

75th Anniversary



75 Years with FDEC

Forked Deer Electric Cooperative, Inc.

1940 – 2015

Forked Deer EC's service territory covers portions of four counties: Crockett, Dyer, Haywood, & Lauderdale. Provides service to more than 9,800 meters and over 1,300 miles of electric line.



75 Years with FDEC

Forked Deer Electric Cooperative, Inc.

1940 – 2015

By Judy Holland & Kelly Mayo

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Foreword

Electricity. Today so many things are taken for granted, electricity wasn't something people took for granted 75 years ago in 1940. What today is a basic need of modern living; in the latter part of the Great Depression was an indulgence and something that had been out of the grasp of most rural West Tennesseans. Living in the country meant you lived differently from your city relatives and friends. This meant a lot more energy and effort went into your daily routine. Very few people today can truly understand or appreciate how our silent servant, electricity, began to transform and improve our area just a few decades ago.

Our cooperative is a story of hard work and extraordinary success, built upon the willingness of rural people to come together and do what no one else would do for them. Coupled with Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal program called the Rural Electrification Act, which made money available, area farmers and other local leaders organized Forked Deer Electric Cooperative in 1940 and set about tackling the challenge of bringing the conveniences of electricity to their homes and farms. Following close behind the personal conveniences of electricity were the benefits of increased community and economic development. Their dream became a reality and continues today through the teamwork of many.

Since 1940, Forked Deer Electric has grown from a few employees providing electric service to less than 800 members to a cooperative that includes more than 9,878 members and 1,337 miles of electric lines with 30 employees. At Forked Deer Electric we like to say we are dedicated to carrying out the cooperatives mission of providing reliable and affordable electric service. Our employees took on that job seventy-five years ago and this history project looks back at that role and how the rural electric program, and Forked Deer Electric, has impacted our members and the area we serve.



Jeffery M. Newman
General Manager
Forked Deer Electric Cooperative

The Lineman's Prayer

Almighty God, creator of the earth, wind, and rain, protect us as we journey

through the morning mist, the noontime sun, and the evening shadows.

Help us to always remember that the most powerful energy can light the sky and

run across wires that only time and experience can guide us to touch.

Teach us to trust in Your divine intervention but prepare us for unnatural clashes that

neither God nor man can control. Lead us into the darkest storm and deliver us

to serve those who depend on our skills. Thank you, O God, for every blessing

and may You give us strength to reach for the stars.

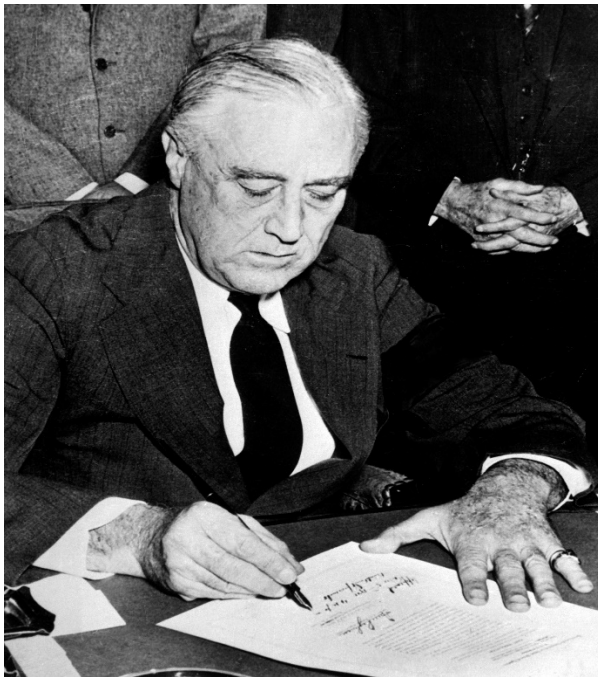
Amen.

The 1930s

The beginning of the 1930's brought about one of the hardest times in the history of the United States. The Wall Street Crash of 1929 sent the United States into the Great Depression. This was a time of high unemployment, poverty, low profits, deflation, plunging farm incomes, and lost opportunities for economic growth and advancement. Americans living in rural areas were hit hard due to drought and the failure of their crops. This was a time of desperation and despair for many farmers and ranchers. As the decade progressed the economy progressed as well.



With the election of Franklin Delano Roosevelt in the 1932 presidential election, the United States would begin the climb back to prosperity. President Roosevelt's New Deal was a series of domestic programs enacted between 1933 and 1938. The program focused on the "3 Rs": Relief, Recovery, and Reform. That is Relief for the poor and unemployed; Recovery of the economy to normal levels; and Reform of the financial system to prevent a repeat depression. The Federal Emergency Relief Administration provided \$500 million for relief operations by states and cities, while the short-lived Civil Works Administration gave localities money to operate make-work projects. The Wagner Act promoted labor unions, engage in collective bargaining for better terms and conditions at work, and take collective action including strike if necessary. With the development of this labor focused programs, the United States began to flourish again.



Key factors in Roosevelt's New Deal were the founding of the National Rural Electrification Administration. The Rural Electrification Act of 1935

provided federal loans for the installation of electrical distribution systems to serve rural areas of the United States. During the time the Rural Electrification Act was passed, electricity was common in cities but unavailable on ranches, farms, or other rural places. President Roosevelt issued Executive Order 7037 on May 11, 1935 establishing the Rural Electrification Administration (REA). This act enabled citizens of rural America to receive the privilege of electricity at the same prices citizens of large cities paid. Before this act was enacted the few rural citizens able to receive electricity paid a much higher cost than that of city residents.



Ed Jackson

Before electricity, farmers milked cows by hand, houses were lit by kerosene lamps, and women were slaves to a wood range and washboard. Chores, that take a matter of minutes by today's standards, took hours and sometimes even all day to complete. All clothes and dishes were washed by hand and the water was heated in a kettle on the wood stove. Families would rise with the sun in order to make the most of daylight and get all their chores done before sundown.



Without electricity and refrigeration, fruits and vegetables were canned as soon as they were ripe. From the months of June to September, homemakers

were canning strawberries, peaches, jams, jellies, okra, beans, squash, and corn to name a few. Canning required continuous attention at the stove and the fire had to be blazing hot.



Many homes only had one or two kerosene lamps for light. One kerosene lamp gave off about 25 watts of light for the entire room. Outside the small circle of light, rooms would be total darkness.



By the end of the 1930's, all main economic indicators had regained the levels of the late 1920's, except for unemployment, which remained high. With the end of the decade coming to a close, America was faced with the possibility of war. During the late 1930's and going into 1940, the United States government began heavy military spending and started drafting millions of young men into

the armed forces. With the fall of France at the beginning of World War II, Britain and other allies looked to the U.S. for large supplies of materials for the war. This began the upswing in the economy with many unemployed Americans working in factories making military supplies. As the decade came to an end, the bleak outlook of the Great Depression was fading and the future was looking bright for America.



The Development of the Tennessee Valley Authority



The Rural Electrification Act of 1935 provided federal loans for the installation of electrical distribution systems to serve rural areas of the United States. The funding was channeled through cooperative electric power companies, most of which still exist today. These member-owned cooperatives purchased power on a wholesale basis and distributed it using their own network of transmission and distribution lines. The Rural Electrification Act was also an attempt made by FDR's New Deal to deal with the crippling amount of unemployment.



Saturday, May 11, 1935 is the date that Franklin Delano Roosevelt signed Executive Order 7037, creating a federal agency to begin a program of rural electrification thus creating REA. REA was not set up to construct, own or operate

electric systems, which were the mission of the local electric cooperatives. Its primary function was to make loans on a continuing basis and to provide technical support to help local cooperatives. REA offered low interest loans at a 2% interest rate as an incentive for local farmers and rural residents to form a cooperative. An electric cooperative provided an economical way to bring electricity to the farms.

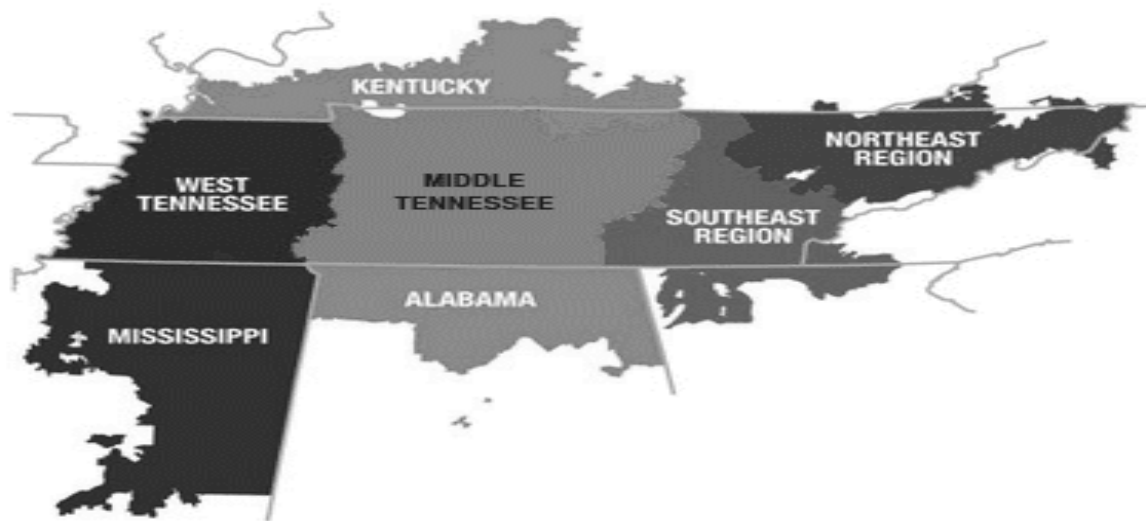


Franklin Delano Roosevelt (center) signs the Rural Electrification Act with Representative John Rankin,

MS (left), and Senator George William Norris, NE (right)

With the formation of the National Rural Administration, the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) was created. TVA is a federally owned corporation in the United States created by congressional charter in May 1933 to provide navigation, flood control, electricity generation, fertilizer manufacturing, and

economic development in the Tennessee Valley, a region particularly affected by the Great Depression. TVA was the enterprise of the efforts of Senator George W. Norris of Nebraska. TVA services most of Tennessee, portions of Alabama, Mississippi, and Kentucky, and small pieces of Georgia, North Carolina, and Virginia covering 80,000 square miles and serving more than 9 million people. It was the first large regional planning agency of the federal government and remains the largest.



President Roosevelt needed pioneering solutions if the New Deal was to bring the nation out of the pits of the Great Depression, and TVA was one of his most pioneering ideas. FDR imagined TVA as an absolutely different kind of agency. He asked Congress to create “a corporation clothed with the power of

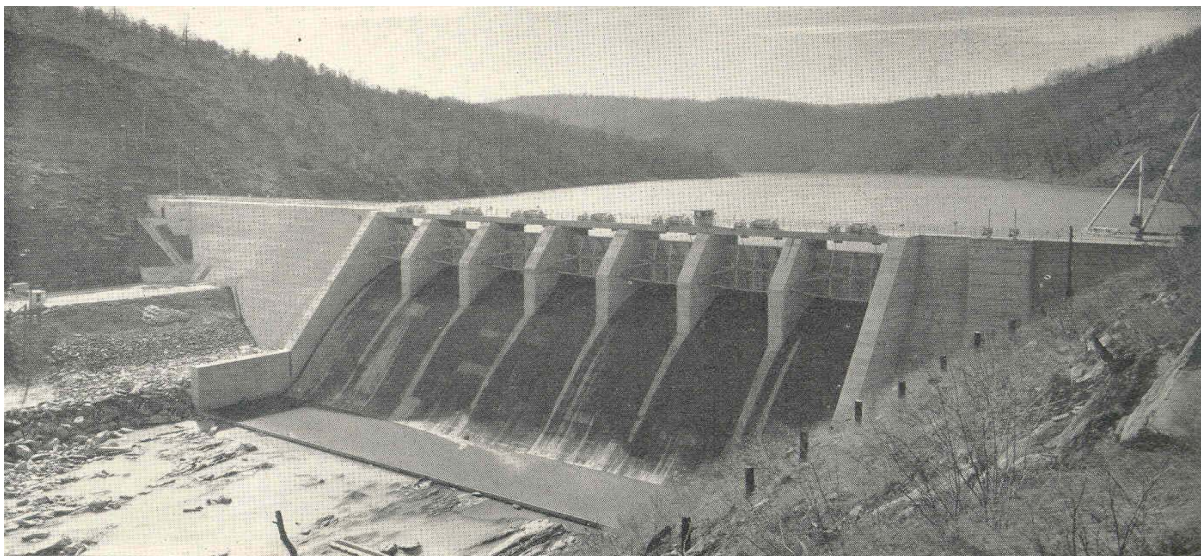
government but possessed of the flexibility and initiative of a private enterprise.”
On May 18, 1933, Congress passed the TVA Act.



President Franklin D. Roosevelt signs the Tennessee Valley Authority Act, May 18, 1933.



In the 1930's, TVA built dams to harness the region's rivers. The dams controlled floods, improved navigation and generated electricity. Eroding and depleting soil was the result of the land being farmed too hard for too long. Even by Depression standards, the Tennessee Valley was in horrible shape in the 1930's. Crop yields had plummeted along with farm incomes. All of the prime timber had been logged. TVA built dams to harness the region's rivers. The dams helped control flooding, improved navigation, and generated electricity. Along with these improvements, TVA developed fertilizers, taught farmers how to advance crop growth, aided in the replanting of forests, and improved habitat for wildlife and fish.



The biggest and greatest change in Valley life came from the electricity produced by TVA dams. Modern appliances and electric lights made life easier and made farms more fruitful. Electricity also brought industries into the area, producing urgently needed jobs.



History of Forked Deer Electric Cooperative, Inc.

1940s

Forked Deer Electric Cooperative, Inc. was established on August 18, 1940 in Halls, Tennessee. The original name of the cooperative was Fork Deer Electric Cooperative, Inc. The name of the cooperative was changed to Forked Deer Electric on February 14, 1941. The first meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Fork Deer Electric Cooperative was held at Main Street, in the town of Halls on October 25, 1940. During the first meeting of the cooperative, the board of trustees elected a president, Charles Price, a vice-president, W.L. Becton, and secretary, Jim Jaynes. At the first meeting, the board of trustees also set into place the bylaws for the cooperative, adopted a corporate seal, elected other officers, and discussed the forms and applications of new membership in to the cooperative. The following trustees were in attendance: A.N. Crowder, Charles Childress, B.M. Griffin, Jim Jaynes, Charles Price, Jim Moore, R.T. Peal, W.L. Becton, and Robin Coffman. On February 25, 1941, John L. Taylor was unanimously elected as the Project Superintendent by the board of trustees and approved by REA. Mr. Taylor's beginning salary with Forked Deer was \$125 per month.



ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

OF

Fork Deer Electric Cooperative Inc.

Electric Cooperative executed pursuant
to the Electric Cooperative Act, Public
Chapter 176 of the 1939 Laws of
Tennessee.

We, the undersigned, do hereby execute the within articles for the purpose of
organizing a cooperative, non-profit, membership corporation (Hereinafter designated as the
"Cooperative") under the laws of the State of Tennessee, pursuant to an act entitled "An Act
Providing for the Formation of Supplying Electric Energy and Promoting and Extending the Use
Thereof", approved March 10, 1939, and known as the "Electric Cooperative Act".

FIRST: the name of the Cooperative is Fork Deer Electric Cooperative Inc.

SECOND: the address of the principal office of the Cooperative is Halls,
Tennessee.

THIRD: the names and addresses of the incorporators of the Cooperative are:

<u>NAMES</u>	<u>ADDRESSES</u>
A.N.Crowder	Ripley, Tenn. R.F.D. No. 1
Charles Childress	Ridgely, Tenn.
B.M.Griffin	Ripley, Tennessee, R.F.D. No. 4
Jim Jaynes	Halls, Tenn. R.F.D. No. 4
Chas. Price	Dyersburg, Tenn. R.F.D. No. 2
Jim Moore	Newbern, Tenn. R.F.D. No. 2
R.T.Peal	Dyersburg, Tenn. R.F.D. No. 1
W.L.Beston	Halls, Tenn. R.F.D. No. 3
Robin Coffman	Ripley, Tenn. R.F.D. No. 2

FOURTH: the names and addresses of the persons who shall constitute the first
Board of Trustees of the Cooperative are:

<u>NAMES</u>	<u>ADDRESSES</u>
A.N.Crowder	Ripley, Tennessee, R.F.D. No. 1
Charles Childress	Ridgely, Tenn. R.F.D. No.
B.M.Griffin	Ripley, Tenn. R.F.D. No. 4
Jim Jaynes	Halls, Tenn. R.F.D. No. 4
Chas. Price	Dyersburg, Tenn. R.F.D. No. 2
Jim Moore	Newbern, Tenn. R.F.D. No. 2
R.T.Peal	Dyersburg, Tenn. R.F.D. No. 1
W.L.Beston	Halls, Tenn. R.F.D. No. 3
Robin Coffman	Ripley, Tenn. R.F.D. No. 2

IN WITNESS WHEREOF WE HAVE set our hands this 14th day of September, 1940.

A.N.Crowder
Charles Childress
B.M.Griffin
Jim Jaynes
Robin Coffman
Chas. Price
Jim Moore
R.T.Peal
W.L.Beston

Witness: W.D.Patton

APPLICATION FOR AN AMENDMENT OF THE
ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF

The Fork Deer Electric Cooperative Inc., an Electric Cooperative, executed pursuant to the Electric Cooperative Act, being Chapter 176 Public Acts of the State of Tennessee for the year 1939.

The name of the Cooperative being the Fork Deer Electric Cooperative Inc., whose principal office is Halls, Lauderdale County, Tennessee, which filed its articles of incorporation in the office of the Secretary of State, of the State of Tennessee on the 18th day of August 1940.

This Amendment is filed for the purpose of changing the name of said Cooperative from Fork Deer Electric Cooperative Inc., to the

FORKED DEER ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE INC.,

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, We Charles Price, the President and Jim Jaynes, the Secretary of the Fork Deer Electric Cooperative Inc., have set the name of said Cooperative, by signing the same as President, and attested by the Secretary Jim Jaynes, as such acting officers of said Cooperative, on this February 4th, 1941, and caused the Seal of said Cooperative to be affixed thereto.

Fork Deer Electric Cooperative Inc.

By Chas. Price
President.

CORPORATE SEAL

Attest

Jim Jaynes
Secretary.

State of Tennessee,
Lauderdale County:

I, Charles Price, President of the Fork Deer Electric Cooperative Inc., make oath that the provisions of Section 12, of Chapter 176 of the Public Acts for the State of Tennessee, for the year 1939 have been complied with in every way.

Chas. Price

Sworn and subscribed to before me this February 4th 1941
My Commission Expires Jan. 8th, 1942

SEAL

W. C. Patton
Notary Public.

I, JOE C. CARR, Secretary of State, do certify that this Amendment to Charter with Certificate attached, of which the foregoing is a true copy, was this day registered and certified to by me.

This the 6th day of February, 1941.

JOE C. CARR
Secretary of State

Fees: \$15.00

Exerpt from October 1952 Counsel

Story of Forked Deer Electric Cooperative

The beginning of our Coop started back in 1940 when Mr. Price, our present president, along with the aid of the old directors in each district, started signing members for the beginning of the Coop. Seven to eight hundred signed up and said they were only taking a chance, but did not expect to get electricity. Most said "it can never be done."

Three hundred and seventy-two miles of lines were built. The Coop was organized to serve its members with electric service they would not have been able to have the benefit of this service had not the Coop been organized.

When the Coop was organized it was intended to help in doing such to make the entire community more prosperous and a better place in which to live.

The Coop is owned by its members and farmers of the different communities, consisting of Dyer, Lauderdale, Crockett and Haywood counties.

The Coop is run or governed by its directors, who are members that are voted in or elected at our Annual Meeting each year. The members vote on this day and the one receiving the largest vote in his district is the director for the next year. The directors then hire a manager, with the aid of R. E. A., who in turn selects his employees to work for the Coop.

The total assets for the Coop are \$2,450,000 and now have a monthly payroll of \$7,000. Our gas and oil are purchased from the local service stations and runs around \$1,400 per month. At the present time there are 23 employees. Our taxes paid for 1951 were \$2,440.00 and 1000 miles of lines have been laid.

Let's clear up the question of why electric cooperatives don't pay any federal income tax. But, on the other hand, you might easily ask why they should! to pay an income tax--it stands to reason you must have an income or a profit. It's on this basis that businesses and corporations pay their federal income tax. But, Coops are non-profit organizations, supplying service-at-cost--a cost which includes payment of an REA loan, with interest, and with other running expenses. In the final analysis there's no reason for them to be paying a federal income tax--there's nothing to tax. And, at the same time, the electric cooperatives most assuredly are not a burden on other taxpayers throughout the country.

The Coop has to borrow funds like any other large organization. Congress has passed a law whereas our Coop can borrow from R. E. A. at Washington at very little interest.

At the present time our local merchants have increased their business by having electricity on the rural lines. Some of the local appliance dealers tell me that 60% of their business is merchandise sold to our rural lines. Our motto is not to serve a "choice few" but to serve all.

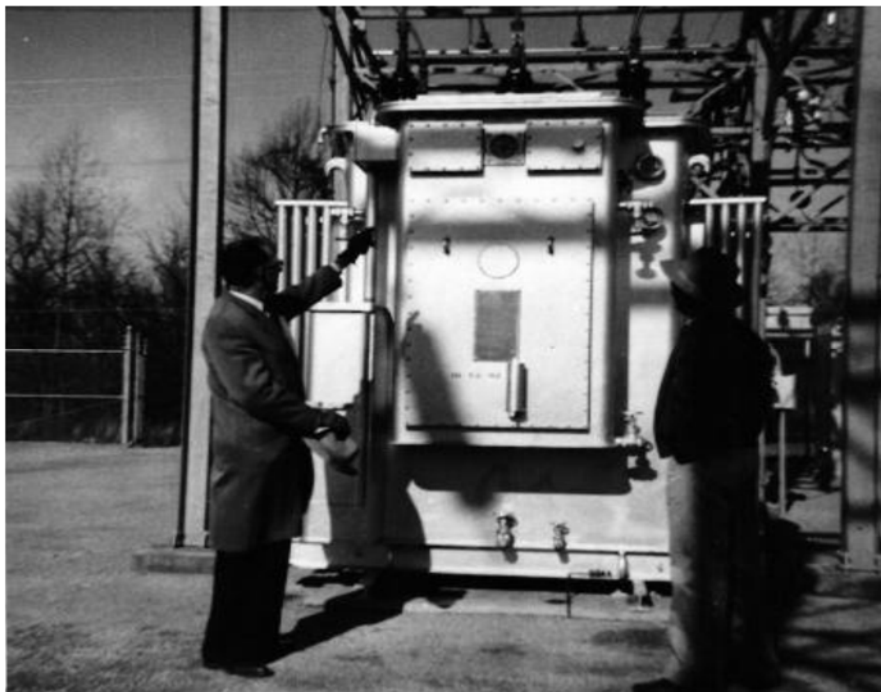
1940 was the birth of the Forked Deer Electric Cooperative, Inc. It's name originated by the coming of Henry Rutherford's Party in 1785. Surveying the Western part of the state coming from the East, they crossed a stream called Okeena by the Indians. This they renamed the Forked Deer because of its shape of its branches where it flows into the Obion and because at this point they killed a deer with peculiar shaped antlers.

Harold Hunt
Electrification Advisor

On November 6, 1941, the board of trustees voted on and approved the leasing of an office building on Front Street in Halls, Tennessee from the Bank of Halls. This building would be the first office of Forked Deer Electric. The cooperative rented this building for \$30 per month. The first lineman hired to Forked Deer Electric was Mr. A.M. Patton. Mr. Patton was hired after the December 4, 1941 board meeting with a starting salary of \$125 per month.



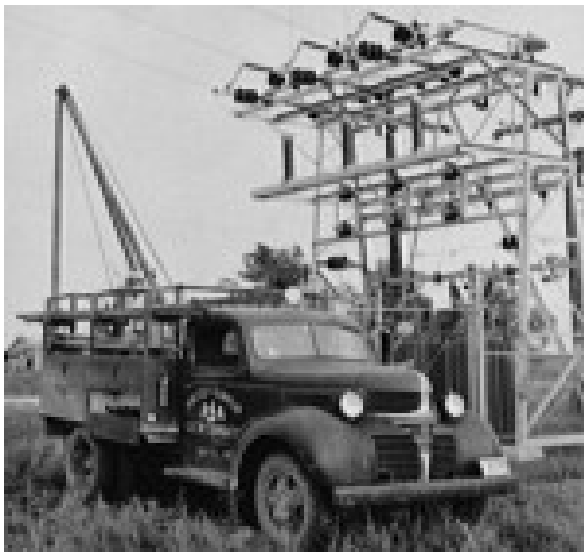
On January 13, 1942 at 2:00p.m., after many months of hard work, the board of trustees along with the superintendent and engineers traveled to the town of Newbern for the purpose of energizing certain lines running out of that substation. The current was turned on and the lines energized much to the delight and appreciation of those being served. At the February 15, 1942 board meeting, L.R. Viar was appointed as the first bookkeeper. Mr. Viar was the first office employee hired by Forked Deer Electric with a starting salary of \$85 per month. Slowly but surely the cooperative began to take form. It took many months and lots of outside help to get the new lines and substations built. During this time there was no electricity offered in the rural areas and the founders of Forked Deer worked diligently to change that. During April of 1942, the United States of America purposed to build an Air Field northwest of Halls. The construction of this air base would involve the cooperative to rearrange or relocate miles of lines and right of ways. In May of 1942, the United States of America entered into a contract with Forked Deer to provide electricity to the Air Base. This construction proved to be a great asset to the cooperative and community.



The first annual meeting was held at the office on Front Street on October 1, 1942 at 2:00 p.m. There were 52 members in attendance to the first annual meeting. The members in attendance constituted at least 10% of all members of the cooperative at the time.



During the early construction days, Forked Deer contracted the J.B. McCrary Engineering Company to oversee the construction and engineering of the miles and miles of service lines. At the time the contract was written, a clause was included to protect the engineering company from breach of contract due to the state of emergency caused by World War II. Due to the United States' involvement in WWII, building supplies needed for the construction of the lines and substations were scarce. The L.O. Brayton and Co. was hired as the contractors to undergo the process of constructing the lines under the guidance of the J.B. McCrary Engineering Company.



On July 1, 1943, the cooperative voted to add a second lineman to assist the other lineman on duty. It's hard to believe the cooperative functioned with only one lineman, this goes to show how small the cooperative was during its early days and how far we have come since. The minimum monthly bill for service with the cooperative in 1944 was \$1.50. That's quite a difference compared to today's minimum monthly charge of \$24.81. In July of 1946, Southern Telephone and Telegraph began a contract for joint usage of our poles. The first two-way radio was purchased from the General Electric Company on February 6, 1947 for \$2,300. This short wave radio equipment consisted of one 60 watt fixed station and two mobile units with the necessary materials to install the units. As the 1940's came to an end, the expansion of Forked Deer continued with the addition of lines in Middle City, Highway 20 (west of Finley), Lenox- Ayers Road (west of Obion River), and the Miston- Tennemo Line. In June 3, 1948, the cooperative purchased lines in Roellen from the city of Dyersburg.



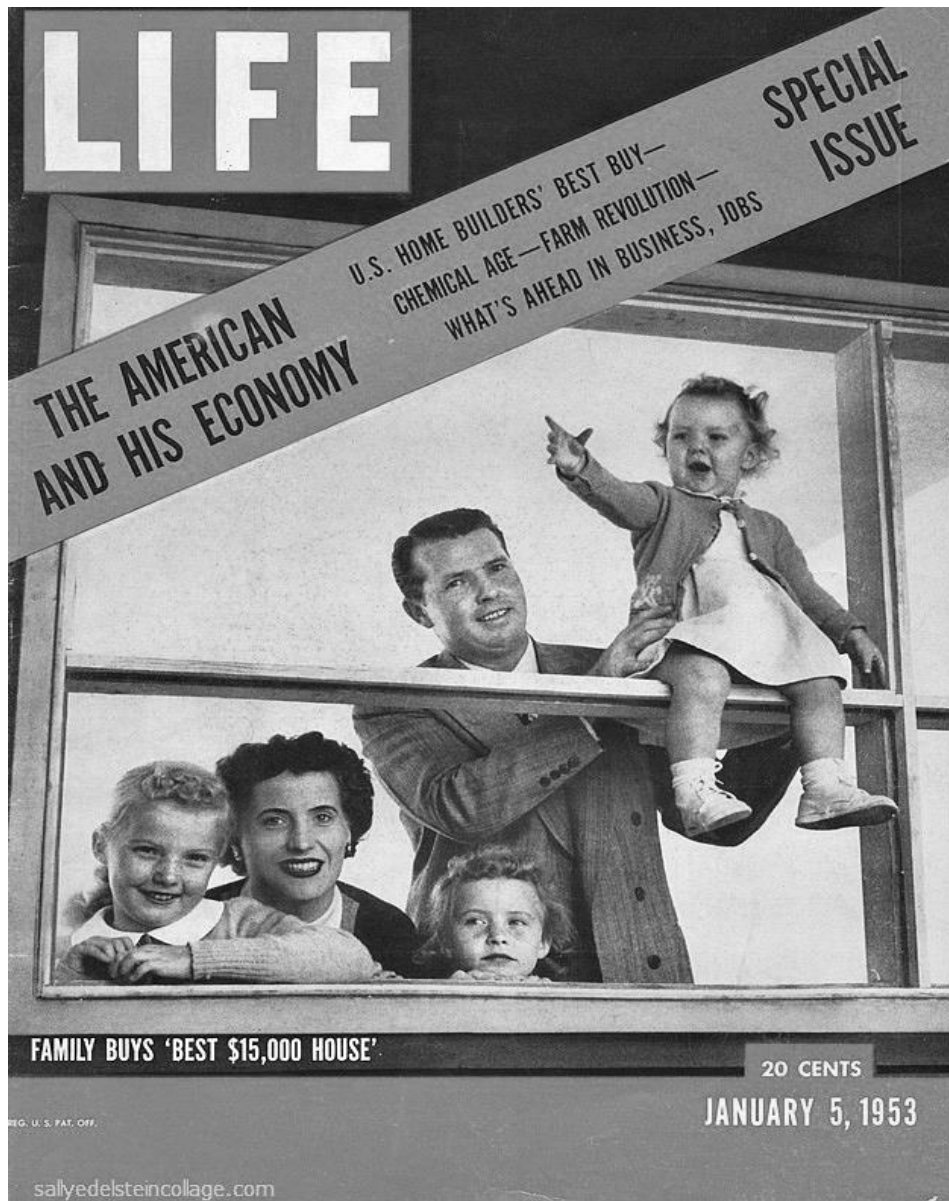
On March 4, 1948, a proposal was brought to the board for the purchase of a lot on Highway 51 for a future office site. The property consisted of 6.58 acres of land and was purchased for \$2,600. By the end of World War II, with the help of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal and Rural Electrification Act, rural West Tennessee began to change in leaps and bounds. The cooperative grew over the first decade and construction was steady. Customers, who were once in the dark, were now in the light.



H. E. Pentecost (manager) at the building site of Forked Deer's new office

1950s

The beginning of the 1950's brought more expansion for Forked Deer. The cooperative had new substations being constructed and more lines going up. The United States experienced economic growth. There was an increase in manufacturing and home construction amid a post- World War II financial boom.



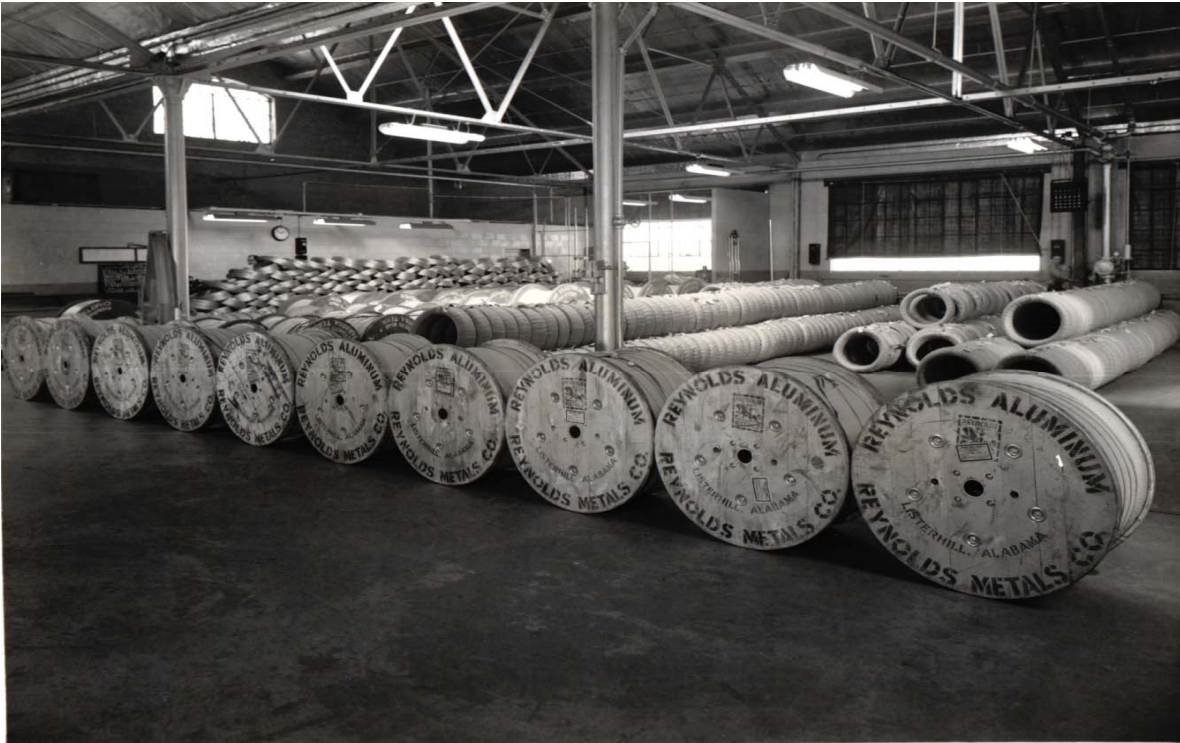
Forked Deer's membership was growing at a rapid pace. By March 1950, there were, on average, 50 new members added per month. The new extensions

added averaged 1,200 feet of lines per consumer, totaling 50 miles of single-phase construction to serve 200 new members.

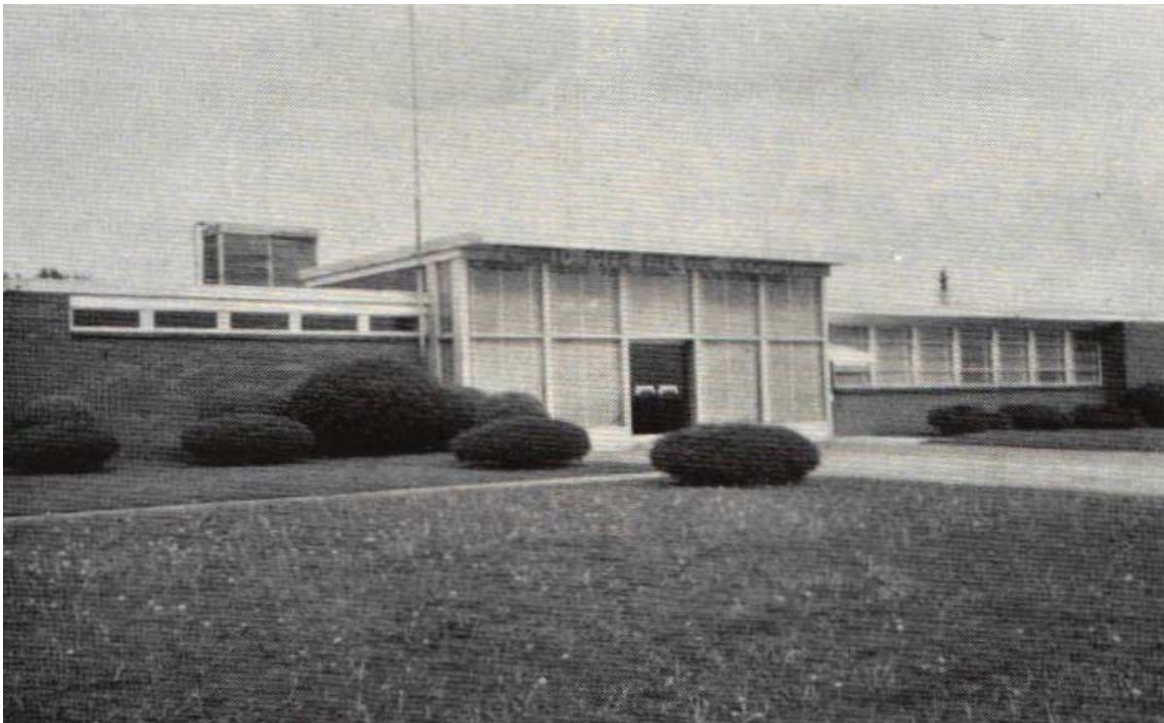


Employees and board members of Forked Deer in the original office

The board of directors approved the construction of a new substation. The new substation was to be built in Halls expanding the service area and increasing productivity of the lines.



Materials used in the construction of the electrical lines



Forked Deer office from August 1951 to April 2007

More and more farms and homes across rural West Tennessee were now blessed with the privilege of electricity. Electricity made tedious daily tasks easier and faster. Housewives no longer had to spend all day doing laundry by hand. Electric washers made laundry a breeze. Electric farm equipment, such as an electric corn sheller, made shelling corn for cattle a swift and easy chore. Electric refrigerators took the place of root cellars and extended the life of perishable foods. Dairy farmers could now purchase electric milking equipment and milk in a fraction of the time.

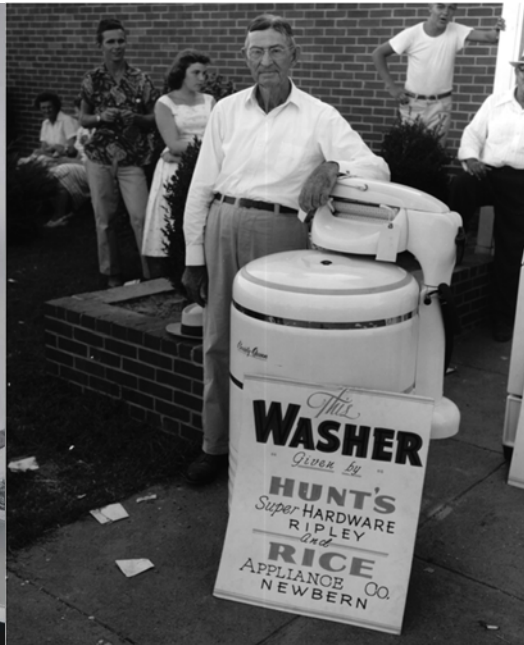
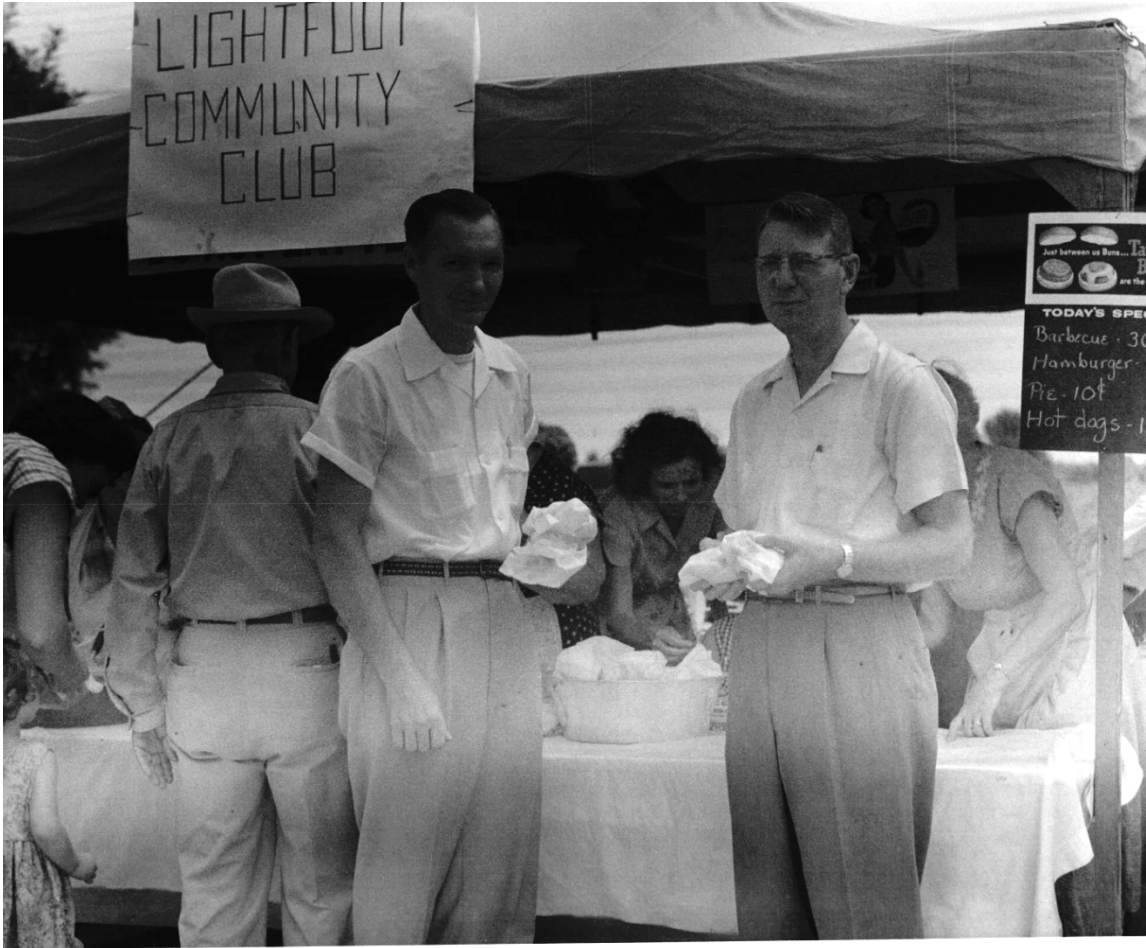




Forked Deer Annual Meeting days were a grand affair back in the 1950's. Prizes were electric heaters, refrigerators, cook stoves, washing machines, and dryers to name a few. Different companies from the area donated appliances along with those donated by Forked Deer. Customers enjoyed live entertainment and could shop at vender booths.











Excerpts from "The Counsel" that FDEC published and sent to its members

FORKED DEER
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE
Halls, Tennessee

Sec. 34.66 P. L. & R.
U. S. POSTAGE
Paid
HALLS, TENN.
Permit No. 15

Building for the Future . . .

The trend here is toward the use of more and more electricity . . . for lightening household chores, for brighter schools and streets, for humming business. This means we must give you assurance of day-in-day-out electric service.

To do this, we make extensive engineering studies, place orders for hard-to-get materials, try to predict your future electrical needs. We must be constantly strengthening circuits, adding larger transformers—to build ahead for tomorrow's loads as well as today's.

It's a big job—and essential for dependable electric service 24 hours a day. We're building your electric system for the future—the future that holds even greater promise of better living through electricity.



FORKED DEER
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE
Halls, Tennessee

Sec. 34.06 P. L. & R.
U. S. POSTAGE
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Permit No. 15



Know

Your

Linemen

Front row---R. F. Davis, Ellie Harrell, Sewell Hawkins
Back row--- Walter Blankenship, Hollis Leggett, Virgil
Bowie, Loyd Cates, Edward Robins and Elmer Alston.

When winter weather's the roughest, it's nice to be inside in a warm comfortable spot. But the rougher the weather, the more likelihood there is of some trouble on our power system. Wind.....to blow trees across power lines. Snow and ice.....to break trees and lines. Slick roads.....to flip cars off the roads into power poles. That is when our linemen take over. The rougher the weather, the more chances they have to be called out--- at any hour of the night--- to handle a trouble call.

These linemen are on call twenty-four hours a day....often working under dangerous conditions--to keep at a low-cost electric power at your fingertips. All of us owe them a debt of gratitude for their service.



REA



These ladies have found that few things can match the convenience and pleasure that electricity bring to the homemaker.



Mrs. Charles Daniels, Ripley, R. 5
Kelvinator



Mrs. Thad McCord, Newbern, R. 3
Norge-Templeton's, Dyersburg



Mrs. Talmage Cribfield, Ripley, R. 4
Admiral-Barnett's, Ripley



Mrs. L. M. Horner, Miston
Frigidaire-Elec. Supply, Dyersburg

"The Counsel"

Linnie D. Ralph - - - - - Editor

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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W. C. Patton, Attorney

Our business in life is not to get ahead of other people, but to get ahead of ourselves. To break our own record, to outstrip our yesterdays by todays, to bear our trials more beautifully than we ever dreamed we could, to whip the temper inside and out as we never whipped it before, to give as we have never given, to do our work with more force and finer finish than ever--this is the true idea--to get ahead of ourselves.

Author Unknown

LITTLE THINGS
Lois Snelling

He stopped to pat a small dog's head--
A tiny thing to do:
And yet, the dog remembering,
Was glad the whole day through.

He gave a rose into the hand
Of one who loved it much:
T'was just a rose - but, oh, the joy
That lay in its soft touch!

He spoke a word so tenderly--
A word's a wee, small thing,
But, yet, it stirred a weary heart
To hope again, and sing!

Electrical Terms You Should Know

AMPERE--An ampere is the rate at which a given quantity of electricity flows through a conductor or circuit. The term "ampere" is often abbreviated amp.

VOLT--A volt is the unit in measuring the pressure causing the current to flow (voltage is electric pressure).

WATT--A watt is a unit of electric power (1 volt times 1 amp equals 1 watt).

KILOWATT--A kilowatt is 1,000 watts.

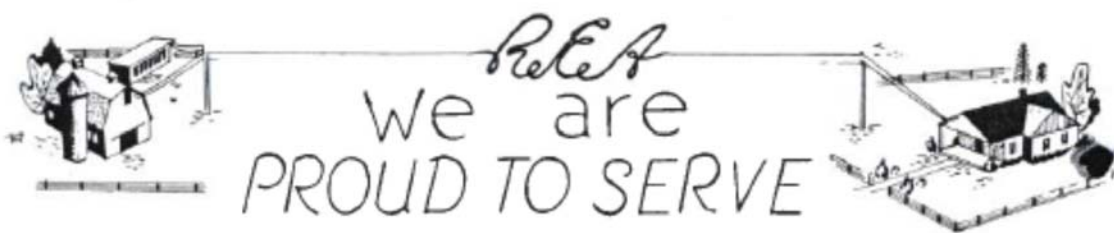
KILOWATT HOUR---A kilowatt hour is a kilowatt of power used for 1 hour. Electric energy is metered and sold by kilowatt hour. It is often indicated by KWH.

CIRCUIT---An electrical circuit consists of two or more conductors (wires) to travel from the source of supply to the point where it is used, and return.



C. HENCA, 1952

Compliments
of
BANK OF RIPLEY
Member F.D.I.C
Ripley Tennessee



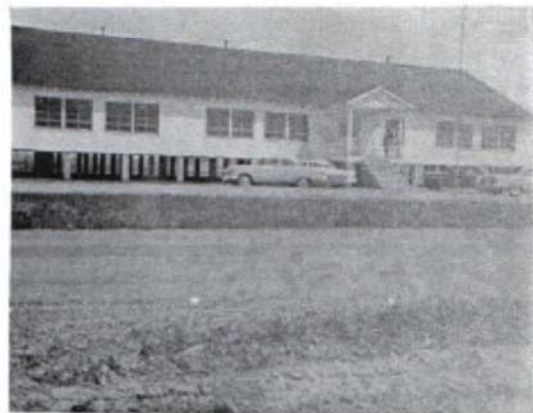
Bogota Elementary School
Bogota



Forked Deer Elementary School
Gates, Route # 2



Ashport Consolidated School
Ashport (Ripley, Star Route)



Gold Dust Consolidated School
Ripley, Star Route



Kitchen



Clippings



We are sure homemakers are now thinking of various relishes. Try these:

TOMATO RELISH

Chop and mix well, 30 medium-sized, ripe tomatoes, 4 large onions, 4 hot peppers, 4 sweet peppers. Add salt to suit taste. Add 1/2 cups sugar, 1 pint vinegar, 1 tablespoon allspice and 1 teaspoon cinnamon. Place on low heat until sugar dissolves. Turn to high and bring to a boil. Again, turn to low and cook about 45 minutes. Seal while hot.

Mrs. Moody Palmer
Route # 1
Dyersburg, Tennessee

A number of requests have come for the recipe for SWEET RELISH sent in by Mrs. J.W. Davis, Ripley, Route 2.

SWEET RELISH

1 pint green sweet peppers, 1 pint sweet red peppers, 1 pint onion, 1 pint cabbage, head cauliflower, 3 carrots, 2 hot peppers, 4 tablespoons salt, 1 teaspoon celery seed, 1 teaspoon mustard seed, 6 cups sugar and 1 quart vinegar. Grind or chop vegetables. Bring sugar and vinegar to a boiling point. Pour over chopped mixture, and let set over night. Pour into sterilized jars and seal.

Why not balance your supply of tangy vegetable relishes with a sweeter version made of fruits?

APPLE-RAISIN RELISH

2 pounds raisins; 7 pounds apples; chopped, 2 oranges, peeled, seeded and diced; 1 pint vinegar; 3 1/2 pounds white sugar; 3/4 teaspoon cloves; and 3/4 teaspoon cinnamon.

Method: Place raisins in saucepan and cover with water. Cook raisins until tender. Drain and set aside. Combine apples, oranges and vinegar. Bring to a boil and cook for a short time. Mix sugar, cloves and cinnamon. Stir in mixture and raisins. Cook 30 minutes. Pour into hot sterilized jars and seal at once.

Something else for the "Sweet tooth".

PEAR HONEY

10 pound pears, 6 pound sugar, 3 #1 cans crushed pineapple and juice of 2 lemons (optional). Grind pears. Mix pears, sugar, pineapple and lemon juice. Bring to a boil on high heat. Turn to low heat and cook 1 hour. Seal while hot.

REA -7- CO-OP



Kitchen



Clippings



There are many ways the designing homemaker can create an air of surprise and expectancy about her desserts. These dishes climax the well-planned meal and can be served with all ease to the family and visitors. The secret is to use short cuts, such as starting the dessert with canned breads or angel food cake. Try serving any of these desserts listed below and watch appetites start perking up.

ORANGE CHIFFON CREAM CAKE

To 1 cup chilled heavy cream, add 2 tablespoons sugar and $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon vanilla and whip until stiff. Cut canned orange-nut roll into 12 slices. Spread slices with half the cream and stack together; press gently. Lay on side on serving platter. Spread remaining cream over all. Chill 3 hours. Slice diagonally into 6 portions.

QUICK CHOCOLATE CAKELETS

Cream 3 tablespoons butter, gradually stir in 1 and $\frac{1}{3}$ cup confectioners' sugar and a dash of salt. Add $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoons milk and $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon vanilla; stir until fluffy. Cut 1 chocolate-nut roll into 12 slices. Spread with butter-sugar frosting. Chill. Cut each slice in half before serving.

STEAMED DATE-NUT PUDDING, FLUFFY LEMON SAUCE

Heat 1 can of date-nut bread as directed on label. For the lemon sauce, combine $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon grated lemon rind, 1 tablespoon lemon juice, 3 tablespoons sugar and 1 egg yolk in top of double boiler. Place over boiling water and beat with rotary beater until thick. Beat the egg white until it will stand in peaks. Pour cooked mixture over stiffly beaten white, mixing well. Top slice of date pudding.

PINEAPPLE-NUT ANGEL FOOD

Use $\frac{1}{2}$ cup drained crushed pineapple, 1 cup heavy cream, whipped, $\frac{1}{4}$ cup broken nut meats and 1 oblong angel food cake. Fold pineapple and nuts into whipped cream. Slice angel food cake horizontally into 3 equal sized layers. Spread pineapple-nut mixture between layers and on top of cake.

REA -7- CO-OP

1960s

Forked Deer continued to grow and expand the lines in able to service more customers. More linemen and linemen helpers were hired to better service the customers of our area. The country was changing and great gaps were being closed. Rural Americans were no longer as isolated as they had once been.

Many of our customers today would be astonished to know that during the first days of Forked Deer, the customers were responsible for reporting their meter readings each month. Every month the customer would receive a meter reading card (example below) and would read their meter and mail it back to Forked Deer for their bill to be calculated.


SAM ROE
ROUTE 4
DYERSBURG TENN 38024 1274⁵ /

Day
Mail

Date of Meter Reading	CYCLOMETER METER KILOWATT HOURS MARK IN EACH WINDOW BELOW THE NUMBER SHOWN ON THE CORRESPONDING ONE ON YOUR METER
Name of Person Receiving Service	(2) (4) (4) (7)

If You Fail To Return Your Card Properly Marked Your Reading Will
Be Estimated 10% Higher Than It Would Normally Read

Remarks.....



Meter Reading Post Card

Forked Deer Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Halls, Tennessee 38040

Also during this time, Forked Deer only required a \$5 membership. No deposit was required for electric service. Each customer was issued a membership certificate as proof of membership.

Number 1034

Forked Deer Electric Cooperative, Inc.
MEMBERSHIP
Certificate

THIS CERTIFIES THAT A MEMBERSHIP IN

Forked Deer Electric Cooperative, Inc.
hereinafter called the "Cooperative"

IS HELD BY Walter B. W. Heatley

IN WITNESS WHEREOF *the Cooperative has caused this certificate to be signed by its President and Secretary and its corporate seal to be hereunto affixed this* 1st *day of* January, 1942

CORPORATE SEAL • Clus Price President.
Jim Faymer Secretary.

REA
CO-OP
(Conditions of membership stated on back)

Forked Deer suffered a great loss in June of 1961. H.E. Pentecost, the general manager, passed away. Mr. Pentecost became manager in February 1949 and served for 12 years. He helped set forth policies that are still in effect today. His death was a great loss to not only the cooperative but the customers as well.



The Counsel

Volume No. 11

August 1961



**FORKED DEER ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.
HALLS, TENNESSEE**

OWNED AND OPERATED BY ITS 6000 MEMBERS

-1-

"The Counsel"

Linnie D. Ralph ----- Editor

H. E. Pentecost

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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H. G. Caldwell -----	Vice President
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James A. Reasons	Willie D. Whithy

Sewell Hawkins, Acting Manager
Ross Dyer, Attorney

IN MEMORY

The employees and directors of the Forked Deer Electric Cooperative, Inc., dedicate this August issue of "THE COUNSEL" to the memory of Mr. H. E. Pentecost who suffered a fatal heart attack Thursday, June 22.

In that Mr. Pentecost had been in his office Thursday, and seemed to be in good spirit, his death, to us, was not only shocking, but to the Cooperative a great loss.

He came to the Cooperative in February 1949, as manager, and his going from us has thrown a shadow---in which time alone can cast away---over his fellow workers who looked to him for counsel.

Mr. Pentecost was very active in church and civic affairs. At the time of his death, he was a steward, trustee and church layleader in the Halls Methodist church. He was serving as a member to The Tennessee Industrial Development Commission, being appointed by Governor Ellington, April 8, 1959.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the Forked Deer Electric Cooperative, Inc., Halls, Tennessee, that in the passing of our Manager, Mr. H. E. Pentecost, on June 22, 1961, that the Forked Deer Electric Cooperative, Inc., has suffered a great loss.

Mr. Pentecost came here as manager, February 12, 1949, and during his 12 years of service, his major accomplishments include the building of a new headquarters building and building heavier lines to provide better service to the consumers.

He won the love and respect of his employees and the Board of Trustees with whom he worked, because of his oneness with them and he will be greatly missed.

RESOLVED that to his family and loved ones, the trustees and employees of the Forked Deer Electric Cooperative, Inc., express their profound sympathy in sharwith them their great loss.

BE IT RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to his family, a copy be published in "THE COUNSEL", The Halls Graphic, Lauderdale County Enterprise, State Gazette and The Tri County News and that a copy be written in the minutes of the July meeting of the Board of Trustees.

Chas. Price

President

Rebin Coffman

Sec't. and Treas.



RECA

FORKED DEER ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS

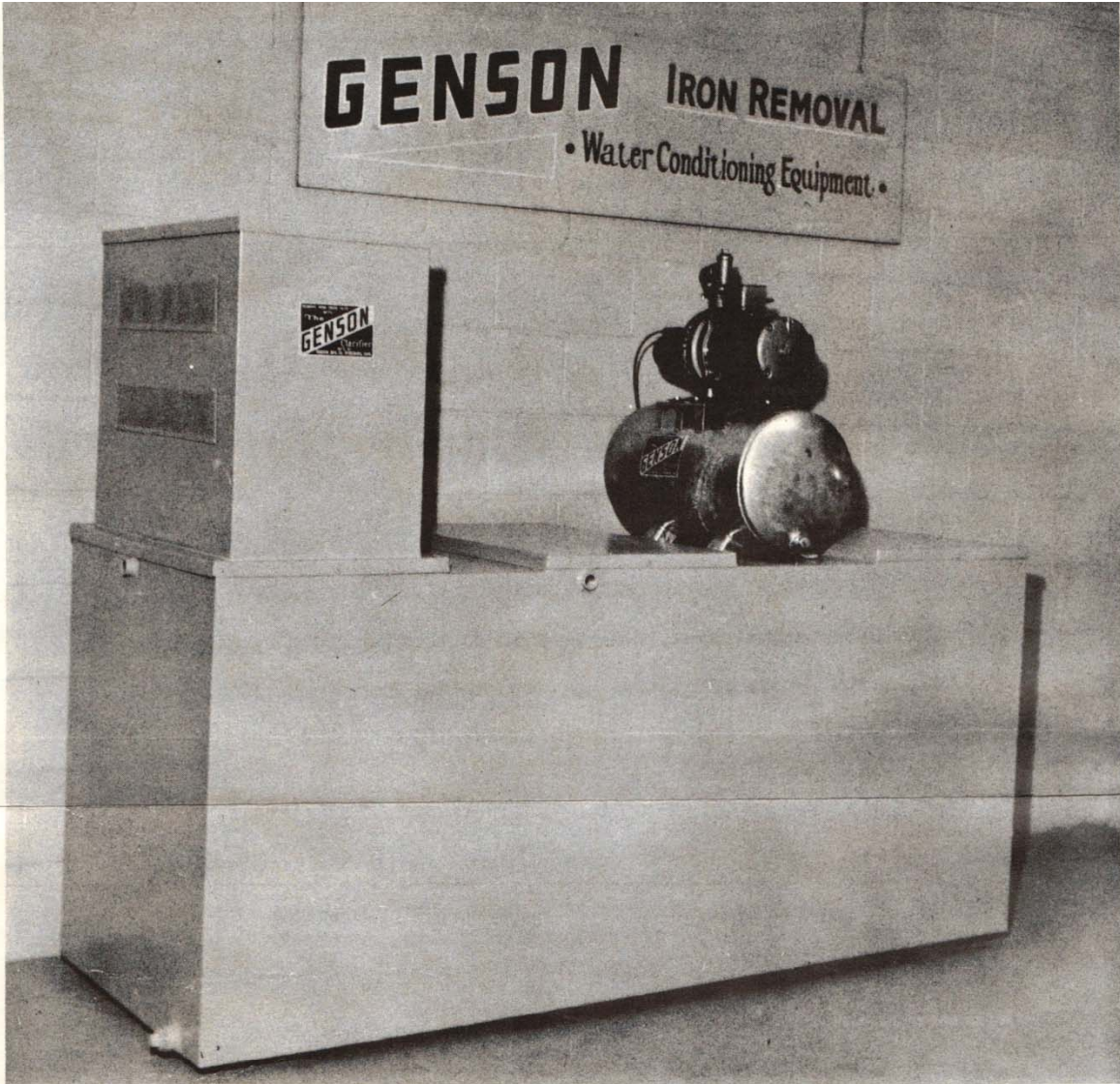


Official Notice
of
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The annual meeting of the members of the Forked Deer Electric Cooperative, Inc., will be held on the REA grounds, Highway 51, North, Halls, Tennessee, at 9:30 A. M., August 17, 1961, to take action upon the following matters.

1. The report of officers, directors and committees;
2. The election of three(3) directors of the Cooperative;
3. Reading of unapproved minutes of the previous meeting of the members and taking necessary action thereon.

(Signed) *Robin Cassman*
Secretary
Forked Deer Electric Cooperative, Inc.



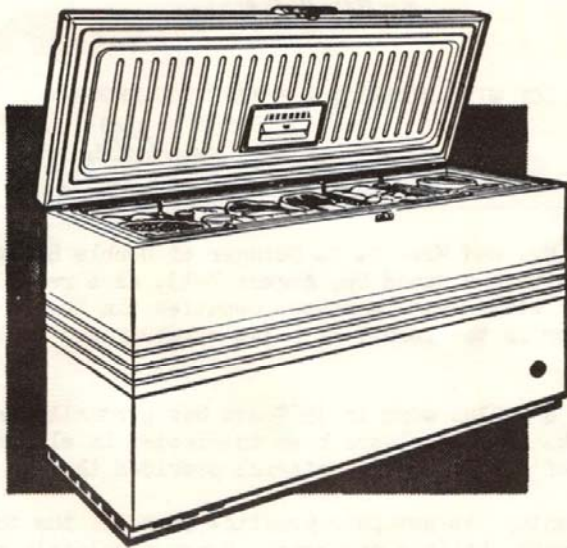
Have Crystal Clear Water With A Genson

It doesn't cost to own a Genson clarifier, it pays

DICK'S WATER SERVICE
P. O. BOX 432
DYERSBURG, TENNESSEE

REA -4- CO-OP

**Let your
Frigidaire
Dealer
Supply
your
Electric
Range,
Water
Heater
&
Home
Freezer
Needs**



**See us
for all
your Electric
Appliance
Needs**

**WE INSTALL
&
SERVICE ALL
EQUIPMENT**

FRIENDSHIP FURNITURE STORE

**ELECTRIC SUPPLY
CO.**
DYERSBURG, TENNESSEE

**All
Equipment
Installed
&
Serviced**

Hansford Appliance Co.
HALLS, TENNESSEE

WILEY T. DANIELS
RIPLEY



RICE APPLIANCE COMPANY
NEWBERN

REA -5- CO-OP



REDA



LAUDERDALE COUNTY BOY WINS DISTRICT 4-H ELECTRIC PROGRAM

Charles Deal
Asst. County Agent

Henry Swanner, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Swanner of Double Bridges, is the proud owner of a district scholarship to 4-H Round Up, August 7-13, as a result of having won over electric contestants from other West Tennessee Counties in the Senior 4-H Electric Program. His earning this honor is the result of a lot of study and application of the things learned.

Henry started off his 4-H Club work in 1957 and has gradually increased the scope and quality of his project work. He has always been interested in electricity from the beginning and has studied many of the pieces of material provided through the Extension Program.

Henry's golden opportunity to put into practice some of the things he has learned came in 1960 when his parents built a new home. Henry completely planned the wiring and actually wired the entire house himself. He used No. 12 wire throughout the house with the exception of that running from the light switch to the light. He put in receptacles in the appropriate places, installed the switch box, wired the pump, and also put an appliance circuit in the kitchen. This is quite an accomplishment for a 15-year-old to do the quality job that he did in wiring his house.

His electric activities do not end with the house wiring for he does many other things. He keeps the iron, washing machine, fans and other household gadgets in repair and/or running condition. At school he has made items along the electric line to exhibit in science fairs and has won ribbons on them. He is constantly on the alert for new ideas that he can apply around the home or things he can do in his electric program.

Henry's parents plan to install a bathroom this fall and he will assist with this. In fact he planned it out so that the circuit for the hot water heater has already been installed plus the lights around the mirror. Henry's room improvement project is one in which he can apply electricity by using lighting color schemes, etc.

Henry's other 4-H projects are corn, handicraft, home grounds beautification and Junior Leadership. This year he has 2.3 acres of corn which he will sell and use the profit for clothes and items that he needs for school and personal use. He has assisted in the 4-H Rally Day event, and other things which give him leadership experience. He served as president of his 4-H Club at Double Bridges also he has been on the program committee, has been vice-president, song leader, and secretary. Henry is active in his Church youth program.

The purpose of this electric program in which Henry is participating is for boys and girls to gain knowledge that will be helpful in making the best use of electric service in the home and on the farm. Each county in West. Tenn. is eligible to compete one boy and one girl in the Senior Div. of the 4-H electric program on the District basis. Henry, as the winner, will represent District 1 at the 4-H Round Up in Knoxville in which he will compete for states award. The state award is a trip to Chicago to the National 4-H Congress. The ultimate goal in Chicago is to win one of the 12 \$400 scholarships sponsored by the Westinghouse Co.

Henry's success in his 4-H electric program is typical of what a club member may do in 4-H work. The knowledge and skill plus the satisfaction that comes with success is within reach of any club boy or girl in Lauderdale County.

Compliments
of
BANK OF FRIENDSHIP
Friendship, Tennessee

DYERSBURG STATE BANK
A complete
Banking System
Federal Deposit
Insurance Corp.

BANK OF RIPLEY
A FRIENDLY BANK
Ripley, Tennessee

GATES BANKING & TRUST CO.
We solicit and appreciate
your business

The Lauderdale County Mobile X-Ray Unit
will be on the REA grounds, August 17.

Make your plans to attend the annual meeting
and take advantage of this wonderful
opportunity of free X-Ray. Good health
is of vital importance to all of us and
we should take advantage of every health
aid offered us.

BE SURE TO HAVE YOUR X-RAY August 17.

FIRST CITIZENS NATIONAL BANK
SINCE 1889
Dyersburg, Tennessee

Congratulations
from
BANK OF HALLS
Halls Tennessee
Member FDIC

FORKED DEER
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE
Halls, Tennessee

Sec. 34.66 P.L.&R.
U.S. POSTAGE
Paid
HALLS, TENN.
Permit No. 15

No Matter How You Come



WE WILL BE EXPECTING YOU
at the
ANNUAL MEETING

The June

Carter

Show will be here.

REA -8- CO-OP

Office Employees During the 1960s



1970s, 1980s, & 1990s

The 1970s brought few changes for Forked Deer. The cooperative continued to grow in members and added employees. During the early part of 1971, customers no longer mailed their meter readings into the office. Meter readers were hired to go from house to house and document the meter readings each month for billing. The first meter reader started in May of 1971. The cooperative also decided to no longer host a beauty review at the annual meeting. The last cooperative sponsored beauty review was held August 16, 1973. The results were as follows: Queen, Betty Evelyn Pennington; 1st Alternative, Donna Page; 2nd Alternative, Jackie Jennings.



Carl Newman 1967-2007. He started as a right of way worker and later became the assistant manager.



Russell Jacocks with wife Marguerite. Served from 1955-1993. He started as a right of way worker and later became General Manager.

70s, 80s, & 90s Annual Meeting Pictures







FDEC employees during the 1990s

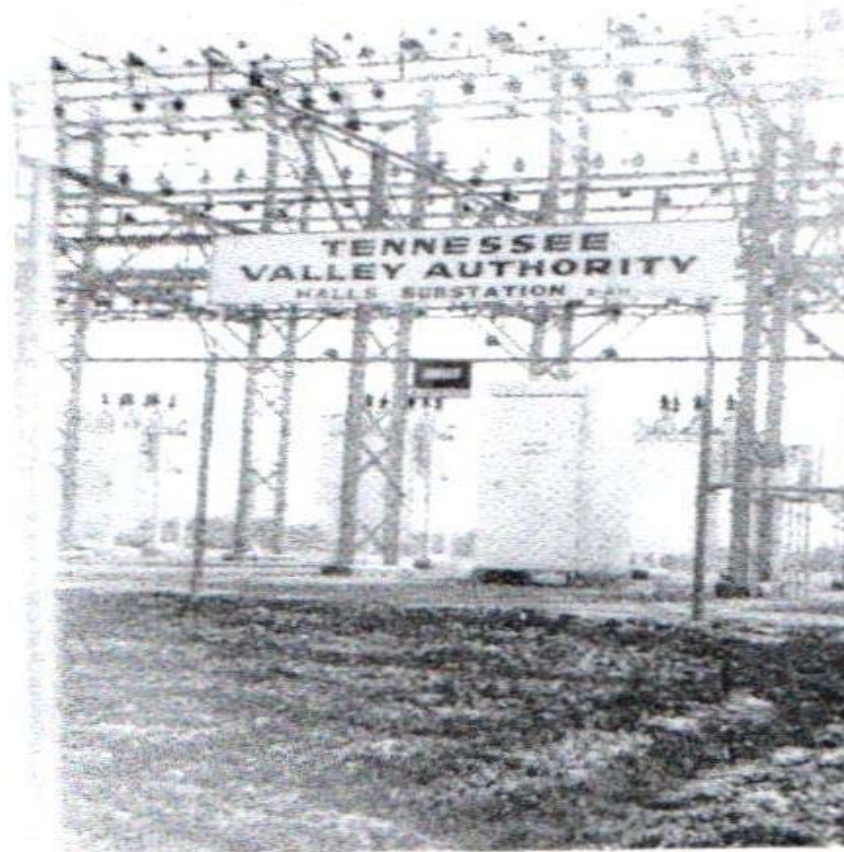


1993 was a historical year for not only Forked Deer Electric, but for the entire electric cooperative community. Nelda Bishop was named the first female general manager of a cooperative in Tennessee. Ms. Bishop had been employed with Forked Deer since the 1960s as an assistant bookkeeper, then as office manager before becoming general manager. She served as general manager for the cooperative from January of 1993 to February of 2000, when she retired.



2000s

In the 2000s FDEC saw the construction of two new substations, Curve and Millcreek. The Curve substation was constructed to help take the load off of the Ripley substation. The Curve substation was completed in 2003 at a cost of \$1,100,000. Millcreek took the place of the old Halls substation. The original Halls substation was completed in 1954 and cost \$130,000 to construct. The Millcreek substation was completed in 2010 and cost \$1,700,000 to construct.



Halls Substation in 1954

Curve and Millcreek Substations



Mill Creek Substation

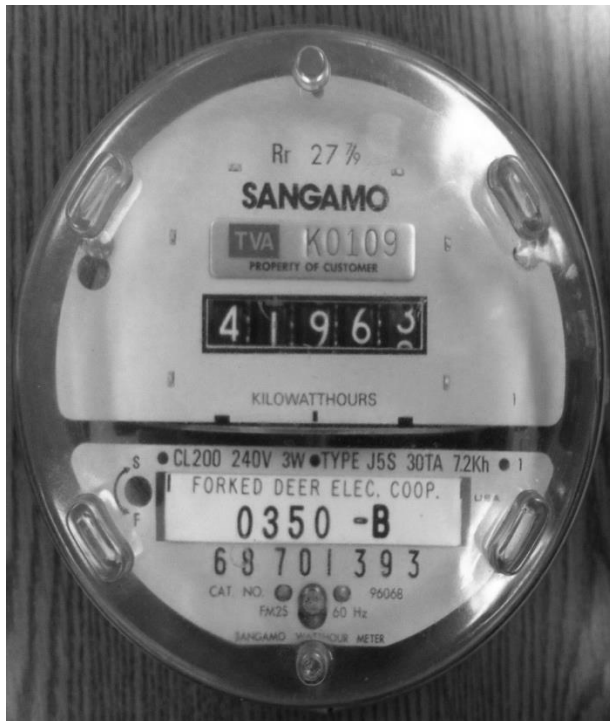


Curve Substation

Technology was changing, improving services offered to members, and building the framework for future improvements and ideas. In 2004, Forked Deer EC began to install smart meters in the cooperative's service territory. Smart

meters performed the same basic functions of the traditional mechanical meters, but possessed the technology that allowed two-way communication via the electric lines between the meter and the cooperative office. Smart meters also served as a building block for Automated Metering Infrastructure (AMI).

AMI technology allowed Forked Deer to complete meter reading automatically. Monthly readings were captured through the meter and sent via power lines back to the Forked Deer office, where they were converted into a new, improved bill format. The AMI structure allowed for current billing, which allowed revenues and Forked Deer's purchased power costs to align more closely.



Old manuel read meter



New electronic read meter

THE LAST WORD

Little meter on my wall

Ain't you got no heart at all?

Day and night you're never sleepin

Track of all the watts you're
keepin.

When the lights are burning bright

Guess you run your best at night.

Seems at times you're out of reason

Spinning in and out of season.

But records of your history long

Prove that you are seldom wrong.

So even though your dials are mute

Its accurate answers you compute.

And what is listed on our bill

Is what we ought to pay - and will.

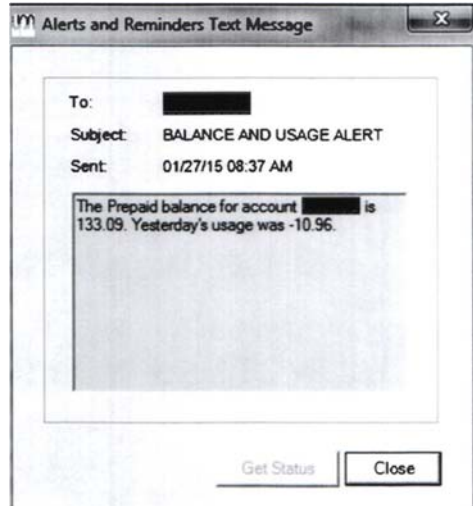
Shucks !!

REA

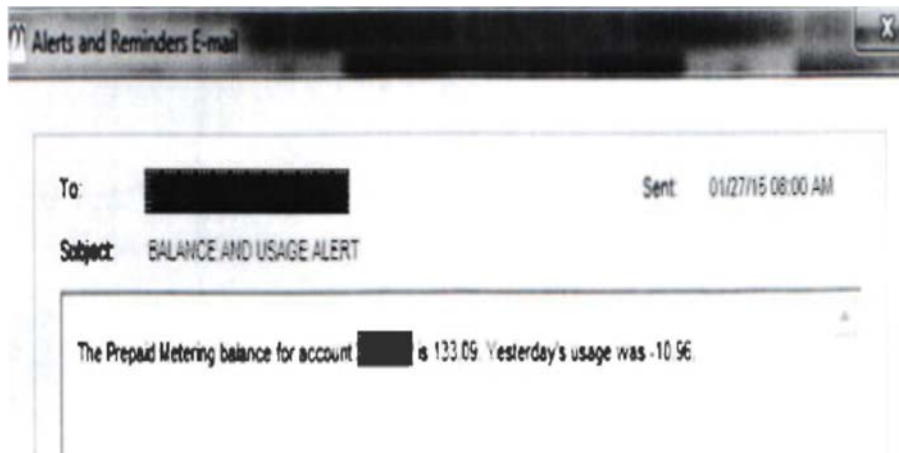
In 2009, Forked Deer EC introduced a new program call Pre-Pay Metering. Pre-Pay allows customers to save on the deposit and monitor their usage daily. Pre-Pay customers were issued an In-Home Device to allow them to monitor their balance and usage on a daily basis. The IHD had to be plugged into an electrical outlet within the home to allow the daily balances to update. Their electric charges deducts from their account balance each day. If the customer fails to add more money to their account on the day they go into the negative, their electricity is automatically disconnected. This concept is more cost efficient for not only the customer, but for Forked Deer EC . The amount of bad debts has dramatically dropped since the introduction of Prepay. Now with more advances in technology, the IHDs are obsolete. Customers receive a text message or email daily with their balance and usage. Forked Deer was one of the first electric cooperatives in Tennessee to offer this revolutionary plan.



Example of In Home Device



Example of Text Message



Example of Email

On May 8, 2006, Forked Deer broke ground for the construction of a new headquarters located south of the old headquarters. The building was completed in the spring of 2007. The new headquarters better served the customers due to a drive thru payment window and drive thru night deposit box.







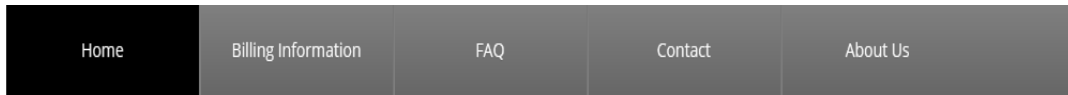




Forked Deer Electric Headquarters April 2007

In May of 2011, field inventory survey began on the FDEC distribution system. Each meter, transformer, and other pieces of equipment are being assigned identifying numbers. Their location is being recorded using GIS technology and placed into a database which will create a detailed map of the service territory. The maps will assist crews in restoring electric service more quickly and efficiently after an outage, and would also serve as an inventory of all of the equipment located in the field.

In 2013, FDEC launched its first website, giving members access to online bill pay, account information, and other cooperative functions and news items. Also in 2013, members were offered the option of e-billing. Instead of receiving a paper statement each month in the mail, members receive an e-mail containing a link to their monthly bill, which can be paid online or by mail. Members can now access their account at any time, pay bills, view past electric use, view forms, anywhere there was an Internet connection.



FORKED DEER ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC

1135 N CHURCH STREET, HALLS, TN 38040

CALL 731-836-7508

Pay Bill By Telephone by Calling Toll Free
(844) 333-2729

Pay Bill Online

731-836-7509

731-285-7500

731-287-8751

OFFICE HOURS Monday - Thursday 7AM-5PM

731-677-2360

Customers Please Click on Links
Below



Click Here
to Check for Known Outages

HELP CONSERVE ELECTRICITY AND LOWER YOUR BILLS



www.forkeddeer.com

Harold Willis became General Manager of Forked Deer EC in March of 2000 and retired in January of 2015. He previously served as a board director beginning in August of 1969 until his hiring as General Manager. He saw to the building of two new substations, Curve and Mill Creek, the revamping of the Nauvoo Substation to improve the reliability of service, the building of the new Forked Deer EC Headquarters, and the hiring of right-of-way crews to go over the entire system in order to minimize the outage time experienced per customer. Also during his time as General Manager, he helped implement the use of an automatic meter-reading system, prepaid metering system, and online bill system in order to better serve our customers.



1969 Forked Deer Board of Directors
(Harold Willis is second from right in the top row)



Left to right: Harold Willis, Betty Willis, Gary Hasty, Donna Hasty, Judy Holland (Office Manager), & Jeff Newman (General Manager)

The Lineman Poem

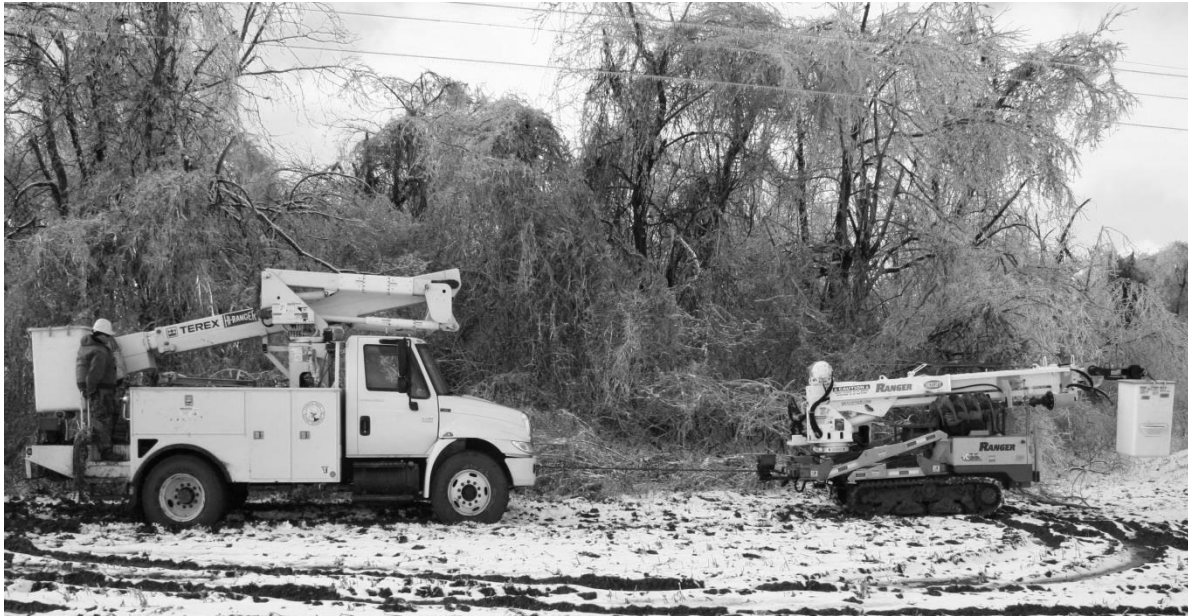
Upon the storm swept cross arm
Where the winds blow wild and free,
A cowhide belt and a chip of steel
‘Twixt him and eternity.
When the thunder peals o’er the treetops
And the lightning gleams on the hills,
It’s then his work is awaiting him
And he gets plenty of thrills.
When folks in houses cringe and shake
Before the storm has passed,
He handles death at his fingertips
To make the hot wires fast.
One slip of his hand and he’s gone
To at least long days of pain,
But let him out and sure as sin
He’ll be up a pole again.
There’s times he holds in his hands
The life of a pal he loves,
And prays that he fail not in his trust
By a flaw in his rubber gloves.
For all of that he’s a common guy
And very much carefree,
And he’ll stick to you through everything,
Best pal you ever did see.
So sometimes in a thunderstorm
When everything goes black...
Just think of a poor guy working hard
To get those hot wires back.

-Rural Electrification, 1978

Keeping the Lights On

Forked Deer EC employees are a dedicated group of individuals. They battle whatever elements Mother Nature decides to throw their way. The men work in adverse situations while the office employees work all hours answering the phones in order for customers to stay informed.

Ice Storm 2009



Flood 2011





Tornado 2006





2014 Annual Meeting







Board of Directors

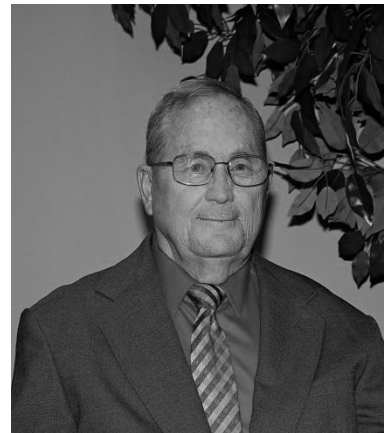
Like all cooperatives, Forked Deer EC directors are elected by the members of the district they live in. Forked Deer EC has nine director districts who try to do the best they can for the members and the workers. The Forked Deer EC Directors are:



Keith Warren
Board President
District 4
Director since August 2001



Lynn Burnett
Board Vice President
District 6
Director since August 2001



David Walker
Secretary / Treasurer
District 7
Director since April 2000



Ron Weir
District 1
Director since August 2012



Ronnie Fisher
District 2
Director since August 2006



Ronnie Roberts
District 3
Director since August 2003



Mike Harris
District 5
Director since August 1997



Joe Smith
District 8
Director since August 2002



Wally Childress
District 9
Director since August 2011



Mark Johnston
Attorney
Since July 1990



Jeffery M. Newman
General Manager
Since January 2015

Perhaps you will be interested in knowing that our board of directors is.....

Responsible to our member-owners for management of internal affairs of our co-op and for maintaining good community and public relations.

Responsible for all policy making and for approving programs developed to carry out these policies.

Responsible for selecting a qualified manager.

Responsible for the receiving and approving of detailed reports from manager on all phases of co-op activities.

Delegates to manager responsibility with authority to execute policies and programs established by the board.

Responsible for borrowing money and establishing control of disbursements by board officers and employees of co-op.

Responsible for acceptance and termination of memberships and to see that members are informed on privileges and obligations set forth in the bylaws.

These and many other obligations are theirs and they share one desire-to see that as many farm people as possible get electricity as quickly as possible, and put it into effective use.

3

RSA CO-OP

Forked Deer EC General Managers

Jeff Newman	January	2015	-	Current	
Harold Willis	March	2000	-	January	2015
Nelda Bishop	January	1993	-	February	2000
Russell Jacocks	November	1971	-	December	1992
Bob Burton	October	1970	-	November	1971
Robin Coffman	April	1962	-	August	1970
H J Mortz	September	1961	-	April	1962
H E Pentecost	February	1949	-	June	1961
Ora E Beasley	March	1942	-	February	1949
John L Taylor	February	1941	-	March	1942