

# PEC celebrates 75th anniversary

**O**n behalf of the board of directors, management and employees of Pickwick Electric Cooperative, you are cordially invited to attend this year's annual meeting and help us celebrate 75 years of service to the community. The annual meeting is used by the members and management to make reports, exchange information and conduct the business of the cooperative.



**Karl Dudley**  
President  
Pickwick Electric  
Cooperative  
kdudley@pickwick-electric.com

with free hot dogs and soft drinks, party jumpers, displays and entertainment for everyone. Each of

the first 500 members to register will receive a Lodge skillet with our anniversary logo.

The entertainment will be provided by Southern Harmony Quartet.

In addition to the skillets, food and entertainment, there will be a number of nice door prizes given away to our regis-

The 2010 event will kick off Thursday, Sept. 9, at 4:30 p.m. at McNairy Central High School

tered members. Please make plans to join us as we celebrate our 75th anniversary.



**Southern Harmony Quartet will perform at this year's annual meeting. From left are Ronnie Douglas, Morris Rogers, Zach Kennedy and Mark Hayes.**



## 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**



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**[www.pickwickec.com](http://www.pickwickec.com)**

**These five pages contain local**

**news and information**

**for members of Pickwick**

**Electric Cooperative.**



# Touring Washington, D.C.

**M**ore than 130 students from electric cooperative service areas across Tennessee boarded buses in June to travel to Washington, D.C., for the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour, the annual event that shows the state's young leaders the vibrant activities of our nation's capital.

Representing Pickwick Electric Cooperative were Lauren Barber and Sarah Killingsworth from Adamsville High School and Chaseton Donahoe, Macy Oldham and Maggie Weatherford from McNairy Central High School. They won spots on the weeklong trip to Washington, D.C., for writing winning short stories titled "Electric Cooperatives: Energizing Our Communities," describing how locally owned, member-controlled electric cooperatives provide valuable community-building support in addition to reliable and affordable electric service. Kelly Wilder, junior English teacher from Adamsville High School, was also awarded a spot on the trip in recognition of her invaluable support of the co-op's youth programs.

The Electric Cooperative Youth Tour is a joint effort of local electric co-ops such as Pickwick Electric Cooperative, the Tennessee Electric Cooperative Association and the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association. Each school year, PEC sponsors a short-story contest for high school juniors. Winners are awarded expense-paid trips to our nation's capital the following June as part of the Washington Youth Tour. This year's trip ran June 11-17 and included meetings with elected officials, visits to Washington's popular tourist stops and time to meet winners representing other co-ops across the state.

"We've been sending our leaders of tomorrow on expense-paid trips to our nation's capital as part of the Washington Youth Tour for more than 40 years," said Beverly Lambert, PEC director of member relations who served as a chaperone. "This year's tour was extremely enjoyable and successful. These winners represent the best from our service area, and we're thrilled we were able to provide them this once-in-a-lifetime trip to see D.C. and learn more about their member-owned electric cooperative. The students eagerly explored all the capital city had to offer, and they served as exemplary representatives of their hometowns and local electric co-op."

On the tour, students saw famous sites they'd learned about in school, including the White House and memorials to past presidents Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln and Franklin Delano Roosevelt as well as monuments honoring the sacrifices of veterans of World War II and the Vietnam and Korean conflicts. Strolls through the varied museums of

**At right, the PEC group tours the Washington National Cathedral. Below, from left, Lauren Barber, Kelly Wilder, Sarah Killingsworth, Chaseton Donahoe, Kelly Weatherford, Macy Oldham, Beverly Lambert and Maggie Weatherford visit Thomas Jefferson's home, Monticello.**



the Smithsonian Institution afforded the students opportunities to learn more about science, history and art. Other fun stops included homes of former presidents — George Washington's Mount Vernon and Jefferson's Monticello — a performance of "Thurgood" at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and tours of the Washington National Cathedral, Crime and Punishment Museum and the Newseum.

The Youth Tour also included a solemn and sobering visit to Arlington National Cemetery, where the group laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns. The Tennessee group marveled at the precision and skill of the United States Marine Drum and Bugle Corps and Marine Corps Silent Drill Platoon at the Sunset Parade, performed in front of the

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U.S. Marine Corps War Memorial's iconic statue re-creating the flag-raising over Iwo Jima.

No trip to Washington, D.C., would be complete without a lesson or two in government and civics. The group was treated to a special after-hours, VIP guided tour of the historic U.S. Capitol by Rep. Lincoln Davis of Pall Mall and a meeting on the Capitol steps with Tennessee's senators, Lamar Alexander and Bob Corker. Rep. Marsha Blackburn of Brentwood also met with her constituents at the Capitol.

Tennessee's Youth Tour delegation joined other trip winners from across the country for Youth Day on Monday, June 14. More than 1,500 students came together to swap stories

of their Washington experiences. Mike Schlappi, a four-time Paralympic medalist and two-time wheelchair basketball champion, returned for this year's program to share his inspiring message for every American, young or old: "Just because you can't stand up doesn't mean you can't stand out."

"This is another wonderful program our cooperative sponsors to educate our youth on their hometown electric co-op," said PEC President Karl Dudley. "Through this and similar educational opportunities made possible by Pickwick Electric Cooperative and our statewide and national organizations, our future member-owners experience first-hand how we energize their communities with special community-building programs as well as affordable electricity."

## SAVE ENERGY. EARN CASH. CASE CLOSED.

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Homeowners can:

- Get a detailed home energy evaluation by a TVA-certified professional
- Get cash reimbursements up to \$500
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To learn more and schedule an In-Home Energy Evaluation, call 731-646-3825 or 731-646-3786 or visit [www.EnergyRight.com](http://www.EnergyRight.com).



# PEC and TVA support McNairy County Foundation for Academic Excellence

Pickwick Electric Cooperative has always been a strong supporter of education in our community. That's why officials said yes when Chairman Gene Hebert approached the cooperative several years ago and asked for its support in the McNairy County Foundation for Academic Excellence (MCFAE). That commitment has now reached 13 consecutive years. A few years later, PEC asked the Tennessee Valley Authority to join it in this alliance with the foundation.

"We are honored to have been a contributor to the McNairy County Foundation for Academic Excellence for many years now," says Karl Dudley, president of Pickwick Electric Cooperative. "I cannot think of a more positive way to influence our community and our world than by making a commitment to the education of our youth."

MCFAE is a private, nonprofit, charitable corporation that encourages local corporations and individuals to fund special initiatives and provides positive messages about the importance of community support for education.

Each year, the foundation awards grants to teachers who develop innovative programs and concepts to enhance the educational opportunities available for the leaders of tomorrow. Grants of \$500 each are awarded to educators based on completion and merits of the proposal. These grants are competitive among teachers, and this year 38 applications were submitted to the Education Department at Freed-Hardeman University for evaluation.

Why is the support of TVA, PEC and many other corporate groups important? Dr. Brenda Peeler Armstrong expresses that importance in a recent letter: "Since 1998, the McNairy County Foundation for Academic Excellence has benefited many teachers and students through the allocation of grants. The foundation has assisted all eight schools, distributing funds fairly and equitably. I have been privileged to see the effects of these grants as a teacher and as an administrator. During the last 12 years, programs and activities have catapulted across the county, enhancing instruction and assisting students in vast learning experiences. I have seen students'



**From left are TVA Customer Services Manager Lynn Dabney, McNairy County Foundation for Academic Excellence Chairman Gene Hebert and PEC President Karl Dudley at a presentation in which Hebert accepted contributions from PEC and TVA to the foundation.**

math and reading skills improve as a direct result of ideas being transformed into grants by creative McNairy County teachers. Teachers work diligently every year to provide new and various educational programs for the students of McNairy County. Your contributions provide grants that turn dreams into realities."

In addition to the annual teacher grants, MCFAE sponsors the McNairy County Imagination Library/Books from Birth Program. All children in McNairy County from birth to age 5 are eligible to receive a free book

each month, mailed directly to their homes. These are classic children's books, hard cover and age-appropriate. Long-term studies conducted by the Tennessee Department of Education and the Tennessee Board of Regents reveal that kindergarten teachers can tell a significant difference in readiness to learn if a child has been enrolled in the Books from Birth Program.

One of the highlights of the foundation is the sponsorship of the Teacher of the Year award. This award recognizes eight outstanding teachers in the McNairy County school system, and from that group, one is selected as Teacher of the Year. Ryan Foret, 2010 McNairy County Teacher of the Year, was awarded by Hebert a \$1,000 check sponsored by the foundation.

An example of the grant funded by PEC this year was "The Traveling Scientist." This grant will provide students with opportunities to research and identify the different regions of the world and their ecosystems, climates, geological features and the relationships of the organisms in these environments. This grant was awarded to Rhonda Rhodes of Adamsville Elementary School (AES). The TVA-sponsored grant was presented to Julie Tucker of Michie Elementary School for "Which came first, the chicken or the egg?" Her specific goal was to purchase a chicken incubator and brooder. Students will work cooperatively to nurture, observe and market baby chicks.

Some of the other grants awarded this year were "Picturing America," awarded to Simms Rhea of Selmer Middle

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School (SMS) and sponsored by the Selmer Rotary Club. Paul Fisher Oil Company awarded a grant to Dr. Randy Shadburn of McNairy Central High School (MCHS) for physics equipment. Community South's grant was awarded to Janet Williams of MCHS for biology class equipment. Home Banking sponsored a grant awarded to Shannon Rodgers of Ramer Elementary School called "The Anatomy Academy." "The Casper Grant," in memory of Linda Lambert and sponsored by the teachers of MCHS, went to Kathy Finlayson of MCHS for "Computer Application Stimulation Project Emphasizing Reality." Gloria Brush of SMS received a grant for "The Race to the Top of Math Mountain," sponsored by Bancorp South. The John Tackett Memorial Grant, sponsored by the teachers of Selmer Elementary School (SES), went to Linda George for "A Sight Word a Day Keeps the Interventionist Away." The Patsy Cain Memorial Grant, sponsored by AES teachers, was awarded to Katie Breymaier



**Ryan Foret was named 2010 McNairy County Teacher of the Year.**

Austin of Aamsville Elementary School for "Pack Your Basket — We're Going on a Phonics Picnic." The grant for "Weathering Weather Together" was given to Lisa Roten at AES and was sponsored by Shackelford Funeral Directors. Holley Locke of SES was awarded the MascoBath/Aqua Glass Grant for "Center Time."

A grant sponsored by Henco Furniture to secure funding for a theodolite, a much-needed piece of equipment for math, was awarded to Rickety N. Murphy of MCHS. First-year teacher Shelia Hurst of Bethel Springs Elementary School received a grant sponsored by Walmart for "Yudu? We Do Beta!" Stacy Jones of MCHS was presented the Spectrum Oil Award for "Jettison Paper in the English Classroom."

MCFAE encourages everyone to give the foundation serious consideration when determining how your organizations' assets can best be used. If you would like to make a donation or become involved in the foundation, please contact Hebert at 645-3315 or 645-3255, ext.113.

## *Energy-Efficiency*

# Tip of the Month



Consider using ceiling and other fans during the cooling season. They provide additional cooling and better circulation so you can raise the thermostat and cut down on air-conditioning costs. Energy Star-certified ceiling fans do even better, especially those that include compact fluorescent lightbulbs.

Source: Alliance to Save Energy