



PO Box 308
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Phone (843) 672-6111
or 1-800-922-3486

www.lynchesriver.com

Automated Outage System

675-LREC (5732) or
1-866-675-LREC (5732)

Office Hours

8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.
Monday–Friday

David A. Altman
President and CEO

Trustees:

Scott Croxton
Chairman, District 5

Jackie Blackwell
Vice-Chairman
Member-At-Large

Eric Horton
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Theresa S. Hicks, District 3

Donald E. Sellers, District 4

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Remote Payment Sites

Chesterfield
Piggly Wiggly Market of Chesterfield
1303 West Boulevard
(843) 623-6590

Kershaw
Quality Appliance
407 South Hampton Street
(803) 475-2302

Lancaster
The Energy Center, Inc.
667 Lancaster Bypass 9 E
(803) 283-6148

Co-op Connection Editor
Leigh C. Smith
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Looking forward to your Annual Meeting

WE ARE LOOKING FOR YOU at our Annual Meeting Saturday, Oct. 15, at Central High School in Pageland, where you will learn how we're looking out for you.



Now, more than ever, that is important because we need to work together to keep your electric bills affordable. As you have probably heard, Congress did not pass a comprehensive climate bill last year. This January, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency began regulating greenhouse gases—an action made possible by a 2007 Supreme Court decision, followed by rulings allowing the EPA to use the Clean Air Act to curb carbon emissions.

Focused on affordability

Policies dealing with coal ash, even more stringent controls on other power plant emissions, and state renewable energy requirements could also lead to higher costs. It is hard to predict the future, but one thing seems certain: Government regulations are going to increase the cost of doing business. And new regulations won't be the only culprit. Prices for fuel, materials and equipment will continue to rise.

Focused on innovation

Some things are out of our hands, but we constantly look for ways to control costs.

Deploying state-of-the-art

solutions like our advanced metering infrastructure system, which allows us to pinpoint outages and reroute power when needed, helps us control operating costs and improve service reliability. This investment will cut our operational costs not only during outages but throughout our day-to-day operations. New technology helps us keep your electric bills affordable and reduces our environmental impact.

Focused on YOU

Above all else, we are member focused. We are locally owned and controlled by you. That is why the Annual Meeting is so important. The Annual Meeting is your chance to vote on the direction you want your co-op to take and elect fellow members to our board to represent your best interests.

Costs are rising for all of us, but when it comes to your electric bill, our rates are set simply to cover the cost of doing business. As a not-for-profit organization, we give money back to you in the form of capital credits when our revenues exceed costs.

We are working together to keep your electric bills affordable. We're controlling costs through innovation. We're continuing to put you, our members, first.

No matter what the future brings, one thing is certain: We are looking out for you.

David A. Altman
President and CEO

Attention Members

Look for your Official Annual Meeting Notice on the front cover wrap of the October issue of *South Carolina Living* magazine. Be sure to tear off the entire bottom section of the cover wrap. Bring this official registration card with you along with a photo ID to the Annual Meeting to register and enter the prize drawing.

New this year! Registered members **DO NOT** have to stay for the prize drawing to be eligible to win.

News from the Board

GREETINGS, FELLOW MEMBERS. At the July meeting, a concerned member addressed the board. Members should first direct their concerns to the administration at Lynch River. If the problem remains unresolved, the board will certainly listen.

The board decided members no longer “must be present to win” the grand prize and door prizes at the Annual Meeting. The names of members who register and vote will be entered into the prize drawing. If you choose not to stay for the meeting, you will be notified if you win.

A Grand Prize of a \$1,000 credit on your electric bill will be given away for the first time at this year’s Annual Meeting.

It has long been rumored a previous board had passed retirement benefits and life insurance policies for itself. We now can confirm this did indeed happen. The retirement annuities purchased in February of 1999 cost the co-op \$357,407. The life insurance policies have cost the co-op \$483,721.70 to this point, but the co-op will be reimbursed the premium paid at the ultimate demise of the insured board member.

This program was offered to Lynch River by an insurance company working through the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA). Some cooperatives in South Carolina signed up and Lynch River was one of them. We are releasing this information to end the rumors and, hopefully, put this behind us. The current board is committed to a policy of openness and the highest level of integrity.

See you next month.

**Lynches River Electric Cooperative
Board of Trustees**



PROVIDED

Pageland native to perform at Annual Meeting

FEW PEOPLE ARE blessed with musical talent at a very early age; however, at the age of 6, Marty Vanderlip discovered his love for music. Every time the opportunity would arise, you would find this young boy singing in front of the mirror. His love for music continued to grow by singing in church several times a week. Although compelled to sing gospel, Vanderlip extended his genre to include country, pop, R&B and oldies. Through his teenage years and into adulthood, Vanderlip continued to sing at churches, weddings, town functions, special occasions, and regularly scheduled local gigs around town.

It wasn’t until he brought his talents to his job that his co-workers recognized what a real talent Vanderlip possessed. With the support and following of his co-workers and family members, Vanderlip just smiles and keeps on singing. A hunger developed inside Vanderlip that would give him a yearning to pursue his singing. Soon he found himself auditioning for contests and competitions.

In March of 2007, Vanderlip

auditioned for the “Gimme the Mike! Charlotte” talent competition, sponsored yearly by WSOC-TV Channel 9 in Charlotte, N.C. He finished in the top 20 out of 500 contestants. After several rounds of eliminations, Vanderlip won the “Gimme the Mike! Charlotte” title by a landslide. This opened many doors for Vanderlip. He found himself in the spotlight making appearances at radio stations talking about his experiences, and enjoying the beginning of many great things to come.

In September of 2008, Vanderlip performed on-stage with members of the Grand Ole Opry in Sparta, N.C., with overwhelming acceptance. He was also the 2010 local level winner of the Colgate Country Showdown in Lancaster, S.C.

Vanderlip is truly gifted as he can sing any genre of music. He is a one-man show and a very humble tribute artist. Vanderlip never ceases to amaze the audience, capturing their attention with the intensity he puts into each song.

Come see Marty Vanderlip entertain members at the 2011 Annual Meeting Saturday, Oct. 15.