEO

What does *HWEC membership* mean to YOU?

At the 2015 HWEC Annual Meeting, members took time during the health and information fair to share what being a member of their electric cooperative means to them. We appreciate our members' feedback as we continue to strive for member service excellence in all we do.

I have always been a big believer in the cooperatives. I believe **cooperatives** provide great customer service.

> — Stephen Schwarzwalder, 28-year member

I like being with a group of **people who care** about my family, my home, my business and about the cost. I appreciate the rates. - Seth Yoder,

1-year member

I don't need to worry about

anything when there is an outage. It's back on quick, and if it isn't, they will let me know why.

> — Jeannette Hendrix, 40-year member

HWEC saves me money.

—Ellen Martin, 43-year member

Employees are very **helpful** and **friendly**.

- Susan Howman, 50-plus year member

HWEC has become **much more reliable** in the past few years, which allows us to enjoy life as we know it with many electronic gadgets.

> — Amy Cline, 34-year member

When you call with an outage, the **response time is quick.** — Juleen Wyatt,

— Juleen wyall, 50-plus-year member Really do appreciate that over the years, the **service** has improved.

— Susan Orr, 45-year member

I like **Country Living** magazine. — Paul Y

– Paul Younker, 57-year member

I appreciate the **proactive approach** to tree trimming and line rebuild. *— Donald Packe,* 47-year member

I know **where my money** goes from my electric bill. — Leroy Raber, 31-year member

Board of Trustees

Randy Sprang, Chairman Dave Mann, Vice Chairman Barry Jolliff, Secretary/Treasurer Jonathan Berger Kenneth Conrad Bill Grassbaugh Jackie McKee Ronnie Schlegel David Tegtmeier

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



www.hwecoop.com Facebook.com/holmeswayneelectriccoop 330-674-1055 (local) • 866-674-1055 (toll-free) You can call 24 hours a day to report outages, submit meter readings and payments.

A Touchstone Energy[®] Cooperative The power of human connections®



AFTER WORKING IN A FIELD on a neighbor's farm, Jim Flach parked his equipment and

To stay safe around overhead power lines, Safe Electricity urges farm operators and workers to:

• Use a spotter when operating large machinery near power lines.

• Use care when raising augers or the bed of grain trucks around power lines.

• Keep equipment at least 10 feet from power lines — at all times, in all directions.

• Inspect the height of farm equipment to determine clearance.

• Always remember to lower extensions when moving loads.

• Never attempt to move a power line out of the way or raise it for clearance.

• If a power line is sagging or low, call Holmes-Wayne Electric toll free at 866-674-1055. stepped out of the vehicle. Sadly, he did not realize his equipment was touching an overhead power line, and he became a path for the electrical current as he placed his foot onto the ground. Flach received a severe electric shock that ultimately resulted in his death a few months later.

Safe Electricity shares Flach's story to remind farmers of the dangers of working around power lines and to urge them to take proper precautions when they do.

"The rush to harvest can lead to farmers working long days with little sleep," says Kyla Kruse, communications director of the Energy Education Council and its Safe Electricity program. "It is important to take time for safety. Before starting work, make sure to note the location of overhead power lines."

If contact is made with a power line, stay on the equipment. Make sure to warn others to stay away, and call 911. Do not leave until the utility crew says it is safe to do so. The only reason to exit is if the equipment is on fire. If this is the case, jump off the equipment with your feet together, without touching the ground and vehicle at the same time. Then, still keeping your feet together, hop to safety as you leave the area.

Some additional safety tips from Safe Electricity include:

• Do not use metal poles when breaking up bridged grain inside and around grain bins.

• Always hire qualified electricians for any electrical issues.

• Do not use equipment with frayed cables.

"You need to double check, even triple check, to see what is above you," says Marilyn Flach, Jim's widow. His son Brett adds, "Be conscious of your surroundings. You need to keep your eyes open and beware of overhead lines."

For more electrical safety information, visit SafeElectricity.org. **3**

SAFE ELECTRICITY *is the safety outreach program of the Energy Education Council, a nonprofit organization with more than 400 electric cooperative members and many others who share the mission of educating the public about electrical safety and energy efficiency.*

Berger joins Holmes-Wayne Electric Operation Round Up Foundation Board

Jonathan Berger was recently appointed to the Holmes-Wayne Electric Operation Round Up Foundation Board. The foundation is governed by a five-member board that volunteers time and skills to help manage this important program.

Operation Round Up is a community service program that provides funding for charitable and benevolent purposes for individuals, families and organizations in our local communities. This nonprofit program was established in January 2006 and allows Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative members the opportunity to round their monthly bills to the next highest dollar.

"Operation Round Up has been a huge success story for the members of the cooperative and our community. In the past nine-and-a-half years, we have given over \$442,000 back to our community," said HWEC President/CEO Glenn Miller.

The average contribution by a Holmes-Wayne Electric member is 50 cents per month, or \$6 per year, according to Karole Butler, HWEC member services representative.

"Funds help those who may be going through a rough time or have no other program to turn to," she said. "The beauty of this program is that it lim-



HWEC's Operation Round Up board members are Glenn Miller, seated at left, Lisa Grassbaugh, (standing from left) Johnathan Berger, Dan Mathie and Harold Neuenschwander.

its the burden of individual donations to a small amount, but as a team, thousands of dollars can be generated that can make a large impact in the Holmes and Wayne county areas."

HWEC members who do not participate in the program can contact the office toll free at 866-674-1055 to enroll.



They're adorable and a big part of our families, but even the family dog who plays well with the children can become naturally protective and agressive of its home.

During outage restoration and maintenance of our system, HWEC line staff may be on or beside your personal property to restore or maintain your power.

You can help by notifying HWEC if you have a dog that is not tied up 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 your reliable electric service.

Please call HWEC toll free 866-674-1055 to register your dog.

The HWEC office is closed **Monday, Sept. 7,** in recognition of Labor Day.

To report an outage, pay your bill or submit a meter reading, call us toll free at 866-674-1055 or use our mobile app, SmartHub.

Cardinal power plant tour Thursday, Oct. 1 7:30a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

This is your opportunity to tour the power plant that generates your electricity, located on the Ohio River in Brilliant, Ohio.

If you are an HWEC member who is interested in participating in this educational day to learn where your power comes from, please contact HWEC at 866-674-1055.

Guidelines for Cardinal Tour

Participants must be at least 12 years old. Please note there is a considerable amount of walking, including stair climbing. The walking tour is about one hour.

