



POWERLINES

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION FOR THE MEMBERS OF WHITEWATER VALLEY REMC

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MAY DUE DATES

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



JOSHUA JOHNSON
CEO

Save the date for our Annual Meeting on Thursday, June 4. The theme “Our Members, Our Story, Our Next Chapter” is designed to make the event at our facility enjoyable, educational, and family-friendly.

Join us for a free meal with ice cream and popcorn, games, face painting, information

booths, and live entertainment by Sean Lamb and Janet Miller. Our linemen will also present a pole top rescue and hotline demonstration, and members can stop by for a meet and greet with me. The evening will wrap up with prizes, including scholarships and a \$1,000 cash grand prize. You do not need to be present during the drawing to win prizes.

In addition to the festivities, we'll conduct our business meeting, announce election results, review highlights from the past year, share our priorities for the year ahead, and discuss the cooperative's financial health. A complete agenda will be shared soon—we look forward to celebrating with you.

Parking

Parking for the annual meeting will be at Whitewater State Park. From there, Union County Transit and Union County school buses will shuttle you to our facility. The Liberty Volunteer Fire Department and the Liberty Sheriff's Department will help with directing traffic as you enter the state park. Shuttle buses will run continuously from 3:45 p.m. until all attendees have returned to their vehicles after the meeting. Members with a handicapped parking sticker or license plate can park at our facility. All other attendees must park at Whitewater State Park and use the shuttle service. There will be no charge for our members entering the park.

Voting

Voting for our Board of Directors and the Nominating Committee will occur before the meeting and opens **on May 4**. Please be on the lookout for your electronic ballot. SmartHub users can conveniently cast their vote directly within the SmartHub app. Mail-in ballots will only be sent to members without an email address on file. If you vote by mail, return your ballot in the postage-paid envelope provided to Survey and Ballot Systems. Please do not send the ballot with your bill or bring it to the office to ensure your vote is counted. To learn more about the candidates up for election, please visit our website's annual meeting page, wwwremc.com/annual-meeting. All voting members will be entered into a drawing throughout the year for a chance to win a \$20 bill credit. Five winners will be announced each month in the Powerlines.

This event welcomes members of all ages for an enjoyable evening with delicious food, treats, prizes, and entertainment. Informational booths will also be available to showcase the benefits of being a WWVREMC member. Attending the annual meeting is a great opportunity to learn about recent updates from your cooperative and to connect with board members, staff, employees, and other members. We value your participation and look forward to meeting you. Registration cards were sent out last month, so please check your mailbox. You will need your card to register for your complimentary meal, and don't forget to bring it with you to the event to sign up for prizes. We look forward to seeing you and sharing this special evening together.

Meet the Nominating Committee Candidates for the 2026 Election

This year, three board of director positions and three nominating committee positions are up for election. Below you will find information about each candidate running for the nominating committee.

The election will open on May 4, 2026, and ballots will be accepted until June 2, 2026. Members can vote for one candidate in each district.

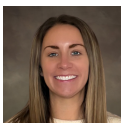
Members with an email address on file should watch for their electronic ballot in their inboxes. Mail-in ballots will be mailed for those without an email address. Additionally, SmartHub users can vote directly through the SmartHub application. Voting will not take place during the annual meeting, but winners will be announced at its conclusion.

All candidates were asked to provide the following information:

1. Number of years as a member of Whitewater Valley REMC
2. Education and specific degrees
3. Current employment and employment history
4. Leadership and community activities
5. Why are you interested in becoming/or serving another term as a WWVREMC Board of Directors or Nominating Committee?

NORTH DISTRICT

Molly Nocton, Williamsburg



Number of years as a member of WWVREMC: 10

Education

Bachelors in Sports Management, Minor in Business

Leadership and community activities

Pickleball in Richmond

Why are you interested in serving on the nominating committee?

I have some free time and would like to be involved in the community more.

CENTRAL DISTRICT

Craig Hale, Liberty **INCUMBENT**



Number of years as a member of WWVREMC: 29

Education

I currently hold 3 associate's degrees in computer science.

Employment

I am retired. When working I was predominantly in the construction industry.

Leadership and community activities

Over the many years, there have been numerous occasions where classes were available to me on Leadership and Responsibilities. In addition to this, I have held several positions at our church. Also, I was the president of Phi Theta Kappa for over 5 years. Although work related, I was able to climb the corporate ladder to become a Construction Project Manager. This entailed bidding projects, visiting job sites in the Eastern United States, and overseeing the workflow. I believe it is admirable to support our local communities. Where appropriate and possible my wife and I put this belief to practice.

Why are you interested in serving on the nominating committee?

It is with great pleasure that I have been able to serve the past several years on the Committee. In addition, I have been permitted to serve on the Operation Round-Up Committee for six years. Two years of this time was served as president. Not to be redundant but I believe this is a small but important part of good citizenship and being a community member.

CENTRAL DISTRICT

Duane Kyle (DK) Marker, Liberty



Number of years as a member of WWVREMC: 3

Education

I graduated from Union County high school.

Employment

My employer my family business, Marker Wally World power equipment, for 13 years.

Leadership and community activities

My leadership is being a single parent with 3 beautiful kids and FFA.

Why are you interested in serving on the nominating committee?

I am interested in serving Whitewater Valley REMC. I'm a young guy with a box of ideas and can talk to anyone. To solve problems and bridge the gap between people and businesses.

SOUTH DISTRICT

Eric Catron, West Harrison



Number of years as a member of WWVREMC: 20

Education

I have an associate's and a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice. I have several friends who work in the electric field and enjoy helping them with the various tasks they have taken on over the years related to the electric field.

Employment

I have served nearly 30 years with the Springfield Township Police Department as a Police Officer, Detective, Sergeant, and in my most current role as a Lieutenant. Prior to my employment with Springfield Township, I served with the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office as both a paid Deputy and a volunteer. I have an honorable discharge from the United States Marine Corps Reserve, where I served as an MP. I also served for 9 years as the FOP union representative at the police department, negotiating various benefits and wage packages. I have been awarded Officer of the Year award once and numerous other awards during my tenure with Springfield Township.

Leadership and community activities

As a police officer, specifically in the positions I have held, I have been tasked with numerous major responsibilities, including dozens of homicide and death investigations, multimillion-dollar fraud cases, the direct supervision of others, and even budgeting for operations.

I enjoyed volunteering and teaching for the police explorer (cadet) program. I spent years volunteering to coach for recreational and competitive soccer for my boys through both Cincinnati West and the TFA soccer programs.

Why are you interested in serving on the nominating committee?

I value the committee's important role in maintaining and recruiting qualified leadership for our cooperative. I bring decades of public service, honesty, education, a strong work ethic, and common sense. I feel I have a good sense of an individual's character, and I want to continue reliable, affordable electric services by serving on the nomination committee.

SOUTH DISTRICT

Ashley Harvey, Brookville **INCUMBENT**



Number of years as a member of WWVREMC: 13

Education

Bachelor of Science in Education (Indiana University)

Employment

Bath State Bank (2021-present), Union County/ College Corner Joint School District (2008-2021)

Leadership and community activities

- Union County Youth League (Board Member)
- Hanna's Creek Christian Church (Junior Church Teacher)
- Union County 4-H (Assistant to Treasurer)
- Junior Achievement (Teacher Volunteer)

Why are you interested in serving on the nominating committee?

I am interested in serving another term on the Whitewater Valley REMC Nominating Committee because I like to be involved with my community and serve in various ways.



OPERATION ROUND UP® ANNUAL REPORT

ROUND UP GRANTS IN 2025

Since 2003, Operation Round Up has supported communities within Whitewater Valley REMC's six-county service area. Funded entirely by cooperative members' donations, the program enables the cooperative to give back to the community. In 2025, \$29,182 was distributed to 38 non-profit organizations from funds raised by members.

WHO RECEIVES ROUND UP ASSISTANCE?

The Trust sincerely appreciates all donations to the program. The mission of the WWVREMC Community Trust, Inc. is to positively impact our community by collecting and distributing funds for charitable activities within the WWVREMC service area. The program aims to support the local community.

GIVE WHERE YOU LIVE!

To support the program, call 765-458-5171 to sign up and "round up" your bill to the nearest dollar. You can also register online at www.wvremc.com/operation-round-up/. The average donation is approximately 50 cents monthly, or \$6 annually, and is usually tax-deductible. Your contributions, combined with those of other members, can make a meaningful difference in the lives of people within the WWVREMC service area.

ROUND UP TRUST BOARD

The Round Up Trust Board consists of Gary Stokes (President), Maya Hughes (Secretary), and Joe Baldwin (Trustee).

Abington Township Volunteer Fire Department | \$1,000

Air bottles for SCBA and repairs for cascade to fill air bottles

Abington Township Volunteer Fire Department | \$2,000

CPR/First Aid Manikin Set

Alquina Blue Arrows Park | \$1,000

Restrooms and cement patio

Boys & Girls Club of Wayne Co | \$250

Backpacks and School Supplies

Centerville Class of 2026 After Prom | \$500

Centerville 2025 after prom

College Corner Union Elementary School PTO | \$500

Tutoring Program

Communities In Schools of Wayne County | \$500

Program expenses

Connersville Festivals Committee | \$250

Celebration in the Ville (Music and Art Stroll)

Connersville Fire Dept | \$1,000

Water Rescue Equipment

Connersville Parks and Recreation | \$500

Living Well, Aging Well Program

Cope Environmental Center | \$250

Instructor fees for educational workshops

Dublin Community Club | \$500

Vape Detectors

East Central Indiana Recycling and Reuse Hub | \$500

Promotional materials and expenses

East Central Indiana Recycling and Reuse Hub | \$1,000

Office/volunteer room, website

Everton Volunteer Fire Dept | \$1,000

Custom covers for equipment on trucks

Every Child Can Read | \$1,000

Books for summer bookmobile

Family Earth Day | \$1,000

Environmental education fair

Friends of Union County Public Library | \$500

Healthy snacks and food during school breaks

Imagination Library of Franklin Co | \$1,000

Preschool Books and Postage

Laurel Town Park | \$1,000

Veterans Memorial

Lil Friends Of the Library Preschool | \$500

Smart Televisions, Ipad Cases, Laptop

Love Makes Cent\$ | \$500

Voluntary Income Tax Assistance (VITA) site

Metamora Community Park | \$1,000

Picnic tables for shelter building in park

Metamora Volunteer Fire Dept | \$2,000

Chainsaws and leaf blowers

Neighborhood Health Center | \$1,500

Grocery distribution

Play in the Park | \$500

Carnival Day

Randolph County Youth Leadership Council | \$500

Scholarships

Richmond Adult Education | \$500

Events to support GED Programs

Scouting America Troop 45 | \$1,000

Summer Camp

Short High - Union County Alumni Assoc. | \$1,000

Shelves for Short High School memorabilia

Union Co Ag Day | \$1,000

3rd grade Agricultural Education

Union County After Prom | \$500

Union County High School After Prom

Union County Foundation | \$250

Community Garden

Union County Sheriff's Office | \$1,000

Radios

Union County Soil and Water Conservation District | \$250

Aluminum can crusher

VFW Auxiliary Post 2014 | \$500

Thanksgiving Dinner for Veterans of Franklin County

Wayne County Soil and Water Conservation District | \$1,200

Conservation Days

Winter Wonderland, Town of Brookville | \$232

Christmas Lights

HIDDEN ACCOUNT NUMBER

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

WILLIAM L. SMITH WINS!

Keep reading your Powerlines each month. The next hidden account number could be yours!

PAYMENT OPTIONS

U.S. Mail

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

SmartHub

Log on at wwwremc.com.

Pay-by-Phone

Call 855-940-3859. Set up your PIN. Follow prompts.

Liberty Office

In person or in the drop box.

Automatic Withdrawal

Sign up on SmartHub, over the phone, or in the office.

Franklin County National Bank (FCN)

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

1201 S. State Road 101, Liberty, IN 47353

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.

Log in 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.



BILL CREDIT WINNERS

Our monthly drawing for five \$20 bill credits from all voting members of the 2025 annual meeting continues. Here are the winners.

MAY

William Herrmann, Connersville
Duane A. Marker, Liberty
Jeremy T. Sauerland, W. Harrison
Jeffrey Cowgill, Liberty
Jerry Messer, Brownsville

Meet WATTson:

OUR ELECTRIC SAFETY OWL



Meet WATTson, our newest electric safety buddy! This friendly owl is here to help kids learn how to make safe, smart choices around electricity—at home, at school, and everywhere in between.

In the coming weeks, you'll see WATTson sharing helpful safety tips through fun videos, Facebook posts, and even billboards around our community. His goal is to make electric safety easy to understand and engaging for the whole family. The hidden account number is 169009.

Families can also stop by our office to pick up a FREE electric safety coloring book, a fun way for kids to learn important safety lessons with WATTson by their side.

This is just the beginning—be on the lookout for more from WATTson as he helps keep our community safe!

We will be closed on May 25
for Memorial Day.



1201 S. State Rd. 101, P.O. Box 349, Liberty, IN 47353

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