



The **Electrifier**

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APRIL 2011

"Owned by those we serve"

MARSHALL, NC

Come Join Us on May 7th for Our Annual Meeting Madison High School - Marshall, NC

Registration: 3:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Business Meeting: 6:30 p.m.

Health Fair: 3:00 to 5:30 p.m.

Includes blood pressure checks, cholesterol and glucose level screenings, bone density assessments, glaucoma screenings and information from health care professionals.

Roving Entertainment: 3:00 to 5:30 p.m.

Bill Grimsley has the unique ability to entertain, challenge, encourage and connect with youngsters through senior adults with a fast-paced, high-energy comedy illusion show. He has won six separate awards for his close-up and stage performances and is a member of the International Brotherhood of Magicians. As a full-time professional entertainer since 1986, Bill has performed in Australia, New Zealand, Fiji, Brazil, China, Hong Kong, Germany and throughout the United States for corporate and private special events.



More Entertainment: 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Featured entertainment will be The Primitive Quartet, who has been travelling and singing gospel music for thirty-seven years. Today, they travel approximately fifty thousand miles a year and do about one hundred fifty dates annually. Their music is the traditional mountain shape note style singing accompanied by acoustical instruments including the mandolin, banjo, fiddle, guitars and acoustic bass.

***Cash Door Prizes
will be given away follow-
ing the business meeting***



Manager's Report



Jeff Loven

The Effects of Natural Disasters.....Immediate and Long Term

On March 11th, an earthquake that measured 8.9 in magnitude struck northeast Japan with a 33-foot tsunami wave to follow. The devastation was massive and was seen as far as six miles inland. Towns were destroyed, thousands of people lost their lives, and tens of thousands are still missing. The pictures and videos we have seen are horrific, reminding us that this is one of the worst natural disasters the modern world has ever witnessed. Unfortunately, the earthquake and tsunami not only created immediate damage to Japan, but the after effects of these natural disasters could be much more destructive and the long term damage may not be known for years.

The greatest concern now is what is happening with the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant. There is not a lot of reliable information right now and most do not understand the makeup of a nuclear power plant so maybe we should examine what a nuclear reactor really is: it is a giant, glowing red-hot coal, or at least that is a simple way of describing it. Nuclear reactors, just like fossil fuel-burning power plants, make electricity by heating up water, which turns into steam and drives a turbine, which powers a generator.

To use another analogy, the nuclear fission which creates this heat is a bit like the chaos you would get if you toppled a giant pyramid of canned tomatoes. First, one can falls, then it bounces off several more cans, knocking those over, and then they all bounce downhill, creating an ever-expanding chain reaction. And each time a can hits another can, it produces a spark of heat.

In Japan, this chain reaction stopped at the time of the earthquake, when the

reactors shut down as a safety response. But nuclear fission produces such enormous amounts of heat that it takes a long time for the reactor core to cool. Plus, the fissile material keeps giving off what's called "decay heat" as it continues to emit radiation. Right after shutdown, a nuclear reactor is still producing large amounts of heat, so it is a big job keeping the reactor cool, which is normally done by circulating water around the core. But in Japan, the earthquake knocked out all means of moving this coolant. Once this happens, the water can turn to steam, laced with hydrogen and other explosive elements, which increases pressure in the containment building. This is what caused the building explosions we have seen so far.



Japanese nuclear officials are desperately pumping sea water into the reactor buildings to try to cool things off. But the pressure from the steam and the continued heat makes that much more difficult to do than it sounds. It appears that nuclear fuel rods have been exposed to air for some unknown period of time in several of the reactors. At that point, without cooling water surrounding them, the rods (which are zirconium) start to blister and buckle. As they deform, the rods release radioactive fuel by-products that normally they would be able to contain. The open spaces between them – through which water normally would be able to flow –

get blocked up, making it even harder for them to dissipate heat. When they begin to melt, you have the term meltdown defined and you have got a big radioactive mess. A partial meltdown means that some of the rods melted prior to coolant being restored.

But a meltdown does not necessarily mean that there will be a large release of radioactivity. This will depend on the integrity of the primary and secondary containments. A primary containment, in this case, refers to the steel casing which surrounds the reactor core. It is more than five inches thick and is designed to contain radiation in case of failure. The Chernobyl reactor did not have this crucial feature, which is one of the big reasons why it was such an environmental disaster.

It is possible that this casing will not melt through if the fuel rods have a meltdown. At Three Mile Island, which experienced a partial meltdown of its core, the casing held. On the other hand, it is possible that the casing will melt through. The building itself is a secondary containment system – it is designed to have negative air pressure, as if a big fan was pulling air inside, so that radioactive gas does not flow out. But, as noted above, at least two of the buildings at Japan's nuclear power plant have been heavily damaged by explosions.

Continuing to keep the reactors and the fuel rods cooled is of primary concern at this time. Only time will tell if the Japanese can contain the radioactive material inside these plants, but it is a major concern of everyone right now and the world will be watching as the future of nuclear power is certainly hanging on what happens next in Fukushima.

In Memoriam Of
Albert Freeman



Former Board Member and native of Madison County, Albert Freeman, Jr, passed away February 25, 2011.

Albert retired in 2002, after serving on the FBEMC Board of Directors for 29 years.

2010 Capital Credit Assignment

If you were a member of French Broad EMC in 2010, you are entitled to a share of the co-op's profit. At the end of each year, any remaining funds the cooperative has after paying the bills are called **margins**, or **capital credits**. In 2010, FBEMC's margins amounted to 4.402 percent of its revenues.

Your share of the profit is recorded in your capital credits account. Your share is based on the amount of electricity you used during the year.

Margins are not refunded immediately but are held in reserve to cover the cost of maintaining the electric system and building new facilities. By using these funds, the cooperative can reduce the amount of money it borrows.

The goal is to ultimately refund all credits to you. In the meantime, it serves to provide adequate cash flow for reinvestment in the business and show financial stability required to obtain loans.

**FBEMC offices
will be closed
Friday April 22nd
in observance
of Easter**

New Billing Option

We now offer electronic billing (E-bill), which you can sign up for and receive your bills in email form. This billing option requires that you have a valid e-mail address and you are required to notify FBEMC, should you have a change in your e-mail address. When you sign up for this service, you will no longer receive a paper bill in the mail.

You will receive an e-mail from FBEMC and you can access your bill through the link in the e-mail.

You can access the newsletter, *The Electrifier*, on our website. Please keep in mind that you will be responsible for making prompt payments and when making payments, always have your account number and CIN number as a reference for your payment.

The Electrifier
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French Broad EMC, Box 9, Marshall, NC 28753

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FBEMC Offices

Marshall (828) 649-2051
Toll-Free to Marshall 1-800-222-6190
Burnsville (828) 682-6121
Bakersville (828) 688-4815

**To Report A Power Outage After Hours
Marshall District**
(Madison, Buncombe & Unicoi Counties)
(828) 649-2051 • 1-800-222-6190

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**Online Credit Card
Payment**
Available 24 Hours a Day
for VISA or MasterCard
1-866-644-7953

The Outlet
All numbers are in 828 area code unless otherwise listed.

This is a FREE service to members for advertising non-commercial items. Ads are limited to two items per member per month and will appear only one time unless resubmitted. We reserve the right to edit, condense, or refuse ads due to content, unreasonable length, or available space. French Broad EMC does not endorse services advertised and is not responsible for reliability of services listed. Mail ads to Paula Seay, French Broad EMC, PO Box 9, Marshall, NC 28753.

FOR SALE

London Fog Coat, ¾ length, size 14, \$100. 683-8054.

Refrigerator, GE side-by-side w/ water, white, \$125. 707-7926.

Honey. 649-2768.

3 BR/1 BA on 1.66 level ac, Ledger comm, barn, fenced garden, creek, \$130,000. 688-5930.

3 Acres, Leicester, \$60,000. 776-8438.

1984 F150, 4x4, LWB, 84k mi & **1987 F150**, 4x4, short wood bed, both for \$3,500 OBO. 467-6073 or 688-6708.

2002 Land Rover Freelander, 4x4, 5-spd auto, 76,500mi, black, tinted windows, \$9,800 OBO. 467-6073 or 688-6708.

2 BR/2 BA house, full bsmt, fenced yard, garden space, near Asheville. 254-0644 9-5pm.

Buck Stove Insert for masonry fireplace, model 26000-27000, blower & thermostat, \$350 OBO. 689-2811.

Lawn Mower Tires (2), Carlisle, 23x10.5x12, \$90/both. **Lawn Mower**, Craftsman, 42" cut, \$500. 689-4102 or 776-4102.

8 ½ Acres mtn land, 4 poss home sites, Sodom-Laurel area, \$98,000. 380-9227.

Tame Blackberry Plants, thornless, \$3 ea. Taking orders for sweet potato slips. 656-2281.

Corn Seed, old fashioned hickory cane, non-hybrid, \$8/lb. 656-2621.

2006 Park Model Mobile Home, 8'x33' with 6'x3' slide out, mobile jacks on each corner, \$5,995. 779-8174.

2 BR/2 BA house on 1 1/2 ac, 1/2 mi W of Burnsville, \$195,000. 779-8174.

1 1/2 Acres w/ camper, pontoon, barn, near Douglas Lake, \$40,000. 689-4455 after 7pm.

Barn Lumber. 208-0295 or 682-6863.

Hay, \$3.25/sq bale & \$30/roll. 423/388-8316.

Store Building on 1/2 acre + contents, Walnut comm, \$65,000. 649-1073.

Comforter Set, Q, pink/white/lace, 6 valances, 1 round tablecloth, \$75. 682-6931.

2008 Chevy Silverado, diesel, crewcab, leather, loaded, 6k mi, \$43,000. 284-2566.

Horses (2), black/white(1), brown(1). 688-1047.

Camper Top, fiberglass, white, \$250.

Bedliner, \$50. 385-0214.

2007 Park Model RV on leased lot, 44', 3 slides, 40' porch, perm roofover, \$29,900 & lot rent \$1,540/yr. 352/396-9797.

Washer/Dryer. \$100/both. 622-3212.

Bowflex Extreme SE, \$450. 622-3212.

10.98 Acres, surveyed, road, Sodom-Laurel, \$8,500/ac. 656-2161.

Pygmy Goats, \$40 ea. 649-2613.

1994 F150, 4x4, \$900 or part out. 649-2613.

Bush Hog, 1993 John Deere #403, \$395.

Sickle, 1993 John Deere #350, \$1,395 or \$1,590/both. 688-3353.

3 BR/2 BA home, Mars Hill, \$164,900. 779-3497.

32" TV, Sony Trinitron, remote, owners manual, \$200. 682-4941.

Stove Board, black, 28x32, \$30. 682-4941.

Printer/Scanner/Copier/Fax, HP Photosmart 2610, combo pkg cartridges incl, \$55. 682-4792.

1995 Harley Davidson Sportster 1200, 11,000mi, \$5,200. 208-3030 or 208-4484.

Girls Bike, 16" w/ training wheels, \$35.

Dell Desktop Computer, \$100 OBO. 645-4359.

Step Ladder, 16' Louisville double access fiberglass, \$450. 683-9610.

Mustang Motor, 25th edition, \$300 OBO.

Steeda Tri Ax manual shifter for Tremec TKO 500-600. \$200 OBO. 682-2399.

1948 GMC Panel Truck, 350 V8, auto, 765-6199 or 980/275-3610.

Dining Room Set, oak pedestal, table/6 chairs, \$325. 658-0863.

2008 Chevy Impala, 4dr, Super Sport, LT-1, collectors edition, 28k mi, loaded, \$16,000. 688-1065 8am-5pm.

3 BR/2 BA, furn, Red Hill Comm, ref, \$500/mo+dep. 688-1065.

2008 Toyota Matrix, red, 45,500mi, \$11,500. 768-4569.

2009 Kia Rio, sunset orange, 4dr, hatchback, manual, 14,500mi, \$11,500. 768-4569.

Dorm Closets/Drawers(3), \$50 ea or \$125/all. 682-2341 or 208-2524.

Yamaha Keyboard, PSR-185, stand, \$125. 765-6087.

Yamaha Keyboard, YPG-535, book & box, \$550 OBO. 765-6087.

Wooded Lot near Lake Waters, SC, \$18,000. 675-9337.

Lift Chair, \$550. 649-2572.

DR Field & Brush Mower, 17HP Kawasaki, 30" deck, elec start, \$1,800. 678-3730.

Band Saw. Planer. 675-5499.

Billy Goat, 4 yr old, boer, \$150. 689-4892.

Cake Decorating Supplies, 76 pans, stands, etc, \$350. 778-4884.

3 BR/1 1/2 BA farm house, remodelled, pond, Buladean, \$149,000. 688-1115.

3 BR/2 BA 2003 Oakwood Singlewide Mobile Home, furnished, porches, no land, \$19,999. 649-2417.

2006 Go Kart, Carter Brothers, 150 cc, GY6 engine, \$1,100. 649-2417.

Monitor Heater w/ 275 gal tank & stand. 645-9338.

2002 F150, 4x2, 6 cyl. **1999 Mazda** 4x4, 6 cyl, ext cab, B3000. 682-6332 or 284-8269.

4 BR/3 BA house, Mars Hill, deck, sunroom, \$220,000. 270/871-9034.

Wreath Forms, large & small. 688-3816.

1984 Harley Davidson, low miles, \$7,500. 537-4725.

7.9 Acres, Yancey Co, brick house, bsmt, barn. 682-2955.

Hay, \$30/roll. 678-9861.

20qt Mixer, Hobart, bowl, bread hook, \$850. 778-4884.

End Table, Drexel, 30"x30"x29", \$165. 337-8044.

WANTED

Ride, occasionally, will help w/gas. 649-3334.

Disc Harrow for 3-point hitch. 656-2161.

Floor Sanding/Refinishing for 500 sq ft hardwood, Mitchell Co. 919/496-8823.

7-Pedal Steel Guitar. 683-0430.

Old Cars, will pay. 689-5125.

Old Buildings to tear down. 208-0295 or 682-6863.

Book Donations for Friends of Madison Co Library sale in June. 649-3741 or 656-2729.

Bush hog, 5 ft w/ 3-point hitch. 689-8428.

Riding Lawn Mowers that no longer work, must be Free. 689-9617.

MISCELLANEOUS

Found Puppy Feb 26th, blk/brown, approx 6-8 wks old, Big Pine area. 649-9153.

FREE Ab Strengthening Machine. 675-5613, 11am-9pm.

For Rent: 1 BR/1 BA home, part furn, near MHC, no pets, no smokers, \$400+dep. 305/283-4552.

Concert w/ Joe Penland, Mad Co Arts Ctr, Apr 23rd, 7:30pm, \$10 tickets, 649-1301 or www.madisoncountyarts.com.

FREE Art Show, Madison on Main Street, May 6th, 6-8pm, Madison Co Arts Ctr.

Arts Festival, Madison on Main Street, May 7th, 10am-5pm.

Easter Egg Hunt, Apr 16th, 11am, Marshall Comm Ctr.

For Rent: 3 BR/1 BA trailer, remodeled, Bear Ck, ref, \$500/mo+dep. 649-3621.

Chair Caning. 689-5125.

Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) mtgs, 1st Monday ea mo, Gamer's Haunt, Burnsville, 6pm. 284-4199.

Will Haul Trash for scrap metal. 545-0251 or 380-1963.

For Rent: 2 BR/2 BA mobile home, 1998, no pets, Burnsville, \$400/mo+dep. 682-9547.

26th Annual Ramp Festival, May 17th, 11am-4pm, Flag Pond school, food/music. 423/743-5131.

For Lease: 10 acres fenced pasture, Beech Glen area. 284-9004.

For Rent: 3 BR/2 BA, fully furn, Red Hill comm, ref req, \$500/mo+dep. 688-1065.

Will Dog Sit, small/medium dog, in our log home, \$20/day. 450-2724.

Trophies of Grace event, Apr 16th, 11:30am, Mad Co Ext. 656-2365, 645-8529, 649-2411.

Guitar Lessons, Micaville/Celo. 675-5443.

For Rent: 3 BR/1 BA, house. **2 BR/1 BA** house. 205/542-4410 or 205/640-7806.

Teen Dances, Mad Co, ea mo. 656-2396.

Computer Repair, free est. 649-0317.

Cabinetry, wood finishing. 675-8001.

Tree Care. 680-9670.

Lawn Care, tree work. 768-7355.

Deadlines for submitting ads
or notices to *The
Electrifier*.

May issue	April 15
June issue	May 15
July issue	June 15