



Volume 1, Issue 3

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Co-Op Annual Meeting Highlights

This year's annual meeting – our 8th as an organization -- was held virtually on October 19, with some 57 members and guests in attendance. Here is a link to the [slide presentation](#).

Thank you to all the members who voted in the annual board election. Chris Weigand and Allaina Propst were re-elected to three-year terms on the Board. They were later re-elected by the Board to continue serving as President and Treasurer.

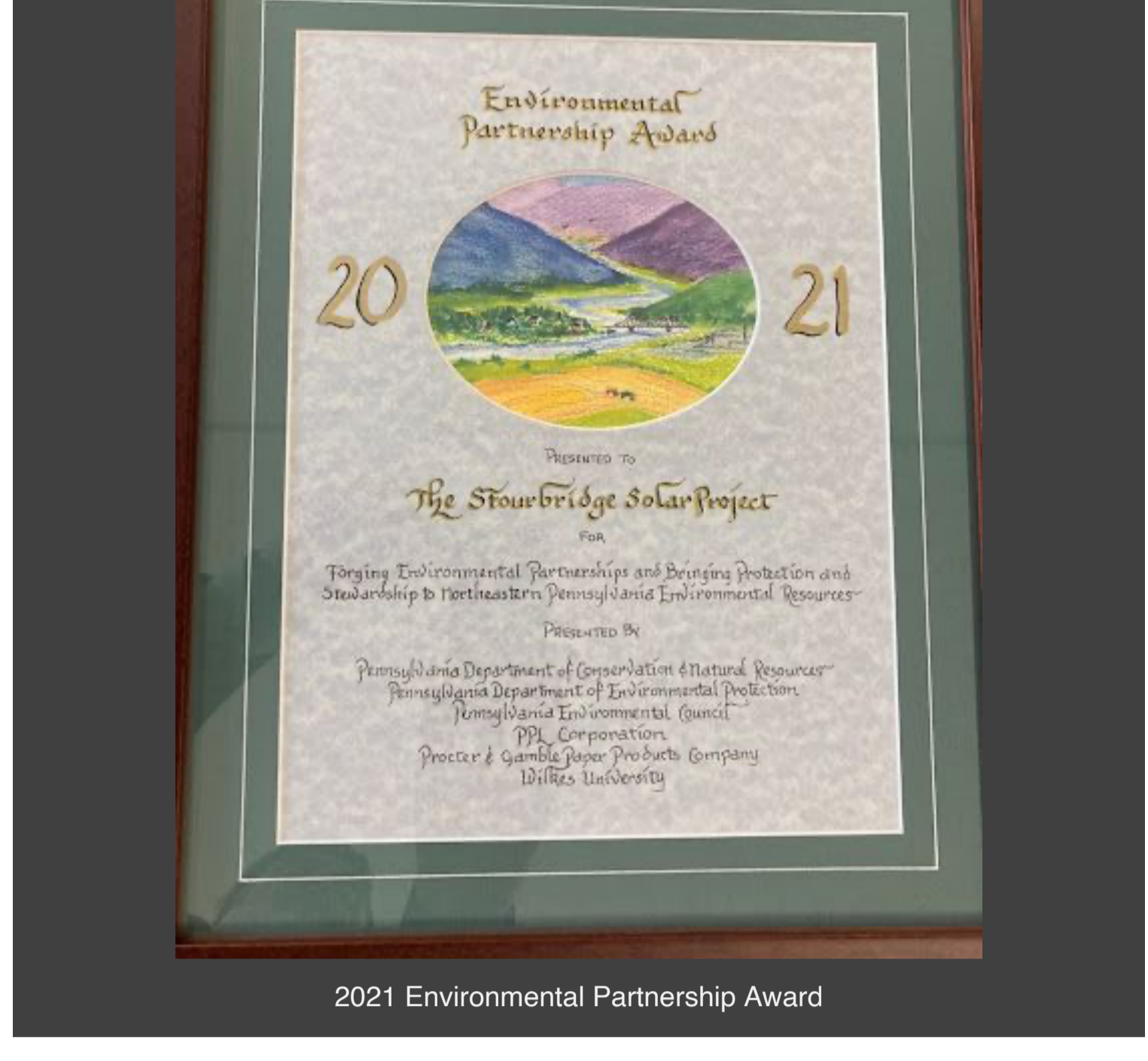
Board Member Jen Leith gave a short presentation on the activities of the Southeast PA Chapter, which is in the process of looking at several potential projects to recommend to the Project Development committee. And Project Development Chair Jack Barnett gave an update on all of the projects that are being considered, as well as the on-going success of our established projects.

A Word From Our President - Chris Weigand

If you are reading this newsletter, you are most likely committed to protecting our planet and doing what you can to address climate change. Many of you are Clean Energy Co-op members and some have also invested in the Co-op's projects. Some of you have installed solar energy systems at your home or business. Some of you choose to buy electricity generated from renewable resources. Some of you are actively advocating for renewable energy standards and programs like community solar.

Thank you for these efforts! Now we would like to encourage everyone to DO EVEN MORE! Here are a few suggestions:

- Become a member of the Clean Energy Co-op or purchase a gift membership for a friend or family member. Members who are also PA residents will have the opportunity to purchase preferred shares when the next Co-op project is being developed and a prospectus is issued. Visit <https://www.cleanenergy.coop/oin> for more information.
- Use our toolkit, found here <https://www.cleanenergy.coop/faqs>, to learn more about installing solar on your home, business or non-profit.
- Visit PA Power Switch, here <https://www.papowerswitch.com>, to find an electricity provider that sources from renewable energy.
- Contact your state and federal legislators about supporting legislation that favors renewable energy and community solar.



2021 Environmental Partnership Award

Co-op's Stourbridge Project Wins PEC Award

The Pennsylvania Environmental Council and The Northeast Environmental Partners selected The Stourbridge Project as one of this year's recipients of the 2021 Environmental Partnership Awards.

The PEC and the Partners hosted a virtual celebration on Wednesday November 10th, to honor the recipients of the awards.

Since 1970, the PEC has been a central figure in the environmental and conservation discussion in Pennsylvania. For 50 years, PEC has addressed the challenges facing Pennsylvania's water, land, and air resources -- whether from past activities, current practices, or potential future impact.

The PEC recognized Stourbridge Solar Project for its "public-private partnership to own and operate a 33.2kW solar array that will ultimately produce 40MWh annually, offsetting the burning of more than 5 tons of coal, and reducing harmful emissions". Led by the Clean Energy Cooperative, the project stakeholders were able to utilize community knowledge and experience acquired from similar past projects to create a cost-effective plan for the array that was supported by numerous for-profit and nonprofit organizations, and by Wayne County. In addition, the Co-op created an educational kiosk and a mini documentary about the project to increase knowledge about solar energy and the power of collaboration in a community.

A virtual award ceremony was watched by hundreds of people, including a Co-op watch party held at Here & Now.



Clockwise from top left: Co-op board president and tech guru Chris Weigand, solar project partners receiving the PEC award for the Stourbridge Project (from left to right: Blair Buesell, Lisa Glover, Chris Weigand, Wayne County Commissioner Jocelyn Cramer, and Jack Barnett,) and pictures from the virtual awards ceremony watch party at Here & Now Brewing Company (Honesdale) with special hosting thanks to Co-op board member Allaina Propst



Educational kiosk supporting the solar array at the Stourbridge Project, created by Lisa "The Maker" Glover

SE Chapter Report

From Chapter Rep Jen Leith:

We are hosting a ['Get to Know Us' event](#) on Wednesday, December 8 on Zoom. Now that the Chapter has been operational for over 6 months, we plan to highlight the progress the Co-op has made since then with focus on the SEPA chapter creation, the Co-op's PEC award last week, and the really strong possibility of a solar installation project with a local school district.



Southeast PA chapter table at a local event

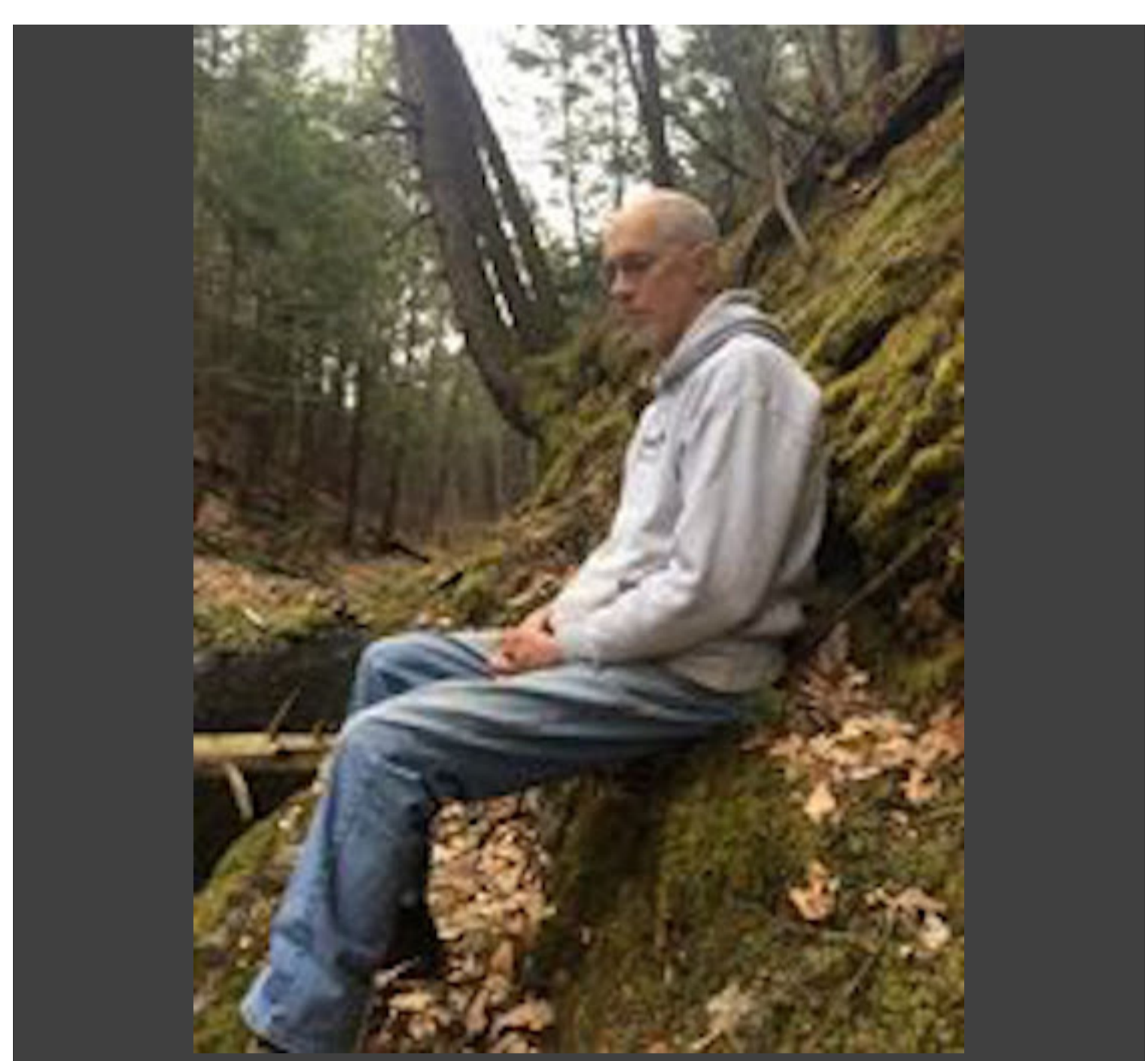
Meet A Board Member - Jamie Stunkard

Jamie has been with the Co-op since the very beginning. Here's a brief intro....

There have been many wakeup calls through the years before I joined the board of Clean Energy Co-op. "Diet for a Small Planet" by Frances Moore Lappe inspired me in the early 1970's by creating a plausible platform for providing food for our ever-increasing world population. I remember a sustainability (that concept wasn't in use at that time) conference I went to in the eighties where the research speakers assured us that there was only enough fossil fuel to last until the year 2000 at the latest.

At that time, the idea of global warming was just a small crack in our awareness. I am a firm believer in the 100th monkey effect. When faced with the immense prospects of turning the fossil fuel machine around it is easy to feel overwhelmed and even discouraged. Nonetheless, I return to the conviction that we are at the crux of that critical mass where the world will be ready to make the necessary changes. Clean Energy Co-op is just one important part of that heavy lifting that will eventually push us over the hill.

I hope to make a contribution in the process.



Board Member Jamie Stunkard

Outreach/Membership

With the establishment of the S.E. Chapter and new local efforts, the Co-op membership has grown from 95 in September 2020 to 137 today. We're still actively seeking more members. Remember, to be a Member costs only \$100 for a lifetime membership. Investing in Preferred Shares in the Co-op is completely optional. The Co-op's success is a result of our communal efforts. The goal for this year is to hit 200!

Treasurer Report

The Co-op continues to grow in revenue: We Issued a 2% annual dividend on 209 Preferred Shares in the January 2021 for the 6th year in a row. A dividend for 2021 will be decided by the Board in January.

There are presently more than 200 preferred shares outstanding, representing \$203,000 in preferred share equity, and the 137 members represent some \$13,600 in member equity. The Co-op paid out more than \$4,000 in preferred share dividends in 2021. Total Co-op assets as of September 30 were \$190,141.

Join The Fun

Working on one of the Co-op's committees is fun, time-efficient and allows you to better participate in the regular workings of the Co-op. (There are VERY few meetings!)

As you know, the Clean Energy Co-op is managed solely by volunteers, and we need more members to be involved. Please consider serving on one of the following committees:

- Project Development - chaired by Jack Barnett - meets the third Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. via Zoom
- Outreach - chaired by David Pursch - meets as needed
- Finance - chaired by Allaina Propst - meets as needed
- Audit - chaired by Chuck Heyn - meets annually as needed
- Election - rotating chair - meets in August and September to organize and run the board election and annual membership meeting

Members of the Southeast PA Chapter are invited to serve on any Co-op committee, including the Chapter's own Outreach or Project Development committees, as well as the chapter committee.

Looking For A Holiday Gift?

Consider giving a Membership in the Clean Energy Co-op -- We believe that renewable, clean energy is the future. And we're leading the way by funding local projects, showing how it can be profitably done. We invite you to join us, as we invest in our local communities and our future.

Feel free to forward this newsletter along to anyone you think might be interested in the Co-op. For any comments or questions, email us at info@cleanenergy.coop. Thanks for reading!

Our Mission:

"To sustainably develop renewable energy resources for a healthy and just energy future for our communities, using local investment and providing positive returns to our members."

