



# Harrison Rural Electrification Association, Inc.

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Clarksburg, WV 26301-0502

**304-624-6365**

Your Touchstone Energy® Partners



www.harrisonrea.com

## 'Your' electric Cooperative

Electric Cooperatives are private, independent, electric utility businesses that are owned by the members they serve. Harrison Rural Electrification Association (HREA) began with the idea of providing electricity to those customers living outside of the major downtown cities of our country. Unlike investor-owned utilities, the focus of an electric Cooperative is to provide electricity to everyone at a not-for-profit rate.

HREA does not generate power. We don't own assets such as coal-fired generating plants or hydroelectric power plants; therefore, we must purchase our energy and currently do so from American Electric Power Company. We have a contract with them until May

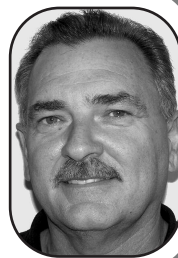
2009. Many factors will affect the future price of wholesale power such as the cost of natural gas and coal. Other variables that contribute to making costs higher are the prices we pay for the materials we use to construct and maintain our electric infrastructure (poles, lines, transformers, etc). Many of these items are rising in price due to the fact that these goods are being shipped out of our country to emerging markets such as China.

Other problems facing our industry is global warming purported to be caused by emissions; specifically, coal-fired and natural gas generating plants. This has stirred a resurgence of the nuclear power concept for production of electricity. I'm sure many of us still remember the Three Mile Island escapade. Unfortunately, we are far behind other countries in the design and implementation of this type of generating facility. The probability of seeing a nuclear unit built and on-line in this country is about eight to 10 years away. In the meantime, we can anticipate more emission regulations and a steady increase in future power costs for our members.

Another factor of Cooperative rates is the number of cus-

### Manager's Corner

By  
Gary Jackson,  
CEO/General  
Manager



tomers we serve. Typically, Cooperatives across the United States serve approximately seven customers per mile, whereas investor-owned utilities serve around 35 customers per mile.

Cooperatives, on the other hand, own and maintain 2.5 million miles, or 43 percent, of the nation's electric distribution lines, spanning three quarters of the nation's landmass. Furthermore, Cooperatives employ 67,000 people in the United States. There currently are 864 electric distribution Cooperatives serving 40 million people in 47 states.

• A recent seminar I attended spoke of the "fifth" fuel, referring to conservation. It was noted that if every family in the United States would replace one incandescent light bulb with a compact fluorescent bulb (CFL), we could save 4 percent of the energy we currently are using in this country.

### Board of Directors

James Stuart, Dist. 4 .....President  
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James McMurtry, Dist. 6 .....Secy.-Treas.  
C.B. Sharp .....Dist. 1  
Greg Robertson .....Dist. 2  
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Gary L. Jackson, General Manager  
Terry Stout .....Office Manager  
Alan Cox .....Operations Manager  
Richard L. Fox .....Staking Engineer  
Nada McNemar .....Editor

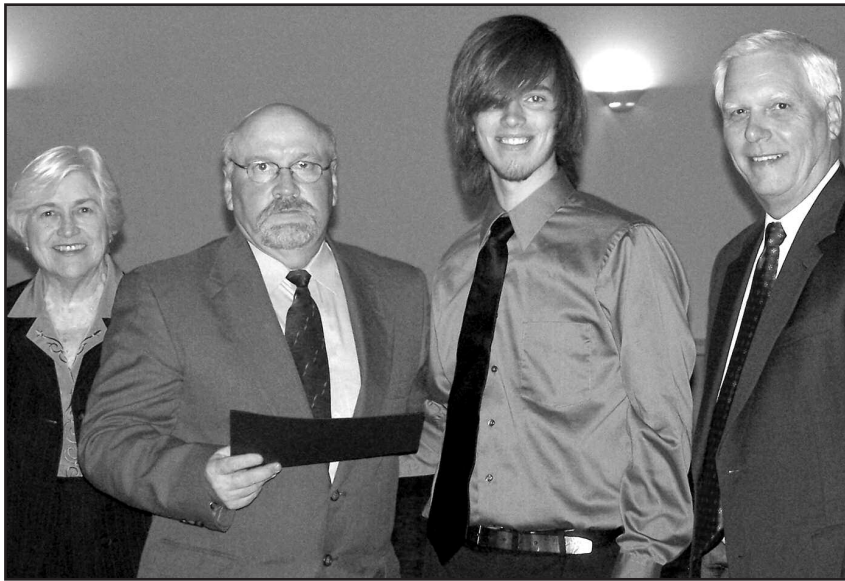
Office Hours

7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Mon. - Fri.

# HREA contributes to student achievement program

The Harrison County Student Achievement Program is a volunteer organization designed to motivate and inspire students. Its mission statement is "to promote and motivate superior student achievement in academics, community service and arts and humanities and to complement existing recognition programs".

The purpose of the Harrison County Student Achievement Program is to recognize achievement of students in Harrison County's public and



private high schools. The intent is to inspire and motivate students to achieve their maximum lifetime potential. Formed in 1992, this program has provided more than 500 scholarships to students who best exemplify the philosophy of

the Harrison County Student Achievement Program.

Harrison Rural Electric is proud to be a part of this worthwhile program. This year, HREA's scholarship award went to Isaac Strader, a senior at Liberty High School.

Staking Engineer Rick Fox and Right-of-Way Manager Harold Gains represented HREA at the 15th Annual Harrison County Student Achievement Banquet held at the Village Square Conference Center. Pictured (from left) are Mary Lou Jones, Student Achievement Board member, Harold Gains, Isaac Strader and Carl Friebe, superintendent Harrison County Schools.

We know you have a bright future ahead, Isaac. We're very glad we could help, and all of us here at Harrison Rural Electric wish you well.

## Jocelyn Stout wins speech contest



Jocelyn Stout, daughter of office manager Terry Stout and his wife, Carol, won first place in the County/District School Speech Contest held at Norwood Elementary in April.

The contest is for students in fifth through eighth grades. Each participant had to give a speech that lasted for three to five minutes


about a great American leader. Jocelyn chose to talk about Walt Disney. She competed against children from St. Mary's, Simpson and Salem.

Jocelyn is 11 years old and attends fifth grade at Norwood Elementary School. She will go on to compete in the State Regional Speech Contest to be held at Robert C. Byrd High School in Clarksburg.

Good luck at the regional, Jocie. All of us from HREA are very proud of you and wish you well!

**Harrison Rural  
Electrification  
Association honors  
America on Flag Day**

**Thursday, June 14.**

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

# HREA Board recognized at NRECA annual meeting

Today's electric utility environment imposes new demands on electric Cooperative directors, particularly increased knowledge of changes in the electric utility business, new governance skills and a working knowledge of the Cooperative Principles.

Harrison Rural Electrification Association's board has demonstrated a commitment to sharpen this body of knowledge for the benefit of its electric Cooperative consumer-owners through the Credentialed Cooperative Director (CCD) program sponsored by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA). NRECA represents the nation's more than 900 private, consumer-owned electric Cooperatives that provide electric service to nearly 40 million people in 47 states.

The NRECA Credentialed Cooperative Director program requires attendance and demonstrated understanding of the basic competencies contained in five core courses: Director Duties and Liabilities; Understanding the Electric Business; Board Roles and Relationships; Strategic Planning; and Financial Decision Making.

The NRECA Board Leadership Certificate recognizes individuals who continue their professional development after becoming a Credentialed Cooperative Director. Directors who have attained the Board Leadership Certificate have completed 10 credits in advanced, issue-oriented courses.

At the 2007 NRECA annual meeting, attended by nearly 10,000 Cooperative directors,

employees and guests from across the United States, one of these Leadership Certificates was presented to HREA in recognition of its efforts

in achieving a 50 percent increase in CCD directors at your local electric Cooperative.

The three directors recognized for this achievement were C.B. Sharp, Michael Cross and James Stuart.


Stuart accepted the Credentialed Cooperative Director Celebration Award for Region IV on behalf of the Board of Directors of Harrison Rural Electric



*C.B. Sharp, Michael Cross and James Stuart accept award.*

## BIRTHDAY GREETINGS!

Lineman Rob Davis celebrates his birthday this month. Rob has been with the Cooperative for 14 years, and it would be difficult to find a more dedicated or harder-working employee. Happy birthday Robbie, from all of your co-workers. May you have many, many more happy birthdays in the years to come.



# Lightning no friend to home electronics

If you live in an area of the country prone to lightning, you probably know how to protect yourself when thunderstorms are overhead. And you also know how important a lightning arrester is to protect your home from a direct lightning strike. But how much protection have you given to the expensive electronic equipment inside your home?

TVs, home theaters, computers and other types of equipment are vulnerable to electrical surges generated by lightning — even if the lightning is miles away. If you have a large investment in home electronics, the Leviton Institute recommends that you consider installing whole-house surge protective devices to safeguard your sensitive electronic equipment.

The typical power-strip surge protectors that plug into a wall receptacle are primarily designed to protect equipment from low-energy power surges generated within your home. To protect equipment against lightning that enters your home through the electric lines, you need devices that can handle much larger power surges.

This protection is especially important if you

## Roof inspection

This is a good time to see how well your roof has weathered the rigors of winter. Few things can shorten the life of your home faster than a roof leak, and even a minor roof leak can damage your attic insulation before you notice it from inside.

You can do a roof inspection either by using



**Harrison Rural Electric wishes a happy Father's Day to all the dads out there. Enjoy your special day June 17!**

### Fast facts about lightning:

- Discharges between 35,000 to 40,000 amperes of current
- Packs up to 100 million volts of electricity
- Has a force comparable to a small nuclear reactor
- Can generate temperatures as high as 50,000° C.
- Can, and does, strike the same place twice
- Travels as far as 40 miles

*Source: The Lightning Protection Institute.*

live in an area of the country where lightning is prevalent. The reason: Repeated high-energy surges caused by lightning strikes eventually will destroy the surge-suppressor components in a power strip.

The Leviton Institute advises consumers to match their investment in home electronics equipment with the appropriate level of surge protective devices. To find out more about these devices, call your local electrical contractor.

binoculars from the ground, looking out a second-story window or standing on a ladder. If you choose to climb up on your roof, use a sturdy ladder and be sure you are comfortable with heights. Otherwise, stick to the ground to assess these items.

Look for any loose or missing shingles. If there are just a few, have a roofing contractor repair them. If the damage is widespread, it may be time for a replacement.

Look for places where leaves and other debris accumulate, clean or have these areas cleaned every year, since they often will be the first places to fail as your roof reaches the end of its life span.

Make sure your gutters aren't clogged. Gutters are intended to protect your home from water damage, and they can't function if they are full of debris. Look at the base of your downspouts, too, to confirm that water doesn't puddle up against your home's foundation.

Inspect your chimneys. Be sure that the mortar joints in masonry chimneys are solid, and that no bricks are missing. Check that metal chimneys are straight and that no holes have developed. A little rust is normal, but extensive corrosion could indicate trouble elsewhere in the system. If you note any such problems, have a heating contractor perform repairs.