



LAMPLIGHTER

The Official Member Newsletter of Washington EMC

May 2009

Serving members in Baldwin, Emanuel, Glascock, Hancock, Jefferson, Johnson, Laurens, Warren, Washington and Wilkinson counties.

Burn outdoors with caution

Pole fires are dangerous and damaging ... burn safely



Bill Durden Photos

Tommy Redfern, Keith Dixon, Allen Wiggins, Mark Daniels and Kenny Frazier work to replace a pole that is burning from the ground up. Notice how much of the pole has burned away from the bottom of the pole being held in place on the right. Fires continue to burn until the poles are entirely consumed, causing power lines to fall dangerously low—or worse, lie energized on the ground.

This is the second pole fire within a week caused by landowners burning fields without providing sufficient fire-break around utility poles. These types of incidents are dangerous and expensive. Fortunately, this particular fire did not involve an accident, but it did require three bucket trucks, a derrick truck, a line truck and five linemen to replace the burning pole. This cost is billed to the landowner.



Once ignited, utility poles will continue to burn for days after the initial fire until nothing remains but a powdery ash.

A power outage is always a cause for concern when it occurs for Washington EMC customers. When a burning pole becomes the cause of the outage, the situation becomes dangerous.

The chemical composition of utility poles is such that once it begins to burn, it is almost impossible to extinguish. A burning pole will smolder and burn for days, until it falls. This can create a life-threatening situation, an extended outage, or both.

Landowners are urged to use fire-breaks that can prevent a utility pole fire from starting. The ground around any poles located in a burn area should be clear for at least 10 feet in all directions. Heat from a fire extends far past the actual flames.

You are responsible for your fire and its smoke. Remember, always follow Georgia Forestry Commission guidelines. For more information on safe burning, visit www.gfc.state.ga.us and www.smokeybear.com.



An electric membership Corporation

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OFFICE HOURS:

8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Monday through Friday

Night Depository available for payments
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24-Hour Emergency Call Center

To report a power interruption
please call:

Local (478) 552-2577

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Milledgeville Local Office

500 East Hancock Street

Milledgeville, GA 31061

Phone (478) 452-1574

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12860 Broad Street

Sparta, GA 31087

Phone (706) 444-6650

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100 West College Street

Wrightsville, GA 31096

Phone (478) 864-2593

APPLIANCE SALES & SERVICE CENTER

319 North Smith Street

Sandersville, GA 31082

Open Monday through Friday

8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Power for our lives



Frank Askew, President/CEO

Choosing the right fuel

It's really simple physics. Every machine needs fuel to operate. The machines that generate the electricity we use each day are no exception. They need a fuel source, whether it is coal, natural gas, water or uranium.

Many factors are considered in determining what type of power plants we build, and where. One main consideration is the use for which the generating plant is intended. Will it be a base-load plant that needs to run continuously, an intermediate plant that operates much but not all of the time, or a peaking plant that runs only when demand for power is very high?

In Georgia, most plants that operate around the clock are fueled by coal or nuclear fuel (uranium). Both of these have advantages. Coal is the most abundant fuel in the United States (a 250-year supply, by some estimates), whereas nuclear fuel, though less abundant, produces large amounts of power with a relatively small amount of fuel.

Thirty-eight of the state's EMCs, through Oglethorpe Power Corp., co-own with Georgia Power Co., the Municipal Electric Authority of Georgia and the City of Dalton, two large coal-fired plants in Georgia: Plant Wansley near Carrollton and Plant Scherer near Forsyth.

Nuclear plants are also an important contributor to the state's supply of electric power. Through Oglethorpe Power, the EMCs own (with the same group of co-owners) nuclear plants Hatch, near Baxley, and Vogtle, near Waynesboro.

Although coal and nuclear fuel are responsible for much of the electricity generated in the state, natural gas also plays an important role. Since 1989, nearly all of the power plants built in Georgia have been fueled by natural gas. In general, these facilities are peaking facilities that are used during the times when demand for electricity is highest.

We also can't overlook the value of water for power production. Many of the major dams built in Georgia were constructed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in the 1950s, '60s and '70s. Power produced at these and other federal facilities in the Southeast is sold to municipal and co-op utilities throughout the region and serves as an important source of power.

Other power suppliers also operate hydroelectric facilities, including Oglethorpe Power, which operates the Rocky Mountain pumped storage hydroelectric facility near Rome on behalf of the EMCs. Oglethorpe Power owns 75 percent of this plant and Georgia Power Co. owns about 25 percent. This unique facility reuses the same water to produce clean, renewable power throughout the year.

When it comes to the fuels that drive our power plants, we are fortunate to enjoy a diversity of sources in Georgia not found in all parts of the country. Because we have several fuel sources to depend on, we don't have to put all of our eggs in one basket. In the end, consumers benefit through lower prices and more reliable supplies.

Your donation dollars at work



Cub Scout Pack 74, Sandersville, receives a Washington Electric Foundation check to purchase a new Pinewood Derby track.



Wendy Sellars presents the Baldwin County Ferst Foundation with \$5,000 for its literacy program.



Johnson County Elementary School get \$1,761 to help fund its reading program.



The Warren County School Band is presented an Operation Round Up donation to help build its music program.

Darleen's dishes

Mmm ... good



Darleen Veal of Sandersville shares two of her recipes in *GEORGIA Magazine's Picnics and Potluck* cookbook.

Since *GEORGIA Magazine's* beginnings in 1945, readers have turned to the magazine each month for uniquely Southern recipes. Darleen Veal, Washington EMC Lead Customer Service Representative, submitted two of her favorite "take along" recipes to *GEORGIA Magazine* in hopes of having one of her ideas included in its annual mini-cookbook. "I sent them two recipes, and I was wowed to learn they chose both of my recipes for the cookbook. I was greatly surprised to have my recipes published."

Veal enjoys cooking and has submitted different recipes for a number of cookbooks and cooking contests. "I've had recipes published three times in various cookbooks. It's wonderful to have your work published," says Veal.

Jalapeño Cheddar Cornbread

Darleen Veal, Sandersville, Washington EMC

- 3 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 cup yellow cornmeal
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 2 tablespoons baking powder
- 2 teaspoons salt
- 2 cups milk
- 3 extra-large eggs, slightly beaten
- 2 sticks melted, unsalted butter
- 8 ounces extra-sharp cheddar cheese, grated
- 1/3 cup chopped scallions
- 3 tablespoons seeded, minced jalapeño

Combine first 5 dry ingredients in a large bowl. In separate bowl, combine milk, eggs and butter. Stir wet ingredients into the dry ingredients until most lumps are dissolved. Don't over mix. Mix in 2 cups of grated cheddar, scallions and jalapeños; allow mixture to sit at room temperature for 20 minutes.

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees and grease a 13x9-inch baking pan. Pour batter into pan and sprinkle with remaining cheese. Bake 30 to 35 minutes or until a toothpick comes out clean.

Picnic Lemonade

Darleen Veal, Sandersville, Washington EMC

- 2 (12-ounce) cans frozen lemonade concentrate
- 1 (12-ounce) can frozen white grape juice concentrate
- 12-1/2 cups water

In large nonmetal container, combine all ingredients, mix well. Refrigerate until serving time.

Makes 22 (1-cup) servings.

Note: To transport it to a picnic, make lemonade in and serve it from a 2-gallon insulated beverage container.



May Day Appliance Sale!

At all Washington EMC Appliance Showroom locations Friday, May 1, 2009—from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

**GE Spacemaker®
over-the-range microwave
oven**

\$202

Save \$23



JVM1540DNWW

**GE 30" free-standing
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**GE Energy Star®-qualified
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25.8 Cu. Ft., french door
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FCM15SUWW

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Models vary. Available only
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**GE 4.1 IEC Cu. Ft. colossal
capacity washer with
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\$463

Save \$52

Matching
dryer

\$463

Save \$51



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**Most
major
credit
cards
accepted.**

Sale prices good at all Washington EMC locations 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., Friday, May 1, 2009. Some restrictions may apply.

Washington EMC Appliance Showroom

There's a location near you:

319 N. Smith St.
Sandersville, GA 31082
(478) 552-2577

100 W. College St.
Wrightsville, GA 31096
(478) 864-2593

500 E. Hancock St.
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