



Annual Meeting Approaching Members' Opportunity to Attend, Vote, Visit and Win!

By Inia Burginger

Plans are well underway for NOVEC's 2006 Annual Meeting to be held Wednesday, September 27, beginning at 6 p.m. In case of inclement weather, the meeting will be held on October 25.

Remember, the meeting location is different from that of the past number of years. The 2006 annual meeting will be held at Battlefield High School, 15000 Graduation Drive in Haymarket, Virginia. Driving directions will be included in the member packet that will be mailed to all members in early September.

As a NOVEC customer, you also are part owner of the Cooperative. Your vote for the directors who represent you is essential to the smooth running of the company's business, and gathering your vote – in person or by proxy – is an integral part of the annual meeting.

You could be the lucky winner of one of two flat-screen TVs!

The door prize drawing is traditionally a very lively portion of the meeting – winners have been known to jump excitedly out of their seats and run down the aisle to collect their prizes. And no wonder: The list of valuable prizes this year is truly worth the excitement.

Among the prizes to be given away to members who attend the meeting are:

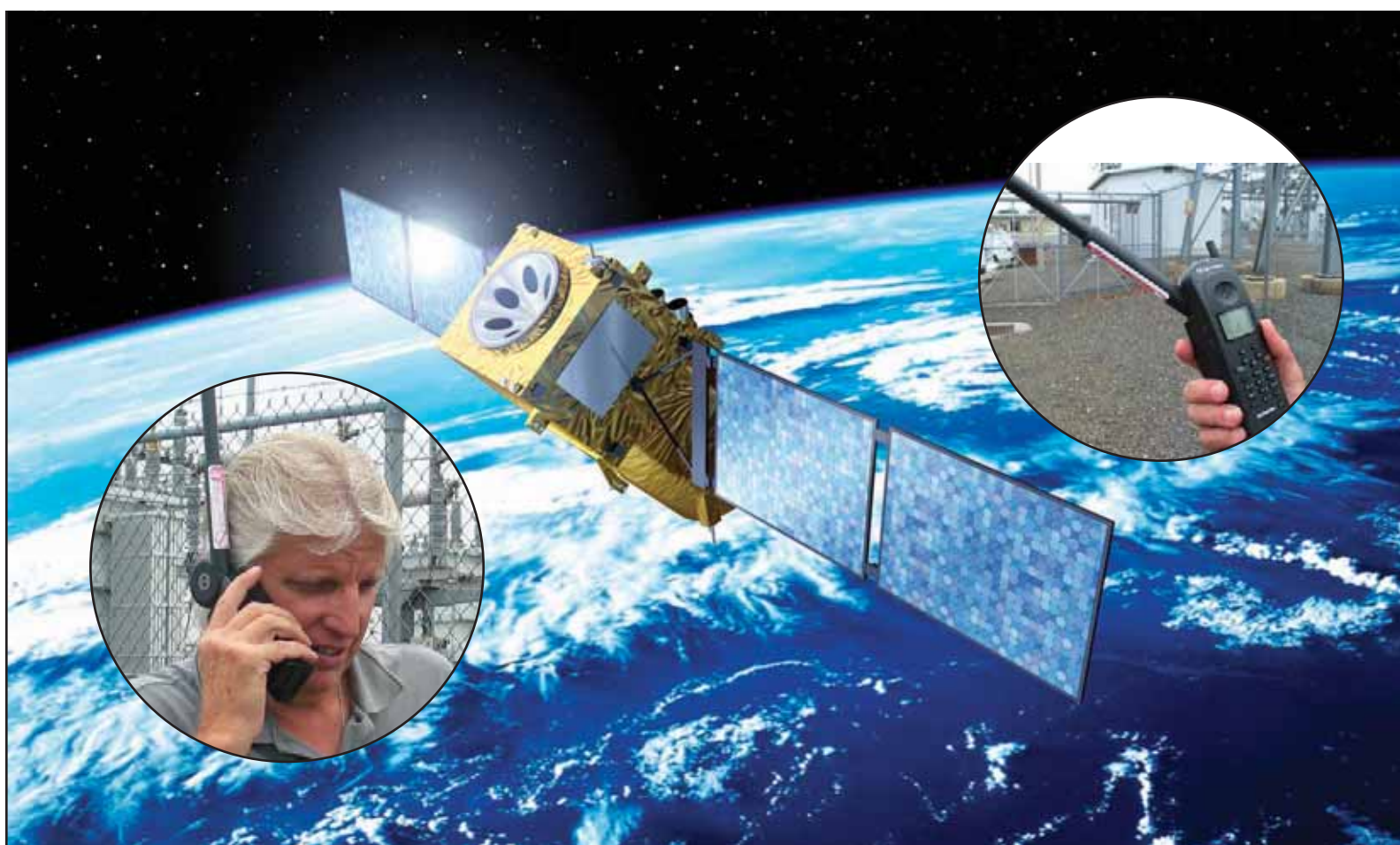
- Grand Prize: a notebook PC
- 26" flat-screen HDTV
- 18" 2-in-1 lawnmower/mulcher
- DVD/VHS player
- Digital camcorder
- Digital camera
- Food processor/blender
- 14" trimmer/edger

Members who vote by proxy also will be eligible for exciting prizes, including a 20" flat-panel TV, a digital camera and a Sony PlayStation Portable.

Whether you attend to cast your vote, enjoy the dinner, view the informational displays about how NOVEC works, hear the state of the cooperative remarks by Chairman of the Board Manley Garber and President/CEO Stan Feuerberg, meet and ask questions of the many NOVEC personnel ready to greet you, or to win one of the valuable prizes being given away, it is an evening well worth your time.



**All NOVEC offices will be closed Monday, September 4, to observe Labor Day.
To report outages or an emergency, call (703) 335-0500 or toll-free (888) 335-0500**



NOVEC Prepares for Future Emergencies With Satellite Phone Technology

By Sarah Smarrelli

As both 9/11 and Hurricane Katrina taught us, traditional modes of communication can often be knocked out of service in critical emergency times. During these two very different crisis situations – one man-made and one an act of nature – both landline and cell phone networks were overloaded, severely limiting the ability to communicate. For this reason, NOVEC uses a variety of means to communicate with our employees and other key players on a daily basis and in particular during emergencies.

Under normal working conditions, NOVEC uses an internal radio system, commercial cell phones and push-to-talk (direct connect) phones. In addition, NOVEC has a satellite phone to provide communication in case other communication methods fail. This phone system was bought in preparation for the year 2000 and any potential “Y2K” problems the change in century

brought. However, satellite-phone technology has greatly improved since then and this year NOVEC is replacing that phone and adding a mobile unit to our fixed-station satellite phone. In the event of any man-made or natural disasters, we can add more satellite mobile units as necessary. Typically, the satellite phones are not used (except for testing) unless an emergency calls for their use.

A satellite phone is simply a phone that uses orbiting satellites instead of cell towers to connect with main phone lines. While systems vary, some satellite phones will work just about anywhere. Since the satellites aren't susceptible to damage by earthly disasters, satellite phones can be used in emergencies when regular cell phones don't work. They also work in remote locations where other communication tools are useless.

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NOVEC Proudly Presents the 2006 Scholarship Winners

By Donna Snellings

NOVEC has presented college scholarships over the last eight years to outstanding students in the counties we serve – Fairfax, Fauquier, Loudoun, Prince William and Stafford – and the City of Manassas Park. In addition, a single \$1,000 scholarship is awarded to a student living in NOVEC service territory that is home-schooled or attends private school. Because the majority of NOVEC customers live in Prince William and Fairfax counties, two \$1,000 scholarships are awarded in these counties. We also include a single \$1,000 scholarship for a child of a NOVEC employee who meets the standard qualifications. The *Dollars for Scholars* program has helped students support their desire for a college education and reflects NOVEC's continued commitment to education for the youth in our community. The committees select students based on scholastic achievement, community service, work experience and demonstrated leadership qualities. These scholarship winners excel academically, and have also contributed to extracurricular activities, ranging from student government positions to sports teams. We salute and congratulate them as they begin their college years this fall.

The Manley Garber Scholar

In 2005 we enhanced our scholarship program with the addition of a \$1,500 Garber scholarship for the most outstanding scholarship winner. After the selections are made for the scholarship winners, another review is conducted and a \$2,500 scholarship is given to the top student.



Stephen Schorn – Parent: David Schorn

County: Prince William; Hometown: Dumfries; High School: Forest Park High School; GPA: 4.286; College: University of Virginia

Notable quote from student essay: “Refusing to accept this neglect of children with special needs, I set a lifetime goal to better understand the physiology of the mentally handicapped child, and perhaps be the first to revolutionize treatment for them. As a biomedical engineer, I could design and help construct the proper devices to determine the underlying causes of mental retardation and its symptoms. I would be able to affect the lives of countless children, and offer hope to parents who have none. With personal experience and knowledge guiding me on my expedition, I will strive to overcome the mental incapacities that so greatly affect the modern world.”

Lauren Belcher – NOVEC employee-dependent scholar – Parent: Gwendolyn Belcher; City: Manassas; Hometown: Manassas; High School: Osbourn High School; GPA: 3.6; College: Howard University

Notable quote from student essay: “I am fortunate enough to have been brought up in a house where I am able to openly express my views about issues ranging from race to sex. My parents always embrace my views and opinions with wide-open arms. I think because I have been raised in such an ‘open’ family, I am not judgmental and do not feel the need to have preconceived notions based on people’s race, beliefs, or even sexual preference. Also, as I have typically been the only black in most of my classes and among my group of friends, I have accepted other races and have not discriminated.”



Kelly Chamberlain – Parent: Chris Chamberlain; County: Loudoun; Hometown: Leesburg; High School: Loudoun County High School; GPA: 3.92; College: James Madison University

Notable quote from student essay: “I will make a difference in the lives of friends and family members and I will influence the future development of addiction in the nation. I will do this by studying psychology in hopes of providing relief for the suffering. Having first-hand experience with the devastation these diseases can cause, I hear the victim’s desperate cries for help. Answering these calls is my duty, psychology is my means, and the challenge has always been my fuel.”

John Forneris – Parent: James Forneris; County: Fairfax; Hometown: Clifton; High School: Paul VI Catholic High School; GPA: 3.65; College: Villanova University

Notable quote from student essay: “Our lives are a collection of experiences. I want my experiences to be memorable – giving extra meaning to my life. I have involved myself in a variety of activities both in and out of school to apply myself and help others with everything I have to offer. For example, I volunteer at the Northern Virginia Therapeutic Riding Program, helping developmentally, mentally, and physically handicapped children to ride horses. It has been one of the best activities I participated in. It has taught me to value the basic things in life which I often take for granted.”





Matthew Klumpp – Parent: Karen Klumpp; County: Prince William; Hometown: Haymarket; High School: Battlefield High School; GPA: 4.46; College: University of Virginia

Notable quote from student essay: “My life has been a simple cycle of making, striving for, and accomplishing goals. I hope that such patterns persist into the future, even though I honestly have no clue what my future holds. I hope to be truly happy in my coming years, and I feel that my desire to accomplish goals and inability to leave tasks incomplete will aid me greatly in continuing my success in the future.”

Jason Malkiewicz – Parent: Steven Malkiewicz; County: Stafford; Hometown: Stafford; High School: North Stafford High School; GPA: 4.11; College: Virginia Wesleyan College

Notable quote from student essay: “By both playing and refereeing the game of soccer, I have learned several important life-developing skills. By playing soccer, I have learned how to be a proper leader, work with others, and overcome adversity. I have captained several soccer teams throughout my life, and have led them all to great heights. By being a leader, I have also learned how to work well with others. Soccer has taught me how to motivate those around me, please others’ needs, and still make tough and unpopular decisions.”



Rachel Ryon – Parent: Thomas Ryon; County: Fauquier; Hometown: Warrenton; High School: Fauquier High School; GPA: 4.57; College: Pepperdine University

Notable quote from student essay: “The inner-city mission trip to Sarasota, Florida, last summer completely changed my perspective on people in poverty. I realized that the system created to help these people also hurts them, and I would like to be an advocate for change. In the biblical book of Micah it says that God requires us ‘to act justly and to love mercy.’ To me, justice means working for the cause of people who want to, but cannot do it themselves. I feel that God may be preparing me, through education and my summer experiences, to be a public servant.”

Charlotte Seid – Parent: William Seid; County: Fairfax; Hometown: Clifton; High School: Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology; GPA: 4.125; College: Harvard University

Notable quote from student essay: “With my mentor, Dr. Rom Lipcius, I conducted an experiment to examine blue crab nurseries in the Chesapeake Bay. I thrived on the practical problem-solving, was inspired by my expert colleagues, and enjoyed writing a professional scientific paper, which I presented at several science fairs and conferences. I found this research particularly meaningful because it not only satisfied my personal curiosity but had practical applications to restoring marine ecosystems.”



Katherine Sumner – Parent: Erika Sumner; County: Fairfax; Hometown: Centreville; High School: James Robinson, Jr. Secondary School; GPA: 3.9; College: The College of William & Mary

Notable quote from student essay: “My intense interest in the cultures to which languages belong and in the actual structure of a language prompted me to pursue a more challenging linguistic endeavor; to learn a third language. After eagerly enrolling in German 1, in addition to French 3, I fell in love again with learning a language, but this time auf Deutsch. Absorbing every detail possible and taking pleasure in practicing my new and increasing knowledge, I rejoiced that I could make linguistic connections with a third language.”

Youth Tour 2006: In Their Own Words

By Donna Snellings

Five students were selected from across the NOVEC service area as representatives to the NRECA 2006 Youth Tour Conference in Washington, D.C.: Russell Walker and Jessica Martin (Brentsville High School), Rebecca Galvan (Centreville High School), Jonathan Oliver, Jr. (Woodbridge High School), Joseph Sherman (Paul VI Catholic High School).

Youth Tour provides the opportunity for high school students to learn about cooperatives and government on the national level, and visit important monuments and sites of our nation's capital. They also had the pleasure of meeting other students from around the country who are members of other cooperatives. The NOVEC Youth Tour students learned about national issues and even discussed some of them with our political leaders.



(From left) Donna Snellings, Youth Tour chaperone, Russell Walker, Jessica Martin, Joe Sherman, Jon Oliver, Rebecca Galvan and Inia Burginger, NOVEC communications manager, pose for a picture in front of Congressman Tom Davis' "Wall of Fame."

The perspective of some of the Youth Tour students:

By Russell Walker

To start, I would like to thank Ms. Snellings for taking us to Washington, D.C., and I cannot wait until February for the trip to Richmond to see the state level of government in action.

The NRECA Youth Legislative Tour is a great opportunity for teenagers to learn about their national government, and it is incredibly fun. On the first night, we went on a cruise of the Potomac River on the *Spirit of Washington*, which has two dance floors and a top deck where we could sit and talk while admiring the scenery.

Bright and early the next day we met the other delegates from around the country – over 1,400 of us! After lunch we went to Arlington Cemetery and got a full tour, including being allowed to watch the changing of the guard in front of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. It was a very moving experience. That evening we went to a Congressional Insight workshop, where we got to play the roles of real senators trying to get re-elected while running the country smoothly.

We toured the Capitol building, and met with Senator George Allen for a conversation and some photos. The next day we got to go to the Finnish Embassy for a presentation on Finland, followed by a tour of the American Red Cross and the Drug Enforcement Agency. When we returned to the hotel, we were given time to prepare for the dance for our last night. It was a great dance, and there were other activities as well, such as an open game room and a movie showing in the basement.

Our final day we visited several national memorials in Washington, D.C., including the Vietnam and Korean War memorials, as well as the Lincoln and Jefferson memorials. After touring the World War II memorial, it was time to return home. It was a great trip that I will always remember, especially because while on that boat I met new people from many different states, and we got to enjoy a beautiful sunset on the river overlooking the capital of the United States of America.



Photo: Donna Snellings

Jessica Martin makes a pencil rubbing of a soldier's name at the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial while Russell Walker looks on.

By Jessica Martin

The odyssey began in an innocent white van packed with suitcases and dress-clothes. Five people tentatively sat together, with the charismatic Donna Snellings setting us all at ease, even when she was driving through traffic. At the hotel, we craned our necks back and gawked at the high glass ceiling, and knew that no glass ceiling existed for us. After all, that's why we were here. We cruised down the Potomac, and people who warily started to acquaint themselves soon found that they were cementing friendships.

The tour of Arlington was amazing; I was astounded at how a graveyard could hold so much of the most precious history of our nation. That was when I realized that sacrifice is a mandatory ingredient for change. Edward Maynard Day's tombstone was engraved with the epitaph: "Distinct as the Billows, Yet One as the Sea." America's unity was evident in the rows of Glorious Dead – prince and pauper, the lifted-up and downtrodden – under the equal banner of their inheritance of earth and called soldiers together as they lay in eternal sleep. My favorite event of the week was when we were able to apply this principle of sacrifice to politics during the Congressional Insight Workshop. The debate was intense, but the bonding was even more ardent. I made my closest friends this night, as

we weighed pros and cons of political actions and reveled in each others' reasoning and excitement.

Tuesday was the crowning glory of the trip. Smartly shod and dressed to the nines, a pack of students was unleashed into an 80-degree Washington morning. Just being a part of the morning bustle and buzz of the Capitol is something that I won't soon forget. Especially encouraging was the engaging time that we had to spend with Senator Allen, and then the luncheon with the aides.

At the Finnish Embassy, differences within our two western nations were quite evident. Culturally, what makes America distinctly American might not be found in another part of the western world. Internationally, there are more variations than I had previously thought, and that means even the most demographically homogenous nations can be riddled with distinct problems yet blessed with specific benefits. The tour of the Red Cross was more impressive than I could have ever imagined! Seeing the work that they do daily could inspire even the most hardened hearts, and for me, awoke the flame of a new hope for humanity.

Walking through the Vietnam Veterans' monument takes you deeper and deeper into the tension. The names of the dead swell as the tide of the war rises. The opaque stone stoically holds the names of these soldiers, and the question of why is only answered in the reflection. It is as if the names look out at you, because you can see yourself in it. The Wall neither praises nor condemns. You see yourself in those soldiers, you ask why from the innermost part of your being, and from somewhere an answer resounds. "You," the wind whispers. My 20 year-old Wayland F. McCauley Jr. said, "You. I died for you, because your government told me to. My government sent me, and I and my brothers will just keep dying for you everyday and every time you pass our wall. Now I'm here just as much as you are standing there, but you're the one that can make sure that this doesn't happen again. You, who I died for, can walk away from the Wall and change the future. I will stay here and make sure that people understand the past." I can never quite rip my eyes from that wall, where every time I fall in love with that cold, unforgiving stone. This black figure is the black side of politics, and we cannot forget that everyone has potential – the great blessing to do right, or the curse of potentially making a grave, life-claiming mistake.

So, here, from the safe quiet comfort of my home, I hear another answer being whispered. What did I get into? A great love of humanity, and the desire to protect them and the freedoms, rights, and liberties that they hold dear. I, Jessica Martin, believer in the human spirit, got into politics. *(And I don't think that this is a pond that people just jump out of.)*

Throughout the week we learned so much including how hard NOVEC works to provide us power, maintain the lines and facilities. We learned how politics are very exciting and challenging as legislators strive to meet constituents' demands. Our meetings with the congressional staff certainly sparked ideas and intense debates among our peers.

The 2006 Youth Legislative Tour was an amazing learning experience and one of the best times of our young lives. A huge "thank you" goes out to Mrs. Donna Snellings and NOVEC for giving us this great learning experience.



Photo: Donna Snellings

Senator George Allen (R-VA) takes time to talk to Joseph Sherman on the steps of the U.S. Capitol building.

By Joseph Sherman

After a not-so-long voyage, we arrived at the hotel in Crystal City, where upon arrival the rooms were not ready. Looking back now, this was better off for the group. It allowed the group of some 30-plus youngsters from Virginia, Maryland, and Delaware to form bonds with each other that would go past the barriers of that wonderful week.

When all things were in place and we began the activities, it was truly a terrific experience. The Youth Tour not only gave us bountiful knowledge about government, Washington, D.C., and the history of the country, but also provided insight as to what other parts of Virginia as well as other parts of the nation were like. I always knew the majority of the country was different from Northern Virginia, but I didn't know exactly how different. During orientation, each co-op talked a little about where they were from and what it was like there. I was taken aback when 90 percent of the students present said, "There are more cows than people where we live." You just can't really tell what the rest of the nation is like until you've met someone from EVERY state.

The most exciting day, in my opinion, was the day spent on Capitol Hill. We toured all around the buildings. As we walked through the hallways, I couldn't help but think, "Wow, this is where it all happens" and "I'm walking in the exact places where great leaders and presidents walked." It was an amazing feeling. The zenith of the day was when we met Senator Allen. Although he talked to the group as a whole, I was able to talk to him one-on-one for a brief time after he addressed the group. Shaking that man's hand really made the trip unique.

I will miss the tours, the sights, the people, but above all, the delicious food served to all the youths daily. I had a great time on this once-in-a-lifetime tour and am 100 percent glad I attended. It was educational, motivational and, of course, fun!

Note: Students will visit Richmond to learn about state government in February when the 2007 Virginia General Assembly is in session.

\$17.4 Million Returned to NOVEC Customers This Summer



By Sarah Smarrelli

This summer, approximately \$17.4 million in CashBack has been refunded to NOVEC customer-members. The total comes after three months of consecutive CashBack returns; \$6.1 million was distributed to customers as credits on their NOVEC bills in June, \$5.8 million in July, and \$5.5 million in August.

CashBack returns are yet another way in which NOVEC provides electricity at a value to its customer-members. These special CashBack returns will be distributed to current customers who began service with NOVEC anytime between 1987 through 2004.

CASH → BACK Explained

Because NOVEC is structured as a not-for-profit business, revenue received over and above the cost of doing business

is allocated to customers. This extra revenue, commonly referred to as margins, is proportionately allocated to and held in a CashBack account for each NOVEC customer. Some of the margins must be retained to provide funding for the growth and maintenance of our electric distribution system and for extreme emergency service restoration. The remainder is refunded to customer-members as CashBack (when financial conditions permit as approved by the NOVEC Board of Directors). While margins of other companies go to stockholders who may or may not be customers, NOVEC's margins belong exclusively to customers.

To find out more about CashBack, visit www.novec.com. For additional questions, contact the NOVEC Customer Service Center at (703) 335-0500 or (888) 335-0500, or via e-mail at customerservice@novec.com.

Over the past four years, NOVEC customers have received more than \$100 million in

CASH → BACK

returns.

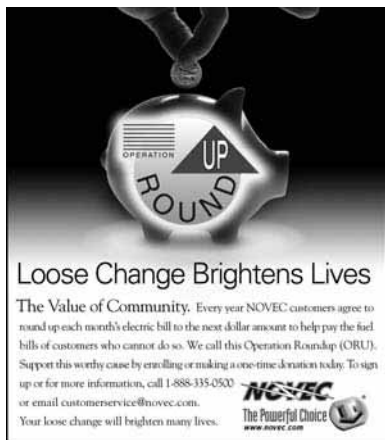
Two Thin Dimes Dry One Full Load of Laundry

The Value of Electricity. The best value in energy today is at your fingertips. NOVEC, your customer-owned electric cooperative, delivers power when and where you need it and at delivery rates that haven't changed in 14 years. So, while we encourage you to conserve, we invite you to enjoy. That's the value of power from the region's most reliable electric utility.

NOVEC
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Based on a 40 minutes of drying time.

Operation Round Up Needs Your Generosity!



By Donna Snellings

Once again this past winter, customers participating in Operation Round Up helped local families in need pay their winter heating bills through donations to assistance programs through local social-services agencies. However, did you know that last year ORU participants donated a record \$46,000, helping more than 620 individuals? Forecasters are predicting even higher fuel costs for this winter season and the local service agencies are predicting an even greater need for fuel assistance.

By authorizing NOVEC to "round up" your monthly electric bill to the next higher dollar, you can help local groups continue their community service work. For example, if your bill is \$69.54, it is rounded up to \$70 and the extra 46 cents is contributed to the Operation Round Up fund. The amount "rounded up" on your bill averages \$6 per year. Each month, the amount you contribute to ORU is shown on your billing statement. You can also make additional contributions by writing in the extra amount on your billing statement and including this amount with your payment. NOVEC absorbs all administrative costs; 100 percent of all money contributed goes directly to the needs of the community.

You can register for Operation Round Up in two convenient ways:

- Send e-mail to customerservice@novec.com with your NOVEC account number, complete name on the account and address.
- Call the customer service center at (703) 335-0500 or (888) 335-0500.

Relay for Life Raises \$150,000



Photo: Donna Snellings

On Friday, June 9, the 2006 Relay for Life team walked laps at Stonewall Jackson High School in Manassas to raise money for the American Cancer Society. The event raised approximately \$150,000 for cancer patients and research across America and is considered the society's premiere event for the year.



Chairman:
J. Manley Garber
District 7

Woodbridge/Dale City/Montclair



Vice-Chairman:
Wade C. House
District 5

Nokesville/Haymarket/Bull Run



Secretary:
Michael Ragan
District 6

Lake Jackson/Buckhall/
Manassas Park/Bristow



Treasurer:
Walter Grove
District 8

Fauquier/Stafford



Malcolm Ames
At Large



James Chesley
District 3

Fairfax County, East of Rt. 66



Cynthia Gilbride
District 9

Fairfax County, West of Rt. 66
Loudoun County, South Riding



Don M. Middleton
District 2

Loudoun County, South of Rt. 7



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District 4

Manassas/Gainesville



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