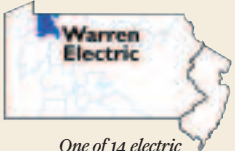


Warren Electric Cooperative



One of 14 electric cooperatives serving Pennsylvania and New Jersey

Warren Electric Cooperative
320 East Main Street
Youngsville, PA 16371
814/563-7548
OR
1-800-364-8640
FAX
814/563-7012
Email
wec@westpa.net
Website
www.warrenec.coop

STAFF

Gary W. Franklin,
General Manager/CEO
Alan D. Fuller,
*Engineer/Load Mgt/Member Services/
Right-of-Way*
Todd M. McClain,
Data Processing/Finance/Administration
Martin J. Hoffner,
Line Superintendent
Christopher N. Evans,
System Engineer

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dave Turner
Chairman
LeRoy Wells
Vice Chairman
Gerald G. Bensink
Secretary

John Barnes
James Goodrich
Don Johnson
James Marshall
Esther Reynolds

EMERGENCY OUTAGE NUMBER

814/723-9460

OFFICE HOURS

7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

FROM THE MANAGER

In memory of Harry Weaver 12/13/1931 to 12/05/2009



HARRY SERVED as a director of Warren Electric Cooperative since 1988, and as treasurer since 1993. He retired from the United States Air Force as a chief master sergeant, having served in the Korean War and the Vietnam

War. He is survived by his wife, Alice, and two sons, Randy and Brian. Harry not only served his country but also his community by volunteering in many local organizations.

Harry touched many lives. He will be missed.

Wanted! High school juniors for a FREE trip to Washington, D.C.

Each year, over 1,300 teens attend the NRECA Youth Tour. This is a six-day trip in June where high school students will see our nation's government and history firsthand, as well as learn more about rural electric cooperatives.



Warren Electric Cooperative 2009 Youth Tour students Josiah Olson and Corvette Morrison.

The 2010 Youth Tour is scheduled for June 13-18. This is an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C., with a stop in Gettysburg. Please fill out and return the Youth Tour form in this issue of *Penn Lines*. The meeting dates at the cooperative are March 2 and March 9. If you have any questions, please contact Alan or Todd at the cooperative office.

Office happenings

The cooperative welcomed 38 new members in November. That brings our

membership to 7,809 and our connected accounts to 8,826.

The cooperative office will be closed on Feb. 15 in observance of Presidents Day.

Your meter reading

Reminder: Meter readings are due in the office no later than the 20th of each month. There are several ways to get your reading to us.

You can write the reading on your stub before mailing your payment, call the office (24 hours a day) and leave your reading on our answering machine, email your reading to wec@westpa.net or go to our website listed on this page and follow the instructions. It is important, especially this time of year, to have an accurate meter reading so your bill reflects your current use.

Energy conservation

Ceiling fans can help save energy. During the winter, ceiling fans help circulate warm air trapped near the ceiling. The fan should be switched to the clockwise motion to pull warm air down. In the summer, ceiling fans should be switched to counter clockwise to create a comfortable breeze.

What not to say on Valentine's Day

- ▶ Of loving beauty you float with grace.
If only you could hide you face.
- ▶ Kind, intelligent, loving and hot:
This describes everything you are not.
- ▶ I see your face when I am dreaming.
That's why I always wake up screaming.
- ▶ Roses are red, violets are blue
Sugar is sweet, and so were you.
But the roses are wilting, the violets are dead,
The sugar bowl is empty and so is your head. ☹

Thank you,
Gary W. Franklin

Electric cooperative youth programs – a commitment to community

Each year, Warren Electric Cooperative sends two students to take part in an exciting, educational and memorable adventure.



High school juniors have the opportunity to start their summer vacation in Washington, D.C., on the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) 2010 Youth

Tour. All expenses are paid by the cooperative. The tour starts on Sunday, June 13, with accommodations at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City, just minutes from our nation's capital.

The 1,500 students chosen from across the United States will have the opportunity to visit many of the monuments, museums, libraries and gardens in Washington, D.C. They also will have the opportunity to talk with representatives and senators on Capitol Hill and learn how government and electric cooperatives function. All activities are organized for the enjoyment and fellowship of the students. Along with the learning experience, an entertaining cruise with

music on the Potomac is planned.

Anita Leitzel from the Pennsylvania Rural Electric Association confirmed the return of Mike Schlappi as keynote speaker for Youth Day. Schlappi, president of Mike Schlappi Communications, spreads an inspiring message for every American,



HISTORIC SITES: The Youth Tour itinerary includes visits to monuments, museums and the National Zoo.

young or old: “Just because you can’t stand up, doesn’t mean you can’t stand out.” Schlappi is a four-time Paralympic medalist and two-time world champion in wheelchair basketball. The only wheelchair bas-

ketball player in the United States to be on four consecutive summer Paralympic teams, Schlappi was honored by Utah in 2000 as one of the state’s Top 50 athletes of the past century.

Youth Tour students will travel with their state delegation, as well as numerous local chaperones, including parents, teachers and electric co-op employees. Safety and group regulations will be in effect from departure until arrival back home at the end of the program. This should help parents feel more comfortable about the adventure.

Organizers strongly advise participants to wear sturdy, comfortable shoes that are already broken in. Dress is generally casual, but should show respect for the institutions and memorials that participants will be visiting. Professional dress is expected for Capitol Hill Day. Rules for students participating in the Youth Tour are based on respect for one another. Students must understand that they are representing their cooperative, their community, their state and NRECA while on the Youth Tour. ☀

APPLY NOW

Pennsylvania tour dates are June 13-18, 2010. The special Youth Tour study programs will be held at 7 p.m. on Tuesdays, March 2 and March 9, at the Warren Electric Cooperative office in Youngsville. Interested high school juniors whose parents are Warren Electric members are asked to fill out the form below and return it by March 1.

To view more information about the 2010 Youth Tour, visit www.youthtour.coop or contact the Warren Electric Cooperative office at 814/563-7548.

Rural Electric Youth Tour 2010 Parents Must Be Warren Electric Members



I am interested in the Rural Electric Youth Tour to Washington, D.C., from June 13-18

Student Name: _____

High School Name: _____

Parent's Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Account Number: _____

Send this completed form to
Alan D. Fuller, Warren Electric Cooperative, Inc., P.O. Box 208, Youngsville, PA 16371

Form must be received by March 1, 2010

The U.S. Census

THE 2010 CENSUS documents, which will be mailed out soon, will ask household questions and request the form be mailed back in the postage-paid envelope provided as soon as possible. If you fill out the form and mail it, no census taker will need to come to your residence. The Census Bureau would rather get your form back in the mail, and you can help your country save money by sending it back.

There are many benefits to having a successful and accurate census count. The financial coverage is determined by these numbers for federally funded projects such as hospitals, job training centers, schools, senior centers, emergency services, bridges, tunnels and other public works projects. The census also helps determine the number of seats your state has in the U.S. House of Representatives.

The census is conducted every 10 years. The 2010 Census will actually be one of the shortest and simplest in U.S. history. Questions are asked to paint a numeric picture of America, and an accurate household count is very important to plan for future funding. It will ask just 10 basic questions about your name, gender, age, date of birth, race, household relationships, whether you rent or own your home and, if appropriate, your Hispanic origin. It requires less personal information than a typical credit card application. For example, the 2010 Census does NOT ask about bank account information, salary or income, citizenship or immigration status, and census officials NEVER ask you for your Social Security number.

Research was conducted to complete the 2010 Census by internet. The study proved that it did not save money, it did not increase the percentage of people responding or protect individual responses. Tests are still being done to provide a more secure inter-



U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

net response for the 2020 Census.

All census workers undergo an FBI name background check and a fingerprinting requirement for the first time for the 2010 Census as an extra precaution. These two security measures screened out about 16 percent of the hundreds of thousands of applicants for census operations in 2009. Any personal data you provide is protected under federal laws. Everyone who works the census must swear that they will never disclose any personal information. Penalties for any employee who might share that information are severe: up to five years in prison and a \$250,000 fine. By law, the Census Bureau cannot share your information with anyone, including other federal agencies and law enforcement.

With the U.S. Census process beginning, the Better Business Bureau (BBB) advises people to be cooperative, but cautious, so as not to become a victim of fraud or identity theft. The big question is — how do you tell the

difference between a U.S. Census worker and a con artist? If a U.S. Census worker knocks on your door, he or she will have a badge, a hand-held device, a Census Bureau canvas bag and a confidentiality notice. Ask to see the identification and badge before answering the worker's questions. However, you should never invite anyone you don't know into your home. Do not give your Social Security number, credit card or banking information to anyone, even if he or she claims to need it for the U.S. Census. Census workers may contact you by telephone, mail or in person at home. However, they will NOT contact you by email, so be on the lookout for email scams impersonating the U.S. Census. Never click on a link or open any attachments in an email that are supposedly from the U.S. Census Bureau.

The best advice from the U.S. Census Bureau is to fill out the form you receive in the mail and return it as soon as possible. ☀

VITA Tax Time

Another year of tax relief for all those making under \$43,000 a year

Just in time for tax season, the group of volunteers that assisted with last year's taxes is ready to help Warren County residents again. JoAn's Home VITA Site brings together a group of independent volunteers that are certified by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to help you with your taxes.

The IRS has provided the software and the training for these volunteers to e-file federal and Pennsylvania state taxes. The Pennsylvania property tax and rent rebates, as well as local forms, are also readied for filing. The main requirement of the program is that your income must be under \$43,000 (increased from 2008), which is the case for 98 percent of Warren County residents.

Program volunteers are working for the betterment of the community, lifting the burden on Warren County taxpayers. This year, the volunteers are: JoAn Norr (coordinator), David Anderson, Susan Lewis and Gregg Burkett. Dan Ralston, of Ralston Computers from Youngsville, offers tech support for the program.

If you have any questions, you can contact JoAn Norr at 285 River Valley Road, Irvine, PA 16329, msjoann1@verizon.net or call 814/563-6383.

LOCATIONS:

Starbrick Community Church, 40 Weiler Road, Warren, PA 16365

Every Monday noon until close and fourth Saturdays of February and March, 9:30 a.m. until close.


St. Luke's Catholic Church, West Main Street, Youngsville, PA 16371

Every Tuesday and Saturday, Feb. 6 - 20, 2010, and Saturdays, March 13 and 20, 2010, 9:30 a.m. until close

Youngsville Library, 100 Broad Street, Youngsville, PA 16371

Feb. 15, March 8 and 29, 2010, from noon to 5:30 p.m.

JoAn's VITA tax group is always looking for volunteers and is appreciative of any financial support.

Please remember to bring proof of identification, a Social Security card and driver's license for you, your spouse and dependents. You may also use a Social Security number verification letter issued by the Social Security Administration. You should know the birthdates for you, your spouse and dependents for the tax return. Bring with you wage and earning statements, W-2, W-2G and 1099 forms from all employers and investors. For first-time clients only, please bring a copy of last year's federal and state tax returns. It is also good to have bank routing numbers and account numbers available for direct deposit. If you use a day care provider, have the total paid and the day care provider's tax identification number (a Social Security number or TIN). 

Schedule of Events for March through July 2010

MARCH

March 11 - "Spring Fling" Business Expo and Trade Show - WCCBI, located at the Holiday Inn of Warren, 5 p.m.-8:30 p.m. Visit www.wccbi.org or call WCCBI 814/723-3050.

March 20 - Diane Kelly Memorial 5K Run & 5K Fun Walk, Warren YMCA - 212 Lexington Avenue, Warren, 10 a.m. All the proceeds go toward the youth swimming lesson programs. Call 814/726-0110 or email chris@warrenymca.org.

March 20 - Murder Mystery - Woman's Club of Warren (2010 mystery is written by Adam Ristau). Visit www.warrenhistory.org or call Warren County Historical Society, 814/723-1795.

March 21 - Cherry Grove Chili Festival, Cherry Grove Volunteer Fire Hall, 6045 Cherry Grove Road, Clarendon, or call Judy 814/968-3492.

APRIL

No events listed.

MAY

May 7-8 - Red Oak Campground Chainsaw Carve, 225 Norman Road, Russell. Call 814/757-8507 or email redoak225@verizon.net.

May 21 - American Red Cross Golf Scramble, Blueberry Golf Course, Russell. Visit www.americanredcrosswarrencounty.org or call 814/723-6000.

May 22 - American Red Cross Canine Wellness Expo, Betts Park, Warren. Visit www.caninewellnessexpo.com or call 814/723-6000.

May 22 - Irvine-Newbold Day, 210 4th Avenue, Warren. Visit www.warrenhistory.org or call 814/723-1795.

May 29 - Four Flags Ceremony, Heritage Point in Crescent Park, Warren. Program begins at 11 a.m. Call Don Reed 814/728-7240 or Mike Hostovich 814/726-0292.

JUNE

June 5 - Kinzua Allegheny Women in the Outdoor, Chapman State Park, Clarendon. Call Jessica Arnold at 814/436-1048 or email duckdog@skywayusa.net.

June 12 - American Red Cross Crazy 8 Dice Run, Warren. Visit www.americanredcrosswarrencounty.org or call 814/723-6000.

June 13 - Warren Lions Club ninth annual car show, Warren. Call Jim Eldridge 814/726-0731.

June 19 - Warren County YMCA 10K Run & 5K Run, Warren YMCA - 212 Lexington Avenue, Warren, 10 a.m. Call 814/726-0110 or email chris@warrenymca.org.

June 19 - Girl's Victorian Tea, Warren County Historical Society, 210 Fourth Avenue, Warren, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., \$7 each, girls ages 7-12. Visit www.warrenhistory.org or call 814/723-1795.

JULY

July 4 - Jaycee's 4th of July Celebration, Parade and Fireworks. Visit www.warrenpajaycees.com.

July 10 - Pleasures & Treasures Countryside Folk Art Faire, located at the Warren County Fairgrounds, Pittsfield, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., \$3 donation at the gate. Visit www.myspace.com/pleasuresandtreasuresfair; call 814/563-4294 or email murphy1@madbbs.com.

July 17 - American Red Cross Golf Ball Drop, Betts Park, Warren. Visit www.americanredcrosswarrencounty.org or call 814/723-6000.

July 22-24 - Youngsville Community Yard Sale Days, Downtown Youngsville. Visit www.youngsvillepa.org or call 814/563-7192.

July 19-24 - Youngsville Children's Theater, Youngsville. "Sleeping Beauty" workshop begins July 19. Call Barb Luce 814/563-4936.

EVENT INFORMATION

Visit www.strutherslibrarytheatre.com or call 814/723-7231 for shows and times at the Struthers Library Theatre.

Visit www.wcvb.net or www.warrenpa.net for up-to-date schedule of events.