

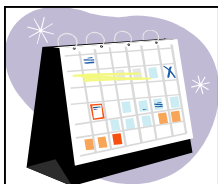
Winter 2011

Newsletter # 11

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President & CEO
- ☆ William M. Logan
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**Dates To Keep in
Mind:**

- PA Primary Election—**May 17**
- N.J. Primary Election—**June 7**
- PREA Legislative Event—**June 7**
- PREA Summer Mtg. — **July 20-22**



2010 ACRE Awards

Awards were presented in recognition of ACRE achievements at a luncheon held Nov. 11, 2010, in conjunction with the PREA/Allegheny Annual Meeting at The Hotel Hershey. In addition to certificates for National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) ACRE Honor Roll Achievement (listed in a previous issue of ACRE Happenings), awards were given for outstanding ACRE achievements.

The Harry M. Burrows ACRE Award was given to Adams EC. Adams EC maintained 100 percent board and management staff participation in ACRE at the President's Club level, while having 100 percent board spouse participation, 91 percent employee participation and nearly 50 cooperative consumers participating in Co-op Owners for Political Action. This award is determined by each cooperative's participation in ACRE at various levels, including employee, director, spouse, and attorney.

The D.W. Smith ACRE Award was presented to Bedford REC and New Enterprise REC. The recipients of this award have shown year after year that "it can be done." For the sixth consecutive year, Bedford REC achieved 100 percent employee participation, while New Enterprise REC has achieved this mark for four consecutive years. Established in 1989, the D.W. Smith ACRE Award is presented to an employee or group of employees for their commitment to the success of rural electrification through efforts in the political process.

Northwestern REC and Valley REC received the Robert E. Leonard ACRE Achievement Award for an outstanding streak of 10 consecutive years of 100 percent board spouse participation. Established in 1989, the Robert E. Leonard ACRE Achievement Award is presented to a rural electric cooperative director, director's spouse, consumer-member or associate member who excels in developing grassroots support for rural electrification.

Congratulations to all ACRE Award recipients.



President of the Adams Electric Board of Directors Jay Grove (left) accepts the Harry M. Burrows Award from Sullivan County REC Chief Executive Officer Craig Harting.


Bedford REC General Manager Brooks Shoemaker (center) and President of the New Enterprise REC Board of Directors Leroy Walls (left) accept the D.W. Smith ACRE Award from Sullivan County REC Chief Executive Officer Craig Harting.

President of the Northwestern REC Board of Directors Kathy Cooper-Winters (center) and Chairman of the Valley REC Board of Directors Jim Stauffer (left) accept the Robert E. Leonard ACRE Award from Sullivan County REC Chief Executive Officer Craig Harting.




Federal Buzz on the Hill


- ☆ In his first address to Congress since the mid-term election, President Barack Obama called on Americans to “win the future” through a renewed investment in technology and innovation. Though his State of the Union speech did not focus on global climate change as previous addresses have, it did highlight the administration’s goal to have 80 percent of all U.S. power production from clean energy by 2035, and a goal to end taxpayer subsidies for oil companies with that capital to be reinvested in the bio-fuels industry.

 - ☆ Carol M. Browner, President Barack Obama’s chief energy adviser, plans to leave the White House in the coming weeks. Browner, who is Assistant to the President for Energy and Climate Change, was the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) administrator under President Bill Clinton, and is one of the most experienced Washington hands in the West Wing. Browner’s departure is seen as a blow to climate change advocates as she was the president’s lead political strategist on climate and energy issues.
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Carol Browner
-
- ☆ Although the U.S. Department of the Interior has not yet settled on a policy, the Obama Administration may require companies drilling for natural gas on public lands to disclose the chemicals used in the fracturing process that allows the natural gas to flow. The Department of the Interior has the responsibility to ensure that natural gas is developed in a safe and environmentally sustainable manner, while protecting other resources on those lands. Fracturing on private land is exempt from federal regulation.

 - ☆ Earmark supporters in the U.S. Senate rejected a ban on funding for home state projects not included in the budget proposal the president submits to Congress each year. Most Democrats and a handful of Republicans joined in a 56-39 majority to let legislators continue to include earmarks in agency budgets for roads, bridges, and grants for local police departments, special interest tax breaks, and other pet projects. Republican anti-earmark reinforcements joined the U.S. Senate in January, making support for earmarks much closer.

 - ☆ A flurry of bills has been introduced in the U.S. Senate to delay or block the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) authority to regulate greenhouse gases. U.S. Sen. Jay Rockefeller (D-W.Va.) and six other Democratic U.S. senators introduced a bill to suspend EPA regulation of greenhouse gases from stationary sources by two years to give Congress enough time to consider a comprehensive energy bill and to develop clean coal technologies. Rockefeller could not get a similar bill to a Senate vote in the last Congress. U.S. Sen. John Barrasso (R-Wyo.) introduced a bill to permanently block the EPA from taking action to regulate greenhouse gases. The bill proposes to overturn the agency’s so-called “endangerment finding” that greenhouse gases are harmful to public health and the environment, pre-empt any action by EPA to limit emissions without authority from Congress, and make it illegal to use federal laws to curb climate change.
- 

Jay Rockefeller
- 

John Barrasso

U.S. Senate and House Leaders Elected

Democrats in the U. S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives elected their leaders for the 112th Congress. In the House where the Democrats lost the majority, their leadership list is as follows: Rep. Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.), Minority Leader; Rep. Steny Hoyer (D-Md.), Minority Whip; and Rep. James Clyburn (D-S.C.), Assistant Speaker. In the Senate where the Democrats lost seats but maintain the majority, leaders are: Sen. Harry Reid (D-Nev.), Majority Leader; Sen. Dick Durbin (D-Ill.), Assistant Majority Leader; and Sen. Daniel Inouye (D-Hawaii), President Pro Tempore.

Republicans in the U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate elected their leaders for the 112th Congress. In the House where the Republicans will be in the majority for the first time since 2006, the new majority leadership includes: Rep. John Boehner (R-Ohio), Speaker; Rep. Eric Cantor (R-Va.), Majority Leader; and Rep. Kevin McCarty (R-Calif.), Majority Whip. In the Senate where the Republicans made substantial gains, leaders are: Sen. Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.), Minority Leader; Sen. Jon Kyl (R-Ariz.), Minority Whip; and Sen. Lamar Alexander (R-Tenn.), GOP Conference Chairman.

2011-12 Federal and State Legislators for Pennsylvania and New Jersey

U.S. Senate

Pennsylvania— Bob Casey Jr. (D) and Pat Toomey (R)
New Jersey— Frank Lautenberg (D) and Bob Menendez (D)

Adams EC Legislators	Claverack REC Legislators	REA Energy Legislators
<p><u>U.S. House of Representatives (Pa.)</u> 9th District—Bill Shuster (R) 19th District—Todd Platts (R)</p> <p><u>Pennsylvania State Senate</u> 15th District—Jeff Piccola (R) 28th District—Mike Waugh (R) 31st District—Pat Vance (R) 33rd District—Rich Alloway (R)</p> <p><u>Pennsylvania State House</u> 47th District—Keith Gillespie (R) 86th District—Mark Keller (R) 89th District—Rob Kauffman (R) 91st District—Dan Moul (R) 92nd District—Scott Perry (R) 93rd District—Ron Miller (R) 94th District—Stan Saylor (R) 193rd District—Will Tallman (R) 196th District—Seth Grove (R) 199th District—Stephen Bloom (R)</p>	<p><u>U.S. House of Representatives (Pa.)</u> 10th District—Thomas Marino (R)</p> <p><u>Pennsylvania State Senate</u> 20th District—Lisa Baker (R) 23rd District—Gene Yaw (R)</p> <p><u>Pennsylvania State House</u> 68th District—Matthew Baker (R) 110th District—Tina Pickett (R) 111th District—Sandra Major (R) 117th District—Karen Boback (R)</p>	<p><u>U.S. House of Representatives (Pa.)</u> 3rd District—Mike Kelly (R) 5th District—Glenn Thompson (R) 9th District—Bill Shuster (R) 12th District—Mark Critz (D)</p> <p><u>Pennsylvania State Senate</u> 25th District—Joseph Scarnati III (R) 30th District—John Eichelberger (R) 35th District—John Wozniak (D) 38th District—Jim Ferlo (D) 39th District—Kim Ward (R) 41st District—Don White (R)</p> <p><u>Pennsylvania State House</u> 55th District—Joseph Petrarca (D) 60th District—Jeff Pyle (R) 62nd District—Dave Reed (R) 63rd District—Donna Oberlander (R) 66th District—Sam Smith (R) 71st District—Bryan Barbin (D) 72nd District—Frank Burns (D) 73rd District—Gary Haluska (D) 74th District—Camille “Bud” George (D) 80th District—Jerry Stern (R)</p>
New Enterprise REC Legislators		
<p style="text-align: center;">Bedford REC Legislators</p> <p><u>U.S. House of Representatives (Pa.)</u> 9th District—Bill Shuster (R)</p> <p><u>Pennsylvania State Senate</u> 30th District—John Eichelberger (R)</p> <p><u>Pennsylvania State House</u> 69th District—Carl Metzgar (R) 78th District—Dick Hess (R) 80th District—Jerry Stern (R)</p>	<p><u>U.S. House of Representatives (Pa.)</u> 9th District—Bill Shuster (R)</p> <p><u>Pennsylvania State Senate</u> 30th District—John Eichelberger (R)</p> <p><u>Pennsylvania State House</u> 78th District—Dick Hess (R) 80th District—Jerry Stern (R) 81st District—Mike Fleck (R)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Somerset REC Legislators</p> <p><u>U.S. House of Representatives (Pa.)</u> 9th District—Bill Shuster (R) 12th District—Mark Critz (D) 18th District—Tim Murphy (R)</p> <p><u>Pennsylvania State Senate</u> 30th District—John Eichelberger (R) 32nd District—Richard Kasunic (D) 35th District—John Wozniak (D)</p> <p><u>Pennsylvania State House</u> 51st District—Tim Mahoney (D) 59th District—Mike Reese (R) 69th District—Carl Metzgar (R) 72nd District—Frank Burns (D)</p>
Northwestern REC Legislators		
<p style="text-align: center;">Central EC Legislators</p> <p><u>U.S. House of Representatives (Pa.)</u> 3rd District—Mike Kelly (R) 4th District—Jason Altmire (D) 5th District—Glenn Thompson (R)</p> <p><u>Pennsylvania State Senate</u> 21st District—Mary Jo White (R) 40th District—Jane Clare Orié (R) 41st District—Don White (R) 50th District—Bob Robbins (R)</p> <p><u>Pennsylvania State House</u> 8th District—Richard Stevenson (R) 10th District—Jaret Gibbons (D) 11th District—Brian Ellis (R) 12th District—Daryl Metcalfe (R) 33rd District—Frank Dermody (D) 60th District—Jeff Pyle (R) 63rd District—Donna Oberlander (R) 64th District—Scott Hutchinson (R) 65th District—Kathy Rapp (R)</p>	<p><u>U.S. House of Representatives (Pa.)</u> 3rd District—Mike Kelly (R) 5th District—Glenn Thompson (R)</p> <p><u>Pennsylvania State Senate</u> 21st District—Mary Jo White (R) 49th District—Jane Earll (R) 50th District—Bob Robbins (R)</p> <p><u>Pennsylvania State House</u> 3rd District—John Homaman (D) 4th District—Curt Sonney (R) 5th District—John Evans (R) 6th District—Brad Roae (R) 17th District—Michele Brooks (R) 64th District—Scott Hutchinson (R) 65th District—Kathy Rapp (R)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Sullivan County REC Legislators</p> <p><u>U.S. House of Representatives (Pa.)</u> 10th District—Thomas Marino (R)</p> <p><u>Pennsylvania State Senate</u> 23rd District—Gene Yaw (R)</p> <p><u>Pennsylvania State House</u> 84th District—Garth Everett (R) 110th District—Tina Pickett (R)</p>

2011- 12 Federal and State Legislators for Pennsylvania and New Jersey

Sussex REC Legislators	United EC Legislators	Valley REC Legislators
<p><u><i>U.S. House of Representatives (N.J.)</i></u> 5th District—Scott Garrett (R)</p> <p><u><i>New Jersey State Senate</i></u> 24th District—Steven V. Oroho (R)</p> <p><u><i>New Jersey Assemblyman</i></u> 24th District—Gary R. Chiusano (R) 24th District—Alison Littell McHose (R)</p>	<p><u><i>U.S. House of Representatives (Pa.)</i></u> 3rd District—Mike Kelly (R) 5th District—Glenn Thompson (R) 9th District—Bill Shuster (R)</p> <p><u><i>Pennsylvania State Senate</i></u> 21st District—Mary Jo White (R) 25th District—Joseph Scarnati III (R) 34th District—Jake Corman (R) 35th District—John Wozniak (D) 41st District—Don White (R)</p> <p><u><i>Pennsylvania State House</i></u> 63rd District—Donna Oberlander (R) 65th District—Kathy Rapp (R) 66th District—Sam Smith (R) 73rd District—Gary Haluska (D) 74th District—Camille “Bud” George (D) 75th District—Matthew Gabler (R) 76th District—Mike Hanna Sr. (D)</p>	<p><u><i>U.S. House of Representatives (Pa.)</i></u> 5th District—Glenn Thompson (R) 9th District—Bill Shuster (R)</p> <p><u><i>Pennsylvania State Senate</i></u> 30th District—John Eichelberger (R) 33rd District—Rich Alloway (R) 34th District—Jake Corman (R)</p> <p><u><i>Pennsylvania State House</i></u> 78th District—Dick Hess (R) 79th District—Rick Geist (R) 80th District—Jerry Stern (R) 81st District—Mike Fleck (R) 82nd District—C. Adam Harris (R) 86th District—Mark Keller (R) 171st District—Kerry Benninghoff (R)</p>
Tri-County REC Legislators		Warren EC Legislators
<p><u><i>U.S. House of Representatives (Pa.)</i></u> 5th District—Glenn Thompson (R) 10th District—Thomas Marino (R)</p> <p><u><i>Pennsylvania State Senate</i></u> 23rd District—Gene Yaw (R) 25th District—Joseph Scarnati III (R) 35th District—John Wozniak (D)</p> <p><u><i>Pennsylvania State House</i></u> 67th District—Martin Causer (R) 68th District—Matthew Baker (R) 76th District—Mike Hanna Sr. (D) 84th District—Garth Everett (R) 110th District—Tina Pickett (R)</p>		<p><u><i>U.S. House of Representatives (Pa.)</i></u> 3rd District—Mike Kelly (R) 5th District—Glenn Thompson (R)</p> <p><u><i>Pennsylvania State Senate</i></u> 21st District—Mary Jo White (R) 25th District—Joseph Scarnati III (R)</p> <p><u><i>Pennsylvania State House</i></u> 4th District—Curt Sonney (R) 65th District—Kathy Rapp (R)</p>

Political Landscape — U.S., Pa., and N.J.

- ☆ **President**—Democrat
- ☆ **U.S. Senate**—Democrat Majority
 - ✓ Current Breakdown—51 Democrats, 47 Republicans, 2 Independents
- ☆ **U.S. House of Representatives**—Republican Majority
 - ✓ Current Breakdown—242 Republicans, 193 Democrats
- ☆ **Governors**—Republican Majority
 - ✓ Current Breakdown—29 Republicans, 20 Democrats, 1 Independent
- ☆ **Pennsylvania House of Representatives**—Republican Majority
 - ✓ Current Breakdown—111 Republicans, 92 Democrats
- ☆ **Pennsylvania Senate**—Republican Majority
 - ✓ Current Breakdown—30 Republicans, 20 Democrats
- ☆ **New Jersey General Assembly**—Democrat Majority
 - ✓ Current Breakdown—47 Democrats, 33 Republicans
- ☆ **New Jersey Senate**—Democrat Majority
 - ✓ Current Breakdown—24 Democrats, 16 Republicans



State Buzz on the Hill

☆ Gov. Tom Corbett (R) took the oath of office as the 46th governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on Jan. 18. Sounding themes of fiscal responsibility and less government intervention in private industry in a 15-minute inaugural address, Gov. Corbett now inherits a significant budget deficit and a continuing slow economy. Lt. Gov. Jim Cawley (R) received the oath of office as well, highlighting his former relationship with former Gov. Mark Schweiker (R) as pivotal to his interest in public service. Gov. Corbett is expected to give his 2011-12 budget address March 8.



☆ According to the new National Renewable Energy Laboratory survey, Pennsylvania ranks third among states in the number of operating solar projects and fourth in installed solar capacity. The report indicates that Pennsylvania has met its target of becoming a top-five state for solar energy ahead of schedule.

☆ The Pennsylvania State Police and Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection recently cited 1,066 trucks hauling gas-drilling wastewater in the Marcellus Shale region of the state. The most common violations were for unsecured loads, and lights or lamps that were not working. State Police placed 207 trucks and 52 drivers out of service. Approximately 1,400 trucks were inspected across the state between Oct. 25-27, 2010.

☆ Rep. Scott Conklin (D-Centre) announced plans to introduce legislation calling for a state constitutional convention. Under the bill's provisions, a referendum question would be placed on the Nov. 8, 2011, General Election ballot calling for such a convention. If approved by the voters, the convention would convene April 2, 2012, to elect officers and form committees. Any proposed constitutional changes would then be presented to the voters for the November 2012 General Election. Conklin cited a need for a "top to bottom" review of Commonwealth government and the need for the citizens to be heard. The state's last constitutional convention was convened in December 1967.



☆ Gov. Tom Corbett (R) unveiled his state government reform plan, calling for a change to a two-year budget cycle, a 10 percent across-the-board cut in the cost of government, and a task force to investigate the value of the Commonwealth's boards and commissions. Gov. Corbett also signaled his opposition to special budget funds for legislative projects known as "walking around money" or WAMs. He vowed to veto any line item in the upcoming 2011-12 state budget that contains any WAM funding.

Pennsylvania Legislative Leadership

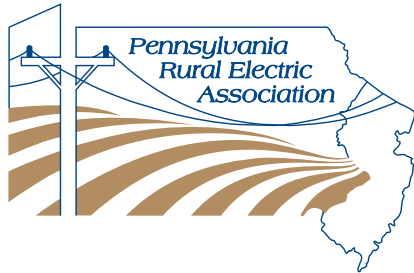
The Pennsylvania House Republican Caucus has chosen its leadership team after taking the majority in the Nov. 2 General Election. United Electric Cooperative member and state Rep. Sam Smith (R-Jefferson) was nominated by his GOP colleagues to become Speaker of the House. Joining the future speaker as a part of the majority leadership team are cooperative Reps. Stan Saylor (R-York) as the Whip, Dick Stevenson (R-Mercer) as Caucus Administrator, Dave Reed (R-Indiana) as Majority Policy Chairman and Sandy Major (R-Susquehanna) as Caucus Chairman. The team also includes Reps. Mike Turzai (R-Allegheny) as the Majority Leader, Bill Adolph (R-Delaware) as Appropriations Chairman and Mike Vereb (R-Montgomery) as Caucus Secretary.

The House Democrats decided on new leadership roles and have chosen Central Electric Cooperative legislator Frank Dermody (D-Allegheny) as their new Minority Leader. Also joining the Minority Leader in a leadership role is cooperative representative Mike Hanna (D-Clinton) as Minority Whip. Other Democratic leadership posts went to Reps. Dan Frankel (D-Allegheny), Minority Caucus Chair; Jennifer Mann (D-Lehigh), Minority Caucus Secretary; Ron Buxton (D-Dauphin), Minority Caucus Administrator; Joe Markosek (D-Westmoreland), Minority Appropriations Chair; and Mike Sturla (D-Lancaster), Minority Policy Chair.



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Pennsylvania and New Jersey Rural Electric Cooperatives

- ☆ Adams Electric Cooperative, Inc.
- ☆ Bedford Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.
- ☆ Central Electric Cooperative, Inc.
- ☆ Claverack Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.
- ☆ New Enterprise Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.
- ☆ Northwestern Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.
- ☆ REA Energy Cooperative, Inc.
- ☆ Somerset Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.
- ☆ Sullivan County Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.
- ☆ Sussex Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.
- ☆ Tri-County Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.
- ☆ United Electric Cooperative, Inc.
- ☆ Valley Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.
- ☆ Warren Electric Cooperative, Inc.

☆☆☆ What makes ACRE work? ☆☆☆

By definition, a political action committee (PAC) is a group of people with common goals who contribute to candidates who share their interests and views. ACRE embodies this definition.

- ☆ ACRE members come from all backgrounds and all areas of the country. They represent the interests of the nation's nearly 1,000 not-for-profit electric cooperative systems and their 40 million consumers. We are a true grassroots program, made up of activists who understand that political involvement is a necessary ingredient for success in the political process.
- ☆ ACRE funds are personal, non-tax-deductible contributions from local cooperative managers, directors, employees and member-owners of electric cooperatives with the best interest of the cooperative in mind. In Pennsylvania and New Jersey, the average ACRE contribution is around \$94. After we send 51 percent to NRECA for contributions to federal legislative races, we retain an average of \$48 per contribution for use in Pennsylvania and New Jersey.
- ☆ ACRE is bipartisan and provides a voice for electric cooperatives at both the federal and state legislative levels. ACRE funds support those legislators who through their votes and actions support rural electrification. We do not contribute ACRE funds to presidential or gubernatorial campaigns, or races for statewide row offices. Rural electric system employees and consumers need representatives in Congress who understand the important issues affecting rural electric cooperatives and who will fight for rural electric cooperative consumers. ACRE was organized to support only the political candidates who will speak for and protect the interests of electric cooperative systems nationwide.