

Power Lines



OCTOBER 2009

North Carolina students travel to Washington, D.C., meet legislators

Jesse Davis of Clyde and Jacob Crabtree of Lake Toxaway attended the 2009 Rural Electric Youth Tour on June 13-19 in Washington, D.C. Jesse and Jacob were among more than 1,500 high school students nationwide who attended the Youth Tour to learn about electric cooperatives, American history and the U.S. government.

Students also had the opportunity to visit the historic sights of the nation's capital. Haywood Electric Membership Corporation sponsored Jesse and Jacob on the tour.

This year, North Carolina students who attended Youth Tour were able to meet 10 of North Carolina's 13 U.S. House of Representatives members. The representatives stressed the importance of contacting elected officials to the students. The Youth Tourists also met with Senator Richard Burr (R-N.C.), who

talked to the students about our nation's energy policy.

The Youth Tour has brought students to Washington, D.C., since the late 1950s. To date, more than 40,000 students from small towns across the nation have participated in this program. Past Youth Tourists have gone on to design airplanes, work as congressional aides on Capitol Hill and serve in some of the highest ranks of our government, including the U.S. Senate.

The Youth Tour aims to educate youth on all aspects of rural electrification in order to promote a better understanding of the value of rural electric cooperatives. The Youth Tour provides an opportunity for youth to visit monuments, government buildings and cooperative-related organizations in order to become familiar with the historical and the political environment of the nation's



Jacob Crabtree and Jesse Davis are pictured left to right with Congressman Shuler.

capital. The trip also gives participants an opportunity to meet elected officials and to better understand how the federal government operates.

The Rural Electric Youth Tour is a joint effort of local electric co-ops such as Haywood EMC, statewide co-op associations and the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association in Arlington, Va.

Bridge construction causes detour to HEMC's Waynesville office

The N.C. Department of Transportation is replacing a bridge on Grindstone Road in route to Haywood EMC's new Waynesville headquarters. Construction is expected to be complete by the end of the year. As a result, access to the co-op's office requires a detour via Hemphill Road.

Follow detour signs for Grindstone Road. From I-40, exit 20, go 3.6 miles South on US-276 to Hemphill Road on your right, or from Hwy 19/US 276 (Delwood Road) go 2.3 miles North on Hwy 276 to Hemphill Road on your left. Follow Hemphill Road 1.1 miles and turn right onto Grindstone Road at the "road closed" sign. From here, you will go 0.6 miles to Haywood EMC offices on your left.

While we are sorry for this inconvenience to our members, we do look forward to better access to our facilities in the near future.



Authorized ways to pay your electric bill with Haywood EMC

Haywood EMC offers convenient ways to pay your electric bill. By signing up for E-Bill, Bank Draft or Reoccurring Credit Card payment options you can say goodbye to writing checks, paying for stamps and organizing paperwork.

E-Bill allows you to sign up on our Web site www.haywoodemc.com to access all of your electric accounts to view current bills and history of usage and costs. You can also choose to pay any amount on any or all of your accounts using your VISA, MasterCard or debit card. When you sign up for E-Bill, you will no longer receive a paper bill. When your account bills each month we will send you an e-mail notification to let you know the new bill is available to view. No more worries about your electric bill when you are traveling or on vacation. You



can view and pay your bill from any location that has internet access.

The **Automatic Bank Draft** option automatically withdraws the amount of your electric bill from your checking or savings account on the date due. You still receive your bill in the mail with the notice "BANK DRAFT" printed on it. You never have to worry about a late payment penalty.

Reoccurring Credit Card payments work the same as Bank Draft, but use your VISA, MasterCard or debit card to pay your electric bill. If your credit card gives you perks for using it, this option allows you an easy way to earn those. Again, you will still receive your bill each month in the mail.

HEMC also offers you the convenience of paying the same amount for your electric bill every month. The **Equal Payment Plan** takes the pressure off your budget during those months of increased electric use. You'll pay an equal monthly amount year-round. You'll continue to receive your monthly bill, which will show the actual amount of energy used, the balance of your account, and your equal payment amount. We will regularly audit your plan to assure that the amount paid stays within reasonable limits of the actual consumption. In April of

each year, we will review your account to see if the monthly amount needs adjusting, either higher or lower, depending on your previous 12-month usage.

Contact HEMC today to learn more about these convenient ways to pay your electric bill.

NOTE: We have observed several local businesses that are offering to accept utility bill payments. None of these businesses are officially authorized Haywood EMC designated pay stations. If you make your payment at one of these locations, you have paid the business not Haywood EMC. Please be advised that it may take up to 4 days for payments made at local businesses to reach Haywood EMC electronically. Your account is not considered paid until the payment arrives at our office. If your bill is delinquent and your payment does not reach Haywood EMC before the disconnect date your service may be disconnected. If an error occurs with a payment made at a local business the resolution of this error will be between you and the business you gave your money to. Haywood EMC will not be able to assist you with problems that occur at businesses we have not authorized to accept payments on our behalf.

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Membership Corp.
1560 Asheville Road
Waynesville, N.C. 28786-3441

Board of Directors

Bob J. Tucker, President: 885-2432
Larry Clark, Vice President: 627-8064
David Noland, Sec.-Treas: 627-1561

Directors

James P. Boyette: 884-6316;
David Edwards: 648-2263;
Steve Foster: 743-3771
Ken Israel: 667-0065;
Roy Stamey: 648-1703;
Emmit Wood: 526-0503

General Manager

Norman Sloan: 648-8496

Call our toll-free customer service line

1-800-951-6088

Waynesville Office

452-2281

Lake Toxaway Office

966-4215

Visit our Web site:
www.haywoodemc.com

HEMC annual meeting enjoyed by all

Nearly 700 Haywood EMC members and guests attended their electric co-op's 70th annual meeting of members on August 15. Co-op members enjoyed a free health fair; exhibits on ways to conserve energy; registration gifts and prize drawings that included two bicycles, one boy's and one girl's, in addition to \$1,000 in cash prizes.

J. Arthur's restaurant provided a continental breakfast with sausage biscuits, fresh fruit, granola bars, juice and coffee. This was followed by lunch with a choice of coconut chicken or BBQ pork with all the fixin's.



This year's entertainment was up there with the best and provided by Haywood EMC's own employees and spouses who sang a variety of southern and traditional gospel songs. This was well attended and enjoyed by everyone.

At the business meeting, members heard President Bob Tucker, Secretary/Treasurer David Noland, and Executive Vice President/General Manager Norman Sloan share highlights of the past year, as well as some of the past 70 years as HEMC is now celebrating 70 years serving its members.

In addition, members watched a video on the co-op's "Big Move" that took place in July to the new Waynesville headquarters located at 376 Grindstone Road. Sloan next gave his executive message with a call for help in contacting our legislators on pending climate change legislation. "We need a balanced solution that will allow us to reduce CO2 emissions while keeping electricity affordable," said Sloan.

Following Sloan's executive message and presentation on pending climate change, Director Noland gave the treasurer's report, which led into the directors' election. After elections, President Tucker closed the business meeting after offering a time for questions.

Top: At registration, more than 350 members received a Haywood EMC fabric grocery tote filled with CFL bulbs, a HEMC hat, a LED flashlight and a coaster commemorating HEMC's 70th year of serving its members..

Middle: Members and their guests learn more about energy-saving water heater wraps and other efficiency tips.

Bottom: The health fair stayed busy all day, providing hearing screenings, cholesterol and blood pressure checks, nutrition information and other healthful information to members and guests.

Haywood EMC board members elected

The following directors were elected at the annual meeting to serve three-year terms on the co-op's board:

Roy Stamey: District 3
Beaverdam, Chambers Mountain, Crabtree, Hyder Mountain, Medford farm, Midway, Newfound, Peter's Cove, Ratcliff Cove, Stamey Cove, Thickety, east of Highway 276 South from Pigeon Gap to Jukebox Junction and the east side of NC-110, including surrounding communities.



Roy Stamey

Larry Clark: District 4
Beantown, Black Camp Gap, Cherokee, Fie Top, Heaths Peak, Hemphill, Jonathan Creek, Maggie Valley, Sheepback, Shelton Cove, Soco, Sutton Town, Utah Mountain, the left side of Cove Creek going up and everything South of I-40 between exits 20 and 24, including surrounding communities.



Larry Clark

Steve Foster: District 7
Bull Pen, Cashiers, Chattooga Country Club, Cold Mountain, Hog Back Mountain, Horse Cove, Lake Toxaway Country Club, Sapphire Lakes, Wade Hampton Country Club, Whiteside Cove, NC-107 from Highway 64 to South Carolina State Fish Hatchery and South of Highway 64 from NC-107 to Main Street Highlands, including surrounding communities.



Steve Foster

Board officers elected

The following board officers were elected during the August Board of Directors meeting: Bob Tucker, president; Larry Clark, vice president; David Noland, secretary/treasurer.

