

Claverack Rural Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



One of 14 electric cooperatives
serving Pennsylvania and New Jersey

Claverack REC

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Office Hours

Monday through Friday

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

Jeff Fetzer, Local Pages Editor

From the President & CEO



A time to reflect, look forward and be appreciative

By Steve Allabaugh

I REALLY love this time of year. There is something magical that seems to happen from Thanksgiving through the first of the new year. It's a time of family, friends, celebration, lights, music and reverence.

And even though we're entering the winter season, which is not my favorite, the holidays seem to hold off the inevitable cold, dark days of January. As the year comes to a close, it's also a time to reflect and look forward to next year.

2021 was a year of ups and downs for many of our members, as the COVID-19 pandemic continued. It's safe to say it affected us all in some way.

For me and my family, the pandemic hit home very personally when we lost my father to COVID-19 in February. My dad really loved Christmas. He especially enjoyed telling the story about the Christmas after my 16th birthday, when my parents bought me my first car: a battleship-sized 1967 Ford LTD.

They hid a package with the keys to the car in our Christmas tree, and when I finally opened it and realized my first car was in the garage, I ran upstairs so fast that I cleared 13 steps in two leaps! Though my wife, Angie, never quite fell in love with that green Ford the way I did, we both agree that it was not really about the car anyway.

While 2021 got off to a difficult start for my family, it was also the beginning of an exciting new professional chapter for me as I was selected as Claverack's seventh CEO. What an honor! Now, nearing the conclusion of my first year, it's become clear what a privilege it is to

lead such an excellent organization.

Maybe it's a bit of bragging, but as the year has gone by, I have become convinced that we have the most dedicated, talented and principled employees around. Whether it was our linemen and engineering and support staff working around the clock to restore your power during the numerous storms of the past year or our member services team compassionately helping those who were financially impacted by the pandemic keep the lights on, our employees proved they are the best throughout 2021.

As we look forward to 2022, it is awesome to know that our team will continue to serve you, our members, as we always have. I am looking forward to watching that talent and dedication lead new ventures like our broadband project and the completion of our next-generation advanced-metering infrastructure project.

Hopefully, 2022 will see the COVID-19 pandemic fade in the rearview mirror. We are also excited about the possibility of holding an in-person annual meeting and other member-engagement events.

As we put a bow on 2021, I would be remiss if I did not thank you for the numerous words of support and acts of kindness that you have shown us throughout a trying year. It means a lot to our employees.

Wishing you and yours a happy holiday season filled with family, friends and joy — and maybe even a green 1967 Ford LTD. ❁

Drive-through light displays in Wyoming, Susquehanna counties aim to brighten holidays

TWO AREA golf courses served by Claverack are teeing-up Christmas cheer by hosting dazzling drive-through holiday light displays through the end of the year.

Stone Hedge Golf Course in Tunkhannock, owned by Claverack members Karen Force and William Ruark, and Tall Pines Players Club in Friendsville, owned by Claverack member Adam Diaz, have again converted portions of their golf courses into festive winter wonderlands, brightening the holidays for thousands

of visitors from across the region. The two golf courses are not affiliated in any way, and each offers a unique treatment of their lighting displays and associated holiday offerings.

Both drive-through light displays were slated to open in November and will operate daily through Dec. 31. Following are the particulars and event highlights for those interested in viewing the displays and supporting our co-op member golf courses this holiday season.

Festival of Lights at Stone Hedge

Stone Hedge Golf Course

55 Stonehedge Drive, Tunkhannock,

2021 Schedule: Open daily, Nov. 19 through Dec. 31, except for Christmas Eve.

Hours: Sunday-Thursday, 5 to 9 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 5 to 10 p.m.

Length of lighting display trail: 2.5 miles

Time to view display: Typically 35 to 55 minutes

Number of displays: Approximately 500, featuring more than 4 million lights.

Years in operation: 5

Cost: Monday-Thursday, \$25 per vehicle; Friday-Sunday, \$30 per vehicle.

Highlights: The river display, which features more than 250,000 lights, and the heavy equipment displays.

New for 2021: Flower display, Paw Patrol display, Sesame Street 50th anniversary display and a tribute to 9/11, featuring the Twin Towers and the words, "Never Forget." The 9/11 display was constructed by the Stone Hedge grounds crew to mark the 20th anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

Other activities: Outdoor pavilion featuring free s'mores, family-friendly food and local vendors. Due to social distancing guidance, visits with Santa Claus and the holiday train excursion will not be offered this year.

For more information: Visit playstonehedge.com or the Stone Hedge Facebook page or call 570-836-5108.



RIVER OF LIGHT: The river display at the Festival of Lights at Stone Hedge is among the most popular attractions along the Wyoming County golf course's holiday light display trail. The river features more than 250,000 LED lights and is one of nearly 500 displays visitors drive by on the 2.5-mile trail. Stone Hedge, served by Claverack, has been operating its Christmas light display since 2017.

Tall Pines Forest of Lights

Tall Pines Players Club

628 Kinney Road, Friendsville

2021 Schedule: Open daily, Nov. 26 to Dec 31. Closed, Nov. 29 and 30; Dec. 6, 7 and 24.

Hours: 5 - 9 p.m.

Length of lighting display trail: 1 mile

Time to view display: Typically 30 to 45 minutes

Number of displays: 75, including a new programmable light section with several thousands dancing lights

Years in operation: 3

Cost: \$25 per vehicle, up to 8 passengers; \$50 per vehicle, 9-15 passengers.

Highlights: Light displays featuring local landmarks.

New for 2021: The return of Santa's Workshop, which did not take place in 2020 due to COVID-19; an option to view displays via a new passenger train, the Endless Mountains Express.

Other activities: Santa's Workshop at Tall Pines Station, featuring pictures with Santa, snacks, crafts and s'mores (masks required for unvaccinated visitors); Tall Pines restaurant will be open and offering a special Forest of Lights menu (reservations required).

For more information: Visit tallpinesplayersclubllc.com or Tall Pines' Facebook page or call 570-553-4653. ❁



LIGHTED TRAIL: Vehicles cruise along the Forest of Lights display at Tall Pines Players Club in Susquehanna County during the festival's first year of operation in 2019. In addition to the mile-long drive-through light display, the club offers a Santa's workshop and excursion train. Tall Pines Players Club and most of the light show is powered by Claverack.

All About Eve

A low-maintenance vehicle

By Brian Zeidner

Director of Member Services

A LOT of members have asked about how we care for Eve, the nickname given to our electric car. As we've had the car for over a year now, I'd like to talk about the annual upkeep and maintenance costs associated with ownership of an EV.

Over the past 12 months, we have had to rotate the tires. That's it. The only fluids in the car are windshield washer fluid and brake fluid. There is no engine oil, no transmission fluid, no power steering fluid, no coolant. There aren't even any grease fittings. As a result, we have not had to check the fluids or schedule and pay for oil changes and lubrication.

Eve has been an impressively low-maintenance vehicle. Other than tire rotations and an annual inspection, the car requires very little attention.

We did discover that we needed to be selective when choosing a service station to rotate the car's tires. Because

the batteries are located in the very bottom of the car, the mechanic has to be very careful when positioning the jack or lift to avoid damaging the batteries.

The Model 3 does not even come with a spare tire. If we experience a flat, we will need to call a roll-back truck to take the car to a tire shop. That makes preventive tire care a priority.

When we bought Eve, the Tesla representative explained that because of the technology built into the car, many of the problems that might be encountered could be corrected remotely by a Tesla programmer. In fact, many of the "options" available on the car involve paying for the

enabling of a function that has already been installed. This seemed foreign to a guy whose first car was a 1970 Ford Maverick with no power steering and no glove box!

The representative also explained that, if needed, Tesla can send a service technician right to us to fix a problem at our location. However, we were disappointed recently when we had to schedule the replacement of a tail light that has a moisture problem and were required to drive the vehicle to Henrietta, N.Y., for the repair.

Member Services representative Lynn made the trip to the Tesla service center for the tail light repair and will share the experience with you in next month's issue of *Penn Lines*. ❁

Energy assistance program offers help with heating bills

IF YOU NEED assistance paying your heating bills or have a heating emergency, help may be available through the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).

LIHEAP helps families living on low incomes pay their heating bills in the form of a cash grant. Households in immediate danger of being without heat can also qualify for crisis grants.

A cash grant is a one-time payment sent directly to the utility company or fuel provider and credited on your bill. These grants range from \$500 to \$1,500 based on household size, income and fuel type. These grants do not have to be repaid.

Crisis grants are available to help those who have emergency situations in which they are in danger of being without heat. Those situations include: having broken heating equipment or leaking fuel lines; lack of fuel; having utility service

terminated; or being in danger of not having fuel or having service terminated. Crisis grants are sent directly to the vendor or utility.

If you have a heating emergency or for more information about LIHEAP, call your county assistance office or the toll-free LIHEAP hotline at 866-857-7095.

You can apply for energy assistance directly through COMPASS, the state's online health and human services benefits application site, by visiting compass.state.pa.us.

Below are the income guidelines for acceptance into the program:

Household Size	Maximum Income (before taxes)
1	\$19,320
2	\$26,130
3	\$32,940
4	\$39,750
5	\$46,560
6	\$53,370

Add \$6,810 for each additional member of the household



Holiday closings
Claverack's offices
will be closed for
the holidays on the
following days:
Thursday, Dec. 23,
and Friday, Dec. 24 –
Christmas
Friday, Dec. 31 –
New Year's

**Season's greetings
from all of us at
Claverack**

PRESIDENT & CEO:

Steve Allabaugh

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Rich Herman, Nate Hoke, Paul Huffman,
Steve Huston, Lynn Jennings, Liz Johnston,
Aidan Joyce, Tanner Keeney,
Annette Koder, Austin Kriner, Kyle Lane,
Jeremiah Lund, John McKernan,
Nicole Newton, Doug Nichols,
Shawn Robinson, Scott Rockwell,
Johnny Rodriguez, Allen Scott,
Betsy Scranta, Kylie Slater, Neal Snyder,
Nate Stoddard, Rich Valentine,
Greg Wilcox, Cole Wilson, Shelley Young,
Brian Zeidner

Co-op gift certificates make great stocking stuffers

Still looking for holiday gift ideas? Gift certificates from your electric co-op make an ideal holiday stocking stuffer.

Give the gift of electricity to that hard-to-buy-for relative or to the family down the road struggling to make ends meet. A Claverack gift certificate could brighten the holidays for someone in your life.

Simply fill out this form and return it to Claverack with your check for the amount of the gift.

Recipient's Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Claverack Account Number: _____
 Amount of Gift: _____
 From: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Phone Number: _____
 Mail the certificate to: _____

SmartHub: Manage your account from anywhere

SmartHub, Claverack's online bill payment and account management program, lets you manage all aspects of your account online or with your mobile device.

WITH SMARTHUB, YOU CAN:

- ▶ View bills online
- ▶ View billing history
- ▶ Change account information
- ▶ Receive billing and outage notifications
- ▶ Pay your bill online using your checking account, credit or debit card
- ▶ Receive a paperless bill
- ▶ Access your account info on your smartphone or tablet
- ▶ Report power outages



Signing up for SmartHub is easy. Visit our website, claverack.com, click on the "Pay Bill" button on the left side of your screen and follow the registration instructions. The SmartHub mobile app is available for download through your app store.

It's your last chance to win \$50 off your next bill!



Each week in December,
we'll give one lucky
member who uses
SmartHub a \$50 credit
toward their next bill.

This includes all SmartHub users,
no matter how long you've used it!



Make sure to update
your contact info so we
can reach you.
You can do this right on SmartHub!

Our safe and secure app is
free to download today!