Co-opConnection



For All Your Customer Service Needs, Call Toll-Free (800) 240-3400

Automated Outage Reporting 1-888-BLUERIDGE www.blueridge.coop

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.

Board of Directors

Franklin M. Looper, Jr., *Chairman* Kenneth G. Southerlin, *Vice-Chairman* J. Mendel Stone, *Secretary* Joel R. Davis, *Treasurer* Ben G. Bolt Joel Spencer Dalton, Jr. Jimmy Lee Dodgens William G. Elrod Len D. Talley

A Touchstone Energy[®] Cooperative

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H₂O Select = big savings

IN THE FALL of 2013, Blue Ridge Electric kicked off a new member-friendly program, H_aO Select. This program is

designed to help members save on their energy costs. Those savings are potentially available to all members.

H₂O Select has far exceeded our expectations. The first 15 months of its existence saw 771 new electric water heaters

introduced into homes all across the Blue Ridge system. Those 771 happy members were also awarded a combined \$162,000 in rebates, which translates into a per-participant average of \$210.

A member can realize upfront savings from the rebate or rebates the cooperative offers to those who install an energy-efficient electric water heater at their premises. With H_2O Select, members can economize further and in an ongoing fashion because the high-efficiency design of the water-heating unit translates into lower electricity consumption. That's a benefit members can enjoy for years to come.

Here are the H₂O Select rebate options available under this program:

- ▶ Purchase of a new 40- to 79-gallon electric water heater—\$200
- Purchase of a new 80-gallon or larger electric water heater—\$300
- Switch from gas or propane to electric—\$300 bonus, for a total rebate of as much as \$600

Getting the full scoop on H_2O Select is easy: Call us at 1-800-240-3400, log onto blueridge.coop, or visit any of our local offices. Our memberservice employees would jump at the opportunity to assist you.

I now want to move beyond a discussion of hot water to the subject of warmer weather. The coming of spring heralds both the cooperative's annual meeting and our yearly charity fund-raiser, Blue Ridge Fest.

With employees already deep into preparations for both of these big events, I want to give you this early heads-up. We'll host the annual meeting this time on Thursday, April 30. Along with everything else an annual meeting includes, the musical entertainment will have a decidedly bluegrass and gospel flavor.

Friday, May 8, is the date for Blue Ridge Fest. Our Beach Night show and dance will feature an unabashedly oldies music format. The live entertainment will be provided by Johnny Tillotson ("Poetry in Motion," "It Keeps Right on Hurting"), Shirley Alston Reeves and The Shirelles ("Will You Still Love Me Tomorrow," "Baby It's You," "Soldier Boy") and The Swingin' Medallions ("Double Shot of My Baby's Love"). Of course, we'll also be expecting another 500-plus vehicles for the Upstate's largest classic-car cruise-in.

April 30 and May 8—please remember both of those dates. It would be a pleasure for me to welcome you on each of those occasions.

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Charles E. Dalton President and CEO



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Rhe Ridae News

Bolts of Brightness applications are being accepted

HAVE YOU THOUGHT of someone in your community that embodies the spirit of the cooperative program—a person that has been a Bolt of Brightness to a cause they support?



There is still time to nominate someone you admire for the Bolts of Brightness award that is part of Blue Ridge's 75th anniversary.

Later this year, we will recognize 75 members of our local communities, giving donations of \$500 to the organization or cause they represent. In your most recent bill, there is an application that can be completed and brought or mailed to our office to nominate someone for this honor. The only criteria is that they are a Blue Ridge Electric Cooperative member.

We need your help in finding the right people to receive this award. If you have any questions, please contact Denise McCormick at denise.mccormick@blueridge.coop or call her at (800) 240-3400.

S.C. co-ops help members save millions Blue Ridge is number 2 in the nation for savings

EIGHT YEARS AFTER its introduction, Touchstone Energy's Co-op Connections card remains a valuable benefit for South Carolina cooperative members.

Three co-ops in the state are national leaders in the program. Since 2007, Berkeley Electric Cooperative members saved more than \$3 million on prescription drugs —the highest number of any co-op in the country. Right behind at number two is **Blue Ridge Electric Cooperative**. Blue Ridge members saved more than \$2.8 million over the past eight years. Fourth on the list is Palmetto Electric Cooperative whose members saved more than \$2 million.

In 2014, discounts on prescription drugs reached an all-time high of 45 percent. Nationwide since 2007, Co-op Connections cardholders saved more than \$82 million on prescription drug purchases. If you have not been using your Co-op Connections Card whenever you make a trip to your pharmacy, you could be missing out on big savings. If you don't have a card, stop by any office and pick one up or go online and print your own.

Connecting members to discounts has never been easier.



The Co-op Connections mobile app provides a link to deals on everything from rental cars to dining. Last year, the Connections. coop website received more than 1.3 million page views. The SMART CHOICE for All of Your Home Security Needs



Some companies promise lots of "free stuff" if only you'll sign with them on the dotted line. We promise high quality, innovation and unwavering commitment.

Total Control App (remote access to your home)
 Local Monitoring • Burglary & Fire • Video Surveillance

 BlueVue24 (Video Alarm Verification)
 Security Gates • Automatic Standby Generators

