

# Pickwick Electric Cooperative's Annual Membership Meeting Tuesday, Sept. 11, McNairy Central High School

Activities start at 4:30 p.m.  
Business meeting starts at 7 p.m.

Displays, food,  
entertainment, door prizes

Party jumpers for the kids;  
Free hot dogs and soft drinks

Entertainment will be provided by  
the Adamsville High School Choir and  
the Renewed Gospel Ministries Quartet  
starting at 5 p.m.

Each of the first 500 members  
to register will receive a custom travel mug.

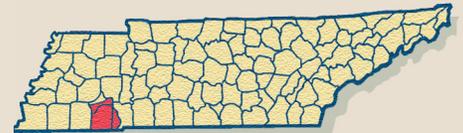
We invite everyone to attend and help us  
celebrate 72 years of service to our community.

## Scenes from the 2006 Annual Meeting



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



530 Mulberry Ave.

P.O. Box 49

Selmer, TN 38375

Phone Numbers:

(731) 645-3411

(731) 632-3333

1-800-372-8258

Web site:

[www.pickwick-electric.com](http://www.pickwick-electric.com)

These five pages contain local  
news and information  
for members of Pickwick Elec-  
tric Cooperative.





## Renewed Gospel Ministries Quartet to perform at annual meeting

The Renewed Gospel Ministries Quartet of Dyersburg will provide our members with some old-fashioned gospel music at this year's annual meeting. The group has more than 115 years of combined gospel music experience. They have recorded four albums, and their first single release climbed the Christian Country Gospel National charts, peaking at No. 10.

Over the course of their ministry experiences, either the current ministering group of men or individual members have appeared alongside some of the top gospel names, including the Kingsmen, the Florida Boys, the Cathedrals, the Chuck Wagon Gang, the Blackwood Brothers and the Spear Family.

They have been featured on TV networks numerous times over the years, including appearances on The Nashville Network, The Victory Network and the Total Christian Television Network. The group had the privilege of opening the 2006 National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics College Basketball Tournament. They were recently recognized by Gov. Phil Bredesen for their contributions to gospel music



**The Renewed Gospel Ministries Quartet from Dyersburg will perform at this year's annual meeting. From left: Mike Hoffman, Danny Presley, Charles Vaughn and Keith Ozment.**

and have been commissioned as "Ambassadors of Good Will" by the governors of nine states.

## Remember safety on your farm

Electricity is just as important on the farm as in the office today. It does, however, present more potential hazards for the farmer or rancher than the computer operator. Every year, serious accidents involving electricity occur on American farms. All it takes is a conductor — whether it's a tall piece of machinery, an antenna on a tractor or anything that gets between electric wires and the ground — and suddenly there's a very good chance that you may become a statistic. Most of these accidents can be prevented by following a few simple steps.

First, make sure that you, your family and farm workers know the location of overhead power lines and map out ways to avoid them when moving equipment. Make sure everyone understands that any contact with these lines creates a path to the ground for electricity and carries the potential for a serious, even fatal, accident.

Everyone should know the height of all your farm equipment and how high those power

lines are to prevent accidental contact. Farm grain augers and many other types of farm equipment are of such height and length that they become an excellent path to the ground. A good rule of thumb is to stay at least 10 feet away from power lines.

Be extra careful when moving irrigation pipes. Many electrical accidents on farms occur when irrigation pipes are accidentally raised into power lines. The combination can be deadly.

Avoid moving large equipment alone. Have someone watch out for you as you drive equipment to ensure that you stay clear of the power lines.

These rules also apply to guy wires that support power line poles. Damaging guy wires can weaken the poles and even cause them to topple, bringing live power lines down onto the ground and creating an extremely hazardous situation.

If you have questions about electrical safety in your home or on your farm, call Pickwick





# PEC supports McNairy County Foundation for Academic Excellence

Several years ago, Pickwick Electric Cooperative and the Tennessee Valley Authority began an alliance with the McNairy County Foundation for Academic Excellence. The foundation was chartered in 1996 and is a private, nonprofit charitable corporation. Since then approximately \$90,000 in grant money has been awarded to McNairy County teachers. The goal of the foundation is to provide community support mechanisms to fund special initiatives and to provide 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. Twenty grants in the amount of \$500 each were awarded to classrooms based upon completion and merits of the proposal. These grants are competitive among teachers, and each grant application is submitted to the Education Department of Freed-Hardeman University for evaluation.

“We believe that education begins with a firm foundation, but students in today’s world need more than the basics,” says Gene Hebert, chairman of McNairy County Foundation for



**From left are Tennessee Valley Authority Customer Services Manager Kerry Brannon, PEC President Karl Dudley and McNairy County Foundation for Academic Excellence Chairperson Gene Hebert, who accepted contributions from PEC and TVA to the foundation. The commitment to education programs for young people throughout McNairy County is a priority for PEC and TVA.**

Academic Excellence. “That’s where the foundation helps. The grants given to teachers provide funds earmarked specifically to underwrite the type of innovative instructional programs and teaching techniques that will give the students of McNairy County the edge in their fast-paced, highly competitive world. The foundation was established to work for years to come and currently has more than \$50,000 in our growing endowment. This endowment will continue to allow the foundation to spark excellence in our schools far into the future.”

Grants are awarded each year at the Teachers Appreciation

Breakfast, at which the school system also recognizes teachers and support personnel for years of service. In addition, outstanding teachers from each school in the county are recognized, and the McNairy County Outstanding Teacher receives a \$1,000 award sponsored by the foundation and funded by Henco Inc. and the Hendrix Educational Foundation.

Pickwick Electric Cooperative and TVA are proud to have supported the foundation since its inception. If you would like to support the foundation, please contact Gene Hebert at 645-3315 or 645-3255.

## Labor Day



## Holiday closing

Pickwick Electric Cooperative  
will be closed  
Monday, Sept. 3, 2007,  
for Labor Day.



# Improve your heat pump's efficiency

With winter approaching, now is a good time to have your heat pump system serviced. Heating your home requires a lot of energy, consuming the most during extreme cold period. Without regular service to your heat pump system, its efficiency can fall by as much as half. However, proper maintenance and repair can save you money and extend the life of your system.

Since heat pump systems require specialized tools to service them, it is best to hire a heating and air-conditioning technician. An annual tune-up of your heat pump system averages approximately \$50 to \$100 but can reduce your energy costs by 5 percent or more.

Here are some maintenance tips that should be performed by a professional:

- Inspect the ductwork for loose joints and other leaks. Air leaks waste energy and should be sealed with mastic tape, not duct tape.
- Check hose connections for leaks.



- Clean the blower so that it can move air more efficiently.
- Oil the motors and check the belts for tightness and wear.
- Verify the airflow by measurement. Improper airflow can affect efficiency.
- Clean the indoor evaporator and outdoor condenser coil.
- Check the refrigerant charge and adjust it if needed. Remember that the law requires refrigerant to be recaptured when heat pump systems are recharged.
- Straighten any bent fins on the condenser and evaporator coils.
- Inspect the electric terminals.
- Make sure to clean and tighten the connections.
- Inspect the thermostat to ensure that it provides a reliable reading.
- Install a programmable thermostat to adjust your home's temperature automatically. This thermostat increases the temperature setting while you're gone and then returns the home to a more comfortable setting before you return.

Install a new heat pump through the *energy right*<sup>®</sup> program.

Contact Pickwick Electric Cooperative for your heating and cooling needs.

- Loans are available for up to \$10,000 on one unit and \$12,500 on two units for those who qualify.
- Payments are added to your monthly electric bill.
- Units may be financed up to 120 months.
- Choose a quality contractor approved by the Tennessee Valley Authority.

## Interest rate

# 8%

