

Bedford Rural Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



One of 14 electric cooperatives serving Pennsylvania and New Jersey

Bedford REC

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President & Allegheny Director

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Colerain, Snake Spring and South Woodbury Twps.

Vice President & PREA Director

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John A. Oldham
East St. Clair Twp., Bedford County
Dale Sprigg II

West St. Clair, Pavia, and Lincoln Twps.,
Pleasantville Borough

Attorney

John J. Dirienzo Jr.

Office Hours

Monday through Friday
7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

From the General Manager



Oldham returns to board

By Brooks Shoemaker

THE death of longtime Bedford Rural Electric stalwart Owen Miller in May left a tremendous void on the board of directors. Pursuant to the bylaws, the remaining board members were obligated to name a successor to complete Mr. Miller's unexpired term. At the June 2016 board meeting, the directors appointed John A. Oldham to represent District 5, which comprises East Saint Clair Township. His term ends in April 2017.

Mr. Miller had faithfully served his fellow members since 1987. Each decision he made reflected a sincere concern for the well-being of the membership. At various times, he had served as president, vice president and secretary of the cooperative. At his death, he was serving as vice president. He also represented Bedford Rural Electric on the board of the Pennsylvania Rural Electric Association, our statewide trade association, from 1999 until his death. His vision and conservative guidance contributed to 29 years of unprecedented growth and prosperity for both organizations. His unique brand of loyal, dedicated leadership will be missed by everyone associated with the cooperative.

Mr. Oldham retired from New Enterprise Stone and Lime after 20 years of service and was also a township supervisor for 24 years. He attends the Chestnut Ridge Independent Fellowship Church, and resides on Adams Run Road in New Paris with his wife, Dorothy. They are the proud parents of six children. He previously served on the board from 1981 through 1984.

Mr. Oldham is eager to serve his

community. As a 56-year member of the cooperative, he also wants to help keep our rates low and affordable. On behalf of the board of directors and employees of Bedford Rural Electric, welcome back to the cooperative family.

Why we celebrate cooperatives

Every October, cooperatives from all sectors across the country celebrate National Cooperative Month. The purpose of this annual celebration is to recognize the cooperative difference and remind you, the members of Bedford Rural Electric, about our purpose.

It is easy to be cynical of the many different "days" and "months" that are celebrated, but National Cooperative Month is truly an opportunity to celebrate. We take the opportunity to educate others about our unique business model, which is based on the seven cooperative principles: *Voluntary and Open Membership; Democratic Member Control; Member Economic Participation; Autonomy and Independence; Education, Training and Information; Cooperation among Cooperatives; and Concern for Community.*

For cooperative employees and members, the month of October is a great opportunity to renew our connection to each other and remember the purpose of our co-op. We remember our history and are thankful for our reliable service and low rates.

In the U.S., there are more than 29,000 co-ops serving in every single industry. Many co-ops from different sectors join together during the month

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Tractorfest planned for September

By Linda Williams

TWENTY tractor enthusiasts will gather to hold the annual Schellsburg Tractorfest from Sept. 23-25. The event benefits the Schellsburg Volunteer Fire Company.

The Tractorfest is held in the field just west of town that will eventually be home to the fire house, as well as a picnic grove and other facilities for holding fundraisers. Ground will be broken for the new bathrooms and the kitchen/dinner-serving facility at this year's Tractorfest. This year, the featured tractor will be Allis-Chalmers.

Activities will begin with a slow tractor race at 6 p.m. on Sept. 23. Other activities will include a tractor ride at 11 a.m. on Sept. 24, followed by a horseshoe tournament at noon, and tractor and garden tractor pull at 2 p.m. On Sept. 25, there will be tractor rides at 1:30 p.m. and a children's pedal pull at 3 p.m.

Last year, volunteers barbecued 312 halves of chicken and stirred up 40 gallons of bean soup. This year, there will be ox roast sandwiches, hot dogs and hamburgers. Saturday and Sunday, the event opens with breakfast at 8 a.m.

Darwin Sensenick and Weston Nolt of Kegg and Roger Groff of Manheim provide a John Deere hit-or-miss engine from Bird-in-Hand to make ice cream. The ice cream is made from a special recipe mixed by Darwin's mother and includes two pints of heavy whipping cream. Ice cream lovers line up to sample the dessert.

Crafts made by local residents will be for sale, while individuals and businesses have gathered nearly 170 baskets



HIT-AND-MISS ICE CREAM: Darwin Sensenick, Weston Nolt and Roger Groff make ice cream using a hit-and-miss engine at the 2015 Tractorfest.

of goodies and items of interest for a combination raffle-auction.

For the first time, a gun raffle will include a Henry Goldenboy American Farmer Edition, Sako Gray Wolf, Taurus Judge 45/410, Traditions Kentucky 50-caliber Flintlock and a Remington 870. The drawing is on Sunday. Other raffled items will be an Allis-Chalmers pedal tractor and several 50/50 drawings.

There will be music by Kevin McCreary, Stormin' Norman and the Revised Editions.

Organizers are expecting 147 tractors, more than 58 garden tractors and at least 20 hit-or-miss engines this year. Spectators come from all over the state, as well as Ohio, Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia.

John Myers of Schellsburg will be bringing his 1917 Fordson F model to the show. Myers paid \$10 for the tractor in 1968 when he found it underneath a barn in Bedford Valley. After years of work, he finished restoring it in 1975.

Terry Myers will display a 1929 McCormick Deering, Ron Clark will have a hand-built Allis-Chalmers designed and built by Ned Whysong, and Horace Drake of Schellsburg has an Avery, which he reports is one of only nine similar ones in the United States.

Victor Booth from near Everett likes to demonstrate his Empire. He bought it at an auction in Gettysburg for a bid of \$5,600. He says it was the same auction that sold a Cockshutt



EXHIBIT: Vaughn Myers of Cessna shows off his antique tractor at the Tractorfest.



OLD FORD: Ed Wolfhope of Schellsburg stands by his antique Ford tractor.

Black Hawk tractor once owned by Dwight Eisenhower for \$32,000. Empire Tractor was established in 1946 in New York City. It was a small general-purpose, light-duty, single-bottom plow tractor using primarily the same drive train components as those used in the World War II Willys-Overland Motors jeep. It was built on conventional lines of an earlier period when channel iron and companion construction were common. They were not sold in the United States. 🌐



AUCTION FIND: Victor Booth displays his rare Empire tractor that he bought years ago at a Gettysburg auction. These tractors were only sold overseas.



EVERYONE WELCOME: Everyone is invited to attend the Schellsburg Tractorfest on Sept. 23-25. Admission is free.



FUNDRAISER: A train of happy kids at the tractor event raises money for the Schellsburg Volunteer Fire Company.



UNIQUE TRACTOR: This unique Allis-Chalmers, designed and built by Ned Whysong, is displayed by Ron Clark.

Bedford Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc. Nondiscrimination Statement

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

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To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call 866-632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

- (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
- (2) fax: 202-690-7442; or
- (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

Brooks R. Shoemaker
General Manager

From the General Manager

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of October to educate members in the community about cooperatives.

There are more co-ops in our local community than most people realize. In Bedford County, we are represented by many different cooperatives, including credit unions, Ace Hardware, True Value, Do It Best Hardware, Bedford County Farm Bureau, agricultural co-ops and food cooperatives. Stroll through the grocery store and find co-ops like Land O'Lakes, Welch's, Organic Valley, Cabot Cheese, Sunkist, Ocean Spray and many more.

More than 130 million people belong to cooperatives in the U.S. alone, and co-ops employ more than 2 million Americans. That is why we take every opportunity to celebrate and teach others about the cooperative business model. Plan your own cooperative celebration by purchasing co-op products, doing business with local cooperatives, and becoming an active member of Bedford Rural Electric. 

EMERGENCY POWER NEEDS

As a service to our members, Bedford Rural Electric needs to be aware of situations where special needs exist. Please provide the following details: (Please print clearly)

Account: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

Cellphone: _____

Email Address: _____

Special Needs: Medical

Farming/Livestock

Other _____

Each year, our goal is to provide service with no outages. Unfortunately, that is not a realistic expectation. Outages do occur and during severe storms, service restoration may take several days or longer. Therefore, we strongly recommend our members with special needs install standby backup generation equipment. Please contact our office for more information on this type of equipment.

TROUBLE CALL SCHEDULE

In case of trouble...

- 1** Check your fuses or circuit breakers.
- 2** Check with your neighbors, if convenient, to see if they have been affected by the power failure.
- 3** Call the 24-hour number, 623-7568, OR call 800-808-2732* during office hours.

**(Please help us save money – only use this number if toll charges apply.)*

Please give the person receiving the call your name as it appears on your bill, your telephone number and your map number if known. Any specific information about the outage will also be helpful in pinpointing the problem.

Alternate numbers ...

Scott Bischof 839-4640 (Week of August 29)
Adam Claycomb 635-3376 (Week of September 5)
Gary Lafferty 842-9925 (Week of September 12)
Troy Mock 276-9759 (Week of September 19)
Greg Miller 839-0037 (Week of September 26)

In case you cannot reach any of the above, call:

Jim Wood 623-6121 (Bedford)
James Clark 652-9791 (Everett)
Mark Rowan 623-7890 (Bedford)

During widespread power outages, many members are calling to report power failures. You may receive a busy signal, or in certain cases your call may go unanswered. This occurs in after-hours outages when the office is not fully staffed. Please be patient, and try again in a few minutes.