



JULY 2025

## 2025 Annual Meeting

The 86th Annual Meeting of Members brought a little sunshine to a rainy day at the Owl's Nest Resort in Thornton where more than 100 members and guests gathered to renew acquaintances and learn about the Co-op's accomplishments in 2024.

At the business portion of the meeting, Board Chair Bill Darcy highlighted the benefits to all NHEC members of the efforts of the Co-op's subsidiary, NH Broadband, which built more than 1,100 miles of fiber optic internet lines in 2024. NH Broadband's growing network now offers fiber internet service to more than 35,000 residents of New Hampshire.

Interim President & CEO Michael Jennings reviewed the Co-op's investments in 2024 to improve service reliability, including the replacement of two substations, the relocation of three miles of main circuit lines in Andover, and the continued growth of automation technology on the Co-op's electrical system.

Members who attended enjoyed access to the Owl's Nest resort, a reception prior to the meeting, a live band, and a chance to win raffle prizes.

A video recording of the meeting is available **here**:  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=77GN\\_d9yb4U](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=77GN_d9yb4U)



*Members and guests enjoying food, drink and friendship before the start of Annual Meeting.*



*Girl Scout Troop 62526 from Plymouth led the Pledge of Allegiance to open the Annual Meeting.*



## Caswell: Co-op Has Delivered on Broadband



As New Hampshire approaches 100% broadband coverage, Taylor Caswell, the Commissioner of the NH Department of Business and Economic Affairs (BEA), told the Annual Meeting gathering that the Co-op has delivered "what we hoped we'd see."

"Here is a great story of a state that has taken a very basic approach – how many people can we get signed up for the least amount of money in the fastest amount of time, and the electric cooperative has delivered that for us." Caswell said.

# Five Members Elected to Board of Directors



Alana Albee



John Goodrich



Peter Laufenberg



Tom Mongeon



Bob MacLeod

**Co-op members have elected four incumbents and one new member to the company's board of directors.**

A total of seven candidates were running to fill five seats on the 11-member board of directors. Five candidates ran for election to four, 3-year terms on the Board, while two candidates ran for election to one, 1-year term. Election results were announced at the Co-op's Annual Meeting, held June 17 at Owl's Nest Resort in Thornton.

Reelected to three-year terms on the board were Alana Albee of Tuftonboro, John Goodrich of Littleton, Peter Laufenberg of Thornton and Thomas Mongeon of Rumney. Elected to a one-year term on the board was Robert MacLeod of Thornton.

The Co-op is a member-owned company that relies on the active participation of its members to govern and sustain the business. The Co-op wishes to thank all members who voted or stood for election. To the right are the full results of the 2025 Board of Directors Election.

## FOR THREE-YEAR TERM (\*elected)

*John Goodrich	4,882
*Peter Laufenberg	4,723
*Thomas Mongeon	4,706
*Alana Albee	4,489
Jonathan Nelson	2,618

## FOR ONE-YEAR TERM (\*elected)

*Robert MacLeod	3,137
Thomas Randell	2,713

**At the Co-op's Board Organizational Meeting on June 17, 2025 the Board of Directors elected the following officers to serve one-year terms:**

<b>Chair of the Board:</b>	Bill Darcy
<b>Vice Chair:</b>	Alana Albee
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Jerry Stringham
<b>Assistant Treasurer:</b>	Leo Dwyer
<b>Secretary:</b>	Jeff Morrill

## THANK YOU SPONSORS!

### Annual Meeting Costs Are Covered

The Co-op is grateful for the financial support of its Annual Meeting sponsors. Thanks to their donations, the Co-op was able to host the 86th Annual Meeting on June 17 at no cost to the membership.

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Special thanks to our host



OWL'S NEST  
THE WHITE MOUNTAINS



# EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT



## Mark Patten: The Man Behind the Curtain



*Avid skiers Mark & Joanne Patten at Loon Mountain.*

An applications engineer in the IT department who enjoys science fiction and history, Mark Patten laughs at the question of whether he might be a nerd.

“Maybe a sophisticated geek,” said Patten, who confesses his obsession of watching *The Curse of Oak Island*, a bingeable series on the History Channel involving the endless tease of a buried treasure yet to be discovered.

As the most seasoned applications engineer at the Co-op with 35 years, Mark is our human connection to the software and systems that power the day-to-day operations of the Co-op. Critical systems like outage management, billing, purchasing and member services depend on his expertise and experience.

“Mark is the man behind the curtain. He’s the guy who makes sure our most important software works the way it should, even if that means working nights, weekends and holidays,” said Seth Wheeler, Senior Communications Specialist. “We take for granted that our systems function the way they should and a lot of the credit for that goes to Mark.”

During his career at the Co-op, Mark has seen the IT department travel through the centuries. Systems and equipment that took up large spaces and were limited in capacity have been replaced by smaller and virtual servers with storage ad infinitum, he said.

In addition to the marvel of the machinery, Mark relishes the people he works with. “The team of people here – when you have an incident that has to be addressed or major outages – everybody is hands-on like no other place. It’s really fantastic. It’s great having the knowledge that you’ve got other people who have your back to get things resolved quickly because everybody is fully engaged,” Mark said.

***“Mark is the man behind the curtain. He’s the guy who makes sure our most important software works the way it should...”***

### NH BROADBAND NAMED

## “Best of the Lakes Region” for Internet Service Providers

We are thrilled to announce that NH Broadband has been awarded the silver medal in the “Best of the Lakes Region” competition. This honor is a testament to the exceptional service NH Broadband provides. It is our dedicated Co-op members who voted NH Broadband as the best, and it is our committed employees who ensure we deliver top-notch service every day.

***Congratulations to NH Broadband and thank you to everyone who voted!***





Andrew Morris of Woodstock was all smiles at the Co-op's Annual Meeting after being recognized as a winner of a NHEC Foundation Scholarship award.



Evan Duchette of Plymouth and Julia Secor of Rumney (with award certificates) were joined by family and recognized at the Co-op's Annual Meeting June 17 as winners of NHEC Foundation Scholarship awards.

## MEET THE 2025 NHEC Foundation Scholarship Winners!

Congratulations to the winners of the 2025 NHEC Foundation Scholarship awards. These six young Co-op members will each receive grants of \$1,500 to further their educations. We were glad to be joined by three scholarship winners at last month's Annual Meeting.

Jared Beale (Gilmanton), Political Science,  
University of New England

Evan Duchette (Plymouth), Computer Science/Math,  
Southern NH University

Tyler McPhail (Moultonborough), 3D Animation/Gaming,  
Southern NH University

Andrew Morris (Woodstock), Welding,  
White Mountain Community College

Hailey Peaslee (Wakefield) Elementary Education,  
Colby Sawyer College

Julia Secor (Rumney), Studying Nursing,  
Plymouth State University

Co-op members' support of the Round Up Program  
funds the NHEC Foundation Scholarships.

Not enrolled in Round Up? It's easy and affordable –  
about six dollars a year.

Learn more and enroll: [nhec.com/round-up-program](https://nhec.com/round-up-program)

## STREAMNOW is Your Guide to Streaming TV

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StreamNow to give members a simple way  
to transition from cable to streaming TV.  
Want to know what streaming services  
offer WMUR and the Red Sox?

We've got the solution in just 3 easy steps.

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Not sure where to start? Check out our "What Type of  
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for everyone from movie buffs to penny pinchers.

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