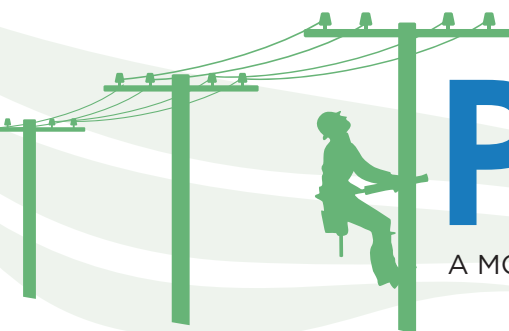


OCTOBER 2022

POWERLINES

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION FOR THE MEMBERS OF WHITEWATER VALLEY REMC



MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

CELEBRATING MEMBERSHIP



MARY JO THOMAS,
CEO

Fall is a busy time, and October is a particularly eventful month with school, community and sports activities in full swing. It's also when all cooperatives celebrate National Co-op Month.

When I say WWVREMC celebrates Co-op Month, it really means we are celebrating you! After all, our co-op wouldn't exist without you, our members.

Our core business purpose is to serve as your electricity provider, but the larger mission of the co-op is to help make our corner of the world a better place. "Concern for community" is one of seven guiding principles that all co-ops share.

Similar to how our wires run through our service territory, our concern for community flows through all of our decisions — because being a co-op means being a responsible partner and good neighbor.

WWVREMC works to help our community thrive through initiatives led by our employees and local board that's comprised of neighbors who live right here in our community. Because we're local, we understand our community's unique needs and strive to help meet them.

We're proud to support local youth through our Youth Tour and scholarship programs. With your help, we offer Operation Round Up to provide assistance to our community's most vulnerable. We partner with and support area foodbanks and other charitable organizations such as Connersville Parks & Recreation,

Sisters in Christ, FFA, 4H, Hope Center and our local fire departments.

The word "cooperative" is close to "cooperation," meaning people working together towards a common goal—mutually benefitting one another and the larger community. That's the essence of the cooperative spirit. Our employees and member-elected board members are invested in the community in which live and serve.

Above all, as a co-op we put our members' priorities first. As your trusted energy partner, we know that saving energy and money is important to you. That's why we have numerous programs in place to help, including various rebates, a budget billing program, free LED lightbulbs, time of use rates, and informational resources on our website.

We want to empower you to manage energy use at home. If you haven't already, I encourage you take a moment and download our app, SmartHub. Through the app, you can conveniently monitor and manage your energy use. And we're here to help, so give us a call if you have questions about your energy bills.

WWVREMC is continuously examining ways to operate more efficiently while continuing to provide the highest level of friendly, reliable service you expect and deserve. One way we do this is by surveying our members. Please see page 3 on how you can participate in our current survey. Members who participate have a chance to win one of five \$100 Amazon e-gift cards. And don't forget to stop in this month to receive a special appreciation gift in celebration of National Co-op Month.

As your local co-op, built by the members we serve, we are excited to celebrate YOU this month.

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The due dates for payment of electric bills are **October 19** and **26**.

wwwremc.com

OPERATION ROUND UP® NEWS



During the third quarter of Operation Round Up® for 2022,

the WWVREMC Community Trust, Inc. awarded \$7,250.00 to 11 organizations. All the grants were given to local WWVREMC service area applicants. The hidden account number is 1346904.

Upcoming deadlines for organizations to apply for grants are October 10, 2022, and January 9, 2023. You can find an application for a grant on our website at www.vremc.com.

THE FOLLOWING LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS RECEIVED GRANTS:

Birth to Five | Book distributions at playgroups and group events | **\$700**

Brighter Path Inc. | Equine care expenses | **\$500**

Cambridge City Volunteer Fire Dept. | Replace old tools | **\$1,000**

College Corner Union School PTO | School carnival game rental | **\$700**

Food Bank DBA The Gateway Hunger Relief Center | Funding for growing demand for food pantry | **\$500**

Junior Achievement of OKA Partners/Eastern Indiana District | UCHS career readiness & financial literacy programs | **\$500**

Liberty Elementary School | Create creative play center in each classroom | **\$400**

St. Michael School | Posts and fabric for shade on playground | **\$750**

The Salvation Army Fayette County | Emergency Assistance Program funding | **\$700**

Wayne County Cardinal Greenway | Construct covered shelter at Tingler Road trailhead | **\$750**

Wernle Youth & Family Treatment Center | Carpet replacement in two buildings | **\$750**



Grant Recipient Highlight – Union County Youth Cheer

Union County Youth Cheer was recently awarded a grant of \$500 from the Whitewater Valley REMC Community Trust, Inc. This grant helped the group purchase cheer uniforms. The members of the Union County Youth Cheer who applied for the grant hope that by reducing or eliminating the cost of uniforms, more young girls will be able to participate.

Pictured above is ORU Directors Sara Jane Moyer and Gary Stokes posing with the Union County Youth Cheerleaders.

Operation Round Up® Fall Membership Campaign Begins This Month

It's time for our annual Operation Round Up membership drive. Sign-up during October, November and December and be entered for a chance to win prizes. Submit your pledge before December 31, 2022, to be eligible for prizes. Winners will be selected from all entries on Facebook Live at the end of the campaign.

PARTICIPATION IS EASY Operation Round Up is a great way to help your community. If you are not a participant, simply sign-up, and WWVREMC will automatically 'round-up' your monthly electric bill to help organizations within the cooperative service territory. You may also elect to contribute a one-time donation of a specified amount or contribute a specified amount to the fund monthly.

Since the program began in 2003, donations have resulted in over \$622,500 being awarded to organizations throughout our communities, showing how much our members care about making a difference.

While Operation Round Up is a voluntary program, the more support received from our members; the more lives will be changed!

Complete the form below, checking the appropriate box and fill in the amount of your donation where applicable.

Yes! I want to help our community. Sign me up for Operation Round-Up®

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Account Number: _____

- ☐ New participant, round-up my monthly bill.
- ☐ In addition to my round up, I want to contribute \$_____ each month to Operation Round Up®.
(fill in the additional dollar amount to be added to monthly electric bill)
- ☐ I want to make a one-time contribution. My check is enclosed.



Your electric
cooperative listens.

Help us provide reliable service.

As a residential member-consumer, the better we understand you, the better we can serve you. That's why Whitewater Valley REMC occasionally surveys our members to identify emerging trends in power usage.

With the help of SMARInsights, an independent research firm, we are conducting an online survey to identify the types of heating and cooling systems, electronic devices and appliances you use. This will help us develop plans to provide reliable and efficient electric service throughout our communities.

Participants in the survey will be entered for a **chance to win one of five \$100 Amazon e-gift cards.**



« Scan this QR code with your smartphone
or visit the link below to participate in the survey!
smarinsights.study/WWVREMC

Please have your account number available before starting the survey.



HOOSIERENERGY



Each month we hide an account number in the Powerlines. Did you find it?

ALLEN E. BEACH WINS!

Allen E. Beach, Liberty, found his hidden account number in the August newsletter and won a \$25 bill credit. Keep reading your Powerlines each month because the next hidden account number could be yours!

Payment Options

US Mail

Whitewater Valley REMC, P.O. Box 350
Liberty, IN 47353

SmartHub

Log-on at wwwremc.com.

Pay-by-Phone

Call 844-827-4759. Set up your PIN. Follow prompts.

Liberty Office

In person or in the drop box.

Automatic Withdrawal

Simply request a form and submit it to our office.

FCN or Franklin County National Bank

In person or in the drop box. Bring payment stub.

VanillaDirect

Visit vanilladirect.com for payment locations and details.



For more information about payment options, please call us:

765-458-5171 or 1-800-529-5557

Helpful Information

Liberty Office Hours

7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday

CLOSED SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS AND HOLIDAYS.

To Report an Outage or Emergency

Call 1-800-776-0493, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Login to your SmartHub account and report your outage.

Be ready to provide the following information:

- The name and account number under which your electric service is listed.
- Map location number.
- Your phone number - needed to call back or confirm power restoration.
- The type of problem you are experiencing - flickering lights, complete power outage, etc.

TIME TO SHOW OUR APPRECIATION

October is National Cooperative Month and National Customer Service Week is October 3-7.

To show our appreciation to YOU, WWVREMC will be offering members a special gift*. During October, members can stop in the office and pick up their gift anytime during regular office hours. If you stop in the office during October, you will also be entered into a drawing to win an extra special prize which we will draw for in November.

**While supplies last.*



Bill Credit Winners

Our monthly drawing for five \$20 bill credits from all voting members of the 2022 annual meeting continues. Here are the winners.

OCTOBER

David Frame, Centerville

Thomas E. Perry Jr., Fountain City

Robert L. Smith, Fountain City

Kenneth Powell, Greens Fork

Teresa Downs, Williamsburg



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