

# The NEWS LINE

RUTHERFORD ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION

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Your Touchstone Energy Cooperative



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Now Serving 66,952 Members

December 2009

## Rutherford EMC Holds 72nd Annual Membership Meeting

Some 2,000 people, including 865 registered members, attended Rutherford EMC's 72nd annual membership meeting, held at West Lincoln High School on October 31, 2009. All attending enjoyed entertainment, numerous prizes and refreshments following the meeting, despite the soggy weather conditions. As members registered for the meeting, they received an LED (light emitting diode) night light.

During the business meeting, reports were given by Board President Joseph N. Quinn and General Manager Joseph H. Joplin.

Mr. Quinn discussed how REMC and hundreds of other co-ops nationwide are making sure their members are represented when decisions are made by our legislators to enforce mandatory reductions in carbon dioxide emissions. "These measures should be taken without causing significant increases in our electric rates," said Mr. Quinn. Mr. Quinn also reported that, in early December, over \$1.8 million in capital credits would be returned to our members. "Since its inception, the cooperative has returned over \$40 million in capital credits to its members," said Mr. Quinn.

Mr. Joplin recognized all the military veterans and active military members for their service and dedication in protecting our freedom. Mr. Joplin discussed the advantages of the automated meter reading system that the co-op completed this year, which include improvements in service reliability, providing helpful information to members about their kilowatt-hour usage, and removing 10 trucks from the workforce which resulted in reducing the cooperative's carbon footprint. "A recent study determined that 40% of REMC's power outages are caused by small animals, such as squirrels,

snakes and birds," said Mr. Joplin. "This past year, we have been making modifications to many of our distribution transformers to reduce this type of outage. All the areas that this work has been completed in have shown remarkably fewer outages." Mr. Joplin reported that REMC's employees and board continue to work on finding ways to control the co-op's wholesale power costs, which accounted for 63.9% of each revenue dollar we received in 2008.

Following Mr. Joplin's report, Youth Tour Coordinator Denise Gavin recognized this year's Youth Tour winners—Cayla Green, Wes Johnson and Daniel Kim. Wes then gave a nice summary of the tour, followed by Mrs. Gavin's recognition of two of the co-op's 2008 Youth Tour winners, Clint Pruett and Devin Kiser, who won the Gwyn B. Price and Katie Bunch Memorial scholarships, respectively.

One of the last matters of business was the election of directors for three-year terms. J. Dean Carpenter and A. Virgil Shull were reelected from Directorate District One, and Robert B. Sisk was reelected from Directorate District Two. Kenneth H. McDaniel was reelected from Directorate District Three.

Following the adjournment of the business meeting, 97 prizes were given out during the annual prize drawing, including a boy's and girl's 26-inch bike, and cash prizes of \$500, \$250 and \$100. Later, refreshments were served outside.



*Destiny Franklin of Vale and Bryson Smith of Bostic were the lucky winners of the girl's and boy's 26-in. Roadmaster bikes, given away at this year's meeting. Pictured with Bryson is his grandmother, Mrs. Rita Hudson.*



*The eldest ladies present at this year's annual meeting were Mrs. Letha Avery of Lincolnton (top right) and Mrs. Dora Hamby of Casar, both age 95. The eldest gentleman present at the meeting was Mr. Lester Rhoney of Connelly Springs, at a remarkable age of 101.*



## SWAP SHOP

Rutherford Electric Membership Corporation provides Swap Shop ads as a free service to its members. Guidelines are as follows: Ads are published first-come, first-served. When the 1 1/2 pages allotted for ads are full, the remaining ads will be held over for the next issue. Ads will not be run more than once. Commercial ads will not be accepted. We reserve the right to edit, condense, or deny publication of any advertisement. Rutherford Electric Membership Corp. assumes no responsibility for the content of any advertisement and does not endorse or warrant any of the goods or services so advertised. Please include your account number with your ad.

Mail your ads to: Newsletter Editor, Rutherford EMC, PO Box 1569, Forest City, NC, 28043-1569 or e-mail at gmcdaniel@remc.com. No phone calls please.

## FOR SALE

**'89 Harley Softail Custom motorcycle** - dealer rebuilt 1340cc Evo motor, new carb., cam & lifters, Screaming Eagle ignition, replaced front rim, new tires, shocks, brakes & drive belt, new wide glide front end, Corbin seat, original custom black on silver paint, great low end torque, long range cruising, orig. owner, \$9,000 OBO. 704-276-3135, 8 am-9 pm.

**Rear-wheel drive power mobility chair** - exc. cond., \$800. 828-584-2712.

**Harley-Davidson boots** - 2 H-D buckles on each, H-D emblem on sides & heels, orange H-D in sole, 12" high, sz. 10, exc. cond., \$60; bugle, Slingerland U.S.A., 1 valve, no. 85173, exc. cond. w/hard case, \$300. 704-435-2161, 8:30 pm-10:30 pm.

**Baby playpen** - \$10; portable baby crib, \$15; four 7' blue spiral outdoor Christmas trees, \$3 each or 4 for \$10. 704-263-4369.

**'99 Yamaha 350 4-wheeler** - \$1,250; '94 Harley-Davidson Ultra Classic motorcycle, blue/silver, \$11,500. 704-732-2711 or 828-461-1491.

**French door** - prehung, full glass, never used, \$300, cost \$461; wire chicken cages, \$12 ea., 4 cages w/tin roof, 4'Wx4'Lx5'H, \$15 ea.; lawn mower trailer w/dump bed, like new, \$150, cost \$229; used Companion chop saw, 10" blade, \$40; Hitachi 10" table saw, 3-HP, still has 8-month warranty, \$250, cost \$375. 828-413-5329.

**7-pc. pearl drum set** - 5 stands, black hardware, black cherry red, poplar wood, \$350. 704-462-4417 or 828-308-4234.

**Grave plot w/vault** in Old Rugged Cross section of Forest Lawn Cemetery, Lincolnton, N.C. - \$1,200. 704-735-4219, Mon.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm.

**Whirlpool elec. range** - \$50; 11 yards of furniture cover material, beautiful color, all for \$25 or \$3/yd. 828-287-7575.

**Two '67 Olds. Cutlass 2-dr. coupes** - both cars complete w/good titles, each car has V8 eng. & AT, 1 car has factory A/C, both cars restorable, \$1,600 OBO. 704-629-4285.

**Portable washing machine** - GE WSLP1100, used very little, \$200, pd. \$500; '93 Kawasaki Bayou 300 ATV, new tires & battery, good cond., \$800. 704-922-9658.

**10-ac. parcels** off Hwy. 226 north of Polkville (Rutherford Co.) - beautiful mountain views, creek, nice trees, roads cut, great for mini-farms or

privacy, \$150,000/parcel. 704-779-7119.

**'97 Mallard 35' camper w/12x24 deck** at Lake James, N.C. - Barefoot Landing campground, 6-month lot rent included, \$10,000; '88 Ford F-250 PU, AT, V8, long bed, \$500. 828-245-7008 or 828-245-0016.

**'85 GMC Jimmy** - V6, 2-dr., 4WD, straight drive, 155,000 mi., driven daily, \$1,275. 828-429-4986.

**Firewood** - seasoned, will compromise a charge, Crouse, N.C. 704-735-3682, 9 am-8:30 pm.

**Two 9-ton feed bins** - used w/one flock, \$1,500 ea.; two 8-1/2-ton fed bins, good cond., \$750 ea.; Ziggity nipple drinkers, \$600; Hired-Hand box heaters, \$150 ea.; 48" fans & shutters, \$150 ea. 704-538-1364.

**AKC Siberian husky pups** - all white w/blue eyes, all shots, dewormed, can e-mail pictures, \$450. Glenn at 704-675-5918.

**Curio** - 6 glass shelves, oak frame, mirrored back, \$75. 864-836-9789.

**3-BR manufactured house** halfway between Shelby & Fallston, N.C. in quiet neighborhood - 1,480 sq. ft. on 1 ac., LR & DR, eat-in kit., inside laundry rm., 2 BAs, large master BA, deck & front porch, utility bldg., \$89,000. 704-473-4853.

**Pups** - CKC chocolate Lab, born 10-5-09, 4 females, 5 males, \$300; CKC Shih Tzu (mother)/Yorkie (father), born 10-3-09, 5 males, \$475; 2 curio display cabinets, \$675 ea.; small display for jewelry or baseball cards, \$350. 828-758-5887 or 828-433-1374.

**'05 Honda 650 ATV** - black, 700 mi., \$5,500 OBO; '01 Dodge Dakota SLT ext. cab PU, silver, AT, loaded, only 36,000 mi., \$9,850 OBO. 704-678-2508.

**Old-fashioned** (not hybrid) hardy lises; green Money Grass & other perennials, large clump, \$10; Periwinkle (running ground cover), all you choose to dig, \$10; orange triple daylilies w/red throats, \$10/clump; Golden Bell bushes, \$10/bush; Bridal Wreath bush, \$10 ea. Must bring your own tools/boxes, do your own digging & refill holes. 704-922-3065 for appt.

**'08 Honda CRF230F motorcycle** - garage-kept, less than 2 hrs. ride time by adult, elec. start, matching helmet, gloves & goggles, \$3,700. 704-300-4900.

**Monitor 40 & 41 kerosene heaters** - both just serviced, \$400 ea.; G.E. washer/dryer, \$300 for both; refrig., \$100; elec. range, \$50. 828-756-4743.

**'95 Grand Cherokee Laredo Jeep** - 4WD, 4.0-V6, great running cond., high mileage but well-maintained, new tires, \$1,800. 704-466-1929.

**Meadows sawmill** - \$700; 44" 8-gauge circular saw blade, \$100; 27" groove pulley, \$50, also sawmill wheels & axles, \$25 ea.; 2 mob. home axles w/tires, \$80 ea.; turning plow, \$100. 704-629-4457.

**Trailer** - \$250; Fisher-Price toddler bed (garage), \$150; children's game/pool table, \$40; Tyco easel, \$25; Fisher Price table & chairs, \$25. 704-730-8864.

**'98 Mustang Cobra** - 5-spd., loaded, \$9,000. 828-584-4806.

**'04 Winnebago Class C 29' RV** - 33,500 mi., Ford V10 eng., no smokers, children or pets, 2 slide-outs, large wardrobe, queen & sofa beds, no over cab bed, entertainment center & lots of storage, garaged 10 mo./yr., extremely clean cond., pay half of what new model would cost, \$49,000. 828-287-5475.

**Home** or shop oil furnace unit - burns #2 diesel, very good cond., \$350. 828-437-8776 or 828-757-9166.

**2 cages** - one 3-1/2'Wx8'Lx7'H and one 5-1/2'Wx8'Lx6-1/2'H; big oil heater. 704-396-6934.

**'09 spring cutting of fescue & orchard grass hay** - square bales out of barn, \$4 ea. or take 100 or more bales at \$3.50 ea., also sheltered round bales at \$35 ea.; seasoned firewood, all hardwood, \$35/short bed PU load, \$50 for long bed PU load, you haul, will help load. 704-860-2842 or 704-435-5688.

**Beekeeping supplies** - complete hive packages or components, order bees in February for spring delivery. 828-305-9446 or 828-748-8511 aft. 3 pm.

**Thermo Pride** 90,000 Btu/hour oil furnace - includes tank & stand, \$300 OBO. 704-740-5247.

**600 Holley 4-barrel carb.** for a straight drive - newly rebuilt, \$150; 6x9 wall unit entertainment center, cherry finish, \$75; 4 IPW racing rims, uni-lug 17" w/tires, \$500 OBO; four 15" Pacer rims, 4-lug, came off Honda Prelude, \$150. 828-286-0628 aft. 4 pm or 828-447-0112 bef. 4 pm.

**Litter blade** for use in chicken house - used once, \$3,500; leather motorcycle saddlebags, \$75. 828-327-3472.

**8x10 trailer** w/3,500-lb. axle, spare tire, etc. - stored indoors, good tires, undercoating for rust protection; 12V, 1/3-HP electric motor, ideal for making a portable freezer unit for pulling behind hunting vehicle; two 4"x6"x12" treated/covered boat lift rails. 704-482-0687.

**3-wheel Worksman bicycle w/basket** - very good cond., ideal for campgrounds, \$50. 704-276-0982.

**'06 Salem 33' travel trailer w/super slide** - queen bed in front, 4 bunks in back, currently in storage at Apache Family Campground, Myrtle Bch., storage fee pd. thru 3/2010, \$14,000. 704-473-9974.

**Barbie** "Secret of the Three Teardrops" doll - never taken out of box, not sold in stores, a Grolier Exclusive Edition by Mattel, book that went w/doll not included, \$500. 828-381-4624.

**0.91 ac. in Tryon Acres** - Gaston County, country setting 5 mi. from Cherryville, paved road, well & septic included, \$15,900. 704-860-5347.

**Temco**, contemporary off-white cabinet, free-standing natural gas logs - can be converted to propane w/\$12 part, black screen, only used a few times, \$500 OBO, pd. \$1,200. 828-322-6876.

**Softwall marine exhaust hose** - 4 rolls - (one 2-3/8", two 2-1/2" & one 2-5/8"), each roll is 65' long, used on boats w/inboard motors, \$200/roll OBO. 828-584-1694.

**Seasonal oak split wood** - Kings Mtn., N.C., \$75/long bed delivered. 704-692-4389.

**'98 Camaro** - T-tops, 6-cyl., AT, mag wheels, \$2,450. 704-263-5120.

**Gently** used baby travel system - infant car seat, stroller & 2 bases, \$50; 30-gal. fish aquarium, cabinet, lighted hood, filter, heater & a few more accessories, \$100. 828-443-5711.

**Cub** Farmall tractor w/scrape & sickle mower - \$1,195; body kit for Nissan 350Z, includes front & back bumpers, side skirts & spoiler, all new, \$550; '83 Chev. Silverado, all new paint, \$5,000. 704-435-3302.

**Golden** Retriever pups - born 10-19-09, ready by December, parents on site (AKC-reg.), light & medium colors, \$350 firm. 704-732-8836, 704-309-4513 or 704-326-6079.

2 time-share units - deeded property at Willow Valley Golf Resort, Boone, N.C., wk. 14 (Easter) - 2-story cabin, 3 BRs/2 BAs, sleeps 8, FP, W/D, wk. 28 - 1-BR/1-BA chalet, sleeps 4, faces golf course (Grandfather Mtn.), Highland Games to take place this weekend, golf course, htd. pool, tennis courts, small playground & picnic areas, very close to Blue Ridge Parkway, Tweetsie Railroad, Mast General Store & many other attractions, can e-mail pictures. 407-886-3563 or 407-808-0120.

**New** 750x16 tires on Ford 2-pc. 8-lug wheels - \$550; 2 comforter sets for full-size bed, 1 blue & green and 1 blue, \$20/set; never used dressed yellow pine & new painted pine boards (call for dimensions/prices); round oil drum w/stand, \$65. 828-413-5329.

'72 Chevy PU - short bed, AT, PS, PB, 350 crate eng. w/60,000 mi., sprayed-on bed liner, dual

exhaust, good tires, paint & interior, same owner since new, have all documentation papers from Chevy dealership, very nice, must see, \$6,500 OBO. 704-629-4285.

'01 Jayco Kiwi 24' camper - 1 king bed & 1 queen bed, slide-out, microwave oven, full BA, stove, dual axle, tow package, \$8,000. 704-675-5918.

**Motor** & transmission out of '97 Pontiac Sunfire - wrecked but interior in good cond., \$300; trans. cooler, \$30; recessed hitch for small car/trailer, takes 1-1/2" receiver, \$25; '94 Pontiac Sunbird, good body, int. & trans., needs head gasket, \$400. 828-286-0628 aft. 4 pm or 828-447-0112 bef. 4 pm.

'38' Salem travel trailer at Lake James Landing - 2 slides, 2 queen BRs, full BA, kit. w/full-sz. fridge, large deck, roof over deck & camper, paddleboat w/trailer, storage bldg. & grill included, \$30,000. 704-473-9974.

**Wall-mount** gas heater & tank - exc. cond., \$200; 10 teepee chicken pens, \$10 ea. or \$12 for all. 704-692-4389.

**Oak** dining table, pedestal style, round without leaf & oval, 4 chairs, \$200. 704-732-8836.

**Saylor-Beall** air compressor - 5-HP, 80-gal. tank; Better Engineering parts washer, 30 series, top loader; 10" Craftsman table saw & joiner. 704-922-3135.

**Great** Plains no-till 10' drill - drilled 545 acres, like new; Massey Ferguson 175 tractor, great shape. 828-429-5008.

**Full-size** swimming pool w/ladder, filter & all the extras. Nancy at 704-435-9817.

**Ladies'** jeans & sweaters; men's jeans; boys' T-shirts; men's dress shirts & socks; 2 blue jean jackets; electric wheelchair; hospital bed. 828-438-1648.

## MISCELLANEOUS

**For Free:** Wood ash - screened, use 1 bushel/1,000 sq. ft. of garden, will deliver in Polk County area. 828-817-0332 or 864-498-1346.

**For Rent:** Mobile home space in small park & also a 4,800 sq. ft. building - close to Dallas, Bessemer City, Cherryville & Gastonia. 704-866-4188 aft. 5 pm.

**For Rent:** Mobile home between Belwood & Casar. 704-538-7615.

## WANTED

**Good** wood-burning, brick-lined stove reasonably priced. 828-287-9374.

**Old** used anvil & old used large vise. Mel at 828-228-8493.

**2-bottom**, 3-point hitch moldboard plow w/wings in good cond. & reasonably priced. 704-538-7645.

**Wicker** supplies for antique pieces that need repairing; also, pieces of old feed sack material. 828-447-0112 days until 4 pm or 828-286-0628 aft. 4 pm.

**Sandblasting** cabinet in good cond. 704-484-1970.

**Ford** 2910 diesel tractor - must have low hours. 704-435-3302.

100 to 200 split locust posts. 704-462-4074.

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## Rutherford EMC Bright Ideas Grant Leads East Burke High Students to National Recognition

With help from a \$1,000 Rutherford EMC Bright Ideas grant, a team of East Burke students, including Ethan Hull, Nathan Maltba, Kelly Triplett, Mucheng Yang, Nou Yang and Porter Yang, along with science teacher Bob Smith, produced biodiesel fuel in their chemistry lab and subsequently used it in East Burke's activity and yellow school buses.

Not only has their Magic Fuel Bus team gained national recognition with their 2008 Bright Ideas grant project by placing second out of 20 finalists earlier this year in Wal-Mart's "Earth Day Every Day School Challenge" and receiving a \$500 Wal-Mart gift card for their school, they were recently filmed by Fox News. Three of the original six team members (Nou Yang, Mucheng Yang and Ethan Hull) are still at East Burke and were featured in two live national segments on the morning of Wednesday, October 21, 2009, with a third recorded segment that was scheduled to be aired that afternoon during the Shepherd Smith show.

The Magic Fuel Bus team built a biodiesel reactor and processing equipment, then obtained waste vegetable oil donated from a local restaurant, Granny's Country Kitchen in Connelly Springs. This past January, they produced about 90 gallons of biodiesel fuel from the vegetable oil, which was subsequently used in 5, 10 and 15 percent blends with standard diesel fuel. The students found the biodiesel blends managed to improve the activity and school buses' mileage, created less pollution and created less friction in the engine. They ran the test for two weeks.

The project showed that using biodiesel blends is a way of reducing carbon dioxide emissions that contribute to global warming. Plants consume carbon



*The East Burke High School biodiesel project team (students Kelly Triplett, Ethan Hull, Nathan Maltba, Nou Yang, Mucheng Yang and Porter Yang) fill up the Magic School Bus with biodiesel they produced, thanks to help from a Bright Ideas grant from Rutherford EMC. Photo provided by East Burke High School.*

dioxide from the atmosphere to make vegetable oil, and when the biodiesel is burned, the original carbon dioxide is returned to the atmosphere.

Other environmental benefits from using biodiesel fuel include lower particulate matter emissions, less odor and smoke, and reduced consumption of fossil fuels.

In March, the Magic Fuel Bus team presented the results and implications of the project to school administrators, school board members, local biodiesel experts and parents. At press time, the Burke County school system had not made a decision concerning biodiesel use.

## Money Back to You! That's the Cooperative Difference

When you purchase electricity from Rutherford Electric Membership Corporation, you become a member and an owner of the cooperative. The first goal of every electric cooperative is to deliver reliable power at a reasonable cost. To achieve that goal, electric co-ops devised a set of principles to follow. One of these principles is to return funds, called capital credits or member dividends, to its members.

Being a member of an electric cooperative entitles you to a share of the capital that remains at the end of each year. Capital credits or member dividends are the member's share of the co-op's net margins, which is calculated by revenue minus all expenses. Each member's share is figured as a percentage of how much electricity they purchased in a given year.

Margins are retained to provide working capital for new construction and system improvements. They are used to fund these projects so money will not have to be borrowed. This saves the members money in terms of receiving lower rates.

Distributing member dividends or capital credits is a way to ensure that

each generation of members pays their own way by providing their own equity. That's the cooperative difference.

Rutherford EMC's Board of Directors has approved the return of over \$1.8 million to members. In early December, a check will be mailed to each member receiving a refund.



Season's Greetings to our friends, old & new.  
We wish you the Season's best.

Rutherford EMC will be closed December 24 & 25, 2009 and January 1, 2010

