December 2004/January 2005 Number 209



Chugach Electric Association

## Chugach mails capital credits checks

n December, thousands of past and long-term Chugach members from the years 1985 and 1986 received a share of a \$3.2



Consumer Service Rep Debra Brown matches capital credits check numbers, amounts and names for accuracy during the recent retirement.

million retail capital credits retirement approved by the board at its November meeting. The retirement represents the remainder of the retail capital credits due members of record from 1985. It also includes a portion of retail capital credits earned by members of record in 1986. In 2002 Chugach retired approximately 34 percent of the retail capital credits from 1985, 37 percent in 2001, and 19 percent in 2000.

Chugach is mailing checks or giving credit on accounts to former and current members of record for 1985 and 1986. Each member's share of the capital credits is based on the amount of energy purchased and the margins Chugach achieved in those years.

Active members who are due less than \$600 from the retirement will receive a credit on their accounts. Checks will be sent to inactive members, members who are due \$600 or more, members who have more than one sub-account and members who are on Chugach's LevelPay program. The checks will range from \$600 to thousands of dollars. Capital credits are one of the benefits of being a member of a cooperative like Chugach. Each member receives a share of the margins (or profits) earned by the utility in a given year in proportion to the amount they paid for electric service. A member's individual share of the margins is accounted for (or allocated) annually, noticed to the member, recorded and eventually returned as a check or credit when the board of directors authorizes a retirement. Until the capital credits are retired, Chugach uses those margins to partially offset the cost of new construction and other expenses.

Members separating from the Chugach system should leave a forwarding address and keep Chugach updated on future moves until all of their allocated capital credits have been retired.

Current members may check the status of their capital credits accounts online at www.chugachelectric.com. Past and present members may also receive information about their capital credits accounts by calling customer service at 563-7366.

### **Sparking Interest**

• The first quarter 2005 fuel surcharge rate for Chugach retail customers decreased from 1.424 cents per kilowatt-hour to 1.043 cents per kwh effective with January bills.

## Generating good will

uring the holidays Chugach donated 425 turkeys to local organizations, including Bean's Café, Clare House, the Food Bank of Alaska and the Homeless Veterans Services.

Chugach responded to a need in the community for turkeys for holiday meals and gift baskets being distributed. Chugach was overwhelmed with thank you's when the turkeys were delivered to the organizations.

Chugach couriers Jerry Helton and Chad Wikheim loaded the turkeys and took them to the Food Bank of Alaska. While the Food Bank distributed some turkeys to designated organizations, Chugach delivered nearly 200 of them.



Chugach couriers Chad Wikheim and Jerry Helton (center and far right) get help at Bean's Café unloading turkeys destined for the holiday dinner.

While Chugach works throughout the year to be a good neighbor, during the holidays there is an additional need, and Chugach is happy to be able to contribute. (1)

# Message from Chugach

## It's 2005 and we at Chugach wish you and yours a happy and prosperous new year.

As we look to the future, one of the benefits that you as a member have is the right to vote in Chugach's annual election.

Here are a few notes on the upcoming Chugach election.

In February, Chugach will mail out signature cards to what are called nonnatural members. These are entities that have signed up for service with Chugach as businesses, churches or government agencies. The signature cards allow them to update who will be their authorized signer, which includes signing ballot envelopes and voting in person at the election. These cards must be returned by the election date of record that will be set by the board. The date that is set will be in mid-March.

As always the election materials will be mailed near the end of March, which will give you about a month to make your election decisions. You can vote in one of two ways – either by mailing your ballot to the election mailbox, or by attending Chugach's annual meeting, which will be held on Thursday, April 28, at the Egan Civic & Convention Center.



Joe Griffith Chief Executive Officer





Please be sure that you exercise your right to vote in the Chugach election. It is one of the ways you can let Chugach and your board know how they are doing. (1)

"Red" Boucher Chairman of the Board

D.a. Red Bouch



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#### **Board activity**

#### October and November meetings 2004

- Approved a retirement of nearly \$3.2 million in retail capital credits to retail members (see related story on Page 1).
- Approved forwarding a proposed bylaw amendment to Article V, Meetings of Directors, Section 6, Minutes, to Chugach's 2005 Bylaws Committee for review.

If you would like to review Board of Director meeting minutes or contact Board members, visit Chugach's web site at www.chugachelectric.com.

#### Hours

Service center: 5601 Minnesota Drive

> Monday-Friday 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Saturday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Switchboard: Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 11 p.m.

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