

The Electrifier

Visit us at: www.frenchbroademc.com

MARCH 2017

"Owned by those we serve"

MARSHALL, NC

Watch Your Savings Grow

Winter is coming to a close, and spring is just around the corner! As you welcome the new growth of spring outside, it's a great time to enroll in services to grow energy savings, too.

Try these tools and services and watch your energy savings grow!

Prepay billing: The FlexPay Program: Want more control over your electricity bill payments? Sign up for our FlexPay prepay program. The FlexPay program allows you to pay for your electricity in advance. You decide when, and how much, to pay toward your electric bill. When your balance gets low, we'll let you know. We can either call with an automated voice message or send you an email or a text message to let you know how much money is left in your account. You can add more money to your account anytime with cash, credit card or check. Another great bonus is there are no unpleasant surprises in high usage months and members tend to save money on their bills as they become more aware of their household energy consumption. You can see your actual usage in kWh and dollars on a daily basis, so you can better manage your electricity usage and budget



Energy efficiency: The Mini-Split Heat Pump Program: Your home's #1 source of energy use is related to heating and cooling. French Broad EMC continues to offer mini-split heat pumps at an affordable rate, which can be financed on your electric bill upon credit approval. Visit our website for more information: www.frenchbroademc.com.



The least expensive energy is the energy that you don't use. Take action! Find lots of energy and money-saving tips at www.frenchbroademc.com. Tap into the services and tools above, and watch as your savings grow!

*****Mark Your Calendar *****

Saturday, May 6th at 9:00am

It is that time again. French Broad EMC will hold its 76th Annual Meeting on **Saturday, May 6, 2017** at Madison High School in Marshall.

Registration, as well as other events, will begin at **9:00am**.

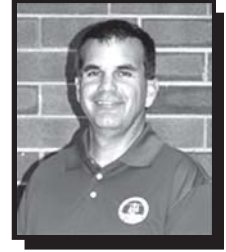
As a part of the Health Fair, various healthcare representatives will be available to offer basic preventive screenings, as well as helpful information.

Featured entertainment will be The Whisnants. We invite you to come and be a part of this annual event.



Manager's Report

Mild Weather Affects Power Costs



Jeff Loven

Several customers have recently asked about the mild winter we are having and how it effects French Broad Electric's revenue and our wholesale power costs. It's a really good question but requires a basic understanding of the electric utility industry.

First, the weather has been rather mild this winter. In January, we saw 20 days where the high temperature was 54 degrees or higher. The average high temperature is 48 degrees. In December, we saw a similar pattern, with the last week of December reaching 65 degrees for highs. With these mild temperatures, it takes less energy for our members to keep their homes warm. This is obviously for all of us as customers, but how does that impact your electric cooperative?

French Broad EMC is billed monthly by Duke Energy for the energy we sell to our members. This one bill accounts for over 55% of our monthly expenses. There are several charges we pay on the bill regardless of how much energy we use. Facility charges, transmission services, communication fees and losses, just to name a few. However, there are three main components that make up the majority of our energy bill each month.

The largest of these three is the demand charge. In any given month, it can range from \$1.3 to over \$2 million dollars. This charge is determined by measuring our peak energy usage during the month, which in the winter, is typi-

cally the coldest morning of the month. In January 2017, we peaked on the 8th at 8:00 am, reaching about 110 megawatts. For that, we were charged around \$1.8 million.

The second component of the bill is the energy charge. This is the actual amount of kilowatt hours we purchase. In the winter months this value is typically higher since most customers use more energy to heat their homes. The rate we pay for each kilowatt is largely determined by the fuels used to generate electricity.

Duke Energy uses a variety of generation resources to produce our electricity. Natural Gas, Diesel, Coal, Nuclear, Hydro, and Solar all play a role in our energy mix. Duke estimates how much all of these resources cost and that estimate is used to calculate our monthly energy charge, which leads us to the third component of our bill.



We are also charged a true-up energy charge. This charge is simply

the difference between the estimated energy cost and the actual cost. In the following month, the actual cost of the energy used is determined and then an adjustment is applied to the bill. If Duke Energy under estimated the fuel cost, then we have to pay an additional amount. Likewise, if they over estimated the cost, then we are credited back the difference. This charge can vary greatly from month to month. In fact, in February of 2015, we received a credit of over \$115 thousand dollars. The next month, March 2015, we were billed a true up charge of over \$900 thousand dollars.

These large swings in power costs can make it difficult to budget and manage revenue. Fortunately, our members' monthly bills are not subject to these large variances. Of course, we all see energy usage go up as the temperatures drop due to increased usage, but our Board of Directors has tried to insulate our members from large swings with our residential rate design.

Even though our revenues are down due to the mild winter temperatures, we are still able to manage the system costs due to an overall lower wholesale bill. In the long run, things seem to equal out and we collect enough revenue to make sure we meet the Rural Utility Service (RUS) requirements. And since we are a non-profit cooperative, any excess revenue goes back to our membership, just as it should.



The Outlet

All numbers are in 828 area code unless otherwise listed.

This is a **FREE** service to members for advertising non-commercial items. **Ads are limited to two items per member per month and will appear only one time unless resubmitted.** Ads are limited to two lines per ad. We reserve the right to edit, condense, or refuse ads due to content, unreasonable length, or available space.

French Broad EMC does not endorse services advertised and is not responsible for reliability of services listed.

When submitting ads for The Outlet, please be sure to include your name, address, phone number and account number. Ads without this reference information are subject to not being publish

Ads may be submitted online or mailed to French Broad EMC, Attn: Paula Seay, PO Box 9, Marshall, NC 28753.

The Electrifier

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Jeff Loven	General Manager
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Tracy Evans	District Manager
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FBEMC Offices

Marshall	(828) 649-2051
Toll-Free to Marshall	1-800-222-6190
Burnsville	(828) 682-6121
Bakersville	(828) 688-4815

To Report A Power Outage After Hours Marshall District

(Madison, Buncombe & Unicoi Counties)
(828) 649-2051 • 1-800-222-6190

Burnsville-Bakersville District

Yancey County	(828) 682-6121
Mitchell County	(828) 688-4815

Online Credit Card Payment

Available 24 Hours a Day
for VISA, MasterCard, Discover
1-844-294-5697



Deadlines for submitting ads or notices to: **The Electrifier.**

April issue	March 15th
May issue	April 15th
June issue	May 10th
July issue	June 10th

FOR SALE

Loveseat w/ twin size sofa bed, \$250. 243-3746.

Glass table w/ 4 chairs, \$150. 778-9885.

2010 Chevy Silverado, LT 4x4, V8, auto. 675-4640.

Chest freezer, 31.5"x33.5"x22". 380-0521.

Prussian cocoa set, hand painted in gold. 380-0521.

441 monitor heater w/ oil barrel & stand, \$500. 467-1983.

Lane sofa w/ recliners on both ends, \$400. 467-1983.

Bee traps for carpenter bees, \$20ea or 2/\$35. 688-6633.

AgriMetal BW 2500 TP tractor PTO 3pt hitch blower, \$3,500. 688-6633.

Hay, mixed grass, square bales. 865/435-1915.

Hardwood twin bed over futon w/ mattresses, \$800. 689-2228.

3BR doublewide on 1.5ac. 712-9673.

Bee traps for carpenter bees, \$15. 206-2938.

Bookshelf, file cabinet, magazine table, gold framed mirror. 467-2713.

2001 Yamaha Raptor 660R, \$2,500. 766-7899.

275-gal oil tank, \$150. 766-7899.

2011 35' Hol Rambler Savoy, \$15,000. 321/276-1460.

3BR/2BA doublewide, \$35,000 OBO. 989-7755.

Bird cage w/ stand, 17"x17"x22", \$60. 284-8545.

Black walnut log, approx. 16'. 688-1071.

Queen bed frame, solid maple, head/foot/rais, \$150. 658-3805.

Metal extension ladder, to 28', \$95. 658-3805.

Metal lathe & milling machine w/ tools. 778-8012.

2004 Police special Road King motorcycle, \$8,250. 284-4166.

250-gal propane tank, over ground, \$225. 776-1532 after 4pm.

Organ, Kimball colonial pine, swinger 400, \$500. 423/207-0195 or 682-7393.

Dishes, Pfaltzgraff, tea rose, (8) 5pc settings +34 pcs, \$100. 682-7393.

Propane grill w/ 2 burners & side burner, \$100. 622-7225.

John Deere D140 riding mower, 22HP, \$1,475. 622-7225.

Luggage rack & cargo carrier, \$150. 688-3693.

Barcalounger brown leather recliner, \$65. 757/275-5610.

2005 Honda Shadow 750CC, custom paint, chrome, \$4,200. 275-7840.

2005 Yamaha Raptor 660R, blue, \$1,800. 284-1230.

2003 Ford F150 Lariat 4x4, off-road pkg, green, 124k mi, \$7,300. 284-1230.

Farmhouse on 80ac, barn, views, Erwin, TN, \$499,900. 423/735-3070.

Hearthright HR-15 propane heater, unvented 15k BTU, \$125. 689-2016.

Horizontal fitness recumbent exercycle, \$100. 689-2016.

Lot, Wolf Laurel. 689-4807.

2008 Harley-Davidson Road King, \$10,000 OBO. 206-9022.

1984 Harley-Davidson, \$5,500. 208-4343.

Brunswick pool table, std size, takes money, \$700. 208-4343.

2001 Ford Mustang Cobra convertible, 55k mi, \$13,500. 649-3925.

2007 Suzuki 400 4-wheeler, manual, alum wheels, \$2,800. 206-3601.

Books, 1800's-1900's. 675-4271.

Jewelry, vintage & estate. 675-4271.

1988 Lincoln Town Car, \$1,500. 765-5256.

Quilting cloth/material. 680-1209.

Chestnut lumber. 208-0295.

Lumber, chestnut, 20k'; hemlock, 10k'. 688-2957.

English Shepherd puppies, males \$185ea; females, \$225ea. 683-3126.

Firewood, \$90/pickup load. 688-5461.

Land lots, Jacks Creek. 682-6330.

Collector plates(100+), Norman Rockwell & holiday, \$20-\$50 OBO. 688-5461.

Timeshares (2): 1-wk in VA, 1-wk in Myrtle Beach, SC, \$10,000. 689-3734.

WANTED

Junk cars. 689-5125.

Laying hens. 208-2885.

Someone to spray CrossBow during March/April. 649-2998.

Someone to do machine quilting. 656-2499.

Someone to limb-up apple trees and till garden. 682-5646.

Hay, square bales for horse. 776-4976.

Someone with CNA for full-time home care. 656-9405 or 622-7525.

Old buildings to tear down, will clean up. 208-0295.

Truck w/ cover. 206-7030.

MISCELLANEOUS

Will Do: handyman services, junk removal, tree trimming. 284-2137.

Horse manure mixed w/ sawdust & lime, we load. 689-4444.

Will Do: housecleaning, free estimate. 284-6563.

Will Do: cabinet services. 675-8001.

Will Do: graveyard maintenance, hauling, tree removal. 208-4599.

Will Do: tree trimming, lot clearing, structure removals. 208-4599.

Vacation Rental: creekside cabin, trout stream, pvt, fire pit, fenced yard. 656-2281.

Will Do: clean houses. 688-3693.

Rent/Sale: 1995 doublewide on 1.5ac w/ barn, \$700/mo or \$125,000. 467-6550.

For Rent: garage/shop w/ electricity, \$125/mo. 312/618-4302.

Will Do: farm chores, exercise horses, clean stables, etc. 689-9095.

Will Do: chair caning. 689-5125.

Will Do: pressure washing. 675-4003.

Fitness program interest session, Spring Creek Comm Ctr, April 4th, @ 10am.

Will Do: In-home care, gardening, etc, Marshall only. 206-7030.



Teachers Can Apply

for

2017 - 2018

Bright Ideas Education Grants

French Broad EMC is now accepting applications for Bright Ideas education grants for the 2017-2018 school year. Teachers in K-12 classrooms with innovative ideas for hands-on learning projects are encouraged to apply.

Grant applications will be accepted April 1 - September 18th. All teachers who submit their applications by the early bird deadline of August 15th will be entered into a drawing for a Visa gift card.

Teachers at qualifying schools can apply individually or as a team, and grants are available for all subjects. To apply, or for more information about the Bright Ideas grant program, visit:

www.NCBrightIdeas.com

Notice!!!

*Effective
March 1st,*
the minimum
credit card payment
allowed will be
\$15...
this applies to all
payments made
via phone, online
and in the
office

ROW Clearing Schedule March/April

Marshall District

- * Spring Creek area
- * California Creek
- * Walker Branch
- * lower end of Paint Fork
- * Beech Glen area

Burnsville District

- * Town of Burnsville
- * Riverside Community
- * Hamrick
- * Colberts Creek
- * Busick Community
- * Bear Creek

**FBEMC offices
will be closed
Friday April 14th
in observance of
Good Friday
and Easter**

