

CONNECT

VOLUME 15, Nº 7

Published for Member/Owners of ENERGYUNITED

July 2013

Tell Us How You Would Like to Receive Your Carolina Country Magazine



continue to receive it via the United States Postal Service and it will show up at your door like it always has. Second, you may opt to receive an email every month with a link to the magazine when the latest issue is available to be viewed. And third, you can go ahead and choose to read the latest issues on our

website (www.energyunited.com) at your convenience.

And now the important part: we need to know which option you prefer. If you have not already done so, please fill out the postcard that you received on the back cover of last month's magazine and send it back to us. Don't have last month's magazine anymore? You will also receive an insert with your statement this month that you can fill out and return with your payment. There is no need to send the insert back if you have already let us know your preferred method. Do keep in mind, though, that this is an opt-in process and to take no action means you will no longer receive the magazine in the mail.

Should you choose to receive an email with a link to the magazine, we will need your email address. Simply write it in the space we have provided. In addition, if you choose this method or to view it on the web, you will receive the EnergyUnited CONNECT newsletter within your bill statement each month.

Questions? Please do not hesitate to call our customer care representatives at 800.522.3793.

EnergyUnited is now offering our members a choice in the way you receive some communications from EnergyUnited. Specifically, this involves the method in which you receive your *Carolina Country* magazine and *CONNECT* newsletter beginning in the month of September.

We are so pleased to be able to send your *Carolina Country* magazine every month as we hear so much feedback about how many of our members enjoy reading this award-winning publication. For those of you who wait by the mailbox, rush back inside to read the magazine and the EnergyUnited newsletter *CONNECT* found inside, rest assured; your routine will not have to change.

We have a diverse membership group within our 19-county service area and we know that many of our members are busy with the time constraints of everyday life. We are happy to now offer several different options for our varied customer base going forward.

Beginning in September, our members will have the option of receiving *Carolina Country* and *CONNECT* newsletter in one of three ways: First, you can choose to

**Our offices will be closed Thursday, July 4th in observance of Independence Day. Crews will be on call.
Have a safe and happy holiday!**

Opt-In
—
17

A National
Network
—
18

CEO
Column
—
19

Lights
Off
—
20



Part of a National Network

Did you know that being a member-owner of EnergyUnited means you are also a part of an even bigger brand, Touchstone Energy?



Touchstone

Energy—the national brand of electric cooperatives—has core values that consumers have long associated with cooperatives: integrity, accountability, innovation, and genuine commitment to their communities. Touchstone Energy Cooperatives is an alliance of local, consumer-owned electric cooperatives across the country committed to providing superior service.

It was 15 years ago that the national brand for America's electric cooperatives was officially launched — and Touchstone Energy Cooperatives has come a long way in that relatively short amount of time.

The Touchstone Energy Cooperatives brand represents a nationwide alliance made of more than 700 local, consumer-owned electric cooperatives in 46 states. Touchstone Energy

co-ops, like EnergyUnited, collectively deliver power and energy solutions to more than 30 million members every day and use the resources of a national network and an economies of scale mentality to enhance their unique relationships with their local member-owners. They provide high standards of service to all customers—residential, commercial, industrial and agricultural.

Electric cooperatives were established to provide electricity to rural America, and now make up the largest electric utility network, branded nationally as Touchstone Energy. This network distributes power to 75 percent of the U.S. land mass with over 2.4 million miles of power lines.

Touchstone Energy co-ops rank well ahead of their industry counterparts when it comes to customer satisfaction. Recent data from the American Customer Satisfaction Index (ACSI), one the nation's most recognized measures of customer satisfaction, gives Touchstone Energy cooperatives an average score of 81 out of a possible 100, outclassing the overall utility industry satisfaction score of 74.

A Look at Our 2013 Youth Tour Delegates

Two outstanding students, Sarah Sturdivant and Keigan Parker, have been named EnergyUnited's 2013 Youth Tour delegates.

Ms. Studivant is a Lexington resident and the daughter of Robert and Sally Sturdivant. In the fall, she will be a senior at Central Davidson High School. She is actively involved in the following school activities: Tennis, Fellowship of

Christian Athletes, Leadership Club, National Honor Society, Lexington Cotillion Club and a participant in Distinguished Young Woman of Davidson County. She also sings the National Anthem at varsity baseball games. She has been inducted to the National Honor Society and loves singing, playing the flute and writing. She volunteers with her youth group and works part time at Lexington Drug.

Mr. Parker is the son of Donna Parker and Sheldon Ramseur and is a senior at Statesville High School. He's actively involved in Junior

Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC) and the JROTC drill team, Beta club, Black History

Club and is a GEAR UP ambassador. He has been on honor roll every high school semester and has received the JROTC Superior Cadet award. He loves to play basketball and experienced Army National's last year with his drill team. Parker also works at Footaction of Statesville.



We look forward to seeing these individuals grow in their endeavors and encourage our members to spread the word about our Youth Tour program. Alexandria "Alex" Loflin, EnergyUnited's 2012 representative, has had great success in this program and the Youth Leadership Council. This scholarship is one more way these students can expand their horizons and realize new opportunities. You can view more about the Youth Tour Program at www.youthtour.coop and on our website. Look under "Community Involvement" in our menu bar.

EnergyUnited Members, Get Involved in the Acre Co-op Owners for Political Action® Program

As members of EnergyUnited, you play a central role in the decision-making process of your cooperative. The value we place on the input of our members is an important part of the way we do business, and it's what separates member-owned electric cooperatives from for-profit utilities.

Our focus is on serving our members and improving the quality of life in our communities. While many of our efforts take place on the local level, we are also partnering with other cooperatives across the state and nation to advance our goals and values. It is important that our members take an active part in these initiatives. One easy way to do this is through the ACRE Co-op Owners for Political Action®, or COPA, program.

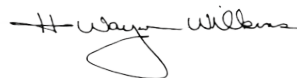
You may be wondering what is ACRE? It stands for the Action Committee for Rural Electrification, and it is currently among the country's 100 largest Political Action Committees (PACs). For more than 30 years, ACRE has been engaged in a national effort to support candidates for the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives who understand the issues faced by electric cooperatives. Through ACRE, EnergyUnited employees can give contributions to the PAC to champion candidates who will work to protect our interests and advocate on our behalf.

EnergyUnited's member-owners can now get involved as well. Joining the ACRE Co-op Owners for Political Action® (COPA) program gives members the chance to directly support a strong grassroots network dedicated to making the voices of electric cooperatives heard on a national level. Elected officials make policy decisions that affect the future of our cooperative and your way of life, and through COPA, you

can help determine who is making those decisions. By contributing to this important program, we can all work to ensure the continued success of cooperatives across the nation. Nearly 6,000 cooperative members have already joined COPA, and its ranks are continuing to grow.

If you haven't become a part of COPA yet, I encourage you to consider supporting this important initiative. Please call our customer care representatives at 1-800-522-3793 to enroll or ask questions.

Thank you to each of you for your ongoing efforts to support our cooperative and improve the communities we serve, not just here in central North Carolina, but throughout our state and nation.



From the desk of
H. Wayne Wilkins,
Chief Executive Officer

Co-op Owners
ACRE
for Political Action®

ACRE makes campaign contributions to candidates for Congress who support electric cooperative goals and share our cooperative values. ACRE raises personal, voluntary contributions from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's eligible membership. Federal law prohibits soliciting contributions from individuals other than NRECA and member-system's eligible employees, boards of directors, consumer-owners (members) and the family of such individuals. Contributions from ineligible individuals will be returned.



EnergyUnited's Annual Meeting of Members is just around the corner. As a member-owner, come learn how we power the communities we serve. The event will take place September 21 at Davie County High School.

Stay Connected With Us



EnergyUnited.com



facebook.com/EnergyUnited

follow us on
twitter



@EnergyUnitedEMC

CONNECT

CONNECT is published monthly for its members by EnergyUnited. Questions, comments and story ideas should be directed to:

CONNECT

P.O. Box 1831
Statesville, NC 28687-1831

1-800-522-3793

www.energyunited.com

H. WAYNE WILKINS
Chief Executive Officer

Automatic Controls can Keep Lighting Costs in Check

Whether you can't seem to train your kids to turn out lights when they leave a room or need a better outdoor lighting scheme, automatic controls might be a cost-effective solution.

No matter what type you use, "the most important thing to remember for any lighting control is to use a type of lightbulb that doesn't need to 'warm up,'" says Brian Sloboda, a senior program manager specializing in energy efficiency for the Cooperative Research Network, the research and development organization for the nation's electric co-ops.

"All of the lightbulbs for residential use now on the market will work—incandescents, compact fluorescent lamps [CFLs], and LEDs [light-emitting diodes]."

infrared sensors detect heat and motion.

Timers make an empty home look occupied. If kids are still running in and out, however, timers aren't as effective as occupancy sensors. Plug timers into a wall outlet or install them in the wall, like a light switch or thermostat. New varieties are digital.

Photosensors are generally best outdoors, but new applications have found they're also useful for LED nightlights. When an overhead light is on, the nightlight shuts off automatically.

Outdoors

If you already have or are thinking about installing an outdoor security light, consider combining it with a photosensor to keep it from burning all day. A motion sensor goes one



Motion Sensor



Indoors

Occupancy sensors are helpful indoors, as long as they're positioned to detect people in any corner of the room. They're also good as task lighting—above places like a desk or kitchen sink—so you get the extra light you need while working, but you don't forget and leave it on all night.

There are two types of occupancy sensors: ultrasonic and infrared. Ultrasonic sensors detect sound;

step further, if you don't want continuous light. EnergyUnited offers residential security lighting options. Give us a call for more information.

Timers are commonly used for aesthetic or holiday lighting, sometimes in conjunction with a photosensor—so they turn on at dusk and turn off at a designated time.

Visit EnergySavers.gov to learn more about energy efficiency in your home.