

May 2010

# Carolina country



A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

## 2010 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

*Ashe County High School – Saturday, June 12, 2010*

### THIS MONTH'S FEATURES

Capital  
Credits

Board  
Elections

**INSIDE  
THIS ISSUE:**



### 2010 NOMINEES FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Lawrence Jr.



Edwards



McNeill



Joines

Jeff Joines  
Caldwell District

James Burl (JB)  
Lawrence Jr.  
Watauga District

Bradley McNeill  
Ashe District

Bryan Edwards  
Alleghany District

[www.BlueRidgeEMC.com](http://www.BlueRidgeEMC.com)



### 2010 Annual Membership Meeting

The 2010 Annual Membership Meeting of your cooperative will be held Saturday, June 12, at Ashe County High School. The nominees listed above will be voted on to fill four available Board seats for this year's election. Plan to join us for the most important member meeting of the year!

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2010 Nominees



**JEFF JOINES**  
Caldwell District

- Blue Ridge Electric Board since 1998
- Vice President, Board of Directors, Blue Ridge Electric
- Retired, Judicial Division Administrator, N.C. Department of Correction/Division of Community Corrections
- Chairman, Corporate Officers Group, Blue Ridge Electric
- Member, Finance and Rates Committee, Blue Ridge Electric
- Past Chairman, Caldwell District Member Advisory Committee, Blue Ridge Electric
- Member, City of Lenoir Economic Development Board
- Treasurer, N.C. District 7 Little League Baseball
- President, Charter Member, Caldwell Rotary Club
- Paul Harris Fellow, Rotary
- Graduate, Appalachian State University



**JAMES BURL (J.B.) LAWRENCE JR.**  
Watauga District

- Blue Ridge Electric Board since 2002
- Chair, Finance and Rates Committee, Blue Ridge Electric
- Chair, Transparency and Voting Committee, Blue Ridge Electric
- Mayor, Town of Blowing Rock
- Executive Board Member, High Country Council of Governments
- Board of Directors, Blowing Rock Chamber of Commerce
- Member, Blowing Rock Rotary Club
- Member, Three Forks Baptist Association Budget and Finance Committee
- Member, First Baptist Church Blowing Rock, Chair of Stewardship Committee
- Former Councilman, Blowing Rock Town Council
- Former member, Blowing Rock Rescue Squad
- Former Member, Blowing Rock Volunteer Fire Dept.



**BRADLEY MCNEILL**  
Ashe District

- Blue Ridge Electric Board since 2004
- Credentialed Cooperative Director
- Member, Compensation Committee, Blue Ridge Electric
- Chairman, Ashe Facilities Committee, Blue Ridge Electric
- Chairman, State Director's Conference 2008
- Retired Principal, Ashe County High School
- Member, Board of Trustees, Ashe Memorial Hospital
- Board Member, Wilkes-Ashe-Watauga Scholarship Endowment
- President, Ashe Chapter of North Carolina Community Foundation
- Member/Deacon, West Jefferson First Baptist Church
- Member/Past Master, Ashe Masonic Lodge
- Former Member/Past President, Jefferson Rotary Club—Paul Harris Fellow



**BRYAN LEE EDWARDS**  
Allegheny District

- Blue Ridge Electric Board since 2007
- Town Manager, Town of Sparta
- Former Logistics Clerk, United States Army
- Graduate, Appalachian State University and Allegheny High School
- Attended North Carolina Institute of Government
- Director, Grayson National Bank
- Treasurer, Allegheny County Economic Development Commission
- Member, Region D Development Corporation
- Chairman, Virginia/Carolina Water Authority
- Member, Blue Ridge Development Center
- Member, Allegheny Group Homes, Inc.
- Past president, Allegheny County Chamber of Commerce

# 2010 Nominating Committee

## Caldwell District

Monteen German  
Kelly Melton  
Elaine Setzer-Maxwell  
William Hyatt (Alternate)  
Veronica McDougle (Alternate)

## Watauga District

Margaret Pierce\*\*  
Rick Coffey  
Colleen Murray  
Web Alexander (Alternate)  
Farrell Sheppard (Alternate)

## Ashe District:

Brent Graybeal  
Marty Norris\*  
Robin Marlow  
Amy Dollar (Alternate)  
April Holdaway (Alternate)

## Alleghany District

Dan Abernathy  
Roger Schweickert  
Donna Moore  
Greg Bare (Alternate)

\*Chairman

\*\*Vice-Chairman

# Nominating Committee Report

One of the advantages of belonging to a cooperative is that your Board of Directors are nominated and elected by fellow members of your cooperative. Members of Blue Ridge Electric have the opportunity to elect directors from the membership during the Annual Membership Meeting. As part of this process, a Nominating Committee made up of 12 cooperative members is appointed by the Board of Directors and charged with recommending a slate of qualified candidates to present to the membership to fill available Board seats.

A slate of qualified Board candidates is created through the Nominating Committee and the nomination by petition processes. This election process by the membership using key criteria for Board nominees helps ensure strong leadership of the cooperative with a diverse group of Board members reflecting skills including business experience, financial expertise, prior Board experience, strategic planning, leadership abilities, and alignment with cooperative culture and values. Candidates must also meet basic qualifications to serve as a director according to the cooperative's bylaws which can be obtained at any Blue Ridge Electric office or at [www.BlueRidgeEMC.com](http://www.BlueRidgeEMC.com).

After thorough review and consideration, the 2010 Nominating Committee recommends the candidates listed on the front cover pages of this publication to fill four available Board seats for this year's election. All candidates are incumbent directors and are running unopposed for the Caldwell, Watauga, Ashe and Alleghany district seats.

The nominees were determined through a process that includes a review of incumbent candidates and consideration of qualified new candidates, as well as a nomination by petition process. The nomination by petition process, which is communicated each year in the January issue of the member newsletter, requires a petition to be signed by 15 or more members who are in good standing with the cooperative. The petition must be submitted on or before the first business day in April. No nominations by petition were received by this year's deadline date of April 1, 2010.

Blue Ridge Electric Board of Directors



**Front Row:** **Kenneth Greene** - President – Ashe District **Joy Coffey** - Secretary-Treasurer – Watauga District  
**Charity Gambill-Gwyn** - Asst. Secretary-Treasurer – Alleghany District and Director-at-Large **Jeff Joines** - Vice President – Caldwell District

**Back Row:** **Bryan Edwards** - Alleghany District **Clayton Cooke** - Watauga District **Bradley McNeill** - Ashe District **David Boone** - Ashe District  
**Martha McKnight** - Alleghany District **J.B. Lawrence Jr.** - Watauga District **David Eggers** - Caldwell District **Jimmy Hemphill** - Caldwell District

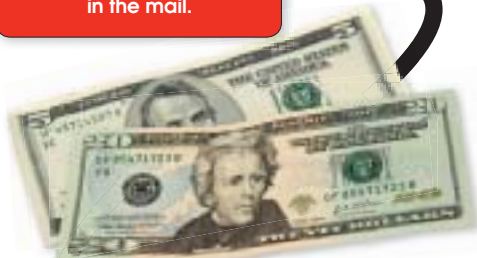
# Coming to **you** in May

because you are a member-owner of Blue Ridge Electric



## Your Blue Ridge Electric **capital credits** are here!

Members whose capital credits refunds are \$25 or more receive a check in the mail.



Members whose capital credits refunds are less than \$25 will receive a credit on their May electric bill.

You own part of Blue Ridge Electric, along with the other members who receive electric services. Capital credits represent each member's ownership of the cooperative. Our members are receiving capital credits refunds in May and these funds represent your share of the margins recently retired by your Board of Directors.

Members who are due a capital credits refund of \$25 or more will receive a check in the mail. Those due less than \$25 will receive a credit on their May bill. Your ongoing use of the cooperative's electric services and the efficient management of Blue Ridge Electric continue to build your capital credits account.

*We are happy to be able to provide this good news to our member-owners in these challenging economic times.*

