



From the desk of Travis Mathes, Manager of Member Services

This month I want to take time out to salute all of our employees who dedicate their lives to keeping the lights on in Northeast Missouri. Lewis County REC's employees help make sure maintenance is done on 2491 miles of line and keep track 7287 meters usage in Lewis County REC's service territory, and without them, our world would be dark.

Our linemen often find themselves in dangerous and challenging situations, so our lives may be a little bit brighter and safer every day. These brave men repair damaged lines and maintain critical infrastructure for our communities. Without their hard work and commitment to the job, our co-op would not thrive. No matter the time—day or night, weekday or weekend—if the lights go out, so do they. Many times being pulled from family birthday celebrations, holiday dinners, or family outings.

Perhaps you have seen them raising their bucket trucks in howling winds and torrential rains, or in freezing, icy conditions. They work around the clock near high-voltage power lines until electricity is restored to every member in the Lewis County REC service territory.

All of our employees work hand in hand with the linemen to keep the power on. If there is a power outage there are also individuals in the office keeping track of outages, answering phones, and dispatching crews. These dedicated individuals, like linemen, answer the call to action whenever needed. They make sure we have the inventory of line material needed to deal with not only the day-to-day operation, but the unexpected storms that may call for the quick repairs of line. They work daily with members to answer questions, do billing, dispatch crews, and make sure that everything runs smoothly behind the scenes.

Our employees are committed and critical to our success. Every employee at Lewis County REC goes above and beyond the call of duty to take care of our members and make sure that the lights shine bright in Northeast Missouri! If you see any of the employees this month let them know how much you appreciate what they do. I feel like our employees are a true "cut above" all of the rest in the nation. They are where the rubber meets the road and we appreciate them very much. So this month when those April showers and storms hit remember those men and women are out there working to keep the power flowing.



Lineman Appreciation Day and Administrative Professionals Day

Lineman Appreciation day in Missouri is April 12th and Administrative Professional's Day is April 21st. These days are set aside to recognize these individuals for the work they do and the sacrifices they make each day. At Lewis County REC we salute all of our employees for everything they do to keep the cooperative running like a fine oiled machine. Thank you all for a job well done!

Kevin Cottrell	37 Years of Service
David Cox	33 Years of Service
Theresa Simmons	32 Years of Service
Greg Sutterfield	27 Years of Service
Tom Dudley	26 Years of Service
Jack Crist	25 Years of Service
Adam Schaller	23 Years of Service
Justin Turner	23 Years of Service

Staci Mesmer	21 Years of Service
Travis Mathes	21 Years of Service
Terry O'Brien	20 Years of Service
Jason Daniel	18 Years of Service
Jason Hall	15 Years of Service
Rustyn Carter	13 Years of Service
Brandi Austin	11 Years of Service
Kendall Hawkins	11 Years of Service
Ryan Strubinger	11 Years of Service
Joe Lay	10 Years of Service
Shannon Killday	6 Years of Service
Ryan Waterman	3 Years of Service
Ryan Booher	2 Years of Service
Clayton Hudson	11 Months of Service
John McCutchan	11 Months of Service
Laura Cary	11 Months of Service
Kindy Bergman	6 Months of Service

Our office will be closed on Good Friday, April 2nd. Happy Easter.



Theresa Simmons Named Manager of Finance and Administration

Theresa began her career at Lewis County REC in 1989 as the Billing Clerk for the cooperative back when most things were still done on paper and computers were just starting to enter into the cooperative world. Theresa has held a number of positions throughout her 32-year career and was most recently promoted to Manager of Finance and Administration. Theresa holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Accounting and is a CMA (Certified Management Accountant). Theresa resides in Ewing, MO and has two grown sons, Matt Simmons and Michael Simmons. She is the daughter of William and Dorothy O'Brien. In Theresa's spare time she enjoys spending time with family and friends.



Laura Cary Named Billing Clerk/Data Analyst

Laura Cary came to work at Lewis County REC in June as the Billing Clerk/ Data Analyst. Laura is a Lewis County native having lived in Canton her whole life, except when she was in college at the University of Missouri. Laura holds a Master's Degree in Accounting and is a CPA (Certified Public Accountant). Laura comes to the cooperative from the tax world, where she worked 9 years doing bookkeeping, auditing, and tax work. Laura is the daughter of Cindy and the late Kevin Cary. She recently became engaged to John Schad of Chillicothe, MO. In Laura's spare time she enjoys golfing, reading, and spoiling her nieces.



Kindy Bergman Named Customer Service Representative

Kindy Bergman came to work at Lewis County REC in November as the Customer Service Representative. Kindy was no stranger to Lewis County REC having worked for the cooperative in a temporary capacity 10 years ago. Kindy has lived her whole life in Clark County and currently resides in Kahoka. Kindy comes to Lewis County REC after working 25 years in the manufacturing/office setting. Kindy and her husband Randy will celebrate 26 years of marriage this June. They have 2 daughters that are currently in college, Jenna and Madison. In her spare time Kindy enjoys spending time with family and friends.

Todd Schroeder Accepts CEO/General Manager Position at Indian Electric Cooperative in Cleveland, Oklahoma

Todd Schroeder served at the CEO/General Manager of Lewis County REC on a shared basis with Macon Electric Cooperative since 2018. Todd's final day at Lewis County REC was February 26th. Todd was the first in the state of Missouri to serve in the top role in two electric cooperatives at the same time. Todd's progressive/out of the box thinking will be missed by both cooperatives. Todd came to Northeast Missouri from First Electric Cooperative in Arkansas where he had served as a district manager. Todd and his wife Jamie have 2 grown sons, Mason and Max. Todd and Jamie are looking forward to their new adventure in Oklahoma as it will get them closer to family. Thank you for your service to Lewis County REC and best of luck in the future!



Mark your calendars for Lewis County REC's 84th Annual Meeting Thursday, August 5, 2021 at Lewis County REC's office, Lewistown, MO. A Hybrid meeting will be offered this year.

TO REPORT AN OUTAGE
CALL (TOLL FREE) 1-888-454-4485
(LOCAL) 215-4000
24 HOURS A DAY

CALL THE TOLL FREE NUMBER
 DURING REGULAR BUSINESS HOURS (7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.)
 FOR ALL OTHER SERVICES

Before calling:

- Check your breakers or fuses
- Check with your neighbors to see if they have power
- When calling please give the following information:
Your name • Meter Number • and/or location number