

Carl Bulger (left) presided.

We have to admit the only topic we discussed was the storm on the night of June 29th and the damage and electrical outages we suffered. It was good therapy and probably reduced Post Traumatic Stress.

Pointer Ridge seemed to have gotten its power back first, usually within a day or two. Rockledge, Whitehall, Chapel Forge, and Overbrook got their power back on July 4th or 5th.

Some members who are old-timers in the backup power supply response to power outages had to worry this time about finding a gas station with electricity to operate its gas pumps. They had the routine down for switching back-and-forth between refrigerator, freezers, fans, lights, and TV. But this time Comcast Cable was out, cell phone towers weren't functioning, and Verizon FiOS's backup batteries were shot. Dale Grant had just acquired a replacement backup battery from Verizon on June 1st, but he couldn't make calls. He thinks the charger must be inoperative.

One member has had a built-in, natural gas powered backup generator for several years. He doesn't even notice when the power goes out because the backup comes on automatically within a second. The only way he knows that he is on backup electricity is that his stove and his electric clock don't work.

Vic Kiviat's high-definition Comcast TV signal was out. Finally, he bought a "sophisticated rabbit ears antenna" and was able to receive over-the-air HDTV from the local stations. Of course, that wouldn't have satisfied aficionados of ESPN or the Discovery and Military History channels.

And we joined two thirds of the nation in experiencing record-breaking temperatures before and after.