

## Deadline for filing director nominating petition

**F**or a member to become a qualified candidate for election as a director, he or she must file with the secretary of Pickwick Electric Cooperative not less than 20 days prior to the date of the district meeting a written petition nominating such person as a candidate and signed by not less than 25 qualified and eligible voting members in the voting district.

There shall be no nomination from the floor. Election for each district will be held within the district, and only members of that district will be eligible to vote. If the member petitioned is not present, such member shall not be accepted by the chairperson unless the chairperson has in hand a written statement from such member stating that person's willingness to serve as a director if elected.

Due to a realignment of district boundaries, anyone seeking the candidacy of director should call the PEC office to verify the district in which you live.

Among qualifications of a director are:

- Must be a member and reside in the district he/she is to represent.
- Must not be employed by or financially interested in a competing enterprise or a business selling electric energy or supplies to the cooperative or a business primarily engaged in selling electrical or plumbing appliances, fixtures or supplies to members of the cooperative.
- Must not be the incumbent of or candidate for an elective public office for which a salary is paid.
- When a membership is held jointly by a husband and wife, either one, but not both, can be elected director, provided both meet all the qualifications for a director.

Dates for the 2007 district meetings are:

District No.	Meeting Place	Meeting Date	Deadline for Filing Nominating Petition
1	Enville Community Center	Aug. 13	July 24
3	Pickwick State Park Inn	Aug. 14	July 25
8	Stantonville Civic Center	Aug. 16	July 27

Cooperative bylaws contain complete information concerning the election of directors, and a copy of the bylaws can be picked up at the PEC office. Blank petitions for nominating a director can also be picked up at the cooperative office.



## Pickwick Electric Cooperative

**Serving members in all of McNairy County and portions of Chester, Hardeman and Hardin counties in Tennessee and Alcorn and Tishomingo counties in Mississippi**



**530 Mulberry Avenue**

**P.O. Box 49**

**Selmer, TN 38375**

**Phone Numbers:**

**(731) 645-3411**

**(731) 632-3333**

**1-800-372-8258**

**Web site:**

**[www.pickwick-electric.com](http://www.pickwick-electric.com)**

**These five pages contain local**

**news and information**

**for members of Pickwick**

**Electric Cooperative.**



## District meetings to be held

During August, three of Pickwick Electric Cooperative's nine districts will hold meetings to elect directors. These important meetings give you, the member, the opportunity to select the leadership of your cooperative.

An official notice giving more detailed information about the meetings and election procedures will be mailed to all members of Districts 1, 3 and 8. In addition to the director election,

some nice attendance prizes will be given away.

The district meetings are being held prior to Pickwick Electric Cooperative's annual membership meeting, Tuesday, Sept. 11. The August and September issues of *The Tennessee Magazine* will have more information on the annual meeting.

We urge your continued support of the cooperative by participating in these meetings.

**Harold Finley**

**Incumbent director**

**District 1, Aug. 13, 2007**

**Enville Community Center**

**Registration 7 p.m.**

**Business meeting 7:30 p.m.**

**John Roberts**

**Incumbent director**

**District 3, Aug. 14, 2007**

**Pickwick State Park Inn**

**Registration 7 p.m.**

**Business meeting 7:30 p.m.**

**Owen Lee Qualls**

**Incumbent director**

**District 8, Aug. 16, 2007**

**Stantonville Civic Center**

**Registration 7 p.m.**

**Business meeting 7:30 p.m.**

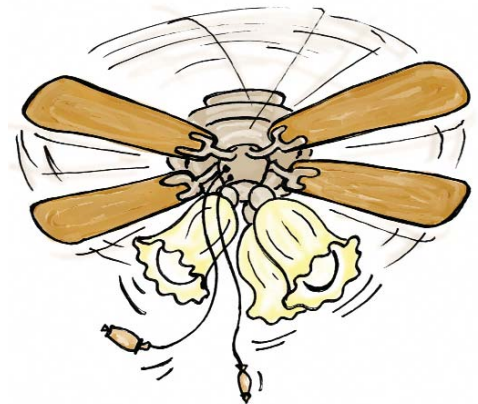
## Easy summer cooling tips

If your home is too hot in the summer, there are many ways you can help keep heat out of your house. Planting trees, for instance, is one of the best ways to diffuse the hot summer sun before it enters your home. But a surprising amount of heat comes from inside your home.

Lights and appliances are the biggest sources of internal heat gain. Reducing their use will save electricity and keep your home cooler. In humid climates, moisture that is released by cooking, bathing and other activities will also make it harder for air conditioners to cool your home. A drier home feels more comfortable.

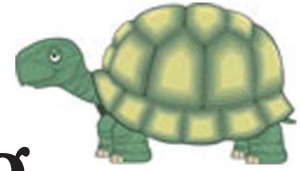
Here are some easy ways to keep cool in the summer:

- Replace standard incandescent light bulbs with compact fluorescent light bulbs. The electricity used by standard bulbs produces 10 percent light and 90 percent heat. Also, compact fluorescent lights are cheaper to operate.
- Schedule heat-producing chores like baking or doing the laundry after the hottest part of the day.
- Install an insulating jacket on your water heater.
- Use kitchen and bathroom fans to remove heat and moisture during and after cooking and bathing.
- When replacing appliances, buy those with the Energy Star® label. These appliances conserve energy and release less unwanted heat.
- If you are home during the day, use a room fan to create a cooling breeze.
- If you live in an area where evenings are cool, don't forget about the cheapest cooling method of all. Open your doors and windows, or run window fans. This will move cool evening air through your home for almost no cost.





# The turtles are reading



In the summer of 2000, Pickwick Electric Cooperative began a project of changing out residential meters to a new device called a “turtle meter.”

Just what is a turtle meter? As you would expect, the turtle meter gets its name because it transmits the reading slowly. Every 27 hours, a packet of information is transmitted to a receiver that is located in a nearby substation. These packets can be downloaded in our office as often as we choose.

Once the turtle meters are installed, meter readers will visit once a year for safety inspections and maintenance. Although this cuts down on the number of trips the meter readers make throughout our system, we still have 10,000-plus customers with meters that require monthly visits by a meter reader.

What are the advantages of having a turtle meter? First, since it allows us to check your meter reads on the same day of each month, the number of days are billed more consistent. The turtle meter also provides us with our customers’ daily peak usage and the date and time of the highest peak. This important information enables the employees to look at the daily usage of our members to answer any questions someone may have regarding a high bill. Local daily temperatures can then be compared to these readings to determine if the problem is weather-related.

In the case of power outages, turtle meters allow us to determine if your electricity is on or off without sending an employee to your home. This is especially helpful in determining how widespread the damages may be after storms.

The turtle meter has the ability to monitor blinks and identify the locations that may experience these blinks. It provides us with information that identifies failing equipment such as cracked insulators, bad switches, hot-line clamps and bad voltage regulators. In other words, it allows us to correct situations before they become problems.

Since the program began, PEC has installed more than 10,000 turtle meters on the system.

“We are currently installing turtle meters at the rate of about 100 per month,” said Steve King, PEC office manager. “Turtle meters are installed on all new services and resets. Should your meter need to be changed for any reason, it will be replaced with a turtle meter.”

How can you tell if you already have a turtle meter? Look through the glass of your meter, and if you notice a red light on the inside, then you have a turtle meter. The red light indicates the meter is working by using a light beam to count the disc revolutions.

The installation of turtle meters is just one of the many ways PEC is working to better serve our members.



Morris Carothers installs a turtle meter. Once a turtle meter is installed, it transmits a reading back to the office every day.



PEC meter readers are, from left, Todd Pippenger, Chuck Wilkerson, Stacy Dancer, Michael Harris and Morris Carothers.



# Keep our linemen safe

## Do not install objects on cooperative poles

An electric utility pole is the last place to mount an object such as a satellite dish, sign or basketball goal. You might think it is harmless, but for Pickwick Electric Cooperative employees, it creates a very dangerous situation. Part of a lineman's job is to climb these poles and perform a number of tasks like installing a security light, changing a bulb, replacing a transformer or hooking up a new service.

Linemen's jobs become even more difficult when they have to contend with objects that are attached to poles they work on during inclement weather and at night. So when you consider mounting an object on a utility pole, remember the tasks of a lineman.

Tennessee state law states that it is illegal for any person to place or attach any type of show-card, poster or



advertising material or device — including election campaign literature — on any kind of poles, towers or fixtures of any public utility company, whether privately or publicly owned, unless authorized to do so.

Finding another location to mount objects around your home is one way you can help protect a lineman from injury or possibly save his life.

The management and staff of PEC work hard to provide a safe working environment for all of its employees. This is quite an accomplishment, given their daily work routines.

So please consider the safety of those who serve you before you attach anything to an electric utility pole.

## Summer storm safety

The Electrical Safety Foundation International (ESFI) encourages consumers to practice caution and safety during summer storms, which at times can be severe. Beware of flooded areas caused by heavy rains — water and electricity do not mix! Below is safety advice to use following a summer storm:

**Flooded areas** — Be careful when attempting to walk in flooded areas and remember that submerged outlets or electrical cords could energize the water.

**Wet electrical equipment** — Do not use electrical appliances that have been wet. Water can damage the motors in electrical appliances such as furnaces, freezers, refrigerators, washing machines and dryers. Electrical parts can pose a shock hazard or overheat and cause a fire.

A qualified service repair dealer should recondition electrical equipment that has been wet. Certain equipment will require complete replacement, while a trained professional can recondition other devices.

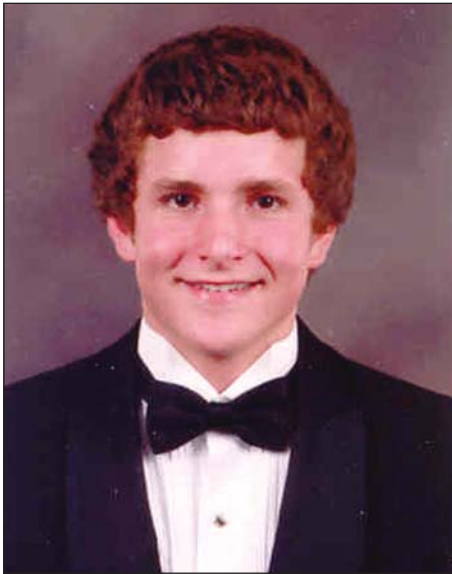
**Portable generators** — Take special care with portable electric generators, which can provide a good source of

power but, if improperly installed or operated, can become deadly. Do not connect generators directly to household wiring. Power from generators can back-feed along power lines and electrocute anyone coming in contact with them, including line workers making repairs. A qualified, licensed electrician should install your generator to ensure that it meets local electrical codes.

Other tips include:

- Make sure your generator is properly grounded.
- Keep the generator dry.
- Make sure extension cords used with generators are rated for the load, are free of cuts and worn insulation and have three-pronged plugs.
- Do not overload the generator.
- Do not operate the generator in enclosed or partially enclosed spaces. Generators can produce high levels of carbon monoxide very quickly, which can be deadly.
- Use a ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) to help prevent electrocutions and electrical shock injuries. Portable GFCIs require no tools to install and cost from \$12 to \$30.





Brian Fullwood  
Valedictorian  
Adamsville High School



Mary Jane Dickey  
Salutatorian  
Adamsville High School

You are  
to be  
commended  
for your  
scholastic  
achievements



Jenny Bledsoe  
Valedictorian  
McNairy Central High School



Zach Reed  
Salutatorian  
McNairy Central High School



**Holiday closing**  
Pickwick Electric Cooperative will be closed  
Wednesday, July 4, 2007, for Independence Day.