



Editor, Patsy Whitehead, CCC

Featured above:
Nolin RECC line technician, Nathan Yates, 5 years of service

News you can use

Speaking Up For the People at the End of the Lines

While most of the nation is finally showing recovery from the Great Recession, the story is much different in eastern Kentucky, where there is no recovery in sight.

More than half of eastern Kentucky's coal-mining jobs have disappeared since 2009. These are among the best-paying jobs in the region.

While there are various contributors to the decline in the region's coal industry, among the primary drivers are new federal regulations on coal mining and power plants. As regulations continue to increase, the most severe impact will be felt by people who pay the monthly electric bills. Member-owned, not-for-profit electric cooperatives, like Nolin RECC, are deeply concerned about the impact all this will have on our members.

Recently, cooperatives released the second of two films documenting the struggles of people living in communities devastated by the coal industry's decline. It is important to make their voices heard. We urge you to view the film at www.nolinrecc.com (click "news and education" to see the video titled *The People at the end of the Line*).

For decades, government policies have guided our cooperatives to invest in the most affordable, reliable means of generating electricity, and rightly so. In this region, that has meant coal. And as a result of our investments, Kentucky has had some of the lowest electric rates in the nation, along with a dynamic manufacturing economy that depends on those low energy costs.

Our power provider, East Kentucky Power Cooperative, has continued to make prudent investments in its coal fleet, adding nearly \$1.7 billion in equipment to remain compliant with federal air regulations while meeting members' needs. It will take many years to pay for those projects.

Now, our cooperatives face proposed regulations, including the Obama administration's Clean Power Plan, that threaten our ability to operate those plants at maximum efficiency, effectively stranding hundreds of millions of invested dollars.

Our members deserve the assurance that their investments will not be wasted by misguided government policies. That is why rural electric co-op representatives are working alongside Gov. Steve Beshear and Congressman Hal Rogers on the SOAR initiative. This unique collaboration shows the greatest promise in recent generations to create sustained prosperity in the region.

But until those plans can take root and bear fruit, we hope federal policy-makers come to a better understanding that their choices are creating more despair in eastern Kentucky.

Visit www.nolinrecc.com to watch this video and hear the voices of the people at the end of the line in eastern Kentucky.



Mickey Miller
President & CEO

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Keep your COOL

During the long, hot, and humid days of summer your air conditioning works hard. In fact, nearly half of the summertime energy consumed in a typical home is for cooling, according to U.S. Department of Energy estimates. And increased electricity use leads to higher-than-normal bills.

Before you lose your “cool” over a high utility bill, check out these programs offered by Nolin to help keep you comfortable without blowing your budget.

Track your use. It takes just a few taps on your tablet or clicks of a computer mouse to evaluate your energy use with our *Billing Insights*. You’ll learn exactly where your energy and dollars are going. Visit www.nolinrecc.com, click on the *Billing Insights* icon, and provide a few pieces of

information about your home. This will generate a custom plan for lowering your energy costs, including suggestions and important information on other programs and services Nolin offers.

Ask for a free energy evaluation. Nolin offers no-cost energy evaluations for residential, commercial, and industrial members. A trained energy advisor will conduct an in-depth review of your energy use and suggest improvements to lower your monthly power bills. Just pick up the phone and call Nolin at (270) 765-6153 ext. 3330.

Join SimpleSaver. Earn credits to lower your electric bill by allowing Nolin to install a simple switch to cycle your air-conditioning units and water heaters briefly on days when electric demand peaks.

Each central air conditioner enrolled earns \$20 in credits annually and each 40-gallon or greater electric water heater enrolled earns \$10 annually. Plus, there’s a sign-up bonus of \$10 for those new to the program. To join SimpleSaver, please call (800) 305-5493 or visit www.simplesaver.coop.

Try some DIY projects. Take a look at our free energy information bulletins that detail steps to weatherstrip doors, seal ductwork, and much more. Download these free bulletins at www.nolinrecc.com.

This summer, keep your cool by eliminating unpleasant surprises on your electric bill. Check out these programs or contact us today at (270) 765-6153 ext. 3330 for more energy-saving ideas.

Inaugural Co-op Student Retires from Co-op

She started working at Nolin RECC in 1967 as a senior at LaRue County High School, making Joyce Reynolds the first co-op student to have ever worked at this cooperative! At that time, Joyce had no idea she would end up working for the co-op over 30 years!

Halfway through her 31-year tenure, Joyce left Nolin when her daughter, Courtney, was born. Fifteen years later, she applied to work at Nolin again after learning about a job opening.

In March, Joyce decided it was time to retire permanently from the co-op she fell in love with as a high school senior just starting out in the working world. Her title at Nolin was consumer records clerk, but she was a lot more than what the title indicates. Joyce's decades of experience

and knowledge made her an important asset to Nolin, filling in as cashier, receptionist, billing clerk, data entry – her list of expertise goes on and on!

Now that Joyce is retired, she and her husband, Gary, plan to travel extensively. "When Courtney was young we spent a lot of summers traveling around the country," says Joyce. "We visited states in the southwest, northwest, eastern coast, and even traveled to Canada. Alaska is the only state we haven't seen – that's on our bucket list. We can't wait to get back on the road and spend weeks driving across the country."

When the couple takes a break from road trips, they will more than likely fill their days by spending time with 2-year-old grandson Aidan. And of course there

will be plenty of shopping days in the future for Joyce and her daughter.

"I am grateful that I had the opportunity to work with all the wonderful people at Nolin," says Joyce. "And I'm fortunate and blessed to have been selected as a Nolin RECC co-op student so many years ago – I will truly miss my friends and the co-op members."

Congratulations on your retirement Joyce – stay safe on your journeys and be sure to send us a postcard from Alaska!



SmartHub The new way to pay

Pay bills immediately with secure online payments

Nolin's online billing program is called SmartHub and it's designed to help you manage your electric account with a simple touch of your fingers!

SmartHub gives you the power to view your daily usage, make payments, report a service interruption, and compare monthly and yearly electricity usage. You have safe electronic tools to manage your accounts with mobile and Web apps fully integrated to Nolin's system.

In addition, you will also be able to view daily weather data along with your usage to see how the weather has an impact on your bill. You can also compare this month's usage to last month or even last year. This is another great tool to help Nolin members live more energy efficient.

SmartHub is very secure and Nolin has taken extra measures to help improve that security when you are logging into the system. You can even download the FREE mobile or tablet app in the Apple App Store or Android Marketplace. Or, just scan the QR code at right to access SmartHub.



Next Stop Haiti

Shining light on those who need it most

By Patsy Whitehead

When you think about an opportunity of a lifetime, what comes to mind?

Certainly not traveling to a place where there is no electricity! A place where kids don't attend school when it rains, a place where there is just one location to buy ice, or a place where clothes are hand-washed in pails and laid to dry on top of big rocks!

This paradise setting wouldn't be inviting for many, but these conditions were exactly what sparked the interest of three Nolin Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation line workers who made the decision to board a plane and head to Coteaux, Haiti, in late March.

Earlier in the year, Nolin RECC began making plans for three of its skilled line workers to travel to support NRECA International's efforts to establish a new community-owned electric cooperative in southwestern Haiti. NRECA International, the international arm of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA), has provided 110 million people in 42 countries electricity over the past 50 years. In this region of Haiti, the Cooperative Electrique de l'Arrondissement des Coteaux (CEAC) will operate a solar-diesel hybrid generation system and will serve more than 1,600 member-consumers distributed in three towns. The project is jointly funded by the United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP), USAID, the Inter-American Development Bank, and NRECA.

Nolin RECC employees Vince Heuser, Tommy Sullivan, and Chad Denney voluntarily stepped up to embrace what all three describe as "the opportunity of a lifetime."

The cost of the trip, room, and meals was picked up by NRECA International. All the Nolin employees had to do was show up for work – in Haiti!

For three weeks, the Nolin line workers, along with two CEAC line workers, built and upgraded electrical power lines with limited resources and set poles that will eventually provide electricity to members of this new cooperative. "We had one bucket truck and one pickup truck throughout our stay in Coteaux," says Vince Heuser, Nolin RECC vice president of System Operations. "The equipment and tools we used were donated from other



co-ops across the nation,” says Heuser. “Some of the poles had to be stripped free of old hardware before we could begin the process of getting them ready for primary electric lines.”

Heuser says, “While there, we lived much like others in the community who have limited or no electricity. Water was pumped into a tank that sat on top of the hotel roof and of course our showers were cold.” At night hotel generators provided a little air conditioning, which helped the men get some sleep before beginning work the next day.

Meals mainly

(left) Nolin RECC line worker Tommy Sullivan delivers small toys to Haitian children.

(bottom left) Clothes are washed in buckets or large pails of water carried from a nearby river and then hung

to dry on bushes or large rocks.

(below) Extra money was earned by community members who were willing to hand-dig holes for electric poles. Everything from sticks to buckets was used in the process.

View more photos and video at www.nolinrecc.com.

consisted of rice, chicken, goat, fish, fried plantains, and eggs. Sullivan and Denney each lost about eight pounds. Heuser says he maintained his current weight during the three-week stay.

“Although three weeks is not very long, I did miss my family and was really happy to be back home,” says Denney. “The distance from my house to Coteaux is 1,524 miles. I think about that distance and the number of luxuries we enjoy every day; and it just makes me appreciate my life, my family, and my community. We have all we need here in the United States, it makes me feel very good to have the opportunity to help people who don’t have all they need.”

Sullivan is amazed how the Haitian community accepts their lifestyle with grace. “The Haitians seem to deal with life so well and work together without high-tech tools to get the job done,” says Sullivan. “The Haitians are really good at improvising for the resources they don’t have. I’m so blessed to have had the opportunity to make a difference in so many ways by helping to provide electricity to these wonderful folks.”

It is estimated that Cooperative Electrique de l’Arrondissement des Coteaux (CEAC) will be up and running by December. The co-op will provide electricity to Port-A-Piment, Coteaux, and Roche-A-Bateau, which are located about 150 miles from Haiti’s capital Port-au-Prince.

Although Nolin RECC has contributed to NRECA’s International efforts through the contribution of equipment, this marks the first time the cooperative has sent volunteers to help bring electricity to impoverished countries.

“This was an opportunity of a lifetime,” says Heuser. “It’s an amazing feeling to help people in a third-world country who have never had the benefits of reliable electricity. We were part of an ongoing effort to provide infrastructure so that these towns could be energized in the very near future.”

Denney says he has one wish relating to his efforts in Coteaux, “I would love to go back to the same area six years from now to see how electricity changed the lives of our new friends in Haiti.”

One thing is certain, these three line workers have made a positive difference in many lives, and their lives will forever remain changed in a positive way!

NRECA International

NRECA International has pioneered low-cost rural electrification in all of its various facets – design, construction, application of standards – and has a wealth of experience in the planning and operation of various generation technologies, including renewable resources such as biomass, wind, solar, and hydro. They provide comprehensive training programs in all aspects of utility operations and management to ensure that local institutions can effectively and efficiently operate and administer a functioning and economically viable utility.

Experience has shown that the cooperative business model is most appropriate to bring reliable and affordable electricity to remote and rural areas around the world.

NRECA International projects and programs have created more than 250 successful rural electric enterprises in Bangladesh, Bolivia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Haiti, Pakistan, the Philippines, South Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, and Yemen.



Nolin provides mobile device apps that feature store discounts

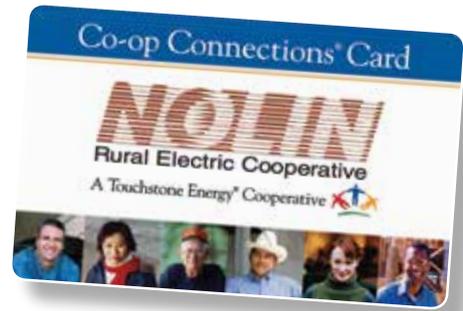
Need to know which businesses offer a Co-op Connections Card discount while you're out running errands? There's an app for that.

Nolin's Co-op Connections Card app for the iPhone, iPad, Droid, and Blackberry is ready for download.

The Co-op Connections Card, a benefit of Nolin RECC membership, offers discounts from area businesses and national retailers. Once downloaded, the app gives you a virtual card, which includes vital prescription discount information, right on your phone.

You can also present the virtual card to a pharmacist who can use that information for the discount if you don't have your physical Co-op Connections Card in hand.

Even when you are out of town or on vacation, you can find Co-op Connections Card discounts in the area easily.



To download the free apps, go to www.connections.coop and follow the instructions.

For a complete listing of local and national offers visit www.nolinrecc.com.



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2015 Theme Park Discount Tickets

Theme Park	Nolin Price	Regular Price	Notes
	\$32.95 \$32.95 \$32.95	\$49.95 (Adult) \$34.95 (Children under 48") \$34.95 (Senior 55 and up) Children under 3 are FREE	Nolin RECC members can save money by purchasing tickets at the cooperative offices in Elizabethtown and Radcliff during normal business hours.
	\$36.00 \$32.00 \$32.00	\$61.99 (Adult) \$37.99 (Children under 48") \$37.99 (Senior 62 and up) Children under 3 are FREE	
	\$39.95 \$35.95 \$35.95	\$44.99 (Adult) \$36.99 (Children under 54") \$36.99 (Senior 60 and up) Children under 3 are FREE	

Discount tickets do not include admission to Kentucky State Fair.

Admission to park includes free soft drinks while in the park.



We're in YOUR Community

Nolin RECC recently participated in the Lincoln Trail Home Design & Remodeling Show at Pritchard Community Center. Co-op personnel were on hand for the two-day event to answer questions and share important information on energy efficiency. Lora and Jason Lamb stop by the Nolin booth to pick up some brochures on energy efficiency. They talk with Nolin energy advisors Todd Drake (left) and Billy Pait, while the couple's son, Charlie, smiles for the camera.



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Proud Sponsor of Kentucky's Special Olympics

Touching Lives, Making a Difference

Nolin RECC and Kentucky's Touchstone Energy Cooperatives are proud to be Platinum Sponsors of the 2015 Special Olympics State Summer Games. The statewide games took place June 5-7 at Eastern Kentucky University in Richmond, and included competitions in track and field, swimming, rhythmic gymnastics, bocce, and flag football. One of



every six families in Kentucky is involved, either directly through the athletes or indirectly through coaches, donors, and volunteers. Many co-op employees across the state served as volunteers throughout the games. The state summer games are the Kentucky Special Olympics' largest competition of the year. Typically, 1,200 athletes, 600 coaches, and 500 family members attend. Each athlete qualifies through participation at a regional or area-level event.

HARDIN COUNTY COMMUNITY FAIR & HORSE SHOW

Nolin RECC Member Discount: Opening Night Only—Monday, July 6

UGLY LAMP CONTEST (sponsored by Nolin RECC)



\$1.00 Off Regular Admission Price of \$10.00

Opening Night Only • Limit one coupon per member • Additional fair coupons are available at the Nolin office





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www.nolinrecc.com

1-844-HAUL4ME

* Account number required

The offices of Nolin RECC will be closed Friday, July 3, in observance of Independence Day.

Online payments

Access your Nolin RECC account through our Web site at www.nolinrecc.com. Click on "YourAccount" to check your consumption history and make payments by debit card, Visa, or MasterCard. To apply for budget billing and automatic draft online, click on "Residential Bill Payment."

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New Member Credits

All members signing up for new service with Nolin receive a short survey. Members who return the completed survey to Nolin are automatically eligible to win a \$30 credit on their electric bill. Each month, one name is drawn and a lucky Nolin member receives a bill credit on their next statement. Congratulations to our latest winner, **Deborah L. Elzy, of Eastview.**

We've Got Your \$25 Number! \$25 WIN \$25 Worth of FREE Electricity

Nolin News features a contest called "We've Got Your Number." Hidden inside this issue are four randomly selected member account numbers. If you spot your account number, contact the Member Services Department at 765-6153, and **win a \$25 CREDIT on your electric bill.** You must identify your number and call by the 15th day of the month's issue containing your number. Account numbers could be anywhere in your *Nolin News*!

HOW TO REACH NOLIN RECC

ELIZABETHTOWN OFFICE

411 Ring Road, Elizabethtown, KY 42701-6767
8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Mon-Fri • (270) 765-6153

RADCLIFF OFFICE

101 West Lincoln Trail Blvd., Radcliff, KY 40160
8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Mon-Fri • (270) 351-2199
(Office closed from 12:30-1:30 daily)

TOLL-FREE BUSINESS CALLS — 1-888-637-4247

PAY DIRECT BY PHONE TOLL FREE — 1-855-356-6359

FOR EMERGENCIES — (270) 765-6153

Web site: www.nolinrecc.com
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