

# Consumers First

At South Alabama Electric Cooperative, one priority rings through loud and clear — you the member comes first! Day in and day out, the employees of South Alabama Electric work hard to represent your interests.

Electric cooperatives are of, by and for the people they represent. Being a member of your cooperative, along with your neighbors, means you own the company and have a voice in the decisions made on your behalf. That's a fundamental difference between us and other energy providers.

There is no question that the energy industry is changing. Climate legislation, new energy policies and environmental regulations are on the horizon. It is important for you to know that we are your advocates. We are working diligently to let our local, state and national politicians know how this legislation could impact you — our members.

Let's face it. Most people don't think about what it takes to get safe, reliable electricity to their homes. Most of you are too busy with your own jobs and family to have time to focus on these issues. That's where we come in. Our job is to put you first.

The values your local co-op brings to the discussion keep us focused on serving you. Our "looking out for you" mentality ensures that we are continually looking for ways to improve our ability to meet your needs and

strengthen the quality of life in the communities we serve. The trust you have placed in us is something we take very seriously and we work hard to earn that trust every day.

Changes in the electric industry are coming — but here at South Alabama Electric, under the watchful eye of our locally elected board of trustees — our goal is simple. To keep you first while providing you with the best possible service possible.

We invite you to attend this year's annual meeting to see just how your cooperative is "Looking Out For You." Details about the meeting can be found on pages 6 and 7. You'll also find a copy of your cooperative's annual report included with this month's magazine. I urge you to take a few minutes to read through this material and see just how your cooperative is working to keep you at the forefront of the decisions we make.

Our vision for the future hasn't changed in over 70 years. We care about the people we serve and that service goes beyond keeping the lights on. It's neighbor helping neighbor. That's what it's all about — that's the electric co-op tradition.



**Max Davis** is General Manager of South Alabama Electric Cooperative

## South Alabama Electric Monthly Operating Report

KWH Sold . . . . .	29,196,848
Avg. Utility Bill . . . . .	\$218.87
Average Use . . . . .	1,780
Total Accounts Billed . . . . .	16,399
Total Miles of Line . . . . .	2,595
Consumers per mile of line . . . . .	6.3

Information from July 2009



## South Alabama Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

### Board of Trustees

- Bill Hixon . . . . . District 1
- James Shaver . . . . . District 2
- Leo Williams . . . . . District 3
- Ben Norman . . . . . District 4
- DeLaney Kervin . . . District 5
- Norman D. Green . . District 6
- Glenn Reeder . . . . . District 7
- James May . . . . . At Large

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[www.southaec.com](http://www.southaec.com)



## Customer Service — Just a Click Away

Did you know that you can now view and pay your electric bill online using your credit or debit card? With this great new tool, you can manage your electric account with just the click of a button.



Whether you want to view your bill, make a payment, or learn ways to control energy use in your home, our website is available 24/7 to help you with a wide variety of customer service options.

Visit us today at [www.southaec.com](http://www.southaec.com) to access our online billing system, then select the Pay Bill button on the home page. You'll be asked for your e-mail address, account number and statement ID number, so make sure you have your current month's bill handy. Once you enter the information, you'll receive an e-mail with a link you'll follow to finish the registration process. Then simply follow the directions on the screen.

Once you have registered, in the future you'll only have to click the Pay Bill button and enter your user name and password.

*We hope you enjoy this valuable new tool.*

## Non-Discrimination Statement

South Alabama Electric Cooperative is the recipient of Federal financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

The USDA prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.)

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USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



# Annual Meeting 2009 Is Right Around the Corner

With the rising cost of electricity and increasing attention from our legislators dealing with the future of energy use, it is important that electric consumers get engaged. South Alabama Electric provides this opportunity to its members through our Annual Meeting of the Membership on Tuesday, Oct. 27, 2009 at the Pike County Cattlemens Complex. Cooperative members will have the opportunity to exercise their right to vote for their representative on the board of South Alabama EC.

Make sure you go ahead and mark your calendars for this special event. Special mailings will be arriving in your mailbox this month which contain your registration and voting information. Trustee positions up for election are: Districts 5, 6, and 7.

Along with entertainment, provided by Brian Free and Assurance, members can enjoy a free hot dog from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. You'll just need your ticket from the goodie bag to pick up your free meal.

Your annual meeting is a vital part of being a cooperative. The cooperative is locally owned and operated by the members it serves. Besides having a vote for representation, the business session allows you to hear about the financial condition of the cooperative, the changes and improvements that have been made and future

concerns.

One of the most important items at this year's meeting is your ability to fill out an "Our Energy, Our Future" card. These cards will be included in the goodie bag you receive at registration. By signing an "Our Energy, Our Future"



**Our Energy, Our Future™**

A Dialogue With America

[www.ourenergy.coop](http://www.ourenergy.coop)

card, you can share your support for rural electric cooperatives in light of the federal climate change legislation that will have a great impact on everyone if we don't speak up and get involved. All signed cards that are filled out and received at the annual meeting, will go in a special prize drawing.

There will also be information on energy efficiency and our friends from Cooperative Propane will be demonstrating Energy Star appliances as well.

We hope to see you at this year's annual meeting. Come see how your cooperative is looking out for you today and in the future as well.

# 2009 Annual Meeting Schedule of Events

## Tuesday, October 27

Pike County Cattlemens Complex

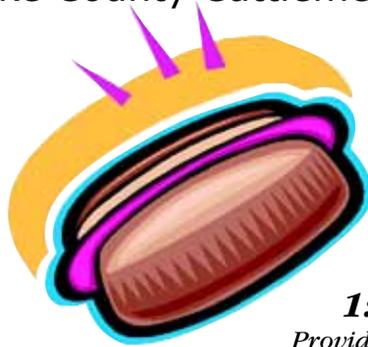
**11 a.m. - 1 p.m.**  
**HOT DOGS will be served.**

*You will need the ticket from your goodie bag to pick up hot dog at drink window.*

**11 a.m.**  
**ENTERTAINMENT**

**Noon**  
**REGISTRATION OF MEMBERS**

*Registration closes at 2 p.m.  
Make sure you bring your registration card to the meeting. No duplicates will be available.*



**12:30 p.m. - ENTERTAINMENT**  
*Provided by Brian Free and Assurance*

**1:30 p.m.**  
**BUSINESS SESSION BEGINS**

**1:35 p.m.- ENTERTAINMENT**  
*Provided by Brian Free and Assurance*

**2 p.m. - REGISTRATION CLOSES**

**2:05 p.m. - TRUSTEE ELECTIONS**  
*Elections for Districts 5, 6, and 7*

**2:50 p.m.**  
**MAJOR PRIZES AWARDED**

Brian Free and Assurance will be the featured entertainment at this year's annual meeting.



# Coffee County Arts Alliance

## 2009-2010 Season

For the past 35 years, the Coffee County Arts Alliance has presented great performances for the enjoyment of Wiregrass residents.

"We are looking forward to another outstanding season," stated Suzanne Sawyer, President of the Coffee County Arts Alliance. "The arts are so important to the life of a community. You are invited to join us for these quality performances."

On Oct. 13, at Elba High School in Elba, concert goers will be treated to two of the most distinctive voices in American country and pop music – B. J. Thomas and Billy Joe Royal.

Since the mid-1960s, B. J. Thomas has become one of the most successful artists on the American musical landscape. He has recorded an incredible string of successes in several genres - 15 Top 40 pop hits, 10 Top Country hits, five Grammys, two Dove awards, two platinum and 11 gold records, and chart toppers on the pop, country, gospel and adult contemporary charts. Along the way, he has become one of the most recognized and respected voices of his generation.

B. J. has had a long string of country and pop hits including "I'm So Lonesome I Could Cry," "The Eyes of



B.J. Thomas

his R&B tinged tenor with such hits as "Down in the Boondocks," "I Knew You When," "Hush," "Cherry Hill Park," "Tell It Like It Is," "Burned Like a Rocket," and "I'll Pin a Note on Your Pillow."

Dec. 3rd, will bring to Enterprise a one-man play, *A Christmas Carol* starring Bill Oberst Jr, a Los Angeles-based actor. *A Christmas Carol* is the story of Scrooge, a penny-pinching, mean, old man who is visited by

three ghosts on Christmas Eve. The ghosts of Christmas Past, Christmas Present and Christmas Yet to Come change Scrooge's life. Oberst is best known in the South for his portrayal of humorist Lewis Gizzard and for his first-person re-creation of the teachings of Christ in the touring stage ministry, "Jesus of Nazareth."

Opening for Bill Oberst Jr. will be the Wiregrass Youth Symphony and the Tri-State Community Orchestra performing holiday season favorites.

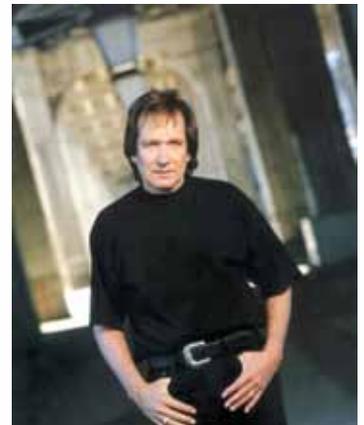
The Spencers – Theatre of Illusion. This spectacular production is filled with never-before-seen-illusions.



Bill Oberst, Jr.

Theatre of Illusion is a magical concert for your eyes — and what the Spencers create is theatre in the truest sense of the word! The Spencers appear in Elba on Jan. 28, 2010.

Information about performances this season can be found on the Web at [www.CoffeeCountyArtsAlliance.com](http://www.CoffeeCountyArtsAlliance.com). Call David at 334-406-ARTS (2787) for tickets. Performances are made possible by support from season sponsor, Martin-Colley Drug Company, corporate and individual memberships, the Alabama State Council on the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts.



Billy Joe Royal

People levitate, walk through walls, vanish and reappear. In one mystery, the entire audience participates in a stunning, interactive mind-reading experience. By combining original theatrical elements (music, movement, storytelling, scenery, dramatic lighting, and more) with state-of-art illusions and audience interaction, the Spencers create much more than a magic show.





# *Brundidge* **Peanut Butter Festival**



*A harvest and heritage celebration*

*Downtown Brundidge - Free Admission*

*Saturday, October 31*

## **Upcoming Events in Brundidge**

### **Brush Arbor**

October 28 - 7:00 PM • Knok Ryal Pavilion

### **Halloween Carnival**

October 29 - 5:00-7:00 PM

Activities in front of City Hall on Main Street

### **Fall Production of "Come Home It's Suppertime"**

Nov. 3,5,6,7 and Nov. 10,12,13,14

Located at the We Piddle Around Theater on Main Street

Tickets are \$25 and include pre-show, supper and performance

For tickets or information call 334-735-3125 (Wed - Sat 10AM - 4PM)

### **Annual Christmas Parade and Lighting**

Tuesday, December 1 - 6:00 PM • Main Street

