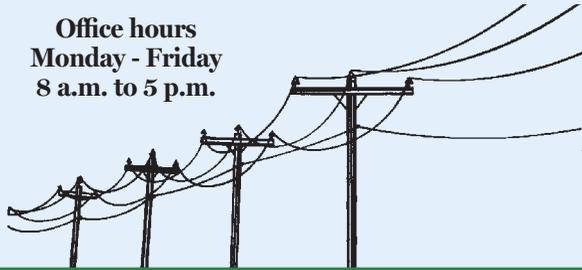


Office hours
Monday - Friday
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Tricounty Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.

P.O. Box 100 Malinta, OH 43535

Office Calls: 419-256-7900

www.tricountyelectriccoop.coop



TRUSTEES

Steven Hoffman.....	President
Lawrence Weirich	Vice President
Bradley Haupricht Sr.....	Secretary/Treasurer
Kenneth Brubaker	Johney Ritz
Dustin Sonnenberg	John Schuchert

EMPLOYEES

Brett Perkins, Manager	Craig Wilson
Doug Hall	Jason Warnimont
Sue Bockelman	Jeremy Warnimont
Chris Okuley	Tom Jones
Tyler Flory	Deb Stuller
Sandy Corey	

To report a power outage: 888-256-9858

Your call will be answered by the Cooperative Response Center. Give them the name on your account, service address and a telephone number where you can be reached.

They will dispatch a line crew to restore service.

Be sure to check your fuse or breaker system before reporting a power outage.

Jackpot news!

Patrick Irving of rural Napoleon and Bonnie Ohlrich of rural Liberty Center reported spotting their hidden account numbers in the September issue of *Country Living* and each won half the jackpot. Each received a check for \$40.

Your account number is on your bill statement. Disregard the zeros at the left in the number, but consider any zeros at the right in the number when converting your number to words.

The hidden account numbers always are in the local pages of the magazine. The jackpot now stands at \$80. So read *Country Living*, find your hidden account number, report it and win!

Happy Thanksgiving!



Tricounty Rural Electric Cooperative
wishes you and your family a happy, safe
and bountiful Thanksgiving.

Our office will be closed
Thursday, Nov. 27, and Friday, Nov. 28.

EMERGENCY SERVICE ALWAYS IS AVAILABLE
24 HOURS A DAY BY CALLING 1-888-256-9858.

See inside pages for highlights of your 77th
Annual Meeting.

2014 Tricounty Annual Meeting highlights

NEARLY 400 MEMBERS AND GUESTS attended Tricounty Rural Electric Cooperative's 77th Annual Meeting of Members on Sept. 17 at Patrick Henry High School in Hamler.

Re-elected to a four-year term on the board of trustees were Lawrence Weirich of District II and Johnney Ritz of District III. Members overwhelmingly approved proposed amendments to the Code of Regulations. Four Zero One Six Zero Zero One

Board President Steven Hoffman told the members that Tricounty had invested \$300,000 in upgrading the utility system, and \$465,000 was spent in maintenance of 616 miles of distribution lines.

Hoffman also announced the board had approved a retirement of \$482,000 in capital credits, signaling that Tricounty is in strong financial shape. This refund will be 50 percent of the 1999 allocations, and it will be made in December. Including retirements made to the estates of deceased members, Tricounty will have refunded more than \$15 million to its members since 1950.

Greg Steyer, CPA, reviewed the cooperative's financial report with members. He noted operating revenue had increased nearly 7 percent over the previous year, mainly because of extreme winter weather. The cost of purchased power decreased slightly and was 63 percent of revenue.

General Manager Brett Perkins addressed the accomplishments of his staff in the past year. He discussed the challenges Tricounty and all electric cooperatives face in the near future, particularly from proposed regulations by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Even by the EPA's own numbers, the regulations will do little to affect global climate change while sharply increasing electricity cost for Americans.

Tricounty has some of the lowest electric rates and best reliability of service in the state, but the proposed regulations endanger that record, Perkins said. He warned that electric co-op consumers throughout Ohio could see increases of \$40-\$50 a month in their electric bills.

He noted that during this past winter's extreme cold snaps, known as the polar vortex, propane prices skyrocketed and natural gas — which the EPA's new plan heavily relies on — was not readily available for power generation because of high residential demand for heating. Ohio's regional power grid was so strained that it was just one downed power plant away from having to initiate rolling blackouts.



General Manager Brett Perkins



President Steve Hoffman



Members re-elected Johnney Ritz (District III) and Lawrence Weirich (District II) to the Tricounty REC Board of Trustees.

Ken Keylor, vice president of statewide services for Ohio Rural Electric Cooperatives, Inc., gave an update on Buckeye Power, Tricounty's wholesale power supplier. To complicate matters, he said, at the end of 2015 about 25 percent of the coal-fired generating capacity in our region, almost all of which were running at full capacity this past winter, will be retired due to stricter environmental regulations.

"It's easy to see that if we get the same cold weather in the next few years, we could be in very serious trouble," Keylor said.

Members and guests were encouraged to fill out postcards at the meeting, telling the EPA that Americans need common-sense solutions to protecting the environment and maintaining an affordable and reliable supply of electricity. Eight Two Zero Eight Zero Zero Eight

The meeting concluded with drawings for \$600 in cash prizes. ☺



Ken Keylor, Ohio Rural Electric Cooperatives



Secretary-Treasurer Bradley Haupricht



Greg Steyer, CPA



See page 22 for more photos from the Annual Meeting!

2014
Annual Meeting
of Members

