

CONTACT US

Office: 800-933-7362

24/7 PAYMENT BY PHONE

855-951-3596

WEBSITE

www.nobleremc.com

EMAIL

remc@nobleremc.com

OFFICE HOURS

8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday

STREET ADDRESS

300 Weber Road
Albion, IN 46701

MAILING ADDRESS

P.O. Box 137, Albion, IN 46701

EMERGENCY POWER OUTAGES

To report a power outage, please call 800-933-7362. We are available to serve you 24 hours a day.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Rick Robertson, *Chairman*
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Bill Knox, *Treasurer*
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Sarah Dreibelbis, *Manager of IT, Billing & Member Relations*
Doug Dickmeyer, *Manager of Engineering & Operations*
Kevin Dreibelbis, *Manager of Communications & Marketing*
Adam Chitwood, *Manager of Finance & Accounting*

A FEW MONTHS LEFT TO WIN!

Congratulations, **Robyn Henderson!** She was our latest winner of a \$100 bill credit for choosing paperless billing.

Now until the end of the year, Noble REMC will take our list of members who participate in paperless billing and randomly select one member each month to win a \$100 bill credit. That means if you make the switch today, you'll still have multiple chances at winning. (Already paperless? You are automatically entered!)

Visit our YouTube channel for a 30-second tutorial on how to make the switch in SmartHub.

Powering our communities *with purpose*

Communities come in all shapes and sizes. Some are based on geographical proximity, some are based on shared interests or hobbies, and some communities can even be found in virtual spaces like social media groups. Regardless of where or how they are formed, communities can bring people together and create a sense of belonging.

Noble REMC is deeply committed to our members, and we're glad you are part of the electric cooperative community.

This month, more than 30,000 cooperatives across the U.S. are celebrating National Co-op Month. It's a time to reflect on all the aspects that set cooperatives apart from other types of businesses, but more importantly, it's a time to celebrate the power of co-op membership.

Electric cooperatives are not-for-profit utilities that are built by the communities they serve. For Noble REMC, our mission has always been to provide you with reliable power. We care about your quality of life, and because we are locally operated, we're uniquely suited to meet our members' evolving energy needs.

Beyond the business of electricity, our employees and directors are equally invested in our local community. Why? Because we live here, too. That's why we work hard to support local economic development projects, youth programs and scholarships, charitable giving initiatives and additional programs that make our community a better place to call home.

We are guided by seven cooperative principles that embody the values and spirit of the cooperative movement. These seven principles are a framework to help all co-ops navigate challenges and opportunities while remaining true to our purpose:

1. Open and Voluntary Membership: Co-op membership is open to anyone who can use the co-op's services.

2. Democratic Member Control: Members make decisions that shape the cooperative. Why? Because co-ops are created by the members, for the members.

3. Members' Economic Participation: Members contribute money to the co-op to make sure it runs smoothly now and in the future. At Noble REMC, this happens through paying your energy bills.

4. Autonomy and Independence: Co-ops are independent and can operate on their own, which ultimately benefits the members.

5. Education, Training and Information: Co-ops continuously focus on education to ensure employees have the training and information they need to make the co-op successful.

6. Cooperation Among Cooperatives: Co-ops share with and learn from other cooperatives. We help each other out in times of need because we want other co-ops to thrive.

7. Concern for Community: All cooperatives work for the greater good of the local communities they serve. Co-ops give back to their communities to help them thrive and grow.

This October, as we celebrate National Co-op Month and the power of membership, we hope you will recognize the many aspects that set electric cooperatives apart. Our mission is reliable power. Our purpose is people — the local communities we're proud to serve.



RON RAYPOLE
President/CEO



Noble REMC linemen Trevor Harlan, left, and Cody Kirkpatrick, right, work as a team during competition at the Indiana Electric Cooperative Lineman Rodeo.

SHOWING
THEIR BEST
.....
LINEMEN
DEMONSTRATE SKILLS
AT STATEWIDE RODEO

Four linemen from Noble REMC competed at the Indiana Electric Cooperative Lineman Rodeo, held Aug. 22-23 in Danville. The two-day event showcased the skills and safety training of electric cooperative lineworkers.

The linemen competed in events, both as a team and individually, that tested skills such as pole climbing, hurt man rescue and safely changing electric line hardware. A total of 37 teams and 138 individuals from 28 Indiana electric co-ops competed in the event.

The following linemen represented us at the rodeo:

- **Cody Kirkpatrick**, journeyman lineman

- **Tyler Rhoades**, journeyman lineman
- **Eli Stangland**, journeyman lineman
- **Trevor Harlan**, apprentice lineman

“We’re proud of our linemen who competed in this year’s rodeo,” said CEO Ron Raypole. “Noble REMC linemen have a lot of pride in the work they do, and they demonstrated their skills and dedication to their craft.”

The Indiana Electric Cooperative Lineman Rodeo recognizes and rewards excellence in safety, skill and knowledge in the lineworker field.

POLES ARE NOT FOR POSTING

Imagine walking up the steps to your home and feeling a sharp pain in your foot or in your hand as you grasp the handrail. Looking down, you find a nail sticking out of the step and a sharp tack has punctured your hand.

Never happened to you? It has happened to linemen climbing utility poles where signs and fliers have been posted with staples, nails and tacks.

Utility poles offer a convenient place to tack a sign or flier. But doing so creates hazards for linemen and utility workers. Linemen risk injury to themselves and damage to their equipment, rubber gloves, boots and protective clothing when items are posted on poles. Likewise, nails and tacks can get in the way of the climbing hooks that linemen wear on their boots when climbing a pole.

While a tear in your clothing or glove may seem insignificant, the stakes are much higher when that equipment is all that stands between you and a power line.



LIGHTING the Way

BRAD IS "LOCK"-ED
IN AT THE CO-OP



Noble REMC Fleet
Mechanic Brad Lock in
the co-op's shop.

Almost two years in as Noble REMC's fleet mechanic, Brad Lock enjoys the challenges he encounters each day in the co-op's shop.

There is no average day for him. When Lock starts his morning, he never knows what's waiting for him to fix. Other days, he's asked to help the right-of-way crew with spraying vegetation or flagging for the line crew.

Every day is a guessing game he's ready to tackle. Let's learn more about Lock:

HOW DID YOU GET INTO THIS LINE OF WORK, BEING A MECHANIC?

From a young age, I always liked working on stuff. My dad has always worked on things in his barn. He was a mechanic and a body guy — he did paint and all that stuff. So, I think I started messing with things when I was about 12.

DO YOU LIKE TO WORK ON CARS WHEN YOU'RE AT HOME THEN?

I don't necessarily want to do it at home, but yeah. My wife calls it Lock's Junkyard because there's at least three or four cars sitting around that are broke. I'm always working on stuff for other people.

It started out a lot more fun to work on things at home, but now that I do it for a living, there's days I don't want to touch a wrench when I get home.

WHAT'S SOMETHING PEOPLE MAY NOT KNOW OR UNDERSTAND ABOUT WHAT YOU DO?

It takes a lot of patience, and I'm not really a patient person. There are some days that you just want to start hitting stuff with a hammer because it's not going right. But, you have to fix it, not make it worse.

WHAT DO YOU LIKE TO DO WITH YOUR TIME OUTSIDE OF WORK?

I spend most of my time doing things for other people, fixing their stuff, but really, my family likes camping and kayaking. The kids like swimming, so we're usually around water when we can. It mainly revolves around what the kids want, like their sports.

TELL US ABOUT YOUR FAMILY.

I'm from Columbia City. I bought my dad's old house in rural Churubusco, which was where he grew up. That's how I ended up in Noble County. I met my wife, Casey, in high school. During college is when we really got together. We went to school together in Indy. Then, we moved back to Columbia City and had our kids: Parker, 10; Charlotte, 7; and Stella, 5.

WHAT ARE YOU MOST PROUD OF IN YOUR LIFE?

My family. My kids are always happy. Other people tell me they're really

good kids. They do great outside of our home.

WHAT MOVIE HAVE YOU SEEN THE MOST?

I like movies, but I don't re-watch them usually. If we're being honest, the one I've seen the most would be "Free Birds." It's a kids' movie. When Parker was growing up, Casey worked as a server, so it was just me and him, and he would just cry the whole time. "Free Birds" made him not cry so I watched it every single day for easily six months.

WHAT WAS THE LAST BOOK YOU READ?

Oh man, this is embarrassing. Last book I read would have been in high school, and it was "The Notebook." I liked those movies and books.

WHAT'S ONE BAND YOU COULD LISTEN TO ON REPEAT FOREVER?

Parkway Drive. It's screamo/metal. Put your headphones on, you're going to be head banging.

DO YOU HAVE A FAVORITE LOCAL RESTAURANT?

I'm going to have to go with Señor Fajitas in Columbia City where Casey works.

HEAT PUMP WATER HEATERS CAN *wash away* HIGH ENERGY COSTS

If your pleasant, warm shower is quickly chilled by a sudden rush of cold water, it may be time to consider replacing your home's water heater.

Fortunately, a variety of options exist that can lower long-term energy costs, including heat pump water heaters (HPWHs). They utilize the same technology found in heat pump heating and cooling systems to heat water used in your home. Heat pumps use compressors, refrigerant, heat exchangers, and the temperature difference between outdoors and inside to produce heating and cooling. Heat pump water heaters work similarly, only using the temperature difference between your home and the water in the tank. There are multiple items to consider when considering an HPWH:

Heat pumps are more than twice as efficient as traditional tank electric water heaters. HPWHs use a refrigerant to move heat from the surrounding air to the water within the tank. This improves efficiency and costs you less to produce hot water. Using less energy also helps reduce carbon emissions, benefiting the environment.

Heat pumps can help cool and dehumidify the surrounding space in the summer. During the summer, the heat pump will draw heat from nearby air to help warm the water. This can help lower nearby temperatures, making the space more comfortable. They also dehumidify the air! So, if you are already running a dehumidifier in the basement, an HPWH can do that job while heating your water.

Location matters. Where a HPWH is installed can impact its overall performance. ENERGY STAR® recommends installing HPWHs in unconditioned or semi-conditioned interior spaces where temperatures remain above 50 degrees F for most of the year. ENERGY STAR also recommends avoiding placing the HPWH in garages or outdoors where it can be consistently subjected to freezing temperatures.

Don't forget your Power Moves® rebate and tax credit! An ENERGY STAR-certified HPWH can add up to big savings annually in energy costs for a family of four. Noble REMC offers an \$800 Power Moves rebate for qualifying HPWHs, and you may be eligible for a federal tax credit (ask your tax advisor).

If you're looking to replace your aging water heater or making the switch from gas, a variety of options exist, including heat pump water heaters, to improve your home's energy use. Contact Noble REMC's energy advisor to discuss options and how we can help. You can also visit [PowerMoves.com/water-heater](https://www.powermoves.com/water-heater) for more information on HPWHs and other energy-saving tips.

