
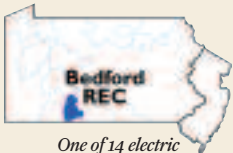


Bedford Rural Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



One of 14 electric cooperatives serving Pennsylvania and New Jersey

Bedford REC
P.O. Box 335
Bedford, PA 15522
814/623-5101

Email: support@bedfordrec.com
Website: www.bedfordrec.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President & Allegheny Director
C. Robert Koontz
Colerain, Snake Spring and South Woodbury Twp.

Vice President & PREA Director
Owen L. Miller
East St. Clair Twp.

Secretary
Donald Hoenstine
Kimmel and King Twp.

Treasurer
Reuben R. Lafferty
Juniata Twp., Bedford County, and Allegheny Twp., Somerset County, New Baltimore Boro

Assistant Secretary
Earl W. Garland
East Providence Twp., Bedford County, and Brush Creek Twp., Fulton County

Assistant Treasurer
Paul L. Rummel Jr.
Bedford and Cumberland Valley Twp.

William Howard Atkinson
Monroe and West Providence Twp., Everett Boro
Ned H. McDonald
West St. Clair, Pavia, and Lincoln Twp.
Ronald W. Wilkins
Napier and Harrison Twp.

John J. Dirienzo Jr.
Attorney

OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Friday
7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

Hillegass retires, Wilkins joins board of directors



by Brooks Shoemaker
General Manager

WAYNE M. HILLEGASS recently retired from the Bedford Rural Electric Cooperative Board of Directors. Wayne had faithfully served his fellow cooperative members since 1994. He also represented Bedford Rural Electric on the board of Allegheny Electric Cooperative, Inc., our generation and transmission cooperative, from 1995 until 2003. His vision and

leadership contributed to 21 years of growth and prosperity for both organizations. His unique brand of quiet, humble, insightful leadership will be missed by everyone associated with the cooperative.

At the September 2015 board meeting, the board of directors appointed Ronald W. Wilkins to replace Hillegass and represent District 2, which includes Napier Township, Harrison Township, Schellsburg Borough, Manns Choice Bor-



Wayne M. Hillegass

ough and New Paris Borough. His term ends in April 2018.

Wilkins is a graduate of Bedford High School and the Institute of Computer Management in Pittsburgh. He spent six years in the Army National Guard. For the last 28 years, he has worked at the Roaring Spring Blank Book Company, where he currently is the information systems manager.



Ronald W. Wilkins

Wilkins is a member of the Bedford Bible Church, where he is a deacon and Sunday School teacher. He is also a former member of the gospel/bluegrass group, "Country Praise." He enjoys family time, hunting, antique tractors and tinkering around the family farm.

Ron is eager to put his knowledge and experience to work for the good of all cooperative members. On behalf of the board of directors and employees of Bedford Rural Electric, welcome to the cooperative family! ☀

Season's Greetings from all of us at Bedford Rural Electric Cooperative

Board of Directors: Howard Atkinson, Earl Garland, Don Hoenstine, Bob Koontz, Reuben Lafferty, Ned McDonald, Owen Miller, Paul Rummel Jr., Ronald Wilkins

Employees: Dave Allison, Scott Bischof, Corinna Browell, Jim Clark, Adam Claycomb, Lacy Decker, Kathy Gates, Ed Hankinson, Al Hileman, Brent Kauffman, Gary Lafferty, Sara Mellott, Tim Mellott, Wade Mellott, Greg Miller, Richard Mills, Troy Mock, Dawn Mowery, Mary Perdew, Mark Rowan, Jim Seymour, Brooks Shoemaker, Timothy Shook, Becky Truax, Dennis Tursich, Christie Weaverling, Cindy Wise, Jim Wood

White Sulphur Springs plans Christmas open house

BY LINDA WILLIAMS

ONCE upon a time, White Sulphur Springs in Manns Choice was a Victorian playground. It is now a retreat for Officers' Christian Fellowship for military personnel and their families.

Helping families in the military to grow together in their relationship with God and others, the staff at White Sulphur Springs is very proud of the new building that opened in 2011. It is spacious and inviting with windows that highlight the magnificent surrounding countryside, and something the staff at White Sulphur Springs likes to share with the community, especially at Christmas.

On Sunday, Dec. 13, from 3 to 6 p.m., the public is invited to see White Sulphur Springs decked out in its finest holiday glory with two beautiful Christmas trees, lots of lights, a manger scene and other traditional decorations that add to the beauty of the building. There will also be musical entertainment and refreshments.

The original building, built as a hotel about 1884, will also be open for public



MERRY CHRISTMAS: A beautiful Christmas tree adorns the common area of White Sulphur Springs while a harpist plays.



HOLIDAY DECORATIONS: A hand-carved, wooden manger scene is displayed at White Sulphur Springs.

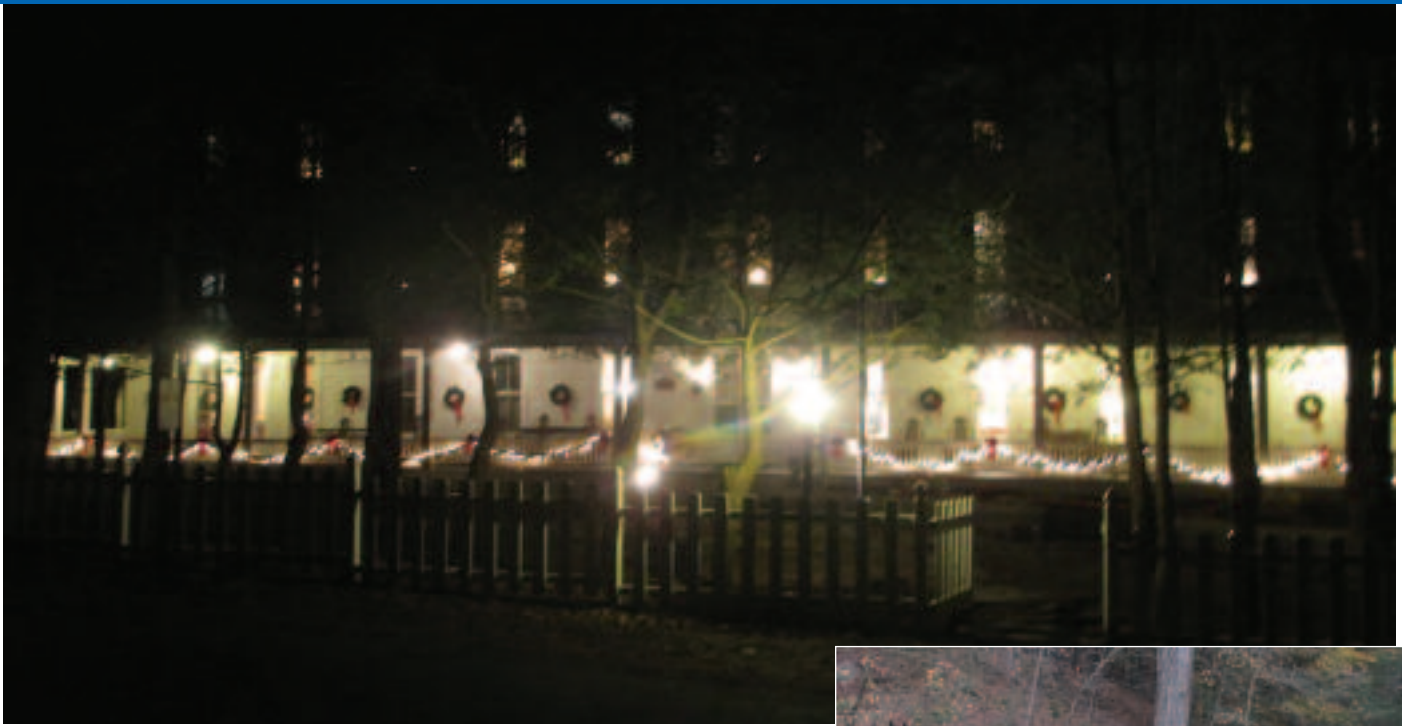
tours. With an ambience all its own, the historic site served as a summer retreat for many years.

Originally, White Sulphur Springs was only a summer resort that could be

reached from the Bedford-Bridgeport Railroad station with guests arriving by carriage from that point. The property was bought by Paul and Patricia Cochran in 1946, who ran it as a hotel/restaurant until it was sold to the Officers' Christian Fellowship in 1978.

The Cochrans were quite happy to have their beloved property serve the

public in such a capacity. Officers' Christian Fellowship agreed they could stay in their cottage as long as they lived. Paul Cochran died a few years later, but Patricia lived many happy years, cared for, and loved by the staff and visitors to White Sulphur Springs. The original building is still used for overflow crowds or for the camp staff during the summer.



A WINTER NIGHT: The original building is decorated for Christmas on a winter night.

Today, the White Sulphur Springs ministry team consists of Paul and Dawn Robyn, Lt. Col., USA (Ret.) as the center's director couple; John and Lois Hoyman, Lt. Col., USAR, programs and operations director; Fred and Lee Bryan, Lt. Col., USMA (Ret.), facility director; Dailey and Katie Chandler, youth programs director; John and Crystal Doman, food service director; Paula Halvorson, interim EXSEL director; and Susanne Hartkop, office manager.

With 44 guest rooms plus two bunk rooms, the facility can comfortably house 140 to 150 for most retreats. During the summer, White Sulphur offers

family and youth summer camps, while retreats begin in August. For recreation, they have canoeing, fishing, shooting, archery, horseback riding, zip lining, wall climbing, and swimming at nearby Shawnee. In the winter, they also have ice skating and sledding. There are always seasonal crafts.

Families attending camps in the summer will have free days to go into Bedford, explore covered bridges, take a tour to Altoona or Johnstown, and enjoy other local attractions.

Retreat groups visit from West Point, Annapolis, the Coast Guard, and Wright-Patterson Air Force Base.



ACTIVITIES: Abby and Anna Robyn, daughters of Paul and Dawn Robyn, enjoy the horses at White Sulphur Springs.

“They actually come from all over the country,” explains Paul Robyn. “It is particularly attractive to those stationed in heavy traffic, busy areas.”

Because it is a Christian organization, Christians and those seeking Christianity, make up the main focus of the organizations using White Sulphur Springs.

“However,” Robyn points out, “we have served as a meeting place for the Bedford school board, and for Blair County leadership training. Because we follow basic Christian principles, alcohol is never served.”

White Sulphur Springs operates mainly with the small staff listed above, but also has a host of volunteers who arrive on busy weekends to help serve food, clean up and make beds.

The facility is located at 4500 Milligans Cove Road, where visitors will find a warm welcome at the annual Christmas Open House. ☀



GOOD FOOD: Refreshments are served in the brightly decorated dining room.

NON-TRADITIONAL STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP

Bedford Rural Electric Cooperative will be awarding four scholarships of \$1,000 each to non-traditional students whose primary residence is served by Bedford Rural Electric Cooperative.

For an application, go to our website at www.bedfordrec.com and click on **scholarship information**. Applications are also available at the office.

All applications and required information must be received at our office no later than Feb. 1, 2016.

Mail application to:
Bedford Rural Electric Cooperative
P.O. Box 335
Bedford, PA 15522

HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

Bedford Rural Electric Cooperative will be awarding four scholarships of \$1,000 each to seniors whose parents' or guardians' primary residence is served by Bedford Rural Electric Cooperative.

For an application, go to our website at www.bedfordrec.com and click on **scholarship information**. Applications are also available at the office.

All applications and required information must be received no later than March 1, 2016.

Mail application to:
Bedford Rural Electric Cooperative
P.O. Box 335
Bedford, PA 15522

Office Closing
Bedford REC's
office will be closed
in observance of
Christmas Day –
Dec. 25
New Year's Day –
Jan. 1

DONATIONS FOR LOCAL FOOD BANKS

Bedford Rural Electric Cooperative directors and employees are asking members to join in and make donations to area food banks. Those wishing to donate items should bring them to the Bedford Rural Electric Cooperative office on Lincoln Highway before Dec. 21, 2015.



Items needed include canned goods, paper products, soap, other hygiene-related items, and food products such as noodles, cake mixes, spaghetti, and boxed foods of any kind. Items with expired dates cannot be accepted. The collected items will be donated to local food banks throughout the county.

Your help and kindness will be appreciated during this holiday season.

All members who make a donation will have their names entered for a \$25 gift certificate toward their electric bill.

TROUBLE CALL SCHEDULE

In case of trouble ...

- First Check your fuses or circuit breakers.
- Second Check with your neighbors, if convenient, to see if they have been affected by the power failure.
- Third **Call 24-hour number, 623-7568**
OR call 800/808-2732 during office hours
(Please help us save money - only use this number if toll charges apply.)

Please give person receiving call your name as it appears on your bill, your telephone number and your map number if known. Any specific information about the outage will also be helpful in pinpointing the problem.

Alternate numbers ...

Adam Claycomb	Week of November 30	635-3376
Gary Lafferty	Week of December 7	842-9925
Troy Mock	Week of December 14	276-9759
Greg Miller	Week of December 21	839-0037
Al Hileman	Week of December 28	766-9971

In case you cannot reach any of the above ... Call:

Jim Wood	Bedford	623-6121
James Clark	Everett	652-9791
Mark Rowan	Bedford	623-7890

During widespread power outages, many members are calling to report power failures. You may receive a busy signal, or in certain cases your call may go unanswered. This occurs in after-hours outages when the office is not fully staffed. Please be patient, and try again in a few minutes.