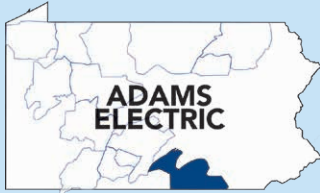




# Adams Electric Cooperative, Inc.

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**
- William M. French**
- David A. Frey**
- 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.*

## A Year for Celebrations



**STEVE RASMUSSEN**

**AS WE PREPARE FOR OUR** 85th anniversary celebration in 2025, International Cooperative Alliance is preparing its own significant recognition.

The International Year of Cooperatives (IYC) will be celebrated this year by the United Nations. Its importance is centered around promoting cooperative businesses and their contributions to our communities. The celebration serves to raise awareness and understanding about the vital role cooperatives play.

The IYC draws attention to the effectiveness of the cooperative business model — that goals are achievable by fostering inclusive, sustainable practices. The 2025 theme, “Cooperatives Build a Better World,” underscores this commitment to sustainability and social responsibility.

This celebration provides an opportunity for various co-op businesses — like Adams Electric Cooperative, Members 1st Federal Credit Union, ACE Hardware, Knouse Foods, Land O’ Lakes, Ocean Spray and many others — to come together to promote cooperative principles and practices. It encourages cross training on programs and resources aimed at improving the skills and knowledge necessary for effective cooperative management and operation.

The International Cooperative Alliance is leading the charge in representing cooperatives worldwide, offering insights on how cooperatives operate globally while advocating for policies that support program growth.

Adams Electric has been working across the aisle for 85 years to promote cooperative advancement locally, nationally and internationally.

Here at home, Adams Electric participates in America’s Electric Cooperatives PAC and has been doing so since the first political action committee (PAC) program began in 1986. In 2007, the co-op added a PAC program just for members and has been recognized 20 times with the Harry M. Burrows Award for outstanding achievement in communicating the importance of the PAC’s work. Ask any co-op employee how you can participate.

Voices for Cooperative Power (VCP) is our national brand for stronger energy policy. VCP is dedicated to transforming rural communities by educating policymakers on the community-based approach that electric cooperatives take to keep the lights on. As job creators, economic drivers and, most importantly, community members, co-ops play a key role in the future of rural America. Policy decisions impact co-op members in different ways. VCP members understand the power of voting and help prepare voters on rural and energy-related issues. You can join us and your neighbors in advocating for affordable, reliable energy at [voicesforcooperativepower.com](http://voicesforcooperativepower.com).

Finally, internationally, we have a partnership with a sister cooperative in Costa Rica to promote better and safer work practices. For the past 40 years, or nearly half of our own existence, we have actively worked with Coopelesca R.L., headquartered in Ciudad Quesada. As sister cooperatives, Adams Electric and Coopelesca exchange information about rate design, member services, management techniques, operations and engineering practices, training opportunities, and financial matters. We have shared in their successes and they in ours, and through it all, we have gained a greater appreciation for rural electrification in Latin America and have been fortunate to assist as rural Costa Rica has grown and developed.

As you engage with us over the next year, we hope our mission to live and sustain the cooperative business model and its principles is evident in our interactions with you. May we jointly celebrate your co-op and cooperatives globally this year as we build on a legacy that will power our future. 🌐

**STEVE RASMUSSEN**  
CEO/GENERAL MANAGER



## Helping Members in Hard Times

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

### “EVERY LIFE TRANSFORMED.”

That’s the vision of New Hope Ministries, a social service agency that helps its neighbors in times of need. New Hope’s unique footprint almost perfectly overlays the Adams Electric Cooperative service territory.

In late 2024, the co-op launched a Hardship Fund through New Hope that allows co-op members to receive assistance once a year as their needs warrant and as funds remain available. Serving our co-op members are New Hope centers in Dillsburg, Dover, Hanover, Littlestown, Mechanicsburg and New Oxford.

“The goal is to help our members struggling financially to get their electric account in good standing, while receiving budgeting assistance,” says Rebecca Witherow, member services coordinator for Adams Electric.

New Hope’s Dollars and Sense class is a basic money-management course focused on increasing income and decreasing spending, and it is a requirement for any member requesting payment assistance for their bill. The class is offered about every two weeks, depending on the New Hope location.

“Our budget class is a great tool for anyone to navigate a household budget,” says Alicia Roth, program assistant with New Hope. “There is always something new someone can take away from the class to apply to their budget.”

The Hardship Fund is supported through donations and contributions made by members, employees, directors and the co-op to our Project Helping Hand (PHH) assistance fund. That fund is held as a pass-through account at the Adams County Community Foundation.

Those receiving assistance must be the co-op member with their name on the electric account, and the funds must go toward a member’s electricity at their primary residence. There are also some restrictions on the fund distribution, such as the member must enroll in the co-op’s Round Up program, which feeds back to PHH, and they cannot use the funds for fees, security deposits or meter tampering charges.

“The Hardship Fund is a huge blessing to the community of Adams Electric members,” Roth says. “It’s a benefit having this new program available when there may be limited resources or financial assistance in their area. New Hope Ministries is proud to administer the Hardship Fund for Adams Electric and to assist its consumers with additional resources and/or services they might not have known about.”

A “four-star charity,” New Hope supports its clients with food and basic needs, as well as workforce development programs, housing assistance, transportation assistance, youth programs, and financing and stability initiatives.

To learn more about New Hope or the Hardship Fund, reach out to any New Hope Ministries location or visit [nhm-pa.org](http://nhm-pa.org).



**SEED MONEY:** Representatives from Adams Electric Cooperative present a check to staff at New Hope Ministries in Dillsburg. The funding provides the seed money for a new Adams Electric Hardship Fund for members in need. Shown, from left, are: Rebecca Witherow, the cooperative’s member services coordinator; Kami Noel, the co-op’s communications/member relations coordinator; New Hope’s Program Director Sue Fornicola; and Program Assistant Alicia Roth.

## NOTICE OF UNCLAIMED PROPERTY

Adams Electric Cooperative is a member-owned organization, and members as well as former members may receive retired patronage capital credits (Ownership Rewards). As a member or former member, you were provided with an Ownership Rewards check from Adams Electric in March 2024. As members move off our lines or relocate to different properties, they may have an unclaimed Ownership Rewards check of \$50 or more that was issued, but not cashed or deposited.

Adams Electric wants to ensure these unclaimed funds are paid to the rightful consumer-member before the funds are turned over to the state and then used as appropriate under applicable law. Therefore, members and former members are urged to check the list of names at [adamsec.coop](http://adamsec.coop) to see if we owe you money. To inquire about any potentially unclaimed Ownership Rewards, please call 800-726-2324.

## Reminder: Rates are Increasing on February Bills

**ADAMS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.** is committed to providing the most reliable power at the lowest reasonable cost for service. Your board of directors works diligently to minimize rate increases. To ensure the financial stability of the cooperative, your board voted in November 2024 to raise rates Jan. 1, 2025.

For the average residential consumer-member who uses 1,250 kilowatt-hours (kWh) of electricity per month and is served under rate class RES-01, this will amount to an increase of about \$9.75 a month. This 5.2% increase may be lower or higher, depending on your individual electric usage and rate classification with the cooperative.

Even with this adjustment, the co-op's rates are comparable to or below other neighboring utilities, which are experiencing much higher increases. Members are always encouraged to consider how they can reduce their own energy expenses to save on their electric bills. The cooperative offers tips for saving energy on [adamsec.coop](http://adamsec.coop) and can also provide printed resources on energy efficiency incentives and money-saving programs, like U-Shift, U-\$ave.

The rate adjustment will first appear on your February billing statement and includes an increase in both energy supply and distribution. In simple terms, the energy charge is the cost for electricity being generated, or purchased, and delivered to the cooperative. This is directly passed through to the membership with no mark-up.

The wholesale power cost adjustment, which the co-op uses each year to re-balance the over- or under-collection of energy charges for the previous year's billed amount, is decreasing to \$0.001 per kWh per month.

The distribution charges correlate to the cost of delivering electricity from the co-op to each member home, in addition to the cost of maintaining reliable poles, wires and equipment. The monthly access charge will increase by about \$2.25 per month and reflects the costs the co-op incurs to maintain the equipment connected to your home, regardless of how much electricity you use regularly. The per-kWh charge will increase to \$0.033 per month. The storm reserve is holding steady at \$1.25 per month. 📌

## Director Petitions Available

Members interested in running for the board of directors may pick up a candidate petition packet at any Adams Electric office. All required paperwork must be physically received at the co-op's headquarters office in Gettysburg before the close of business on Jan. 30.

This year, the membership will elect one director each from Zones 2, 6 and 7, to help direct the business of the cooperative for the next three years. The incumbents and their intentions on running again are as follows:

**Zone 2:** Jay Herman of East Berlin is planning to run for re-election.

**Zone 6:** Nadine Hubner of Felton **will not** seek re-election.

**Zone 7:** William French of Shippensburg was appointed in July to fill an unexpired board term. He is planning to run in the election.

Winners will be announced at the annual meeting in May. Any member in good standing may run for the seat in their respective zone by completing the required paperwork. For more information on director zones or the election process, visit [adamsec.coop](http://adamsec.coop) or call 800-726-2324. 📌



BRIAN KIMBALL PHOTOGRAPHY

**BIRD'S EYE VIEW:** Adams Electric Cooperative lineworkers install a utility pole at the West Manchester Township Farmers and Sportsmen Association in Dover, York County. The cooperative donated the pole along with two others and wire to help power the group's pistol and rifle ranges for security and general use. Shown setting the pole are York District Lead Lineman Vic Brammann, left, and Chris Gilbertson, running the digger derrick. Brian Kimball of Brian Kimball Photography took the photo using a drone. Kimball is vice president of the association's board.

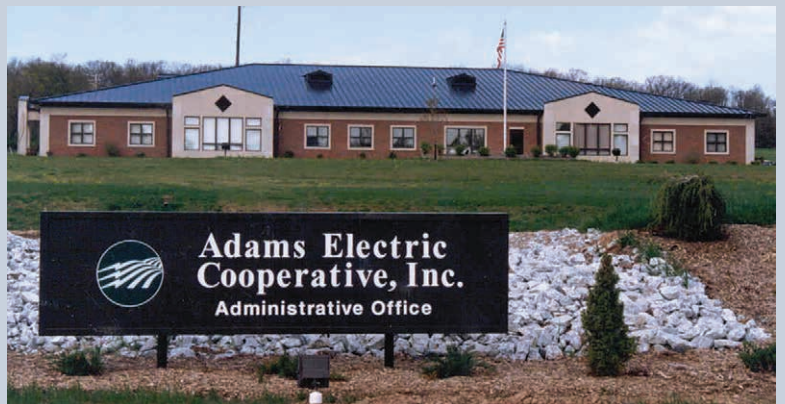


**IT'S AN HONOR:** State Sen. Doug Mastriano, left, presents Adams Electric Cooperative CEO/General Manager Steve Rasmussen with a certificate of appreciation for our lineworkers who traveled down South after Hurricane Helene in September 2024. The senator thanked the co-op for sending assistance to North Carolina for 17 days to help with power restoration and for its dedication to the cooperative mission.



**BRINGING PEOPLE TOGETHER:** Adams Electric Cooperative hosts a listening session on behalf of the newly formed Pennsylvania Rural Population Revitalization Commission in Gettysburg. Shown, from left, are Dr. Kyle Kopko, the commission's chairman and executive director of the Center for Rural Pennsylvania; state Secretary of Agriculture Russell Redding, a co-op member; and Adams Electric Director Gene Herritt. The commission has been meeting with rural residents across the state to discuss the challenges they're facing and to develop policies to address them.

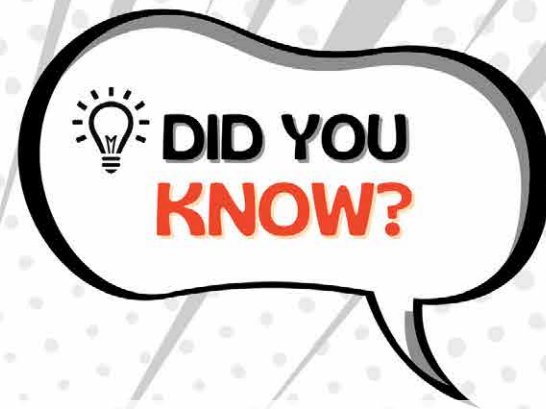
## 85 years: Then and Now



**MEMBERS WELCOME:** These Gettysburg buildings have been the work sites for Adams Electric Cooperative employees. The sign at bottom left used to hang in front of the cooperative's former Gettysburg office on Stratton Street in the 1950s. In the adjacent photo is the co-op's current welcome sign, which stands in front of our present Gettysburg location at 1338 Biglerville Road. This office has been open since 1996.

# Co-op Spotlight

## Getting to know your employees and directors



### Mickey Brandt



**Who I am:** I am the right-of-way coordinator for Adams Electric Cooperative. I started at the co-op in 2020, previously working 14 years in the same field at another neighboring electric company. You may ask yourself, what is a right-of-way coordinator? Basically, a utility forester.

I oversee the Vegetation Management Program for the power lines. This includes overseeing our tree contractors, inspecting tree work along the power lines, running notifications when members call in with tree concerns, storm response and other related duties involving the

program. I graduated from Penn State DuBois with a degree in the forestry field, and I have been an ISA certified arborist for 15 years.

**Family life:** I enjoy family time with my husband and my two boys. Whether it's hiking, family cookouts, my son's baseball game ... I'm there!

**Favorite part of the job:** Working with the members! I have met so many wonderful members out in the field. I also enjoy working with our tree contractors, who are making our rights of way more reliable.

### Dave Frey



**Who I am:** I am the director for Zone 9 and have served on the board since January 2021. In addition, I have earned the Credentialed Cooperative Director and Board Leadership certificates and, most recently, Director Gold credentials for director education.

**Family life:** I enjoy working in my yard, hanging out at the pool and playing bocce ball. I also really enjoy going to Florida to visit our daughter, who lives in Orlando (and because she works for Disney, we go to the parks a lot). I also belong to the East Berlin Lions Club, and I especially

enjoy hanging the club's Christmas lanterns in the borough and hearing residents' comments on how much they enjoy the lights every year.

**Co-op future:** I believe our future looks good, but at the same time, challenging. Let's face it: Increased consumption of power and increased restrictions on power generation sources is not going to be easy. However, with the collective nature of all people involved in electric cooperatives, I feel confident we can continue our mission of delivering safe and affordable power.

### Noah Staub



**Who I am:** I have been a staking tech here at Adams Electric for the past three years.

My job consists of meeting with members to discuss anything from new services, existing services, moving poles, or just whether to subfeed or add a second service. I also meet with contractors and inform them of our current specs for what we need for new service installations.

**Family life:** Outside of work, I spend most of my time with my wife and two children. I enjoy hunting and fishing,

but most of my free weekends are spent either racing Motocross or the occasional Hare Scramble race.

**Co-op difference:** The main difference I see is that, most of the time, we can look at a situation and not see it from a strictly business standpoint; we can stand back and look at it from a member's point of view.

**Co-op stands out because:** Most of our members are very willing to work with us to achieve a common goal. I think that is a direct link to being a part of a cooperative.

