

## MEMBER SERVICES

### **AUTOMATIC MONTHLY PAYMENT PLAN**

Allows your monthly electric bill payment to be automatically deducted from your bank account on the due date. Sign up online ([clayelectric.com](http://clayelectric.com)) or call your local district office.

### **ONLINE ACCOUNT INFORMATION**

Visit the Clay Electric web site ([clayelectric.com](http://clayelectric.com)) and access your account information:

- View your bill statement
- Make a one-time payment online
- View current charges
- View account balance
- View billing history
- View estimated meter reading dates
- Request emailed bill statements (Clay eBill).

**PROJECT SHARE** - Help others by designating a tax-deductible amount to be added to your electric bill or make a one-time donation.

**REMOTE METER READING (RMR)** - Enables a co-op meter reader to obtain the meter reading without entering the homeowner's property. The monthly charge is \$3.95.

**ENERGY SMART REBATE PROGRAM** - Offers rebates for members who install additional insulation in their homes, or who install a high efficiency heat pump or solar water heating system.

**ENERGY EFFICIENCY LOANS** - Available for the purpose of installing certain energy efficiency measures, including metal roofing and solar water heaters.

**SURGEBLASTER** - High quality surge protection equipment at a low monthly lease.

**MARATHON WATER HEATERS** - Marathon water heaters are the most energy efficient electric resistance water heater on the market and are offered in an array of sizes (15 to 105 gallons).

**LONG DISTANCE PHONE SERVICE** - Clay has contracted with TransWorld Network Corp. (TWN) to offer members competitively priced long distance phone service. Call (877) 877-CLAY (2529) for more information.

**PAYMENT STATIONS** - Clay has contracted with Fidelity Express to offer payment stations for paying your electric bill at various businesses in the co-op's service area. Fidelity Express charges \$1 for each transaction. A list of payment locations is available online ([clayelectric.com](http://clayelectric.com)) and at your local district office.

## Your co-op encourages energy conservation

Clay Electric encourages energy conservation through its communications resources and its Energy Rebate and Energy Loan programs.

Since October 2007, when Clay's Energy Rebate program began, the co-op has distributed \$352,298 in rebates with an estimated savings of over 7.2 million kWh. The energy rebates include ceiling insulation, and installation of high efficiency heat pumps and solar water heating systems. Energy conservation loans amounted to over \$500,000 in 2008.

Members can borrow for improvements such as high efficiency heat pumps, insulation, certain high efficiency appliances, high reflectance metal roofing, solar thermal water heating and solar pool heating. The cooperative believes these programs have been a huge encouragement to members to use electricity wisely and efficiently.

Please contact the co-op's Energy Services Division for information about the amounts that can be loaned for various energy efficiency improvements. Call (352) 473-8000 ext. 8263.

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Power Line is an informational publication of Clay Electric Cooperative, Inc. It is distributed monthly with members' billing statements. If you have questions or comments about the Power Line publication, contact Editor Wayne Mattox at P. O. Box 308, Keystone Heights, FL 32656; e-mail: [WMattox@clayelectric.com](mailto:WMattox@clayelectric.com).

Clay Electric also publishes the Kilowatt six times a year (January, March, May, July, September and November). The Kilowatt is the official voice of Clay Electric and has been published continuously since 1948 as an informational and educational service for co-op members.

Clay Electric's web site (<http://www.clayelectric.com>) offers lots of online services such as payments, and information about the co-op's programs and services. Members can also write their own ads online to be published on the web site's Trading Post. To enter your ad on the Trading Post, you must use your Clay Electric customer number which is printed on your electric bill statement.

Clay Electric's Board of Trustees will meet on Oct. 22 and Nov. 24 beginning at 12:30 p.m. in Keystone Heights.

The Clay Electric Cooperative, Inc. \_\_\_\_\_

# Power Line

October 2009

## Help others by donating to Project Share

The downturn in the economy has an increasing number of families finding it difficult to meet their monthly expenses. Some co-op members are having difficulty paying their electric bills. Many of these families have been receiving help with their electric bills by participating in Project Share. The co-op's Project Share program continues to receive considerable support, thanks to the generosity of Clay Electric members. However, with more families needing help, the co-op encourages you to consider participating in Project Share.

Since the program's inception in July 1997, Project Share has helped 2,607 members (through June 2009) with a total of \$361,667 in disbursements.

Project Share was created to enable members to help other members pay their electric bills during a period of financial difficulty. Clay Electric collects the Project Share donations and the Salvation Army distributes the funds based on their financial criteria.

By designating a tax-deductible amount to be added to your electric bill each month - or by sending a one-time donation - you can help others keep their lights on when times are tough. To sign up for Project Share, please call the co-op (the number listed on your bill statement).

 Clay Electric Cooperative, Inc. \_\_\_\_\_

A Triadstate Energy Cooperative 

## Annual vehicle & equipment auction will be online event

As announced in last month's *Kilowatt* newsletter, Clay Electric Co-op will offer its annual vehicle and equipment auction in November. For the first time, the auction will be held online.

Members can obtain information about the co-op's auction vehicles, plus tools, office equipment and miscellaneous products by visiting George Gideon Auctioneers' web site ([www.ggauctions.com](http://www.ggauctions.com)). The auctioneer is located in Zellwood, Fla. Their phone number is (407) 886-2211 and email address is [george@ggauctions.com](mailto:george@ggauctions.com).

Photos and information on each vehicle and other auction items will be posted on the George Gideon web site, beginning on

Nov. 5. The online auction will be held from Nov. 21 at 10 a.m. through Nov. 23 at 7 p.m. Members can view the vehicles on Nov. 19 in Keystone Heights (at the Fleet Services bldg.) from noon to 3 p.m.

Here's a list of the vehicles that will be auctioned:

*One 1998 Chevy Venture passenger van*  
*Three 1999 Chevy S-10 SWB trucks*  
*One 2000 Chevy 1-ton crew cab with utility body*  
*One 2001 Chevy C3500 with utility body*  
*Four 2003 Chevy S-10 SWB trucks*  
*Two 2003 Ford F550 cab & chassis*  
*Three 2004 Ford Ranger SWB trucks*  
*One 2005 Chevy Colorado truck*

## Report from the manager

**Ricky Davis**

General Manager/CEO



## Election will be held to fill District 4 vacancy

The co-op's Board of Trustees has decided that an election will be held early next year to fill the remaining one-year term for District 4, which was left vacant when Tommy Malphurs of Alachua passed away on Sept. 8. There will be an election in District 4 in 2011 for a full three-year term.

Trustee districts meetings for Districts 1, 8 and 9 are also slated for early next year. Laura Dean of Keystone Heights is the incumbent trustee for District 1, while Cedrick Smith of Wacahoota is the incumbent trustee of District 8. Angus Hastings of Fort McCoy is the incumbent trustee for District 9.

Two of the district meetings will be held in late January 2010 and two of the meetings will be held the following week, in early February. The candidates selected during the trustee district meetings (a maximum of two per district, per the co-op's bylaws) will be voted upon by all members of the co-op who register at our Annual Meeting, which is held the fourth Thursday in March in Keystone Heights.

Having an elected board ensures that members have an opportunity to select a fellow member to represent them on Clay Electric's board of trustees. We believe this is one of the benefits of being served by an electric cooperative, along with the annual Capital Credits refund and our emphasis on providing reliable power, excellent service and competitive rates.

## Seminole adds more biomass to its renewable energy portfolio

Seminole Electric, Clay's wholesale power supplier, will add 25 megawatts (MW) of biomass energy to its resource portfolio under a contract



Aron Pepper examines a crop of sweet sorgham at one of SRF's test plots.

signed recently with Ft. Lauderdale-based Southeast Renewable Fuels (SRF). Seminole currently meets about 4 percent of its member systems' energy needs with renewable resources.

Seminole CEO Tim Woodbury said the contract reflects their continued commitment to renewable resources and environmental stewardship.

Aron Pepper, SRF's chief executive, said they modeled the facility after well-established processes successfully deployed in places like Brazil. Southeast will grow sweet sorghum, whose seeds will be processed into ethanol. The leaves and stalks will serve as fuel for a small power gen-

eration plant. The facility is expected to go into service in late 2011. Seminole has the option of purchasing the facility's output through 2036. The new facility can also help Seminole meet forecasted growth in the demand for electricity in Florida. Seminole will continue to work with its members to slow that growth through energy efficiency and conservation initiatives.

## Clay offers email billing program

With Clay eBill, co-op members can receive electric bill statements via email instead of getting a paper bill statement in the mail. The monthly email includes the bill statement as a PDF attachment and links to important information from the co-op, such as the monthly Power Line newsletter. Clay eBill participants can pay the bill online by clicking the "pay my bill" link in the email, or utilize any of the co-op's other payment options.

To become a clay eBill participant, visit the co-op's web site at [clayelectric.com](http://clayelectric.com), log on to "my account," and click on "send me my bill by email."

For more information, contact your local district office or visit [clayelectric.com](http://clayelectric.com).