

# Claverack Rural Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



One of 14 electric cooperatives serving Pennsylvania and New Jersey

**Claverack REC**

570-265-2167  
1-800-326-9799

Email: [mail@claverack.com](mailto:mail@claverack.com)

Website: <https://www.claverack.com>

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Dr. Robert R. Faux, Zone 2  
Chairman**

570-574-3531

**Angela S. Joines, Zone 3  
Vice Chairman**

570-756-4979

**Charles R. McNamara, Zone 8  
Secretary/Treasurer**

570-553-4385

**Timothy T. Tewksbury, Zone 6  
Vice Secretary/Treasurer**

570-833-2320

**Charles R. Bullock, Zone 7**

570-280-8470

**Danise C. Fairchild, Zone 1**

570-265-3599

**Robert W. Fearnley, Zone 5**

570-278-2288

**Gary L. Hennip, Zone 4**

570-247-7233

**Anthony J. Ventello, Zone 9**

607-765-2615

**Steve Allabaugh  
President & CEO**

**Staff**

**Annette Koder, Executive Assistant**

**Nick Berger, Director, Engineering and Operations**

**Shelley Young, Director, Financial Services**

**Brian Zeidner, Director, Member Services**

**Office Hours**

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

Jeff Fetzer, Local Pages Editor

## From the President & CEO



### A new twist to a time-honored tradition

By Steve Allabaugh

IF YOU'RE interested in checking out something new, please consider joining us at your cooperative's 85th annual meeting in August.

So what's new about a meeting we've been holding for 85 years? Plenty. First, and most exciting, we will actually be able to spend the day in person with our members for the first time since 2019 — and it will be my first opportunity to introduce myself to the membership from the annual meeting stage since becoming CEO a year-and-a-half ago.

As you know, COVID-19 prevented us from holding an in-person annual meeting the past two years, so the fact that we will be able to gather in person again is cause for celebration.

One of my favorite aspects of the annual meeting is the one-on-one discussions we are able to have with our members. This year's event will offer members plenty of opportunity to talk face-to-face with our co-op staff, as we will have the entire day set aside for members to visit with us.

And that leads to another new thing about our meeting this year: the venue. Since I began working at the cooperative in 2005, our annual meeting has moved around a bit, from the Wysox Fire Company grounds to the Elk Lake High School for a few years and then online last year. One consistent thing over that period has been our desire to try to find ways to engage as many of our members as possible.

That is why I am excited about our decision to bring our annual meeting to the Wyoming County Fair this year. Our big day will be held at the fairgrounds

Wednesday, Aug. 31, while the fair is in full swing. The fair draws a nice crowd, including many co-op members, to the fairgrounds, which is centrally located in our service territory, just west of Meshoppen off U.S. Route 6.

The fair has food, rides, and livestock and craft exhibits, in addition to special events throughout the week.

We will be in attendance all day and will have a large tent set up in the vendor area. Cooperative staff will be on hand to answer questions, help with any issues you may be having, and provide information about the cooperative and our new broadband offering, Revolution Broadband.

We also plan to bring Eve, our electric vehicle, with us for those who are interested in learning more about battery-powered transportation.

Our formal business meeting will take place in the Claverack tent at 3 p.m. During the meeting, we will announce the results of director elections as well as provide business reports and updates.

Every Claverack member who registers in our tent on Aug. 31 will receive a \$20 electric bill credit and \$25 in food coupons, which can be used to purchase food from vendors at the fair. You must be present on Aug. 31 to receive the bill credit and food coupons (one per membership), but the food coupons can be used throughout fair week.

Electric cooperatives and county fairs are rooted in agriculture, and we are proud to be able to support our local fair. We hope you will be able to join us to learn about what's new with your electric cooperative. ❁

## Slate of uncontested directors approved for re-election

WITH AN uncontested slate of candidates seeking re-election to the cooperative's board of directors for Zones 7, 8, and 9, Claverack's Credentials & Elections Committee has decided to dispense with the formal balloting process and, instead, cast a unanimous ballot on behalf of the sole nominee for each zone.

As a result of the decision by the committee, which oversees the director election process, cooperative members will not receive a director election ballot with their annual meeting notification this year. Annual meeting notifications will be mailed to all members in early August.

Candidates who filed petitions to run for board seats are: Charles R. Bullock, Zone 7; Charles R. McNamara, Zone 8; and Anthony J. Ventello, Zone 9. As a result of the committee's decision, the three incumbent directors stand elected to serve a new three-year term, effective Aug. 31, 2022. A profile of each candidate follows.

### Zone 7

*Zone 7 serves members in Auburn, Bridgewater, Brooklyn, Dimock and Springville townships in Susquehanna County; and Nicholson Township in Wyoming County.*



Charles R. Bullock  
Zone 7

**Charles R. Bullock**  
3132 State Route 267  
Meshoppen, PA 18630

Charles R. Bullock was elected to the Claverack REC Board of Directors in July 2007. He also serves on the Wellsboro Electric Board of Directors,

where he holds the position of secretary.

Bullock has achieved the Credentialed Cooperative Director (CCD) and Board Leadership (BLC) certifications and has also maintained Director Gold status.

A retired banker and a former

Susquehanna County jury commissioner, he is active in the St. Joachim & St. Mary's Catholic Church, where he is a member of the Holy Name Society, a former parish council president, and the current chairman of the finance committee. He is former treasurer of the Crescent Lake Association and former service unit chairman for the Wyalusing unit of the Salvation Army.

Bullock is past president of the Bradford-Sullivan County Bankers' Association and a former Auburn Township auditor. He is a member of the American Legion Post 510 and the Meshoppen Rod & Gun Club. He is also a former coach for the Auburn Baseball Association.

Raised on a family farm in Auburn Township, Bullock graduated from Elk Lake Joint Schools and attended Central City Business Institute in Syracuse, N.Y., and Bucknell University.

Bullock has one son and one grandson.

### Zone 8

*Zone 8 serves members in Franklin, Great Bend, Harmony, Liberty, New Milford, Oakland and Silver Lake townships in Susquehanna County.*



Charles R.  
McNamara  
Zone 8

**Charles R. McNamara**  
321 Brown Road  
Friendsville PA 18818

Elected to the cooperative board in 2010, Charles R. McNamara holds the position of secretary/treasurer. He is also a member of the boards of directors

for Wellsboro Electric Co. and Valley Energy.

McNamara has achieved the CCD and BLC certifications.

McNamara operates his own business as a "green" building contractor, with over a decade of experience in OSHA-trained commercial/industrial construction safety. He specializes in the restoration, repair and relocation

of antique timber frames used for private residences and businesses.

A graduate of Montrose Area High School, he holds a bachelor's degree in industrial technology from Binghamton University.

He serves as board vice president on the St. Augustine Cemetery Association.

A lifelong resident of Silver Lake Township, McNamara built his own energy-efficient home using electric load management control and thermal storage.

McNamara and his wife, Barbara, have two sons.

### Zone 9

*Zone 9 serves members in Burlington, Canton, Franklin, Granville, Leroy, Monroe, North Towanda, Overton, Smithfield, Towanda, West Burlington and Wysox townships in Bradford County; McNett Township in Lycoming County; and Union Township in Tioga County.*



Anthony J.  
Ventello  
Zone 9

**Anthony J. Ventello**  
1175 Grange Road  
Towanda PA 18848

Anthony J. Ventello was elected to the Claverack Board of Directors in July 2019. He also serves on the board of directors of C&T Enterprises. He has

achieved the CCD and BLC certifications as well as Director Gold status.

Ventello has served as the executive director of the Progress Authority, the local economic development provider for Bradford and Susquehanna counties, since 1993. He currently leads the Bradford County and Susquehanna County Broadband Dark Fiber Development projects to improve public safety and overall connectivity. He also assisted in establishing the first Agricultural Security Area in Pennsylvania in Athens Township. He was the Bradford County planner from 1983 to 1993.

Ventello's experience with economic development and project management

is diverse, with an emphasis on small business development and rural infrastructure.

He serves as a board member for the Bradford County Conservation District, the Community Foundation for the Twin Tiers, and the Tuscarora Wayne Group of Companies. He is a member of the Bradford County and Susquehanna County farm bureaus. He is also a member of Saints Peter & Paul Parish in Towanda.

Ventello holds a bachelor's degree in geography and regional planning from Mansfield University and a master's degree in public administration from Marywood University. He also holds a certification from the American Economic Development Council through Penn State University.

Ventello and his wife, Trudy, have two daughters, one son and two grandchildren. He enjoys his rural lifestyle, traveling, outdoor activities, hunting, fishing and spending time with family. ❁



**Join Us at the 2022 Annual Meeting**

**Wednesday, Aug. 31, 2022**  
**Wyoming County Fairgrounds**  
**Meshoppen, PA**

**Registration: 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.**  
**Annual Meeting: 3 p.m. under the Claverack tent**

**HIGHLIGHTS**

- ▶ Director election results ◀
- ▶ \$20 bill credit per voting member ◀
- ▶ \$25 in fair food vouchers per voting member ◀
- ▶ Revolution Broadband information booth ◀
- ▶ Meet "Eve," Claverack's Tesla electric vehicle ◀
- ▶ Co-op employees available to answer your questions ◀



## CONSTRUCTING A BETTER FUTURE

### Claverack Communications' Revolution Broadband Begins Fiber Build in the Lime Hill Substation Area

Claverack Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc. has powered the area since 1937, with more than 2,800 miles of lines and poles providing electricity to more than 19,000 homes and businesses. In May, we introduced Revolution Broadband to bring fiber internet to the area and provide access to high-speed broadband internet.

**We're thrilled to announce the start of Phase I construction of our fiber network in Bradford County!** This project will involve working on utility poles, digging trenches, and installing 300 miles of fiber optic cable to deliver high-speed internet to members served by our Lime Hill Substation. We are planning to begin in-home installations by the end of the year.

**What is fiber-optic internet?** Fiber-optic lines allow internet signals to move at nearly the speed of light, offering speeds up to and beyond 1 gigabit per second — more than a hundred times the national average internet speed. Fiber internet enables higher speeds that will bring many benefits to our community, including reliable telecommuting, options for telehealth, increased educational opportunities through online learning and, of course, the entertainment and tools you rely on every day. Fiber brings an unmatched internet experience free of buffering and lag.

**If you're in the Lime Hill Substation area and you're interested in this service, please contact Claverack Communications at 800-326-9799.**

# REVOLUTION

## Contractor to conduct drone inspections of Claverack lines

AS PART of Claverack Rural Electric Cooperative's (REC) routine facilities inspection process, we have contracted with Constellation Clearsight to assess poles and wires using drone technology in parts of our service territory in Bradford County.

From late August to early September, Constellation Clearsight's certified drone pilots, workers and vehicles will be in Litchfield and Windham townships and the LeRaysville area. They will be flying drones to inspect electric poles and wires to see where improvements are needed.

During the inspection, a drone will focus only on the poles and wires. It will hover very high in the air to avoid homes.



Drones provide safer, more efficient inspections and provide a much

better picture of our electrical assets than traditional inspections. These insights aid in providing the best solutions to plan the work we need to do to maintain our commitment to providing reliable energy to our members.

Constellation Clearsight is a utility inspections company that uses innovative technology while improving safety and energy reliability. Working with Constellation Clearsight also means fewer interruptions for our Claverack REC members; a knock on the front door for permission to enter a yard will rarely occur and only when absolutely necessary.

For more information, please contact the Claverack office at 800-326-9799. ☘

*The Importance of Updating Your Contact Information*

We can contact you about your account or upcoming service-affecting work to be done in your area.

You can report outages more easily using our automated phone system or SmartHub with your PC or mobile app.

We can send you information about new offerings and programs at your cooperative via phone and email.

*It's time to take action!*

**Call our office, visit our website, or log on to your SmartHub account to update your contact information - DON'T DELAY!**



*"Powered by Excellence"*  
**Claverack Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.**  
 32750 Route 6 • Wysox, PA 18854  
 www.claverack.com • 1-800-326-9799

### Even out your payments with Levelized Billing

You can avoid large fluctuations in your electric bill from month to month by participating in Claverack's Levelized Billing plan.

The program allows you to level out your monthly payments throughout the year.

Levelized billing is available to members with at least one year of electric use, provided they have fewer than two late payments in the prior 12 months.

This plan is particularly helpful to members with electric heating or central air conditioning systems, since their electric bills tend to increase significantly during the heating and cooling seasons. It's also convenient for those on fixed incomes.

If you are interested in a levelized billing plan, please call the member services department at 800-326-9799.