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ALONG THE LINE

19th Annual 4-H Golf Tournament

Edgecombe-Martin County EMC is excited to announce the date for the 19th Annual 4-H Golf Tournament. The tournament will be held on Wednesday, May 13, 2015 at the Links at Cotton Valley in Tarboro. Proceeds from the tournament will help our local Edgecombe County 4-H with various programs throughout the year.

If you would like to enter a 4-person team in the tournament, please contact the Cooperative before April 29. A maximum of 25 teams will be allowed and the cost to enter a team is \$260. We look forward to seeing you on May 13 for an afternoon of fun and fellowship.



Edgecombe-Martin County EMC 19th Annual 4-H Golf Tournament



The 2014 4-H Golf Tournament netted \$5,000 for the Edgecombe County 4-H. Cox Industries was the winner of the 2014 tournament.

WHEN: Wednesday, May 13

WHERE: The Links at Cotton Valley, Hwy. 258, Tarboro

BENEFITS: Proceeds benefit the Edgecombe County 4-H Organization

TO REGISTER: Contact Gary Hicks at 823-2171, Ext. 261



HOLIDAY CLOSING

Edgecombe-Martin County EMC will be closed on Friday, April 3, in observance of Good Friday.

Payments after office hours and on holidays can be made at the kiosk under the drive thru canopy, by calling our automated telephone service at 1-855-356-6358, 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.

Resolution

Whereas, Bob L. McDuffie was born and raised in Randolph County, North Carolina, and

Whereas, Bob L. McDuffie began his professional career with Randolph Electric Membership Corporation in Asheboro, North Carolina, serving as General Manager and Chief Executive Officer until his retirement in 1996, and

Whereas, during his professional career, Bob L. McDuffie dedicated himself to the betterment of electric cooperatives throughout the State of North Carolina and nation by offering his services and leadership on many local, state, regional and national committees and boards; earning a reputation as a capable leader and authority in Rural Electrification, and



Whereas, during his retirement, Bob L. McDuffie maintained his professional contacts, remained knowledgeable and aware of the technological and political changes throughout the industry, and was called upon by various cooperatives for his expert opinion and advice, and

Whereas, Edgecombe-Martin County Electric Membership Corporation experienced a devastating flood which claimed one third of the members' homes, farms and businesses in the fall of 1999 and was in the process of reorganizing its management and infrastructure, when it called upon Bob L. McDuffie for his expertise and assistance, and

Whereas, Bob L. McDuffie accepted the challenge and began his unselfish work with the members, directors and employees of Edgecombe-Martin County Electric Membership Corporation on July 23, 2002, and

Whereas, Bob L. McDuffie's commitment to Edgecombe-Martin County Electric Membership Corporation led more than twelve years of accomplishments that set the course not only for the Cooperative's recovery but set the Cooperative apart in the industry as the benchmark for efficiency, technology and unsurpassed member satisfaction on a national level, and

Whereas, the following accomplishments are a few which Bob L. McDuffie instituted that impacted the Cooperative's recovery the most;

- Lobbied to restructure wholesale power allocations, saving the members hundreds of thousands of dollars in wholesale power costs
- Empowered employees to perform their jobs to the best of their abilities, encouraged employees to accept additional responsibilities and promoted training and education that transformed employees into more effective team members
- Constructed two new substations with the use of Edgecombe-Martin County Electric Membership Corporation employees and local contractors, saving the Cooperative over a million dollars
- Encouraged and supported the implementation of new technologies that improved service capabilities, work force efficiencies, outage response time, line loss, system reliability and member communications
- Provided members with payment options and alternatives, thereby saving the members money while reducing liability and financial exposure to the Cooperative
- Provided emergency restoration equipment and man power to assist other cooperatives in times of disaster throughout the southeastern portions of the United States; including restoration work in North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky, Georgia, Mississippi, Louisiana, Alabama and Florida
- Evaluated and recommended appropriate changes to the employee wage, salary and compensation plan that reflected the value, education and capabilities of the cooperative's employees

Whereas, these and other accomplishments resulted in millions of dollars in savings and elevated Edgecombe-Martin County Electric Membership Corporation to one of the top rated cooperatives participating in the ACSI (American Customer Satisfaction Institute) and the National Customer Satisfaction Tracking Surveys, and

Whereas, Bob L. McDuffie entered into his third retirement on the 2nd day of January in the year of our Lord 2015,

Be it resolved, that the members, employees and directors recognize and respectfully offer our deepest and most sincere debt of gratitude to Bob L. McDuffie for the accomplishments Edgecombe-Martin County Electric Membership Corporation achieved due to his leadership, and

Be it further resolved and recognized, Bob. L McDuffie's lifelong dedication to the national rural electric network, individual electric cooperatives, members, directors and employees that he influenced so greatly throughout his career.

LED Security Lights

In 2005, Congress passed the Energy Policy Act, which called for a timely phasing out of all mercury vapor security lights. This is in an effort to help protect our environment and landfills from mercury contamination and as a means to promote energy-efficient alternatives for outdoor lighting, thereby reducing carbon emissions.

During the past few years, many utilities throughout the nation and North Carolina have begun the process of switching their security lighting to LED lights. Edgecombe-Martin County EMC recently completed an evaluation of several different LED (light emitting diode) security lights in order to find a suitable replacement for the current high-pressure sodium (yellow light) and mercury vapor (white light) being offered to members. Factors such as cost, energy consumption, reliability, warranty, maintenance expense, ease of installation, light output and quality of light were all taken into consideration before selecting a replacement light.

The Cooper Caretaker LED light was selected by Edgecombe-Martin County EMC to replace the high-pressure sodium and mercury vapor lights currently offered for dusk-to-dawn lighting. We believe it will provide a lighting solution that exceeds the standards of the security lights we currently have in place while providing a more sustainable option into the future.

Beginning in May, the new LED security light will be the standard security lighting solution offered to members. The LED security light will be billed at the same \$9.35 rate as the existing 100-watt high pressure sodium and 175-watt mercury vapor lights. In order to prevent a substantial up-front increase in labor costs, we will change out lights once we receive a service call on an existing security light. The existing high-pressure sodium and mercury vapor lights already installed on our system will remain in service until they require a maintenance visit. Once that occurs, a light requiring any type of maintenance visit will be changed to an LED security light.



Cooper Caretaker LED light

2015 Noel Lee, Jr. Memorial Scholarship Opportunities

The Noel Lee, Jr. Memorial Scholarships are offered to members of Edgecombe-Martin County EMC who plan to complete a one- or two-year vocational/technical/community college program of study. The technical school or community college must be accredited in North Carolina.

These scholarships give prospective students the opportunity to further their education so they can acquire new skills and knowledge to better prepare them for their future careers.

Applications will be accepted now through July 18, 2015. Scholarships will be awarded at the beginning of the Fall 2015 semester. You can access, complete and submit applications online at www.ememc.com. If you wish to receive an application form by mail, please call the Cooperative at (252) 823-2171.

The Noel Lee, Jr. Memorial Scholarships are made possible through the dedicated work of the Volunteer Action Committee of Edgecombe-Martin County EMC and other private donations. The Volunteer Action Committee helps raise funds for the scholarship by selling desserts and raffling off various items at the Annual Meeting of Members each year.



Teachers: Apply Now for Bright Ideas Education Grants!

It's April, and here at Edgecombe-Martin County EMC, that means one thing: the beginning of a new season of Bright Ideas education grants! The Bright Ideas grant program is offered by all 26 of North Carolina's electric cooperatives and supports educators in need of funding to implement creative, hands-on learning projects in their classrooms.

Since 1994, North Carolina's electric co-ops have awarded more than \$9.6 million in Bright Ideas grants to teachers statewide. More than 9,200 classroom projects benefiting well over 1.8 million North Carolina students have been made possible because of these grants.

Edgecombe-Martin County EMC is now accepting applications for Bright Ideas education grants for the 2015-16 school year. Teachers in K-12 classrooms with innovative ideas for hands-on learning projects are encouraged to apply for a grant up to \$1,500. Last year, Edgecombe-Martin County EMC awarded \$13,302 for 11 supporting local teachers and students.

Grant applications will be accepted April 1 through September 18. However, it could pay to apply early: All teachers who submit their applications by the early bird deadline of August 14 will be entered into a drawing for a Visa gift card.

Teachers at qualifying schools can apply individually or as a team, and grants are available for all subjects. To apply, or for more information about the Bright Ideas grant program, visit www.NCBrightIdeas.com.



ALONG THE LINE

www.ememc.com

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Monica Speight

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