

# MEMBER

*From Cedar Island to Cedar Point  
and many places in between*

# News



A newsletter for members of Carteret-Craven Electric Cooperative

April 2007

## Annual meeting slated for May 3

The 67th Carteret-Craven Electric Cooperative Annual Meeting of members is scheduled for Thursday, May 3, at Glad Tidings Church on Country Club Road in Morehead City.

Registration will begin at 5 p.m. Carteret-Craven's Relay for Life fundraising team will provide refreshments in the Family Life Center at the church.

The Havelock Middle School Band will entertain in the sanctuary from 5:30 to 6 p.m., and the Havelock High School Chorus will perform from 6 to 6:45 p.m.

Health screenings will be available from 5 to 6:30 p.m. in the Promise Land room. The screenings include glaucoma, blood sugar, and blood pressure checks.

The business meeting will be called to order at 7 p.m.

The program will include reports from officers and committees as well as

the selection of three directors.

The nominations committee has met and placed



into nomination the following incumbent members for three-year directorate terms:

**Roger Jones**, District 2, which includes properties west along Highway 24 from Dutch Treat Mobile Home Park up to and including Bogue Field, and surrounding areas.

**Joel Henry Davis Jr.**, District 6, which includes Mill Creek, Highway 101 from Harlowe to Beaufort, South River and Merrimon.

**Thom Styron**, District 8, which is an at-large representative from any part of the cooperative's service area.

### on the web

You can access your account and pay your bill online with PowerPay 24.

Go to:

[www.carteretcravenelectric.coop](http://www.carteretcravenelectric.coop)



## 'I'm free!'

*With Automatic Bank Draft, bill paying is worry-free.*

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[www.carteretcravenelectric.coop](http://www.carteretcravenelectric.coop)

carteret-craven electric cooperative

## Variable billing & due dates help save money

Have you ever wondered why your billing and past due dates vary?

Carteret-Craven Electric Cooperative (CCEC) is committed to providing our members with the best service and reliability possible, while keeping costs down. In other words, we want to provide you with the best value for your money.

With that in mind our billing and past due dates are "day driven, rather than date driven. Over time we have found that we can work more efficiently with this system while saving you money. Our seven field service representatives read more than 36,000 meters each month. They must also visit the homes of those members who have overlooked paying their electric bills. Your meter is read at approximately the same time each month. We work very hard to schedule reading times to maintain a billing cycle of 28 to 32 days so that in periods of extreme cold or heat, your bill is not excessive.

Billing is processed on Tuesday and mailed on Wednesday of each week so you will receive your bill before the weekend. Meters are normally read on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday; leaving Wednesday free for us to collect past due accounts.

Reserving Wednesdays to call on these members gives them the opportunity to contact social agencies or make other arrangements to pay their past due account while businesses are open, said Sarah Grider, CCEC Vice-president of Support Services. This also eliminates the need to have employees work overtime on weekends and moves the call volume away from Mondays and Fridays, which are historically our busiest days.

By distributing the volume of calls and



**Sarah Grider**  
Vice President,  
Support Services

office payments throughout the week, call center representatives and office personnel can give each member the individualized attention he or she deserves without feeling rushed to help the next member.

CCEC realizes that life does not revolve around a set schedule. That's why we are flexible. Members are given a minimum of 26 days to pay (some months as many as 33 days) before their bills become past due. Often, if a collection day falls before a government

pay day or a day that those on a fixed income receive checks, we will delay collections. We also consider weather conditions, because we care about our members and don't want to leave anyone without power during extremes in either cold or heat.

Some years ago, we had specific dates of the month for billing and past due dates. We have found that our current schedule allows us to be more efficient and offers flexibility, when necessary. CCEC has also considered options such as automated meter reading and flexible draft dates, only to discover they would be less economical to you at this time. That's what being a cooperative is all about; serving you, our member-owners. So the next time you wonder why your bill dates and past due dates change, think value and tell yourself, "The cooperative is looking after my best interest."

Remember that CCEC offers a variety of payment and billing options including our Equalizer Payment Plan, Automatic Bank Draft, bank card and online payment posting through PowerPay 24. You can also mail your payment or stop by one of our offices for a friendly visit with one of our customer service representatives.



## CCEC gears up for 4th annual golf tourney

The fourth annual Harold Anderson Jr. Memorial Fund Golf Tournament is not far off, and organizers are ready to sign up sponsors and players.

The charity tournament honors the 29-year veteran of the cooperative who lost his life while restoring power during Hurricane Isabel.

Thanks to many supporters over the past three years, the fund has been able to help the charities that Anderson supported when he was alive. Funding has provided holiday gifts, food and clothing for some 160 individuals through Project Christmas Cheer and gifts to 215 nursing and retirement home residents.

The fund also has donated funds to Hope Mission Soup Kitchen and Outreach, which were two of Anderson's favorite charities.

The tournament will begin with check-in at 1 p.m. on Saturday, June 9, at Silver Creek Golf Club on Highway 58 north of Cape Carteret, and we need sponsors and players to help make the event successful again. Help us keep the giving spirit alive!

For sponsorship opportunities and other information, contact:

**Richard Tuttle** 252.727.2267

**Bill Ward** 252.727.2251



**You have the power to make a difference.**

[www.ncgreenpower.org](http://www.ncgreenpower.org)

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NC GreenPower is a great first step in promoting renewable energy and cleaner air in North Carolina.

This independent, voluntary program is an easy and affordable way for citizens and businesses to increase the use of renewable energy to help protect our environment and improve air quality. Renewable energy and energy efficiency also help ensure energy supply stability for the future.

To contribute or learn more, call us at 252.247.3107 or go to [www.carteretcravenelectric.coop](http://www.carteretcravenelectric.coop)

**The cooperative's offices in Newport and Havelock will be closed April 6 in observance of Good Friday.**

*Happy Easter!*



# Spring into safe outdoor work



It's spring, when lawns awaken and homeowners emerge with power tools in hand for yearly repairs and yard work.

Work safely. Use this season to examine your home for electrical safety mishaps-in-the-making, and take care with electrical equipment outdoors. Here are a few tips for a safe spring:

*Even momentary contact with a power line can be fatal, so if you need work done near a power line, like trimming trees or installing a satellite dish, call a professional contractor to do the job.*

*Inspect all power tools for damaged cords, plugs or cases.*

*Store tools in a dry location. If you suspect your tools have gotten wet over the winter, do not plug them in until they have dried out and are inspected for damage by a professional.*

*Be sure power tools are turned off and out of the reach of children if they must be left unattended.*

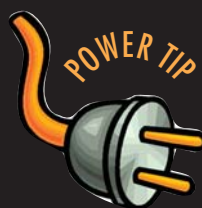
*Do not use electric lawnmowers on wet grass.*

*Be sure that extension cords are in good condition, are rated for outdoor use, and are the proper gauge for the electrical current capacity of the tool.*

*Before you dig a hole -- even a small one -- call us to learn if your landscaping will interfere with underground power lines.*

*Inside your home, inspect for overloaded outlets and damaged cords.*

*If your home has not been updated to meet your electrical demands, have an electrician install new outlets and ground-fault circuit interrupters to prevent fire or shock.*



**Searching for an energy-saver that really stands out? Invest in a ceiling fan. The ceiling fans of old were bland and rarely matched a home's decor. Today's ceiling fans feature a variety of sizes, styles and finishes.**

**In the summer, a ceiling fan can make a room feel eight degrees cooler, so your air conditioner doesn't have to work as hard. However, operate the fan only when someone is in the room. Fans make people feel cooler, but they won't actually cool the room, so there's no reason to use electricity when you don't need it.**



Touchstone Energy

**carteret-craven electric cooperative**

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[www.carteretcravenelectric.coop](http://www.carteretcravenelectric.coop)