South Central Power Co.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Offices

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CANAL WINCHESTER
10229 Busey Road
Canal Winchester, OH 43110
614-837-4351
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2100 Chickasaw Drive
Circleville, OH 43113
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1-800-206-0745

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Hillsboro, OH 45133
937-393-3421
1-800-207-0020

BARNESVILLE
37801 Barnesville-Bethesda Rd.
Barnesville, OH 43713
740-425-4018
1-800-468-4717

OFFICE HOURS:
Monday through Friday
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
www.southcentralpower.com

Keep This Number

When reporting an outage, an automated outage reporting system may answer your call. It may ask for your 12-digit account number to help locate the outage site. This number is found on your monthly bill. It's handy to write it down and keep it near the phone.

Suggestions

Please send your *Country Living* story ideas or comments to the attention of Lisa R. Hooker at South Central's Lancaster office.

SOUTH CENTRAL POWER COMPANY

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

South Central Power Company
72nd Annual Meeting
Thursday, August 21, 2008
Fairfield County Fairgrounds in Lancaster

Morning Session

10:30 a.m. Meeting called to order — Ken Davis, Chairman
Salute to the Colors and Invocation
Welcome — Ken Davis
Report of the Secretary — Thomas Lamb
Report of the Treasurer — James Evans
Report of the President — Ralph Luffler
Announcement of election of trustees
Prize drawings (including morning grand prize)
Adjourn for lunch

Catered lunch provided by Canal Winchester FFA Alumni, courtesy of South Central Power.

Afternoon Session

1:00 p.m. Entertainment — Jimmy Fortune
Prize drawings (including afternoon grand prize)
Adjournment

Master of Ceremonies — Stanley C. Robinson

Don't miss all of the exciting and informative displays, too!

Jimmy Fortune to entertain

Often called "the greatest tenor voice in country music," Jimmy Fortune joined the Statler Brothers in 1982. The next year he wrote the group's second Number 1 hit, *Elizabeth.*

He followed that with three more Number 1 hits: *My Only Love* in 1984, *Too Much on My Heart* in 1985 and *Forever* in 1986.

Fortune spent 21 years touring and performing with the Statler Brothers. During that time he performed twice at the White House.

When the other members of the Statler Brothers retired in 2002, Fortune seized the opportunity to launch a solo career. His most recent solo CD, *Feels Like Christmas*, was released in 2006. He's presently writing songs for his next project.

All electricity is not the same

by EDSON KINDLER, vice president of customer services

The basics of electricity are constant.

Electrons flow through electric wire to do work. But how those electrons get into the electric wire, and more importantly when, can be quite different.

Most consumers are unaware that electricity can be generated in various ways. Each type of generation plays a different role in meeting our overall demand for electricity.

Baseload generation. A baseload electric generation plant produces electricity 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. They are the reliable workhorses of the electric industry, and generally use coal, nuclear or water (hydroelectric) to generate power.

The amount of energy from baseload plants can be scaled up or down, depending on consumers' demand for electricity at any given time.

Our Energy, Our Future
A Dialogue With America

However, they must operate at approximately 50 percent of capacity to "keep the fires burning," so to speak. A baseload electric generation plant shuts down only for maintenance. Once it does so, it requires days or even weeks to come back on line and once again generate electricity.

Peaking plants. When consumer demand for electricity nears the maximum capacity of a baseload generating plant, peaking plants can be brought into service very quickly, often in a matter of minutes.

They typically use natural gas or diesel fuel to power an engine that turns a turbine to produce electricity.

Unlike baseload plants, peaking plants are designed and licensed to operate only for relatively short periods of time, usually less than 24 hours at one time.

While less expensive to construct than baseload plants, peaking plants are considerably more expensive to operate. That's especially true today with the increasing price of natural gas and diesel fuel.

Renewable generation. Renewable energy sources are getting a lot of attention lately.

While solar and wind are the most commonly discussed, renewable sources also include various forms of biomass, such as landfill gas, biodigesters and biodiesel.

Solar and wind are categorized as intermittent electric generators, because they produce electricity only when the sun is shining or the wind is blowing.

Biomass is more constant, and can be used either as baseload or peaking power.

The differences matter. Whether an electric generation source is defined as baseload, peaking or intermittent has a great deal to do with its reliability in producing electricity.

As consumer demand for electricity rises and falls throughout a particular day or seasonally during the year, electricity from baseload and peaking generation sources can be "dispatched" when and where it is needed. Intermittent resources cannot.

Wind and solar generation require baseload plants to be kept in reserve, so electricity keeps flowing when the wind stops or slows significantly enough that electric generation drops. The same applies to the sunshine.

This aspect of wind and solar frequently is overlooked in discussions of their use.

Additionally, the nation's transmission grid is what moves electricity from place to place. Its infrastructure no longer is adequate to take on an abundance of additional electricity, regardless of how it is generated. In general, additional transmission capacity is needed to meet consumers' growing electric needs.

The entire picture. Most certainly, renewables will be a growing part of America's energy mix. But their limitations must be as understood as their benefits if they are to play a meaningful role in securing a reliable energy future for our country.

Intermittent electric generation sources such as solar and wind can offset the use of coal, nuclear or other baseload-produced energy when the conditions are right.

Renewables by themselves, however, cannot replace the need for additional construction of new coal, nuclear or other baseload electric generation plants that serve as their backup when the conditions are not adequate to meet consumers' electric needs.

South Central Power members are encouraged to go to www.ourenergy.coop and begin (or continue) the dialogue with their elected officials in Washington, DC about energy policy.

Commercial Point's Grand Prix of Karting

And they're off! The flagger starts a go-kart race at the 2007 Commercial Point Grand Prix. Photo by Jokers Glamour Shots and Design.

by LISA HOOKER

Commercial Point is expecting nearly 20,000 fans from across the country for its Grand Prix of Karting this month.

About 500 racers flock to the Pickaway County village from across the U.S. for two days of competition.

"We have races for kids, adults and professionals. They range from eight years old to 70," says Lt. Mike Casto of the Scioto Township Fire Department.

The Grand Prix is presented by the fire department and corporate sponsors.

The go-karts. "Most NASCAR and Indy car drivers got their start in KART racing," says Casto, who also is clerk of the course.

"These are performance go-karts. In the pro classes, they average about 70 miles per hour in the straightaway," he says.

The go-karts sit just a few inches above the ground and have a custom-fitted seat. They're built to be aerodynamic and lightweight.

The go-karts use various types of engines. "Some racers use a four-cycle engine. Others have shifting engines like a motorcycle," Casto says.

The races. The village's downtown streets close for the entire weekend.

"The Grand Prix is a half-mile race through the streets of Commercial Point. The course has right and left turns, straightaways and elevations up and down," Casto says.

"We're one of only maybe seven or eight street races left. Most go-kart races are held on tracks," says Allan Goldhardt, Commercial Point mayor. He's also track announcer.

The professional racers drive 15 laps around the course and compete for cash. Casto says a "quick lap" would be about 45 seconds.

Amateur racers drive 10 laps and compete for merchandise and trophies.

The fastest practice laps in each class determine the starting positions. "That puts the fastest karts in front," Casto says.

Every driver and go-kart are weighed before and after each race. The minimum combined weight is 375 pounds for adults and 275 pounds for juniors.

"The races are scored using a computerized transponder in each go-kart that records when they cross over two wires at the start and finish lines. The race isn't so much concerned with the times, because winners are determined by the order of the finish," says Goldhardt.

Safety is an important consideration, in large part because of the speeds.

"We have flaggers and emergency medical personnel at each corner, so accidents can be responded to immediately," Casto says.

The Grand Prix follows the World KARTING Association rules and specifications. It's a non-points race, but drivers do earn points toward their local go-kart club standings.

Community commitment. Grand Prix proceeds benefit the Scioto Township Fire Department's Firemen's Association. It funds equipment, various items at the firehouse and events promoted by the fire department.

"It's a lot more than a fundraiser for us. Other local organizations raise money, too. We only allow local vendors, so all of the money stays in our community," Casto say.

"It's really a celebration. Everyone helps out. The schools, Boy Scouts, community organizations," Goldhardt says.

Commercial Point, a community of 1,000 residents, has hosted the Grand Prix intermittently since 1968.

"It's a really unique event that has come to be associated with Commercial Point. It takes a special community to do this, and we all overlook any inconvenience. We're glad to welcome the racers and the fans," Goldhardt says.

The 2008 Commercial Point Grand Prix will be held Aug. 9 and 10, rain or shine. Admission is free. For details, visit www.cpgrandprix.com or call 614-877-9124.

Bachman wins third in state scholarship

Ohio Rural Electric Cooperatives, Inc. (OREC) President and CEO Tony Ahern congratulates Krystin Bachman on being chosen the third-place winner in the statewide college scholarship competition. She represented South Central Power at the state event held in May in Columbus. Bachman earned a $1,500 scholarship from OREC. In all, 47 students from 24 Ohio electric Cooperatives competed for $19,300 in state scholarship funds. The daughter of Cheryl and Doug Majors of Lancaster, Bachman is a Bloom-Carroll High School graduate who will attend The Ohio State University.

Annual Youth Tour

Students see nation's capital

Asa Finley of Ashville was South Central Power's representative to the annual Youth Tour.

The high school student was among the 35 Ohio youth who visited Washington, DC June 13-19. In all, nearly 1,500 students representing 44 states participated.

Finley attends Teays Valley High School and is the son of Paul and Valerie Finley.

Asa Finley represented South Central Power at NRECA's annual Youth Tour to Washington, DC this summer.

National Rural Electric Cooperative Association sponsors the Youth Tour. For decades, it has combined the fun and excitement of meeting peers from across the country with the educational, historical and sight-seeing opportunities offered at the nation's capital and surrounding areas.

During the trip, the youth visited their Congressional representative's office. They also toured the Capitol and the U.S. Supreme Court. They saw the White House, Library of Congress and Arlington National Cemetery. The students also toured the Roosevelt, Jefferson, Lincoln, World War II and Vietnam memorials, as well as other national landmarks.

Additionally, the Youth Tour offers an opportunity to learn more about the electric Cooperative movement and its history.

Help your Co-op thwart copper thieves

Copper theft remains in the headlines, and it's impacting your electric Cooperative.

South Central Power asks its consumers, especially those living nearby to Cooperative facilities, to keep a watchful eye for any suspicious activity.

For your safety, do not approach anyone. Call law enforcement and South Central Power if something seems amiss at an office, substation or along an electric line.

Some thieves have been so brazen as to remove electric wire from the Cooperative's electric poles when the lines are energized.

In addition to the obvious safety hazards for the thieves and Co-op employees who unknowingly walk into unsafe situations, the material replacement costs are significant. Ongoing copper thefts and associated vandalism do impact customers' bills, because the increased costs impact the Co-op's finances. As a not-for-profit entity, South Central Power passes the increased costs through to consumers.

These incidents continue to occur, despite South Central Power's security enhancements. Several security measures, including surveillance cameras, have been installed at a number of locations.

The Cooperative reports all damage and thefts to the appropriate law enforcement agency. When and if the perpetrators are found, South Central Power will prosecute to the full extent of the law.

Thank you to the consumers who have contacted us in the past about suspicious activity.