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75 YEARS OF COOPERATIVE INNOVATION

Changing Times Call for Co-ops to Work Together



Co-ops like Baldwin EMC work together to share the responsibilities and the benefits of projects like this wind farm in Oklahoma. These efforts might be unattainable for co-ops working alone, but teamwork makes them possible.

Over their 75-year history, electric co-ops have made a name for themselves as trailblazers and innovators. For starters, co-ops efficiently and affordably ran power lines to parts of rural America that big investor-owned utilities didn't see as profitable. Many experts consider rural electrification as the greatest engineering achievement of the twentieth century.

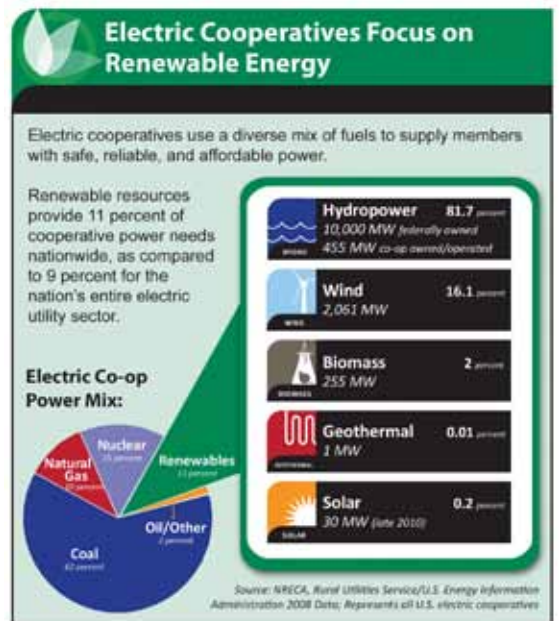
Electric co-ops also began promoting energy efficiency decades ago, long before it became mainstream. And today co-ops are finding innovative ways to use renewable energy generation while keeping electricity affordable—no easy feat.

More than 80 percent of our nation's 900-plus electric co-ops provide electricity produced by wind, solar, hydro, geothermal, biomass (like landfill gas) and other "green power" sources. All told, co-ops today receive 11 percent of their power requirements from renewable sources compared to nine percent for electric utilities as a whole.

In addition, co-ops across the country are banding together to deliver renewable energy to regions like Alabama, that may not have the best wind resources or the sunniest days. The National

Renewables Cooperative Organization (NRCO), of which Baldwin EMC's wholesale power supplier is a member, was formed in 2008 as a clearing house for renewable energy "credits." Through NRCO, a co-op like Baldwin EMC in the Southeast, for example, can buy wind power from a Midwest wind farm. That's a truly innovative partnership.

As renewable energy continues to develop across the nation, rest easy knowing that Baldwin EMC and others are working together to achieve common goals and provide our members with safe, reliable, affordable electricity. As it has been for 75 years, that's the co-op way. ☞



BALDWIN EMC NEWS:



Home Energy Makeover 2010

WHAT are you waiting for?

Contest deadline is Friday, July 30, 2010

Picture it: brand new ENERGY STAR rated appliances, new windows, upgraded insulation, a new air conditioning and heating unit, a new water heater...and more!

Those are a few of the things that could be yours if you're named the winner of Baldwin EMC's second annual Home Energy Makeover. All you have to do is apply for your chance to win.

We're looking for applicants who:

- are at least 18 years old,
- own an all-electric single family house without a heat pump,
- have lived in their current home for five years or longer,
- are Baldwin EMC members in good standing.

If you meet those criteria and would like to be the lucky winner, **APPLY TODAY!** Fill out the application included with your June bill, apply online at www.baldwinemc.com, or stop by one of our three office locations. Don't wait!

VISION STATEMENT:

Baldwin Electric Membership Cooperative will be the leader as a customer focused, efficient and community involved cooperative.

OFFICE HOURS AND LOCATIONS:

8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Monday through Friday

Headquarters:
19600 State Highway 59
Summerdale, AL 36580

South Baldwin Office
21801 University Lane
Orange Beach, AL 36561

North Baldwin Office:
47525 State Highway 59
Bay Minette, AL 36507

CALL CENTER HOURS:

7 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Monday through Friday
(251) 989-6247 or
(800) 837-3374

AUTOMATED OUTAGE REPORTING LINE:

(251) 989-9999 or
(800) 287-5809

AUTOMATED BILL INQUIRY LINE:

(251) 989-0202 or
(800) 287-5809

STORM RESTORATION UPDATES:

www.twitter.com/BEMCRestoration

NOTICE OF BYLAW COMMITTEE MEETING AND DEADLINE FOR BYLAW CHANGES

The Baldwin County Electric Membership Corporation Bylaw Committee will meet Thursday, August 12, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. at the cooperative headquarters in Summerdale. The committee will review all bylaw changes submitted in writing to the headquarters office of the cooperative by the close of business on August 6, 2010.

Call Him a Guru of the Grill!



MR. ELMER VICK OF FAIRHOPE

entered Alabama Living's Grilling Recipe Contest, which we introduced in March of this year. His recipe for Boston butt cooked on an electric grill was chosen as the best.

Mr. Vick is pictured here with the Deluxe Cart Electric Grill he received as the prize for his delicious recipe entry.

"BEST BUTT IN BAMA"

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 Boston butt (trimmed of excess fat)
- 12 cloves of garlic
- 1 beer
- 1 large white onion, chopped
- Barbecue sauce (optional)
- 1 large foil bag
- Injector Needle
- Electric Grill

Marinade:

- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup Moore's or Dale's marinade seasoning
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup Italian dressing
- $\frac{3}{4}$ white vinegar

DIRECTIONS:

Mix marinade and set aside. Using a small paring knife, punch 6 holes in each side of butt and insert a clove of garlic. Strain 1 cup of marinade, reserving strained seasonings. Inject strained marinade in butt. Cover and place in refrigerator for a minimum of 4 hours (overnight is better.) Return strained seasoning to container with balance of marinade, store in refrigerator.

Remove butt from refrigerator one hour before starting to cook. Preheat grill setting on maximum heat. Sear butt for one hour, or until it's well browned on all sides (be careful not to let it burn.) When the butt is well seared, remove it from the grill and place it in the foil bag. Add onion, balance of marinade and 6 ounces of beer. Seal foil bag tight and return to grill at a reduced temperature of 275 to 300 degrees and cook for four to five hours, or until the bone removes clean. Remove from the bag and allow to rest for 15 minutes. Using two forks, shred meat and remove garlic.

Add barbecue sauce as desired. ENJOY!

YOU CAN GET AN ELECTRIC GRILL OF YOUR VERY OWN FROM BALDWIN EMC. GO TO WWW.BALDWINEMC.COM TO CHECK OUT THE MODELS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE.



DON'T TRAVEL WITHOUT YOUR CONNECTIONS

You can travel in style even on a budget, thanks to Baldwin EMC's Co-op Connections program.

Have you made your summer travel plans yet? Are you one of the many families having to make those plans on a tighter budget than before? Baldwin EMC would like to remind you that you've got connections.

Baldwin EMC's Co-op Connections program, a discount program for our members, offers a long list of savings on vacation discounts here in Alabama and nationwide. And there's quite a variety to pick from.

If it's a wilderness experience you're looking for, you can find discounts on trips to campsites in Kentucky, Mississippi, Ohio, Minnesota, and Illinois, among many others.

Perhaps you're after something a bit more polished. More than 100 discounts on Bed & Breakfasts across the country are offered through the Co-op Connections Program. There are also great savings to be found on cruises, sightseeing spots and a variety of other destinations.

You don't have to go far to take advantage of great discount offers for Co-op Connections card holders. Local RV parks, real estate and vacation rental companies will also trim a little of the cost for Baldwin EMC's members.

All you have to do to get the discount is present your Co-op Connection card at any of the businesses you see listed on our website, www.baldwinemc.com, or the national Co-op Connections website, which you'll find at www.connections.coop.



If you're a business and you'd like to start offering a discount to members, contact Donna Givens at Baldwin EMC by calling (251) 989-0179. We'll add you to our list on our website, and promote your business in other Baldwin EMC publications at no charge to you.

It's one of the great benefits of being a Baldwin EMC member, and one of the ways you'll stay connected no matter where you go! ☘

WE'RE STILL TALKING ABOUT TANKLESS



For details on the program go to Baldwin EMC's website.

Baldwin EMC's tankless water heater rebate replacement program is still available to members who would like to replace their electric tankless water heaters with an energy-efficient storage water heater. However, this is a limited time offer - the program will only be available until December 31, 2011. If you have an electric tankless water heater and would like to discuss the program, please call Baldwin EMC at (800) 837-3374 and ask to speak to one of our energy marketing specialists. ☘



BALDWIN COUNTY

Summertime in Summerdale

STOP IN AND SEE

Majorie Younce Snook Public Library.

In the heart of downtown Summerdale, you'll find the Majorie Younce Snook Public Library. Named for one of central Baldwin County's most notable citizens, and the library's most generous contributor, the facility held its grand opening on November 29, 2007.

The library serves as an integral community resource, offering not only traditional library research services, but community programs such as food collections for local animal shelters and CFL bulb recycling.

The library is open Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.



Pioneer park in historic downtown Summerdale

There are a few places left in the country where small-town Southern charm is still a way of life. Summerdale is one of those places.

The town only covers about 5 square miles, and according to U.S. Census estimates, its population sits just below 800 people. But don't let the size fool you. Summerdale has been around for quite a while. The town began its development more than 100 years ago, in the early 1900s. Initially owned by the Southern Development Company of Chicago, the area that would become the town was sold lot by lot to families and individuals looking to move or make a little money in the southern part of the country. One of the leading developers, Eli Summers, would lend his name to the town in 1904.

Railroad lines running from one end of the county to the other went straight through Summerdale, lending themselves to the area's prosperity. The tobacco and timber industry also boomed in the early 1900s, and grew right along with the town.

Summerdale's first developments were small businesses, like grocery stores, blacksmith shops, and even a small hotel.

Fast forward 100 years, and small businesses run by locals are still the backbone of the town. You won't find any large chain restaurants, hotels, or shopping malls, but you will find mom and pop restaurants, produce stands, and barber shops among others.

Dotted among the historic walls of Summerdale's downtown area are the new amenities added to keep the town progressing, like the new community center, the Marjorie Younce Snook Public Library, or the Summerdale Splash Park, which this time of year is full of the laughter of splish-splashing youngsters. There are also residential neighborhoods where young families live on the same land their ancestors helped cultivate so many years ago.

So while you might have to keep traveling south to reach the fast-pace of the city, if you're willing to slow down just a bit, Summerdale will be waiting for you. ☞

PROTECT CHILDREN AND PETS FROM ELECTRICAL HAZARDS

Each year accidents around the home result in millions of injuries to the most vulnerable members of your family: young children and pets.

It's a startling fact, but about 2,400 children receive emergency room treatment annually for injuries caused by inserting objects into electrical receptacles, according to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC).

With a few precautions, these and other injuries can be avoided:

- Install tamper resistant outlets (TROs) that protect against small children inserting foreign objects into them. Simple plastic caps typically used can be easily removed by some children.
- Keep electrical cords tied up or out of sight.
- Unplug all appliances when

they are not being used, such as hair dryers or coffee makers.

- Keep appliances out of children's bathrooms.
- Teach children not to touch appliances when they have wet hands and to keep appliances away from water.
- Teach children other basic safety tips such as staying away from outlets and not touching electrical cords.

Some of the same safety tips can apply to pets:

- Keep electrical cords away from cats and puppies who love to chew on them.
- Make sure nightlights and appliances are fully plugged in. Partially exposed prongs can be a temptation to curious critters.
- Keep halogen lamps away from pet play areas. If knocked over,



they could start a fire.

- Keep appliances in bathrooms away from water. Playful pets can knock radios or curling irons into water, creating a dangerous situation.
- Discourage cats and dogs from curling up for naps behind electrical equipment such as computers.

For more electrical safety tips, visit www.baldwinemc.com.

KNOW WHAT'S BELOW: CALL BEFORE YOU DIG

Summer weather is a great time for outdoor improvement plans to actually play out. But if your planned projects include digging, like planting a tree or bringing in a backhoe for trench work, you'll have to wait a few more days so the job can be done safely.

Underground utilities, such as buried gas, water, and electric lines, can be a shovel thrust away from turning a summer project into a disaster.

To find out where utility lines run on your property, dial 811 from anywhere in the country a few days prior to digging. Your call will be routed to a local "one call" center. Tell the operator where you're planning

to dig and what type of work you will be doing, and affected local utilities will be notified.



Although light gardening typically doesn't call for deep digging, other seemingly simple tasks like planting shrubs or installing a new mailbox post can damage utility lines. A severed line can disrupt service to an entire neighborhood, harm diggers, and potentially result in fines and repair costs.

Never assume the location or depth of underground utility lines. There's no need: the 811 service is free, prevents the inconvenience of having utilities interrupted, and can help you avoid serious injury. ☞

Safety First, Safety Always



DON'T DIG UP TROUBLE

Protect yourself and your property against underground utility damage. Find out where underground utilities are located before you begin excavation. Electrical cables, gas lines, water lines and wastewater lines could all be present under your property. Hitting these lines could result in injury or property damage.

The power is in your hands. Be safe.



BALDWIN EMC

Your Touchstone Energy[®]
Cooperative 

www.baldwinemc.com

(800) 837-3374