

A publication for members of Edgecombe-Martin County EMC

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



2010 Nominees for Edgecombe-Martin County EMC board of directors.

~ page 18



Lines from the CEO, "Energy Consumption Increases Due to Cold Winter Weather"

~ page 19



2010 Annual Meeting Agenda.

~ page 20

Annual Meeting Notice

ALONG THE LINE

Dear Member:

The 73rd Annual Meeting of Members of Edgecombe-Martin County Electric Membership Corporation will be held on March 20, 2010, at the headquarters facility, NC Hwy. 33E, Tarboro. The meeting will be held in the truck warehouse for safety and convenience. Use the concrete driveway to enter the parking areas.

The purpose of this meeting is: (1) the presentation, consideration of, and action upon reports by officers, directors, and committees, (2) the election of directors and, (3) the transacting of any other business that comes before the meeting. Your cooperative's president and C.E.O. will make their annual reports to the membership on the state of your cooperative. Please, mail questions pertaining to your cooperative prior to March 6, to Bob McDuffie, C.E.O., P.O. Box 188, Tarboro, NC 27886.

The agenda for the meeting is located on page 20 and highlights on the nominations for directors is included on page 18.

If you do not plan to be present and wish to cast a vote, please complete, sign and return the proxy form on the front cover of this magazine by mail to the address noted above. (Only an adult member of your household is eligible to vote your proxy.)

Members who are entitled to and desire reasonable accommodations under the American with Disabilities Act or other laws should contact the Member Services Department prior to Thursday, March 4, 2010.

Prizes will be given away at the end of the business session and you must be present to win. Registered members and their immediate families are invited for lunch. There will be activities for children ages 4-12.

Mark your calendars to attend the Annual Meeting of Members on Saturday, March 20, 2010. The business session will begin promptly at 12 noon. We look forward to seeing you there!

Yours Truly,

Joseph A. Suggs
Secretary

Edgecombe-Martin County Electric Membership Corporation

CONTACT YOUR REPRESENTATIVES

Cap and Trade legislation could cause electric rates to increase 40%. Can you afford the increase?

To learn more about this very important legislation, call 1-877-40BALANCE or visit the informative websites listed below.



Our Energy, Our Future
A Dialogue With America
www.ourenergy.coop

Find A
Balanced Solution
www.findabalancedsolution.com



Nominees for Directors



District E-5

Jimmie Jernigan has been a board member since March 2001, and he currently represents directorate district E-5. Mr. Jernigan was raised and has spent his adult life as a farmer/businessman in Edgecombe County.

Jimmie Jernigan He graduated from West Edgecombe High School and attended Old Dominion College.

In 1986, Mr. Jernigan and his wife, Jane, were selected to represent Edgecombe-Martin County EMC at the Cooperative's Leadership Conference and were named as North Carolina's Outstanding Young Couple, which afforded them the opportunity to attend the National Institute of Cooperative Education.

Mr. Jernigan is currently serving as a board member for Edgecombe County Farm Bureau, a member of the Budget and Finance Committee of Edgecombe County Farm Bureau, and as a board representative of the North Carolina Farm Bureau. He also serves on the board at Lewis Community Volunteer Fire Department and is a member of West Edgecombe Baptist Church.

Mr. Jernigan has been a member of Edgecombe-Martin County EMC for over 30 years. He and his wife reside at 1280 Bulluck School Road in Rocky Mount. They have two sons, Jason and Jarrett, and five grandchildren.



District E-2

Billy Trevathan has been a member of Edgecombe-Martin County EMC since February 1960, the year he married his wife, Jean. They have a son, Wayne, two daughters, Debra Beach and Karen Davis and three grandchildren.

Billy Trevathan Trevathan was raised in the Crisp Community and is a graduate of South Edgecombe High School. He currently represents directorate district E-2 and has served on the board since February

1984. During that time he has served as vice-president and president of the board.

Mr. Trevathan retired in 1999 as a prominent Edgecombe County businessman after owning and operating his own business for 34 years. Since retirement, he has spent time promoting his other business of Billy's BBQ and Cocktail sauces, and he also enjoys cooking his signature brunswick stew for churches, clubs, and various fund-raising events.

Trevathan serves as the adult superintendent of the Sunday School Department, a teacher and as a deacon of the First Free Will Baptist Church in Tarboro.

Trevathan enjoys helping and serving others and thanks the membership for their past and future support.

He and his wife reside at 247 S. Shiloh Farm Road, Tarboro.



District M-1

Norman Roberson currently serves as the director for district M-1 and has served as a director of the cooperative since March 2001. He continues to maintain his commitment in supporting the growth and strength of Edgecombe-Martin County EMC.

Roberson was raised in Martin County and graduated from Robersonville High School. His employment after graduation included law enforcement and that of a U. S. Postal employee as a rural carrier. He began farming in 1974 and is presently involved in all aspects of farming and it's associated organizations.

Roberson has served as a member of the Southern States Local Advisory Board and on the Southern States District Nominating Committee. His past memberships include the Robersonville Ruritan Club and he was a board member for Martin County Crime Stoppers Association.

Roberson and his wife Tammy, have three children, Allen, Tiffany and Jackson. The Roberson family resides on Hassell Road, near Robersonville, and have been members of Edgecombe-Martin County EMC for over 30 years.

LINES FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Cold Winter Weather Impacts Energy Consumption



Spring will be here in only a few weeks, and warmer temperatures are soon to follow. An increase in the number of daylight hours will be a welcome change for many of us, and before we know it we will be battling the “dog days” of summer. However, this winter will be one that is not easily forgotten.

November 2009 was mild in comparison to temperatures from the same month the previous year. On average, temperatures were 5 degrees warmer this November. Unfortunately, that all changed very quickly during December 2009 and January 2010.

To get a better understanding of just how cold it was in comparison to last year; industry experts often use heating and cooling degree day data. Heating degree days are indicators of household energy consumption for space heating. It was found that for an average outdoor temperature of 65 degrees Fahrenheit, most buildings require heat to maintain a 70 degree temperature inside. Similarly, for an average outdoor temperature of 65 degrees or more, most buildings require air-conditioning to maintain a 70 degree temperature inside. Computing heating and cooling degree days is rather straightforward. You simply take the high and low temperature for the day, and average them. If this number is greater than 65 F, then we have (Average temperature - 65) cooling degree days. If the average temperature is less than 65 degrees, then we have (65 - Average temperature) heating degree days. Running totals are kept for these units each month and compared to the same time periods from the previous years.

During December 2009, we experienced 689 heating degree days and 0 cooling degree days. That was much colder than the 510 heating degree days and 6 cooling degree days experienced in December 2008, and the average temperature was 5.7 degrees colder in December 2009. January 2010 brought more of the same. Heating degree days this January totaled 828 and there were no cooling degree days, while there was 789 heating degree days during January 2009 and no cooling degree days. (All weather data was collected from our personal weather station located at our office on Hwy. 33 East in Tarboro.)

All of this information may seem irrelevant, but it is actually quite important when it comes to explaining and understanding an increase in your electric bill. Taking into consideration that your heating system accounts for roughly 50%-80% of your total energy consumption during winter months; it allows you to see just how much your heating system impacts your electric bill. The relationship between the outside temperature and the energy it takes to heat your home is exponential.

For example, if the outside temperature is 60 degrees and your thermostat is set at 68 degrees, it takes a certain amount of energy to increase the temperature in your home that 10 degree difference. However, if the temperature is 48 degrees outside, it takes much more energy to heat the home to 68 degrees. Considering that a large majority of the days in December and January never reached 50 degrees, it's easy to understand why your electric bill would have increased drastically over the past three months.

Even though we usually do not experience extremely low temperatures for several weeks like we have this winter, we can't change the fact that they have occurred. What we can do is educate and inform our membership on the most economical way to heat their home, and we have been doing that for many years now. We highly encourage members to install energy efficient heat pumps to help reduce their energy consumption during the winter months. They are the most economical way for our members to heat their homes, and as always we will be glad to provide you with an analysis and examples to prove it. As we have pointed out in past newsletter articles, many of the phone calls we field as electric bills begin to increase are related to members that are utilizing electric furnaces to heat their homes. These heating systems are found in approximately 97% of all mobile homes and can use as much as 20 kilowatts per hour. That equates to roughly \$2 an hour or \$20 a day if the heating system runs 10 hours per day. Members that are heating their homes with gas also stand to save considerably during the winter months by switching their heating system to an energy efficient heat pump. It would cost \$38.32 to produce one million BTU's of heat for a consumer using an 80% efficient gas furnace and paying \$2.80 per gallon for propane. That same consumer could utilize a heat pump with a HSPF (Heating Season Performance Factor) rating of 8.0 and produce that same one million BTU's of heat for \$12.43 under our current residential rate schedule.

Please remember that we can provide you with hourly usage data for your account that can help identify inefficiencies in your home, and we look forward to sharing this information with you.

Cooperatively Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bob L. McDuffie". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Bob L. McDuffie

VAC Raffle Helps Raise Scholarship Funds

Each year, the Volunteer Action Committee of Edgecombe-Martin County EMC raises funds for the Noel Lee, Jr. Memorial Scholarship Fund by holding a raffle ticket sale. They also raise additional funds by selling baked goods and various other items at the annual meeting of members. This year raffle tickets are being offered for \$2 each (or 3 for \$5) for a chance to win an Ann's House of Nuts gift basket. Tickets are available in the lobby of our office located at 679 NC Hwy. 33 East in Tarboro. The gift basket contains an array of goodies such as cashews, peanuts, trail mixes and healthy nut energy mixes that are sure to be appetizing.



The 2010 VAC Raffle item is an Ann's House of Nuts Gift Basket, prepared and donated by Anne's House of Nuts in Robersonville, N.C.

73rd Annual Meeting of Members Agenda Saturday, March 20, 2010

- 10 -11:30 A.M. — Registration, Exhibits, Lunch
- 10- 10:45 A.M. — Tar River Boys Bluegrass Band
- 11- 11:45 A.M. — Milton Bullock, "The Golden Platter"
- 12 P.M.- 1P.M. — Business Session Begins/Inflatable rides for children

Call To Order.....	Millie Lilley Director, District P-1 Board President
Invocation.....	Michael Harrell Accounting Specialist
Pledge of Allegiance.....	Ernie James Sr. Engineering Technician
National Anthem.....	Eddie Stocks V.P. of Member & Industrial Dev.
Roll Call..... (registration closes)	Joseph Suggs Director, District E-1; Secretary
Reading of Meeting Notice.....	Joseph Suggs
Proof of Mailing.....	Joseph Suggs
Minutes.....	Joseph Suggs
Nominating Committee's..... Report	Chairman, Nominating Comm.
Election of Directors.....	Bo Simmons Cooperative Attorney
Annual Reports	
President's Report.....	Millie Lilley
Treasurer's Report.....	Floyd Harrell Director, District E-3
Auditor's Report.....	Bo Simmons
C.E.O.s Report.....	Bob McDuffie C.E.O.
Election Results.....	Bo Simmons
Unfinished/New Business.....	Millie Lilley
VAC Raffles and Bright Ideas.....	Ann Andrews
Grant Recipients	
Drawing for Prizes.....	Eddie Stocks
Adjourn Meeting.....	Millie Lilley

ALONG THE LINE

www.ememc.com

Board of Directors

- Millie Lilley, President
- Elbert Ray Pitt, Jr., Vice Pres.
- Joseph Suggs, Secretary
- Floyd H. Harrell, Treasurer
- Billy Trevathan
- Jimmie Jernigan
- Norman A. Roberson
- Dennis C. Briley
- Edward B. Simmons, Attorney

CEO

Bob L. McDuffie

Editor

Winston T. Howell

Hwy. 33 East, P.O. Box 188
Tarboro, NC 27886
252-823-2171 • 1-800-445-6486
Office Hours: 8a.m. - 5p.m. (M-F)
After Hours Outage Reporting
1-800-690-0657