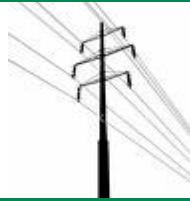




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# CATSKILL HI-LINE

Volume 76—Issue 6

August: Special Edition - Annual Meeting

Bi-Monthly Newsletter

## Powering Our Rural Communities

**Due to COVID-19 the Delaware County Electric Cooperative has had to make major changes to the traditional Annual Meeting agenda and dinner. This is the Annual Meeting Newsletter, therefore, please make sure to read this newsletter carefully for all important updates.**

### —Our 76th Annual Meeting— Agenda & Program

- Friday, September 18, 2020 -

- 3:30 PM REGISTRATION**
- 4:30 PM BUSINESS MEETING**  
 Quorum Determination  
 Official Notice of 2020 Annual Meeting  
 2019 Annual Meeting Minutes  
 Reports from Officers & Directors  
 Election of Directors | Vote on Local Charities  
 Unfinished Business  
 New Business  
 Adjournment

#### PLEASE NOTE...

- ✦ All dinner reservations must be made in advance as tickets will not be sold at event. Meals served in **Take-Out** packaging only. **Drive-Thru** pickup at the conclusion of the Business Meeting. More information is available on page 6.

### —2020 Annual Meeting—

The 76<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of Members of the Delaware County Electric Cooperative will be held at the American Legion in Delhi, New York on Friday, September 18, 2020.

In accordance with DCEC bylaws, a Nominating Committee of members has officially identified the following candidates for the office of director of the Cooperative:

Regions	Names
Northern	Edward "Rusty" Pick Jr.
Central	James Hegge Paul Menke James Warren
Southern	Tanya Khotin Kimberly Tosi

**Candidates biographies are available on Page 2...**

**- LOCATION CHANGE -**  
**Because of COVID-19 the meeting has been moved to an outdoor venue and will be held at the American Legion in Delhi located at 41 Page Ave. Delhi, NY.**

ANNUAL MEETING  
**2020**

**Please be aware that during this event masks or face coverings are required and that all CDC recommendations will be followed to help stop the spread of COVID-19.**

## 2020 Official Candidates

Each member shall be entitled to cast only one ballot. All questions shall be decided by a vote of a majority of the members voting thereon in person or by absentee ballot. Questions resulting in a tie vote shall be decided by a second round of voting in like manner. If a second round of voting results in a tie, the question shall be decided by a flipping of a coin, which shall be administered by a duly elected officer of the Cooperative. During the Annual Meeting, or by absentee ballot, eligible voters can vote for one (1) nominee from each of the three Regions. Below, is a list of candidates up for election. Please be aware that the members can vote for the Northern, Central, and Southern Region even if they do not reside in that Region.

### Northern Region

**Edward “Rusty” Pick Jr.** runs a successful construction company and has been a home builder and mason for 40 years. He is very dedicated to his friends and neighbors and has remained a pillar of the community for all of those years. Ed and his wife Sharon have owned and operated Harper Hill Farm in Harpersfield since 1975. Over the years they have expanded it to produce hay along with raising and training horses. Their son Edward works in computer technology in New Hampshire and their younger son, Brian is a culinary chef. “I am a Credentialed Cooperative Director (CCD) and continue other training and forums. I am appointed to the DCEC Insurance Committee and the Union and Labor Negotiations Committee as well. Most recently I have been serving on the Headquarters ad hoc committee. For the past 7 years I have also served as the Secretary for the DCEC Board of Directors. My work on the board is foremost to me to help keep our electric cooperative strong and running smoothly. I would like to thank the members for their support for the past 9 years. I hope to once again be re-elected as one of the DCEC Board of Directors.”

#### Northern Region



Edward Pick Jr.

### Central Region

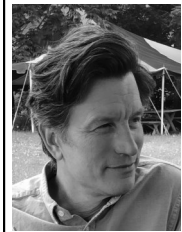
**James Hegge** owns JH Works, a company that builds custom furniture and architectural millwork. He and his wife Rachel moved to Delaware County in 2007 after falling in love with the community and natural beauty of the Western Catskills. They live in Delhi with their children Aiden and Liv.

Jim feels fortunate to be a member of the Cooperative for both his home and business. He would like to offer the perspective of a small business owner, work to maintain the affordability, reliability and responsiveness of the DCEC and increase the use of renewable energy sources.

**Paul Menke** lives in the town of Meredith with his wife Candice. They operated a dairy farm for over forty years and currently they harvest and sell hay. Mr. Menke has served the town of Meredith as a Councilman and Planning Board member. Mr. Menke has been on the DCEC board for almost twenty seven years, completed training to become a Credentialed Cooperative Director (CCD) as well as attending many other training classes. “With this training and the experience of being on the DCEC Board for many years I feel I can assist the Coop in providing safe, reliable, and affordable electric power for all our members.”

**James Warren** has lived in the Hamden and Delhi area most of his life. Mr. Warren moved to this area at the age of five when his father accepted a job with then REA. This is where he first began his relationship with DCEC. Hamden is where Mr. Warren’s family decided to call home for the last thirty one years. Mr. Warren has been a member of DCEC for that time and still is. Mr. Warren has three children, Jeremiah, Riann, and Hannah. Jeremiah lives in North Carolina, Riann resides in Cortland and Hannah is going to Hartwick College. Mr. Warren is a graduate of SUNY Delhi and has worked as an electrician for thirty six years. He’s currently employed at SUNY Delhi, where he has been an electrician for seventeen years.

#### Central Region



James Hegge



Paul Menke



James Warren

### Southern Region

**Tanya Khotin** and her family have lived in Andes since 2009, and their house was the first to be net-metered for solar energy in Delaware County. Tanya’s 25+ year career has primarily been in strategic consulting and finance. After business school at Columbia University, Tanya worked at the consulting firm Bain & Co. in Moscow, Russia, (where she was born) and in New York, and later joined UBS

*Continued on Page 4...*

**DELAWARE COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.**  
**SUMMARY FINANCIAL REPORT \*\*\***

Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2019

<u>Assets</u>	
Electric plant and work in progress - at cost	\$ 34,206,615
Less accumulated provisions for depreciation	(12,267,120)
Investments in associated organizations	807,957
Non-Utility property	610,240
Cash	196,221
Accounts and notes receivable - Net	1,084,868
Materials and supplies (at average cost)	768,271
Prepaid expenses	211,718
Other current and accrued assets	332,190
Deferred charges	1,769,107
<b>Total Assets:</b>	<b>\$ 27,720,067</b>

<u>Liabilities</u>	
Long-term debt (current and non-current)	12,758,510
Accounts payable	219,203
Accrued interest	24,611
Consumer deposits and prepayments	193,292
Other current and accrued liabilities	370,313
Deferred credits	3,810,074
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>17,376,003</b>

<u>Equities</u>	
Memberships	58,900
Patronage capital	9,129,361
Other equities	1,155,803
<b>Total equities</b>	<b>10,344,064</b>

**Total Liabilities and Equities: \$ 27,720,067**

<b>Income Statement for the years ended December 31,</b>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
Operating revenues	\$ 8,826,863	\$ 9,075,031
Nonoperating margins, G&T and other capital credits	192,473	155,342
<b>Total revenues</b>	<b>9,019,336</b>	<b>9,230,373</b>
Cost of power	1,943,856	2,083,467
Distribution expense	3,137,259	2,978,788
Consumer accounts and service	264,453	292,432
Administrative and general	1,471,617	1,162,375
Depreciation and amortization	978,005	996,431
Interest	602,156	610,144
Other deductions	4,612	410,930
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>8,401,958</b>	<b>8,534,567</b>
Net margins	617,378	695,806
Retirement of capital credits	(466,863)	(604,932)
<b>Net change</b>	<b>\$ 150,515</b>	<b>\$ 90,874</b>

To view  
DCEC's Policy on  
**Member  
Participation in  
Annual Meetings  
of Members**

please visit our website at  
[www.dce.coop](http://www.dce.coop) or call our  
office at  
(607) 746-2341.

\*\*\* The above information was summarized from the Cooperative's audited financial statements which are available upon request.

## Members to Vote on Local Organization Donations

BO 2-83-5A

DCEC members nominated three local organizations to receive donations from DCEC. The nominated organizations will be voted on and the top three organizations will receive a donation of \$1,000, \$600, and \$400.

The Cooperative received nominations for the following organizations:

- Delaware County Emergency Services
- Delaware County Office for the Aging
- Cannon Free Library

Usually, representatives from each organization would be present at the Annual Meeting however, this year because we are limiting the amount of people attending our meeting no representatives will be present. A print out with information about each organization and their involvement in DCEC's local community will accompany the official ballots.

## 2020 Official Candidates, Southern Region, Continued from Page 2...

### Official Candidate Tanya Khotin's Biography Continued from Page 2...

Investment bank working in Russian and Emerging Markets equities, where she was among the few female Managing Directors at the bank. Influenced by her concerns about climate change, Tanya pivoted her work to private consulting in the field of impact and sustainable investing, helping organizations and foundations to align their investments with their environmental and social missions. Tanya serves as Treasurer on the Board of the Norcross Wildlife Foundation, a \$40 million non-profit that protects 8,000 acres. She is also currently President (and former Treasurer) of her homeowner association in Andes, and previously served on the Board of the Beaverkill Mountain Club in Lew Beach, her NYC Coop Board, and as an elected member of the School Leadership Teams at her sons' public schools in New York City.

"I'm running for a board position at DCEC because I want to leverage my skills and passion for financial and environmental sustainability to support an organization that is essential to our community and to us personally. I would feel honored to help DCEC remain as strong a steward as possible of its finances and of its mission to provide reliable and affordable energy to members. Having been very early adopters in distributed energy at our home, we are committed to ensuring that everybody in the cooperative benefits from expanded access to renewable energy sources."

**Kimberly Tosi** was born and raised in Andes. After graduating high school in 2005, I married my high school sweetheart who joined the Air Force. We have been married for 14 years now. Together we traveled around the U.S. for six years. During that time I earned my B.A. in Sociology, participated in many on base spouse committees and started a family. Our sons are Sebastian 10, and Skyler, 9. After his separation from the service we decided the best place to be was back home with our families. We packed everything up and moved back to Andes. It was at that point I decided to run for the position of Town Clerk. I got my petition together and never looked back, 2020 will be my ninth year as Andes Town Clerk.

As Town Clerk, I feel I have a unique opportunity through my interactions with residents on a daily basis. I think it provides me with truly eye opening experiences to how the community is feeling and what they need. I am really at my happiest when my office is filled with residents who come to do their business, but who would love to stay and chat. I think that having an open mind, a willingness to learn and the ability to be kind to everyone really makes all the difference.

I believe that my interaction with the public coupled with my knowledge of budgets, fiscal concerns, personnel, and other town and local issues, as well as the willingness to learn and be an active member in this process would really help me to be a director. I would truly love to serve the members of DCEC as I do the tax payers of Andes. The cooperative, its principles and their meaning make me proud to be a member of DCEC.

### Southern Region



**Tanya Khotin**



**Kimberly Tosi**

### Official Absentee Ballot Request Form

The Cooperative is making every effort to plan and execute the 2020 Annual Meeting in its customary fashion on Friday, September 18, 2020. DCEC is closely monitoring the coronavirus (COVID-19) situation and continues to prioritize the health and safety of our members, staff and event participants. Local, state and national orders, recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and World Health Organization, and travel industry guidance all inform our decisions regarding DCEC events.

**DCEC strongly encourages all members to submit an absentee ballot, which will ensure that your vote is counted regardless of how the Annual Meeting is impacted by COVID-19. Even if the meeting has to be postponed, your absentee ballot will still be counted.**

**VOTE BY MAIL:** One method for a member to be eligible to vote by absentee ballot is to request a ballot by completing an official form (available below) and submitting it to the Cooperative by **August 29, 2020**. Once the Cooperative receives your form we will provide you with an official absentee ballot which you can then complete and send back to the DCEC office. DCEC will count properly completed absentee ballots as long as they are received by **September 14, 2020** (4 business days prior to the Annual Meeting). Once DCEC has received a member’s absentee ballot it cannot be revoked if the member decides to attend the Annual Meeting and vote once there.

**VOTE EARLY AT THE CO-OP OFFICE:** Members can also complete an absentee ballot in person at the Co-op office during regular business hours between **August 29, 2020 and September 14, 2020**. You must have a government issued photo ID with you to vote by absentee ballot in the Cooperative office.

Members can return the below form either in person to the DCEC Office in Delhi, or by mail to the DCEC office at: P.O. Box 471, Delhi, NY 13753, fax to (607) 746-7548, or email to [office@dce.coop](mailto:office@dce.coop). For members that are paperless, an electronic official absentee ballot request form *WAS* emailed to all members that have an active SmartHub account on Wednesday, 6/17/2020 with instructions.

*A \$10 bill credit will be applied to the October 2020 electric bill for a properly completed and received absentee ballot.*

For the **MOST** up to date information about DCEC’s 2020 Annual Meeting please visit our website at <http://dce.coop/content/2020-annual-meeting-and-covid-19> or our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/DelawareCountyElectricCooperative/>

## REQUEST FOR ABSENTEE BALLOT

The Delaware County Electric Cooperative (hereinafter “Cooperative”) will hold its Annual Meeting on **September 18, 2020** for the transaction of all lawful business in accordance with its Bylaws and the New York State Rural Electric Cooperative Law. The Annual Meeting will be held at the **American Legion, located at 41 Page Ave., Delhi, NY**, and the business meeting shall begin at 4:30 pm. Members who are unable to attend in person are permitted under Article III of the Cooperative’s Bylaws to vote, by absentee ballot, on any and all issues presented to the general membership at that meeting. To be eligible to vote by absentee ballot, members may request that an absentee ballot be sent to them by providing the following information and returning this completed form to the Cooperative. **The Cooperative must receive this request no later than August 29, 2020.** All absentee ballots will be sent out on August 29, 2020.

I HEREBY REQUEST AN ABSENTEE BALLOT FOR THE SEPTEMBER 18, 2020 ANNUAL MEETING.

Member’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Member’s Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

If you have any questions with respect to this form or the Annual Meeting, please contact DCEC at (607) 746-2341 or (866) 436-1223, or at Delaware County Electric Co-op, P.O. Box 471, Delhi, NY 13753.

*Location of meeting changed to address health and safety concerns related to COVID-19.*





**MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN**



**Is Your Location Number in This Issue?**

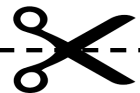
Your service location number begins with two letters and is located on your bill next to your account number. Keep your eyes peeled for the “hidden location number” in this newsletter! If you find the number, and it is your service location you will receive a DCEC fleece sweatshirt! *Good luck!*



CATSKILL HI-LINE is a Publication of the Delaware County Electric Cooperative, Inc. and is published bi-monthly for the membership. This newsletter has articles submitted by CEO/General Manager Mark Schneider, Finance Manager Millie Faulkner, and Administrative Assistant Alicia VanZandt. The information contained herein is designed to promote action and discussion among members. Statements published do not necessarily reflect the official position of the Cooperative. The information has been obtained from sources believed to be reliable, and the editor has exercised reasonable care to assure its accuracy.

**Board of Directors**

- President.....Stephen Oles
- Vice President.....Frank Winkler
- Secretary.....Edward Pick Jr.
- Treasurer.....Paul Menke
- Director.....Jeffrey Russell
- Director.....Laurie Wehmeyer
- Director.....Steve Burnett
- CEO/General Manager.....Mark Schneider



# Annual Meeting

**Chicken BBQ Dinner Reservation Ticket**

**Friday, September 18, 2020**

**Chicken dinners provided by Brooks' Barbeque of Oneonta**

***Drive-Thru Pickup***

All reservations must be made in advance as tickets will not be sold at event. Meals served in *take-out* packaging only. *Drive-Thru* pickup at the conclusion of the Business Meeting. Reservations can be made either in-person at the DCEC office or by mailing in this reservation form by September 2, 2020.

Mail-in requests should include this entire coupon and payment of \$6.00 per dinner.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Account #: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\*Please Reserve \_\_\_\_\_ tickets for the 76th Annual Meeting & Chicken BBQ (Cooperative members and family only please).

*Please note that REFUNDS are available if this event is cancelled.*

