



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT AND CEO

Online voting available in 2021 and annual meeting update

In 2021, Hancock-Wood Electric will be offering an online voting option to the membership. The board of trustees feels it's important to give our members more options to cast your vote and exercise your democratic member control by choosing who represents your district on the board of trustees. The board is also hoping to see an increase in voter turnout in this year's election.

In May, members will receive information on mail-in or online voting options to elect a candidate for the board in districts 1, 4, 5, and 10. The entire membership will receive voting instructions also in May to vote on bylaw changes. The code changes will be published in our magazine in May along with our Notice of the Annual Meeting. Any member who votes online this year will receive a \$5 bill credit. Please keep in mind that if online voting is not something you are interested in trying, all members will still be able to cast your vote via mail.

We had high hopes to hold our regular in-person annual meeting, however we have not seen any changes

in the health department's guidelines on a large outing at the beginning of the year, and because of this, the 2021 Hancock-Wood annual meeting will once again be held virtually. Our typical annual meeting is planned months ahead to secure food, rides, and the venue. Not knowing what changes we will see by June 12, our management and board feels a virtual meeting is our best option. We also want to be sure we are offering a safe annual meeting option for our members to be able to attend and not worry about risking their health. More details about the virtual 2021 annual meeting will be available in next month's magazine.



George Walton
PRESIDENT & CEO

Thank a lineworker on April 12

If you were asked to associate an image or a person with Hancock-Wood Electric, I bet you would picture a lineworker. Some of the most visible employees of the co-op, lineworkers work tirelessly to ensure our community receives uninterrupted power 24/7.

"Lineworker" is listed as one of the top 10 most dangerous jobs in the U.S. This is understandable, as they perform detailed tasks near high-voltage power lines. Regardless of the time of day, having to brave stormy weather and other challenging conditions, lineworkers must climb 40 feet in the air, often carrying heavy equipment to get the job done.

Being a lineworker is not a glamorous or easy profession. It takes years of specialized training, ongoing education, dedication, and, equally important, a sense of service and commitment. How else can you explain the willingness to leave the comfort of your home to tackle a challenging job in difficult conditions, when most are sheltering comfortably at home? This dedication and sense of

service to the community is truly what sets them apart. That's why we set aside the second Monday in April to celebrate and recognize the men and women who work around the clock to keep the lights on.

Our dedicated and beloved lineworkers are proud to represent Hancock-Wood and they deserve all the appreciation and accolades that come their way on Lineworker Appreciation Day.



Think Energy Smart With Bruce



Performing an inspection and conducting maintenance on your cooling system will go a long way to improving the reliability and efficiency of your cooling system this summer.

Complete air conditioner maintenance should be left to the professionals and should be conducted annually. Air conditioning systems contain

several components that are difficult for the average consumer to inspect. Hancock-Wood offers its members a rebate for having HVAC maintenance completed by a professional contractor. Visit our website at www.hwe.coop and click on the “save energy” tab at the top and then “rebates” at the left to print a copy of the rebate form.

There are a couple of tasks the system owner can complete to increase the efficiency and reliability of their HVAC system.

- Be sure the system air filter is clean and in good condition. Along with making the indoor fan work harder by restricting air flow, a dirty filter could cause system failure during extreme weather.

- Check landscaping proper clearance. The outdoor unit requires good air flow to allow the system to work at maximum efficiency. Landscaping should be trimmed to allow at least two feet of open area around the A/C unit.

For more tips to save energy, visit our website www.hwe.coop/save-energy/, or contact me at 419-257-5025 to help with any question.



Riverdale Schools receive rebate for switching to LEDs

Riverdale Local Schools received a rebate check of \$6,388.24 for updating to energy efficient lighting in their school. Contact Bruce to learn more about the C&I Lighting rebate program.



Pictured from left: Bruce Warnecke, HWE energy services advisor; Jeff Young, superintendent; and Duane Brodman, maintenance.

THANK A LINEWORKER!

This month, we're recognizing lineworkers for the amazing job they do to make sure we have electricity! Think about all the ways you use electricity every day. Do you use a phone, watch TV, play video games, or turn on lights? You're able to do *all* of these things because of lineworkers.



Below is space to write a short thank you note to your local lineworkers. Write your note, then ask an adult to help you send it back to us so we can share it with our crews.



WE ♥ OUR
LINEWORKERS

Send your note to the mailing address below, or snap a photo with your phone and email it to us!

1399 Business Park Drive South
P.O. Box 190
North Baltimore, Ohio 45872-0190
leslie.guisinger@hwe.coop

We want to hear from you!

Your thoughts and opinions about Hancock-Wood Electric Cooperative help us to serve you better.



In May, Hancock-Wood will be working with NRECA Market Research Services to complete member satisfaction surveys.

The surveys will be both by phone and email, but not everyone will be contacted. If you are contacted, we would greatly appreciate a few minutes of your time to share your opinions of the cooperative.

We strive to provide all members with safe, affordable, reliable, and clean electric service. By participating in the survey, you will help us make decisions that benefit you, your family, and your neighbors.

Thank you!

All information is confidential.

*Our office will be closed on Friday, April 2, to recognize Good Friday.
Hancock-Wood Electric Cooperative
wishes all of our members a happy Easter.*

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PAYMENT OPTIONS

online, dropbox, office, by phone, or automatic bill pay

HAVE A STORY SUGGESTION?

Email your ideas to:
leslie.guisinger@hwe.coop

Members First!

**HANCOCK-WOOD
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE**
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 