

**Valley  
Rural Electric  
Cooperative, Inc.**

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



One of 14 electric cooperatives serving Pennsylvania and New Jersey

Valley Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.  
10700 Fairgrounds Road  
P.O. Box 477  
Huntingdon, PA 16652-0477  
814/643-2650  
1-800-432-0680  
www.valleyrec.com

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**James Stauffer**  
Chairman

**Leroy Barnes**  
Vice Chairman

**Kevin States**  
Secretary

**Clair McCall**  
Treasurer

**Robert Holmes**  
Allegheny Director

**David Wright**  
PREA Director

**Cindy Bigelow**  
**Mervin Brumbaugh**  
**Earl Parsons**

**CORPORATE OFFICE HOURS**

**Monday - Friday**  
7 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

**HUNTINGDON/MARTINSBURG/SHADE GAP OFFICE HOURS**

**Monday - Thursday**  
7 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO

**Co-op will return more than \$932,000 to consumers**



by Edward A. Dezich  
President & CEO

**I AM PLEASED** to announce that Valley Rural Electric Cooperative will be returning more than \$932,000 in capital credits this year to eligible members and former members of the cooperative.

If you get your electric service from a cooperative, you are essentially a part-owner of the business. As an owner, you are entitled

to any returns on your investment, based on the amount of electricity you used during the year. The capital credits checks you receive are a partial refund of your contribution. At Valley REC, we are proud to be able to return these funds — evidence that we are in a sound financial position.

For the sixth year in a row, the cooperative will use a combination of two methods to retire capital credits.

The first-in/first-out method will be used to retire funds remaining from 1983, which amount to more than \$541,000. This approach enables the co-op to return money to members who have invested for the longest time.

The percentage method will be used to refund capital allocated after that time, amounting to about \$206,000. This ensures that present-day members who are paying for current costs


are still rewarded for their patronage of the cooperative.

In addition, more than \$185,000 will be earmarked for distribution to the estates of deceased members, allowing those accounts to be retired on a discounted basis.

Including this year's refund, we have returned nearly \$16 million in capital credits to our consumers over the years.

Unlike private power companies or other stock-funded corporations, a cooperative is fully owned by its members. That means folks like you have input on how the business is run through an elected board of directors chosen from the membership. If there is revenue in excess of expenses, commonly referred to as margins, the board allocates those monies back to the consumers.

Your representatives on the Valley REC board of directors are confident that the co-op is in a secure position to sustain its rate of capital credits retirement while maintaining its fiscal stability.

Valley REC does not exist to make a profit, but rather to provide safe, dependable electricity at the lowest possible cost. Our "not-for-profit" status proves that point. For nearly 70 years, we have reinvested in our communities, and have given local folks the power they need to live rural life to the fullest. 

# 2008 Candidates

## for the Valley REC Board of Directors

### ▼ District 1

Bedford County: Bloomfield Township

Blair County: Blair, Huston, North Woodbury, Taylor and Woodbury townships



#### **Phillip (Phil) Pheasant**

RR 1, Box 502 Martinsburg, PA 16662-9610

Phil Pheasant spent 34 years as a dairy farmer, milking 70 cows and raising 70 young cattle. He grew corn, alfalfa and soybeans on his 190 acres, renting an additional 160 acres.

Over the next 12 years, Phil held various positions. He drove a school bus for Smith Busing of Roaring Spring. He operated equipment for New Enterprise Stone and Lime Co. and PennDOT. And he drove tour buses for several companies, traveling throughout the United States and Canada. Since October 2006, he has been providing transportation for local Mennonite families.

A 1956 graduate of Morrisons Cove High School, Phil is a member of the Curryville Church of the Brethren, where he

has served as a deacon and board member. He is a former member of the Martinsburg Volunteer Fire Co., the Blair County Farmers Association and Interstate Milk Producers cooperative (now Land O'Lakes). He served three years in the U.S. Air Force, and was honorably discharged as an airman second class.

Phil and his late wife, Gladys, were married 30 years. He and his second wife, Elizabeth, have been married 17 years. Phil has three children and four stepchildren, 17 grandchildren (one of whom is deceased) and 10 great-grandchildren.

Phil has been a member of Valley REC since 1991. He is 69 years old. His name will be listed first on the ballot for District 1.



#### **Mervin G. Brumbaugh**

RR 1, Box 28 Williamsburg, PA 16693-9660

Mervin Brumbaugh has served on the Valley REC board of directors since 1972. He has held the office of vice chairman of the board two times for a total of five years.

The owner of a 190-acre farm, Merv rents out 100 acres and farms 40. He raises 20 head of beef cattle and 600-700 laying hens, delivering eggs to 40 customers. In addition, he has operated a cattle-hauling business for the past 15 years.

A 1954 graduate of Williamsburg High School, Merv is a member of the Heritage Baptist Church in Martinsburg. He serves as a director of the Williamsburg Farm Show Association and is a former member

of the Williamsburg Young Farmers Association. Since 1995, the Brumbaugh property has been the site of a hymn sing, open to the public, during the last weekend in July.

Merv and his wife, Betty, are the parents of seven children. They also have seven grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. The Brumbaughs have been married 53 years.

Merv is 71 years old. He has been a member of the cooperative for nearly 52 years, and his father was a charter member.

Merv's name will appear second on the ballot for District 1.

**IN FEBRUARY**, Valley REC held nominating meetings in co-op Districts 1, 3 and 5. The members featured on these pages were nominated for positions on the board of directors. Their names will be placed on a ballot and all members attending the annual meeting, set for 7 p.m. April 18 at Mount Union Area High School, can

vote for the candidates of their choice. One director will be elected for each of the three districts; those elected will represent the entire co-op membership for a three-year term.

Entertainment for this year's meeting will be provided by country band Joe Bonson & Coffee Run.

Children may also attend the meeting.

They will enjoy Disney movies, refreshments and a dairy promotion presentation.

All registered members in attendance will receive a \$10 credit on their electric bills and two compact fluorescent light-bulbs. In addition, they will be eligible to win one of two \$250 co-op gift certificates. Please plan to attend!

## ▼ District 3

Bedford County: Liberty Township

Huntingdon County: Carbon, Hopewell, Lincoln, Penn, Todd and Walker townships



### Kevin R. States

RR 1, Box 137A Hesston, PA 16647-9206

A 46-year-old native of Hesston, Huntingdon County, Kevin States works on his family's 200-acre dairy farm, which has 100 milking cows and another 100 head of young stock. The operation utilizes the services of Land O'Lakes cooperative in addition to Valley Rural Electric.

Kevin is a 1979 graduate of Huntingdon Area High School. He is a member of the National Holstein Association and the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau. He was formerly involved with the Huntingdon County 4-H dairy and beef clubs, and was a member of the Rural

Electric Youth Tour delegation in 1978.

The States farm has received electric service from Valley REC since 1952; Kevin has been a member of the cooperative since 1982. He has served on the co-op's board of directors since 1999, and has held the office of secretary for the past six years.

Kevin and his wife, Sarah, were married in 1996. Kevin has one son, one daughter, one stepson and one grandson. In his free time, he follows NASCAR racing.

Kevin is running unopposed on the ballot for District 3.

## ▼ District 5

Centre County: Harris Township

Huntingdon County: Barree, Jackson, Logan, Miller, Morris, Oneida, Porter, Spruce Creek, Warriors Mark and West townships



### Robert (Bob) Holmes

4684 Cold Springs Road Huntingdon, PA 16652-3142

Bob Holmes was principal at Huntingdon Area High School for 19 years, and was assistant principal for five years prior to that. From 1997 through 1999, he served as acting superintendent for the Southern Huntingdon and Huntingdon Area School Districts.

A graduate of Turtle Creek High School, Bob obtained bachelor's and master's degrees in education from Bucknell University. He also earned 40 graduate credits in educational administration at Penn State. During his tenure in the U.S. Army Reserves, Bob attained the rank of captain.

Bob is an active member of the Christian

and Missionary Alliance Church in Huntingdon. He is a past president of the Huntingdon County chapter of the Pennsylvania Association of School Retirees. Bob is 72 years old. He and his wife, Barbara, have been married 50 years. They have four children and seven grandchildren.

Bob has been a Valley member since 1969. He has served on the co-op board for four terms, and held the office of secretary for one year. He has represented Valley REC on the board of Allegheny Electric Cooperative for the past six years, and currently serves as secretary. Bob is running unopposed on the ballot for District 5.

## Meet your employees

Taking the spotlight in this column is a recent addition to the Valley REC team, Jonathan Shields. Jonathan came to the cooperative in June 2007, hired as a first-year lineman in the co-op's Huntingdon district.

"I'm on the construction crew," Jonathan explains. "We build new lines or upgrade services for consumers. I do mostly ground work — framing poles and getting equipment ready for the guy in the bucket or on the pole."

"I also do meter readings and work with delinquent accounts," Jonathan adds. "It helps me to learn the lines in our area."

Jonathan's previous work experience includes 1-1/2 years with Henkels and McCoy, a telephone line construction

company in York, where he served as a flagger and an apprentice lineman. He spent eight years with S & N Communications of Shippensburg, working as a crew leader and supervisor. He also worked as a telephone cable lineman with U.S. Utilities of Bedford.

A native of Orbisonia, Jonathan is a 1990 graduate of Southern Huntingdon County High School. He and his wife, Katie, were married in October 2007 and reside near Shirleysburg. Jonathan has two children: Brittney, 16, and Brennon, 13. His father, Dale, lives in Port Royal; his mother, Violet, resides in Hustontown. He has one younger sister, Torrie, of Rockville.

Jonathan is a member of the Church of God of Prophecy in Orbisonia, where he serves as a youth leader. He coached pee wee and little league baseball for seven years, elementary



Jonathan Shields

wrestling for six years, and pee wee softball for three years. He also played Class B softball for five years.

Jonathan's hobbies include hunting for deer and small game and fishing for bass and walleye. He also enjoys being a spectator at his children's sporting events.

As for his new job, Jonathan says he considers it a privilege

to work at the cooperative.

"What I like the most is the distance from work to home," Jonathan states. "I know where I'm going to be from week to week and I get to spend more time with my family."

"Everybody who works for Valley loves their job," Jonathan adds. "The employees treat you with respect and they care about you. And the members care about you, too. They like to see you and ask how you like working for the co-op."

Jonathan says he's eager to continue his training in the months and years ahead.

"Now I'm watching and learning, doing what I can on the ground. But I want to be up in the bucket or on the pole. I'm looking forward to becoming a journeyman lineman."

Jonathan's fellow employees look forward to working with him for a long time. He's one of the people you can count on. ☀

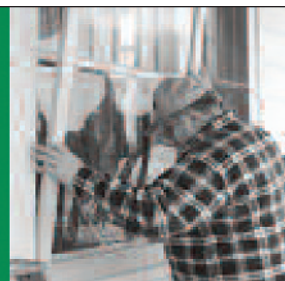
## We're looking for story ideas

If you (or another cooperative member you know) have an interesting or unique hobby, collection, occupation, etc., we may be interested in featuring you in one of our publications.

Call 814/643-2650 or toll-free 800/432-0680, or email member services@valleyrec.com. We look forward to hearing from you.



## Considering a home improvement project?



Valley Rural Electric offers:

**Low-interest loans** - Up to \$5,000 at 5 percent interest for insulation, storm door, thermal window or heating system replacement projects that qualify

**Generator transfer switches** - Gen/Tran transfer switches to ensure proper installation and use of portable emergency generators

**Surge protection devices** - SurgeTamer® units to protect your major appliances and sensitive electronic equipment



**Valley Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.**

® Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Huntingdon • Martinsburg • Shade Gap

814/643-2650 • 800/432-0680

**PEOPLE YOU CAN COUNT ON™**