



200 members attend Customer Appreciation Day.

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Bright Ideas Grants Awarded to Teachers

ALONG THE LINE

Edgecombe-Martin County EMC awarded seven Bright Ideas grants this year to teachers in Edgecombe, Martin and Pitt counties.

Bright Ideas grants are awarded to teachers in grades K-12 to help them implement programs that would not otherwise be funded. The 2010 Bright Ideas grants were awarded to the following teachers:

- 1.) Kelli Peel, Bethel Elementary, North Carolina Magic: Connecting to the Place We Live, Pitt County, \$846
- 2.) Mike Whitehurst, SW Edgecombe High, Up..Up..and Away!!, Edgecombe County, \$399
- 3.) Cliff Hudson, Riverside High School, To The Moon, To Mars and Beyond: The Past, Present and Future of Space Exploration, Martin County, \$700
- 4.) Susan L. Warren, Stokes Elementary, Audio Stories: There's More To It Than Just Listening!, Pitt County, \$1,084
- 5.) Wanda O'Neal, GW Carver Elementary, Reading is the "Center" of Student Success, Edgecombe County, \$1,031
- 6.) Tabitha Hodges, SW Edgecombe High, Biotechnology Training for Teens, Edgecombe County, \$1,500
- 7.) Jo T. Peele, South Creek High School, Celebrate Our Differences, Martin County, \$1,440

Since the program's inception in 1994, North Carolina's Touchstone Energy cooperatives have awarded more than \$7.1 million to N.C. teachers. The Bright Ideas program has reached more than 1.2 million North Carolina students in all subjects including math, reading, science and technology, music and the arts.



TOGETHER WE SAVE

Small changes made to your home can add up to substantial energy savings. Visit www.togetherwesave.com, and watch how-to videos that will provide you with the insight you need on how to make your home more energy efficient, participate in the Energy Saving Forum or take the Energy Savings Home Tour to add up your potential savings. From sealing your home to your ductwork, you'll find it all at...

TOGETHERWESAVE.COM

Signage On Utility Poles Pose Safety Concerns

Utility poles may offer an easy and convenient way for individuals to post signage, but unauthorized pole attachments present safety issues for lineworkers and the general public. Signage and various other types of attachments on utility poles pose an immediate hazard to lineworkers when attempting to climb poles to perform maintenance on

power lines.

Edgecombe-Martin County EMC policy requires any and all signs and paraphernalia to be removed from utility poles or property of the Cooperative.

A notification will be mailed to the responsible person(s) and they will be directed to have any signs or objects removed within ten

(10) days. If the signs or objects are not removed after 10 days, the Cooperative will remove them and the responsible person(s) shall be responsible for the cost of removal. Edgecombe-Martin County EMC appreciates your cooperation in helping keep our infrastructure workable and our employees safe.



It is unlawful to attach signage to utility poles in NC, and they also create a climbing hazard to lineworkers.

Customer Appreciation Day Brings Members Together

Nearly 200 members and their families visited the co-op on October 15 for Customer Appreciation Day. Members registered for a chance to win one of the three \$100 bill credits that were up for grabs. The lucky winners this year were Carolyn Greenleaf, Joseph Martin and Minnie Edmondson.

Cooperative employees and the Volunteer Action Committee of Edgecombe-Martin County EMC served members hotdogs and popcorn from 11 am until 2 pm. Members were also treated to soft-serve ice cream.

Edgecombe-Martin County EMC hosts Customer Appreciation Day each year during October to observe national Co-op Month and to show appreciation to the members of the Cooperative. As member-owned enterprises, co-ops are owned largely by the people who live and work in the communities they serve. That gives us a different perspective from businesses owned by distant investors.

Nearly 900 consumer-owned electric cooperatives provide electricity for 37 million people in 47 states. Owned and governed by the consumers they serve, electric co-ops have been demonstrating strong commitment to their local communities since they turned on the lights in rural America in the 1930's.

(l) Members enjoy a hot dog lunch at Customer Appreciation Day while catching up with other members.



HOLIDAY CLOSING

Edgecombe-Martin County EMC will close on Thursday, December 23, at 12 p.m. and will reopen for business on Tuesday, December 28, at 8a.m. in observance of the Christmas Holiday.

Payments after office hours and on holidays can be placed in the night deposit box or you may choose to utilize the convenience of online bill-pay by logging on to www.ememc.com.

To report a loss of power or an emergency after hours, please call 1-800-690-0657.

Heat Pump Savings Continue to Grow

Five years ago, Edgecombe-Martin County EMC assisted a couple members with the selection and installation of a high efficiency heat pump. These pilot projects consisted of helping the members transition from their old propane furnaces to new air source heat pumps that were much more efficient.

After recently revisiting and reviewing the usage data from one of the sites, it is very obvious that the installation of the heat pump was a wise choice. The energy consumption at this particular location had increased 5,098 kWh on average since the heat pump was installed during the winter months (Nov.-March), which equates to about \$455 more per year. Before the transition was made to an air source heat pump, the member was purchasing 800 gallons of propane on average per year to heat their home. Propane alone was costing this member \$1,600 on average per year. That is an actual average savings

per year of \$1,145 during the winter. The member has effectively realized a simple payback of 3 years on the cost of the unit, and they will continue to generate even more savings each year. I think it is safe to say that all of us would like to have an extra \$1,145 in our wallet every winter.

Another important factor to note is the comfort level these members have experienced with the air source heat pump. They have been extremely pleased with the heat output of the heat pump during the winter months, which goes to show that today's energy efficient heat pumps can keep you very warm while saving you bunches of money.

If we can assist you with making an energy wise decision on the purchase of a new heat pump, please do not hesitate to contact us!



Attention High School Juniors!! Apply for the 2011 Electric Youth Tour

How would you like to win an all expense paid trip to Washington, DC to attend the 2011 Electric Cooperative Youth Tour on June 11-17? Any high school junior who's parents or guardians are members of Edgecombe-Martin County EMC is eligible to apply for the 2011 Electric Youth Tour Contest. The essay contest is open now through March 21, 2011.

Winston Howell, manager of communication and energy services, commented "The Youth Tour is an exciting opportunity for teenagers to learn how important electric cooperatives are to our communities and they also get to tour many of Washington, D.C.'s historic monuments". Tourists will also get to tour the White House this year. The Youth Tour is also a great opportunity for high school juniors to learn about the legislative system and to meet their local representatives.

To apply for the 2011 Electric Youth Tour call 641-9513 or e-mail: winston.howell@ememc.com to request an application and essay form to be completed and submitted by March 21, 2011.

The 2011 Electric Cooperative Youth Tour

A WEEK YOU'LL NEVER FORGET!

Visit Historic Monuments,
Museums & so Much More

See Our Nation's
Government in Action

Join More Than a Thousand
Students from Across the Country



North Carolina's
Electric Cooperatives

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives

www.NCElectricCooperatives.com/YouthTour

Nominating Committee Selected for 2011

Although it is several months until our next annual meeting, our election process for the cooperative's board of directors is rather involved and must start early. We have eight directors who are elected for three-year terms on a staggered basis so that approximately one-third are elected each year. In accordance with the cooperative's bylaws, an eight member nominating committee is appointed.

The Board of Directors has selected a member from each of the eight directorate districts to serve on the Nominating Committee for the 2011 Annual Meeting of Members, to be held on Saturday, March 19.

The nominating committee is composed of members who are not cooperative employees, agents, officers, directors, or close relatives of the existing board or known candidate for director. The committee meets, nominates members to serve on the board, and then posts the results in the cooperative's office. The committee will be nominating members for the board from directorate district E-3, E-4 and P-1.

The members of the Nominating Committee have been charged with the responsibility of selecting three Edgecombe-Martin County EMC members to represent the cooperative on the Board of Directors, and the names selected by this committee will be submitted and will be voted on at the 2011 Annual Meeting of Members.

Policy No. 201 (included in this newsletter) states the requirements and guidelines that the Nominating Committee must follow before nominating anyone for the Board of Directors of your cooperative.

How To Nominate a Director

The Nominating Committee has been charged with the responsibility of nominating three members of Edgecombe-Martin County EMC to fill expiring terms on the Board of Directors for District E-3, E-4 and P-1.

In addition, candidates may be nominated by petition. The petition must be signed by 15 or more members in the nominee's respective district and received in the Tarboro office at least 30 days prior to the annual meeting. This allows time to verify that the nominee is a qualified member interested in serving as a director, and it also allows time to include their name on the election ballot. All nominations are closed 30 days prior to the annual meeting.

Should you desire to nominate a member other than the three members to be selected by the Nominating Committee, you must submit a petition to the Cooperative by February 7, 2011.

Any fifteen or more members acting together may make additional nominations in writing by submitting a petition with their fifteen signatures affixed.

Petitions of nominees for directors shall be signed only by members who reside in the same directorate district as the nominee whose name appears on the petition.

If a valid petition is received by January 17, 2011 along with a usable photograph and a brief biographical statement, this information will be published in the March Annual Meeting Notice newsletter.

2011 NOMINATING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

District P-1

Peggy Warren
724 NC Hwy. 30
Greenville, NC 27834

District E-3

Bobby R. Rose
Rte. 1, Box 192
Pinetops, NC 27864

District D-AL

Danny Butler
5259 NC Hwy. 142
Oak City, NC 27857

District E-1

Walter Hunter
P.O. Box 268
Whitakers, NC 27891

District E-4

Johnnie Naylor
P.O. Box 594
Pinetops, NC 27864

District M-1

Danny Stalls
3484 Claude Green Road
Robersonville, NC 27871

District E-2

L.B. Simpson, Jr.
2026 NC 111 N.
Tarboro, NC 27886

District E-5

Don Anderson
597 E. Logsboro Rd.
Tarboro, NC 27886

Considerations for Directors

This policy statement excerpt from Policy No. 201 of the Cooperative's Board Approved Policies is printed to provide and inform the membership on guidelines for those persons nominated and voted upon for service as a member of the Board of Directors of the Cooperative, and to provide the membership with a means of assuring themselves of the election of members to the Board of Directors who are qualified to carry out the ideals, formulate policy, develop plans and insure their execution. The Board of Directors of Edgecombe-Martin County Electric Membership Corporation has resolved that the policy contained herein shall be used as a guide when considering the qualifications for directors.

That any committees, member, or members who nominate an individual to be voted upon for election to the Board of Directors of the Cooperative shall be aware of and should carefully and seriously consider the following personal qualifications before such nomination is entered.

- Shall have the qualifications contained in Section 4.02 of the bylaws.
- Should be willing to promote and safeguard the interests of the Cooperative.
- Should be willing to attend regularly scheduled and special meetings of the Board of Directors; national, state, and other meetings of organizations with associated interests that furthers the Cooperative's mission; training programs which will aid in keeping the director well informed on the matters affecting the Cooperative.
- Should be aware that members of the Board of Directors serve without salary and on a fee basis only for time given regularly scheduled and approved affairs of the Cooperative plus reimbursement for all reasonable expenses in connection with such scheduled activities.
- Should be willing to serve the term of office for which elected until a successor has been appointed or elected and qualified except in cases of extreme circumstances.
- Shall not use or cause to be used, the position of director to further any personal ambitions.
- Shall not have been: convicted of a felony; the subject of a bankruptcy judgement; declared being of unsound mind by any order of court.
- That service as a director shall include

the following responsibilities for growth and development, for keeping them and others informed, and for participating in all functions of the Board.

- To expend the effort needed to understand the Cooperative's problems and to provide the judgement needed to reach decisions in constantly changing circumstances.
- To conscientiously study the information contained in reports submitted to the Board.
- To make a meaningful contribution by participating in discussions on plans, programs, policies and other Board actions.
- To objectively evaluate and consider the questions and problems with which the Cooperative is faced.
- To keep informed as to the ideals and objectives of the Cooperative and to further study and analyze the policies, plans, and problems which result from efforts to achieve such ideals and objectives.
- To keep informed on, alert to, and aware of the attitudes of the members, the employees, and the general public toward the Cooperative's objectives and policies.
- To inform all interested persons about the Cooperative's ideals, objectives, programs and services.
- That any of the below listed circumstances of any director are cause for immediate resignation or removal from the Board and related offices upon review:
 1. Is adjudged to be bankrupt or who is convicted of a felony.
 2. Is absent from two or more meetings per fiscal year.
 3. Declared of unsound mind by any order of court.
 4. In the case of any such circumstance, a majority of the remaining directors will review and deem necessary to excuse or vacate and fill said vacancy for the remainder of the unexpired term of the Director.

This policy is intended to serve as a guide for keeping nominating committees and members informed on their nominating and voting decisions and is not intended to conflict with the bylaws, or Articles of Incorporation of the Cooperative. A complete copy of any policy will be made available for any member upon his or her request.

Directorate Districts E-3, E-4 and P-1

The three directors to be elected at the Annual Meeting of Members on March 19, 2011 must reside in and represent directorate districts E-3, E-4 and P-1 respectively. The following is a description of the boundaries of these three directorate districts.

DIRECTORATE DISTRICT E-3

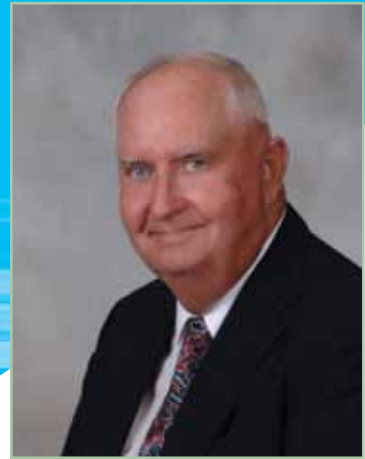
Beginning at a point where NC 33 crosses the Tar River, in Tarboro and Princeville, the eastern boundary of the section follows the centerline of NC 33 southward to a point where NC 33 becomes US Hwy 64 Alternate East and continuing along the centerline southward until reaching the Edgecombe-Pitt County line.

DIRECTORATE DISTRICT E-4

Beginning at a point where the center line of State Road 1102 and the Edgecombe-Pitt County line intersects, and following the center line of State Road 1102 northward, until reaching the intersection of State Road 1106, where the boundary continues on to follow the center line of State Road 1106, until reaching the intersection of State Road 1109, and following the center line of State Road 1109, until reaching the intersection of State Highway 124, in Macclesfield, where the boundary follows State Highway 124 eastward, until reaching the intersection of State Road 1119, in Macclesfield, where it turns northward and follows the center line of State Road 1119 into Pinetops, where it connects with State Road 1201, and continues in a northerly route on the center line of State Road 1201, until reaching State Road 1202, where it continues on the center line of State Road 1202, until reaching the intersection of State Road 1202, until reaching the intersection of State Road 1205, thus creating the eastern boundary. Turning westward, and following the center line of State Road 1205, until reaching the intersection of State Road 1222, and following the center line of State Road 1222, until reaching the intersection of State Highway 43, where the boundary turns northward on State Highway 43, and follows the center line, until reaching the Nash-Edgecombe County line, thus creating the northern boundary. All portions of Edgecombe, Nash, and Wilson counties, within this geographical area, shall be considered in Section E-4.

DIRECTORATE DISTRICT P-1

All portions of land within Pitt County and Beaufort County shall be considered with Section P-1.



Floyd Harrell currently serves as the director for District E-3.



Bert Pitt currently serves as the director for District E-4.



Millie Lilley currently serves as the director for District P-1.

Credentials and Election Committee Appointed

The Board of Directors appoints a Credentials and Election Committee each year to serve at the Annual Meeting of Members. There is one member from each of the eight directorate districts of the cooperative that serve on this committee to insure that proper rules and regulations are followed according to the co-op's policies. Some of their duties include:

1. To ensure proper member registration and ballot voting.
2. To answer questions that may arise with respect to the registration of members in person or by proxy.
3. To count all ballots cast in any election or any other ballot voting.
4. To rule upon the effect of any ballots irregularly or indecisively marked.
5. To pass upon any protest or objection filed with respect to any election or the conduct affecting the results of any election.

2011 CREDENTIALS AND ELECTION COMMITTEE

E-1 Peggy K. Weatherford
3952 Old Battleboro Road
Battleboro, NC 27809

E-2 Walter Dew, III
3129 NC 111 N
Tarboro, NC 27886

E-3 Alton R. Skinner
704 Ellis Road
Tarboro, NC 27886

E-4 Hugh E. Council
5155 NC 42W
Macclesfield, NC

E-5 Ernest E. Moore
Rte. 2, Box 48
Battleboro, NC 27809

D-AL Danny Butler
5259 NC Hwy. 142
Oak City, NC 27857

M-1 Danny Stalls
3484 Claude Green Road
Robersonville, NC 27871

P-1 Peggy Warren
724 NC Hwy. 30
Greenville, NC 27834

***JOIN US FOR THE 74TH ANNUAL MEETING OF
MEMBERS TO BE HELD ON MARCH 19, 2011.***

Operating Space Heaters

If your planning on using space heaters this winter to heat your home, you may want to evaluate the energy consumption and safety issues surrounding them.

Space heaters have one function and that is to provide supplemental heat. They are not designed to heat your entire home and using multiple space heaters can lead to a dramatic increase in your energy bill. Some space heaters consume 1,200 to 1,500 watts per hour, and the excessive usage of several space heaters will certainly cause your bill to increase.

Safety also becomes a concern when using

space heaters. It is important first to select space heaters that are U.L. approved. When making your selection, choose devices that are thermostatically controlled. Make sure to keep at least a three foot safety buffer around space heaters and clean the heater often to reduce the possibility of a fire. According to the National Fire Protection Association (N.F.P.A.), supplemental heating equipment is the leading cause of home fires during the months of December, January and February.



Holiday Travel Safety

Although all of your holiday plans have been made and presents have been bought, there is still something important that needs to be done before you leave to visit loved ones – secure your home. Following these tips will protect your home before a trip and make it less vulnerable:

- Even if a garage door is closed, burglars can still find ways to get into the garage and enter your home. Lock the garage door from the inside and make certain all other entrances and windows are locked.
- Don't tell too many people, that you're going away on vacation. Be sure not to post any information online about when you're away from your house. It's OK to tell a trusted neighbor or family member your plans so he or she can keep an eye on your house while you're gone.
- If you are going away for an extended amount of time, have the post office hold your mail. Accumulated letters and magazines are a sign of an unattended home. Consider having your paper carrier hold your newspaper until you return, too.
- If you have a home security system, call the company to tell them you are going out of town. Also tell them where you can be reached in case of an emergency.
- If you feel apprehensive about leaving your home unattended, have a friend or family member house sit while you are away. Millions of Americans pack the nation's airports during the holiday season. To make your airport experience as stress free as possible, follow these simple tips:
 - Call the airlines to check your flight status before you leave for the airport. Few things are more frustrating than arriving at the airport and discovering your flight has been delayed or canceled.
 - Arrive at the airport early to avoid crowds at security and customs. If you have time afterward, you can eat at a restaurant or shop for last-minute holiday gifts.
 - If your airline has the option to print your boarding pass online, do it to avoid long lines.
 - Don't forget a photo I.D., which is required for domestic travel, and a passport, which is required for international flights. Keep your boarding pass and forms of identification within reach for security checkpoints.
 - Make sure your luggage follows weight and quantity guidelines.

ALONG THE LINE

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Elbert Ray Pitt, Jr., Vice Pres.
Joseph Suggs, Secretary
Floyd H. Harrell, Treasurer
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