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Automated Outage Reporting

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Pickens

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Pickens, SC 29671

Oconee

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2328 Sandifer Blvd.
Highway 123
Westminster, SC 29693

Anderson

1212 North Fant St.
Anderson, SC 29622

Greenville

3751 Highway 11
Travelers Rest, SC 29690

Mission Statement

Blue Ridge will be a competitive, quality provider of energy and other services, maintaining its history of integrity and adapting to the challenges of a changing world. While exercising leadership in the community, the organization's focus will be on exceeding customer expectations.

Board of Directors

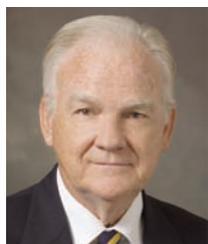
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A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

Much to celebrate

ON MAY 9, it was our pleasure to host the 71st Blue Ridge Electric Cooperative Annual Meeting of our membership. The Blue Ridge board of directors joined with co-op and Blue Ridge Security Systems employees to roll out the red carpet for members and their families.



Beneath the shelter of the cooperative's Pickens equipment facility, our members enjoyed the free hot dogs, snacks, beverages, and the musical entertainment of Little Roy and Lizzie. Free door prizes, blood-pressure screenings, and drawings for other valuable prizes were also part of the evening.

Prominent among all those activities was a meaningful business session. During this time, we saluted our military veterans and those currently serving in the U.S. Armed Forces. We also heard remarks delivered by Congressman Jeff Duncan, conducted director elections, and reported on the cooperative's operations.

Upbeat weekend

As I was able to share in my management report with attendees, the cooperative is off to a positive start in 2011. Conducting an annual meeting that receives a warm response from members is always a rewarding undertaking, and I'm grateful for all who attended. Further

rewards awaited the Blue Ridge team during the upbeat weekend that followed.

The Blue Ridge Fest charity fundraiser on that Friday and Saturday also proved to be a big success. A huge crowd turned out for Friday's Beach Night show and dance and collectible-car cruise-in. Chubby Checker proved that he still has star-power, as the 6,000 fans roared approval for his rendition of "The Twist". Then, the motorcycle rally on Saturday brought the event to a pleasant and noisy conclusion.

Net proceeds: \$162,000

Thanks to more than 100 corporate sponsors, the volunteer efforts of the Blue Ridge employee team, and the largest-ever attendance for Beach Night, the festival set a new financial milestone. Blue Ridge Fest 2011 produced a total of \$162,000 in net proceeds. This summer, that amount will be divided among the 13 local charities selected to receive funding.

With this new fund-raising mark, Blue Ridge Fest has contributed more than \$1.25 million to area human-help agencies during its 14-year existence. That and another gratifying annual-meeting experience have provided all of us Blue Ridge employees with much to celebrate.

Charles E. Dalton
President and CEO

Savings top \$200,000



Aunt Sue's Country Corner is a delicious addition to the list of local Co-op Connection businesses. Located on Scenic Hwy. 11 in Pickens, they offer a variety of sandwiches, soups and a dazzling array of ice cream. Be sure to present your card for a discount on all purchases.



value of the Co-op Connections Card.”

More than 60 local businesses also offer discounts to co-op members. Childress added, “We are soliciting now for new businesses that would like to partner with us in this program. Participating businesses determine their discount. For instance, Aunt Sue's Country Corner Restaurant offers a 15 percent discount on the entire purchase to Co-op Connections cardholders. They have been members of our program since we started and are thrilled to continue. It's a win-win for our members and local businesses.”

For more information, visit blueridge.coop or call us at (800) 240-3400.

BLUE RIDGE ELECTRIC CO-OP MEMBERS have saved more than \$200,000 when purchasing prescription drugs with the Co-op Connections Card in 2011. Amy Childress, marketing coordinator for the program, was notified that Blue Ridge members led the state in savings during the month of May. “Our members saved \$47,955 on more than 3,100 prescriptions. From January to May, they have used their card to purchase 14,024 medications, saving \$220,819. During a time when every dime makes a difference, I am excited that our members continue to see the

Give your home's energy use a vacation when you're on vacation

Going on vacation? Even if you plan to be away just a few days, you can save energy in your home when you travel. Here's a tip from Blue Ridge Electric Cooperative that can give your utility bill a break when you take a break.

► **Water heater.** Turn down the temperature, so it doesn't keep the water warm while you are away.

► **Thermostat.** During hot weather, turn up the thermostat on your air-conditioning system. That way, you'll save energy while ensuring that your home doesn't get too warm. If



you're away during the winter, lower the temperature on your furnace. The house can be as cool as 50 degrees without the risk of your pipes freezing.

► **Refrigerator.** Depending on food stored in your fridge, you may be able to turn the thermostat as high as 38 degrees without risking spoilage. Storing water-filled bottles in your refrigerator can prevent temperature fluctuations, which will save energy. Food in the freezer compartment will stay frozen if the temperature remains at minus 5 degrees.

Summer convenience

Blue Ridge wants you to know about two products that can make your summer a little easier and much more enjoyable. First is the Generac IX series portable generator.



These gasoline-powered generators are durable, lightweight, and have a compact design with built-in handles for easy portability whether you're camping, tailgating or just spending a day on the lake. They're quiet to operate and come in three sizes so you can purchase one that will operate just what you would like to take with you on your next outdoor adventure.

One of the items you may want to have with you is a PowerChef electric grill. The convertible grill shown here can be used as a table-top model or can be affixed to a stand. At home or on the road, the clean, efficient electrical operation eliminates the



worries and hassles of gas grills—no cold spots, empty tanks, broken igniters or flare-ups. Easy automatic controls take the guesswork out of grilling and let you cook like a pro. It cooks as much as a grill twice its size because every square inch performs with the same power.

So, when you're making your summer plans, stop by one of our office locations and check on a portable generator or an electric grill. You may also find additional information on these products at www.blueridge.coop.

► **Lights.** Turn off all lights in your home. You may want to install timers on one or two lights for security.

► **Electronics.** Unless you're recording something while away, unplug all of your electronic devices—computer, monitor and printer, TV and cable boxes, DVD player, microwave, and digital clocks. Any electronics with digital displays, instant-on features, or remote controls will consume energy even if they're not in use.

For other tips on how to save energy—and money—visit www.blueridge.coop and click onto Touchstone Energy Cooperatives energy-saving website, www.TogetherWeSave.com.