



# What Was Born on the Fourth of July?

BY **JEFF WADSWORTH** PRESIDENT & CEO



**This month we celebrate a historic birthday – a date synonymous with America’s independence, patriotism, and way of life.**

July Fourth is a time to ask ourselves what our Founding Fathers held so dear, that they declared our Nation’s independence.

Those early patriots dreamed of a just country guided by local leaders who could equitably represent their fellow citizens. They prized independence, representation, and local governance. And these qualities, among others, ring true for your cooperative.

At your co-op, our business model directly reflects these qualities. Seven cooperative principles guide us as we strive to provide the products and services that enhance your life. But a few speak out to me now.



## DEMOCRATIC MEMBER CONTROL

Cooperatives are democratic organizations controlled by their members, who actively participate in setting policies, making decisions, and electing representatives. This type of representation was crucial to how our country formed, and I’m proud we continue to honor that system of governance.

## AUTONOMY & INDEPENDENCE

Cooperatives are autonomous, self-help organizations



owned by their members. We govern ourselves, for the betterment of our members, so that local priorities are reflected in how we do business.

## COOPERATION AMONG COOPERATIVES

Our Founding Fathers stood together, states united, and called upon foreign allies for support. Similarly we work together within our cooperative family of local, regional, and national partners to improve services, bolster economies, and deal more effectively with social and community needs.



## CONCERN FOR COMMUNITY

Finally, the Fourth of July makes me think of this last cooperative principle. It’s one of the principles our founders risked their lives for when our fledgling nation adopted the Declaration of Independence. At Poudre Valley REA, we exist to empower the communities we serve and enhance your way of life.



**In closing, all of us at your co-op hope you have a safe and joyous holiday. Happy Independence Day!**

### ABOUT YOUR CO-OP

PVREA serves energy solutions to over 50,000 homes and businesses in Boulder, Larimer, and Weld counties. We are a member-owned co-op, led by those we serve.

### OUR MISSION

We are committed to providing safe, reliable, efficient energy solutions with exceptional service to our members.



### CONTACT US

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