

Piedmont Electric

CONNECTION

A Touchstone Energy Cooperative



Hillsborough, N.C.

www.pemc.coop

June 2011

ANNUAL MEETING

Members Hear Progress Reports

“The price of electric energy over the long term is expected to increase as a result of having to retire and replace a significant proportion of our existing generation fleet and construct new generation to meet our growing demand for electricity,” Piedmont Electric CEO R. G. Brecheisen told members attending this year’s Annual Meeting.

Reiterating the Cooperative’s ongoing priority of looking for cost-saving initiatives, Mr. Brecheisen told the audience of approximately 900—including 420 registered members—that Piedmont Electric was able to renegotiate its long-term wholesale power contract with Duke Energy through 2031.

This extension will allow the Cooperative to benefit from Duke Energy’s lower cost generation, according to the CEO, and “gives us flexibility to further reduce cost through our demand side management program.”

Piedmont Electric also negotiated the ability to acquire its own renewable energy resources to meet the renewable mandate at a lower cost to members.



There were 420 registered members at this year’s Annual Meeting April 15.

Mr. Brecheisen also discussed the merger of Progress Energy and Duke Energy.

“We are monitoring the merger process to ensure that both our Progress Energy and Duke Energy long-term wholesale contracts will continue to be honored, and that we will share in the benefits from the merger,” he said, adding that the Cooperative anticipates it will continue to share in the merger savings once the merger is complete.

sions is an overall comprehensive energy policy,” Mr. Brecheisen explained.

Through an audiovisual presentation, the programs and progress of the Cooperative during 2010 was highlighted.

Four members were reelected to the Board of Directors at the meeting. They include: David Poythress, District 1; James Kinley, District 2; Paul Bailey, District 5, and Richal Vanhook, At-Large Representative.



Jerry Aiken

Another issue addressed by the CEO was proposed legislation to put a tax on carbon dioxide emissions.

“As things currently stand in Washington, DC, it doesn’t appear that carbon legislation will pass any time soon.

“We still believe the best way to address carbon dioxide emis-



This lighting board was among the many displays.

Piedmont Electric Membership Corporation CONNECTION



From Your President...

Our Marching Orders: Affordable Power

R. G. Brecheisen

President & Chief Executive Officer

I was proud to join the thousands of Electric Cooperative leaders this past month in our nation's capitol.

We told our elected officials that now more than ever we have to plan for a safe, reliable and affordable energy future.

We stand at the ready with plans for new infrastructure, power plants and innovative technologies to provide electricity for the next 30 years, but there's a problem. We're waiting on marching orders from our nation's leaders.

For our children and grandchildren's sake we need to make some tough decisions soon and we need to get them right.

As our appetite for electricity grows and threatens to outstrip our nation's generation capacity we need to build more power plants, but what type of facilities should they be that will make the most sense financially.

As you well know there has been a lot of talk about reducing carbon dioxide and greenhouse gasses in the environment.

Congress has considered a number of proposals such as cap

and trade and taxing carbon dioxide emissions.

We have raised concerns with our legislators and have kept you informed regarding the potential impact that proposed legislation would have on the cost of power we purchase from coal fired generation plants which account for approximately 45% of the energy we purchase.

As things stand in Washington DC it doesn't appear that carbon legislation will pass anytime soon.

With the absence of any legislation the Environmental Protection Agency, with authorization under the Clean Air Act, is establishing regulations to limit carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gasses.

We still believe that the best way to address carbon dioxide emissions is an overall comprehensive energy policy rather than regulations by the EPA.

The disaster in Japan has refocused a great deal of attention on the nuclear power industry in this country. Lessons learned from this disaster will help us to improve on the design and safety of our own nuclear plants.

The future of nuclear energy is uncertain and will clearly undergo a great deal of scrutiny in years to come, but I still believe that we need to have clean and safe nuclear energy as an option to meet our future energy needs.

Where the power comes from impacts a sizable portion of your electric bill. More than 57% of each dollar you pay us goes toward buying wholesale power. With all the uncertainty, it makes planning for the future extremely difficult. Co-ops need to know the rules; our marching orders for us to be able to plan for your future needs.

Piedmont Electric's mission was set by you, our members, almost 75 years ago. You charged us to provide safe, reliable and affordable power.

We will keep our ultimate mission at the forefront of our efforts as we work with Congress to get our marching orders and plans for the future. It's one way that we're looking out for you.

By the Numbers...

- 1,757 members have signed up for the use monitoring portion of www.MyUsage.com
- 567 members are participating in the FlexPay Program
- 408 members have turned in receipts for 4,100 CFLs, representing a total of 1,406,300 kWhs saved toward our Senate Bill 3 Mandate
- 27 solar water heater rebates given to members
- 789 electric water heater wraps sold
- 542 residential members on Time-of-Day Rates
- 477 visits to TogetherWeSave.com for a total calculated savings with the home savings calculator tool of \$202,147.51.

June Right-of-Way Maintenance



Person County

Mill Creek Road
Halifax Road
Woody Store Road
Haywood Bailey Road
(Woodsdale area)

Orange County

Mt. Willing Road
Chestnut Ridge Church Road
(and surrounding areas)

IT'S TIME TO GET READY FOR HURRICANE SEASON

The recent tornados and the upcoming hurricane season, which runs from June 1–November 30, do pose a threat to every region of our state, especially the coast.

We're fortunate to live in a time when technology can notify us for such a major storm days in advance, but true preparation for hurricane season starts now.

The following tips can help you be prepared if a hurricane strikes this season.



Before the Storm

- Locate potential shelters and learn the evacuation plans for your community.
- Have at least a one-week supply of medications on hand.
- Buy and store materials, like plywood, for use in securing your home's doors and windows.
- Store flashlights with extra batteries throughout the house.
- Have a first-aid kit well stocked and in a central location.
- Store at least a three-day supply of food for each person. Include items such as canned or dehydrated food, powdered milk and canned juices.
- Store a three-day supply of water (one gallon per person per day). Store in air-tight containers and replace them every six months.
- Important documents should be stored in a waterproof container. Examples include insurance policies, medical records, bank account numbers, Social Security card, etc.

During the Storm

- Listen to the radio for frequent updates on weather conditions
- Secure your home. Close storm shutters and lock up outdoor

objects or bring them indoors.

- Avoid windows and glass doors and keep curtains and blinds closed. Do not be fooled if there is a lull; it could be the eye of the storm—winds will pick up again.

- Take refuge in a small interior room, closet or hallway on the lowest level.

- If you do not feel safe and need to evacuate, seek shelter only if conditions allow.

After the Storm

- After power is restored, be

sure to wait five to 10 minutes before turning on appliances and heating systems.

- NEVER touch downed power lines. Downed power lines may be energized and dangerous, so make it a priority to call your local electric cooperative or 911 to report the issue.

- If your electricity is out, be sure to check with neighbors to

see if they have power. If they do have power, you may have only a blown fuse or a tripped breaker. Never replace a fuse or reset a circuit breaker with wet hands or while standing on a wet or damp surface.

- If your power is out for an extended period of time, and your emergency situation requires the use of a generator, notify your electric cooperative, and have a qualified, licensed electrician connect the generator to your home's main electrical supply. Power from generators can backfeed along power lines and electrocute anyone who comes into contact with them.

Hurricane preparation is essential to minimize the risk of damage and injury to your home and family.

To lessen the potential consequences surrounding hurricane season, start gathering supplies, preparing your home and planning for a possible storm before the hurricane season starts.



Alabama Bound!

Piedmont Electric crews went to Rainsville, AL, to help restore power to members of Sand Mt. Cooperative after tornados swept through the area.

(L-R) Brent Talley, Russell Yates, David Tilson, Brian Rhew, Jason Howerton, Donald Neems, David Godfrey, Steve Summey, Jeff Young and, in the cab, Kevin Snead went to Alabama to help restore power.

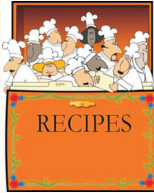


TEACHERS, IT'S BRIGHT IDEAS TIME!

A sample application and more information are available on the Bright Ideas website, www.ncbrightideas.com.

Pass It On...

This month's recipe for "Hot Pepper Jelly" comes from Dorene Robertson of Roxboro.



If you have a favorite recipe you want to share with other Piedmont Electric members, please send it to: Pass It On, c/o Piedmont Connection, P.O. Drawer 1179, Hillsborough, NC 27278, or you may include it with your monthly payment. If it is printed in the newsletter, you will receive a copy of a cookbook from the Cooperative Council of N. C.

Please remember to check all ingredients and cooking directions.

HOT PEPPER JELLY

- 6 cups sugar
 - 1 cup sweet green pepper, chopped
 - 1/4 cup red hot pepper, chopped
 - 1-1/2 cups white vinegar
 - 1 bottle (OR, 2 packages) Certo
- Dissolve sugar and vinegar in saucepan. Add pepper and bring to a boil. Remove from heat. Add Certo. Put in sterile jars and seal.

Makes about three (3) pints jelly.



What are you waiting for? Sign up for MyUsage.com!

If Your Power Goes Out Call Us...

When your power goes out, call Piedmont Electric's outage reporting number: 800.222.3107 to report the outage.

The Cooperative uses your phone number to determine your service location when you use the automated outage reporting system to report a service outage.

If, like some folks—you no longer have a land line and use a cellular phone, please make sure to let the Cooperative know.

Unless we have your correct phone number(s), we may not be able to pinpoint your outage location as quickly.

Please complete and return the form on your monthly billing statement if your telephone number has changed.



Hannah Teasley



Kendall Whitted



Te'Nisha Clayton

Students Chosen for Summer Programs

Three local young people have been selected to attend various programs this summer to represent Piedmont Electric.

Hannah Teasley, daughter of Jennifer and Randy Teasley of Timberlake, will go on the week-long trip to Washington, DC, on the NRECA Rural Electric Youth Tour June 11-17.

Hannah, a junior at Roxboro Community School, will travel to the nation's capital with other EMC-sponsored students from North Carolina, where she will tour the historic monuments, museums, war memorials and the White House.

Kendall Whitted, son of Jeanene and Charles Whitted of Hillsborough, will attend the Roy Williams Basketball Camp at UNC-Chapel Hill. The 10-year-old attends Hillsborough Elementary School.

Te'Nisha Clayton, daughter of Antoinette Villines of Roxboro, was

chosen to attend the Kellie Harper Basketball Camp at N.C. State University. The 11-year-old is a student at Bethel Hill Charter School in Person County.

All students were selected based on their essays and applications.



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Office Hours: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday—Friday

Hillsborough: **919.732.2123** • Caswell County: **336.421.1296**

Roxboro: **336.599.0151** • Elsewhere in North Carolina: **800.222.3107**

To report an outage 24 hours a day: **800.449.2667***

To access account information 24 hours a day: **800.548.2105***

*Voice instructions will direct you through the system.

Call **BEFORE** You Dig:

800.632.4949 or **811**

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative
 Cathy J. Johnson, CCC, Editor