

cooperative REVIEW

for members of Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative

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SMECO celebrates 75 years during annual meeting

SMECO held its 74th Annual Meeting on August 23, 2012. The event is held to allow customer-members the opportunity to vote for SMECO members to serve on the Co-op's Board of Directors. The meeting was held at the Blue Crabs Regency Furniture Stadium in Waldorf, where it has been held since 2009.

Registration opened at 3 p.m. and closed at 7:30 p.m.

Meeting
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Duke's Corner in Leonardtown, circa 1927. Alfred "Tick" Gough stands behind the man wearing a hat. Learn more about SMECO history in Al Gough Jr.'s book, Lighting Up Our Lives: The History of Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative.



SMECO
People. Power. Progress.™

SMECO
75
YEARS

Meeting *CONTINUED*

We had 1,110 members registered to vote. The following SMECO members were elected to serve on our Board for three years: Samuel “Jack” Hammett of Calvert County; Fern G. Brown and Kenneth L. Dyson of Charles County; and Walter Rayner Blair III and William R. Cullins III of St. Mary’s County.

The festivities of the evening served as a celebration of our 75th anniversary. Del. Sally Jameson of Charles County and Del. John Wood of St. Mary’s County presented a proclamation on behalf of the Southern Maryland Delegation to commemorate the anniversary. Jameson addressed customer-members and said, “By virtue of your SMECO account you are a member of this co-op. And I’m here to tell you that this co-op is just one of the best utilities you can find in the state of Maryland.” She added that she works on utility issues in Annapolis and credited the cooperative for its strong record of service reliability in the face of hurricanes and tornadoes.

Al Gough Jr. of Leonardtown autographed copies of his newly published book, “Lighting up Our Lives: A History of Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative.” Gough retired from SMECO in 2006 after nearly 30 years. Mary Lou Troutman of Dameron is a local artist whom we commissioned to create a painting depicting an early co-op line truck in front of the Bushwood post office in St. Mary’s County. Customers could purchase prints at the annual meeting. The book and prints are also available for sale at SMECO’s offices in Hughesville, Leonardtown, and Prince Frederick.

The Sam Grow Band performed a 45-minute set prior to the start of the meeting.



SMECO’s president and CEO, Austin J. Slater, Jr. reviewed the co-op’s activities of the past year in his remarks. Slater touched on the new solar farm and the engineering and operations facility in Hughesville, both of which are currently under construction, the installation of smart meters in Waldorf and at three naval facilities, the Southern Maryland Reliability Project under construction in Calvert County, and SMECO’s 75th anniversary.

Joe Lehan, voice of the Southern Maryland Blue Crabs, served as the emcee for the entertainment prior to the meeting during which the Sam Grow Band performed a 45-minute set and customers won prizes for Bingo games. Pastor John Briscoe of Restoration Free Gospel Church of Christ in Lexington Park gave the invocation, the Calvert High School Navy Junior ROTC presented the colors, and SMECO employee

Calvert High School Navy Junior ROTC presenting the colors at the start of the meeting.



Theresa Dorsey sang the national anthem at the beginning of the meeting.

Members who registered to vote were eligible to win one of 50 electric bill credits of \$35 each. In addition, winners of a 75th anniversary quilt, 14 cash prizes of \$75 each, and a well-traveled SMECO vehicle were randomly selected from the registered

members. Joseph Greenfield of Waldorf won the 75th anniversary commemorative quilt. Robert Delozier of Mechanicsville won the SMECO vehicle, a 2005 Chevrolet Malibu with 161,000 miles.



Pole installation begins in Calvert along 230-kV loop

On August 24, 2012, SMECO started taking delivery of the new 230-kilovolt (kV) poles to be installed as part of the Southern Maryland Reliability Project.

The first segment consisted of poles for 38 locations delivered on more than 60 tractor trailer trucks. The poles were delivered in three or four pieces, depending on their size. Because of the weight of the poles, each truck could only carry single or a few pole sections.

The poles were manufactured by Sabre Tubular Structures and shipped from Texas. The first segment of poles will be stored at the Sollers Wharf Switching Station and the pole yard on Broomes Island Road until they are staged for installation. SMECO began installing the first poles on Sept. 5 at the Sollers Wharf Switching Station. Installation of each pole takes approximately one day, depending on size. Construction on the Holland Cliff to Sollers Wharf portion of the project began in spring 2012 and will occur in phases. By the end of 2013, the Holland Cliff to Sollers Wharf transmission line and the Sollers Wharf Switching Station will be energized and carrying load. For more details about the Southern Maryland Reliability Project, please visit: www.smeco.coop/reliability.



Support CSM and the Big Give on November 14

Join with the community colleges of Maryland on November 14 and be part of The Big Give, a unique, one-day online fundraising event. The state's 16 community colleges are working together to raise funds in support of the more than 500,000 students who attend community colleges throughout Maryland each year.

Please show your community pride and donate to support the College of Southern Maryland (CSM). The Razoo Foundation, which is a secure online fundraising platform, is hosting the event. Any size donation is appreciated, but a minimum \$10 donation is required when using the online form at www.csmd.edu/Foundation. When you donate, you will receive immediate notification and an acknowledgement e-mail that day.

CSM hopes to raise more than \$10,000 for Southern Maryland students in just 24 hours. CSM is asking you to make a donation and to pass the word on to family and friends to do the same; the college that has the most donors during the day is eligible to receive additional cash prizes.

Why give on the BIG GIVE day?

- 50 percent of Maryland's undergraduate students are enrolled in Maryland's 16 community colleges, with more than 500,000 students educated and trained by community colleges.
- 94% of the students who attend community colleges are Marylanders who choose to stay in Maryland after receiving their degree.
- Community colleges continue to be less than half the cost of tuition at one of Maryland's four-year public colleges or universities and one-eighth the cost of a private institution.

Join us and make a gift on November 14.

www.csmd.edu/Foundation



Upgrade to energy efficient ENERGY STAR® CFL or LED bulbs in your outdoor lighting for more safety and security when ghoulish guests drop by this Halloween. SMECO customer-members get instant rebates of up to \$2.25 per bulb on CFLs and \$10 on LEDs! Visit SMECO.coop/save for a list of participating retailers.



aroundTOWN

Nov. 3

Court St. Peter's Holiday Craft Fair

Sponsor: Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court 1618
8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
St. Peter's School. Kitchen will be open, bake tables and flea market also offered.
301-919-378
stpeterswaldorf.org

Craft and Apple Dumpling Fair

Sponsor: Good Shepherd United Methodist Church
9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Good Shepherd United Methodist Church, Waldorf. Crafts, collectibles, and apple dumplings.
301-934-3635

All Faith Church Annual Fall Dinner

Sponsor: All Faith Church
Noon to 5 p.m.
Mechanicsville Firehouse
Fried oysters, stuffed ham, fried chicken, sweet potatoes, sides, and drink; carry-out dinners available.
301-884-3773
allfaithchurch.com

Nov. 9

Colonial Times Workshop: Dinner at the Plantation

Sponsor: Historic St. Mary's City
6:30 to 9:30 p.m.
Historic St. Mary's City Tobacco Plantation
Help prepare then enjoy a colonial meal. Age 18+.
Reservation required by Nov. 5. **\$ Admission.**
240-895-4990
stmaryscity.org/events.html

Nov. 10

Holiday Craft Bazaar

Sponsor: La Plata United Methodist Church United Methodist Women
9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
La Plata United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, 3 Port Tobacco Road, La Plata. Only local handmade crafts. Door prizes, breakfast, and lunch will be available, along with holiday baked goods and used book sale.
301-934-3157
laplataumc.org

Visit www.smeco.coop/ourcommunity/aroundtown.aspx for more events.

Holiday Bazaar

Sponsor: St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 44078 St. Andrew's Church Rd., California
Baskets, holiday crafts, general crafts, food, plants, baked goods, and raffles.
301-862-2247

Quarter Auction

Sponsor: the La Plata Volunteer Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary
5 to 9 p.m.
La Plata Firehouse, 911 Washington Avenue, La Plata. Food and drink will be available for purchase.
\$ Admission.
301-848-0949
mdquarterauctions.com

Nov. 17

Christmas Bazaar

Sponsor: St. Paul's Episcopal Church
10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 25 Church St., Prince Frederick. Picture

with Santa, bake table, handmade crafts, plants and flowers, raffles, and attic treasures. **\$ Admission.**
419-535-2897

Nov. 30

Card Party

Sponsor: Trinity Episcopal Church
7:30 p.m.
Trinity Episcopal Church, 9560 Trinity Church Road, Newport. Refreshments will be available. **\$ Admission.**
301-643-0191

FESTIVAL OF TREES

Sponsor: Friends of Hospice
November 23-25
Calvert County
410-535-0892
www.calverthospice.org

November 23-26

Charles County
301-934-1268
www.hospiceofcharlescounty.org

Nov. 30- Dec. 1

St. Mary's County
www.stmaryshospitalmd.org/hospice

Delicious golden ticket prizes for October

You may be one of **SEVEN** lucky winners to eat out in October with a gift card donated by one of these popular local restaurants.

CAFÉ DES ARTISTES donated a \$100 gift card. Café des Artistes, located on the square in historic Leonardtown, is a classic upscale bistro where you can escape the culinary mundane and take a journey to the French countryside! The promise of a true elegant country French meal is what makes Café des Artistes one of a kind. Visit their website at cafedesartistes.ws.

The **PRIME STREET GRILLE** in White Plains donated a \$100 gift card. The Prime Street Grille is beautiful dining in a casual atmosphere, with a wide selection of steaks, fresh seafood, and traditional American fare. They offer an extensive menu along with nightly entree specials normally beginning around \$15. Visit their website at theprimestreetgrille.com.

VERA'S WHITE SANDS AND BEACH CLUB in Lusby donated a \$100 gift card. Offering the very best in waterfront dining. Perfect for waterfront weddings, events, and retreats of all kinds. Come experience for yourself the perfect balance between history, boats, water, and people. Learn more at www.verasbeachclub.com.

CAPTAIN BILLY'S CRABHOUSE donated a \$50 gift card. Enjoy delicious, fresh caught and cooked seafood at Captain Billy's Crab House located in Popes Creek on the Potomac River. Visit their website at captbillys.com.

MAMA LUCIA donated two \$25 gift cards. Visit them in Dunkirk or Prince Frederick and enjoy great food, great atmosphere, and some of the best Italian food that can be found in Southern Maryland. Visit their website at mammaluciarestaurant.com

JERRY'S PLACE in Prince Frederick donated a \$25 gift card. Jerry's Place is truly one of a kind—fresh food and a great family atmosphere tucked away in a modest location—continually surprising and delighting first-time guests. Learn more at jerrys-place.com.

