

The Electricifier

Visit us at: www.frenchbroademc.com

Outlet Ads and Manager's Report are Online

JANUARY 2012

"Owned by those we serve"

MARSHALL, NC

Keep Up With Your Electricity Usage for 2012

Record Chart for Electric Bills

<u>Month</u>	<u>Meter Reading</u>	<u>Date Read</u>	<u>KWH Used</u>	<u>Number Days</u>	<u>Amount of Bill</u>	<u>Date Paid</u>
JANUARY						
FEBRUARY						
MARCH						
APRIL						
MAY						
JUNE						
JULY						
AUGUST						
SEPTEMBER						
OCTOBER						
NOVEMBER						
DECEMBER						

We encourage you to clip out the above chart and use it to record your electrical usage for the year. It will serve as a ready reference for the cost of electricity for any particular month. If you keep these records over several years, you will know when and how your usage is affected by holidays, vacations, company, etc.

As the cost of energy continues to rise, more and more emphasis will be placed on energy efficiency and reducing energy consumption. This exercise should show if your efforts are successful over time.

Contact Information

(please complete, cut and return)

Name on Account _____

Account # _____ CIN# _____

Mailing Address _____

Home Phone # _____ Cell Phone # _____

Email Address _____

(we would like to update your contact information for situations in which we might need to contact you, such as: outage updates, past due notifications, capital credit issues, etc.)

Manager's Report

Journey on the Road of Technology



Jeff Loven

French Broad Electric recently completed a major project: changing out all 38,000 of its old electro-mechanical meters and installing new electronic automated meters (AMR). This pilot project actually started back in 2004 and has evolved over the years so that today, all of our members have this technology.

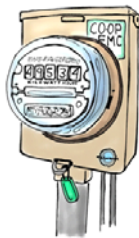
These meters offer many advantages over the older type meters. They allow FBEMC to be more efficient in the way we read meters. They allow FBEMC to collect the meter readings remotely, which offers a huge cost savings compared to sending employees to each site on a monthly basis. They also have the ability to be disconnected remotely. They have the ability to report power outages when they occur. Getting this outage information quickly allows our crews and servicemen to be dispatched directly to the area in which the interruption has occurred, thus spending less time trying to find the cause of the outage and more time making the necessary repairs quickly and safely.

With more information coming from the meters and other new applications, FBEMC can better monitor the electrical system and improve power quality by reducing the number of spikes, blinks and surges. Low voltage readings are also reported, so we may find an issue before the customer notices the problem. Tracing nuisance

blinks has always been a difficult problem to solve. With the data we now receive from these meters, we can pinpoint the cause of these momentary interruptions and make repairs very quickly.

With all the benefits this AMR system provides, there have also been some unwarranted concerns.

-Opponents of electronic meters have concerns these new meters will cause their bills to increase.



These meters are tested and built to the same standards as the previous vintage meters. The fact is that these meters are more accurate than the old electromechanical counterparts. Mechanical meters over time tend to experience wear in the bearings that suspend the moving gears and disk and this wear can lead to friction which slows the meter down and provides inaccurate readings. Conservation and energy efficiency are practices that require the consumer to make a conscious decision to save energy. You will always have the freedom to choose how and when you use electricity.

-A YouTube video has surfaced, claiming that the data collected is an invasion of customer's privacy. French Broad EMC does not sell or distribute ANY customer infor-

mation to anyone, ever! We only use this information to provide better electrical service and to create an accurate bill. French Broad EMC cannot determine what type of devices or equipment you have in the home or how much you use each device. We only know how much energy you consume each hour.

-The video also claims these new meters are a health hazard. The reality is that we are all continuously exposed to very low levels of both natural and man-made radio frequency (RF) fields. Even the earth's surface and the human body are constant sources of RF fields. Inside your own home you will likely find numerous items that emit RF fields, including microwave ovens, cell phones, cordless phones, televisions, Wi-Fi signals, antennas and receivers, as well as lighting.

The metering products we selected underwent testing by an accredited lab to verify that they met all FCC requirements. The equipment was required to test to FCC Part 15 Class B, which is the same testing level used for flat screen televisions. Given that your electric meter is located outdoors and has a measureable RF at least 20 times lower than the natural RF from the human body and 12,667 times lower than that of a cell phone and given that data retrieval is limited to about one minute per day, you can rest

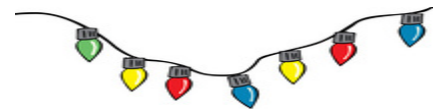
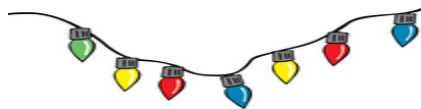
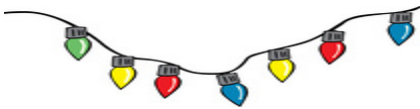
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assured that our new metering equipment is safe for you and your family.

Research conducted by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), the Electric Power Research Institute, the Utilities Telecom Council and others, has found no negative health impacts from digital meters that send information via a wireless communications network. The radio frequencies (RF) emitted by digital meters fall well below the maximum recommended in federal guidelines.

Keep in mind that French Broad EMC is a not-for-profit cooperative that is solely owned and operated by the members who receive electric service from our company. When our board of directors approves a policy or procedure or the use of new equipment and technologies, they do so knowing that it will also apply to their own homes. In choosing to utilize this automated metering system, we have not only deemed it to be a wise and safe choice for all co-op members and their families, but for our own families as well.



The
Electrifier

Published monthly by French Broad EMC,
PO 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

Burnsville-Bakersville District

Yancey County	(828) 682-6121
Mitchell County	(828) 688-4815

**Online Credit Card Payment
Available 24 Hours a Day
for VISA, MasterCard, Discover
1-877-768-4680**

 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.



TAKE NOTE:



For the February issue, the deadline for ads & notices is January 10th.

FOR SALE

Mobile Home, SW, appl incl, will have to move, no land, \$17,500. 649-2417.
Commercial Mower, Ford LGT,16D, 54" deck, Hydro, manuals, \$1,900. 649-2417.
Pool Table, Minnesota Fats, 4x8, \$650. 380-0701.
Office Chair, \$50. 656-9405.
Baby Clothes, premie. 656-9405.
2 BR house on 3/4 acre, Georges Fork, \$95,900. 682-9026.
2004 Kawasaki ZX 12, 23k mi, bags, risers, \$4,500. 682-9026.
2-Story House, 1700sq ft, on 9.45ac, \$159,000. 649-0059.
Shi-Tzu puppies, born Oct 7, 1st shots/wormed, paper trained, papers. 216-4608.
Desk w/3 drawers & 3 drawer/3 shelf hutch, 75"x46"x18", \$85. 682-4439.
Antique Stove, wood/coal, \$100 OBO. 545-0251 or 424-1704.
Reclaimed Lumber. 682-6863 or 208-0295.

Drums, Roland V, \$600. 712-6207.
Hockey Table, \$150. 678-5310.
2 BR/2 BA log cabin, Flag Pond, \$214,900. 423/538-8700 or aboxpop@yahoo.com.
Tractor, John Deere 770, \$8,999 OBO. 423/538-8700 or aboxpop@yahoo.com.
2 BR/2 BA log home on 2.61 pvt ac, Prices Creek, furn, \$99,000. 208-4517 or 682-7535.
1968 Ford Galaxie 500, 4dr, \$5,000. 627-8177.
Oil Barrell w/ stand, 500gal, \$200. 251-1705.
Tires(4) w/ rims, LT 285/75 R16, radial A/T w/ mudgrips, \$300. 251-1705 or 450-5176.
2 BR/1 BA rock house on 2.37 ac, garage, shop, barn, \$139,500. 704/434-7770.
Monitor Heater, MPI 40 kerosene, w/ 175gal tank, \$500. 678-3345.
3 BR/2 BA doublewide on 1 acre, \$10,000 +\$700/mo. 273-8565.
3 BR/2 BA singlewide on 1 acre, \$5,000 + \$500/mo. 273-8565.
Honey. 649-2768.

12 Acres, wooded, road, springs, old cabin, \$107,000. 206-9265.

Fine China dinnerware service for 8, \$50. 775-4361.

Serving Dishes, English silver plated, 51 yrs old, make offer. 775-4361.

5 Acres, wooded, views, septic, road, \$49,000. 206-9265.

Snow Blower, Toro 622, elec start, 22" clearing width, 5HP engine, \$800. 688-4741.

Jeep Soft Top, fits many models, bonus goodies, \$100. 656-2362 10am-7pm.

Monitor Heater, MPI 41, \$500. 688-1707 or 385-3754.

Laser Heater, 72, \$500. 688-1707 or 385-3754.

11 Acres mtn land, 2 bldg sites, views, pvt access, \$8,500/ac. 656-2161.

Leather Coat, Liz Baker, large, ¾ length w/ removable hood, \$25. 682-4941.

3pc Furniture Set, couch, loveseat, recliner, \$600. 682-4941.

Mercury Cougar, 1995, 148k mi, loaded, free CarFax, \$2,200. 484-9963.

Plymouth Voyager van, 1995, needs some repair work, \$2,000. 675-5278 after 6pm.

Trombone, Yamaha, in case, \$500. 675-5278 after 6pm.

Corner Cabinets (2), matching oak china/curio, \$400 ea. 649-1975.

3 Acres, improved, near Sandy Mush. 776-8438.

2007 Kawasaki Mule 610, full cab, camo, \$5,770. 622-7225.

Old Barn, chestnut, old house, make offer. 622-7225.

1 Acre, cabin site, view of Toe River, Green Mountain, owner finance. 284-3408.

Embroidered Items, crocheted. 675-4271.

Costume Jewelry. 675-4271.

Hay, large round rolls, barn kept, \$30ea. 678-9861.

1961 Tractor, Oliver, diesel, 4cyl, Orchard fenders. 864/592-1113.

Freezer, Kenmore, small, heavy duty, \$200. 689-9813.

Hay, \$4/bale. 682-7268.

Power Wheel Chair, Access Point Medical AXS7000 model, \$750 OBO. 206-9777.

2 BR/1 BA house w/ 2BR/1BA full apt, Mars Hill, \$155,000. 689-3453.

Hay, 4x5 grass, \$22/roll. 649-1084.

5th Wheel Hitch, hardware, \$225 OBO. 682-2862.

Trolling Motor, MinKoto 50lb thrust, 36" shaft, \$100. 682-2862.

2003 Harley Davidson low rider, ann edition, 20k mi, \$9,000. 712-5627.

1986 Chevrolet Dulley, auto, 454 eng, 79k mi, \$3,000. 712-5627.

WANTED

Junk Cars, will pay cash. 689-5125.

Wood Stove for shop bldg. 645-8405.

Old Car with low miles, good condition. 689-9095.

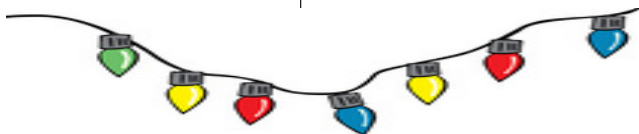
Old Buildings to tear down. 682-6863 or 208-0295.

Black Smith Tools. 284-9004.

Old Camcorders that no longer work, must be free. 689-9617.

Volunteers, ACS, help in the fight against cancer. 675-0305 or Kathlene.Stith@cancer.org.

Gold Bullion Coins, spot price. 678-9346.



New Billing Option

We now offer electronic billing (E-bill), which allows you to receive your bills in email form. This billing option requires that you have a valid e-mail address and that you 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. The newsletter, *The Electrifier*, can be accessed on our website.

Please keep in mind that you will be responsible for making prompt payments and when making payments, you must always have your account number and CIN number as a reference for your payment.

MISCELLANEOUS

Chair Caning. 689-5125.

For Rent: 3 BR/2 BA house, Mars Hill, water incl, \$650/mo/dep. 689-5025 before 9pm.

For Rent: 2 BR/1 BA house, full basement, carport, \$650/mo/dep. 689-6915.

FREE: Toy Poodles (3), male, cream, born Aug 3rd. 649-2870 or 230-5647.

Will Clean, Marshall, Mars Hill, Weaverville, N Asheville. 689-9095.

Will Sit with elderly and/or babysit, Walnut, Big Pine. 649-0059.

Will Haul scrap metal, including old cars. 545-0251 or 424-1704.

Will Clean houses. 688-3693.

FREE medium sized lop-eared bunnies, mixed colors, 4 wks old. 689-4449.

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

FREE Living Healthy Workshop, Wed, Mar 7-Apr 11, 10am, Blue Ridge Fit Ctr. 682-6011ext15.

For Rent: 3 BR/2 BA 2-story farmhouse, furn, avail wkly or \$650/mo. 284-3408.

Fencing: split rail, barbed wire. 284-1232.

Will Haul gravel, dirt, mulch. 675-4003.

Will Clear Land. 675-4003.

Scotland Tour, July 2012, Edinburgh, scotlandtours@webtv.net or 649-9390.

FREE: Manure, easy access. 689-3338.

Computer Repair, est. 649-0317.

Will Petsit, ref. 336/263-2205.

Will Housesit or houseclean, ref. 336/263-2205.

Will Cut Trees, trim, est. 458-3951.

DEADLINES

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

Feb. issue Jan. 10

March issue Feb. 15

April issue March 15

When submitting ads for The Outlet, please be sure to include your name, address, phone number and account number. Ads without this reference information are subject to not being published.