

In Memoriam:

John Eisinger

Manager of Engineering Services



February 6, 1961 - March 2, 2011

John, a brilliant and talented engineer, performed his duties with a sense of pride and commitment to the members of this cooperative. But he will be remembered more for his generous heart, gentle manner and wonderful sense of humor.

GEC IS PROUD OF PAGEANT WINNERS

Congratulations are in order for two young ladies, with Glades Electric ties, for their recent performance in the Glades County Chalo Nitka Pageant. Miss **Mattie Bass** was named 2011 Junior Miss Chalo Nitka and Miss **Briana Leavy** was named 2011 Chalo Nitka Princess. Chalo Nitka, which is Seminole for "Big Bass", is a festival that originated in 1948. Over the years the Annual Chalo Nitka Festival has evolved into a weeklong series of events that showcase the southern hospitality of Glades County and our friends from the Seminole Tribe of Florida.

2011 Chalo Nitka Princess, Briana Leavy, is a 4th grader at Moore Haven Elementary School. She enjoys reading, playing softball, and listening to the music of Michael Jackson. When asked what she likes most about being the Chalo Nitka Princess, she stated, "I enjoy riding on the parade floats." Briana is the proud daughter of Roshard and Maria Leavy of Moore Haven, FL. Roshard is a 15 year veteran of Glades Electric Cooperative and works as our Lead Substation Man. Briana would like to thank her sponsor Dr. Genevia Boyd of People Who Care, Inc. in Clewiston, FL. She would also like to thank Glenn and Sheila Ford for their support. Ms. Ford, Briana's godmother and a 5th grade teacher at Moore Haven Elementary, pushed Briana to enter the pageant. Good thing she did, Briana won in her first ever pageant experience.

2011 Junior Miss Chalo Nitka, Mattie Bass, is a freshman at Moore Haven High School. She runs track, plays softball and is a member of FFA and 4H. She enjoys classic country music, working cows, riding her horse and spending time with her family. After high school she plans on attending the University of Florida. Mattie stated, "I look forward to representing our area and the Chalo Nitka Committee as Junior Miss Chalo Nitka." Mattie is the proud daughter of Ladd and Renee Bass of Venus, FL. Ladd sits on the Glades Electric Cooperative Board of Trustees and represents our members in District 5, Venus and Hicoria. Mattie would like to thank her sponsor Superior Livestock Auction and her family for all of their support.

Glades Electric Cooperative is proud to be headquartered here in Moore Haven, FL and of our ties to these two wonderful pageant winners. Congratulations Briana and Mattie on a job well done. We know you will do a great job representing our area and we wish you nothing but the best in your future endeavors. Congratulations are also in order for; 2011 Chalo Nitka Queen, Kelsey Ahern; 2011 Little Miss Chalo Nitka, Emily Paige Woznick; 2011 Tiny Miss Chalo Nitka, Alayna Jai Palladino; 2011 Baby Miss Chalo Nitka, Sa'Nyree Myers; 2011 Junior Mr. Chalo Nitka, Daven Buck; 2011 Tiny Mr. Chalo Nitka, Taser Watts; and 2011 Baby Mr. Chalo Nitka, Jaron Lee Hough.



2011 Chalo Nitka Princess, Briana Leavy



2011 Junior Miss Chalo Nitka, Mattie Bass

RUS Financing: Helping Keep Electric Bills Affordable (And Making Money for Uncle Sam, Too!)

For 75 years, the nation's 900-plus member-owned, not-for-profit electric cooperatives have worked hard to improve the rural quality of life. Today, electric co-ops generate, transmit, and distribute electricity to 18 million homes, businesses, industries, retail centers, schools, churches, farms, airports, and irrigation systems in 47 states, serving 42 million total consumers.

Now, some members of Congress are considering massive cuts to and possible elimination of various government programs, including loans provided to electric co-ops through the Rural Utilities Service (RUS).

"Such a move is not only short-sighted but will imperil the delivery of safe, reliable, and affordable electric service to all corners of the country," warns NRECA CEO Glenn English. "Even worse, it will wipe out a small source of income to the U.S. Treasury and sever a successful private-public partnership that led to what some call the greatest technological achievement of the twentieth century—the electrification of rural America."

As of 2011, electric co-ops have invested more than \$140 billion to construct critical facilities spanning 75 percent of the United States, including 66,000 miles of bulk transmission lines and 2.5 million miles of distribution lines—42 percent of the nation's total. Co-ops also generate roughly 5 percent of U.S. electricity capacity, distribute 10 percent of all kilowatt-hours sold, employ more than 70,000, and pay more than \$1.4 billion annually in state and local taxes.

The key to helping electric co-ops "keep the lights on" in some of the most sparsely populated and rugged areas of America for more than seven decades has been a small federal investment through RUS, known until October 1994 as the Rural Electrification Administration. Over their history RUS loans have recorded a miniscule delinquency rate of 0.004 percent.

"Federal assistance for electric utilities is not unique," English stresses. "For-profit, investor-owned utilities [IOUs] receive tax breaks while city-owned municipal electric systems are able to issue tax-exempt bonds."

A COMPARISON OF ELECTRIC UTILITIES SHOWS:

Privately owned electric co-ops serve an average of 7.0 consumers and receive annual revenue of \$10,565 per mile of line. Based on current interest rates, RUS loans (with an average interest rate of 4.67 percent, compared to the government's cost of borrowing at 4.28 percent) actually make money for the U.S. Treasury—approximately \$51 million in 2010.

Stockholder-driven IOUs average 35 customers and collect \$62,665 in revenue per mile of line. In virtually every case, IOUs charge electric rates that include amounts for presumed federal tax liabilities. However, available tax

breaks (investment tax credits and accelerated depreciation) allow IOUs to retain most of the taxes collected, a total of roughly \$81 billion to date. At a cost to the government of \$3.5 billion in 2008 (the last year available), this federal subsidy to IOUs works out to about \$34 per customer.

Publicly owned municipal electric systems average 47 consumers and collect \$86,302 in revenue per mile of line. The federal government loses revenue when municipals issue tax-exempt bonds because interest paid to bond owners is not taxed. The cost of this subsidy in 2003 (the last year available) was \$909 million, or \$55 per consumer.

"In short, RUS electric loans do not cost taxpayers a single penny," English comments. "Coupled with strong and innovative management and local, consumer-owned and controlled governance, electric cooperatives have used RUS financing to adapt to industry challenges, construct and maintain electric networks capable of serving consumers across even the most remote terrain, and, most importantly, keep electric rates affordable—an important consideration since household incomes in co-op service territories are 14 percent lower than the national average."

With electric co-ops anticipating \$66.1 billion in capital needs over the next five years and \$140.8 billion over the next decade to upgrade aging infrastructure, connect new consumers, and build needed power plants, gutting a time-tested loan program that doesn't cost the government any money—and shutting off a source of financing to rural communities that can't be replaced—simply makes no sense, English says. "Unfortunately, due to decisions made by the White House Office of Management and Budget in 2007, RUS is currently prevented from making loans for coal, natural gas, or nuclear baseload generation. The Obama administration has sought to extend RUS lending restrictions to intermediate and peaking natural gas-fired generation and power plant environmental upgrades as well. Taken together, these moves would limit RUS electric loans only for renewable energy systems, transmission, distribution, and carbon capture projects at existing coal- and natural gas-burning power plants. Yet federal subsidies for all types of generation continue to flow to IOUs and municipal utilities."

As Congress recognized more than seven decades ago, a safe, reliable, and affordable supply of power remains the linchpin to economic growth and job creation. "The unique, long-standing relationship between electric cooperatives and RUS helps ensure that all Americans, no matter where they may live, have access to a vibrant electric grid able to meet twenty-first century demands," English concludes.

—NRECA.

Persons with Special Needs

A Registry for You!

Assistance During Emergencies

As required by Florida Statute 252.355, your electric cooperative is notifying its members who may have special needs during emergencies the availability of registration programs for assistance through your local counties.

Florida Statute 252.355: Registry of persons with special needs notice:

In order to meet the special needs of persons who would need assistance during evacuations and sheltering because of physical, mental, or sensory disabilities, each local emergency management agency in the state shall maintain a registry of persons with special needs located within the jurisdiction of the local agency. The registration shall identify those persons in need of assistance and plan for resource allocation to meet those identified needs. To assist the local emergency management agency in identifying such persons, the Department of Children and Family Services, Department of Health, Agency for Health Care Administration, Department of Labor and Employment Security, and Department of Elderly Affairs shall provide registration information to all of their special needs clients and to all incoming clients as a part of the intake process. The registry shall be updated annually. The registration program shall give persons with special needs the option of preauthorizing emergency response personnel to enter their homes during search and rescue operations if necessary to assure their safety and welfare following disasters.

All records, data, information, correspondence, and communications relating to the registration of persons with special needs as provided in subsection (1) are confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.01 (1), except that such information shall be available to other emergency response agencies, as determined by the local emergency management director.

If you have needs that require special assistance in the event of local evacuations and sheltering, please contact one of the agencies below to complete a registration application. Applications must be updated annually.

GLADES COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Phone: (863) 946-6020

HENDRY COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Phone: (863) 674-5400

HIGHLANDS COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Phone: (863) 385-1112

OKEECHOBEE COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Phone: (863) 763-3212



ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS!!

If you would like information on what Florida Rural Electric Credit Union has to offer, please contact your local Human Resources Manager, Ms. Yvonne Bradley at 1-800-226-4024. She is available to answer any questions and/or assist you in filling out forms. You may also call FRECU direct at the number provided below.



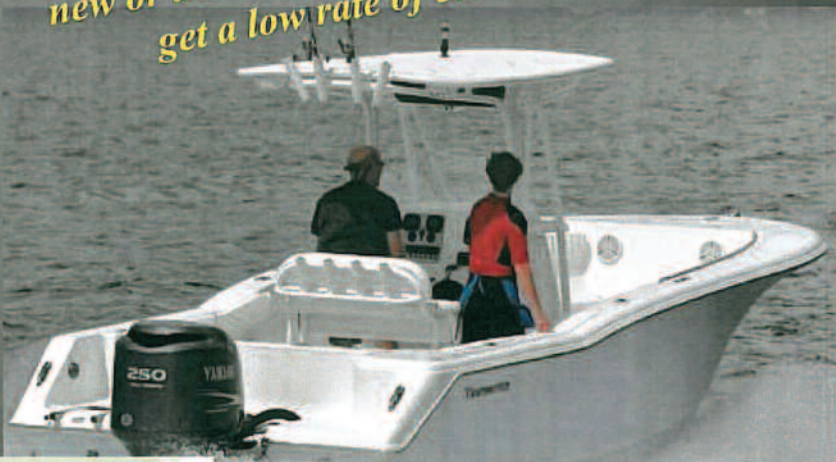
frecu
FLORIDA RURAL ELECTRIC CREDIT UNION

PO Box 1697
Tallahassee, FL 32302
800-542-1246
WWW.FRECU.ORG

For the best in:

- New and Used Auto Loans
- VISA Credit Cards
- Home Equity Loans
- Line of Credit Loans
- Savings Accounts
- Checking Accounts
- CD's and IRA's
- VISA Debit Cards
- Home Banking
- Bill Payer
- Audio Response

It's time to buy your summer toy with a FRECU boat loan!!! Purchase a new or used boat (2006 or newer) and get a low rate of 5.88%!!!



The Credit Union for Electric Co-op Employees

Call Now 1-800-542-1246!!



MAR 2011



Over 75% of our Members continue to participate in this very worthwhile program. Operation Round Up® assists people in our service area who have exhausted the normal avenues of financial assistance. Sign up today! And your electric bill will be rounded to the nearest dollar and placed into the Roundup fund for deserving individuals and organizations.

As of February 28th, 2011 your Charitable Trust Board of Directors has approved **\$643,493.44 in disbursements**. These funds have provided assistance with food, emergency lodging, disaster relief, and specific emergency needs for **431 individuals** and or families and **90 community organizations**. The Trust **does not** fund utility bills (electric, phone, water and gas) or budgets of organizations. Organizations who are involved in our service counties may apply for funding for a specific need or project. The Board of Directors meets monthly to review applications for funding. If you know of a needy individual who deserves some assistance and lives within our service area, please help them complete an application or encourage them to fill one out themselves. Applications can be picked up at each of our three offices: Moore Haven, Lake Placid and Okeechobee.

APRIL REGULAR MEETING: APRIL 27, 2011

The Charitable Trust Board of Directors:

Barbara Hughes.....District 1Moore Haven
 Beverly EavesDistrict 2Hendry County
 Kelly Brantley.....District 3Ortona & Palmdale
 Doris EvansDistrict 4Lakeport
 Lewis Dixson.....District 5Venus & Hicoria

Lee AndrusDistrict 6Highlands Park
 Audrey Vickers.....District 7Lorida
 David Mc Cadam...District 8Lake Josephine
 Josephine Glenn.....District 9Okeechobee



**CHURCH
OF THE MONTH**

**Tabernaculo Pentecostal
Elim - Montura**

245 Avenida Del Club
 Clewiston, FL 33440

THIS MONTH'S WINNERS OF THE \$25.00 CREDIT ARE...

Santos Dones #77780714-01
 Bryan Evans #111973-01

Winners only: Just sign your name to this page
 mail it to FLM \$25.00 Credit
 Glades Electric Cooperative
 P. O. Box 519, Moore Haven, FL 33471.
 or give us a call at 1-800-226-4024

Co-op News

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

John "Jack" Coxe, President, District 8
Lake Josephine, (863) 655-3056

Shannon Hall, Vice-President, District 4
Lakeport & Brighton, (863) 946-3242

Russell Henderson, Secretary/Treasurer,
District 3
Ortona & Palmdale, (863) 946-0865

Donnie Lundy, Trustee, District 1
Moore Haven, (863) 946-0402

Barney Goodman, Trustee, District 2
Hendry County, (863) 983-7324

Ladd Bass, Trustee, District 5
Venus & Hicoria, (863) 441-2227

Lee Henderson, Trustee, District 6
Highlands Park, (863) 699-1859

James "Jim" Aul, Trustee, District 7
Lorida, (863) 655-2565

Irene Lofton, Trustee, District 9
Okeechobee, (863) 467-1219

SENIOR STAFF

Tommy Todd	General Manager and CEO
Jeff Brewington	Chief Financial Officer
Paul McGehee	Business Development Manager
Jody Dotson	Power Supply Manager
Gwen Valentine	Executive Assistant
John Eisinger	Engineering Services Manager
Yvonne Bradley	Manager of Human Resources

MONTHLY MEETING

Glades Electric's Board normally meets the 4th Thursday of each month at 9:00 a.m. at the Co-op offices in Moore Haven, Lake Placid or Okeechobee. The April board meeting will be held on Thursday, April 28, at 9:00 a.m. in the Moore Haven office. If the meeting date or location is changed, a notice will be posted in all co-op offices.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS TO CALL IN CASE OF POWER INTERRUPTION

1 (800) 226-4024	Moore Haven
1 (800) 226-4025	Lake Placid
1 (800) 226-4023	Okeechobee

GEC's telephones are answered 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, including weekends and holidays.

Please have your Location Number or Account Number handy when you call.

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW

GLADES
Electric Cooperative, Inc.



I THOUGHT ALL HOMES WERE MANUFACTURED EQUALLY.

Apparently not. All I did was ask the right questions, and now I have an ENERGY STAR® qualified home that helps me keep my energy bills as low as possible. I'm saving money just by asking a few questions. What can you do? Find out what to look for when buying a manufactured home at TogetherWeSave.com.

GLADES
Electric Cooperative, Inc.
TOGETHERWESAVE.COM



Energy Efficiency

Tip of the Month

Check your HVAC system's air filter monthly. If it looks dirty, change it. A dirty filter makes your system work harder.

Source: U.S. Department of Energy