

Member News

For Members of Carteret-Craven Electric Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

NOVEMBER 2002

OPERATION ROUND-UP PROVIDING HELP TO OTHERS

As Hurricane Bella approached the North Carolina coast, Sally nervously followed its course on the Weather Channel. Her neighbors told her not to worry. Even if we did get some of the storm, we'd only be inconvenienced for a little while.

To Sally, however, inconvenience was the least of her worries. A respiratory problem required her to be on oxygen most of the day. What would happen if the power were off for more than 'a brief' time?

Fortunately, this fictitious scenario has a happy ending. The storm did not hit the coast and Sally was not without power. But what if it had? One avenue for Sally and others like her is the Shelter of Refuge program run by Carteret General Hospital. The program provides a facility, the Leon Mann

Enrichment Center in Morehead City, where citizens with health problems that require electrical equipment may go during emergencies.

What does this have to do with most of us? Our donations to Carteret-Craven's Operation Round-up helped fund an emergency generator for the facility. This is just one of the many beneficial projects the program has funded.

Operation Round-up began several years ago. The program lets Carteret-Craven Electric Cooperative members voluntarily 'round-up' their monthly electric bill to the nearest dollar. These funds are then used to fund humanitarian projects selected by the Carteret-Craven Electric Foundation Board.



A member will see his or her bill rounded up about \$6 per year on average. The maximum about that can be rounded is only \$11.88 per year. The monthly rounded up amount is reflected on your electric bill.

Over the years the Foundation has funded a variety of worthy projects. This year, for instance, funds were awarded to the Broad Street Clinic and the Carteret Literacy Council.

To help individuals, the Havelock Ministerial Association has been awarded funds in Craven County as has the Carteret County Department of Social Services in Carteret County. These funds are for those individuals who don't qualify for regular services provided by Social Services.

Recently, the "Miles of Smiles" dental van became a reality, thanks in part to a grant from your foundation. This van will rotate to various school sites to provide dental services to children who couldn't otherwise afford it.

Several children from our area have been helped by the Children's Hospital in Greenville. This facility is funded in large part by the Children's Miracle Network and the Carteret-Craven Foundation made a donation on your behalf.

The program works well. Many of us say 'there but for the grace of God' and Operation Round-up allows each of us the opportunity to help others. Together, our money can and does make an impact.



Gary Zajac
 Vice President
 Marketing & External
 Affairs

As a cooperative, we work hard to bring a better quality of life to the people and communities we serve. We do our best to understand your needs. While providing quality service, the Cooperative makes every effort to keep you informed about Carteret-Craven. To that end, I wanted to make you aware of the reorganization in our Marketing and External Affairs Department.

A new position, Director of Community Relations has been created. This job was filled by Bill Ward who many of you know as the former Director of Communications and editor of this newsletter. Bill will be getting out more in the communities we serve. He will be providing information to our schools and civic organizations on safety education and explaining how cooperatives work. He will continue to work with our Bright Ideas Grants as well as our Internet site.

Joining us as the new Director of Communications is Dejee Hickman. Dejee brings a wealth of experience with her, having worked at Four County Electric Membership Corporation in Burgaw, N.C. for the past five years. She also has a background in advertising and formerly worked in the Carteret County area. Some of Dejee's primary duties include serving as editor of the Member News, coordinating our Scholarship program, and directing the Annual Meeting, as well as other communications duties.

We believe these changes will allow us to serve you better. In these busy times, communications is more important than ever and we pledge to continue keeping you informed and up to date.

If you have any questions or requests of our Marketing and External Affairs Department, don't hesitate to call. You can reach Dejee Hickman at 252-727-2238 and Bill Ward at 252-727-2251.

**EXTEND YOUR
 DAYLIGHT HOURS
 AND PROTECT YOUR
 MOST VALUABLE
 POSSESSIONS
 AT THE SAME TIME.**



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*For just pennies a day, you can
 protect your family and enjoy
 yourself as well. You don't even
 pay for the electricity.
 We take care of that.
 Call today and find out more about
 a Safeguard Light from
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 Cooperative.*

1-800-682-2217 or 252-247-3107

EQUALIZER PLAN COULD HELP WITH BUDGETING

2002 has been an interesting year for electricity users in our area. For the most part, we had a very mild winter but we did receive some surprises with a few extremely cold days. The Spring and early Summer were unusually mild and then the bottom seemed to fall out in July and August with some of the hottest weather we've seen in some time.

With all these variables, monthly electric bills seemed to go up and down like a roller coaster. Wouldn't it be reassuring to know well in advance what your monthly electric bill payment will be? Well, we can help. With Carteret-Craven's EQUALIZER PAYMENT PLAN you can pay the same amount each month.

Items such as safeguard lights and energy controllers will be added to your bill in addition to the equal amount figured for the EQUALIZER payment. You'll have no doubt what next month's electric bill may do to your budget. With the EQUALIZER PLAN everyone can benefit. Your monthly payment is established which helps with that budgeting process.

Another way to add convenience to your monthly bill paying is to combine our EQUALIZER PLAN with our BANK DRAFT payment option. This allows for your payment to be automatically drafted from your checking or savings account providing you the convenience of not having to write and mail a check.

EQUALIZER could add convenience to your monthly bill paying.

If you would like to sign on for EQUALIZER alone, call us at 252-247-3107 or 1-800-682-2217, or visit our website at www.carteretcravenelectric.coop for more information. If you are interested in having your electric bill drafted from your bank account, just ask one of our Customer Service Representatives to mail you a form. It's that easy.

WINTER RATES NOW IN EFFECT

Beginning with the November billing, all Residential Accounts will be on the Winter Rate Schedule.

The Winter Rate is 6.96 cents/kWh (except for Time-of-Use customers) and will be reflected on your bill. Hopefully, this figure will assist you in understanding your monthly bill.

CARTERET-CRAVEN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

24 Hours A Day/Seven Days A Week

252-247-3107 or 1-800-682-2217 For 24-Hour Account Balance: 1-877-677-4362

*Touchstone Energy Cooperatives
support local small businesses.*



Carteret-Craven Electric Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



Your child could win a trip to the National Rural Electric Youth Tour or to Cooperative Leadership Camp.

All rising (2003 school year) juniors or seniors are eligible.

Applicants must submit an essay on the subject,

“What Life Would Be Like Without Electricity.”

The June trips provide excellent leadership training opportunities to these young people.



Youth Tourists at the Kennedy Center

For more information:

252-247-3107

or

1-800-682-2217

Deadline for applications:

February 28, 2003



Students At Cooperative Leadership Camp