Your Candidates for Election

SREC's service area is split into three districts with three directors per district. Each director, who must be a member of the Cooperative, serves a three-year term with 1/3 of the directors standing for re-election this year. This year we also have a contested election, with two candidates up for District 1's seat. Elections of board members are held by mail-in ballots as required in our Bylaws. Ballots will be sent to members in **ELECTION** mid-May and results will be announced as part of our Online Meeting on Monday, July 1st.

District 1 Incumbent **Thomas Madsen**



192 Mudtown Rd, Wantage, NJ

Tom Madsen has been owner of the general contracting firm Tom Madsen, LLC for over 40 years and is a longtime member of the co-op community. Tom was first elected to Sussex REC's board of directors in 2000 and is very passionate about the continued success of rural electric cooperatives. Tom is a Certified Credentialed Co-op Director, holds Board Leadership Certificate designation and Director Gold certification, and represents New Jersey as a director on the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association Board of Trustees. Tom serves on Sussex REC's Annual Meeting, Finance and Compensation, and Building Committees.

Tom's other community activities include serving as past president and member of the Kiwanis Club, past chairman of the Sussex County Chamber of Commerce Board of Trustees, and member and current chairman of the Sussex County Economic Development Partnership. Tom is a commissioner and past chairman for the Sussex County Municipal Utilities Authority. Tom and his wife Barbara reside in Wantage and have two daughters and two grandsons.

District 1 Candidate **Lena Frank**



50 Wolfpit Rd, Wantage, NJ

Lena Frank is currently an independent business consultant for small businesses where she provides strategic advice for creating, developing, and implementing optimal business strategies to deliver results meeting the business's goals and objectives. Over her career, Lena has developed and nurtured the capabilities and skills to oversee business in a fast-changing world. Her experience in industry includes roles in new product development, sales and marketing, alliance and project management, and business development, giving her a unique perspective when creating positive outcomes for business.

Lena has an MBA from New York University, and a BS in Animal Science. In the community, Lena serves as a Board of Trustee for the Sussex County Community College. She is an avid outdoors person and enjoys hiking, canoeing, gardening and photography where she can immerse herself into nature and think about both business and life. She and her husband Greg reside in Wantage where they currently operate White Possum Farm specializing in hay and garlic.

District 2 Incumbent Ronald Dupont, Jr.



P.O. Box 683. Highland Lakes, NJ

Ron Dupont was born and raised in Vernon Township. An SREC member since 1998, Ron has represented District 2 on the Sussex Rural Electric Cooperative board of directors since 2008. Ron has pursued director education, receiving his Credentialed Cooperative Director Certificate in 2010, his Board Leadership Certificate in 2018, and his Director Gold Certificate in 2022. He has served as the Cooperative's Secretary/Treasurer since 2022, currently serves on the Executive, Building and Equipment and Scholarship Committees, and is the chair of the Finance and Compensation Committee. He has also served on the Policy and Annual Meeting committees.

Ron is a 1985 graduate of Columbia University and is part of the third generation to run his family's business in Highland Lakes, the Highland General Store. He lives in Highland Lakes with his wife Emilie with whom he has two adult sons, Sam and Ben. He has served as an officer or trustee in a number of local heritage organizations, including the Sussex County Historical Society. He is also a trail maintainer for the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference. For 40 years, he has been an author writing on regional history and the outdoors, including five books and numerous newspaper feature articles and columns.

District 3 Incumbent Barbara Berge-Miller



112 Statesville Quarry Rd, Lafavette, NJ

Retired Principal of High Point Regional High School, Barbara is seeking re-election to the seat in District 3. She has earned the Credentialed Co-op Director certificate, the Board Leadership Certificate, and the Director Gold Certificate. On the SREC Board, Barbara serves as Chairperson of the Policy and Governance Committee and is also a member of the Finance and Compensation Committee and the Scholarship Committee. She is the Sussex Rural Electric delegate to the Pennsylvania Rural Electric Board of Directors, where she currently serves as Secretary of the Board, Chairperson of the Scholarship Committee, and a member of the Administrative Services and Membership Activities Committees.

Barbara's educational background includes a B.A. from the College of New Jersey, an M.A. from Montclair State University, and Ed.D. from Seton Hall University. In the community, Barbara is a member of the Newton Rotary Club and Sussex United Methodist Church, where she serves as pianist and sings in the church choir. In addition, she is the Chairperson of the Staff Parish Relations Committee and a member of the Church council. She and her husband Ned reside in Lafayette and have five grown children, eight grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.