

Powering Our Rural Communities

Nominating Committee Meets to Identify Director Candidates



DCEC Nominating Committee Chair, Frank Eppich addresses members at the 2013 Annual Meeting

Each year, an independent committee of DCEC members work to recruit members interested in running for the DCEC board at the Cooperative's Annual Meeting. This year members will elect new directors at the 2014 Annual Meeting scheduled for September 19. The Committee, which kicked off their work on April 17, will submit official nominations by July 21.

Members interested in learning more about being a director or becoming a candidate, should contact members of the Nominating

Committee or the DCEC office. All candidates will be expected to submit a letter to the Nominating Committee presenting your credentials and qualifications and explain why you are interested in serving on the DCEC Board of Directors. Further details are available on the DCEC website.

The director positions that are up for election in 2014 include:

- **Northern Region:** Towns of Gilboa, Jefferson, Summit, Davenport, Harpersfield, Stamford, and Maryland
- **Central Region:** Towns of Bovina, Delhi, Franklin, Hamden, Kortright and Meredith
- **Southern Region:** Towns of Andes, Colchester, Masonville, Middletown, Sidney, Tompkins, Walton and Bainbridge

Continued on Page 2...

Are You Interested in Being on DCEC's Fixed Budget?

Members interested in being on DCEC's fixed budget plan need to contact the office by the end of June in order to be enrolled. Members can also elect to be on a variable budget plan, which you can sign up for at any time throughout the year as long as you have 12 consecutive months of usage.

For more information on the budget plans please contact the DCEC office.

Temperature and Energy Prices Returning to Normal



According to data published at Weather Underground (wunderground.com), Catskill area average temperatures in January, February, and March of 2014 were 5 to 8 degrees colder than those same months in 2013. Thankfully April average temperatures have returned to near normal levels and along with them, electric energy prices are getting back to normal.

The average wholesale electric energy price in our zone of New York State in January, February, and March of 2014 were 12.8 cents/kWh, 8.3 cents/kWh, and 8.9 cents/kWh respectively as compared to typical wholesale costs in the 4 to 6 cent/kWh range in recent years (*source: www.nyiso.com*). April 2014 wholesale electric energy prices have returned to the "normal" range of approximately 4.5 cents/kWh. All of this is great news for members of the Cooperative and customers of neighboring utilities. Our Power Cost Adjustment (PCA) is heading back down to normal levels for now. Your board of directors is looking at a variety of methods to minimize the impact of power price spikes on members of the Cooperative.

Continued on Page 2...

Bringing Broadband to Rural Members

Many of you participated in a broadband Internet survey that was included in your April bill. We'll be sharing the results of that survey in the next newsletter. The Cooperative is working with Delhi Telephone and Margaretville Telephone Companies to pursue federal and state grants to increase the financial viability of expansion of rural broadband Internet to our underserved members. If we are successful in winning grant funding, the telephone companies would provide fiber-based services including Internet, phone, and television services to currently underserved areas of DCEC's service territory. The state and federal programs have certain geographic areas where they will target grant funds. Those targeted grant funds will influence which areas can be served with new fiber-based broadband. The Cooperative's role in this project is not that of an owner or operator of Internet services and will not necessarily make any money from this initiative. The Cooperative's goal is simple – bring high bandwidth Internet service to more of our rural members. It's a matter of improving the quality of life experienced by our members by not only giving them more choices but better ones as well.

Energy Prices Returning to Normal Continued from Page 2...

Some of the options include energy efficiency and conservation measures, gaining more participation in our hot water heater load control program, and pre-buying wholesale power at a fixed price. This last option is a lot like the pre-buy programs offered to home owners by propane and oil distributors. As a member you may be asked to help your cooperative manage power costs next winter. Let's all work together to avoid another winter of unmanageable electric bills.

Nominating Committee Continued from Page 1...

2014 DCEC Nominating Committee:

Central Region:	Northern Region:	Southern Region:
Frank Eppich	Christine Hauser	Carol LaTourette
Anthony Caruso	Tom Courtenay-Clack	Stephen Hodge
Steve Mason	Bob Foote	Art Reed
Wayne Oliver		

DCEC Starts Receiving Revenue from Amphenol Service

DCEC connected and energized Amphenol's primary electric service equipment to the energized DCEC system at Sidney on March 10, 2014. Since that time, Amphenol has made progress in the connection of electrical equipment to the service as they continue with the construction of their new facility at Sidney. DCEC is expecting that Amphenol's new plant will be operational during the latter part of 2014, resulting in increased electrical loadings at the plant for both manufacturing needs and office support functions.

DCEC Completes Annual Audit

Each year, the DCEC board retains an outside accounting firm to conduct a comprehensive audit of DCEC financial practices and internal controls. For the fourth year in a row, the auditing firm of Buffamante, Whipple, Buttafaro, P.C. (BWB), located in Jamestown, N.Y., was hired and completed a very comprehensive audit of how DCEC processes payments, conducts business and records financial transactions from all departments. They also reviewed the strength of DCEC internal controls to ensure against the risk of fraud or inaccuracies in DCEC's financial accounting practices.



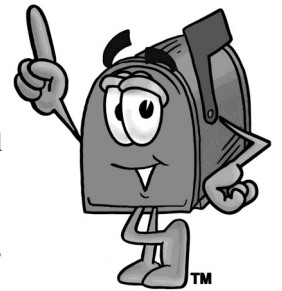
We are pleased to report to our members that the findings for 2013 have revealed that DCEC is in good, sound financial standing with no deficiencies identified in internal control practices.

ST 2-83-1B

DCEC Reduces its Special Mailing Fee

The Cooperative has been looking for ways to provide late payment notifications in a more member-friendly way. We sought and received permission from the New York Power Authority to change our certified mailing procedure. We are no longer required to send the return receipt requested portion of the certified mailing. Consequently, the special mailing fee has been reduced from \$11 to \$5.

We are considering other changes as well, such as using automated phone messages to give members earlier warnings that they have forgotten to make a payment. If you have suggestions as to how these procedures could be improved, feel free to call CEO/General Manager, Mark Schneider at (607) 746-9282 to share your opinion.



Mitsopoulos Selected as DCEC's 2014 Legislative Youth Delegate



Miss Mary Mitsopoulos of Jefferson Central School was selected by the DCEC Board of Directors to be the Cooperative's 2014 Legislative Youth Delegate. As a Youth Delegate, Mary represented DCEC at the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) Legislative Conference in Washington D.C. that occurred from May 4—May 7. Mary is the daughter of Patricia Mitsopoulos of Jefferson, NY.

Each year, 11TH grade sons and daughters of DCEC members are given the opportunity to apply and be considered to represent the Cooperative at this national event. Students are selected based on their academic achievement, involvement in extra-curricular activities, letters of recommendation, and service to the community.

As a Youth Delegate, Mary accompanied DCEC officials to Washington. She joined representatives from 900 other rural electric co-ops in meetings with Congressional leaders on Capitol Hill.

DCEC to Offer GenerLink Emergency Transfer Switches To Members

DCEC is preparing to stock GenerLink™ Emergency transfer switches for those members that may be interested. GenerLink™ switches allow you to connect a 9500 watt or less portable generator to your home during power outages. These switches are five-inch devices that are installed, by the Cooperative, behind your existing 200 amp meter base and come with a 20 foot cord. When you connect a portable generator to GenerLink™ and start it up, GenerLink™ automatically disconnects your house from the electric utility grid preventing the possibility of back feed, which can damage equipment and harm DCEC line and right-of-way personnel. Each switch also has internal warranty surge protection for household appliances.



The member cost for the devices will be \$760 plus a \$100 installation charge. The GenerLink™ switches will become available to purchase at the Cooperative by July. For more information please call the DCEC office at (607) 746-2341.

DeAndrea Honored by IEEE



The Institute for Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) has honored DCEC's Engineering Manager, Paul DeAndrea, P.E., by elevating him to the status of Senior Member. Senior Member is the highest professional grade awarded by IEEE. IEEE is the

world's largest professional association for the advancement of technology. IEEE has published many of the standards that keep the world's electrical systems safe and reliable.

Cannizzaro Accepts Position at Eastern Maine Electric Cooperative



DCEC Financial Analyst, Mark Cannizzaro has left DCEC to pursue a new career at Eastern Maine Electric Cooperative in Calais, ME as their new Chief Financial Officer. We would like to wish Mark the best of luck in his new career and are happy he will still be part of the Northeast Electric Cooperative Association family. "Mark has provided DCEC with a sustainable financial system that will leave the Cooperative better prepared for years to come," says CEO/General Manager, Mark Schneider.

Electrical Safety Tips for Spring and Summer

As you spend more time outdoors this spring and summer try to remember these safety tips:

- ◆ Always keep power cords and electrical equipment away from water or other wet areas.
- ◆ Look up and look out for overhead power lines. Be sure you are aware of any nearby lines before you climb a ladder or extend the handle of a pool-cleaning tool.
- ◆ Keep materials, tools and all parts of your body at least 15 feet away from any overhead power lines at all times, including during installation of antennas or satellite dishes. If you plan to get any closer please contact the DCEC office before doing so.
- ◆ Never fly kites or model airplanes near power lines, radio, or TV antennas. If your kite does get tangled with overhead lines, do not try to get it down yourself. Have someone call the DCEC office for assistance. Never use any metallic material in your kite.
- ◆ Before every use, inspect power tools and electric lawn mowers for frayed power cords, broken plugs and weathered or damaged housings.
- ◆ Before you trim tree limbs and shrubs, watch out for power lines that could be hidden by foliage. Contact the DCEC office if there are concerns about tree limbs growing into or around overhead power lines on your property.
- ◆ Instruct the kids to stay away from utility substation fences and pad-mounted transformers.
- ◆ Do not hang birdhouses, signs, basketball hoops, etc. on electric poles as this could cause harm to our linemen.

DCEC Urges Members to Dig Safely



With the spring weather here many of us look to begin outdoor projects. These projects may require some type of excavation such as digging a hole to plant a tree or installing that much wanted deck.

There are many underground lines around us everywhere that include electric, gas, and telephone. It is very important that members remember to call Dig Safely New York at 811 before you do any kind of digging regardless of the project. This service is provided at no charge to folks to notify them if there are any underground utilities on your property. You can also call the DCEC office if you are unsure if you have an underground service and we will have someone locate and mark this out for you.

It is very important to call 811 or the Cooperative before you dig. It is the law and must be followed to keep everyone safe.

Operations Update



Line Reconstruction:

DCEC line crews are continuing the rebuild of an electric line on Monroe Road in the Town of Meredith and also on Reuben Todd Road in the Town of Delhi. The line crew will also be starting a line rebuild in the Town of Andes on the Pepacton Reservoir NYC Road.

Right of Way (ROW) Clearing:

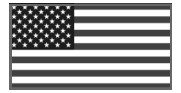
DCEC crews continue to clear the right-of-ways on Frank Hafele, Peakes Brook, Ryder Hill and Dick Mason Roads in the Town of Delhi

DCEC contractor, Asplundh Tree Service, will be clearing right-of-ways in the Towns of Bovina and Kortright. Their expected start date is June 1st and a notice will be sent out to affected members.

Kortright and Jefferson Substation Experience Transmission Outage

On March 28, 2014, DCEC members served from substations at Kortright and Jefferson were interrupted due to a fault (short circuit) condition on NYSEG's 115 kV transmission system serving those substations. The interruption began at approximately 8:25 AM and lasted until NYSEG was able to complete switching arrangements to re-route the service via an alternate transmission path. All DCEC members were restored to service at approximately 9:45 AM. Approximately 2,300 members were affected.

DCEC Office Closing Reminder:



DCEC's office will be closed on Monday, May 26, 2014 for Memorial Day

DCEC staff asks our members to remember our fallen heroes who have served our Country.

Community Calendar

**DCEC Annual Meeting
Friday, September 19, 2014**

**Stamford Flag Day Parade
June 14, 2014 @ 6 pm**



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!**



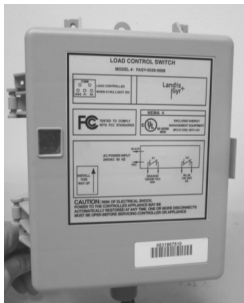
Buyer's Market



If you would like to place an ad in our Buyers Market please call our office at (607) 746-2341

For Sale:
Blueberry Plants.
Call Joe Longo at
(607) 829-2760

For Sale: Articat Snow Blower
26" cut w/ chains, electric motor
start. 4 speeds forward, 1 reverse.
Asking \$500, call Phil after 4pm
(607) 538-1154



**Save \$4.00 a month on
your electric bill.
Contact DCEC and ask
about our hot water
heater Load
Management Program!**

CATSKILL HI-LINE is a Publication of the Delaware County Electric Cooperative, Inc. and is published bi-monthly for the membership. The information contained herein is designed to communicate aspects of the cooperative to its 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.....Frank Winkler
- Vice President...Hartley Russell
- Secretary.....Rusty Pick
- Treasurer.....Stephen Oles
- Director.....Meg Hungerford
- Director.....Paul Menke
- Director.....Shawn Hartwell
- CEO/General Manager.....Mark Schneider
- Asst. General Manager.....Wayne Marshfield

Delaware County Electric Coop., Inc.
39 Elm St., PO Box 471, Delhi, New York 13753-0471
607-746-2341 Fax: 607-746-7548 Toll-Free: 866-436-1223
Email: office@dce.coop Web Site: www.dce.coop



Round The Clock Nurses

**BECAUSE YOUR LOVED ONE DESERVES
THE BEST CARE AVAILABLE!**

- Staff skilled in Alzheimer's & Dementia Care
- Staff trained in all levels of care from Rehab to end of life
 - Medication and Treatment Administration
- Regular Communication with Family • Light Housekeeping
 - Transportation to Doctors Visits as well as non medical (shopping, church, etc.) • Meal Preparation
- Short term, part time and 24hr./7 days a week care provided

Round The Clock In-Home Care LLC

Quality In-Home Nursing Care

Customized services for each patient's individual needs

Rebecca Little LPN • Laura Doenges LPN

607-746-8182/607-746-2302

pbgs@delhitel.net

Affordable Rates

