Otsego Electric Cooperative, Inc.

August 2024



The Cooperative's 80th Annual Meeting will be held in person, Wednesday, August 21st at Laurens Central School located at 55 Main Street, Laurens, NY 13796. Registration will open at 5:00 P.M. with the business meeting to begin at 7:00 P.M.

Official notice and an open invitation are hereby extended to all bona fide members and their families of the Cooperative to come and take part in the proceedings.

REGISTRATION 5:00—6:45 PM BUSINESS MEETING: 7:00 PM

Brooks' House of BBQ will be serving a chicken dinner from 5:00 to 6:30 PM by **Reservation ONLY.** A bill credit will be issued to all members who are registered and seated in the auditorium before 6:45 P.M.

If you plan to join us and would like to reserve BBQ chicken dinners, please complete the ticket that can be found on the back and return it with \$10.00 per dinner by 8/12/2024. Please make checks payable to "Otsego Electric Cooperative" and please **DO NOT** include this payment in your check for payment of your electricity. Dinner tickets will not be sold at the meeting.

80th Annual Meeting — Brooks' Chicken Bar-B-Q

\$10.00 Per Serving

| Enclosed Please Find \$_ | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Please Reserve Discounted Rate) | _Tickets at \$10.00 Each (Max 4 at |
| Name(s) | |
| | e Members and Family Only Please—Limit 4 ls at discounted rate) |

Otsego Electric Cooperative P.O. Box 128, Hartwick, NY 13348

> Office Hours 7:30 – 4:00 Monday – Friday

Phone: **607-293-6622**

Pay-by-Phone **1-844-843-6842**

After Hours and Outages: **1-866-591-3192**

Call **UDig New York** before you dig at **811** or **1-800-962-7962**

Board of Directors

Gary Potter President

Charles Arnold Vice President

Edward Clarke Treasurer

> Steve Child Secretary

Fred Braun, Jr. Director

> Amy Parr *Director*

Patrick Hooker Director

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www.otsegoec.coop

www.oeconnect.coop

Things You Might Not Know About Power Restoration

We're accustomed to members' questions about power outages and why it can take time to get the lights back on. Given our reliance on electricity, there's simply never a good time to be without it.

This month, we'd like to shed light on our restoration process to help our members understand what may be happening behind the scenes. Here are a few things you might not know about restoration:

- 1. **We need you.** When your power goes out, it might be just at your home or small section of a neighborhood. There is a chance we may not know about it, and no one has reported it.
- 2. **Our employees might be affected too.** Because Otsego Electric is a local electric cooperative owned by the members we serve, our employees are local too. They are your neighbors, friends and familiar community volunteers. When you're without power, our people might be too.
- 3. **It's a team effort.** Every one of our employees are working to get your power restored as soon as possible. From linemen, right of way crew, engineers, fiber crew, member services representatives, and office staff we all work together as quickly and safely as possible to get you back to normal.
- 4. **We assess the situation first.** Every outage is different, so we don't know how dangerous it may be or what equipment might need to be replaced.
- 5. Our crews face many dangers. Besides working around high voltage electricity, our crews are on alert for weather changes, falling trees, fast-moving cars, nuisance vegetation, and even wild animals. (f you see one of our vehicles, please drive slowly for everyone's protection.
- 6. **Flickering lights are a good thing.** Some folks mistake flickering lights for outages, but these temporary "blinks" are important because they indicate our equipment is working to prevent a possible outage likely caused by stray tree limbs or wayward animals on the lines.
- 7. **You need a backup plan.** We do our best to help those who need it, but if you depend on electricity for life support purposes, you should have a back-up plan—remember, we don't always know how long restoration efforts will take. If you are unsure what to do, call us or your local emergency squad.
- 8. **Sometimes it's a waiting game.** Our portion of the power grid is connected to other electric utilities, and we maintain positive relationships with power providers interconnected to our system. If our outage is due to an issue from their transmission feed into our system, we must let them do their repairs and be mindful of what they're going through to fix it.