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**Automated Outage Reporting**

1-888-BLURIDGE  
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**Pickens**

P.O. Box 277  
734 West Main St.  
Pickens, SC 29671

**Oconee**

P.O. Box 329  
2328 Sandifer Blvd.  
Highway 123  
Westminster, SC 29693

**Anderson**

1212 North Fant St.  
Anderson, SC 29622

**Greenville**

3751 Highway 11  
Travelers Rest, SC 29690

**Mission Statement**

Blue Ridge will be a competitive, quality provider of energy and other services, maintaining its history of integrity and adapting to the challenges of a changing world. While exercising leadership in the community, the organization's focus will be on exceeding customer expectations.

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A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

# Making life better for our fellowman



**EVEN THOUGH WE** have almost three months left until 2012 arrives, at Blue Ridge, we've already experienced an extremely eventful 2011. On more than one occasion in previous reports to you, I've devoted space to some of the milestones and other key happenings that have characterized this year from its beginning.

In reviewing those reports, the one predominant factor that threads its way through all these undertakings and accomplishments has been the involvement of our employees. The cooperative's workforce and the Blue Ridge Security employee team have both stepped forward in significant ways.

**Second consecutive year**

On March 27, we celebrated the second consecutive year that the cooperative's employees had worked without recording a single lost-time accident. Then, on May 9, cooperative and security company rank and file came together to conduct another very successful Blue Ridge annual meeting.

Hard on the heels of the annual meeting, we hosted our yearly Blue Ridge Fest charity fund-raiser. Once again, the respective security and electric employee group members volunteered their time and energy to an event that is designed to help others in need. The record \$162,000 in proceeds from Blue Ridge Fest 2011, which were then divided among local charities, provide ample testimony regarding the extent of those efforts.

For much of the month of May and for just about all of June, our employees were busy contending with outages triggered by the numerous thunderstorms that regularly swept

across the Blue Ridge territory. That activity was sandwiched between out-of-state mercy missions that involved many of our linemen. Beginning in late April, 14 of our line workers spent 11 days in Alabama, helping Cullman Electric Cooperative restore service interrupted there by a series of fierce tornadoes. Then, in late August, Hurricane Irene wreaked considerable destruction upon Virginia and other states. A total of 19 Blue Ridge linemen were subsequently dispatched to Southside Electric Cooperative near Richmond, where they devoted a week to assisting with the rebuild of that system.

**Contributions totaling \$85,472**

While our men were in Virginia, both the cooperative and Blue Ridge Security were wrapping up United Way pacesetter campaigns. I'm proud to report that the three pacesetter drives at our security company in Anderson and at the cooperative's Oconee and Pickens divisions produced contributions totaling \$85,472. In addition, an amazing 209 employees each pledged or gave a Fair Share or more to the United Way. Those are funds that will soon go to meet some acute human needs within the counties Blue Ridge serves.

It's not an exaggeration to say that the Blue Ridge employee family has devoted a substantial portion of 2011 toward making life better for our fellowman. Truly, it's a privilege for me to be associated with this group, I appreciate all they're doing, and I know you do too.

**Charles E. Dalton**  
*President and CEO*

## Cooling off—for science!

BREC study member enjoys new HVAC system



**“With the new system and improvements that were made, the difference is night and day,” says Kathy Field, shown with Tim Mays, BREC key account manager who spearheaded the co-op’s part of the statewide Help My House Too project.**

**KATHY FIELD IS** one cool lady these days.

Thanks to her having taken part in Blue Ridge Electric Cooperative’s Help My House Too program, Field received a new HVAC system at no cost and is now reaping the benefits of a home that’s cool in the summer and warm in the winter. What’s more, the information generated from the statewide program is being used to benefit members across South Carolina.

For Field, a comfortable home environment wasn’t always the case, however.

“Our old system was from 1991, and it worked OK but wasn’t very efficient,” Field says. “We wore sweaters in the winters, and it never really got very comfortable in the summer. Our high bills reflected how poorly the entire system was working.

“Now, with the new system and improvements that were made, the difference is night and day.”

Designed primarily to collect data about energy efficiency in manufactured homes—Field lives in a 1,100-square-foot single-wide in Seneca—the study tested different approaches to cost-effective energy solutions in more than 1,200 homes, the data from which will enable utilities and policy makers to determine which energy-efficiency approaches have the greatest impact and should be emphasized in the future.

Tim Mays, BREC key account

manager who spearheaded the co-op’s part of the statewide project, said analyzing what types of problems are specific to manufactured housing, of which South Carolina has the highest percentage in the country, is critical to energy management for members.

“What this study really highlighted was inefficient power usage in manufactured homes for a number of reasons,” Mays says. He stresses the importance of sealing the duct system for proper delivery of conditioned air. “This was what we discovered as the most telling aspect of the program,” Mays says. “Most mobile home duct systems are not tight and allow the conditioned air to escape and unconditioned air to infiltrate.

“Poor or improper insulation is a huge issue we found. In the study, we learned a lot about the efficiency of the entire unit, and what we saw was

that many HVAC systems were improperly installed, sized incorrectly and not charged correctly.

“In Kathy’s case, you had a unit that was running all the time but would never get cool, and that was common. So once you address key issues as sizing, charging and maintaining a good system correctly, along with insulation, you’re able to play that role we need to be playing of member advocacy.”

He doesn’t have to convince Field of that.

“We don’t have to wear sweaters anymore in the winter,” Field says. “It’s been a godsend.”



## PUBLIC AUCTION

**Blue Ridge Electric Cooperative  
Equipment Facility**

734 West Main Street, Pickens

Saturday, **Oct. 29** • 10 a.m.

Preview: Friday, **Oct. 28** • 9 a.m.–2 p.m.

### Vehicles

1-1998 Chevrolet C-7H042, CC8500 Kodiak 2x4 regular cab, medium-duty cab and chassis with a Terex Telect High Ranger 5fb, 52’ personnel life aerial lift device two-man bucket truck mounted on cab and chassis with A/T, A/C, heavy-duty utility body, hydraulic winch, 4 outriggers, air brakes, pental hook

1-2003 Chevrolet C-7CO42, CC-7500 Kodiak 2x4 regular cab, medium-duty cab and chassis with an Altec 201-L42M material handling jib packaging, 42’ personnel lift aerial device 1.5 man (bucket truck) mounted on cab and chassis with Allison automatic transmission, 3126E caterpillar diesel motor, A/C, heavy-duty service utility body, dp hydraulic winch, 4 outriggers, air brakes and pental hook

2-Ford F-550 super-duty XL 4x4 regular cab and chassis, A/T, A/C, P/S, P/B, Adkins model SPI24 heavy-duty utility service body with Davit crane, and strobe light package, vehicle year models 1999 and 2003

1-2000 Chevrolet Silverado 2500 HD 4x4 regular cab, Fleetside 8’ bed pickup truck with A/T, A/C, 4-speed heavy-duty automatic transmission, Vortec 6000 V8 SFI gasoline motor 4.10 rear axle ratio heavy-duty suspension, heavy-duty trailer special equipment and vinyl interior

### Limited selection of miscellaneous supplies

#### We reserve the right to add or delete items.

*Terms: VISA, MasterCard, cash or approved checks. Sold as is where is. 10% buyer’s fee applies to all purchases and an additional 3% for VISA and MasterCard.*

#### All items sold absolute.

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## Classic car calendar entries

The 2012 Blue Ridge Annual Calendar will feature classic cars. If you own a restored or original classic vehicle, 1979 or older, and would like for it to be considered for inclusion in the calendar, please call Denise McCormick at 1-800-240-3400 no later than October 13.