



# Harrison Rural Electrification Association, Inc.

RR 6, Box 502

Clarksburg, WV 26301-0502

**304-624-6365**

Your Touchstone Energy® Partners 

www.harrisonrea.com

## A brief update on current operations

Many projects are on the schedule for your utility this year, especially this summer.

First, we're continuing to make progress toward the construction of our second substation. The new substation will serve existing customers as well as new loads within the central part of Harrison County.

The proposed construction site will be located in the Chiefton area near an Allegheny 138 KV line. This location places it strategically at a junction that provides for even greater reliability for our entire electrical system. We anticipate completing the land transfers soon.

In addition, we're currently collecting vital information on prices and delivery times of station transformers, regulators and other miscellaneous parts

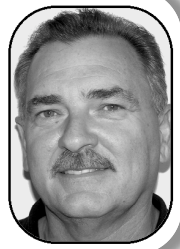
needed to put the station on line. We estimate that the new station will be in operation by the fall or winter of 2007. This second station conforms to our long-term strategic goal of providing four substations that ultimately all tie together to create a strong electrical backbone for greater reliability for all of our members.

Second, we're finalizing our proposed four-year work plan that will provide information for financing needs through mid-2010. The purpose of the work plan is to substantiate, or validate, our current and future needs for construction funds within the parameters that the government sets for acquiring low-interest loans. The plan illustrates a definitive direction for our proposed operating system, and likewise, supplies us with enough funds to provide for those proposed construction needs.

Third, we're working on changes to our existing line extension policy. Current members will see little, if any, change as a result of this revision. The proposed changes will involve future customers who wish to be served by our member-owned organization. We currently average in the range of 160 new customers a year on our system, and approximately

### Manager's Corner

By  
Gary Jackson,  
CEO/General  
Manager



30 to 40 percent of these customers require major line expense to serve their proposed building sites.

The new policy will take into consideration the rising costs of fuel, metals, poles and other miscellaneous items that are required when providing new service to a member. Our existing policy is making our current customers subsidize construction to new members via rate increases.

Without these changes to our line extension policy, it will not be possible to recover our installation expenses due to the higher-than-usual market prices. We anticipate this policy change will go into effect this fall.

Fourth, we have signed an agreement with Hunt Technologies to provide advanced services that have become available since we first installed automatic meter reading devices. The new command center will implement technology that will provide for greater reliability on our system, plus, it will provide more real-time collection of volt-

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### Board of Directors

- James Stuart, Dist. 4 .....President
- Michael Cross, Dist. 7 .....Vice President
- James McMurtry, Dist. 6 .....Secy.-Treas.
- C.B. Sharp .....Dist. 1
- Greg Robertson .....Dist. 2
- Glenn Cox, Jr. ....Dist. 3
- Ron Watson .....Dist. 5

- 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.



## Employee spotlight

Paul Siders is our featured employee this month. Paul comes from a very large family and has lived in Harrison County his entire life. He began working at a gas station when he was 17 years old. In addition to serving as a filling station attendant, Paul worked at various odd jobs before starting his career with HREA.

Paul began employment at the Cooperative in 1969 as a tree trimmer with the right-of-way crew. After a couple of years, he moved to the line group and worked as a groundman for two years before moving on to become a lineman, the position he still holds today.

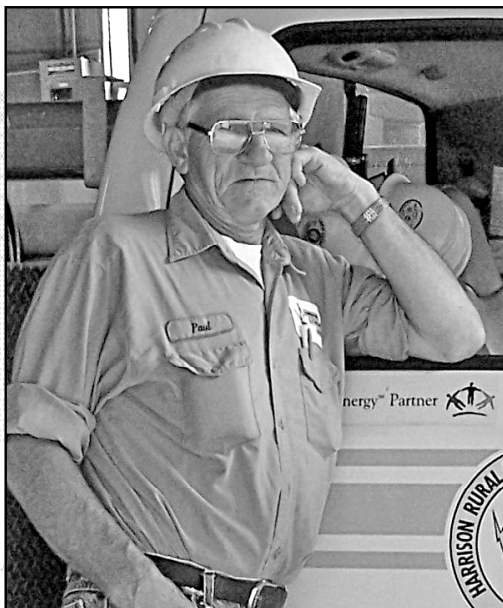
Paul and his wife, Linda, reside just about a mile from the Cooperative office on the Sun Valley Road. They have one daughter, Tiffany; and Paul has two other children, Lahoma and Stuart. Paul and Linda also have two grandchildren whom they are very proud of.

Paul is a hard worker and a dedicated employee of the Co-op. Not only does Paul do an excellent

job for you, our member/owners, but he also will travel to other states in times of disaster to assist other Cooperatives. He helped restore power in

the South after Hurricane Rita swept through Louisiana last year.

At this time, Paul doesn't know when he will retire, and we have to wonder if he'll know what to do with himself when he does. Maybe then he'll have ample time to do the things he enjoys such as fishing and camping. Paul also likes to restore old vehicles and presently is working on a 1946 Plymouth and every once in a while he puts some restoration time in on a



1978 Ford F-250 pickup truck.

We're all confident that these ongoing works in progress will be completed some day, but until then, we just count ourselves lucky to have Paul working here at your Cooperative.

## How cool roof coatings save money on mobile homes

by CHRIS DORSI

Mobile homes tend to overheat in summer because they don't have a large attic space to provide a buffer between the hot outdoors and the living space inside. In many manufactured homes, the space between the interior ceiling surface and the exterior metal roof is less than a foot. Although a thin layer of insulation is installed in this cavity, the heat of summer tends to transmit right down into your home.

One of the best ways to slow this heat flow into your home is to install a white elastomeric "cool roof" coating. Metal mobile home roofs are easy to recoat. In fact, many homeowners do so every few years to assure their roofs longevity and watertightness. You can apply a cool roof coating when your mobile home next needs to be recoated, or you could do it right away to reap immediate benefits. Many homeowners note that their home is cooler the same day that a cool roof coating is

applied.

Cool roof coatings can be applied by brush or roller, just like traditional black or silver asphalt coatings. Their performance is superior to these coatings, however, since their reflectivity (ability to reflect the sun's heat), and their emissivity (ability to release the roof's heat) is far greater. To assure that your cool roof coating adheres properly, the roof surface should first be washed, and any loose previous coatings scraped away. Since cool roof coatings are water-based, they should be applied when no rain is expected for at least one day. Above all else, follow the manufacturer's instructions. Once you have a cool roof coating on your mobile home, and you appreciate the difference in summertime comfort, you'll never go back to the old-fashioned coatings.

*Source: Chris Dorsi — Copyright 2006 Saturn Resource Management, Inc. (www.smi.biz)*

# Capital credits, what are they, and what do they mean to you?

Many of you probably are tired of hearing about capital credits. There are still quite a few of our members, however, who do not know what they are; so periodically, we like to put a short explanation about them in the newsletter hoping to educate those particular member/owners.

Harrison Rural Electric is a nonprofit cooperative corporation. As such, if our income exceeds our expenditures at the end of the year, we do not make a profit, we have what is called a "margin". Since we are not investor-owned, such as Allegheny Power, we do not have to provide shareholders a return on their investment. Instead, we take our entire margin and spread it across our members' accounts according to their kilowatt-hour use. You may have noticed on your June bills a message that read something like "your capital credit allocation for the year 2005 was ....." Each member has a capital credit account where these allocations accumulate. They remain in your account, even if you leave the system, until a retirement takes place.

There are two types of retirement; a GENERAL retirement or an ESTATE retirement. A general retirement occurs when your Board of Directors selects certain years of allocations to retire, and everyone who accumulated credits in those particular years will receive a credit on their electric bill or a check in the mail. (That's why it is important to update your address with us if you leave the Cooperative.) For example, the board might select years 1984, 1985, and 1986 for general retirement. Jane Smith, a current member was allocated \$2.83 in 1984, \$5.26 in 1985 and \$1.81 in 1986. When Jane receives her electric bill, she will notice a credit against the amount she owes in the amount of \$9.90. Another example; Jack Jones was a member for a short time and has moved out of state. He has, however, provided HREA with his current address. Jack accumulated \$24.50 in 1984 and accumulated nothing in 1985 and 1986. Jack will receive a check for \$24.50 from this particular general retirement. Current members also will receive a check instead of a credit on their electric bill if their retirement amounts to more than \$25.

A husband and wife constitute a joint membership. When both of them have passed away, the executor or administrator of their estate can file for an "estate" retirement. When an estate retire-

ment takes place, all of the money that has accumulated in the deceased member's capital credit account will be retired to that member's estate. Filing for an estate retirement is very simple. The only documentation required is the deceased member's death certificate and a copy of the executor's qualification paper. There is a short application at the Co-op office that must be filled out and notarized. After all paperwork is completed, the application is presented to the board for approval, and after they approve the retirement, a check will be issued to the executor.

Capital credits are one of the things that makes your Cooperative different from a for profit business, and we think it is important that our member/owners know exactly what they are. If you have any questions, please contact our office.

## A brief update

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ages and outages. Other enhancements will allow members to view their electrical use from their home computers.

Finally, we continue to add new commercial and residential customers to our system at the Charles Pointe development. The addition of these new loads far exceeds the magnitude of loads seen on our electrical system for the past two-plus decades combined. These new loads will help to distribute the rising costs of energy over a wider base of members, thereby mimicking the same characteristics and line densities of larger utility companies.

## AUGUST

### BIRTHDAY GREETINGS!

Those employees celebrating birthdays this month include General Manager Gary Jackson and linemen Paul Siders and Jon Paul McAllister. Gary has been CEO for the Cooperative for one year now. Jon Paul started working for HREA in the line group eight years ago and before that worked here as summer help while he completed college. Paul Siders has the distinction of having the most seniority of any of our employees. In June, he completed his 37th year as an employee of Harrison Rural Electric.

Happy birthday guys, and may you have many, many more good years ahead of you!



# Lightning strikes — period!

Data from the National Weather Service show that lightning strikes are fatal in approximately 10 percent of strike victims. Another 70 percent of survivors suffer serious, long-term effects.

Outdoors is the most dangerous place to be during a lightning storm. Because lightning can travel sideways for up to 10 miles, blue skies are not a sign of safety. If you hear thunder, take cover. For protection in homes and buildings, consider installing a lightning protection system to intercept lightning strikes and guide the current harmlessly to the ground.

The Electrical Safety Foundation International recommends following these guidelines to stay safe during electrical storms:

If possible, go indoors. Once indoors, stay away from windows and doors. Do not use corded telephones except for emergencies.

Unplug electronic equipment before the storm arrives and avoid contact with electrical equipment or cords during storms.

Avoid contact with plumbing, including sinks, baths and faucets.

If outdoors, go to a low point. Lightning hits the tallest object. Get down if you are in an exposed area. Stay away from trees.

Avoid metal. Don't hold metal items, including bats, golf clubs, fishing rods, tennis rackets or tools. Avoid metal sheds, clothes lines, poles and fences.

If you feel a tingling sensation or your hair stands on end, lightning may be about to strike. Crouch down and cover your ears. Stay away from water. This includes pools, lakes, puddles and anything damp, such as wet poles or grass.

Don't stand close to other people. Spread out. And don't forget pets during thunderstorms. Doghouses are not lightning-safe. Dogs that are chained can easily fall victim to a lightning strike.

Victims of lightning strikes should be given CPR if necessary and get medical attention.

For more information on lightning safety, go to these websites:

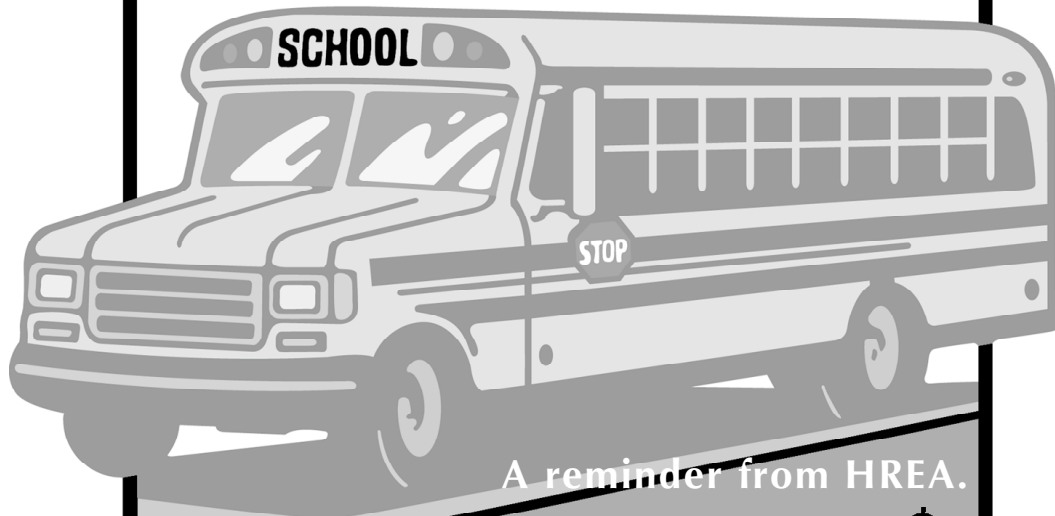
Electrical Safety Foundation International — [www.electrical-safety.org](http://www.electrical-safety.org)

Lightning Protection Institute — [www.lightning.org](http://www.lightning.org).

For more on workplace safety: U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration — [www.osha.gov](http://www.osha.gov).

For consumer safety: Consumer Product Safety Commission — [www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov).

**Summer is coming to an end  
and our kids will be heading back  
to school. Please be extra careful!**



A reminder from HREA.

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 