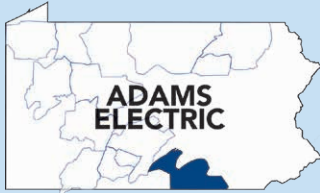




# Adams Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



One of 14 electric cooperatives serving Pennsylvania and New Jersey

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Glenn E. Bange, President**
- Nadine M. Hubner, Vice President**
- Dale E. Myers, Secretary**
- Thomas J. Knaub, Treasurer**
- David A. Frey**
- Jay E. Grove**
- Jay A. Herman**
- S. Eugene Herritt**
- 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](http://adamsec.coop)

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

LOCAL PAGES EDITOR:  
**Kami Noel, CCC**

*This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*

## Communication is Key



*"For outstanding achievement in cooperative communications, including an exemplary commitment to Penn Lines, in informing and educating cooperative members, promoting cooperative principles, and building a sense of pride and loyalty in member relations."*

That one statement says a lot about the role of a cooperative communicator. These employees wear a lot of hats. They have many irons in the fire any given day, balancing internal and external communications for the cooperative program.

The declaration comes from the plaque of the A.D. Stainbrook Award for Cooperative Communications Excellence, which was presented to Adams Electric in November by the Pennsylvania Rural Electric Association.

The award was instituted in 1980 and recognizes the "Pennsylvania" cooperative that through its local news pages in *Penn Lines* and other communications efforts has earned the distinction of excellence in member communications. A.D. Stainbrook was the nation's longest working rural electric cooperative director, serving at Northwestern Rural Electric Cooperative (REC) from 1936 to 1988 and Allegheny Electric Cooperative from 1946 to 1980.

Adams has received the Stainbrook Award 14 times as the sole winner and two times in a tie (once with Northwestern REC and once with Somerset REC). The first time we received the award was in 1983, but the recognition never gets old. In fact, it serves as a yardstick for continued success.

Our communications program has changed dramatically over the years, having had as many as five people in the department at one time. Currently, we operate with two strong individuals serving the mission of our membership. But really, every co-op employee plays a role in communications.

We hold value in that our members and employees need to be and stay informed. That's why we sometimes extend our layout in *Penn Lines* from five to eight pages or use push notifications from our account management system. We often have news to share, and we don't want our members to be able to use the excuse, "We didn't know."

We even go above and beyond for our members, within reason, to try to keep power flowing when a tough situation arises. We host member meetings and drive-thru events, we post regularly to social media pages, we send announcements to the newspapers, use bill inserts, and turn out monthly newsletters for the employees, our residential community, and our business members. Plus, we have multiple committees open to volunteers, especially our new Member Engagement Group. The sharing never stops!

Effective communication encourages everyone to feel satisfied, encouraged and informed. It creates trust and shows that we value your membership and participation. We know the "what" is as important as the "why," and we hope you see that in the decisions of your cooperative.

Don't ever hesitate to communicate with us. We always want to hear from you, and we hope you are taking every advantage of the many ways we are trying to share information with you. 🗣️

**STEVE RASMUSSEN**  
CEO/GENERAL MANAGER

## “Insanity Enjoyed!”

**KAMI NOEL**, CCC, COMMUNICATIONS/MEMBER RELATIONS COORDINATOR

**THAT’S HOW LONGTIME CATERER STACEY** Schlosser describes her love of cooking and serving the numerous events and activities across Adams County, a direct overlay of parts of Adams Electric’s service territory.

Schlosser has created menus and meals for the cooperative many times over and is preparing now for her second venture of serving our Shippensburg membership as the co-op gears up for its member meetings in March.

“We got a ton of compliments on the turkey dinner we served your members last year at the Beistle Company,” Schlosser said. “We heard we had big shoes to fill over there.”

But more than one member must have left satisfied, as Schlosser says her company, Biggerstaff’s Catering, LLC, has since picked up a few new clients in Cumberland County, including Volvo of Shippensburg.

“We left your event thinking things could not have gone better, then a few weeks later we got a phone call that turned into a really great new client for us,” she says.

Schlosser has been in food service since she was 15 and her father owned a Bonanza restaurant in Gettysburg. She graduated from college with a degree in food service management and nutrition in 1999, after which she rejoined her father, this time running the family business, Biggerstaff’s Restaurant.

From 1999 to 2006, Schlosser helped with the restaurant and, in her words, “offered catering out the back door.”



**SERVICE WITH A SMILE:** Stacey Schlosser, owner of Biggerstaff’s Catering, LLC, has been in food service since she was 15.

Schlosser sold the restaurant in 2007 and went full time into the catering business, operating out of a kitchen at the United Lutheran Seminary, Gettysburg Campus, until March 2020.

“When COVID-19 hit, things got rough,” she says. “We were virtually shut down for a year, doing just a few things here and there on a very small scale. Luckily, we were able to



**BIGGER SPREAD:** Biggerstaff’s Catering, LLC provides catering services for events big and small across Adams County, including cooperative events.

hang on and once everything reopened, we were on fire again.”

Around that time, Schlosser took over her current space, a large commercial kitchen at the social hall at the Gettysburg Fire Department. Biggerstaff’s is also the featured caterer for the Hauser Hill Events Center in Biglerville and the recommended caterer for the Beech Springs Farm in Orrtanna. She works with four full-time employees and about 10 part-time helpers.

“We try to make each event exactly what every client wants,” Schlosser says. “There’s no cookie-cutter approach. Your event is special, and so are you!”

Schlosser’s catering events have run the gamut from a full Japanese wedding to a horse event with 1,000 people and lots of grilled shish kabobs. But she says it’s not just about how the food tastes that’s important.

“You eat with your eyes first,” she says. “One thing we do besides cook is the display. The presentation is just as important. Catering is all in the details.”

With so many moving parts, Schlosser says the process still never gets old.

“I come from a long line of wonderful cooks,” she says. “We take one week at a time. One event at a time. Then we prioritize, plan and prepare. Whether it’s using someone’s favorite family recipe, tackling a new challenge or sticking with the standards, the goal is always the same — to make every client happy, especially the brides.”

Biggerstaff’s can be found at [biggerstaffscatering.com](http://biggerstaffscatering.com), or call 717-334-3855 to plan your next event. 🍷

## A WORD FROM OUR STATEWIDE ASSOCIATION...

# Allegheny Addresses Rate Increase for Co-ops

**FROM THE GAS PUMP TO** the grocery store, we've all seen costs going up. Pandemic-driven supply chain disruptions, a war in Ukraine, and skyrocketing natural gas prices have fueled inflationary pressures and cost increases in just about every sector, including electric generation. As a result, energy bills are going up.

In this challenging economic climate, your cooperative generation and transmission supplier, Allegheny Electric Cooperative, Inc. (Allegheny), remains committed to containing costs. We have had a remarkable record of stable and low-cost generation rates over the past several years, but power costs are rising. While your generation rate is set to increase this year, it will still be among the lowest in the region. That's because your not-for-profit cooperative has long made investments to help curb costs to its members.

Today, Allegheny is the energy provider for 14 electric cooperatives in

Pennsylvania and New Jersey, including Adams Electric, and each cooperative holds a seat on the Allegheny board of directors.

In the late 1970s, Allegheny made the decision to invest in a nuclear plant, becoming a part-owner in the Susquehanna Steam Electric Station in Luzerne County. Today, Allegheny's 10% share of the plant provides more than 50% of the energy needs of all of Allegheny's member cooperatives.

Allegheny also owns the Raystown Hydroelectric Plant, a hydropower dam in Huntingdon County. In addition, cooperatives have been receiving generation since the 1960s through long-term hydropower agreements negotiated with the New York Power Authority.

Combined with Susquehanna's output, these investments have helped shield cooperative consumers from periods of intense market volatility. They represent roughly 65% of our power portfolio, requiring Allegheny to purchase only about

35% for our remaining needs. This portfolio has been a bulwark against recent rising energy costs. Whereas investor-owned utilities are subject to 100% of the spikes in market prices, our exposure has been limited to this 35%, helping to temper cost increases.

To further assist consumers, cooperatives are putting revenue toward tamping down generation costs for 2023. Allegheny maintains a deferred revenue fund. The Allegheny board has decided to use a portion of this fund to help absorb the impact of the generation rate increase in 2023.

The decision to raise rates is never taken lightly. It's made by a board of fellow cooperative members who understand what a cost increase will mean to the local community. That's why cooperatives work hard at keeping costs down. The generation rate increase for 2023, while necessary, also reflects that continuing cooperative effort to contain costs. 📌

## New: Schedule Payments in Advance

Like to plan? A new way to pay has been opened online through the co-op's bill-pay portal, SmartHub.

Members can now schedule one or more payments in advance on their billing account. Members may choose to use an existing stored credit card or checking account or enter a new one, within co-op payment parameters.

There are three steps in this process: review your payment summary, select a payment date and method, and, finally, receive a payment confirmation. So easy!

Members can choose to pay today, on the billing due date or on a date of your choice. Scheduling a payment does not extend a billing due date.

Want to see all the other great resources available in our billing portal? Go to [adamsec.smarthub.coop](http://adamsec.smarthub.coop) and check what's available. 📌



**COMMUNICATIONS EXCELLENCE:** CEO/General Manager Steve Rasmussen and Communications/Member Relations Coordinator Kami Noel accept the 2022 Stainbrook Award at the PREA/Allegheny Annual Meeting in November. The award recognizes the co-op's work in Penn Lines and other communications efforts.

## Registration open for March member meetings

AS A MEMBER OF ADAMS ELECTRIC, you and a guest are invited to register to attend one of our member meetings in March.

The meeting dates are as follows:

- ▶ **Tuesday, March 21;** Wyndham Gettysburg, 95 Presidential Circle, Gettysburg, PA 17325
- ▶ **Wednesday, March 22;** Wyndham Garden York, 2000 Loucks Road, York, PA 17408
- ▶ **Wednesday, March 29;** The Beistle Company, 1 Beistle Place, Shippensburg, PA 17257

Learn how Adams is all about member engagement. Hear an update on Adams' rates and how they

compare to neighboring utilities and what the co-op is doing to continue to bring you safe, reliable energy. Candidates running for an open board seat will be introduced and given time to speak, if requested. Exchange your old, intact compact fluorescent lightbulbs for new, more efficient LEDs (limit 6).

Your official invitation will be included with your February bill. Reservations can be made beginning Jan. 1, at [adamsec.coop](http://adamsec.coop) or by calling 1-800-726-2324. Reservations are

taken on a first-come, first-served basis, and space is limited at some locations. Directions are available at [adamsec.coop](http://adamsec.coop); click on the member meeting banner. 📍

March 2023						
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			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

## Applications Available for Open Board Seats

DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT takes to be a director of your local rural electric distribution cooperative?

Now is the time to get engaged in the director election process if you are a cooperative member in good standing and reside in a co-op served home in:

- ▶ **Zone 3:** Adams County townships of Berwick, Conewago, Germany, Hamilton, Mount Pleasant, Oxford, and Union, as well as the boroughs of Abbottstown, Bonneauville, and Littlestown.
- ▶ **Zone 4:** York County townships of Conewago, Dover, Fairview, Jackson, Newberry, Paradise, Warrington and Washington, as well as the borough of Dover.
- ▶ **Zone 9:** Adams County townships of Latimore and Reading, as well as Cumberland County townships of Dickinson, Lower Frankford, North Middleton, South Middleton, and West Pennsboro, and the York County township of Franklin.

Director candidates must meet all membership qualifications as set forth in the co-op's bylaws. The full membership will then elect one director each from Zones 3, 4 and 9 to help direct the business of the cooperative for the next three years.

Each candidate must complete a petition packet, including a personal profile and statement of candidacy, among other requirements. Candidates must also secure signatures and addresses of at least 15 Adams Electric Cooperative members on an official petition.

Candidate packets may be picked up, by appointment only, at any Adams Electric office. All required paperwork must be "actually and physically received" at the co-op's headquarters office in Gettysburg before 5 p.m. Jan. 31, 2023.

For more information, contact the co-op's communications department at 1-800-726-2324. Learn more about being a co-op director at [adamsec.coop/director-responsibilities](http://adamsec.coop/director-responsibilities). 📍

## Linemen Earn Promotions



Ryan Gelnett

Effective Nov. 15, 2022, **Ryan Gelnett**, of Shippensburg, was promoted to journeyman third class in the Shippensburg District. He started with Adams in 2019 as a first-year apprentice in the operations department.



Ty Hensley

Effective Nov. 21, 2022, **Ty Hensley**, of Shippensburg, was promoted to journeyman first class in the Shippensburg District. He started with Adams in 2015 as a first-year apprentice in the operations department. 📍

# Washington DC Bound!



 **Adams Electric  
Cooperative, Inc.**  
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SEE

LEARN

ENJOY

## Make Friends and Memories!

The National Rural Electric Youth Tour program, sponsored by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association and Adams Electric Cooperative, offers current high school juniors the opportunity to travel to Washington, D.C., for an all-inclusive week of fun, learning and sightseeing during the summer before their senior year. Participants get the chance to meet members of Congress, see the U.S. Capitol, and tour national monuments and memorials with peers from around the country.

Sign up for an interview on Jan. 16 and earn your way to D.C. in June by visiting:  
[adamsec.coop/rural-electric-youth-tour](http://adamsec.coop/rural-electric-youth-tour)