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# **CATSKILL HI-LINE**

Bi-Monthly Newsletter

Volume 75—Issue 4 July/August 2019

#### Powering Our Rural Communities

#### DELAWARE COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC



**MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN** 

# Brook's BBQ Dinner for ONLY \$6

Dinner at 4:30 pm
Business Meeting at 6:30 pm
Located at Delaware Academy
2 Sheldon Dr., Delhi, NY



Seated Ray LaFever Bovina Town Historian and standing Director Steve Burnett



# YOU'RE INVITED!

# FRIDAY 20 SEPTEMBER 20

### **MUSICAL PERFORMANCE**

**The Nelson Brothers Band** 

4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

••••••

Highlights include... FREE LED Night Light Gift Live Music

Win \$500 in CASH

Win bill credit
Door prizes

For Official Candidates & Biographies see Page 2...

Can't Make the DCEC Annual
Meeting? Vote by Absentee Ballot...
See page 3 for More Details



Seated CEO/ General Manager Mark Schneider. Standing left to right: Board President Steve Oles, Board Secretary Edward "Rusty" Pick Jr., and Vice President Frank Winkler.

39 Elm Street, PO Box 471, Delhi, NY 13753 Phone: 607-746-2341 or 866-436-1223

Secure Pay-by-Phone 1-844-209-7162

Fax: 607-746-7548 OUTAGES: 607-746-9283

#### 2019 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 two (2) nominees from the Central Region. Below, is a list of candidates up for election. Please be aware that the members can vote for the Central Region even if they do not reside in that Region.

Steve Burnett has been a member of DCEC since 1989. He and his family have a farm in Bovina. It's an organic, sustainable operation that has fruits/berries, vegetables, animals, maple syrup and honey. Mr. Burnett's career was in marketing and design. For 33 years he owned and operated a communications business headquartered out of NYC. They helped companies explain their story. They also gave a large portion of their time and efforts to 'not for profit' causes. Mr. Burnett is a board member of Farming Bovina, a member of the Bovina historical society, a board member of the Livestock foundation, and an elder of the Bovina United Presbyterian Church.

"I'm running for a board position at our energy coop for a few reasons. I believe that the DCEC members belong to one of the best run energy businesses in the industry. I'd like to contribute to that legacy with the knowledge I have gained by running my own business. Moreover, I want to help answer these question, what happens when we as stakeholders come together and move towards a vision of Rural America's energy future? How do we sustain and increase our renewable energy usage? It's an exciting and challenging time. Thank you for your consideration."

Stephen Oles is a Delhi native who returned home after college to raise a family with his wife Lynn in the beautiful foothills of the Catskills. Stephen retired after 30 years of service with DTC, a local communications and broadband provider and has been a DCEC director since 1991 and currently serves as the President.

"I recognize that safe, reliable, and affordable electric service to the membership is critical for the stability and longevity of the Cooperative. Continuing the study of good governance, my appreciation of advocacy and transparency has grown. By following prudent financial goals and objectives which guides decisions, the Cooperative will advance today and into the future".

Steve Burnett Incumbent

Steve Oles Incumbent

James Warren

"Establishing a farmer's rate, executing a plan to consolidate operations, reducing the debt level, increasing the equity of the membership and extending the hydro contract are recent accomplishments that I am proud to have been a part of."

"Staying current with the developments in the renewable industry, I will reinforce DCEC's commitment to meet the state's energy goals. Partnering with the New York Power Authority and SUNY Delhi, DCEC will combine battery storage and capturing the energy of the sun with this project at no cost to the membership. While the Cooperative's current source of electricity is approximately 90% renewable, this project will provide valuable information to the members of the Cooperative'.

DCEC is a vital part of the communities we serve. If re-elected, my goal as director is to keep your cooperative financially strong and to ensure safe, reliable, affordable, and renewable electricity for many generations to come.

<u>James Warren</u> 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 years. Mr. Warren has been a member of DCEC for that time and still is.

Continued on Page 3...

#### 2019 Official Candidates, Central Region, Continued from Page 2...

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 five years. He's currently employed at SUNY Delhi, where he has been an electrician for sixteen years.

#### **Vote by Absentee Ballot**

If you are not planning to attend the 2019 DCEC Annual Meeting, you can still make your vote count by requesting an absentee ballot.

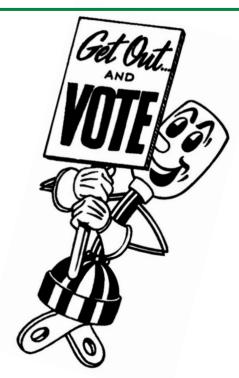
#### **VOTE BY MAIL**

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 31, 2019**. 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 16, 2018** (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 31, 2019 and September 16, 2019**. 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 39 Elm Street, Delhi, by mail to the DCEC office at: P.O. Box 471, Delhi, NY 13753, fax to (607) 746-7548, or email to <a href="mailto:office@dce.coop">office@dce.coop</a>.





## REQUEST FOR ABSENTEE BALLOT

The Delaware County Electric Cooperative (hereinafter "Cooperative") will hold its Annual Meeting on **September 20, 2019** 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 Delaware Academy Central School, located at 2 Sheldon Drive, Delhi, NY, and the business meeting shall begin at 6:30 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 31, 2019.* Upon receipt, the Cooperative shall send to the requesting member an absentee ballot with instructions for its completion and submission.

I HEREBY REQUEST AN ABSENTEE BALLOT FOR THE SEPTEMBER 20, 2019 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, 39 Elm Street, Delhi, NY 13753.

#### **Summertime Safety Tips**

The lazy days of summer are here. Enjoy the summertime sunshine in the outdoors with your family, but please do so wisely.

Here are some ideas that will help to protect babies and young children while they are enjoying an outing on a sunny, summer day.

Protect your baby when in the sun by avoiding being in direct sunlight between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. and stay in shaded area as much as possible when outdoors. Dress your baby in a hat, sunglasses, and clothing made with tight weave. For babies 6 months and older, use sunscreen with an SPF of at least 15 (SPF 30 and higher is even better) that offers both UVA and UVB protection. If your baby is younger than 6 months and adequate shade is not available, apply sunscreen in small amounts on exposed surfaces of the skin. Be sure to apply sunscreen at least 30 minutes prior to going outside, even on cloudy days and plan to reapply sunscreen every two hours. If your outing includes swimming, remember that sunscreen loses its effectiveness after about 80 minutes of swimming.

A recent study indicates that certain active compounds contained in some sunscreen products may be absorbed into the body and the bloodstream. Dr. Theresa Michele and Dr. David Stauss with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration ("FDA") say that people should continue using sunscreens, since they are a good way to protect skin from the sun's harmful ultraviolet ("UV") rays while additional data is being gathered about how these active compounds may affect users. For those that are concerned about the incomplete data with regard to the safe use of these compounds, Dr. Michele and Dr. Strauss say that there are other ways to avoid damaging sun exposure and UV rays, such as staying out of the sun during peak hours between 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and wearing protective clothing, as well as hats and sunglasses. Look for more information regarding this topic from the FDA in the future.

If your child develops a sunburn, the best remedies are cold compresses, over-the-counter pain relievers and topical preparations containing aloe.

As temperatures rise, heat exhaustion becomes a concern. Symptoms may include fatigue, extreme thirst, and muscle cramps. If the affected person doesn't cool down and rehydrate, heat exhaustion can lead to heatstroke. Signs of heatstroke include headaches, dizziness, nausea, vomiting and lack of perspiration. Heatstroke is potentially fatal.

If you notice heat illnesses in children, spray them with cold water from a bottle or hose, fan them and move them to a shaded area. Ice packs applied to the groin and armpit areas can speed up the cooling process even more. If you suspect heatstroke, call 911 for help.

Infants are vulnerable to heat-related illness, so keep them in air-conditioned areas when possible. Never leave children in unattended cars, even with the windows cracked open.

Summertime fun for children often includes play time in the water. Exercise caution when children are in the water. Sadly, drowning is among the leading causes of accidental death in children. If your children are playing in the water, supervise them within an arm's length reach, even in shallow water. It's recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics that parents should not enroll children under the age of 4 in formal swimming lessons that teach water survival skills.

When choosing a flotation device for children, select a child-size life vest. Life vests are likely to provide more effective protection for your children than water wings or a swimming ring. Also, consider taking a CPR course so that you'll be prepared in case of a near-drowning incident. You can find out more about this from your local American Red Cross chapter at redcross.org.

Protect your children against accidental burns. About half of all accidental burns that occur each year happen to children under the age of 4. Therefore, you should not leave a small child unattended around hot appliances, such as a grill or a stove and you should keep children at a distance while you are cooking. Additionally, while they may be fun on a summertime evening, it's best to keep children away from sparklers and other fireworks.

Continued on Page 6...

#### Vendors & Volunteers Needed For August 3rd Family Fun Day Event

In addition to the balloons, live music, and carnival fun, the Family Fun Event features arts & crafts vendors, as well as commercial exhibitors. This event draws approximately 300+ visitors and provides an excellent opportunity for vendors to market goods and support the community at the same time. Call 607-746-9299 for more information.

#### **DCEC Makes 2018 Capital Credit** Allocation

Capital credits are the retained margins left over at the end of the year for not for profit utilities, such as your member-owned Delaware County Electric Cooperative. This owner equity is an essential part in maintaining good financial health by reducing DCEC's

borrowing needs and reducing the interest rates DCEC pays to banks.

For 2018, DCEC has allocated (set aside) \$695,806.74 to members who contributed to the revenue that exceeded expenses for the year simply by paying your monthly electric bill. The allocation factor is multiplied by the amount of revenue you

share of the margins or your capital credit allocation. Your specific allocated amount is shown on the June and July bill print.

Each year, DCEC's Board of Directors, with the help of the Finance Committee, determine if capital credits can be returned to members. In December, 2018, DCEC paid out 1991 allocated capital credits in the amount of \$478,015.00. Thank you for being a DCEC member and for your contributions in making our Cooperative financially strong.

> Sign Up for DCEC's Load Control Program and Get \$4.00 Taken Off you **Bill Every Month! Please** give us a call at (607) 746-9284 for more details.

> > **Delhi Telephone Company**





607-746-1500

Thank you for your continued support of DTC!

www.delhitel.com

#### Summertime Safety Tips...Continued from Page 4...

If your child does suffer an accidental burn, you'll need to be able to recognize the appropriate symptoms:

First degree burns are painful and red but do not blister. To care for this type of burn, hold the area under running cool tap water for about 5 to 10 minutes. There's no need to use topical creams or ointments. Do not apply ice as this can lead to frostbite of the affected area which will delay healing. Place a loose, sterile dressing over the site and keep it clean with soap and water as it heals.

Second degree burns are deeper and typically blister. Do not pop these blister bubbles. Contact your child's doctor or healthcare provider if you notice these conditions.

Third degree burns are the most serious. These may appear white, waxy or black. They may be so deep that the affected area feels numb. Such burns require immediate medical attention.

To help prevent insect bites when outside, cover children with lightweight clothing and use mosquito netting over strollers and infant seats. In our area, ticks are also a concern. Check your child's body for them at the end of each day spent in the outdoors. If you discover a tick on your child, use a device, such as a tweezer, to pull it off by its head. Ticks have to be embedded in the skin for about 24 hours to transmit pathogens which may contain diseases.

The summer season, with its related outdoor activity, is a good time to ensure that your first-aid kit is well stocked so that you are prepared if an accident should occur. Your kit should include at least the following items:

- Adhesive bandages (such as Band-Aids)
- Antibacterial gel or foam
- Triple-antibiotic ointment
- Hydrocortisone cream
- Sterile gauze pads
- Adhesive tape
- Tweezers
- Washclothes
- Cold packs
- Infant & children's Motrin or Tylenol
- Oral Antihistamine
- Rubbing alcohol
- Digital thermometer



This article was composed from information provided by Sara DuMond, MD in Parents Magazine and Alice Park at Time.com.





Electric cooperatives
are different than
other types of energy
providers. We are led
by consumermembers just like you.
We were built by the
community we serve.
We still belong to the
community.

#### **Which Charity Will You Vote For?**

In the last issue of the Catskill Hi-Line. DCEC's newsletter, we asked members to nominate a local charitable organization, 501(c)(3), by June. The Cooperative received nominations for the following:

- Arc of Delaware County
- Bright Hill Press & Literacy Center of the Catskills
- Catholic Charities

Representatives from each organization will be present at the Annual Meeting on Friday, September 20th with a display table and educational materials. Please attend

the meeting to learn more about each organization and cast your vote for the winners during the business portion of the meeting!





- \$1,000 Livestock Foundation - \$600 Girls on the Run of Central New York & the Scrambled Legs

**Past Recipients of** 

**Grant Funds** 

- \$400 Western Catskills Community Revitalization Council Inc.

- \$1,000 Delhi Food Bank through Delaware Opportunities
- \$600 Relay for Life through American Cancer Society, Inc.
- \$400 Michelle MacNaught Memorial Fund

# DCEC'S **Family Fun Event**

ATHOLIC CHARITIES

Saturday, August 3, 2019 2 pm—5 pm Courthouse Square in Delhi, NY

For more information call (607) 746-2341 or visit www.dce.coop/content/family-fun-event



#### This Year's Annual Meeting of the Members

The meeting will be held on Friday, September 20, 2019 at the Delaware Academy and Central School in Delhi. Members can enjoy a Brooks' Barbeque chicken dinner starting at 4:30 p.m. before the business meeting, which starts promptly at 6:30 p.m.

Highlights for this year's meeting include guest speaker Jennifer Kabat, The Nelson Brothers Band, and plenty of chances to win cash and door prizes!

During this year's meeting, members will elect two members of the Board of Directors, each from the Central Region. Members can still become candidates for the Board of Directors by filing a petition signed by 15 members by Tuesday, August 6, 2019 (Bylaws Article IV, section 3).

For more information about becoming a board member, please contact General Manager, Mark Schneider at (607) 746-9282 or visit the website at www.dce.coop.

The Annual Meeting special edition of Catskill Hi-Line will be included within the August bills and contains the financial report, and your Brooks BBQ Chicken ticket order form.

We hope to see you at this year's meeting!



#### Wondering How to Dispose of that Old Appliance?

The DCEC office has received several calls in relation to the New Energy Star Rebate Program that started on May 1<sup>st</sup>. The main question that our members have is how to dispose of the old appliances. The requirements of the Rebate Program state that the old appliance must be removed from service and disposed in an environmentally responsible manner. It also states that the Cooperative may require proof of disposal. DCEC has reached out to several local transfer and waste management systems within the 4 counties that we serve, to help answer your questions. Because each county has different regulations and guidelines we encourage you to call before going to any Transfer Station. DCEC has created a table for you to reach out to your waste management system in your area to confirm Transfer Stations rate schedules and answer any additional questions you may have. Additional information about this program can be found online at <a href="http://dce.coop/content/energy-efficiency-programs">http://dce.coop/content/energy-efficiency-programs</a>.

Company	Hours	Contact	Numb	er	Email	Website
Delaware County Solid Waste Management Team	Hours in Walton are 7:30-2:30 Tuesday-Saturday excluding holidays	Tyson Robb, Solid Waste Coordinator	607-832-5		yson.robb@co.del aware.ny.us	http:// www.co.delaware. ny.us/departments/ sw/recycling.htm
Chenango County Waste Management	Monday: 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Tuesday thru Saturday: 8:00 a.m 4:00 p.m.	Dustin Hendricks, Waste Management Program Assistant	607-337-1		dhendricks@co.che nango.ny.us.	https:// www.co.chenango. ny.us/dpw/waste- management/ recycling- operations.php
Otsego County Solid Waste Management	Northern Transfer Station 5802 State Highway 28 Cooperstown, NY 13326 Monday thru Friday: 7:00AM - 12:00PM Saturday - 8:00AM - 12:00PM  Southern Transfer Station 75 Silas Lane Oneonta, NY 13820 Monday - Friday: 7:00AM - 3:00PM Saturday - 8:00AM - 12:00PM	Meghan Johnston, Office Specialist	607-547-4		STA	https://www.otsegocounty.com/departments/solid_waste/index.php
Schoharie County	Monday – Friday 7:00 am to 3:00	NA	888-485-		NA	https:// www.casella.com/
Transfer Station	pm Saturday – 8:00 am	r i Kenngeraior & Freezer i Nibu			locations/schoharie -co-transfer	
	to 11:30 am Sunday – Closed	Replacement Clothes Was			\$150	
ENERGY STAR		Replacements Dishwasher Replacement			\$150	New Energy Star Rebate program
		Window-mounted Air Conditioner Replacement			\$75	

# Outstanding Young Farm Family Award by Ray LaFever

At the 57<sup>th</sup> annual Delaware County Dairy Princess Coronation dinner in May, members of the DCEC, Tim and Lauren Sherwood were awarded the Outstanding Young Farm Family award by the Delaware County Chamber of Commerce and the Delaware County Dairy Promotion Committee. Tim purchased his parents farm last year and operates it as Sher-Brook Organic Dairy Farm. He has operated the farm since 2007.

Tim grew up on the family farm, where he learned about the dairying business. His parents, Kathy and Randy Sherwood, came from New Jersey, and while they did not grow up on farms, his father attended agricultural school in Pennsylvania, and both became anxious to start farming. They started shopping for an inexpensive farm and ended up in Delhi on the farm now owned by their son.

The Sherwood farm is not particularly large, though they have expanded some over the years. Tim attended Ohio State University to study hog and livestock production. His wife Lauren also grew up in a farming family, visiting her grandparents farm often. Tim and Lauren met through their interest in farming. Tim worked for the Precision Feed Management Program. Lauren's uncle's farm was a part of the program. Tim would go there to weigh cows and get forage samples. Lauren

continues to help at her uncle's neighboring farm as well as on her own.

The Sherwoods have a herd of thirty-five cows, their main product being organic milk. They also sell some hay and silage. Going organic has proved to be profitable. The farm's organic status is important to Tim and Lauren. They maintain a covered feeding area for year-round out-of-the-barn feeding, a practice critical to maintaining an organic certification. Tim and Lauren are leaders of the Organic Farmer Discussion Group facilitated by the Cornell Cooperative Extension.

Tim and Lauren also are active in the Watershed Agricultural Council as participants in the council's Nutrient Management Credit and Precision Feed Management programs. Tim is a member of the agricultural committee of the Watershed Agricultural Council.

The Sherwoods have been DCEC members for many years and have always seen the Cooperative as a lifeline for them. While the new DCEC dairy rates have been greatly appreciated, Tim and Lauren also like the service they get. Tim is particularly impressed by how clear the right-of-way crews keep the vegetation around the power lines.

The DCEC congratulates Tim and Lauren for their well-deserved award as the county's Outstanding Young Farm Family!



Providing our rural members with:

- ★ Low-cost Electricity
- ✓ Community/Member Service

  <u>Warrantied for LIFE</u>

  Please call for availability

39 Elm Street P.O Box 471 Delhi, NY 13753 Ph: (607) 746-2341 (866) 436-1223 Fx: (607) 746-7548 www.dce.coop local area dealer for electric

> Marathon WATER HEATERS

To view DCEC's Policy on
Member Participation in Annual
Meetings of Members
please visit our website at
www.dce.coop/sites/dcec/files/PDF/
Policies/Member Participation in
Annual Meeting.pdf
or call our office at (607) 746-2341.

CO 4-76-11G

# The Safety Squad & Learning about Electricity Safety Practices

DCEC's Systems Coordinator Larry Soule is pictured here providing a free Safety Demonstration for a County-Wide Headstart Electrical Safety Training Session at the American Legion in Delhi.

DCEC encourages schools, community groups and businesses to utilize an electrical safety demonstration as part of their educational activities. The safety demonstration dramatically emphasizes the dangers posed by high-voltage electric lines, both underground and overhead. This demonstration is helpful of children and adults. For more information please contact Operations Manager Ryan Sullivan at <a href="mailto:ryan.sullivan@dce.coop">ryan.sullivan@dce.coop</a> or 607-746-9284.



## 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!

Call (607) 746-2341 if you find your number. Good luck!



#### **Operations Update**

Line crews are wrapping up make ready in Masonville, Tompkins, Hamden, and Davenport on behalf of Delhi Telephone, Margaretville Telephone and Spectrum. Crew have regular work planned on Clark Road and Randall Hill in the town of Masonville.

Right of way crews will be trimming trees and mowing in Hamden, Franklin and Delhi. Headed to Andes on State Route 30 and BWS Road 9.

Tree Doctor will be applying herbicide starting 7/8/19 in the Towns of Hamden, Franklin, Walton, Tompkins, Masonille, Delhi, Andes and Bovina.

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 Engineering & Technology Manager Paul DeAndrea, Operations Manager Ryan Sullivan, Billing Specialist Rosemary Alwine 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	
Secretary	
Treasurer	
Director	Steve Burnett
Director	Jeffrey Russell
Director	Laurie Wehmeyer
CEO/General Manager	Mark Schneider

Community-centered values combined with best in class service is something you can always count on as a MEMBER of DCEC.



Fridays 4-7 PM
June—Sept.
101 Maple Ave.
Hobart, NY
Town Green

# NOTICE

# **Keep Contact Information Updated**



It's important to keep your contact information including all your contact numbers and current address up to date with the Cooperative. If any of this information has changed please give the office a call at, (607) 746-2341.

#### Generlink Transfer Switches

Plugs into 200 amp Meter Socket 20 ft Cord to Connect to Generator | Built in Surge Protector Accommodates 10,000 watt Generator

Available for Purchase at our Office

For More Information or to Confirm Compatibility Contact DCEC at (607) 746-2341.

