

OFFICE LOCATIONS

Jackson Office

1307 College Avenue
P.O. Box 398
Jackson, AL 36545
251-246-9081

Chatom Office

P.O. Box 453
Chatom, AL 36518
251-847-2302

Toll Free Number

1-800-323-9081

Office Hours

7 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Monday-Friday
(Drive-thru Hours)

www.cwemc.com

Payment Methods

Payments can be made at our Chatom and Jackson offices with cash, checks, debit or credit cards

Our Customer Service Representatives can accept payments over the phone using a credit card or debit card and by e-check

Local Pages Editor

Anna Wright



MANAGER'S COMMENTS

More than one way to skin a cat & pay an electric bill

The common phrase “there’s more than one way to skin a cat” basically means that there are many different methods for getting a job done. Each month all our members, including myself, have a common job or task to complete — paying our electric bill.

Clarke-Washington EMC has more than one way to help our members pay their electric bill conveniently each month: bank draft, credit card draft, by making a phone call to our office and making a transaction with your credit card, debit card or e-check, through your local bank, and using our drive-through windows.

Members can now view and pay their electric bill online at www.cwemc.com. Members will need to login with a password that is located on their electric bill.

Also on the Web site, your electric bill can be set up to automatically withdraw from your credit card or checking account each month.

Members who bank with First United Security Bank in Coffeerville, Thomasville, Fulton and Grove Hill; Capstone Bank in McIntosh, and Merchants Bank in Grove Hill and Thomasville, can pay their bill at those locations. Bills must be paid by the 10th of the month. Members must have their bill stub and pay the full amount.

Another way to get this task completed is by using our automatic bank draft option. This option sets up your bank account to withdraw the amount of your electric bill each month. The same idea works with a credit card.

By calling our office (1-800-323-9081) our customer service representatives can accept payments by a credit card, debit card or e-check over the phone from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., weekly.

Sending your bill through the

mail is an easy and most common option. We still enjoy seeing our members who drop by either of our offices to pay their bill.

There is also more than one way to receive your bills and make your bill fit your budget.

A few years ago I was receiving several separate bills each month. Our billing department’s staff suggested that invoice billing would be beneficial to me. Many of our members have more than one account. Invoice billing organizes your accounts by listing all of them on one bill. A grand total of all the accounts is the amount of your payment. Members can then write one check and cover each bill.

Levelized billing is another choice Clarke-Washington EMC offers to help our members’ bills fit their budgets. Levelized billing is based on the average billing of a member’s account for the past 12 months. That average will be the approximate amount the member will be billed every month.

All of these different ways to pay your electric bill can be further completed by calling our billing department. They are willing to help you, our members, find the best method that works for you.

When your bill comes this month remember that Clarke-Washington EMC offers “more than one way to skin a cat” and make your electric bill payments more convenient.

Thank you.



Stan Wilson

CEO/Manager
of Clarke-Wash-
ington Electric
Membership
Corporation

While on **VACATION,** **SAVE** at home

Before leaving on vacation Clarke-Washington EMC encourages its members to consider the tips below to help them save money on their electric bill while on vacation.

June is the time for going. School is out for the year and the weather is perfect for visiting family, seeing old friends and taking much-needed vacations.

Clarke-Washington EMC advises its customers going on vacation this summer to make sure their home's energy use takes a vacation as well. Simple tips can save customers money while they are away.

Air Conditioning:

Set the thermostat to 85 degrees. If it is a programmable thermostat, use the "hold" or the "vacation" setting to keep it at that temperature.

Electronics:

Computers, CD/DVD players, TVs and VCRs: these and other electronic appliances use electricity, even when they are not turned on. Unplug them before leaving.

Lighting:

Customers can improve their energy savings, and their home's security, by using timers to operate lights each night. By in-

stalling compact fluorescent bulbs, or CFLs, in those lamps, consumers will save more energy, up to 66 percent less in each lamp, and the bulb will last approximately 10 times longer than a regular incandescent bulb.

Water Heating:

Turn the water heater's temperature down to the lowest setting. Many water heaters have a "vacation" setting for this purpose. Leave a reminder to turn it back up upon returning home.

Pool owners should shorten the operating time for the pool filter and automatic cleaning sweep (if applicable). A pool cover can save energy, too. According to the U.S. Department of Energy, up to 70 percent of pool heat loss is by evaporation.

Refrigerator

Adjust the refrigerator control to a warmer setting. If going on an extended trip, consider emptying the fridge and turning it off. Remember to leave the door open to prevent mildew.

Use appliances smarter to save energy

Whether you have the newest, most efficient electric appliances or you're hanging onto some that practically qualify as antiques, you can use them smarter so they waste less energy.

Here are some free and easy ways to cut waste—and your energy bill:

- Move your refrigerator away from the stove, dishwasher and heating vents. The heat from those devices makes the refrigerator work harder to stay cold, so it runs less efficiently.
- If your refrigerator's coils are exposed, vacuum them every three months. When dirt builds up on the coils, the appliance has to use more energy to keep your food cold.
- Repair the gaskets on your refrigerator's door if they come loose. Damaged gaskets let cold air leak out of the refrigerator.
- If your old freezer doesn't self-defrost, do it yourself—as soon as a quarter-inch of ice builds up. An ice-laden freezer is inefficient.
- Stop rinsing dishes by hand before you load them into the dishwasher, especially if yours has a pre-rinse or rinse/hold cycle. Simply scrape leftover food from the plates and let the dishwasher do the rest.
- Set your dishwasher to its "energy-saver" feature and leave it there so it saves energy every time you use it.
- Match the size of your pots and pans to the size of the stovetop burner you're using. Placing a small pot on a large burner wastes a lot of heat.
- Cover pots and pans with lids so you can cook at a lower burner setting.
- Select the "small load" setting on your washing machine when you don't have enough laundry to fill the tub. At that setting, the washer will fill with less water.
- Clean your clothes dryer filters after each load. This not only keeps the appliance from overheating and working too hard, it can prevent a fire.
- Set your water heat to 120 degrees. That's hot enough, even though some manufacturers pre-set theirs to 140 degrees.

Washington Co. Junior
Livestock Association's

STEER & HEIFER, SHOW AND SALE

More than 15 contestants participated in the Washington County Junior Livestock Association's Steer and Heifer, Show and Sale on Monday, April 7, in the 4-H Arena in Chatom, with the auction and sale following. This annual event has been a part of the youth of Washington County for about 36 years. This event is organized by the Washington County Junior Livestock Association, Washington County Cooperative Extension Service and local volunteers.

Contestants are judged on showmanship and weight of their livestock. Showmanship determines how well the youth has prepared their animal for the show and their ability to control their livestock in the ring with the judge and other livestock. The weight category judges the youth's livestock that has the highest average daily gain and will yield the highest quality cut of meat.

James Shropshire of Chilton County judged the event and Anthony Wiggins was the ringmaster.

After the show, local auctioneer Moley Herring got the sale started as local businesses bid on the livestock. Proceeds from each sales goes back into the pockets of the youth.

Congratulations to all the winners!



Washington Co. Junior Livestock Association's Heifer and Steer, Show and Sale participants: 1st row — Payton Williams, Andrew Pletcher, Dillon Woodyard, Tyler Wright, Parker Thompson, Bailey Brown, Emily Williams, and Autumn Butts. 2nd row — Andrea Butts, Dalton Tate, Samuel Turner, Raven Dorman and Hannah Dorman. Not pictured: Allison Butts



Grand Champion Heifer: Andrew Pletcher with show judge James Shropshire



Senior Showmanship: Andrea Butts with presenter Sarah Dickinson



Junior Showmanship: Andrew Pletcher with presenter Drew Wright with the NRCS



First Time Showman: Emily Williams with presenter Sherry Dorman, a community supporter



Heavyweight Division: Andrea Butts with presenter Moley Herring, local show auctioneer



Highest Average Daily Gain: Dillon Woodyard with Richard Dorman of Dorman Feed



Lightweight Division: Emily Williams with presenter John Odom, of Andrews Hardware in Chatom



Best County Bred Heifer & Reserve Champion Heifer: Payton Williams with Vivian Beech, community supporter and Ringmaster Anthony Wiggins



Middleweight Division: Autumn Butts with presenter Stan Wilson, Clarke-Washington EMC manager



Grand Champion Steer and Best County Bred Steer: Andrea Butts with show judge James Shropshire



Middle Heavy Weight Division: Allison Butts with presenter County Commissioner Hilton Robbins



Reserve Champion Steer: Autumn Butts with show judge James Shropshire

MOWA Choctaw Powwow

*29th annual MOWA Choctaw Powwow,
June 19-21, 2008, in Mt. Vernon, Ala.*

Head Man Dancer

Todd Johnston
MOWA
Choctaw

Head Lady Dancer

Deborah West
Caddo/Apache

Master of Ceremonies

Larry
Richard
Abenaki/Choctaw

Head Gourd Dancer

Tony Conrad
Louisiana

Host Drum

Medicine Trail

Head Singer

Alex Avarez
Poarch Creek,
Atmore, Ala.

EVENTS:

- Thursday, June 19th: Parade begins at 4 p.m. with Princess Pageant and Gospel Singing to follow
- Friday, June 20th: Gates open at 3 p.m. and Grand Entry at 6 p.m.
- Saturday, June 21st: Gates open at 9 a.m.; Grand Entry at 10 a.m. followed by Tiny Tot, Junior and Teen competitions, Grand Entry at 6 p.m. followed by Adult competitions

MOWA Princesses



MOWA Princess, front row: Cheyenne Evans, Little Miss MOWA and Alexis Lofton, Tiny Tot Princess. Back row: Gertrude Reed, Tribal Mother; Florence Rivers, Senior Princess and Bethany Taylor, Junior Princess

Johnston chosen as Head Man Dancer

Todd Johnston is a member of the MOWA Band of Choctaw Indians. He has been married to his wife, Hazel, for 21 years. He has three daughters, Courtney Wesley, Erin Johnston and Brittney Roney, and one grandson Phillip Roney.

Todd is currently employed with Ciba Specialty Chemicals. He is very active in his community and the MOWA Choctaw Tribe. Todd has assisted with many cultural events throughout the southeastern United States in many capacities such as arena director, head man and host drum.

Traditional dancing, drumming and singing are among his many passions, but his greatest pleasure comes from educating others about his culture.

Todd would like to take this opportunity to thank the powwow committee for selecting him as head man. Serving as headman is a great honor and this is a special occasion because God has blessed him to be able to share the circle with five generations of his family this year. Todd, along with his family, hopes everyone has an enjoyable time at the powwow.



Five Generations: Front Row: Erin Johnston and Viola Campbell
Back Row: Brittney Roney, Phillip Donovan Roney, Todd Johnston and Barbara Johnston; Photo at Right: Todd Johnston, Head Man Dancer



TIMBER!

Timber is a considerable cash crop for this area of Alabama. Yet oftentimes dead trees and limbs are the cause of power outages around our service area.

Clarke-Washington EMC right-of-way crews work to maintain the area around powerlines free from debris and vegetation. A right-of-way is the area underneath and around powerlines. Crews cut dead trees and spray vegetation to keep the area clear.

Right-of-way clearing also allows linemen to work faster and more efficiently when restoring or repairing lines.

Clarke-Washington EMC right-of-way crew member Willie Jenkins cuts down a dead pine tree near a power pole

