

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Greg Starheim, DCEC
(607) 746-9281

Date: November 5, 2009

DCEC LINEMEN SAVE HOUSE FROM FIRE

A lunch break for line-workers of the Delaware County Electric Cooperative (“DCEC”) turned into an emergency response when a cooperative member’s house caught fire.

Lineman Mike Pietrantoni, who is also Bloomville’s fire chief, was working with Lineman Scott Tuttle, also a firefighter, on September 22nd on Easy Street in Otsego County, town of Schenevus. When the crew broke for lunch, Pietrantoni heard a fire call on his pager. “We heard East Meredith get toned for a structure fire,” he said. Realizing the fire was nearby, they headed to the address. “We drove up the road and a woman came running across the road and told us a house was on fire,” Pietrantoni said.

While Tuttle disconnected the electric service to the building, Pietrantoni ran into the building with a fire extinguisher (all DCEC trucks are equipped with fire extinguishers). He found curtains burning near an open window, “There was a lot of smoke,” he said. “We’re glad to have been in the right place at the right time to have helped.”

East Meredith firefighters soon arrived and Schenevus firefighters were called off. “We turned things over to them and waited for the investigators to come,” he said.

Pietrantoni has been a DCEC lineman for almost seven years. Tuttle has been with the cooperative for 20 years. Both reside in Bloomville.



House saved by linemen Mike Pietrantoni & Scott Tuttle