

## **REPORT AN OUTAGE:**

(270) 843-9710 (888) 604-4321 (toll free)

## PAY BY PHONE:

(270) 842-3234 (866) 319-3234 (toll free)

### **OFFICE HOURS:**

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

**Bowling Green:** (270) 842-6541 Franklin: (270) 586-3443 Leitchfield: (270) 259-3161 Morgantown: (270) 526-3384

**Dewayne McDonald** Chief Executive Officer

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

District 1 | Warren County | Terry A. Garmon

District 2 | Warren County | Orville W. "Pete" Dotson III

District 3 | Warren County | Chris Gravil

District 4 | Barren & Edmonson Counties | N.E. Reed

District 5 | Simpson & Logan Counties | Joe B. Neely

District 6 | Butler & Ohio Counties | **Dennis P. Ingram** 

District 7 | Grayson County | Tim Purcell

#### ONLINE

Use SmartHub online or the free mobile app to:

- Manage your electric account
- Pay your electric bill
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www.wrecc.com

Warren RECC is an equal opportunity provider and employer.







#### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

# **Cooperative values**

he cooperative model is one of the most successful business models in United States history and for good reason. It honors our values and emphasizes the importance of working together toward a common goal. Over the next few local sections, I'd like to look at the seven principles that define cooperatives and help you understand how we strive to embody those principles every day.

The first principle, Open and Voluntary Membership, is first for a reason. It's the bedrock of who we are and why we do what we do every day. According to the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, cooperatives are voluntary organizations open to all persons able to use their services and willing to accept the responsibilities of membership. Those responsibilities include "accommodating those seeking relief from hardships and removing physical and procedural barriers that limit accessibility" or, as we like to say, making sure we have a big enough tent and a long enough table.

In the 1930s, our members had a significant barrier to access, in the form of a lot of physical space between them. Large farms and open spaces made the business case for a traditional company to provide electricity in rural areas untenable at best. Thanks to the Rural Electrification Act of 1936, residents in rural communities throughout the country were able to join together to bring electricity to those rural areas. Removing the barrier of access is the very foundation that electric cooperatives were built on, and the principles those founders operated on are just as relevant today as they were 83 years ago. Warren RECC began offering electricity on January 26, 1939, with 325 members in three counties. Today we represent over 68,000 members in eight counties, and we are flourishing. Our members still own us, and we are still locally operated.

Your Warren RECC leadership strives to be accessible to you at all times. You can give us a call or send us an email and know that someone here is listening. Each summer, we invite all of our members to join us for an annual meeting where we celebrate our accomplishments, elect our leadership and set our strategic goals for the coming year. We hope you will join us this year to help us celebrate our past and look toward our future. We promise to have a great big tent and a nice long table to accommodate everyone!

This month, you'll notice a new feature called Member Spotlight. As we are out in the communities we serve, we come across members with incredible stories every day. We treasure those stories, and we'd like to share them with you. Though we hear many, we know we don't hear them all. If you know of a member doing extraordinary things in the community, let us know so we can share it with all of you and celebrate our cooperative spirit. We look forward to hearing from you!

