

White Chocolate & Lime Cheesecake

- 6 White chocolate squares
- 6 ounces Soft lady fingers
- 2 pk cream cheese (16 total oz.)
- 1 cup Sugar
- 1/4 cup Lime juice
- 1 Gelatine envelope unflavored
- 2 teaspoons Lime peel, fine grated
- 1 cup Whipping cream, whipped
- Strawberries
- Lime slices

Melt chocolate. Halve lady fingers lengthwise. Line bottom and sides of an 8 1/2-inch springform pan with ladyfingers, rounded sides facing out. Beat cream cheese on lowest speed of electric mixer until smooth. Blend in sugar and chocolate, mix well. Sprinkle gelatine on top of lime juice in pan. Let stand 5 minutes to soften. Stir mixture over low heat until gelatine is dissolved. Blend warm gelatine and lime peel into cheese mixture. Fold cheese mixture into whipped cream. Pour into pan. Chill at least 3 hours. Garnish with strawberries and lime slices.



A Touchstone Energy® Partner

Spotlight is published monthly by Jones-Onslow Electric Membership Corporation for its customers. Correspondence should be directed to Jones-Onslow EMC, attn: newsletter editor, 259 Western Boulevard, Jacksonville, N.C. 28546.

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Contacting Us

Jones-Onslow EMC
 259 Western Boulevard, Jacksonville, N.C. 28546
 (Monday - Friday, 8:00am - 5:00pm)
 1225 Highway 210, Sneads Ferry, N.C. 28460

Local ~ (910) 353-1940
 Toll Free ~ (800) 682-1515
 Power Outage ~ (910) 353-7117 or (800) 681-4146
 website ~ www.joemc.com

FROM THE CEO'S DESK

J. Ronald McElheney

You should have received a letter from the cooperative in the past couple of weeks concerning the authorization, by your board of directors, of a capital credits refund. There was space provided at the top for your signature and a return envelope so you could mail it back to the office. Many of you are familiar with capital credits but for those who may have recently moved into the cooperative's service area, this may be a foreign concept. I would like to take this time to explain the process.

Capital credits are monies left at the end of the year, after operating expenses have been paid. These monies, or margins, are then credited back to customers who created them through the purchasing of electricity. The credits are put into a customer's capital credit account and over time, as deemed feasible by the board of directors, these credits are returned. The capital credit refund authorization will be for members who received electric service from the cooperative in 1986 and/or 2008.

Why are monies retained for some period of time? All businesses, those seeking to make profits and ones like Jones-Onslow, that are not-for-profit, must have money to operate. A profit-making company secures the money from the stockholders and banks. With cooperatives, the money comes from customer equity (margins or capital credits) and the bank. By retaining a portion of the capital credits for a period of time, the cooperative secures part of the needed money to operate the company. As financial conditions allow, the cooperative's board of directors return those credits back to customers who "contributed" to the operation of the company by purchasing electricity.

With the current capital credit refund authorization, all active customers who received service during the dates mentioned above (1986 and 2008) will receive their refund in the form of a "capital credit refund" on their electric bill. This refund will consist of 100% of the remaining allocated capital credits from 1986 and 25% of allocated capital credits from 2008.

All inactive customers who received service from the cooperative during the dates mentioned above will receive a capital credit check in the mail.

The cooperative strives to reduce the cost of electricity to our customers and actively pursues various options to lower costs. It is our hope that this authorization of capital credits will be of benefit to you and put a little extra money in your pocket!



Cooperative Offices Will Be Closed On Friday, April 10, In Observance Of Easter



Spotlight

A Monthly Publication for the Customers of Jones-Onslow EMC

A Touchstone Energy® Partner

Wave Of Change Is Here For Electric Utility Industry...

Energy costs. Climate change. Renewable energy. Base load generation. Our country is standing at a crossroads concerning these topics and many more. And decisions that have already been made by our elected officials in Raleigh and decisions that national leaders will make in the coming months are going to have a major impact on what customers pay each month for their electric service. These decisions will also shape our nation's strategy in addressing the United State's energy policy for the future.

We have discussed in this newsletter, over the past year, about changes that were on the horizon for the electric utility industry. We will re-cap the activities that have occurred on our state level and discuss what's ahead on the national level. The issues are complex but Jones-Onslow's stance isn't—we must continue to be an advocate for our customers, stressing the importance of affordable, reliable electricity.

State of North Carolina

The legislature passed Senate Bill 3 (SB-3) in 2007 which established a Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard (REPS) for our state. SB-3 applies to all electric utilities, with the first requirements to be met by 2010. The goal of the legislation is to expand the development of renewable energy and to promote conservation and energy efficiency. By 2018, up to 10 percent of Jones-Onslow's kilowatt-hour sales must be from a combination of purchasing renewable energy generation and from offsetting potential energy sales through conservation measures. Cooperatives from throughout the state joined forces to form GreenCo Solutions, a not-for-profit company. The new company

will assist the cooperatives in moving forward in the most efficient manner possible while addressing and meeting the state mandates.

The reality, though, is that this mandate is going to cost Jones-Onslow and our customers more money. Purchasing renewable energy is currently more expensive than traditional generation and developing and implementing energy efficient programs will require capital investments.

National/Federal

The 111th Congress should be moving forward this year with legislation to control "greenhouse gas" emissions (there are many in Congress that believe greenhouse gases are leading to global warming).

During 2008, legislation was introduced to address this issue but the bill did not pass. The goal of the legislation was to set short and long term targets for reducing carbon dioxide emissions from fossil fuel power plants and other carbon emitters. This legislation, at a minimum, would mean higher cost for any fossil fuel based energy. Depending on the charges applied on a per ton basis for emissions, the cost could easily escalate to dramatic levels on every residential electric bill, not to mention the costs of goods and services that businesses produce and we consume.

There are differences of opinion whether the earth is actually warming up, if it is caused by the actions of our society, or whether we are just in a normal climatic change. One thing seems certain—many in Washington have determined that global warming is real, that mankind is the primary cause of it, and that Congress should take immediate steps to do something about it.



New Co-op Connections Program Offers Value To You, Our Customer

In the next several weeks, Jones-Onslow will launch a program that offers further proof that being a customer of an electric cooperative has its advantages. The Co-op Connections program, a card-based benefit program for Touchstone Energy cooperatives, is designed to deliver added value to our customers. Jones-Onslow is implementing this program in conjunction with other electric cooperatives across the nation.

A free offering for cooperative customers and participating businesses, the program will benefit customers by offering valuable discounts at participating local and national businesses. Businesses benefit from increased customer visits and free promotion of their business.

One of the major components of the program is the "Pharmacy Discount" benefit that will be available to customers. Customers will be able to save between 10% and 60% on many prescriptions at independent pharmacies and national chains including CVS, Walgreens, Wal-Mart, Target, and more.

Jones-Onslow customers will receive Co-op Connections cards in the mail during the month of April. Once the customer has signed the back of the

card, it may be used at participating businesses locally and nationwide. To find participating businesses (and the discounts they offer) customers will be able to go to www.joemc.com and click on the Co-op Connections card icon (participating businesses and the discounts they offer will be added to the Jones-Onslow website starting April 1). New businesses can join at any

time, so check regularly for updates. A list of participating businesses will also be available at cooperative offices.

Participating businesses will display a Co-op Connections sticker in their store window or at their cash registers. Whenever a customer shows their Co-op

Connections card at the business, they receive a discount. Savings and discount offers will vary from business to business.

"While providing reliable, affordable electric service is our number one priority, we are also committed to bringing additional value to our customers and the communities we serve," said Ron McElheney, CEO of Jones-Onslow. "The Co-op Connections program is another way we can accomplish that goal and help demonstrate how we're trying to look out for our customers and communities."



Attention Local Businesses...Are you interested in participating in the Co-op Connections program by offering a discount to cooperative customers? Contact Paula Redick, Jones-Onslow's Key Accounts and Community Relations Manager at (910) 577-6350 to find out more details about the program.

Attention 2009 Graduating High School Seniors...

Are you planning on going to college after you graduate from high school? If so, we'd like to help! Every year, Jones-Onslow awards scholarships to seniors to help with their continued education.

How do you apply? If you live or attend school in Onslow County, talk to your high school guidance counselor or the S.A.T. Program coordinator at Onslow County Schools (we work with the Onslow County Schools and their S.A.T. Program). If you live or attend school outside of Onslow County, your school's guidance counselor or principal will have information about the cooperative's scholarship.

If you have any questions about scholarships, please call Paula Redick, at (800) 682-1515 or (910) 577-6350.



QVC And Cooperatives Install North Carolina's Largest Solar Farm...

Under North Carolina's Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Portfolio Standard, established in 2007 with Senate Bill 3 (SB-3), electric cooperatives must obtain up to 10% of their kilowatt-hour sales through renewable energy generation or energy efficiency measure by 2018.

Jones-Onslow, through GreenCo Solutions in which it is a member, has partnered with multimedia retailer QVC, to install a 1-megawatt solar farm at the shopping network's distribution center in Rocky Mount. The project began commercial operation in November 2008. It is expected to generate approximately 1.6 million kilowatt hours of electricity annually.

Through a 10-year agreement, Jones-Onslow's power supplier, North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation will purchase the energy produced by the facility and GreenCo Solutions will purchase the renewable energy credits.

Gabrielson To Entertain Annual Meeting Attendees...

Jones-Onslow's Annual Meeting of Members is scheduled for Friday, March 27, at the American Legion Building at the Onslow County Fairgrounds in Jacksonville.

Highlighting this year's meeting will be special entertainment from Tim Gabrielson.

When magic man Tim Gabrielson takes the stage and does that first trick, people often wonder "OK, what kind of a journey are we in for here?" But over the course of that show, people discover the amazing magic skills, the dry, witty, unique sense of humor, and the human element that is very specifically and very uniquely Tim Gabrielson. This magic man truly likes to "Keep it Funny".

Tim has several national television credits along with major casino performances in Las Vegas and Reno, Nevada, and at college campuses and corporate events throughout the United States.

In addition to the special entertainment, there will be local musical groups performing as well as informative displays. And don't forget...as has become an annual meeting tradition, great door prizes will be given away including a recently retired fleet vehicle ("as is" condition).

Registration and displays open at 5:30pm, local musical entertainment takes the stage at 5:45pm, and the business meeting will start at 7:00pm. And at 8:00pm, be prepared to enjoy the funny talents of magic man Tim Gabrielson.

