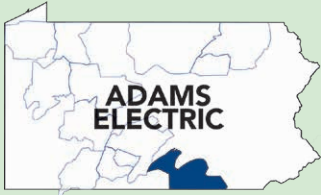




Adams Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



One of 14 electric cooperatives serving Pennsylvania and New Jersey

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Dale E. Myers, President
- David A. Frey, Vice President
- Glenn E. Bange, Secretary
- Thomas J. Knaub, Treasurer
- William M. French
- Jay A. Herman
- S. Eugene Herritt
- Nadine M. Hubner
- F.L. "Ray" Schwartz

Steve Rasmussen
CEO/General Manager

ADAMS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

1338 Biglerville Road
P.O. Box 1055
Gettysburg, PA 17325-1055
1-800-726-2324

GETTYSBURG DISTRICT

1338 Biglerville Road
Gettysburg, PA 17325

YORK DISTRICT

200 Trinity Road
York, PA 17408

SHIPPENSBURG DISTRICT

10 Duncan Road
Shippensburg, PA 17257

DISTRICT OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday
7 a.m. - 5 p.m.*
*By appointment only

Check out adamsec.coop

Like us on Facebook at
[Facebook.com/AdamsEC](https://www.facebook.com/AdamsEC)

LOCAL PAGES EDITOR:
Kami Noel, CCC

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Connecting You to What Matters Most



STEVE RASMUSSEN

ADAMS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE IS NOT just in the business of service reliability; we're in the business of keeping you connected. We connect your homes and businesses to our electric distribution system. We connect your energy bill to programs that could save you money. We even connect you to our everyday activities and recommendations through social media.

If you attended a district meeting in March, you heard lots of good information about how we keep our members connected, which is an overall theme for the cooperative in 2026. We want you to "Get Connected" by allowing us to help you power the things that matter most.

During those district meetings, our directors shared the financial connection we have with members, which is the return or retirement of patronage capital credits to the membership. As a not-for-profit business, we don't keep the margins we earn; we give them back to members. We call these "Ownership Rewards" and in 2026, we returned \$3 million to current and former members who used our power in previous years. (Read more about this on [page 18D](#).)

Another connection we're making in 2026 is the use of Local Energy Efficiency Program (LEEP) grants to incentivize energy efficiency programs in our members' homes. We're coming to you with the switch that saves you money in exchange for making modifications to your lifestyle to conserve energy.

If you aren't familiar with the U-Shift, U-\$ave initiatives, now is a great time to read up on the program and its benefits at adamsec.coop — or you can request a brochure that we will mail to you. Mike Johnson, our manager of safety/key accounts and accounting, reviewed this program in depth during our meetings, and we unveiled a new U-Shift video, which you can watch online.

Mike also shared details on the co-op's new bill design and how all the typical information is available — but just in a new presentation. He also clarified the many questions we've been receiving about the term "Service Connection."

This fee is what we used to refer to as an "Access Charge" on your bill — same expense, new name. It's the charge for delivering power to your home or business every day. It also goes toward the upkeep of a reliable distribution system.

I admit we're still thinking about the new name and maybe we'll change it again. We're really trying hard this year to update our terms to better match them with their actual uses. It's a project goal of ours throughout 2026.

Another goal was discussed at the meetings by Information Technology and Member Services Manager Kyle Smith, who focused on two topics: cybersecurity and member notifications.

More than 20,000 members stay connected to their electric account through SmartHub, the cooperative's online bill-view/bill-pay portal, but that's not its only function. Adams strives to provide additional account management services online while keeping your personal account information secure.

We are constantly looking for new ways to put more account information and options in our members' hands, from increased notification choices (call, text, email) to better and more accessible data about energy use.

Kyle also stressed the co-op's constant strides to protect member data. He provided members with a few suggestions about how they can implement their own protections at home, such as using multi-factor authentication and identifying phishing emails.

Continued on page 18C

Ready When it Matters

KAMI NOEL, CCC, COMMUNICATIONS/MEMBER RELATIONS COORDINATOR

WHEN THE LIGHTS GO OUT, utility workers are ready to answer the call, day or night, to safely restore power and keep our communities moving forward. They take pride in powering the places we call home. Today and every day, we should thank lineworkers for their service and commitment. In April, we take time to pause and recognize the men and women who make power possible every day. On April 13, we celebrate Lineworker Appreciation Day — although one day is hardly enough.

Shannon Knotts has been married to one of our senior lineworkers, Cecil, for about 25 years, and she says it's still tough when storms roll in and the linemen go to work.

"I know it could be days by myself when he leaves, but you learn to be strong and independent," Shannon says. "At first, the missed birthdays and holidays were really hard, but you come to realize this is the career they chose, and you need to support that and stand beside them."

The call to action

When storms impact our communities and outages occur, many people experience the inconvenience, but our lineworkers get a call to action. Our crews are always ready when it matters most — leaving family dinners, working through the night and heading into challenging conditions to restore power as safely and efficiently as possible.

That readiness is not accidental. It comes from rigorous training, deep experience and a shared commitment to serving others.

"I know Cecil, and he knows his job well," Shannon says. "He loves what he does. For him, turning the power back on for that last member is the



POWER COUPLE: Cecil and Shannon Knotts visited Atlanta in 2025 to participate in the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's PowerXchange, which is the organization's annual meeting. Cecil was one of two co-op representatives selected to attend the event.

most rewarding job he could do."

What makes lineworkers especially remarkable is that they aren't just restoring power to a system — they're restoring power to their own communities. They live here. They raise their families here. They understand that electricity is more than a convenience; it's essential to daily life, to local businesses, to schools, farms and emergency services. Powering the places we call home is personal.

Electric cooperatives like Adams Electric were built on the principle of neighbors helping neighbors, and our lineworkers embody that spirit every day. They are the first to respond and the last to leave, often working long hours behind the scenes.

At times, serving our neighbors means going beyond our own service territory through a process known as mutual aid. During major outages, once our own system is stable, our crews stand ready to assist neighboring co-ops — sometimes close to home, sometimes across

state lines — to help restore power. This spirit of mutual aid strengthens all cooperatives and ultimately benefits the members we serve.

"For those longer trips, I tell him every time he leaves, you message me when you're in a safe spot and tell me you're OK," Shannon says. "Those little check-ins make everything good."

It's the little things

We understand that when the lights go out, it can be frustrating, as it brings everyday life to a halt. We are incredibly grateful to our members for their patience and encouragement during these times. Linework is demanding, physical and dangerous. Our employees approach each job with a focus on safety and teamwork. They take pride in their craft and the trust our members place in them.

"I'm confident he's double-checking himself and his team that everyone is safe, and they're doing that for him," Shannon says. "Seeing people out of power for days ... waiting for them to put that last person back on ... it makes my heart happy that they appreciate what he does. But to him it's just worth the smile, the wave, the thank you or the cup of hot coffee."

Lineworkers are the backbone of our cooperative, and we thank them for their service and dedication. To you, we say: thank you for your hard work, your readiness and your unwavering commitment to the communities we serve.

"As the wife of a lineman, you learn how to do all sorts of things by yourself, like start a generator the right and safe way," Shannon says. "You learn to do a lot of things while they're away, but the happiest day is the day he says he's coming home." 📺

Director Candidates Seek Board Seats

THE CREDENTIALS & ELECTIONS COMMITTEE certified three candidates to run in the 2026 Adams Electric Cooperative director election, one each in Zones 3, 4 and 9. Below is a brief excerpt from each candidate's petition packet. For more information on the candidates running for the board, visit adamsec.coop.

Meet the candidates

Zone 3: Glenn E. Bange of Hanover, incumbent



"I have served on the Adams Electric board for 21 years. I was a business owner for 38 years. I currently serve as the cooperative's board secretary and serve on the Executive and Governance committees. I am also an Adams Utility Services Company (AUSCO) director.

I hold all levels of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) director certifications, including Credentialed Cooperative Director (CCD), the Board Leadership Certificate (BLC) and the Director Gold Credential.

My community involvement includes the McSherrystown Fish & Game Association, Green Spring Rod & Gun Club and Calvary Bible Church.

I have been married to my wife, Doris, for 54 years. We have three children and five grandchildren. We enjoy the outdoors, camping, hiking, hunting and ATVing.

I am seeking to continue my position on the Adams board to look out for the best interest of the membership by making decisions so that members can enjoy the advantage of reliable and affordable energy."

Zone 4: Thomas J. Knaub of Wellsville, incumbent



"I retired after 40 years of service in the IBEW Local 229, where I finished my career as a regional superintendent with 39 years of service to I.B. Abel, Inc. I am also a dedicated hobby-farmer.

I have been a cooperative director since 1999 and currently serve as the board treasurer. I have served on various committees through the years, including the board's Executive, Audit and Budget committees. Since 2023, I have served as the Allegheny Electric Cooperative, Inc. board member for Adams Electric.

In addition, I serve as a Mid-Atlantic Cooperative Solutions (MACS) director, an AUSCO board treasurer, and I am an America's Electric Cooperative PAC member. I hold all levels of NRECA director certifications, including CCD, BLC and Director Gold.

My community involvement includes time as a New Bethel United Methodist Church trustee and membership in the Pinchot Park Lions Club, Wellsville Fire Company,

National Electrical Contractors Association, York County Heritage Trust and York County 4-H Club.

My wife, Jane, and I enjoy family time, riding horses, skiing, camping and having quiet time at the farm.

I believe it to be important to not only remain true to the beginning values of our predecessors but to also balance the constant evolution of technology. It is close to my heart to remember to serve and give back to the community. I plan to continue to always be the voice of the members' concerns. I consider it a privilege to serve on the board."

Zone 9: David A. Frey of East Berlin, incumbent



"I have several attributes that help our cooperative to be a valuable asset to its members and the south-central Pennsylvania community that we serve. These include serving as a director for the last five years and obtaining NRECA director education certifications, including CCD, BLC and Director Gold.

In addition, I am seated on all board committees, except the Audit Committee, and hold the position of board vice president. I also served for six years as a volunteer on the co-op's Member Advisory Committee, now known as the Member Engagement Committee. I also served a year on the Credentials & Elections Committee.

Finally, I am a member of the East Berlin Lions Club and have served as its treasurer since 2014.

I have lived in East Berlin since 2001, and my family includes my wife, Karen, and my daughter, Alexa.

I am educated in electric cooperative operations, and I would like to continue in my director role. My career experience with cooperatives and a degree in accounting provide me with management and financial knowledge. I can also commit the time needed to be an effective and productive director." 🗨️

FROM THE CEO/GENERAL MANAGER

Continued from page 18A

At the co-op, we are about so much more than connecting you to the power that re-energizes your cellphone and heats up your coffee. We aim to provide safe, reliable power at competitive rates, deliver exceptional service to our membership, and help improve the quality of life in the communities we serve, all while continuing to power what matters most to you.

It's the co-op way! 🗨️

STEVE RASMUSSEN
CEO/GENERAL MANAGER

Co-op Returns \$3 Million in Ownership Rewards

IN FEBRUARY, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS for Adams Electric approved returning a total of \$3 million in patronage capital credits back to its members for retirements for 2025. These credits are referred to as Ownership Rewards, and the co-op has surpassed \$61 million in total rewards retired (returned) to members in its more than 85-year history.

Patronage capital is the margin that remains after subtracting expenses from revenues each year. It is retained on an annual basis to build and maintain member ownership or equity in the cooperative. This equity provides working capital and is also necessary to obtain long-term loans to build the facilities required to serve cooperative members.

Ownership Rewards exist because Adams Electric is a not-for-profit electric cooperative owned by its members. We don't have shareholders or investors who take a portion of the revenue we collect.

The third cooperative principle refers to members' economic participation. Economic participation is best measured through members' ownership or equity in the cooperative. Every year, the cooperative allocates its patronage capital to members based on their level of electric use or patronage. The new allocation of patronage

capital is added to any previous balance from prior years. As financial conditions permit, the cooperative retires (returns) a portion of the patronage capital to each member.

Each member's ownership is tracked separately and fluctuates because of two main factors:

One: Allocation of Margins. Revenue we record that's more than what we need to operate the co-op belongs to our members. To record how much of that surplus belongs to each member, the board of directors allocates (accounts for) it based on how much of that surplus is attributable to that member. Allocations increase members' ownership or equity in the cooperative.

Two: Return of Ownership Rewards. The board of directors decides annually if and how much money can be retired (returned) to members while still maintaining an appropriate financial position for the cooperative. This retirement (return) of funds decreases members' ownership or equity in the cooperative.

While we can never be sure that each year will bring a retirement (return) of Ownership Rewards, the board of directors strongly believes that you should be rewarded as a member of the cooperative and will do its best to continue this practice in the future. 🗳️

It's Time to Reconnect with the Co-op

THIS ANNOUNCEMENT CONSTITUTES THE OFFICIAL notice of the Adams Electric Cooperative Annual (Business) Meeting to be held at 6:15 p.m. Thursday, May 14, on the Adams Electric Cooperative campus,

1338 Biglerville Road, Gettysburg.

Adams Electric invites its members to attend one of its annual drive-thru meetings and/or the annual business meeting. Pre-registration is required for all events.

Drive-thru events will be held at the district campuses in Shippensburg and York from 2 to 6 p.m. May 13 and at the Gettysburg campus from 2 to 6 p.m. May 14.

Participants will receive a membership gift, bill credit and a meal to take home for each registered member. Anyone who did not vote in the board of directors election will have the chance to vote in person. There will be a pull-off space for members who have specific questions for cooperative staff.

Those who register by April 23 should receive a postcard in the mail as a reminder. Please bring that postcard with you for easier check-in and for your bill credit to be processed to your electric account following the events.

At 6:15 p.m. May 14, the annual business meeting of the cooperative will begin at the Gettysburg district pavilion. No meals will be served. The meeting includes the conclusion of the director election process with announced results, as well as reports from the board president and the cooperative CEO/general manager.

To register, complete the form received with your election ballot or visit adamsec.coop. 🗳️



Don't Get Left in the Dark

IF YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT PAYING your winter heating bills, help may be available. Apply by April 10 to the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). Members in low-income households can apply for cash grants or crisis assistance.

The cash grant is a one-time payment of up to \$1,000 sent directly to Adams Electric on behalf of a member. The payment is credited toward your electric bill. Households in immediate danger of being without heat may also qualify for crisis grants of up to \$1,000.

Emergency situations may include:

- ▶ Broken heating equipment or leaking lines that must be fixed or replaced.
- ▶ Potential service termination for overdue or unpaid bills.

Apply at compass.state.pa.us or call 800-726-2324 to request a paper application. 📄



THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!

Thank you to the member volunteers of Adams Electric Cooperative who give their time and talents to contribute to the cooperative!

Are you a team player?

ADD MY NAME TO ADAMS ELECTRIC'S MEMBER VOLUNTEER LIST!

Please return your completed form or register online at adamsec.coop to volunteer at Adams Electric Cooperative! Selections for co-op committees are drawn each winter from our master list of willing volunteers. If you are not contacted to fill a vacancy, your name will be kept on file as a potential member-volunteer for the cooperative and you will receive a postcard by mail when another vacancy opens in your zone. All registered volunteers, in good standing, will receive an invitation to our annual Member Engagement Group (MEG) meeting!

April is National Volunteer Month!



I WANT TO JOIN THE TEAM! SIGN ME UP FOR ADAMS ELECTRIC'S VOLUNTEER LIST!

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Return to: Adams Electric Cooperative, Communications Department,
1338 Biglerville Road, PO Box 1055, Gettysburg, PA 17325

For more information, visit adamsec.coop or call 1-800-726-2324.

