

The Insider



PUBLISHED FOR THE EMPLOYEES OF THE STATE OFFICE OF NORTH CAROLINA'S ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES

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EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Each month, Insider will randomly feature an employee as part of the newsletter's nameplate. This newsletter is about you and for you—so it made sense to incorporate as many photos of you as we could.

This month, **Debbie Hockaday**, TSE Service's manager of agriculture accounts, is in the spotlight.

Debbie's unique hobby helps to alleviate the stress in her life while improving the lives of others. For the story, see page 2.

The Mall is on FIRE!

Bleary-eyed employees pulling onto Sumner Boulevard around 8:45 a.m. on September 21 were jarred awake by the sight of billowing clouds of black smoke. The mall under construction next door was on fire.

According to The News & Observer, authorities believe that heat created by welders caused the early morning blaze. Heat from welding under a metal roof structure ignited nearly three tractor-trailer loads of foam insulation on the structure's roof.

The fire damaged the roof of the Hecht's department store, one of four anchor stores at the Center.



Employees gather to take in an unbelievable sight: geysers of smoke streaming from a flaming mall.



Thirteen Raleigh fire trucks and others arrived at the scene. The firefighting was "labor-intensive" according to Raleigh Assistant Fire Chief Larry Sanford. "We have to peel back each piece and make sure it doesn't re-ignite."

Stanford went on to describe the damage as substantial. "Replacing parts of the metal roof structure alone could cost hundreds of thousands of dollars."

But Bill Fullington, spokesman for the mall developer Richard E. Jacobs Group said that the fire would not impact the mall's opening scheduled for mid-August 2002.

THIS .PDF IS INTERACTIVE!

The table of contents above, and all underlined words located throughout the articles are links. Simply click on these "hot spots" and you'll be taken to a .PDF page, a Web site or to your e-mail, depending on the context.

Happy Holidays!

Christmas Party, Dec. 1,
Crabtree Marriott, 7 p.m.

No work on Dec. 25 and Jan. 1.



Questions/contributions for *The Insider*? Contact Editor Tara Verna at ext. 3134 or by e-mail.

Debbie Hockaday Hits the Road on her Award-Winning Vulcan

Ask **Debbie Hockaday** about the loves of her life and you can bet that she'll name her husband Dave, dog Sasha, and '99 Kawasaki Vulcan 800 Classic, not necessarily in that order.

A surprise gift from her husband, the bike delighted Debbie in almost every way but one.

"I'm a small person — 5 foot, 2 inches tall and about 108 pounds — so this is a BIG bike for my build. My husband spent about a year modifying the bike and fine tuning it to fit my body so that I can ride in comfort and safety. Some of his adjustments included incorporating a custom saddle, lowering the bike by at least four inches, shortening the kickstand, installing a new set of handlebars, altering the pedal positions, and constructing floorboards for my feet. Now I think nothing of a 14-hour ride. I could ride forever!"

Debbie, Dave and their 15-year-old poodle Sasha take to the road as often as possible (yes, the dog rides in a special basket built onto Dave's bike). They ride to competitions, on vacations, with the Iron Eagles bike club, and for charity events.

So far this season, Debbie's low-riding Vulcan has won three first-place trophies in Cruiser Class. But the recognition that really blew Debbie's mind arrived in the form of a "Best in Show" award at Ron Ayers Motorsports' 8th Annual Open House/Bike Show in Raleigh.

"That was a real shocker. I thought I would have heart failure. It was only my first year to compete and there were at least 100 other awesome-looking bikes there," said Debbie.

On vacation, two weeks ago, Debbie, Dave and Sasha rode down to Dayton Beach, Fla. and then on to Key West for a total of 2,500 miles in one week. Little wonder that her odometer recently reached 41,000 miles.

Her love for riding translates into multiple benefits: spending time with her husband, reducing stress levels, seeing new places, and meeting unique people. And her riding also benefits others.

"We participate in all sorts of charity events. Not long ago, our Iron Eagles bike club raised funds for a local man, a paraplegic, who could not afford a special type of wheelchair. And every year around the holidays, we take part in 'toy runs' and help

deliver toys to needy children," said Debbie.

Anyone with any interest in riding can learn more from Debbie and Dave's personal Web site, www.2vulcans.net or visit www.Scotworks.com, Dave's business site that showcases his custom bike work and products. You can also pick up the November 2001 issue of V-Twin Motorcycles, which features an article about LoRidr by Dave. Or just ask Debbie about her bike. I guarantee she'll smile.



Above: Debbie Hockaday with her '99 Kawasaki Vulcan 800 Classic (license plate reads, "LoRidr"). Her dog Sasha is ready to ride (small photo). Below: Various awards Debbie received over the past year.



As the manager of agriculture accounts for TSE Services, Debbie works with co-ops to determine their agricultural needs, primarily focusing on poultry, swine, and turkeys. She also supplies the co-ops with emergency standby generators, OxyGen water treatment systems, lighting and more.