

OCTOBER 2023

POWERLINES

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION FOR THE MEMBERS OF WHITEWATER VALLEY REMC

IN THIS ISSUE

PAGE 2

Congratulations to
Ryan Drake

October is National
Cooperative Month and
National Customer Service
Week is October 2-7

Operation Round Up
Prize Package Winner

Employee News

PAGE 3

WWVREMC Linemen
Compete at the 2023
Lineman Rodeo

Upgrade Unlocked:
SmartHub Update
Coming Soon

PAGE 4

Director Candidate
Applications

Bill Credit Winners

October Due Dates

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



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MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

ELECTRIC CO-OPS GROW FOR THE COMMUNITIES THEY SERVE



MARY JO THOMAS
CEO

October is National Co-op Month, and WWVREMC is joining cooperatives across the U.S. to celebrate. Co-ops come in all shapes and sizes, but they each have a common goal: to provide goods or services for the members of the co-op.

Electric co-ops, including WWVREMC, exist to serve their members. Our priority is to provide affordable, reliable energy to our local communities. Because we are led by you, the members we serve, we can evolve to meet your needs.

This year, as we celebrate Co-op Month, we're focusing on the ways "Co-ops Grow" for their members.

Co-ops Grow Communities: Co-ops help communities grow by promoting economic empowerment, fostering community engagement and supporting the unique needs of co-op members. "Concern for Community" is one of our core principles—and being community-focused is essential to everything we do. WWVREMC

supports this core principle with programs like Shedding Light on Hunger and Community Day. In fact, WWVREMC employees and directors will be completing our annual community day project on October 13.

Co-ops Grow Together: Co-ops are all about cooperation, not competition. That's why electric co-ops work together to share lessons learned, successful strategies and better ways to serve our members. We're better when we grow together!

Co-ops Grow Tomorrow's Leaders: Electric co-ops serve as fertile ground for growing tomorrow's leaders through a variety of youth engagement programs. Through our scholarship program, Youth Tour to Washington, D.C., Camp Kilowatt, school safety demonstrations, and other community events, we're committed to providing opportunities for local youth to learn and thrive in our community and beyond.

Co-ops Grow for You: At WWVREMC your satisfaction is our number one goal. It's why we were formed many years ago to fulfill a uniquely local purpose. We've come a long way since then, and your needs continue to evolve. That's why we'll never stop growing for you!



Congratulations to Ryan Drake

WWVREMC board Vice-Chairman Ryan Drake of Cambridge City recently earned his Credentialed Cooperative Director certificate (CCD) from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA). This first part of NRECA's three-part Director Education Program, the Credentialed Cooperative Director program, consists of five courses that focus on basic governance knowledge and the essential skills required of cooperative directors. The CCD prepares directors to fulfill their fiduciary duty as elected officials serving on behalf of their membership. WWVREMC board policies encourage all board members to complete certification as a cooperative director.

Drake was elected from the North District in 2019, which serves parts of Randolph and Wayne counties north of I-70.

WE APPRECIATE YOU!

October is National Cooperative Month and National Customer Service Week is October 2-7.

October is a great month for us here at WWVREMC as we celebrate National Cooperative Month and National Customer Service Week. To show our appreciation for your continued support, we are excited to offer members a special gift this month*. **You can stop by the office anytime during regular office hours to receive your gift. And if you stop by in October, you will also be entered into a drawing to win a \$50 bill credit!** Two bill credits will be given away. The hidden account number is 657802.

We are truly grateful for your membership and hope you enjoy this small token of our appreciation. Remember to stop by and pick up your gift before they're all gone!

**Please note that a special gift is available while supplies last.*

WINNER!

CONGRATULATIONS
to our winner Albert Wittich, Laurel, who won the summer grilling prize package from our Operation Round Up 20th anniversary membership drive.



Employee News



We are excited to introduce our newest lineman, **OWEN WELBORN!** He graduated from Union County High School and completed his apprenticeship to become a journeyman lineman through Indiana Municipal Electric Association. Owen grew up in Liberty, where he lives with his wife, Ashlee, and their two children, Marshall and Evelyn. He enjoys camping, fishing, hunting, and cooking on his grill. The directors and employees of WWVREMC want to welcome Owen to the cooperative.

WWVREMC LINEMEN

COMPETE AT THE 2023

LINEMAN RODEO

One of our linemen and two apprentices took part in the Indiana Electric Cooperative Lineman Rodeo in August, and we are pleased to announce that they performed exceptionally well. They competed in various events, such as pole climbing, hurt man rescue, and safely changing electric line hardware, and secured 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place rankings across multiple categories. This event for electric cooperative linemen across the state drew 102 employees from 24 Indiana electric cooperatives. Although this was a competition it also serves as a skills training session as participants observe each other.

We want to extend our congratulations to Brad Wildman, Abrem Losekamp and Noah Williams for their outstanding performances. Brad Wildman placed 2nd in the Individual Journeyman Event, Insulator Change, while Abrem Losekamp won 2nd place in the Apprentice Event, Insulator Change. The trio won 1st place in the Team Event, Transformer Change, and 3rd place in the Team Event, Hurt Man. Congratulations, and we look forward to seeing more of their outstanding performances in the future.



UPGRADE UNLOCKED

New Look. New Experience. Same SmartHub.

Manage your account like never before with the new, improved SmartHub web application. A simplified, enhanced design is coming your way soon. This new version of SmartHub puts your usage and payment details front and center for fast, easy access and the simplified menu structure makes navigating the site a breeze.

Keep an eye out for more details soon!





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

NO AUGUST WINNER

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.

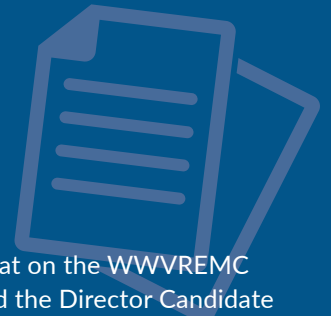
To Report an Outage or Emergency

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.

Director Candidate Applications



Are you considering running for a seat on the WVVREMC Board of Directors? Please download the Director Candidate Information Sheet and complete an application on our website. For those interested in serving on the Nominating Committee, the Nominating Committee Candidate Information Form is also available for download.

More information on the 2024 election will be included in upcoming issues of the Powerlines. Please note that applications must be received by November 1 for consideration at the 2023 nominating committee meeting.

We value your interest in serving your cooperative. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact our office for more information.

Bill Credit Winners

Our monthly drawing for five \$20 bill credits from all voting members of the 2023 annual meeting continues. Here are the winners.

OCTOBER

John Hostetler, Hagerstown

Steve Ramsey, Brookville

James Barricklow, West Harrison

Ronald Hoff, Brookville

Steven Seaton, Centerville



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