

Watts Working

Youth Tour Returns: Applications due Friday, Jan. 13

Randolph Electric Membership Corporation encourages students to apply for the 2023 Rural Electric Youth Tour before the deadline of Friday, January 13, 2023. One rising junior or senior student in high school will be awarded an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C., June 17–23, 2023.

For more than 50 years, Randolph EMC and North Carolina's Electric Cooperatives have sponsored the weeklong tour for students across the country. The Youth Tour gives high school students the opportunity to be recognized as outstanding scholars, representing their local cooperative and their school.

The chosen delegate will travel to Washington, D.C., with nearly 50 other high school students from all over North Carolina. About 1,600 students from across the nation will be there for the same purpose, too—to visit the Smithsonian, Capitol Hill, Arlington National Cemetery, and several memorials. The Youth Tourists learn about American history and the electric cooperative business model.

"Youth Tourists are interested

in the larger picture. Our delegate will meet with members of North Carolina's congressional delegation, connect with a network of talented peers, and grow his or her leadership skills and abilities," said Nicole Arnold, communications and public affairs manager for REMC. "The tour is an opportunity for outstanding students to have an eye-opening backstage pass to our nation's capital."

If you are or if you know of a high school junior or senior in Fall 2023, please use the QR code to go to our application online. You can also find this information on our website at randolphemc.com/youthtour. You can learn about the trip from a national perspective at youthtour.coop.

You can mail or email the application and additional essay to Nicole Arnold at REMC, PO Box 40, Asheboro, NC 27204 or nicole.arnold@randolphemc.com. You can also find out more about the experience by calling Nicole Arnold at 336-625-8116.

Best wishes on your application!



Scan this QR code to go to the online application, or go to RandolphEMC.com/youthtour



B Randolph EMC Invests in Education

E Help Find Members with Unclaimed Credits

E Director Jeff Sugg Achieves Credential

F A Word About Randolph Electric

G Keeping Track of the Energy You Use





Communications Manager Nicole Arnold poses with Physical Education teacher Lance Barber and his students at West End Elementary.

Randolph EMC Invests in Innovative Education



Awards \$14,000 to Local Schools for 'Bright Ideas'

Randolph Electric Membership Corporation recently honored educators by awarding \$14,000 in Bright Ideas grants to twelve local teachers. More than 2,100 students at schools in Randolph, Moore, Montgomery and Chatham counties will benefit from these grants. The grant funds will support classroom projects in the subjects of science, art, physical education and more.

"Randolph EMC is committed to our core value of caring for our communities. One way we accomplish that is by investing in education," said

Communications and Public Affairs Manager Nicole Arnold. "We commend these educators for striving to make learning fun and engaging for students."

"Thank you for this amazing opportunity to equip our students with life long skills," said Lance Barber, physical education instructor and grant recipient from West End Elementary in Moore County. "Randolph Electric is definitely making a difference in schools by providing opportunities that typically would not be present."

Randolph EMC is one of 26 electric cooperatives in North Carolina offering Bright Ideas grants to local teachers. Grants are awarded for projects in all subject areas, such as music, art, history, reading, science, math and more. Bright Ideas grants support local teachers with creative ideas to increase innovation, expand learning opportunities and enhance student success in K-12 classrooms.

Since 1994, North Carolina's electric cooperatives collectively have awarded more than \$14 million in Bright Ideas funding for



over 13,500 projects supporting teachers and benefitting more than 2.5 million students. Over the past 28 years, Randolph Electric has invested just under \$300,000 in grants within its five-county service area.

The Bright Ideas grant program is part of REMC's ongoing commitment to building a brighter future through support of education. REMC accepts Bright Ideas grant applications each year from April through mid-September. The application process will reopen for interested teachers in April 2023.

Winners included the following:

Randolph County William Villano of Uwharrie Ridge 6-12 in Trinity won \$1,000 for his project, Escape Room Kits. Students in middle and high school English classes will review concepts before exams by playing an immersive, narrative game in which they must solve puzzles to escape from a room.

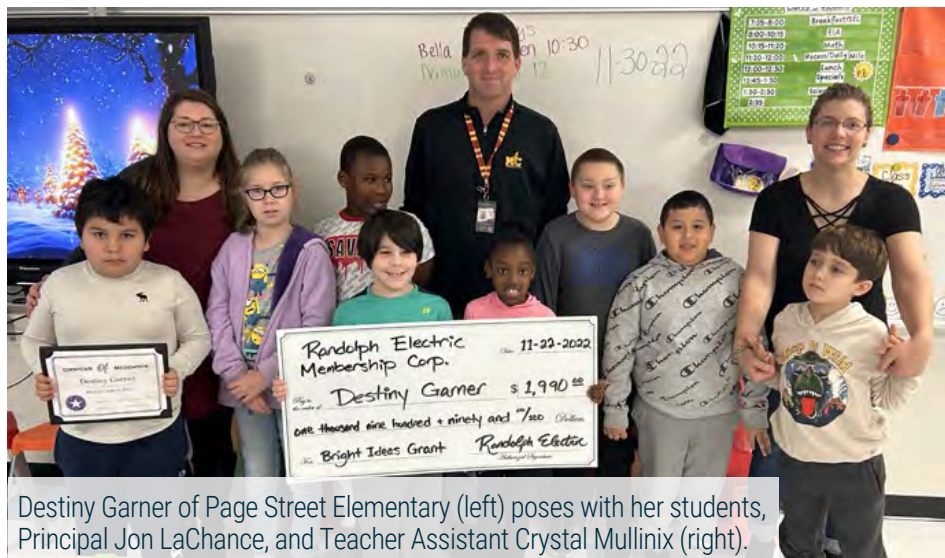
Laura Leonard of Wheatmore High School in Trinity won \$1,345 for her project, Flexible Seating for Special Education Students. The goal of the seating is to provide a learning environment in which students can concentrate on their lessons without hindrances.

Julia Cox of Charles McCrary Elementary in Asheboro won \$685 for the project, Tchoukball. Students in third, fourth and fifth grade will benefit from learning this sport, which reinforces hand-eye coordination and teamwork in a safe setting.

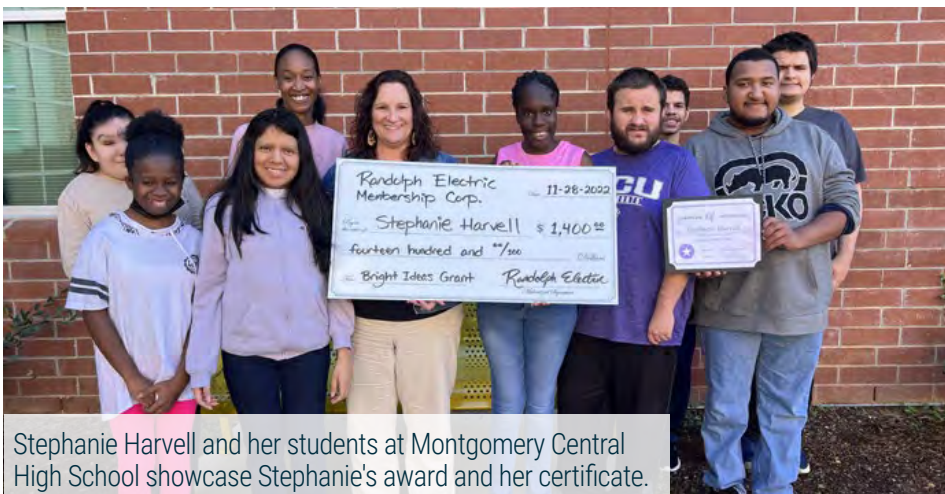
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Principal Brian Hill (left) poses with English students and William Villano at Uwharrie Ridge 6-12.



Destiny Garner of Page Street Elementary (left) poses with her students, Principal Jon LaChance, and Teacher Assistant Crystal Mullinix (right).

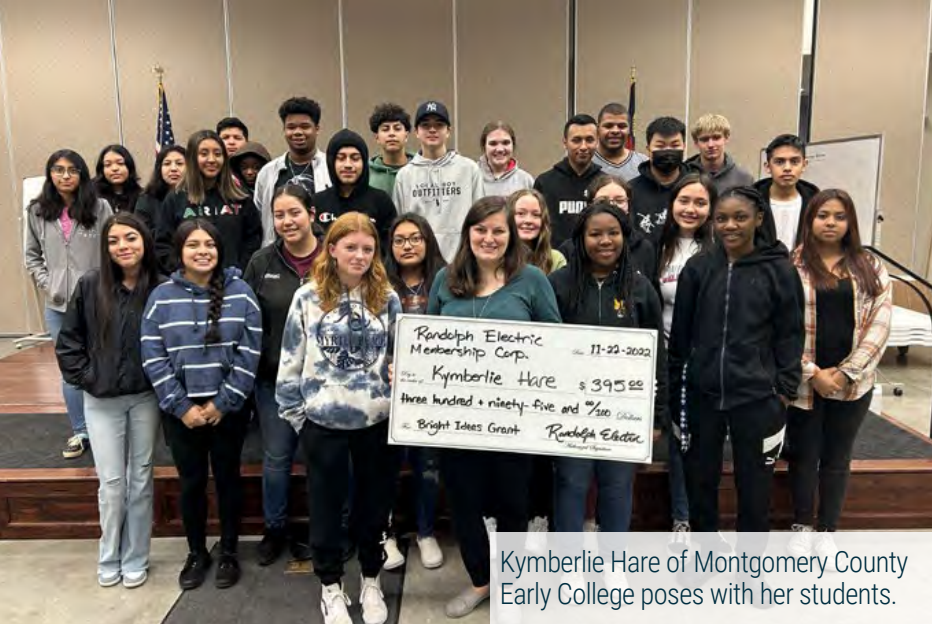


Stephanie Harvell and her students at Montgomery Central High School showcase Stephanie's award and her certificate.



Apply Today!

If you know an exceptional educator who may benefit from this program, please encourage him or her to apply for the 2023 grant cycle. The application process will reopen for interested teachers in April 2023. Bright Ideas grant applications are collected each year through mid-September.



Kimberlie Hare of Montgomery County Early College poses with her students.

Randolph EMC Invests in Innovative Education

continued from page C

Tyler Bidwell of Guy B. Teachey Elementary in Asheboro won \$1,480 for his project, Spectrum Sensory Room. Children with autism spectrum disorder or behavioral disorders will have a safe place to self soothe or engage in occupational therapy.

Lori Hoover of Uwharrie Charter Academy in Asheboro won \$1,000 for her project, Virtual Health Science. The technology purchased with the grant will allow high school students to further their understanding of human anatomy in preparation for college science courses.

Moore County

Lance Barber of West End Elementary in West End won \$600 for his project, Stop, Drop and Roll: Fire Safety Training. Physical education students from kindergarten through fifth grade will learn the proper technique to reduce injuries and avoid tragedy in the case of a fire emergency.

Wayne Manning of Westmoore Elementary in Seagrove won \$1,510 for his project, STEAM Animation and Ceramics. Manning's students will learn engineering processes as well as ratios and fractions while firing clay and making their own pottery.

Christina Speiser of Moore County Connect! Virtual Academy won \$645 for her project, Virtually Awesome. High school students will use new apps to create their own books, magazines and newspapers and share these among each other.

Montgomery County

Destiny Garner of Page Street Elementary in Troy won \$1,990 to equip an Autism Sensory Room. The goal of the safe space is to help these students experience more successful school days.

Kymerlie Hare of Montgomery County Early College in Troy won \$395 for her project, Popcorn Box.

High school math students will discuss how companies maximize revenue through product packaging, which relies on underlying math concepts.

Stephanie Harvell of Montgomery Central High School in Troy won \$1,400 for her project, Timberwolf Green House. Students in the exceptional child program will learn how to budget, shop, plan and care for a garden they create in their greenhouse.

Chatham County

Eric Patin of Chatham Central High School in Bear Creek won \$1,950 to purchase subscriptions to an online, interactive learning simulation platform. High school students in all science classes will benefit from the platform which allows experimentation not possible to reproduce in a traditional laboratory setting.

More information about the Bright Ideas grant program can be found on RandolphEMC.com or by contacting Nicole Arnold at Nicole.Arnold@RandolphEMC.com.

RE-Connect Podcast

REMC Episode 7



Interview with

Mark Hensley

Executive Director,
Randolph Senior Adults Association

Diane Smith

Executive Director, West Chatham Food Pantry

Help Us Find Members with Unclaimed Capital Credits

Receiving capital credits is just one of the benefits of being a member-owner of Randolph Electric. But sometimes, we are unable to locate members from previous years who are entitled to a check because they may have moved to another area. These capital credits can go unclaimed, and we want to make sure they are received by their rightful owners.

Randolph Electric cannot hold on to unclaimed capital credits indefinitely. If the credits are not claimed within three years of disbursement, then REMC must escheat the credits to the state. That's why we keep an updated list of members with unclaimed credits on our website. Please scan the QR code on your phone, or go to randolphemc.com/unclaimed-capital-credits to search the names there.



If you know someone on the list or have questions, please contact us by calling REMC at 336-625-5177 and ask for Leigh Ann Kirkman, or email LeighAnn.Kirkman@randolphemc.com.

Randolph Electric Co-op Director Jeff Sugg Achieves Credential in Today's Electric Utility Competencies

At Randolph Electric's November 2022 Board of Directors meeting, President Jerry Bowman presented Director Jeff Sugg his Credentialed Cooperative Director certificate from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA).

This credential program requires demonstrated understanding of the basic competencies contained in five core courses covering director duties and liabilities, the

Right: President Jerry Bowman presents Director Jeff Sugg his Credentialed Cooperative Director certificate from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA).

electric business, board operations and processes, strategic planning and financial decision making.

Mr. Sugg represents District 6, is a native of Randolph County and is the City Attorney of Asheboro.



A Word About Randolph Electric

From CEO Dale Lambert



RESOLUTIONS YOU CAN COUNT ON

Dear Members,

Where did 2022 go? I've been warned all my life that "as you get older, time flies by quicker." I never took that statement seriously, until, as I got older, time in fact seemed to pick up speed every year.

I recently read a quote from American businessman and *New York Times* best-selling author Harvey Mackay, who I think accurately captured the value of time. "Time is free, but it's priceless. You can't own it, but you can use it. You can't keep it, but you can spend it. Once you've lost it, you can never get it back."

But here we are at the beginning of another new year. Now we have another opportunity to launch a fresh start with a new calendar, and the clock is ticking.

Setting New Year's resolutions is a common practice for many of us. Losing weight shows up on a lot of lists—and seems to be a continuous struggle for some reason. I've concluded it's going to take a little more than the fork-to-mouth exercise for me to shed a few pounds. But, we have a new year and renewed optimism for success this time around.

A new year is also a time to reflect back on the previous year to prioritize our focus for the clean sheet we have before us. This month, I would like to encourage you, if you are not already, to partner with us in strengthening the communities we serve by making an investment in the lives of fellow members during a time of need.

Randolph EMC's goal is to strengthen

and improve the quality of life in the communities we serve, and we do that in many ways throughout the year. Providing safe, reliable and affordable power with exceptional service is what we strive to deliver to you every day. But those are just pieces of a larger puzzle that makes up how your electric cooperative improves our local communities.

We regularly update you on some of the investments Randolph Electric makes in the communities we serve. We are proud to support innovative teachers who implement creative teaching programs to enhance the educational experience of our youth. This past year, Randolph Electric donated \$14,000 for Bright Idea's grants. The winners are included in this issue of *Watts Working*. Our life-to-date investment for Bright Ideas Grants is just under \$300,000.

We are also assisting local fire departments with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) zero-interest loans to enable them to purchase the proper equipment they need to respond during emergencies in order to keep our communities safe. We want to commend the Ulah Volunteer Fire Department for their investment to purchase a new, much-needed engine/pumper truck. Randolph Electric provided a zero-interest loan through the USDA's Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant (REDLG) Program in the amount of \$360,000 to assist with the purchase of the vehicle.

In 2022, Randolph employees and members demonstrated the spirit of

giving, making our communities a better place to call home.

Throughout the year, your employees held several fundraising events to support local programs and organizations. Gift basket auctions, raffles, and other fun and creative activities provide opportunities for employees to give of their personal funds to raise money for these agencies that are so important to our communities.

The U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program is an organization we have supported for several years. This organization collects new, unwrapped toys and distributes them as Christmas gifts to less fortunate children in our communities. In December, employees' monetary donations were used to purchase sports equipment for children in Randolph, Moore and Montgomery counties. It warms my heart to know that we've played a part in making a child's Christmas a little brighter by providing him or her with the basketball or football that was on the list.

We are long time supporters of Relay for Life, as well. In 2022, at the employee-managed Relay for Life Golf Tournament, an outstanding \$12,261 for cancer research was raised. This brought the total funds raised by the Randolph Electric team throughout the years for cancer research to over \$196,000. In addition, employees collectively donated almost \$20,000 this year to the United Way to support programs in our local communities.

Just as important, you, our member-

owners, make a difference by supporting our People Helping People (PHP) program. Each month, members participating in PHP have their bills rounded up to the nearest dollar. Randolph EMC collects that “spare change” and deposits it into the PHP account. The primary purpose of PHP is to address charitable needs and provide financial assistance to members in Randolph, Moore, Montgomery, Chatham and Alamance counties.

PHP has a separate board of directors that oversees and manages the disbursement of the funds. This volunteer board does an outstanding job, and I would like to thank them for their commitment and concern for fellow members. Currently, 1,986 members donate to our PHP program—only about 6% of our 33,200 accounts. We are so grateful to you who have been a part of this program and are very proud of the work we’ve been able to do with that “spare change” over the years. But I’ll ask you to think for a moment about what PHP could do if more members participated.

The average donation is just 50 cents per month, so if each and every account signed up for PHP, we could raise over \$199,000 in just one year! Even if we had just 25% member participation, we could raise almost \$50,000 in one year. That money would go back into our local communities by assisting members who need a hand up. Since the PHP program began in 2001, it has helped families in our communities with more than \$177,000 in assistance.

In addition, PHP receives funds from cooperative lender CoBank’s Sharing Success program. This program requires Randolph Electric to match the dollars awarded. With this extra money, PHP has been able to extend its reach with a Community Grants program, which awards up to \$2,000 grants to local nonprofits. Historically, PHP has distributed \$106,000 to non-profit agencies



Scan the QR code to round up for People Helping People.

located within our service area.

Money for the Community Grants program does not come from the “spare change” collected from member accounts, so we hope to continue this effort as long as PHP continues to receive grant money from outside sources.

As you make your new year’s resolutions, please consider “rounding up” your monthly power bills for your People Helping People program. Working together, we can make a difference. It’s one of the simplest ways you can help make a difference in our local communities. Please scan the QR code in this Watts Working newsletter above, enroll online by signing into your account or call us at 1.800.672.8212.

From your Randolph EMC Board of Directors, your People Helping People Board of Directors and the employee team, we wish you a safe, happy and prosperous new year. Thank you for the opportunity to serve you and our communities each and every day.

Cooperatively Yours,

Dale F. Lambert
Chief Executive Officer

Randolph Electric Membership Corporation provides safe and reliable power with exceptional value to more than 33,000 member accounts in Randolph, Moore, Montgomery, Chatham and Alamance counties.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Electric Service

Asheboro (336) 625-5177
 (800) 672-8212
 Robbins: (910) 948-3401
 (800) 868-7014
 Report Outage (877) REMC-OFF
 (877) 736-2633

Account Info
 & Bill Payments: (877) 534-2319
 Business Hours: 8 am – 5 pm, M-F

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Visit Randolph EMC Online
RandolphEMC.com

Keep Track of the Energy You Use

Monitor your monthly usage & cost of electric service. Be sure to read your meter on the same day each month.

Month	Date Read	Reading	kWh Used	Bill Amount	Date Paid
January					
February					
March					
April					
May					
June					
July					
August					
September					
October					
November					
December					
Totals					

2023 Cycle Billing Schedule

READ DATE	1	DEC 24	JAN 24	FEB 24	MAR 24	APR 24	MAY 24	JUNE 24	JULY 24	AUG 24	SEPT 24	OCT 24	NOV 24
	2	JAN 1	FEB 1	MAR 1	APR 1	MAY 1	JUNE 1	JULY 1	AUG 1	SEPT 1	OCT 1	NOV 1	DEC 1
	3	JAN 8	FEB 8	MAR 8	APR 8	MAY 8	JUNE 8	JULY 8	AUG 8	SEPT 8	OCT 8	NOV 8	DEC 8
	4	JAN 15	FEB 15	MAR 15	APR 15	MAY 15	JUNE 15	JULY 15	AUG 15	SEPT 15	OCT 15	NOV 15	DEC 15
BILL DATE	1	JAN 3	FEB 6	MAR 6	APR 3	MAY 1	JUNE 5	JULY 3	AUG 1	SEPT 5	OCT 2	NOV 6	DEC 4
	2	JAN 9	FEB 13	MAR 13	APR 10	MAY 8	JUNE 12	JULY 10	AUG 7	SEPT 11	OCT 9	NOV 13	DEC 11
	3	JAN 16	FEB 20	MAR 20	APR 17	MAY 15	JUNE 19	JULY 17	AUG 14	SEPT 18	OCT 16	NOV 20	DEC 18
	4	JAN 23	FEB 27	MAR 27	APR 24	MAY 22	JUNE 26	JULY 24	AUG 21	SEPT 25	OCT 23	NOV 27	DEC 27
PAST DUE DATE	1	JAN 28	FEB 28	MAR 28	APR 28	MAY 28	JUNE 28	JULY 28	AUG 28	SEPT 28	OCT 28	NOV 28	DEC 28
	2	FEB 5	MAR 5	APR 5	MAY 5	JUNE 5	JULY 5	AUG 5	SEPT 5	OCT 5	NOV 5	DEC 5	JAN 5
	3	FEB 12	MAR 12	APR 12	MAY 12	JUNE 12	JULY 12	AUG 12	SEPT 12	OCT 12	NOV 12	DEC 12	JAN 12
	4	FEB 19	MAR 19	APR 19	MAY 19	JUNE 19	JULY 19	AUG 19	SEPT 19	OCT 19	NOV 19	DEC 19	JAN 19
SUBJECT TO DISCONNECTION	1	FEB 13	MAR 13	APR 10	MAY 8	JUNE 12	JULY 10	AUG 7	SEPT 11	OCT 9	NOV 13	DEC 11	JAN 8
	2	FEB 20	MAR 20	APR 17	MAY 15	JUNE 19	JULY 17	AUG 14	SEPT 18	OCT 16	NOV 20	DEC 18	JAN 15
	3	FEB 27	MAR 27	APR 24	MAY 22	JUNE 26	JULY 24	AUG 21	SEPT 25	OCT 23	NOV 27	DEC 27	JAN 22
	4	MAR 6	APR 3	MAY 1	MAY 30	JULY 3	JUL 31	AUG 28	OCT 2	OCT 30	DEC 4	JAN 2	JAN 29

Automatic Draft Dates

CYCLE 1
28th of month

CYCLE 2
5th of month

CYCLE 3
12th of month

CYCLE 4
19th of month

Watts Working

A Word About Randolph Electric

From CEO Dale Lambert



THE RIGHT WAY TO RESPOND

Dear Members,

I'll start out by using a statement made to me by a member as December 2022 was coming to a close, "What a month!" That statement was not a question but a description of the many events, some highly unusual, that occurred in December and impacted our communities and the members of Randolph EMC.

Event 1

The month started out with a Duke transmission line outage from sabotage of two Duke Energy substations in Moore County on Dec. 3rd. That transmission line serves Randolph EMC's Eastwood and Seven Lakes substations. We'll come back to this topic shortly.

Event 2

Then on Dec. 23rd, as a weather front moved through, temperatures plummeted throughout the day. This, coupled with wind gusts of up to 50 miles per hour, resulted in wind chills well below zero. It also resulted in power outages for 10% of the membership, 3,340 accounts, due to trees falling on the lines. Our team worked hard, and all outages were restored by 7:30 p.m.

Event 3

After the storm front cleared, in the early morning hours of Christmas Eve, Dec. 24th, temperatures fell into the single digits. This is somewhat unusual but not unheard of in our part of the country.

What resulted was unprecedented. To preserve the overall electrical grid from widespread failure, Duke Energy initiated rolling blackouts for portions of the state. Power demand was higher than projected.

Complicating this problem, some of Duke's generating plants did not perform as expected. The blackouts impacted 21% of Randolph EMC's members (6,858), for durations of 15 to 20 minutes at a time.

Since there was so much activity to report from December, I will focus on Duke's transmission line outage (Event 1) in the remainder of this article, and I will cover the details of the rotating blackouts (Event 3) next month.

[Continued on page B](#)

D Bylaws

F Annual Meeting Committees Appointed

F Important Dates To Remember

G Randolph EMC Directorate Districts

H Apply for Sports Camp Scholarships



Substation Attack

On Saturday evening, Dec. 3, 2022, criminals attacked Duke Energy's Carthage and West End substations, damaging multiple pieces of equipment with gunfire. The damaged equipment became deenergized, resulting in power outages for a significant portion of central and southern Moore County for both Duke Energy customers and Randolph EMC members.

Randolph EMC lost Duke's transmission line delivery to our Eastwood substation, which also serves the Seven Lakes substation, at 8:37 p.m. on Dec. 3rd. In addition to contacting Duke's Energy Control Center (ECC) that monitors the bulk transmission grid, our on-call line and substation personnel responded to the Eastwood substation.

Once Duke's personnel arrived at their West End and Carthage substations, they began assessing the damage. Duke Energy was unable to provide our team with an accurate estimated time of restoration until around 8 a.m. Sunday. What we heard was not good. Their representative stated that since the damage was so significant, they estimated that repairs would be complete sometime on Thursday, Dec. 8th, four days later. He also stated it was impossible to back-feed their transmission line delivery to our Eastwood substation. This was obviously terrible news for the 2,737 Randolph EMC members impacted by this outage.

Our operations and engineering teams, led by Jay Albright, district vice president of the Robbins area, and Dennis Mabe, our vice president of engineering and operations, worked quickly and developed plans to shorten this outage for our members. But the options were not easy nor quick. Their goal was to bring power from the Robbins substation, just north of the impacted areas in Moore County. Their teams developed a two-phase plan they would implement simultaneously. Phase 1 would connect an existing, abandoned line to energize the Eastwood substation, and Phase 2 would construct a new line to energize the Seven Lakes substation.

The first part of the plan was to energize an inactive three-phase line near Bethlehem Baptist Church. This line had been out of service for at least a couple of decades but was left in place in the event it was ever needed—and how badly it was needed at this point in time!

Our line personnel began making repairs to this inactive line so it could serve as the temporary main feeder to the Eastwood substation. Almost 15 miles separate the Robbins and Eastwood substations. While spanning such a distance was not ideal, it was the only option to provide some level of power for those members. After much work, the temporary feeder line was energized Sunday night, Dec. 4th.

The newly created temporary feeder to Eastwood substation had a major drawback: it could supply power to only one distribution circuit at a time. It had not been designed to handle high load levels. With that limitation, our engineering team developed a rotation plan for the three circuits served out of the Eastwood substation.

The goal was to energize a circuit for two hours, then rotate to the next circuit—basically, on for two hours and off for four hours. However, two of the circuits experienced high load levels, so we could energize only portions of those circuits during each rotation cycle. This meant that some members were out longer because of this issue. We also asked members in that region to conserve electricity so we could provide power to as many affected members as possible.

There are a ton of other details I could review for Phase 1 of the temporary restoration plan. But the bottom line is this: REMC got power flowing into the Eastwood, Pinehurst and Murdockville areas 63 hours before Duke finished repairs at their damaged substation and reenergized their transmission line that feeds our Eastwood substation.

Now to Phase 2. To bring temporary power into the Seven Lakes area, we needed to run a new three-phase line on Beulah Hill Church Road between Harris Crossroads and Thomas Crossroads. Each end of that road

had a short section of single-phase line that we removed to accommodate the new, heavy-construction three-phase line.

On Sunday afternoon, Dec. 4th, our line and contract personnel started delivering materials, poles and wire to the job site. Early Monday morning, almost 100 line and support personnel convened to build this new line in record fashion.

I appreciate the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) for allowing us to close the road to perform this work. We customarily do not request to close roads because of the inconvenience for travelers. However, by doing this, our team was able to work in a much safer environment, much more quickly. We really appreciate the DOT working closely with us.

At 11:45 p.m. on Monday night, Dec. 5th, REMC energized the new section of line and delivered power to the Seven Lakes substation. The low temperatures, high load levels and the passage of time from the initial power outage all contributed to the need for a slow "cold load pickup." REMC brought members in the Seven Lakes development online slowly to prevent damage to the lines. By the early morning hours of Tuesday, Dec. 6th, all members in the Seven Lakes area had power fully restored from this new section of line. This was 30 hours earlier than if we had waited for the repairs to be completed at Duke Energy's West End substation.

Once Randolph EMC had done all we could do to bring some level of power flow to members affected by this outage, I was able to tour Duke Energy's West End substation. On Tuesday morning, Dec. 6th, I witnessed first-hand the hard work being done to make the necessary repairs. With what they had to deal with, I believe the Duke Energy team did a great job, and I appreciate all their efforts.

The Duke Energy team finished repairs at the West End substation a day ahead of schedule, and on Wednesday, Dec. 7th, at 7:19 a.m., they energized the transmission line that feeds our Eastwood substation.

Immediately, our engineering team began the process to reenergize the substation from this normal feed. At 7:30 a.m., REMC restored power to all the members who had experienced the rotating power-ups over the last few days. Shortly after, our team restored the normal feed to the Seven Lakes substation.

I am so proud of this amazing Randolph EMC team and our contractors who rose to the occasion during this very challenging outage event. Their goal was to work safely, creatively and efficiently to bring power from another area of our system to members who were living in the cold and dark.

For our team members who answered your calls, supplied the materials, designed the construction work, built the lines, kept the power rotation going, fed the crews, informed you through our communications channels and completed all the other numerous tasks that were required—on behalf of the Board of Directors, those affected by the outage and the entire membership—a big THANK YOU. You embody the cooperative spirit of service.

For our members who were directly affected by this outage, we're sorry for all you had to go through. But what an incredible spirit of caring you showed through this adversity, for each other and for your co-op.

As I mentioned earlier, we asked members in that region to conserve electricity so we could serve as many members as possible through this temporary line. We had members who lived 40 miles away contact us and ask if their acts of conservation would help their fellow co-op members in Moore County.

Unfortunately, they were on a completely different region of our system, but what a heart of caring!

One person outside our organization told me that the rotating power-ups would not work. This person claimed that after members received power, they would be mad when we deenergized their homes again. Fundamentally, he assumed that neighbors would not be willing to help out their neighbors on the next



You can watch a video of REMC constructing the tie-lines in early December by scanning this QR code on your phone or device.

road who were still without power. But you proved that was not the case. Time after time, the members who were part of the rotating power-ups stated they were willing to sacrifice so their neighbors and community could have power for at least a short period of time.

One member affected by the outage dropped by our staging area and laid a \$100 bill on the table. He stated, "Give this to someone that's suffering through this event; I want to help a fellow member."

What an honor it is for me to serve with a such a dedicated and capable team of employees. They consistently rise to meet any challenge with the goal of serving you to the absolute best of their ability. Due to the circumstances involved, this outage event garnered national attention, and it continues to do so. You should also be proud of how your employee team responded. Their efforts are being showcased on the national stage as the right way to respond to a terrible situation.

I am also honored to serve as the CEO of such a caring and inspiring membership. When adversity came, you pulled together to support each other and to support your co-op. That's what co-ops are all about.

Cooperatively Yours,

Dale F. Lambert
Chief Executive Officer



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This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Electric Service

- Asheboro (336) 625-5177
- (800) 672-8212
- Robbins: (910) 948-3401
- (800) 868-7014
- Report Outage (877) REMC-OFF
- (877) 736-2633
- Account Info
- & Bill Payments: (877) 534-2319
- Business Hours: 8 am – 5 pm, M-F

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- Jay Albright District Vice President
- Adam Hargett Vice President of Finance
- Dennis Mabe Vice President of Engineering & Operations
- Fred Smith Vice President of Economic Development & Compliance
- Nicole Arnold Editor

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RandolphEMC.com

BYLAWS Relevant to the Annual Meeting and the Qualifications, Nominations and Elections of Members to the Board of Directors

SECTION 4.01—Annual Member Meetings

A meeting of the membership of the Cooperative shall be held annually on such date and at such time and place within the counties of Randolph, Alamance, Chatham, Moore or Montgomery, in the State of North Carolina, as shall be designated by the Board of Directors of the Cooperative in the Notice of the Meeting for the purpose of electing directors, passing upon reports covering the previous fiscal year and transacting such other business as may come before the meeting. It shall be the duty of the Board of Directors to make adequate plans and preparations for, and to encourage member attendance at the annual meeting. The President or the President's delegate shall preside over the meeting. Failure to hold the Annual Member Meeting at the designated time and place shall not work a forfeiture or dissolution of the Cooperative. Draft minutes of each Annual Member Meeting shall be posted on the Cooperative's website at least thirty (30) days prior to the next Annual Member Meeting. Members may submit written comments about the draft minutes at any time prior to approval by the body or, in the absence of an in-person meeting, approval by the Credentials and Election Committee.

SECTION 4.03—Notice of Member Meetings

The Cooperative shall ensure that notice of an Annual Member Meeting or Special Member Meeting (collectively "Member Meeting") shall be in accordance with this Section.

The Cooperative shall deliver written notice of the Annual Member Meeting: personally or by mail, which may include electronic mail; to all Members entitled to vote at the Member Meeting; and indicating the date, time, location and/or media platform of the meeting, as applicable.

Notice of the Annual Member Meeting shall be mailed or delivered electronically to each member not less than ten (10) days nor more than ninety (90) days before the date of the Annual Member Meeting. Notice shall be accompanied by or include the corresponding Ballot, if applicable.

The inadvertent and unintended failure to send, or of any Member to receive, notice of any Member Meeting shall not affect any action taken at the Member Meeting.

When notifying Members of any Member Meeting, the Cooperative shall include notice of any matter which a Member may raise or discuss, and intends to raise or discuss, at the Member Meeting if: requested, in writing, by a percentage of the Total Membership entitled to call a Special Member Meeting; and the Cooperative receives the written request at least thirty (30) days prior to delivering notice of the Member Meeting.

Members may vote only upon matters described in the notice of the Member Meeting.

SECTION 4.07—Member Quorum

Registration in person or online, or otherwise casting a valid vote, of or by at least one hundred (100) members, shall constitute a Member Quorum ("Member Quorum"). If less than a Member Quorum is present at any meeting, the meeting shall be adjourned until the next

year. At all meetings of the Members, whether a Member Quorum be present or not, the Secretary shall annex to the meeting minutes, or incorporate therein by reference, a list of those Members who were registered as present in person or, if allowed by Section 4.10, by proxy.

SECTION 4.08—Voting

Except as provided in Section 4.04, each Member or their spouse who is not suspended or terminated, as provided for in Article III, shall be entitled to one vote and no more upon each matter submitted to a vote at any Member Meeting. A non-Member spouse may be required to present satisfactory proof of the marital relationship (e.g., same last name and same address on a valid ID) prior to voting the Membership interest. The Member spouse's proxy is not required.

For voting by Members other than Members who are natural persons, the Cooperative may require, prior to or upon registration at each Member Meeting, a notarized and otherwise satisfactory resolution of the entity ("Member Voting Document") entitling the person presenting the same to vote. A person entitled to cast the vote of such an entity, who is also personally a Member, may vote the personal Membership as well as that of the represented entity.

At all meetings of the Members and all elections of Directors, all questions shall be decided by a majority of the Members voting thereon, except as otherwise provided by law or by the Cooperative's Certificate of Incorporation or these Bylaws.

SECTION 4.11—Order of Business

The order of business at the Annual Member Meeting and, insofar as practicable or desirable, at all other meetings of the Members shall be essentially as follows: (a) report on the number of registered Members in order to determine the existence of a Member Quorum; (b) reading of the notice of the meeting and proof of the due delivery thereof, or of the waiver or waivers of notice of the meeting, as the case may be; (c) report on and/or approval of minutes of previous meetings and taking of any necessary action thereon; (d) presentation and consideration of report of officers, Directors and committees; (e) report on election results and inauguration of Directors; (f) unfinished business; (g) new business; and (h) adjournment.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Board of Directors may from time to time establish a different order of business for the purpose of assuring the earlier consideration of and action upon any item of business the transaction of which is necessary or desirable in advance of any other item of business; PROVIDED, that no business other than adjournment of the meeting to another time and place may be transacted until and unless the existence of a Member Quorum is first established.

SECTION 4.12—Credentials and Election Committee

The Board shall, no more than one hundred eighty (180) days before the proposed opening of any director elections, appoint a Credentials and Election Committee ("C & E Committee") consisting of an uneven number of Cooperative

Members that is sufficient in number, but at least five (5), but no more than twenty-nine (29), to carry out the responsibilities of the Committee. Committee members shall not be members of the Nominating Committee or existing Cooperative or subsidiary employees, agents, officers, Directors or known candidates for Director, or the Close Relatives (as defined elsewhere in these Bylaws) or members of the same household of persons in the excluded categories. The Committee shall elect its own Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary, prior to the Annual Member Meeting. Acting within the parameters of these Bylaws, it shall be the responsibility of the Committee: to review and approve the dates for the opening and closing of Director elections.

1. if an in-person meeting is not being held, and after considering any timely member comments, to review and approve the minutes of the prior Annual Member Meeting and report thereon at the next Annual Member Meeting.
2. to review and approve the method and manner of balloting for the election of Directors;
3. to review and approve the adequate delivery of Ballots;
4. to review and approve the Committee's method of receiving the Ballots from the Members, including receipt by its designated agent;
5. to determine and rule upon all questions that may arise with respect to the eligibility of a nominee for election to the Board of Directors;
6. to pass upon all questions that may arise with respect to a Member's eligibility to vote;
7. to supervise vote recounts when a request for recount is made and authorized as set out in this section, or in the case votes were originally counted by a third-party service or firm, to provide for a recount which may be conducted at any office or customary business location of said third-party service or firm;
8. to rule upon the validity and effect of any Ballots or other vote irregularly or indecisively marked or cast;
9. to rule upon all other questions that may arise relating to Member voting and the election of Directors, including but not limited to the validity of protests and objections as allowed below, and except as reserved to the Nominating Committee, any such questions arising under or relating to Sections 5.02 through 5.08 of these Bylaws; and
10. In the absence of a contested election and an in-person Annual Member Meeting, to represent the Members in electing the Directors by acclamation on motion and second of the committee.
11. Subject to retaining its right of oversight or review, the C&E Committee may delegate its functions to a third-party vendor.

In the event that a candidate files a request for a recount, such filing must be made by the candidate in the office of the Chief Executive Officer of the Cooperative within three (3) business days following the announcement

of election results. Upon such filing, the Committee shall be reconvened, not less than seven (7) days or more than thirty (30) days after such request is filed, for the purpose of supervising the recount of votes.

Candidates may only request a re-count of the specific race in which their candidacy was at issue and then only if (a) the margin of the contested race was less than 2% of the sum of the total number of valid Ballots cast in the challenging candidate's race, and (b) a re-count has not already occurred at the direction of the Committee. Re-counts at a remote location shall be permitted if an independent third party was retained to count Ballots. The Committee's decision, as reflected by a majority of at least three (3) Committee members actually present and voting, shall be final on all recount matters covered by this Section. As applicable, the Committee may delegate recount responsibility to the third-party vendor.

In the event that a candidate files a protest or objection to the conduct of the election ("Candidate Challenge"), such filing must be made by the candidate in the office of the Chief Executive Officer of the Cooperative within three (3) business days following the adjournment of the subject meeting. Candidates may only file protests and objections on their own behalf and may not protest or object to the results of any other candidates' races. The concerns of any candidate who does not file protests and objections as provided for herein shall be deemed waived. The Committee shall be reconvened, not less than seven (7) days or more than thirty (30) days after such protest or objection is filed. It shall be the duty of the Committee to rule upon any protest or objection filed with respect to any election. The Committee shall hear such evidence as is presented by the protesting or objecting candidate(s), their counsel, or both. The Cooperative shall provide legal counsel for the Committee, if requested. The Committee, by a majority of those actually present and voting, shall within a reasonable time but not later than thirty (30) days after such hearing, issue a decision on whether to: (a) affirm the results of the election; (b) correct the results of the election; or (c) set aside the election if the Committee determines that there exists a reasonable likelihood that the results of the election could be different, that a re-run election would likely be a better reflection of the Membership's interest, and that a re-run election is otherwise consistent with the best interests of the Membership in its entirety. The decision of the Committee shall be final. As determined by the Board, and as allowed by the Governing Documents, the Cooperative may reasonably compensate or reimburse Credentials and Election Committee Members.

SECTION 5.02—Qualifications of Directors

Any Director or Director candidate must comply with this Bylaw. A Director or Director candidate must (a) be a natural person; (b) have the capacity to enter legally binding contracts; (c) maintain their primary residential abode within the boundaries of the applicable Directorate Residential District; (d) not be, nor have been, convicted of a felony, or plead, nor have pled, guilty to a felony; While a Director, and during the one hundred eighty (180) days immediately preceding

the Director election, a Director or Director candidate must (a) be a Member using, receiving, and purchasing electric service from the Cooperative at the Director's or Director candidate's primary residence; and (b) be current in all respects regarding payment to the Cooperative of Additional Payments and obligations, and not be subject to disconnection for non-payment of electric service at the Director or Director candidate's primary residence.

A Director or Director candidate must not be or have been (a) a spouse or other Close Relative of any existing Director, Cooperative employee, or Cooperative subsidiary employee; (b) employed by, materially affiliated with, or share a material financial interest with, any other Director; (c) receiving a non-vested benefit derived from prior employment with the cooperative; (d) previously subject to an involuntary separation of employment from the Cooperative or any Cooperative subsidiary; (e) employed as an employee of the Cooperative or any subsidiary or been engaged contractually (as a principal or primary owner, partner, or majority shareholder) of a firm that contracts with the Cooperative or any subsidiary as a prime or sub-contractor, at any time within the ten (10) years prior to becoming a Director or candidate for election to a Director seat; (f) engaged in, nor employed by, materially affiliated with, or have a material financial interest in, any individual or entity:

Only natural persons complying with the General Director Qualifications and the Membership Qualifications, and not disqualified due to a Conflict of Interest Disqualification may serve, or continue to serve, as a Director. Within a reasonable period of time after becoming a Director, and unless excused by the Board for good cause, a Director is expected to receive a Director's Certificate or similar certification of education and training as specified by the Board. Unless excused for good cause by the Board or Members, a Director shall miss no more than 3 regular meetings in any twelve (12) month period. Subject to the provisions Section 5.09, Directors shall maintain the physical and mental capacity to effectively conduct and satisfy the essential duties of the position, with or without a reasonable accommodation. Directors shall refrain from the commission of any act of malfeasance; and Directors shall comply with any other reasonable qualifications determined by the Board.

SECTION 5.03—Election and Forms of Ballots

Except as provided below, at each Annual Member Meeting, any election of Directors shall be conducted by written or electronic ballot, which may include voting via United States mail, voting through an online service or application, or via some other forms of electronic voting ("Ballot"). Each Member entitled to vote in the election of Directors shall be provided access to a Ballot and notified of the date and time by which the Credentials and Election Committee or its designated agent must receive the completed Ballot.

- ▶ Members shall cast their vote for Directors using and appropriately transmitting the Ballots as the exclusive method of balloting. Regardless of whether an in-person meeting

is held, no in-person voting will occur at the premises of the Annual Member Meeting.

- ▶ Ballots received prior to 5:00 PM on the final date for voting as established by the Credentials and Elections Committee shall count in determining whether a Member Quorum exists at the Member Meeting and/or for the election of Directors. Ballots received after that date and time shall be void for all purposes.
- ▶ As determined by the Credentials and Elections Committee, a Ballot procured or cast through fraud or other improper means is void.
- ▶ The Cooperative's inadvertent failure to send, or a Member's failure to receive, a Ballot does not affect a vote or action taken by Ballot.

Directors shall be elected by a plurality vote of the Members. Drawing by lot shall resolve, where necessary, any tie votes.

To spare the Cooperative from incurring unnecessary expenses, the Cooperative shall dispense with balloting for uncontested elections. Such elections shall instead be conducted by acclamation on motion and second of the Members during an in-person meeting or of the Credentials and Election committee, at any time, if the meeting is or will be conducted remotely.

SECTION 5.05—Nominations

Nominations by Committee

It shall be the duty of the Board to appoint at least three (3) but no more than five (5) Cooperative Members to serve on a Nominating Committee ("Nominating Committee") for each district from which a Director shall be nominated. Neither employees of the Cooperative or any Cooperative subsidiary, incumbent Directors, Close Relatives of such Directors, nor known candidates to become Directors, shall be eligible to serve on the Nominating Committee. Within five (5) business days of making nomination selections, the Committee shall prepare and post at the principal office of the Cooperative a list of nominations for Directors ("Nominating Committee Nomination"). The list may include a greater number of nominees than are to be elected. As determined by the Board, and as allowed by the Governing Documents, the Cooperative may reasonably compensate or reimburse Nominating Committee Members.

Member Petition Nominations

Without regard to the actions of the Nominating Committee, Cooperative Members are also entitled to nominate additional individuals to run for election for any Director position for which Members are scheduled to vote at any Annual Member Meeting ("Member Petition Nominations"). The Cooperative shall establish and provide reasonable advanced notice of a deadline for Member Petition Nominations that is no more than ninety (90) days prior to the opening of Director elections. Members make such Member Petition Nominations by delivering to the Cooperative a written petition ("Member Petition") for each Member Petition Nomination: listing the name of the Member Petition Nominee; indicating the Directorate District from which the Member Petition Nominee will run; and containing the printed

Continued on page H

District Nominating, Credentials & Election Committees Appointed

Pursuant to Section 4.12 of the Bylaws of the Cooperative, the Nominating Committees for Districts 2, 4 and 7, from which Directors will be elected at the Annual Meeting, have been appointed. The members who have been appointed to serve on those respective Nominating Committees are listed below and will meet on March 20, 2023, to nominate a candidate or candidates who will run for the Board of Directors from each district. Any qualified member wishing to submit his or her name for consideration should contact a member of his or her district's nominating committee by 5:00 p.m. on March 16, 2023.

2023 Nominating Committee

District 2: Cole	District 4: Bowman	District 7: Phillips
Stephanie Langley	Jeff L. Brantley	Joel Ellis Caviness
William Patrick Owens	Charles E. Ferree	Sue S. Copelan
William S. Parks Jr.	David J. Grantham	William Ray Fields
Reid H. Rich, Jr.	Ruby Lucas Hunter	Steven Ray Hussey
Dr. Amy Williams	Walker B. Moffitt	Bernard Purvis

2023 Credentials & Election Committee

E. Bernard Beck	Craig Bray	Mary Priscilla Clay
Sam L. Coble	Sean Donnelly	Yates M. Hussey
Charles L. Kemp	Susan King	Wayne D. Lahmeyer
Bradley Lanier	David Lawhon	Eric Lee McInnis
Beatrice C. Morehead	H. Carson Robinson	Richard D. Seawell
G. Quinton Thompson	Jeff Webb	

Randolph EMC Board of Directors



Lee Isley
District 1
Assistant Secretary-Treasurer



Larry Routh
District 3



Delbert Cranford
District 5



Jeff Sugg
District 6



Steve Harris
District 8



Billy Maness
District 9
Secretary-Treasurer

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER



- › **March 16, 2023**
Deadline for members to submit names to Nominating Committee
- › **March 31, 2023**
Deadline for members to submit Member Petition Nominations
- › **June 16, 2023** Annual Meeting

Qualifications for eligibility to serve, nomination and petition forms are available for download at **RandolphEMC.com** or at your local office if needed.



Randolph EMC Directorate Districts

The election for Directorate Districts 2, 4 and 7 will be held at the Annual Meeting on June 16, 2023.



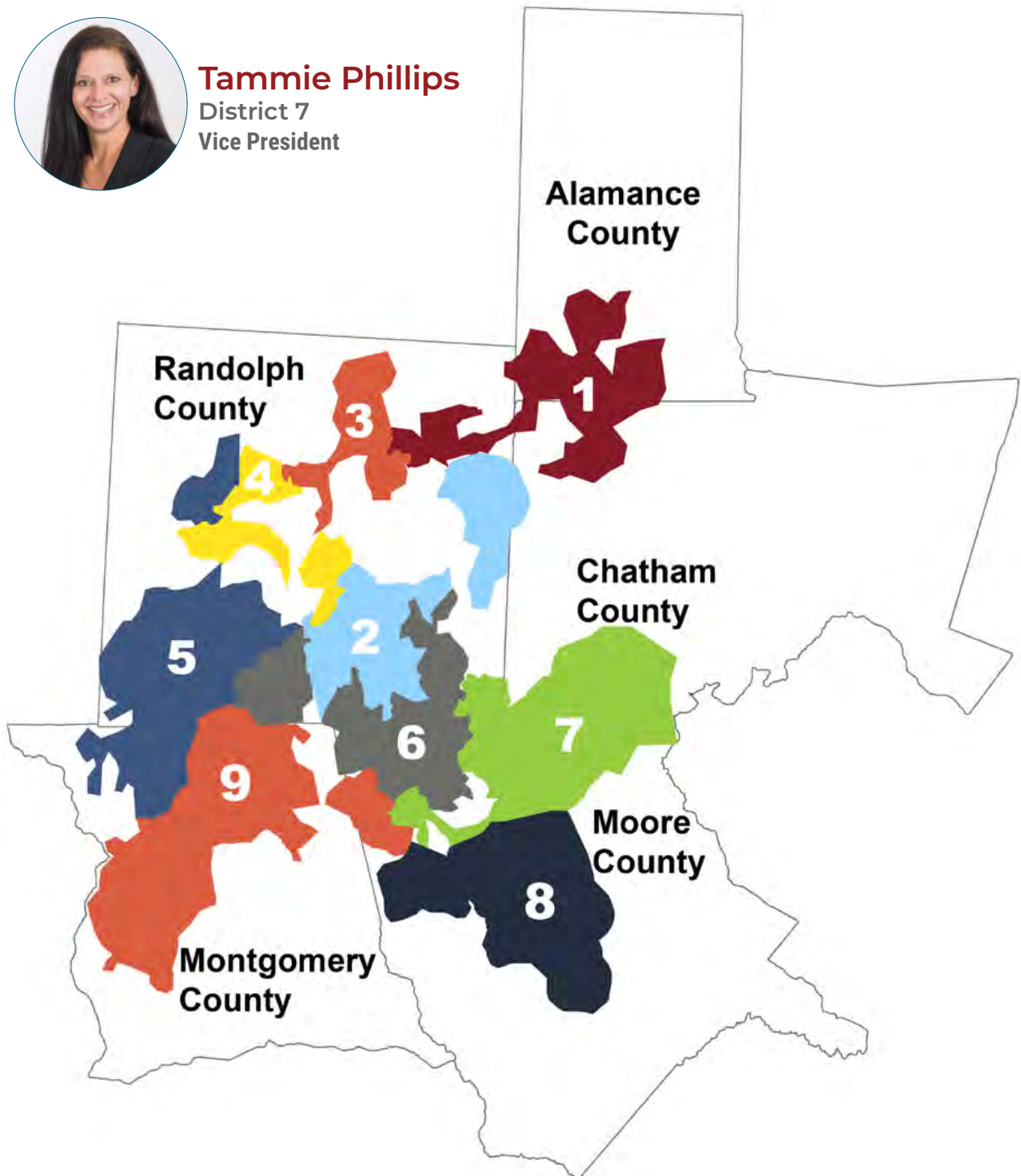
Scott Cole
District 2



Jerry Bowman
District 4
President



Tammie Phillips
District 7
Vice President



names, main service addresses (as they appear on the Members' account), telephone numbers, and original dated signatures, of at least fifteen (15) Members. Each Member's signature must be presented in the same name as the Member is billed by the Cooperative. The signature must be dated within ninety (90) days of the election. After verifying that a Member Petition complies with this Bylaw, the Cooperative shall post the Member Petition Nominations in approximately the same location as the Nominating Committee Nominations. Nominations for Directors shall be made only by the Nominating Committee or by written Member nominations as set forth herein. All nominations, however made, shall specify the nominee's district. Except as otherwise provided herein, write in candidates and/or floor nominees are not eligible for election to the Board. Failure to comply with the provisions of this Section shall not affect the validity of any action taken by the Board after its election.

SECTION 5.06—Directorate Residential Districts

Directors shall be so nominated and elected that the Board shall be comprised of nine (9) Directorate Districts. A director of a Directorate District must be a resident of, and make the Member's primary residential abode, on a premises served by an electrical circuit provided by the Cooperative. All of the Cooperative's electrical circuits, as identified by circuit numbers on the Cooperative's

maps and records, shall be divided into nine (9) Directorate Districts. For the purpose of assuring equitable representation, additional circuit numbers may be added to or deleted from a Directorate District. It shall be the duty of the board of Directors to make such additions to, and deletions from, the various Directorate Districts no later than April 1st of

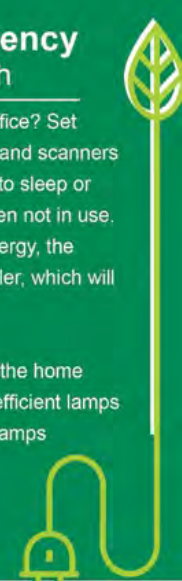
District Number	Circuit Numbers
1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 68
2	6, 7, 24, 25, 27, 30, 71, 73
3	9, 13, 14, 16, 67, 69, 70
4	10, 11, 15, 26, 75, 76, 77
5	18, 19, 20, 21, 23, 78
6	28, 55, 72, 87, 88
7	33, 34, 36, 37, 46, 47, 48, 49, 80, 81, 84
8	50, 51, 52, 53, 82, 83, 85, 86
9	42, 43, 44, 61, 62, 63, 64, 89, 90

each year. Such additions and deletions, along with the existing Directorate District circuit numbers, will be provided to the members. Each of the nine (9) Directorate Districts are: Residential districts are intended to disperse the Directors throughout the Cooperative's

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Do you have a home office? Set equipment like printers and scanners to automatically switch to sleep or energy-saver mode when not in use. In addition to saving energy, the equipment will stay cooler, which will help extend its life.

Another way to save in the home office is to use energy efficient lamps for task lighting. Small lamps use less energy than whole-room lighting.



service territory. Regardless of districts, every member shall be entitled to vote in every contest and every Director shall be responsible for serving the entire Cooperative membership. Nothing contained in this section shall affect in any manner whatsoever the validity of any action taken at any meeting of the board of Directors.

TAKE YOUR SHOT!

Middle Schoolers,
Apply Now for a
Touchstone Energy
Sports Camp Scholarship!

Touchstone Energy®

Sports Camp Scholarships

randolphemc.com/touchstone-energy-sports-camps

Deadline to apply is March 31, 2023



Attend
Basketball Camp
for Free
this Summer!



Watts Working

Apply Now for a Touchstone Energy Sports Camp Scholarship to Attend Basketball Camp this Summer!

The shot clock is counting down for rising sixth and seventh graders to apply for a Touchstone Energy Sports Camp Scholarship. Randolph EMC will select one young woman to attend the Wolfpack Women's Basketball Camp at N.C. State University June 18–22 and one young man to attend the Carolina

Basketball School at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill June 17-21.

The online applications include two short essays and require a parent or guardian's signature. Eligible applicants must be in sixth or seventh grade during the 2023-2024 school year. The application

deadline is March 31.

Scholarship winners will receive an all-expenses-paid trip to camp, where they will experience life on a college campus, train with college coaches and athletes and develop skills to help them excel on and off the court.

"We are very pleased to offer these scholarships," said Nicole Arnold, communications and public affairs manager for REMC. "The program offers a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for student athletes to hone their skills at a critical and formative time in their development. We encourage our members with children in middle school to apply for these camps, so the children can learn from the best college coaches in the country."

Scan the QR code to the left to learn more and apply online.

TAKE YOUR SHOT!

Middle Schoolers, Apply Now for a Touchstone Energy Sports Camp Scholarship!

Attend Basketball Camp for Free this Summer!

Touchstone Energy®
Sports Camp Scholarships

randolphemc.com/touchstone-energy-sports-camps
Deadline to apply is March 31, 2023

B Apply for Community Grants Now

C Youth Tourist Announced

D First Electric Bus in North Carolina

F A Word About Randolph Electric

H Future Leaders Tour REMC



Sharing Success Community Grant Applications Now Open

Randolph Electric Membership Corporation announces that applications are now open for its Sharing Success Community Grants. Nonprofits in the Randolph EMC service area of Randolph, Chatham, Moore, Montgomery and Alamance counties are eligible to apply.

The Sharing Success Community Grants Program is a special project of People Helping People (PHP), Randolph EMC's 501(c)3 organization. Community Grant funds are made possible through the generosity of CoBank, an industry lender, and are separate and distinct from monthly member contributions to PHP.

"Since 2015, the PHP Board of Directors has awarded over \$106,000 in grants to charitable nonprofits that lend a helping hand to those in need," said Nicole Arnold, communications and public affairs manager at Randolph EMC. "Randolph EMC's core values guide our philanthropic efforts, and our People Helping People (PHP) program is one example of how the cooperative is dedicated to making a positive, lasting impact on the communities we serve."

Program Details

Each year, CoBank allocates \$4 million annually to match cooperatives' charitable contributions to nonprofit organizations in their local communities. For 2023, CoBank will match Randolph EMC's donation of \$10,000 to PHP to provide a total of \$20,000 in grant funding for nonprofit agencies in Randolph, Moore, Montgomery, Alamance and Chatham counties.

Qualifying organizations may apply for up to \$2,000 in funding to implement programs or purchase necessary equipment to facilitate programs that will make a positive impact in the communities where Randolph EMC member-owners reside.

The application is available online at RandolphEMC.com. Completed applications must be received electronically by May 31, 2023.



Students benefit from outdoor reading camps at Spirit Horse Ranch, a Sharing Success Community Grant recipient.



Scan the QR code to access the 2023 application form.

For additional information or questions, please contact Nicole Arnold at 336-625-5177 or Nicole.Arnold@RandolphEMC.com.

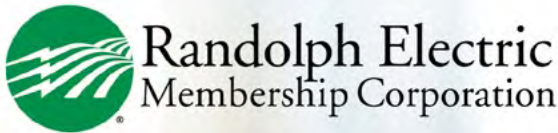
Congratulations to Colton Freeman, 2023 Youth Tourist!

Each summer Randolph EMC joins other cooperatives around the nation to choose 1,600 of our nation's brightest students to participate in the annual Youth Tour. From June 17-23, these student representatives will converge on Washington, D.C., to learn about American history, meet their members of Congress and explore the electric cooperative business model.

This year Randolph EMC awarded the honor to Colton Freeman, a 10th-grader at North Moore High School. Colton and his family are members living in Eagle Springs, N.C. Colton's outstanding school and community involvement, stellar academic record and sports achievement made him an excellent choice for this enriching experience. We look forward to introducing you to Colton further in the months to come, and we congratulate him on being our 2023 Youth Tourist.



2023 Youth Tourist Colton Freeman is congratulated by REMC CEO Dale Lambert.



Power at your fingertips!

- ✓ Monitor Usage
- ✓ Report an Outage
- ✓ Pay Your Bill



MOBILE APP





REMC Celebrates Delivery of First Electric Bus in N.C.

On Jan. 24, Randolph County School System hosted a ribbon-cutting celebration at the Randolph County Board of Education. The event showcased the partnerships that brought the first-ever electric school bus in North Carolina to Randolph County.

Randolph EMC and N.C.'s Electric Cooperatives partnered with the N.C. Department of Public Instruction to obtain \$277,000 in Volkswagen settlement funding for the all-electric school bus, manufactured by Thomas Built Buses. The new bus will serve a route in southwestern Randolph County.

Randolph EMC has provided a DC Fast charger and related electrical infrastructure for the bus on the campus of Southwestern Randolph Middle School. REMC will analyze how charging the electric bus affects the electric grid and Randolph County School System's electric bill. The pilot project will serve as a case study for future

applications of electric vehicle technology across the state.

Dr. Stephen Gainey, superintendent of Randolph County School System, welcomed board of education members, representatives of Carolina Thomas and Thomas Built Buses, the secretaries of the N.C. Departments of Public Instruction and Environmental Quality, Randolph EMC's board of directors, and members of the press to the event.

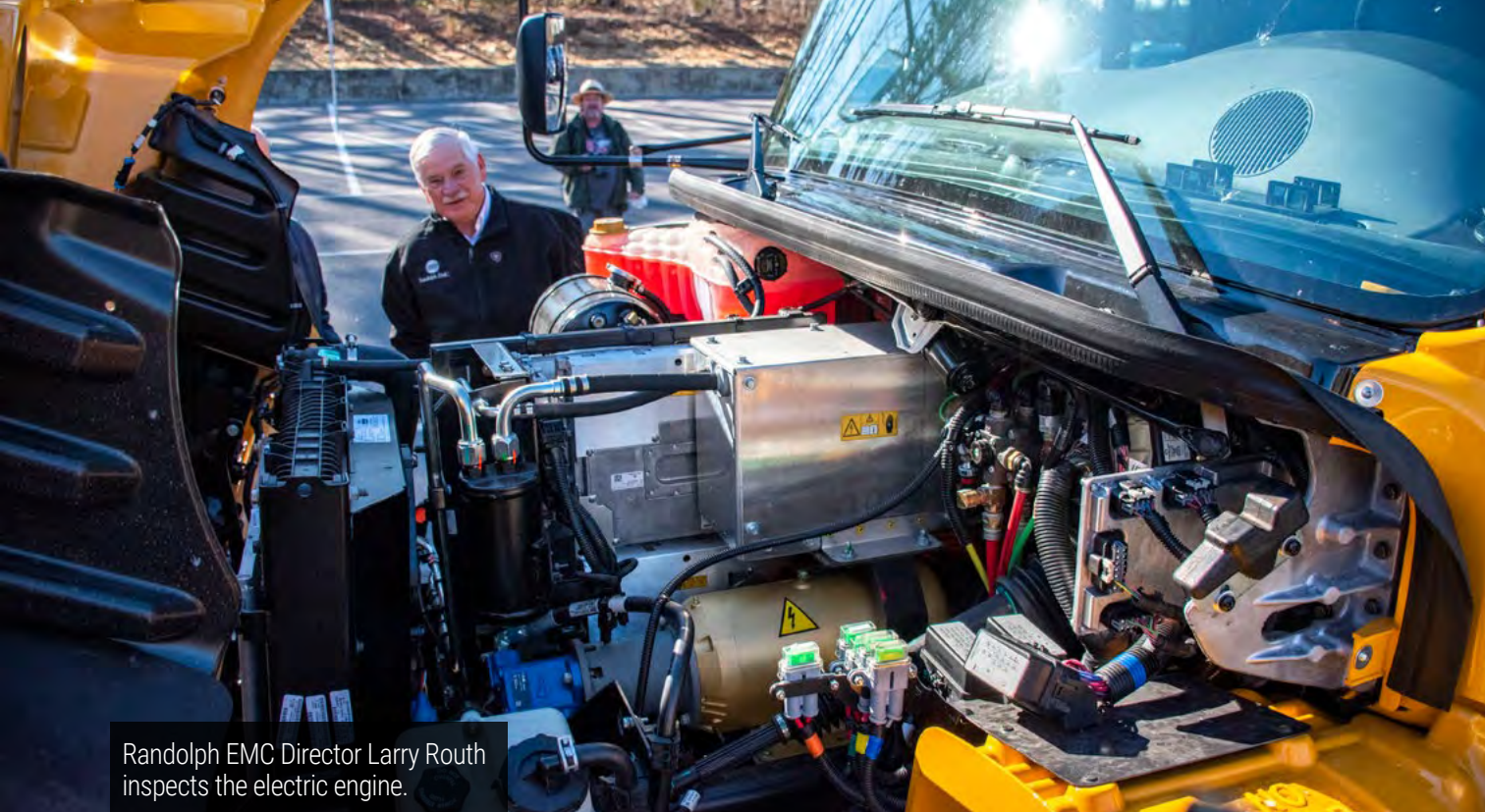
REMC's Director of Innovative Energy Solutions Michael Trent described the journey to this celebration by recalling his original discussions in 2019 with Wendy Anderson, the director of transportation for Randolph County Schools, and Michael

Randolph EMC and NC's Electric Cooperatives facilitated the delivery of the first electric bus in North Carolina to the Randolph County School System.

Youth, associate general counsel of N.C.'s Electric Cooperatives.

"This year, 2023, marks our 85th anniversary," said Trent. "REMC was founded by several concerned individuals who sought to improve the quality of life of rural North Carolinians through electrification. Today, REMC continues to partner with key organizations to bring value to the community."

Secretary of the Department of Environmental Quality Elizabeth Biser explained that the eBus is the first of 49 currently in the production for North Carolina public schools. She applauded Randolph County School System for taking delivery of the first-ever electric bus in North Carolina.



Randolph EMC Director Larry Routh inspects the electric engine.

“The partnerships represented here today demonstrate the dedication of those organizations that care about the future of their communities.”

Kevin Harrison, section chief at the Department of Public Instruction, noted the benefits of the eBus, including cleaner air and reduced noise for students, bus drivers and communities.

Roy Parks, regional sales manager at Carolina Thomas, LLC, commemorated this “historic and exciting day” by presenting Dr. Gainey with a plaque of the eBus, complete with a photo and VIN number of the vehicle.

“The partnerships represented here today demonstrate the dedication of those organizations that care about the future of their communities,” said Dr. Gainey. “Together, we’ll make this pilot program a success for the state of North Carolina.”



Representatives from Carolina Thomas, the REMC Board of Directors, Randolph County School System and the State of North Carolina celebrate the first electric bus delivery in the state.

A Word About Randolph Electric

From CEO Dale Lambert



THE IMPORTANCE OF A STABLE GRID

Dear Members,

In last month's AWARE column, I noted three events that led to power outages for some members in the month of December. They were the following:

Event 1

The month started out with criminals sabotaging two of Duke Energy's substations in Moore County on Dec. 3rd. This affected one of the transmission lines that serves Randolph EMC's Eastwood and Seven Lakes substations. Last month's AWARE column detailed the steps we took to restore power to affected members prior to Duke Energy completing the repairs to their damaged equipment.

Event 2

On Dec. 23rd, as a cold front moved through our area, temperatures plummeted throughout the day. This, coupled with wind gusts of up to 50 miles per hour, resulted in wind chills well below zero. It also resulted in power outages for 10% of the membership, 3,340 accounts, due to trees falling on the lines. Our team worked hard, and all outages were restored by 7:30 p.m.

Event 3

My focus for this month's column is Event 3. After the storm front moved through our area in the early morning hours of Christmas Eve, Dec. 24th, temperatures fell into the single digits. This is somewhat unusual but not unheard of in our part of the country. The electrical grid is sometimes

referred to as the largest machine in the world. The grid must meet the need for electricity the instant you flip on a light switch, turn on your water faucet, adjust thermostats or use your stove and microwave to heat up dinner.

The electricity originates at power plants, also known as generation stations, and flows onto the electrical grid. This interconnected grid comprises hundreds of thousands of miles of transmission, distribution, and service lines as well as several transformers, ultimately delivering power to the breaker panel in our homes. This amazing "machine," the grid, must stay in almost perfect sync between the thousands of plants generating electricity and the individual loads inside of your homes at all times.

Weather events featuring extreme hot and cold temperatures that drive high demand place the greatest burden on the electrical grid. Your board of directors and employee team focus on delivering safe, reliable and affordable power to you every day. This includes reliable power on the hottest and coldest days of the year; that's the standard we seek to meet.

I have written in the past about Randolph EMC's significant yearly investments to upgrade sections of our 4,400 miles of power lines. Due to load growth on the system, conductors, transformers and substations have to be upgraded to meet this increasing demand.

I am pleased to report the Randolph EMC electrical system performed exceptionally well during this extreme

demand period. Our system includes 24,386 transformers and 5,091 fault control devices, including fuses, reclosers and breakers. The high load levels on Christmas Eve morning could have impacted any of these 29,477 devices. However, even with temperatures in the single digits, we had only two small outages related to load issues.

Early that morning, a transformer serving one member failed from being overloaded; we upgraded this transformer to a larger one. The second outage involved a fuse controlling a section of line supplying power to 44 members. We changed this fuse to a larger one. We repaired both of these outages quickly.

This shows the focus our engineering and operations teams put into staying ahead of problems and making wise investments in your electrical system to address issues before they turn into outages for the members.

But what unfolded on Christmas Eve was unprecedented. Duke Energy is responsible for operating the broader bulk power system, generation and transmission lines in most of our state. This bulk power system is interconnected to what's called the Eastern Grid, which covers the United States from the Atlantic Ocean to almost the Rocky Mountains. Randolph EMC takes delivery from this bulk power system onto our transmission lines and substations to serve our members.

To preserve the stability of the overall electrical grid from widespread failure,

for the first time ever, Duke Energy initiated rolling blackouts for portions of the state. Not doing so would have resulted in extensive and lengthy power outages.

As I write this column, we do not have all the details for this event since there are currently multiple investigations underway. But I would like to provide an overview of what we do know.

For the Dec. 24th blackout events, three of Randolph EMC's substations were affected. Members in the general areas of Snow Camp, Staley and New Hope, in Alamance and Randolph counties, had interruptions of power. These blackouts impacted 21% of Randolph EMC's members (6,858), for durations of 15 to 20 minutes at a time.

Based on what I know now, there were two main issues that led to the blackouts. First, the actual peak load for the morning of Christmas Eve was higher than predicted.

Electric utilities use forecasting tools to model future load levels for every hour of every day. Prior to Dec. 24th, Duke Energy's models predicted an adequate level of generation available, with reserves, to meet the peak demand for that morning. However, through the early morning hours of Christmas Eve, load levels climbed higher than the models predicted.

The second factor contributing to the blackouts were operational issues at multiple power generating plants. Some plants either went offline or did not generate power to the levels they were capable of during the peak period. When the investigations are completed, we will have a much clearer picture into why these plants did not perform as expected.

When these two factors are coupled together, they create an imbalance within the power grid. When there are high load levels and not enough generation online, one of two dramatic things will happen:

Scenario 1

Grid control centers must physically drop load to meet the levels of available generation. In this instance, Duke Energy could not generate

enough power to meet demand, so they dropped load, resulting in limited, rolling blackouts.

Scenario 2

The bulk power system will begin an uncontrolled, cascading blackout that could possibly grow to affect multiple states and hundreds of thousands of people. This is what Duke avoided by instituting controlled, rolling blackouts.

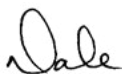
The personnel in Duke's Energy Control Center did the right thing to address this imbalance before things got out of hand and significant portions of the grid failed uncontrollably. The goal was to avoid anything similar to the massive blackout in August 2003 that affected the northeastern United States and Canada.

In that event, multiple factors created an imbalance within the regional power grid. Because of this, 21 power plants went offline and left 50 million people in the dark, including those in New York City. Most had their power restored within hours, but in some locations, it took two days to bring the grid back to full operation.

I go back to a statement I made earlier. Reliability is critical for our members and the citizens of this state. What happened on Christmas Eve is not acceptable and should not be considered the norm. I've traveled to some third-world countries on mission trips and have seen their power grids firsthand. North Carolina and the United States must take the necessary steps now to ensure our bulk power system remains the most reliable in the world.

As the investigations unfold, I look forward to hearing more details of the contributing factors that resulted in the blackouts. Randolph EMC will be a strong advocate for proper steps to be taken so this doesn't happen again. Stay tuned....

Cooperatively Yours,



Dale F. Lambert
Chief Executive Officer



Randolph Electric Membership Corporation provides safe and reliable power with exceptional value to more than 33,000 member accounts in Randolph, Moore, Montgomery, Chatham and Alamance counties.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Electric Service

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Robbins: (910) 948-3401
..... (800) 868-7014

Report Outage (877) REMC-OFF
..... (877) 736-2633

Account Info

& Bill Payments: (877) 534-2319

Business Hours: 8 am – 5 pm, M-F

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Engineering & Operations

Fred Smith Vice President of
Economic Development & Compliance

Nicole Arnold Editor

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Future Leaders Tour REMC, Learn about Careers in Energy

On Jan. 25, Randolph EMC hosted the Student LIFT class of 2023 for a live-line demonstration, a facility tour and a discussion on careers in electrical cooperatives. Student Leadership Information For Tomorrow (LIFT) is a program of the Asheboro/Randolph Chamber of Commerce. REMC is a primary sponsor of this educational outreach program offering 25 high school sophomores, juniors and seniors the opportunity to learn more about careers in the area and gain valuable leadership skills.

Line Superintendent Daniel Maness, Journeyman Lineman and Foreman Rodney Haithcock, Linemen Chris Smith and Ryan Kivett, and Apprentice Linemen Hunter Allred and Dakota Smith presented the live-line demonstration in the Operations Support Facility. In addition to describing the hazards of electrical contact, the REMC crew outlined the functions of the mobile substation and instructed students about safety gear that lineworkers must wear. Students also met with GIS Technician Timothy Foster and Staff Engineer Holly Lucas in the Dispatch Center. There they learned about the cutting-edge technology REMC uses to track and repair outages.

This impressive group of students learned about advances in technology, the importance of safety, and the careers available to them at their local cooperative. REMC appreciates the Chamber, and mentors, Baxter Hammer and Kirsten Stovall, for helping to make this a memorable day for these future leaders.



Student LIFT Class of 2022–2023

- Liberty Adams, Asheboro High School
- Logann Beaver, Eastern Randolph High School
- Hannah Charles, Asheboro Hybrid Academy
- Maci Columbia, Asheboro High School
- Lacey Cozart, Randleman High School
- Hailey Cranford, Uwharrie Ridge
- Jaydon DeNamur, Uwharrie Charter Academy
- Emma Dobbins, Asheboro High School
- Sydney Duggins, Uwharrie Charter Academy
- Jacob Gainey, Southwestern Randolph High School
- Lucy Griffin, Southwestern Randolph High School
- Sydney Hall, Wheatmore High School
- Casey Joura, Uwharrie Charter Academy
- Isabella McNamee, Southwestern Randolph High School
- Benjamin Owen IV, Uwharrie Charter Academy
- Owen Peele, Southwestern Randolph High School
- Josie Perdue, Southwestern Randolph High School
- Emilee Shackelford, Asheboro High School
- Aaron Smith, Uwharrie Charter Academy
- Tanush Sriram, Asheboro High School
- Leah Waisner, Southwestern Randolph High School
- Olivia Walker, Randolph Early College High School
- Kenly Whitaker, Eastern Randolph High School
- Kaleigh Wilson, Eastern Randolph High School
- Leah Zielenski, Asheboro High School

Watts Working

Celebrating our Lineworkers

by Nicole Arnold, communications and public affairs manager

If you were asked to associate an image or a person with Randolph EMC, I bet you would picture a lineworker. One of the most visible employees of the co-op, lineworkers work tirelessly to ensure our community receives uninterrupted power 24/7.



Apprentice Lineman Chris Ingold climbs a power pole.

“Lineworker” is listed as one of the top 10 most dangerous jobs in the U.S. because these employees perform detailed tasks near high-voltage power lines. Regardless of the time of day or night, they brave stormy weather and other challenging conditions. They easily can climb 40 feet in the air while carrying heavy equipment to get the job done.

Being a lineworker is not a glamorous or easy profession. It takes years of specialized training, ongoing education, dedication and a sense of service and commitment. How else can you explain the willingness to tackle a hard job in wicked weather, while others stay safe and sheltered comfortably at home? Their servant’s heart for the community is what sets them apart. That’s why every April, we celebrate and recognize the personnel who work around the clock to keep the lights on.

While lineworkers may be the most visible employees at Randolph Electric, it’s important to note that there is a team of highly skilled professionals working behind the scenes. Engineers provide ongoing expertise and guidance on the operations side of the co-op.

Continued on page B

C Call for
Bright Ideas

D Save the Date:
REMC 85th
Annual Meeting

E Call 811
Before
You Dig

F A Word About
Randolph Electric

H REMC Supports
Local Firefighters





THANK A LINEWORKER

Celebrating Our Lineworkers, continued from page A

Member service specialists are always standing by to take your calls and questions. Our information technology (IT) experts continuously monitor our system to help safeguard sensitive data. These are just a few of the folks who work together to ensure we can deliver the service and reliability you expect and deserve. Without them, our lineworkers wouldn't be able to "bring the light" to our community.

Our dedicated and beloved lineworkers are proud to represent REMC, and they deserve all the appreciation and accolades that come their way this month and year-round.

At REMC, our lineworkers' commitment to excellence runs deep. Throughout this edition of *Watts Working*, you

will see snapshots of our lineworkers as they perform rigorous safety training drills, educate the public and restore your power after an outage.

The next time you see a lineworker in person, I hope you'll join me in thanking them for their exceptional service.



Journeyman Lineman/Foreman Rodney Haithcock works to restore power in Moore County.

Teachers, Apply for a Bright Ideas Grant!

REMC is partnering with outstanding educators to bring creative learning to life!

Starting April 1, teachers can apply for a Bright Ideas education grant of up to \$2,000 to fund innovative projects that enhance student success in K-12 classrooms. Applications and more information can be found at ncbrightideas.com.

Grants are available in all curriculum areas including art, science, history and



Bright Ideas
EDUCATION GRANTS

NCBrightIdeas.com

Teachers, bring your creative learning project ideas to life!



Apply now!

Projects sponsored locally since 1994 by



Randolph Electric
Membership Corporation

Early bird deadline: August 15, 2023

Deadline: September 15, 2023

mathematics. Over the past 29 years, REMC has invested just under \$300,000 in grants within our five-county service area.

Teachers are encouraged to

apply early. Those who submit their application by the early bird deadline of Aug. 15 will be entered to win one of five \$100 Visa gift cards.

REMC

RE-Connect Podcast

Episode 8

Interview with
Colton Freeman
2023 Youth Tourist

*Listen
Now*



Save the Date!

Randolph EMC 85th Annual Meeting June 16, 2023




Don't miss REMC's 85th Annual Meeting on Friday, June 16, 2023. Registration begins at 5:00 p.m. at Southwestern Randolph High School, and the Business Meeting starts at 6:30 p.m. We'll have special prizes, bill credit giveaways and will announce the results of our Director Election.

Mark your calendars for Friday, June 16. See you there!

Energy Efficiency Tip

This planting season, include energy efficiency in your landscaping plans. Adding shade trees around your home can reduce surrounding air temperatures as much as 6 degrees. To block heat from the sun, plant deciduous trees around the south side of your home. Deciduous trees provide excellent shade during the summer and lose their leaves in the fall and winter months, allowing sunlight to warm your home.

Source: [energy.gov](https://www.energy.gov)



Randolph EMC
offices will
be closed
for Good Friday
on April 7.

The offices
will also be
closed from
11 am to 2 pm
on Thursday,
April 20.

Call 811 Before You Dig

Spring has sprung, and with the warmer weather, many of us are eager to dig in the garden and begin our yard work.

That's why REMC observes National Safe Digging Month every April: to remind us to call 811 before we dig.

If you start digging before you call 811, you risk damaging an underground utility line. That means you can risk death or serious injury, in addition to potential fines and expensive clean-up costs.

Don't build a fence or plant trees before you know what's underground. Remember to call 811 before you dig!



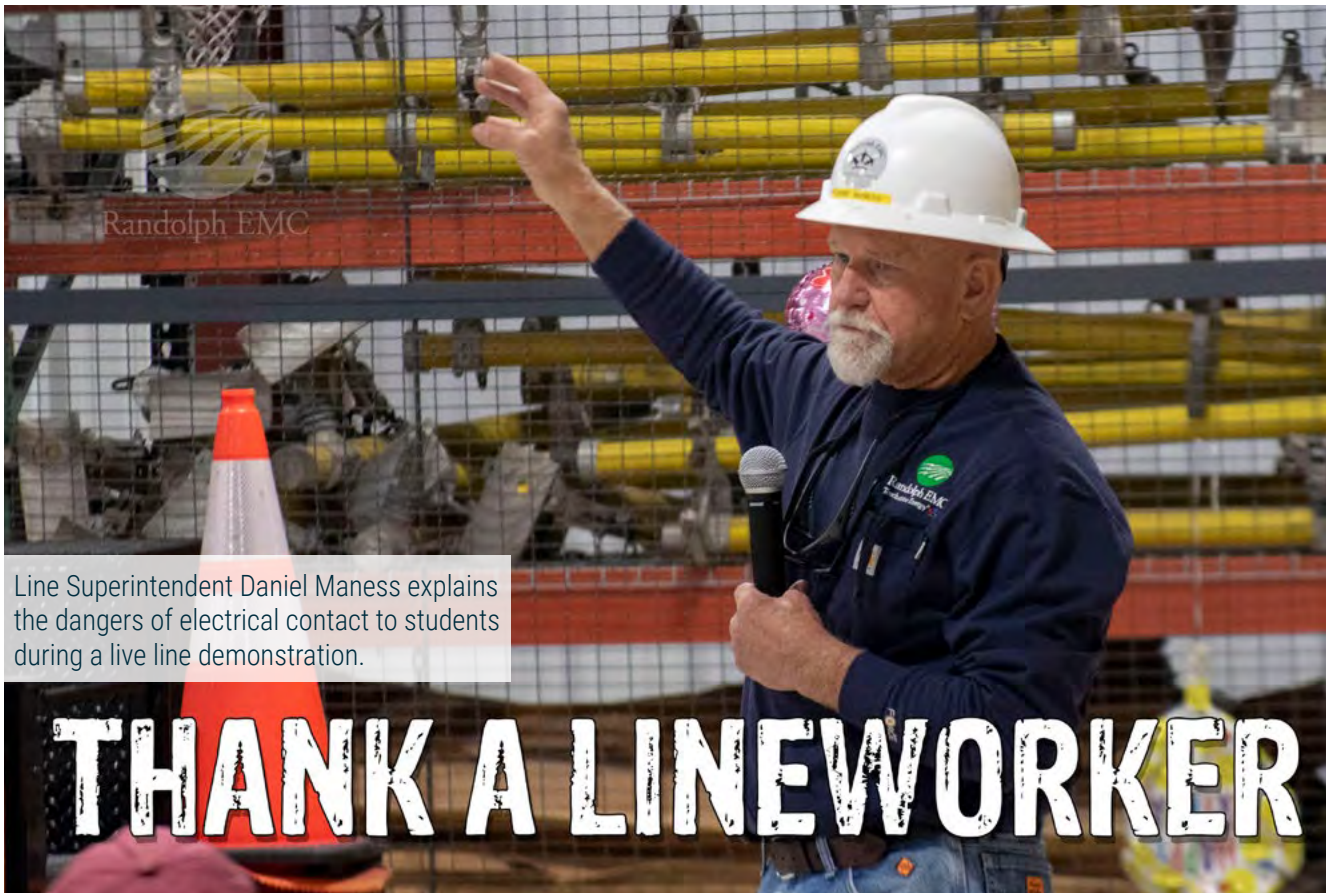
**Know what's below.
Call before you dig.**

Dig Smart. Dig Safe.

Before you dig, call 811 or visit call811.com to mark underground utility lines. 811 is a free service that helps keep our community safe.



April is National Safe Digging Month.



Line Superintendent Daniel Maness explains the dangers of electrical contact to students during a live line demonstration.

THANK A LINEWORKER

A Word About Randolph Electric

From CEO Dale Lambert



FOCUSED ON SERVING YOU

Dear Members,

This past winter was unique in so many ways. As I pen this month's article on the first of March, we still have a ways to go before spring officially arrives. Even though we have been blessed thus far this winter with no major ice or snowstorms, I can recall winter storms slamming us in previous years around this time, so we're not out of the woods yet.

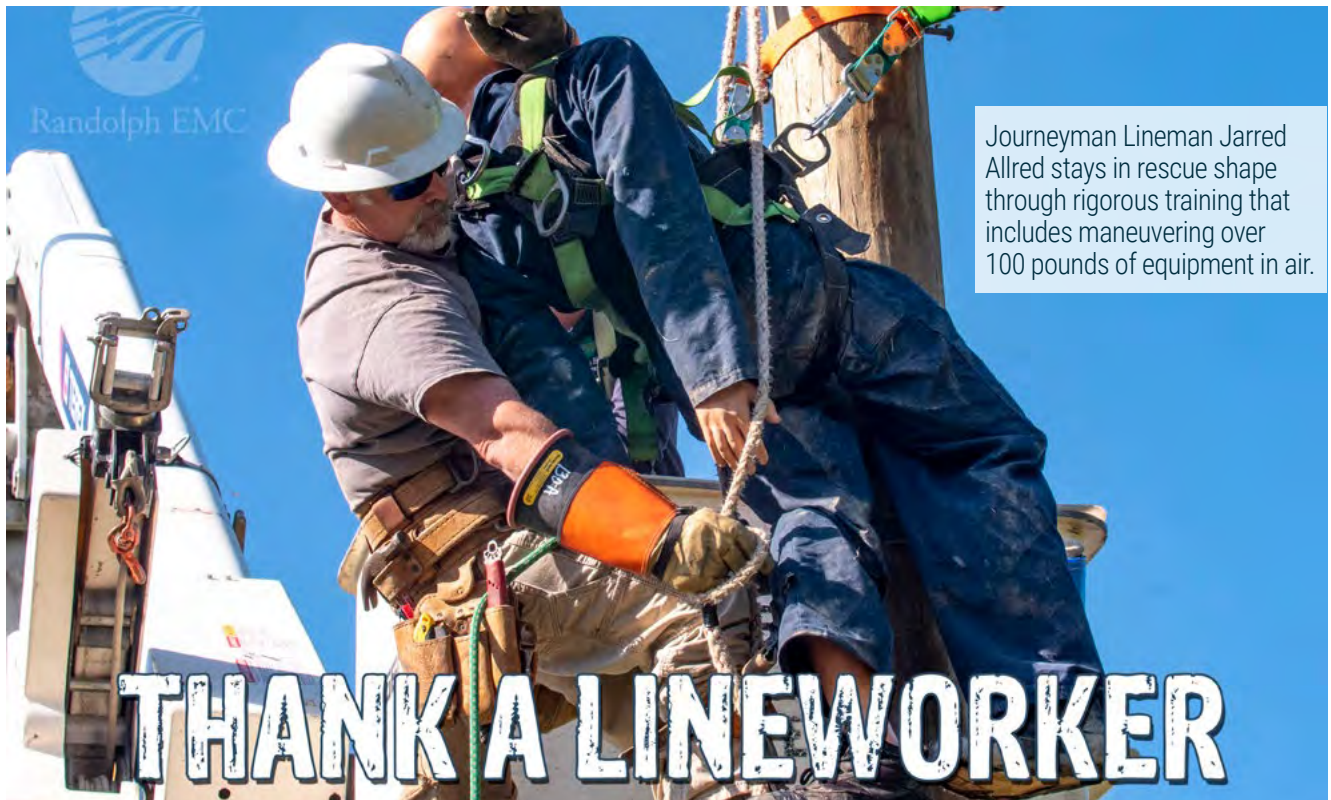
The last couple AWARE columns focused on two major events that resulted in power outages for some Randolph EMC members in December.

On December 3rd, criminals sabotaged two of Duke Energy's substations in Moore County. This prevented a Duke transmission line from supplying power to a Randolph EMC substation, leaving 2,737 members out of power. The February AWARE column provided details about that event and your cooperative's response.

Then Christmas Eve, on the heels of a cold front that brought gusty winds and single digit temperatures, the electrical grid in the region experienced load levels significantly higher than forecasted. This, coupled with issues at several of Duke Energy's

generating plants, resulted in rotating blackouts for over 6,800 Randolph EMC members to preserve the regional electrical grid. The March AWARE column covered the issues and impact of that event in more detail.

This past winter could be described as the "season with two seasons." Overall, December was a very cold month. There were 13 days in a row when the low temperature dropped to 34 degrees or lower. During that period, 6 consecutive days reached lows below 32 degrees, with 4 of those days plummeting below 15 degrees.



Journeyman Lineman Jarred Allred stays in rescue shape through rigorous training that includes maneuvering over 100 pounds of equipment in air.

THANK A LINEWORKER

Our area hit single digits for the first time since 2018. Christmas Eve set a new record with a high of 26 degrees, two degrees lower than the 1943 record. Understandably, power bills were higher than normal for the month, with members using 31% more kilowatt-hours compared to usage from the previous December.

Did spring arrive early? The trees, frogs and bugs surely thought it did. At least members got some relief on January and February power bills, which normally show high energy usage.

According to Christian Morgan, our Asheboro-raised meteorologist who works for WFMY News 2 in Greensboro, January had 23 days above our normal average high temperature. It was our warmest January since 2006. He also said that February was the second warmest on record. Only four nights were below freezing, the least ever recorded for a February. We normally average around 16.

This winter will certainly go down in history as unique in so many ways. But through it all, I want to thank our members for the trust and support you have given us. Our desire is to provide you with safe, reliable and affordable energy, coupled with exceptional service. Our vision statement sums our focus up well, "Exceptional Service, Empowered Members."

For almost 20 years, Randolph EMC has surveyed members to ask how we are serving you and if we are meeting your expectations. This measurement is called the American Customer Satisfaction Index (ACSI). The ACSI provides a uniform and independent measurement of the consumer's experience and satisfaction with leading corporations in America.

Randolph EMC's overall performance is stacked against that of hundreds of other electric cooperatives and investor-owned utilities from across the country. These member satisfaction surveys are performed twice a year, second and fourth quarters, and I am so appreciative of members who provide us with feedback and suggestions for improvement.

A few months ago, I shared the results for the second quarter of last year. Through your feedback, Randolph EMC received a score of 92 on the ACSI—the highest score of the entire

survey. This was also the highest member satisfaction rating your cooperative has ever received and has been attained historically only by very few companies.

A couple of weeks ago, we received the results of your feedback for the fourth quarter. With all the events that took place in December, I was blown away that Randolph EMC received an ACSI score of 91. Coupled together, you scored your cooperative with the highest ratings we have ever received.

As a comparison, the average fourth quarter ACSI score for electric cooperatives across the country was 73, and the average for investor-owned utilities was 74. Thank you for the trust and confidence you place in the Randolph EMC Board of Directors and our employee team. We do not take this responsibility lightly.

Quite often, I use a quote I heard many years ago, "Programs don't provide superior customer service, people do." It takes a committed group, rowing in the same direction with the same vision, to provide the superior level of service our members expect from their cooperative.

Several years ago, the United States Congress and the North Carolina General Assembly designated the second Monday in April as Lineworker Appreciation Day. This is a day to celebrate and show appreciation for all the hard work our line personnel do to safely keep the lights on. Your line personnel are always some of the first responders when major weather events hit our communities, but they quietly go about their jobs without much recognition.

Randolph EMC has also designated April as Employee Appreciation Month. We take this opportunity to recognize all the Randolph EMC employee team members for their commitment and extra hard work over the past year. It's a real team effort, and I appreciate the dedication they demonstrate each day in serving you. I feel blessed to be associated with them.

Cooperatively Yours,

Dale F. Lambert
Chief Executive Officer



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Engineering & Operations
Fred Smith Vice President of
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Nicole Arnold Editor

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REMC CEO Dale Lambert, REMC Director Larry Routh, REMC VP Fred Smith, Ulah Fire Chief Charlotte King, REMC Director Jeff Sugg, and NC DOI Regional Director Rosemary Parker

REMC Supports Fire Departments with REDLG Loans for Trucks

On Tuesday, Feb. 21, officials from Randolph EMC along with state and local fire representatives held honorary check ceremonies at Robbins Fire Rescue and at Ulah Volunteer Fire Department.

Randolph Electric has recently provided two zero-interest loans to these two fire departments within its service territory. REMC facilitated a loan in the amount of \$225,000 to Robbins Fire Rescue in Moore County to help purchase a 3,000-gallon tanker engine. REMC also provided a loan in the amount of \$360,000 to Ulah Volunteer Fire Department (VFD) in Randolph County to help purchase a 1,000-gallon pumper engine. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) awarded Randolph EMC grants for each fire truck through the Rural Economic Development Loan & Grant program (REDLG program). The grants are combined with a 20% match from REMC and loaned to the ultimate recipient at zero percent interest. As funds are repaid, REMC receives the payments into

its Economic Development Revolving Loan Fund for relending on the next project.

“Robbins Fire Rescue is proud to accept delivery of a brand-new pumper/tanker that will help us to fight fires, protect property and save lives in Moore County,” said Timmy Brown, fire chief at Robbins Fire Rescue.

“We are thankful to receive this funding from Randolph EMC,” said Charlotte King, fire chief of Ulah VFD. “This new fire engine will benefit the residents and businesses of southern Randolph County including Seagrove, Asheboro and neighboring fire districts. This will enhance our emergency response capabilities.”

These projects represent one of the many ways that Randolph EMC benefits its five-county service territory. In addition to educational grants for teachers, scholarships for students and grants to local charities, Randolph EMC also regularly supports community development efforts through the REDLG program.



Robbins Town Manager Clint Mack, REMC CEO Dale Lambert, NC Insurance Commissioner Mike Causey, Robbins Fire Chief Timmy Brown, REMC VP Fred Smith, REMC Director Jeff Sugg, and REMC VP Jay Albright

“Randolph EMC cannot repay our firefighters for the sacrifice, courage and strength they embody every day. But we can play a small part in improving the tools they work with to save the lives of those in danger,” said Nicole Arnold, communications and public affairs manager for REMC. “We are excited to see the positive impact these new fire trucks will bring to the Ulah and Robbins areas.”

Watts Working

Home Safe Home

We all like to think that our homes are safe, but did you know that many families experience fires, injuries or death in their homes each year? According to the U.S. Fire Administration, faulty home electrical wiring causes at least 26,000 residential fires a year, hundreds of deaths, and thousands of injuries. With the right precautions, you can avoid electrical hazards that could lead to disaster.

May is national electrical safety month and an excellent time to detect and neutralize any threats lurking around your home. Randolph EMC wants to help you find these electrical dangers and correct them. Follow these tips below to keep your home not only a sweet home but also a safe place for you and your family.

- ▶ Check electrical outlets for loose-fitting plugs that can cause shocks or start fires.

May is National Electrical Safety Month



Never allow babies to play with cords or near outlets.

- ▶ Replace missing or broken wall plates so the inner wiring components are not exposed.
- ▶ If you have young children, use safety covers on unused outlets. Install tamper-resistant receptacles with a built-in shutter system that prevents hairpins and other small objects from being inserted into the outlet.
- ▶ Check the cords, plugs and connectors of the appliances in your home. Make sure they are not frayed, cracked or damaged, placed under rugs or carpets, resting on furniture or in high-traffic areas. Do not nail or staple cords to walls, floors or any other objects.
- ▶ Extension cords should be used on a temporary basis

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C REMC at School Career Fair

D Sign Up for People Helping People

E Little Boy Lost, But Found

F Join Us for Our 85th Annual Meeting

H Boost Electrical Safety at Home



only. They are not a permanent wiring solution. Have additional outlets installed where you need them. If you are using extension cords, make sure they have safety closures to protect young children from shocks or mouth burns.

- ▶ Never use an indoor extension cord for outdoor use. Use an extension cord specifically for outdoors; they are heavier and less likely to be damaged.
- ▶ Check your electric panel to make sure the breakers and fuses are properly rated for the circuit they are protecting. Have a qualified electrician identify and label the correct size to be used if you are unsure. When replacing a fuse, use the same size.
- ▶ Check light bulbs and appliances to make sure the wattage matches fixture

requirements. Do not replace bulbs with higher wattage than recommended. The bulb should be securely screwed in to prevent overheating.

- ▶ If an appliance repeatedly blows a fuse, trips a circuit breaker or gives you an electrical shock, immediately unplug, repair or replace it.
- ▶ Check for or install ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs). A GFCI is an inexpensive electrical device that shuts off power instantly if there is a problem. GFCIs should be installed in all “wet” areas of the home, such as bathrooms, kitchens and basements.
- ▶ GFCIs should be tested monthly to ensure they are working properly. The Consumer Product Safety Commission estimates GFCIs could prevent more than two-thirds of the

roughly 300 electrocutions that happen each year in the home.

- ▶ Consider installing arc-fault circuit interrupters (AFCIs) on bedroom circuits, have smoke detectors in all bedrooms and in hallways within 15 feet of bedrooms and at least one smoke detector on every level. Carbon monoxide detectors should also be within 15 feet of each bedroom. As always, check with your local electrical inspector if you have questions or concerns.
- ▶ Inspect all outdoor connections, appliances and tools for frayed cords, broken plugs and cracked or broken housings. Repair or replace damaged cords and appliances.

Following these guidelines will keep your family safe from electrical dangers, not only during May, but year-round.

86% of reported
home electrical injuries

happen to **children**
between the ages of **1 and 4.**



**Safe
Electricity.org**

research collected from the American Academy of Pediatrics

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Thermostat placement can impact your HVAC system's ability to maintain an ideal indoor temperature. Thermostats should be placed in the center of the home, away from air vents, plumbing pipes and exterior doors. Avoid placing items like lamps near your thermostat, which can cause the HVAC to run longer than necessary. Avoid installing thermostats in rooms that feel warmer or colder than the rest of the home.





Students showed keen interest in the bucket truck and how to operate it.

Randolph EMC Teaches Students about Electrical Careers, Safety

On the morning of March 24, Randolph EMC lineworkers visited Donna Lee Loflin Elementary in Asheboro for the school’s career day. Journeyman Lineman Kevin Loflin and Apprentice Lineman Chris Ingold explained the responsibilities of an electrical utility worker and the tasks they perform on any given day.

The students in the elementary school enjoyed learning about the functions of the bucket truck and trying on the flame-resistant gloves that lineworkers wear on the job. Randolph EMC employees encouraged the students to think about their future—especially the stable and rewarding job of keeping the lights on for rural North Carolina.

Randolph EMC has a long history of supporting educators and students in our five-county region. If your school is planning a career event in the coming school year, please contact Communications and Public Affairs Manager Nicole Arnold at Nicole.Arnold@RandolphEMC.com for more information or call her at 336-625-5177.



Kevin Loflin helps children try on rubber gloves, which protect lineworkers from electrical shock.



Kevin Loflin and Chris Ingold keep the students entertained while teaching them about the career of a lineworker.

Small Change, Big Difference



It's only small change: 1¢ to 99¢ per month. But when you multiply that by thousands of generous REMC members who participate in People Helping People, it's a big difference. Members who round up their electric bill to the nearest dollar each month fund this program helping other members in need.

Visit the People Helping People booth at this year's Annual Meeting to learn more about this unique program and how it benefits our local communities.



People Helping People

Round Up to Give a Hand Up with Randolph EMC

RandolphEMC.com/people-helping-people



Memorial DAY

**REMEMBER
& HONOR**

Randolph Electric offices
will be closed
Monday, May 29,
in observance
of Memorial Day.

Little Boy Lost, but Found:

Phil Culberson Recalls When Linemen Saved Him

On a warm February day earlier this year, REMC staffers visited Siler City resident and member Phillip Culberson and his wife, Faye. During this visit, Culberson recalled life before electricity on his family's farm in Chatham County.

"Back then, things were different. We had no water heater, television or telephone," said Culberson. "Inside bathrooms and air conditioning were unheard of."

Around the time Culberson was 10 years old in 1960, Randolph Electric had electrified his home, and daily life in his household changed significantly.

But in 1952, the farm was not fully electrified but did have a well pump, which ensured that the family had running water. Culberson was not quite three years old then. On one chilly November day when just he and his mother were at home, he toddled off into the woods.

"My loving Mama sold hatching eggs, and her chicken houses held 500 hens. She watered, fed and gathered eggs all by hand. My Daddy worked in a local chair factory and farmed at night and on Saturdays," said Culberson.

Phil's older sisters were not on the farm on that cold day in late November 1952, and his father had not come home from work yet. Mrs.

Culberson watched Phil pull his red wagon near his father's beagle puppies. When she next stepped



Phil Culberson on his Chatham County farm in 2023

outside one of her chicken coops, her heart stopped. Little Phil was nowhere in sight.

Frantic, Mrs. Culberson hunted for Phil for an hour, even searching the pond on their property. Eventually, Mrs. Culberson heard the sound of the Randolph Electric right-of-way crew from the direction of the road. She ran to tell the REMC employees of her lost little boy. The crew stopped all work immediately and spread out to form a search party.

From the chicken houses, the linemen followed the gently sloping fields down toward the woods and a creek. One lineman spotted a little red wagon at the edge of the forest. Deeper in the woods, the linemen found little Phil sitting in the leaves and sad that he could not keep up with the dogs. His father's beagles had run away across the creek and left behind the sobbing toddler.

Today, Phil Culberson still enjoys walking the family farm and following beagles into those same woods. He remembers the impact that REMC linemen had on his family, and the positive changes that electrification brought to his life.

"I appreciate Randolph EMC for all you've done and all you continue to do," said Culberson. "You've always been there."



Mrs. Culberson at the chicken coop, circa 1950s



Phil Culberson in 1952

Watch a video of Phil's story at the annual meeting!



The staff of REMC would like to thank Phil Culberson for his willingness to share his story of how Randolph Electric touched his life. If you attend our annual meeting on June 16, you can watch this story unfold in more detail through a video presentation.

A Word About Randolph Electric

From CEO Dale Lambert

PAST AND FUTURE, ALWAYS PRESENT: Join us for our 85th Annual Meeting

Dear Members,

What a tremendous history your cooperative has! Several books could be written about the experiences, struggles and successes of the early visionaries of Randolph EMC. They saw a great need and took a risk to pull together like-minded friends and neighbors. Their goal was to form an electric utility with the sole purpose of improving the lives of those living in rural, central North Carolina.

Back in 1938, some naysayers predicted the co-op would never survive. They pointed out the financial difficulties of installing power lines to serve areas with low density: the lower revenues may not cover the cost of the lines. That's the very reason for-profit power companies refused to serve rural areas originally. But these naysayers were proven wrong, and Randolph EMC is stronger than ever.

Yes, we still have our challenges. When you look at our distribution system spread over five counties, we're still very rural. Randolph EMC has, on average, 7.4 meters per mile of line. This contrasts with neighboring investor-owned utilities that average around 25 meters per mile of line and municipalities that average over 40 meters per mile of line.

The challenge is this: we must collect revenues from fewer than

eight members to pay for installing, maintaining and cutting the right-of-way of that one mile. Meanwhile, other utilities can spread their costs over three to five times as many customers. This is just one of the challenges that forces us to work harder in our strategic focus and be efficient in our operations.

Speaking of the co-op's history, my first cousin recently gave me a copy of a Randolph EMC *Watts Working* from August 1966. He found it in a drawer at his mom's house. I'll just interject right here that I was three years old at the time and was probably in attendance at the meeting—I just can't recall. But I've got to believe that I was really excited to hear Mr. Alton Wall, the General Manager at the time, give his annual meeting speech. The

headline read, "Over 2,000 Attend 28th Annual Meeting." Here's a picture of the "overflow crowd" in attendance (see below).

As I turned to the back page, there was a picture with the caption that said, "Major prize winners." To my surprise, my uncle, Edward Maness, and my grandfather, Daniel Jones, were the two grand prize winners that year. They each had won an electric range.

It's pretty amazing when I think about growing up eating fried chicken, gravy and biscuits that my Grandma Jones cooked on the range Grandpa won that year at the co-op's annual meeting. And the food I devoured at regular family gatherings was cooked by my Aunt Betty on the stove my uncle had won. How I miss those days!



At this point, it's appropriate to thank Randolph Electric for providing the appliances that helped feed me in my formative years. Just to be clear, before some of you call me out on this, I was three years old at the time and not yet an employee of REMC. There was absolutely no conflict of interest with multiple family members winning the big prizes.

Randolph EMC's past success can be directly attributed to an engaged membership, among whom were my grandfather and uncle. Generations of members have supported the co-op during good times and bad times, served on committees when called upon and faithfully participated in the operations of their electric utility through attendance at annual meetings.

If our past success is because of an engaged membership, then your engagement is just as critical to our future success. I have a suggestion of how you can carry on the legacy of member engagement.

We are currently planning your cooperative's 85th Annual Meeting, which will be held on Friday, June 16, 2023, at Southwestern Randolph High School in their air-conditioned gymnasium. Registration opens at 5:00 p.m. Members will enjoy music from the Hazy Ridge Bluegrass Band from 5:15 to 6:15 p.m., and the business portion of the meeting will start at 6:30 p.m. Our theme this year, in special celebration of 85 years of service, is "Past and Future, Always Present."

In addition to the business portion of the meeting, members will elect three individuals to represent their interests on the board of directors. Randolph EMC's Board is comprised of nine members who meet monthly to hear reports, make decisions and set the strategic direction for the cooperative. The three directorate districts up for election this year



Major prize winners: Edward Maness (left); D. H. Jones (right).

are the following: district 2, currently held by Scott Cole; district 4, currently held by Jerry Bowman; and district 7, currently held by Tammie Phillips.

In addition to the music, we will have homemade ice cream and lots of information about the many programs we offer. These programs deliver value, help you save money on your electric bill and make your lives easier.

Of course, another reason to attend the annual meeting is that we award more than 100 really nice door prizes. These prizes range from small appliances to local pottery. We'll also have a children's program, bicycles of all sizes and other fun prizes for the kids who attend.

No one leaves empty-handed. Each registered member attending will receive a gift at the conclusion of the evening.

In next month's *Carolina Country*, you will receive the annual report and additional information about our 85th Annual Meeting. I encourage you to be an active member-owner of your electric utility. I'll be looking for you.

Cooperatively Yours,

Dale F. Lambert
Chief Executive Officer



Randolph Electric Membership Corporation provides safe and reliable power with exceptional value to more than 33,000 member accounts in Randolph, Moore, Montgomery, Chatham and Alamance counties.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Electric Service

Asheboro (336) 625-5177
..... (800) 672-8212
Robbins: (910) 948-3401
..... (800) 868-7014
Report Outage (877) REMC-OFF
..... (877) 736-2633
Account Info
& Bill Payments: (877) 534-2319
Business Hours: 8 am – 5 pm, M-F

Board of Directors

Jerry Bowman President
Tammie Phillips Vice President
Billy Maness Secretary-Treasurer
Lee Isley Assistant
Secretary-Treasurer
Scott Cole Larry Routh
Delbert Cranford Jeff Sugg
Steve Harris

Senior Staff

Dale F. Lambert Chief Executive Officer
Jay Albright District Vice President
Adam Hargett Vice President of Finance
Dennis Mabe Vice President of
Engineering & Operations
Fred Smith Vice President of
Economic Development & Compliance
Nicole Arnold Editor

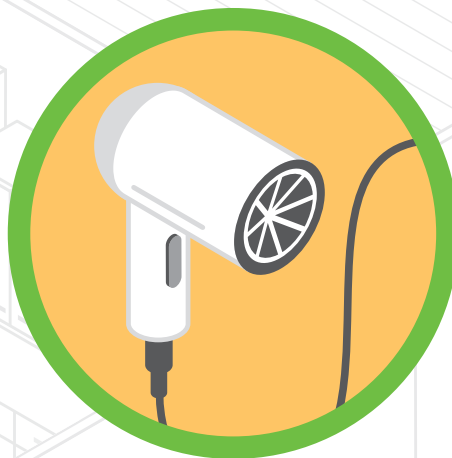
Visit Randolph EMC Online
RandolphEMC.com

A Safe, Happy House

Four Easy Ways to Boost Electrical Safety at Home

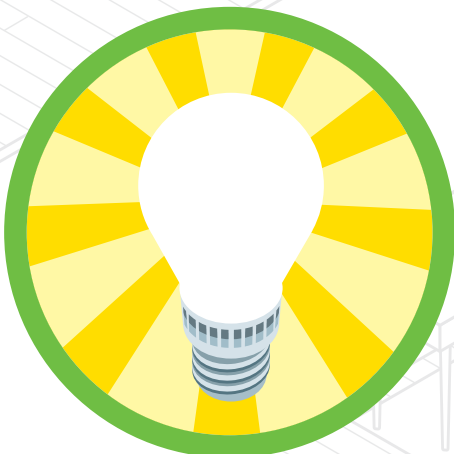
DON'T

place flammable items, like potholders, napkins or dish towels near the stove while cooking.



DO

keep electrical devices away from water to prevent electric shock.



DO

ensure you're using the correct wattage in all light fixtures.



DON'T

overload electrical outlets with more devices than the circuit can handle.

May is National Electrical Safety Month.

"Little Way Farm"
Photo by Phil Toomey

Carolina country

85th Annual Meeting

Friday, June 16, 2023

Southwestern Randolph High School

Registration, Entertainment
& Exhibits open at 5 p.m.

Business Meeting begins at 6:30 p.m.



Randolph EMC
Your Touchstone Energy Cooperative

Official Notice of Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of Randolph Electric Membership Corp. will be held in the gymnasium of Southwestern Randolph High School, 1641 Hopewell Friends Road, Asheboro, at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, June 16, 2023. The agenda for the meeting includes the following:

- 1) Report from Officers, Directors and Committees.
- 2) Election of Directors from Districts 2, 4 and 7.
- 3) Transaction of such other and further business as may come before said meeting or any adjournments thereof.

Adjacent to this notice is the registration and prize coupon for the Annual Meeting.

This is pursuant to Article IV, Section 4.03 of the cooperative bylaws. Each member is urged to participate in the life of the cooperative.

Respectfully,

Billy Maness

Billy Maness, Secretary-Treasurer

THIS IS YOUR REGISTRATION AND PRIZE ENTRY CARD!

Tear off this card and bring it to the in-person Annual Meeting on June 16 to register your attendance and to be entered to win door prizes!

PERIODICAL

Your Touchstone Energy Cooperative

What to expect at this year's Annual Meeting



"I Scream You Smile" Photo by Sherrill Lowe

**Children's Programs by:
Mad Science**

and

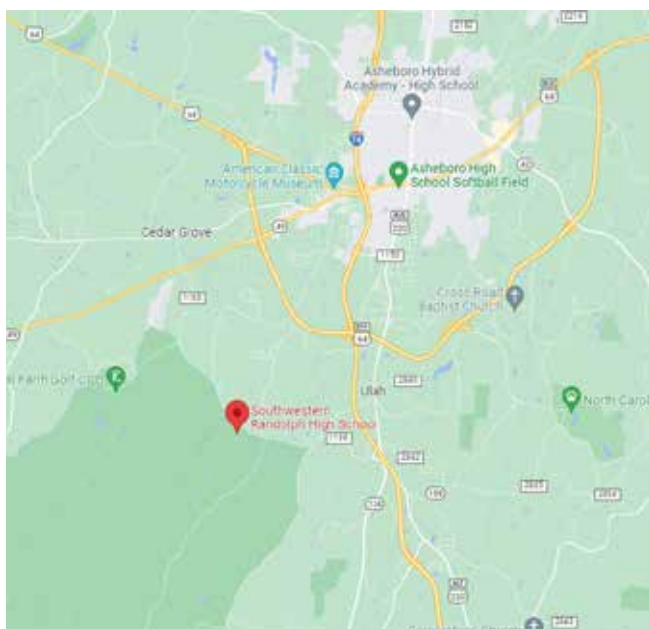
Birthday Party Rockstar

Hazy Ridge

Bluegrass Band

**Gilbert's Old-Fashioned
Ice Cream**

**Bring a canned food
donation to be entered
to win \$50 cash!**



**Southwestern Randolph H.S.
1641 Hopewell Friends Rd.
Asheboro, NC 27205**

I-73 /I-72/US-220 S

Exit 68

West on Dawson Miller Rd.

Left on Pisgah Covered Bridge Rd.

Right on Hopewell Friends Rd.

Approx. 1 Mile to SWRHS (on Left)

Visit RandolphEMC.com/2023-annual-meeting for more details.

Directorate Elections

The Annual Meeting serves the important function of providing member-owners the opportunity to participate in the democratic process of electing members to our board of directors. The board is made up of members like you who live in our communities and work to make the best decisions for our cooperative.

Pursuant to Article V, Section 5.05 of the Bylaws of the Cooperative, Randolph EMC's District Nominating Committees met on March 20, 2023, and selected the following candidates to represent their respective districts. No other members petitioned to add their names to the ballot for the 2023 Director Election. Therefore, each candidate is unopposed.

Pursuant to Article V, Section 5.03 of the Bylaws of the Cooperative, Randolph EMC dispensed with balloting for uncontested elections to spare the cooperative from incurring unnecessary expenses. The Credentials and Election Committee shall announce the results of the uncontested election at the 2023 Annual Meeting, and the members will accept the results by acclamation.



Scott Cole | District 2

Scott Cole has represented district 2 on REMC's Board of Directors since 2019. He is a native of Seagrove and graduated from Southwestern Randolph High School. Cole holds a Bachelor of Science in biology from Appalachian State University, a Master of Science in plant and soil science from NC A&T State University and is a registered environmental health and licensed soil scientist in the state of North Carolina.

Cole is the Environmental Health Program Director with the Montgomery County Department of Health and provides private soil consultation services. He and his wife, Michelle, and two sons reside in Seagrove and attend Pleasant Hill Primitive Baptist Church.



Jerry Bowman | District 4

Jerry Bowman is the President of REMC's Board of Directors, representing district 4 since 1993. He is the former owner of Stuart-Bowman Auto Centre and has been involved in automobile sales and service since 1964.

Bowman is a board member of Carolina Bank, is a Past President and a Red Jacket Club member of the Asheboro/Randolph Chamber of Commerce and is a charter member and past officer of the Randolph Rotary Club. He and his wife, Wanda, reside in Asheboro and are members of the Cental United Methodist Church. Mr. Bowman enjoys spending time with his wife, three grandchildren and one great-grandchild.



Tammie Phillips | District 7

Tammie Phillips is the Vice President of REMC's Board of Directors, representing district 7 since 2008. Phillips attended East Columbus High School and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science with a concentration in law and political philosophy from N.C. State University in 1997. She is employed by the North Carolina Department of Justice.

Phillips and her husband, Jonathan, reside in Goldsboro with their two children. She attends Tyson's Creek Baptist Church where she is a leader and Sunday School teacher. Phillips is also actively involved in the athletics Boosters at both Bonlee School and Chatham Central High School.

Small Change, Big Difference



It's only small change: 1¢ to 99¢ per month. But when you multiply that by thousands of generous REMC members who participate in People Helping People, it's a big difference. Members who round up their electric bill to the nearest dollar each month fund this program helping other members in need.



Visit the People Helping People booth at this year's Annual Meeting to learn more about this unique program and how it benefits our local communities.

RandolphEMC.com/people-helping-people



MOBILE APP

Power at your fingertips!

- ✓ Monitor Usage
- ✓ Report an Outage
- ✓ Pay Your Bill





PAST AND FUTURE, ALWAYS PRESENT



ANNUAL REPORT 2022

DEAR MEMBERS,

Past and Future, Always Present

Randolph Electric Membership Corporation was founded in 1938. This year marks our 85th year of existence. We are grateful to celebrate this rich heritage of service with you!

A lot of companies cannot say they have been around for 50 years. Even fewer can say they have existed for 75 years. But for 85 years, your local electric cooperative has consistently worked to put the needs of you, our member-owners, first.

Did you know that in 1938, many naysayers predicted that the electric cooperative model would not survive? They pointed to the financial difficulties of installing power lines over areas of low density. They said the lower revenues would not translate into adequate profits. That is precisely why for-profit power providers refused to serve our members. But this was not true of Randolph Electric.

For the past 85 years, our mission has been the same: to deliver energy and superior service in response to the needs of our members and our communities.

REMC has withstood the test of time. As we have steadfastly served you in the past, we plan to do so just as diligently in the future.

In this 2022 Annual Report, we examine the present state of our cooperative by providing specific financials, industry trends and examples of our commitment to the community.

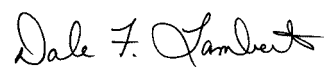
We're pleased to announce our recent retirement of \$2 million in capital credits. Since our inception, your cooperative has returned over \$58 million into the pockets of our members. These are significant dollars and a demonstration of how our cooperative business model, established 85 years ago, is just as vibrant today as it was then.

What was true in 1938 is still true today. While much has changed over the past 85 years, our mission remains the same. We continue to value member-owners and put your needs first. As in the past, we will continue to strive every day to build a solid trust relationship between you and your cooperative.

Cooperatively yours,



Jerry Bowman,
Board President



Dale F. Lambert,
Chief Executive Officer



FINANCIAL REPORT

What We Took In

Operating Revenue	\$ 71,666,148
Non-Operating Revenue	\$ 81,167
Capital Credits from Associated Organizations	\$ 1,698,586
Total	\$ 73,445,901

What We Paid Out

Purchased Power	\$ 40,070,100
Property Taxes	\$ 879,680
Depreciation of Plant and Equipment	\$ 6,579,214
Interest Expense	\$ 3,048,916
Operation, Maintenance & Other Expenses	\$ 18,271,464
Total	\$ 68,849,374

Net Margin for the Year (Patronage Capital) **\$ 4,596,527**

Assets

Our entire plant is valued at	\$ 148,147,465
We have other investments worth	\$ 25,492,066
We have cash and temporary investments on hand in the amount of	\$ 1,578,744
We have accounts and notes receivable amounting to	\$ 4,654,670
We have prepayments and other assets amounting to	\$ 8,403,345
Our materials and supplies are worth	\$ 2,976,294
Total Assets	\$ 191,252,584

Liabilities

We owe debt on our plant of	\$ 111,474,027
We have allocated and unallocated margins amounting to	\$ 62,135,934
We owe accounts payable amounting to	\$ 6,452,346
We are holding deposit fees amounting to	\$ 642,719
We have other current and accrued liabilities amounting to	\$ 3,770,436
We have deferred credits and other liabilities amounting to	\$ 6,777,122
Total Liabilities	\$ 191,252,584

2022 REVENUE DOLLAR



Wholesale Power Cost	54.56%
Operation & Maintenance	14.73%
Depreciation	8.96%
Administrative	6.73%
Margins	3.42%
Interest Expense	4.15%
Member Accounts	3.42%
Property Taxes	1.20%

85 Years of Energy Delivery

2022 SUBSTATION IMPROVEMENTS

Oil testing and dissolved gas analysis completed on **23 substation transformers** and **81 substation regulators**.

Bi-Annual substation infrared inspections were completed to look for equipment and hardware loose connections.

Maintenance change-out of **15 substation voltage regulators** and **7 substation reclosers** over the past year.

Completed inspections of field equipment on the distribution lines, which consists of **32 voltage regulators**, **46 capacitor banks** and **38 reclosers**.

110,588

kWh Used for Electric Vehicles

35,466

Outage Minutes Saved by Self Healing Grid (7 Events)

250

SunPath Community Solar Panels Subscribed to 46 Members

CONSTRUCTION HIGHLIGHTS

12,908

Poles Inspected and Tested

509 (3.9%)

Poles Identified for Replacement

23,381

Meter Locations Inspected and Readings Verified

53.1

Miles of Overhead / Underground Wire and Cable Added or Replaced

85 Years of Superior Service



362,460

kWh Saved by High Usage Data Analytics (77 Issues Identified)

TECH TOOLS AND COMMUNICATION SOLUTIONS

66,240

Transactions Made through Mobile App

10,058

Members Receiving High Usage Alerts

8,223

Members Receiving Electronic Bills



192,411

Total Email Messages Delivered



1,466,358

Usage Alert Text Messages Delivered



162,410

Facebook Followers Reached

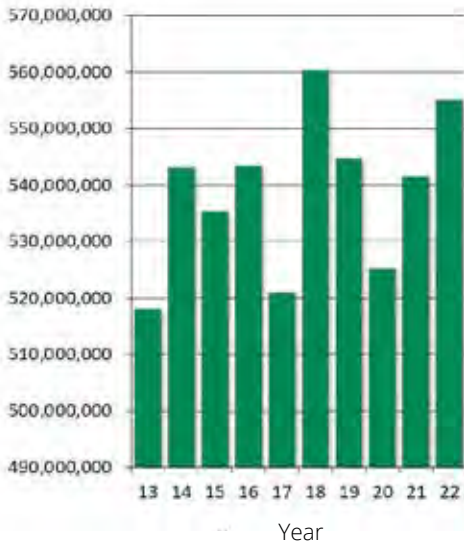


223,147

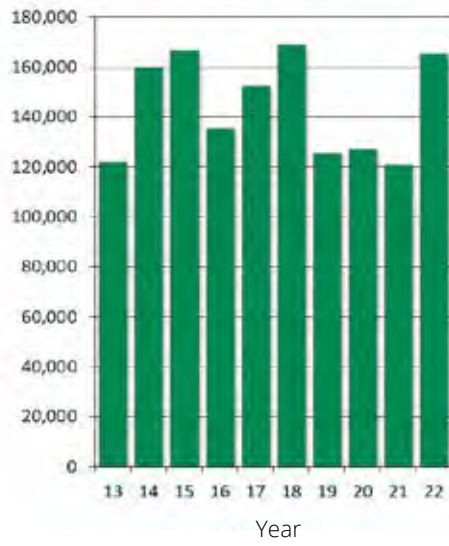
Website Pages Viewed

85 Years of Innovation

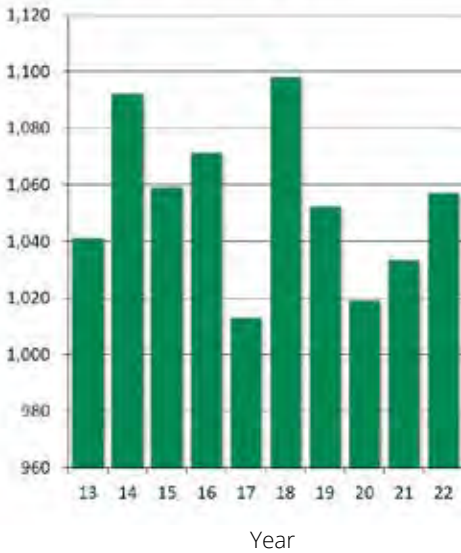
kWh Purchased



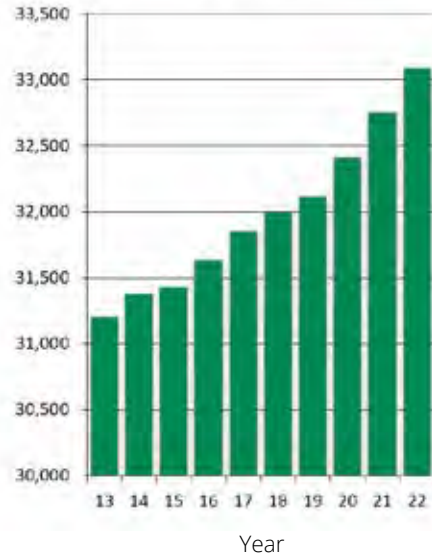
Annual Peak KW Demand



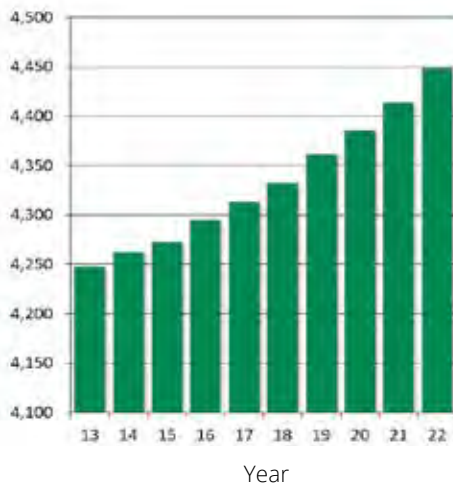
Average Monthly kWh Use Per Home



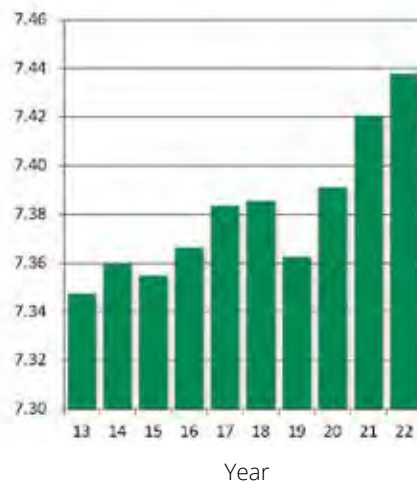
Number of Meters Served



Miles of Line



Meters Per Mile of Line



85 Years of Community Involvement



Kenan Fellows Program

Randolph EMC partnered with N.C. State University and the Kenan Fellows Program for Teacher Leadership to host Mindy Thornlow in the summer of 2022.

The Trinity High School science teacher was selected by the Kenan Fellows Program for the prestigious honor of a year-long career development program that included summer training on-the-job with a local electric cooperative in North Carolina.

Thornlow looks forward to teaching her students about careers in energy.



\$11,230

Amount of assistance provided to 43 members in need in 2021

1,900

Members contributing by rounding up their bills

\$20,000

Sharing Success Community Grants supporting 16 local nonprofit organizations

“ How amazing to be a part of a group of people who support those going through the trials and tribulations of life! – PHP recipient (name withheld) ”



REMC Assists Ulah, Robbins in Purchasing New Fire Engines

Under the Rural Economic Development Loan & Grant program, the USDA provides grant funds to electric or telephone cooperatives to establish a revolving loan fund. The loan funds support projects that provide rural community development.

Through this program, REMC assisted in securing:

- \$225,000 to Robbins Fire Rescue in Moore County to help purchase a 3,000-gallon tanker engine
- \$360,000 to Ulah Volunteer Fire Department (VFD) in Randolph County to help purchase a 1,000-gallon pumper engine



\$14,000

Investment in 2022



BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Lee Isley
District 1
Asst. Secretary-Treasurer



Scott Cole
District 2



Larry Routh
District 3



Jerry Bowman
District 4
President



Delbert Cranford
District 5



Jeff Sugg
District 6



Tammie Phillips
District 7
Vice President



Steve Harris
District 8



Billy Maness
District 9
Secretary-Treasurer



Randolph EMC
Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Asheboro Office
879 McDowell Road
Asheboro, NC 27205
(336) 625-5177
(800) 672-8212

Robbins Office
201 S. Middleton Street
Robbins, NC 27325
(910) 948-3401
(800) 868-7014

Watts Working

\$2 Million in Capital Credits Returned to Members in June

Putting money back into members' pockets with capital credits is just one of the characteristics that sets Randolph Electric apart from investor-owned utilities. This year, the Randolph EMC Board of Directors authorized a general retirement of \$2 million, with this year's estate retirements estimated at \$560,000. That's a total of more than \$2.5 million that's flowing back to our members and into the local economy in the five counties we serve.

In June, nearly 97% of Randolph EMC members received a check or bill credit for their share of the annual general capital credit retirement. The amount of each capital credit check or bill credit is based on the amount of electricity a member purchased during the years being retired—1996, 1997 and 2022.

As a cooperative business, Randolph EMC does not earn



Money Back to You

That's the Cooperative Difference!

profits. Instead, any revenues remaining after all expenses have been paid each year are considered "margins." They are returned to the members after being used for a period of years as capital to help finance long-term reliability projects, substation improvements, power lines and poles.

Each year, the board of directors decides on capital credit retirements based on the financial health of the cooperative. The amount of capital credits allocated to a member's account is based upon the amount of capital they contribute to the cooperative through payment

Continued on page B

B Offices Closed July the 4th

C Lineworkers Focus on Safety

D Phillips Elected to Leadership Position

E Bright Ideas Grant Boosts Art Class

F A Word About Randolph Electric



of their monthly bills. The more electricity a member buys, the greater his capital credit allocation. Capital credits are allocated on a continuous cycle: the cooperative collects for current needs to deliver reliable electricity while returning funds collected in previous years. This helps offset the need to borrow funds, and that helps keep your electricity rates more affordable.

Randolph Electric mailed capital credit checks to members in early June. However, if your refund was less than \$20, it was issued as a bill credit. You can help us find former members who may have

an outstanding capital credits check by scanning the QR code or by visiting our website at RandolphEMC.com/unclaimed-capital-credits. If you recognize a name on the list, please ask that person to call the local Randolph EMC office to update his contact information.

At Randolph EMC, we count it a privilege to touch the home of every member in a positive way. Our core values of integrity, accountability, innovation and community involvement guide us in every decision we make. You, our member-owners, are our top priority. We appreciate the opportunity to serve you.



You can help us find former members who may have an outstanding capital credits check by scanning the QR code above. Recognize a name on the list? Please ask that person to call the local Randolph EMC office to update contact information.



REMC tracks how much electricity each member uses & purchases throughout the year.



Each year, after expenses are paid, REMC calculates margins (leftover funds) & allocates each member's share to their account.



REMC uses the margins for a time to pay down debt & to invest in plant advancements & improvements.



When financially feasible, REMC retires (returns) capital credits to members.



**Happy
Independence
Day!**

**REMC offices will be closed
Tuesday, July 4, for the
holiday.**



Line Superintendent Skip Jobe practices his CPR technique.

Lineworkers Focus on Safety During Pole Top Training Exercise

Photos by Terry Locke, Marketing Manager

REMC lineworkers construct, maintain and repair electric distribution lines that deliver energy to your homes, schools and businesses. Your Randolph Electric crews are ready to respond during storms or other outage events. They are also trained with life-saving skills to aid their fellow crew members in the event of an emergency. If a lineworker should become impaired or unresponsive high atop a utility pole, co-workers must perform a specialized rescue to save a life.

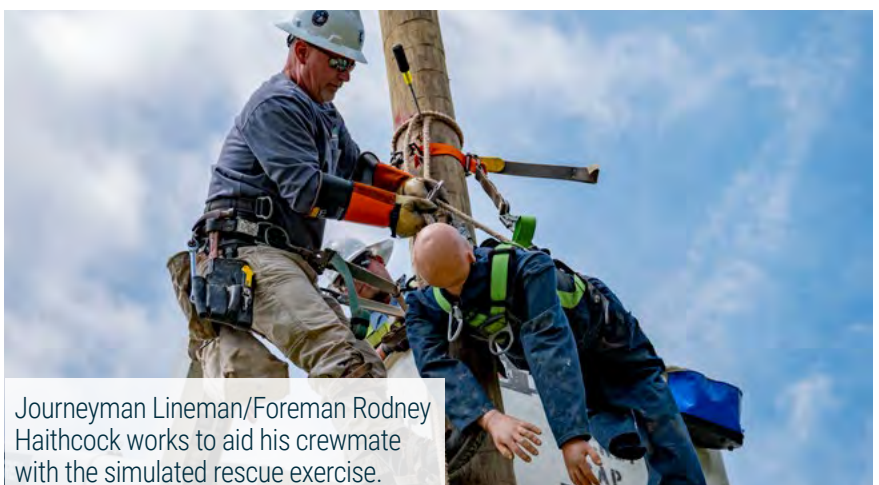
On Tuesday, May 16, REMC lineworkers sharpened their skills by practicing pole top and bucket rescue drills on the grounds of the Asheboro office. The lineworkers race against the clock to execute a scenario based on retrieving an unconscious coworker from a utility pole. Each employee dressed in full climbing gear, radioed for help, scaled 20 feet up the utility pole, lowered a 105-pound mannequin to the ground and began lifesaving

procedures. Every year, all NC electric cooperative lineworkers must complete this same scenario to maintain their certification to work on co-op lines.

“Randolph EMC is dedicated to safety training that promotes quick thinking when lives are on the line,” said CEO Dale Lambert. “We are proud of our crews, who depend upon each other to restore power and who guard each other’s lives on the job every day.”



Lineman Chris Smith rushes to bring equipment to his team during the timed drill.



Journeyman Lineman/Foreman Rodney Haithcock works to aid his crewmate with the simulated rescue exercise.

Phillips Elected Secretary-Treasurer of the N.C. Association of Electric Cooperatives

Earlier this spring in Raleigh, Tammie Phillips was elected to serve as Secretary-Treasurer on the board of directors for the statewide association of electric cooperatives. Phillips was elected to her term during the association's annual meeting in April, where more than 400 leaders from electric co-ops met to discuss the trends and concerns of the industry. The election took place during the business portion of the meeting. Phillips currently serves as Vice President of the Randolph EMC Board of Directors and has represented district 7 since

2008. She attended East Columbus High School and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science with a concentration in law and political philosophy from North Carolina State University. She is employed by the North Carolina Department of Justice. Phillips and her husband, Jonathan, reside in Goldston with their two children.

"I want to congratulate Tammie on this achievement," said Randolph EMC CEO Dale Lambert. "She is a leader who will promote training and safety for the industry and education



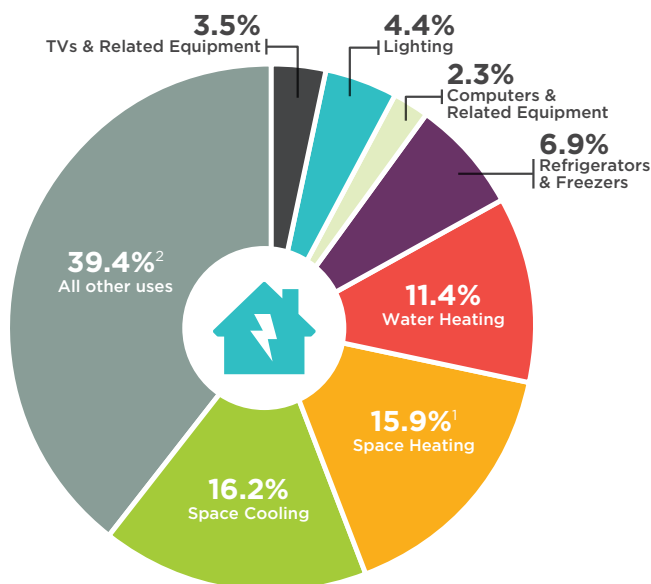
and legislative advocacy on behalf of our members."

North Carolina's electric cooperatives serve 2.5 million people in 93 of the state's 100 counties. The NCAEC (North Carolina Association of Electric Cooperatives) Board of Directors provides strategic guidance for the organization. The 26 member-owned, not-for-profit electric cooperatives in our state are governed by local, democratically elected leadership.

Randolph Electric Membership Corp. is a community-focused electric cooperative created to efficiently deliver affordable, reliable and sustainable energy to nearly 33,000 homes, businesses, farms, and schools. Randolph EMC is led by and belongs to member-consumers in areas of Randolph, Moore, Montgomery, Chatham and Alamance counties.

How Americans Use Electricity

The latest data from the U.S. Energy Information Administration shows the combined use of clothes washers and dryers, dishwashers, small appliances and other electrical equipment (noted as "all other uses" below) accounts for the largest percentage of electricity consumption in American homes.



Source: Energy Information Administration 2022

¹Includes consumption for heat and operating furnace fans and boiler pumps.

²Includes miscellaneous electronics, clothes washers and dryers, cooking equipment, dishwashers, heating elements, and motors.



Zariana points to her clay creations of the sun, Venus and Mars.

SPOTLIGHT ON A BRIGHT IDEA

Wayne Manning's Art Class Connects Students to Core Classes, Technology and Community

For the past 29 years, Randolph EMC has demonstrated our commitment to education by sponsoring the Bright Ideas education grants in K–12 classrooms of public, charter and private school teachers.

During this time, Randolph Electric has invested more than \$300,000 in innovative projects that have benefited students in our five-county area.

In the 2022 grant cycle, Wayne Manning, STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math) instructor at Westmoore Elementary School in Seagrove, NC, won a Bright Ideas grant for his project on animation and ceramics. His art projects involved stop-motion animation, engineering skills, plot development for narrative storytelling as well as hand-building clay pottery.

Through the grant, Randolph EMC provided materials including an iPad, tripod, clay and glaze. These supplies became the building blocks for hands-on learning experiences in the art classroom. By teaching children how to engage with these materials, Manning reinforced valuable lessons from their core subjects of English, science and math.

Students in kindergarten through eighth grade participated in Manning's Bright Ideas projects. Third graders learned about each of the planets in the solar system through hands-on clay building



Students ask questions as Manning describes the goals of their projects.

activities. Westmoore Elementary is located on Pottery Highway NC 705 in the Seagrove area, and some of the children are related to working potters in the community. Because very few of the students have had the opportunity to study pottery themselves, Manning's class was a special treat.

On a school day in March, students explained the impact the projects had on their understanding of science, math, English and technology concepts.

Continued on page H

A Word About Randolph Electric

From CEO Dale Lambert



THE IMPORTANCE OF RELIABILITY

Dear Members,

Most folks don't think about the reliability of Randolph EMC's electrical distribution system and the regional bulk power grid until the power goes off. In my opinion, that's the way it should be for our members. Power outages should not be the norm to the point where they are expected. But when the power goes out —because electricity “powers our lives” in so many ways— electricity becomes incredibly important at that very instant.

In 2022, specifically for the month of December, grid reliability was a hot topic of conversation for Randolph EMC members around kitchen tables and down at the country store. In fact, two unusual December outage events that affected our members captured state and national news. I've written about them in previous AWARE Columns.

On December 3rd, criminals attacked Duke Energy's substations in Moore County. The damaged equipment affected a high-voltage transmission line that feeds Randolph EMC's Eastwood and Seven Lakes substations, resulting in 2,737 members losing power. In the February 2023 AWARE column, I reviewed in detail your team's restoration response well in

advance of Duke Energy's completion of repairs to their damaged equipment. As I write this article, the criminal investigation is still underway. Our hope is there will be an arrest and conviction of anyone guilty of carrying out this attack.

Later in the month of December, a cold front brought wind gusts of up to 50 miles per hour and cold temperatures. In the early morning hours of Christmas Eve, temperatures fell into the single digits. This is somewhat unusual but not unheard of in our part of the country. But what followed on Christmas Eve morning was unheard of.

For the first time ever, Duke Energy initiated rolling blackouts for portions of the state to preserve the stability of the regional electrical grid from widespread failure. Not doing so would have resulted in extensive and lengthy power outages.

Based on what we currently know, peak load levels were higher than predicted. This high demand was coupled with multiple power-generating plants either not generating to their full capacity or going off-line completely.

The blackouts affected three of Randolph EMC's substations in the general areas of Snow Camp, Staley and New Hope in Alamance and

Randolph counties. This impacted 21% (6,858) of our members for durations of 15 to 20 minutes at a time. Investigations are underway, and I am looking forward to the final report. But as I have stated before, this situation is unacceptable.

These December outage events were certainly big news and brought a heightened focus on the importance of a reliable electrical grid. But there are new headwinds that could also affect the long-term reliability of the grid.

Upcoming Emissions Proposals

On May 11th, the Biden administration, through the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), released newly proposed limits on greenhouse gas emissions from fossil fuel power plants. These proposed standards would specifically set emission caps for carbon dioxide (CO₂) from coal and natural gas generating plants.

As part of this new announcement, the EPA proposes that existing fossil fuel power plants either cut or capture nearly all their CO₂ emissions by 2038. Power plants unable to meet the new emission standards would be forced off-line. New fossil fuel-generating plants, and natural gas-fired plants are the only fossil fuel plants being constructed these days, and they

would be required to meet the new standards.

In response to these recently proposed power plant emission rules, I believe that Jim Matheson, the CEO of our national trade association, National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA), summed it up extremely well.

He said, "This proposal will further strain America's electric grid and undermine decades of work to reliably keep the lights on across the nation. And it is just the latest instance of EPA failing to prioritize reliable electricity as a fundamental expectation of American consumers. We're concerned the proposal could disrupt domestic energy security, force critical, always-available power plants into early retirement and make new natural gas plants exceedingly difficult to permit, site and build."

Matheson continued: "Nine states experienced rolling blackouts last December as the demand for electricity exceeded the available supply. Those situations will become even more frequent if EPA continues to craft rules without any apparent consideration of impacts on electric grid reliability. American families and businesses rightfully expect the lights to stay on at a price they can afford. EPA needs to recognize the impact this proposal will have on the future of reliable energy before it's too late."

I couldn't agree with Mr. Matheson more. Unfortunately, the EPA has no duty to maintain the reliability of the national electrical grid or the affordability of power bills. That's someone else's problem.

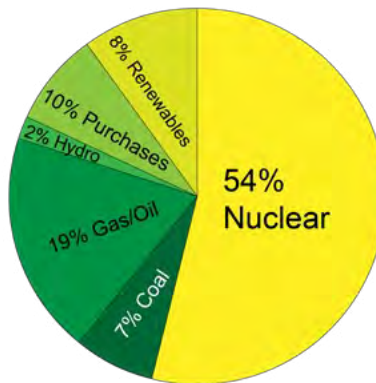
The potential result of these proposed power plant regulations is that fossil fuel generation would effectively be removed as an option to keep the lights on. As a nation, we cannot allow climate policies to outpace the advanced technology required to meet these new emissions standards.

The old farmer's common-sense wisdom applies here: we can't let the "cart get before the horse." To maintain a reliable power grid, our state, region and nation will need fossil fuel power plants well into the future until affordable and dependable new technologies become widely available to replace them.

Diverse Generation Mix

Randolph EMC has a great story to tell about our generation mix.

REMC Generation Mix



Through our statewide cooperative wholesale power supplier North Carolina EMC (NCEMC), we have a very diverse and low-carbon generation mix. For 2023, our energy generation mix consists of 54% nuclear, 19% natural gas, 10% from renewables and hydro, 10% from market purchases and 7% from coal.

In the past, when reliability and affordability were in the crosshairs, your cooperative has been engaged to carry the message to the halls of Congress and the North Carolina legislature. You can rely on REMC to continue this tradition of advocacy. We would be doing our current and future members a disservice not to do so.

Cooperatively Yours,

Dale F. Lambert
Chief Executive Officer



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This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Electric Service

Asheboro (336) 625-5177
..... (800) 672-8212
Robbins: (910) 948-3401
..... (800) 868-7014
Report Outage (877) REMC-OFF
..... (877) 736-2633
Account Info
& Bill Payments: (877) 534-2319
Business Hours: 8 am – 5 pm, M-F

Board of Directors

Jerry Bowman President
Tammie Phillips Vice President
Billy Maness Secretary-Treasurer
Lee Isley Assistant Secretary-Treasurer
Scott Cole Larry Routh
Delbert Cranford Jeff Sugg
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Dennis Mabe Vice President of Engineering & Operations
Fred Smith Vice President of Economic Development & Compliance
Nicole Arnold Editor

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RandolphEMC.com

“My favorite part so far has been painting the clay planets that I made,” said Cara, a third-grade student in Manning’s art class. Cara’s planets included Venus, Jupiter and Mars.

“I liked learning about the planets and making a movie,” said Alyssa.

“Yes, making the animation is my favorite part,” said Caden, who loves math. “I am looking forward to making the movie. I have never done that before.”

“Students assimilate knowledge from science class about the solar system with the clay project,” said Manning. “Next, they will tell a story using logical narration to make the stop-motion animation movie. This blends technology training with English skills, so they can demonstrate how plot and timing work together to make a movie.”

The animation portion of this project focused on space science for the students. In each movie, a student’s small astronaut and spaceship models propelled through space and then visited one of their planet creations.

Kindergarten students, also, made stop animation movies about what antics snowmen might get up to at night. Eighth graders had already learned about heat transfer in science class. These students illustrated to Manning how convection worked by animating movies through Claymation. You can view these and other imaginative creations by scanning this QR code on your smartphone:



“Here, students can work with their hands, starting with just a ball of clay to create something amazing,” said Manning. “I want to motivate them to increase their critical thinking skills by having memorable learning experiences in the classroom.”

If you know of an educator whose classroom would benefit from an innovative learning opportunity, please tell him or her to apply for a Bright Ideas education grant of up to \$2,000.

Applications and more information about the program can be found at NCBrightIdeas.com.

Bright Ideas grant applications will be accepted through Sept. 15, but teachers are encouraged to apply early. Those who submit their application by Aug. 15 will be entered to win one of five \$100 Visa gift cards.

Supported by all 26 electric cooperatives in North Carolina, Bright Ideas grants have contributed \$15 million to N.C. classrooms, funding a total of 14,200 projects that have benefited well over 3.5 million students statewide since 1994.

Support for youth and education is part of our continued commitment to building a brighter future for the communities we serve. To learn more, visit RandolphEMC.com.



Manning helps a student place her storytelling props in the frame for her stop animation movie.



“I want to motivate them to increase their critical-thinking skills by having memorable learning experiences in the classroom.”

Watts Working

New Officers Elected to Board of Directors

Following the 85th annual meeting of the membership on June 16, 2023, Randolph EMC's Board of Directors elected Tammie Phillips to serve as president and Billy Maness to serve as vice president after director Jerry Bowman stepped down from his role as president.

Phillips has been a member of the board since 2008, representing directorate district 7, and has served as vice president since 2017.

Billy Maness has been a member of the board since 2012, previously serving as secretary-treasurer and assistant secretary-treasurer. He represents district 9.

The board elected Lee Isley, representing district 1, to serve as secretary-treasurer. Isley had previously served as assistant secretary-treasurer. He has been a member of the board of directors since 2017.

The board also elected Scott Cole, representing district 2, to serve as assistant secretary-treasurer. He has been a member of the board since 2019.

Outgoing board president Jerry Bowman will remain on the board as a director. Bowman said, "I appreciate the opportunity and privilege to have served the membership as board president for the past 6 years. I am honored to continue to represent district 4 on the board, and I look forward to Mrs. Phillips' leadership as president."

TAMMIE
PHILLIPS



PRESIDENT

BILLY
MANESS



VICE PRESIDENT

LEE
ISLEY



SECRETARY-TREASURER

SCOTT
COLE



ASSISTANT SECRETARY-TREASURER

B Successful 85th Annual Meeting

C Capital Credits Allocation for 2022

D How to Beat the Heat This Summer

F A Word About Randolph Electric

G Thank You, Members!



Successful 85th Annual Meeting for Randolph EMC

Randolph Electric Membership Corporation celebrated its 85th annual meeting of the membership Friday, June 16, 2023, at Southwestern Randolph High School in Asheboro. The theme of the meeting was “Past and Future, Always Present.”



Miss the meeting?

You can watch the video by scanning this QR code on your smart device.



Randolph Electric recorded 361 registered members who attended the in-person business meeting and 618 who registered online. An estimated crowd of 720 people attended the event. During the business meeting, the membership elected three directors: Scott Cole to represent district 2, Jerry Bowman in district 4 and Tammie Phillips in district 7.

REMC Board of Directors President Jerry Bowman presented a report on events and investments over the past year. Secretary-Treasurer Billy

Maness presented a 2022 financial report with over \$73 million in revenue and \$68 million in expenses. CEO Dale Lambert spoke on the theme of reliability. Many members won drawings for door prizes including cash and bill credits, gift cards, bicycles of all sizes, small appliances and local pottery.

“Tonight, we celebrate our 85th anniversary with a focus on member value and reliability,” said Dale Lambert, CEO. “Since 1938 when community leaders met to

discuss the need for power in rural areas and all through the years, Randolph EMC has provided safe, reliable and affordable energy for our rural member-owners.”



Renea Henderson volunteered from the crowd to recall how things used to be before electricity came to our area.

Capital Credits Allocation for 2022

Capital credits are one of the core differences between co-ops and investor-owned utilities. Because members enjoy ownership of the company, each year they receive a share of the co-op's net margins—the amount of money that is left over after paying all expenses for the year. The cooperative refers to these shares as capital credits.

Randolph EMC's net margins totaled \$4,596,527 at the close of 2022. This amount has been allocated among the capital credit accounts of members who had an active electric account during 2022. Each member's share is based on a percentage of \$4,596,527, determined by the total amount of energy purchased for the year.

Remember, the refund you may have received in June that included capital credits from 2022 represents only a portion of 2022's total allocation.

Calculate Your Allocation

1 Add together all the energy-related charges from each monthly electric bill you received in 2022.



2 Add together the totals from each month's bill obtained in Step 1 to find the total for the year.

3 Multiply this total by 0.068903. This will give you the capital credits amount allocated to your account for 2022.

Help Us Find Former Members

You may know former members who have an outstanding capital credits check. Visit RandolphEMC.com/unclaimed-capital-credits and if you recognize a name on the list, please ask the former member to call us.

You can't AVOID what you CAN'T SEE

Starting a job — big or small — without first getting utilities marked could result in serious injury, service disruptions for you and your neighbors, and a hefty fine.

Call 8-1-1 before you dig.

Learn more at:

**Safe
Electricity.org®**

How to Stay Cool this Summer

...without Paying the Price



Summer has settled in, and the high temperatures typically mean an increase in electricity usage and bills. Here are some simple ways to improve your home's energy efficiency and save on summertime electric bills.

Check out these tips to outsmart the summer heat!

1 Close the curtains.

Close your blinds or drapes in the daytime to keep out the heat.

South and west-facing windows bear the brunt of the sun's heat, so investing in good drapes or shades and keeping them closed in the summer will reduce interior heat load and improve comfort.

2 Reduce humidity in your home.

High humidity makes the air feel hotter.

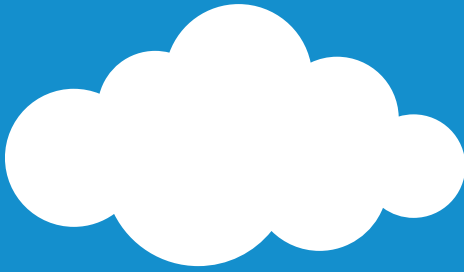
A dehumidifier keeps your air conditioner from working so hard and helps lower energy costs.

3 Seal any air leaks.

Apply caulking, weather stripping and foam outlet sealers to ensure your home can adequately keep the warm air out and the cool air in.



Contact us to receive **high usage alerts** via text, email or push notification!



4 Install a programmable thermostat.

These devices can automatically set temperature ranges for maximum comfort and energy efficiency.

Keep temperatures higher when your family isn't home during the summer to lower cooling costs.

5 Change air filters regularly.

Clogged filters can raise energy costs due to inefficiency and will affect the lifespan of your unit.

Check the filters once a month and replace dirty filters immediately.

An easy way to remember is when you pay your electric bill, change the filter.

Call Us for a Free Home Energy Audit



Brooke McNeill and Doug Loflin with a member at Annual Meeting

Randolph EMC's Energy Advisors will perform a free home energy analysis for any Randolph Electric member-owner to evaluate the energy efficiency of your home and the ways you use energy.

For questions or to schedule an appointment, please call 1.800.672.8212 to speak to Energy Services Manager **Brooke McNeill** or Energy Efficiency Specialist **Doug Loflin**. They will be happy to help you learn how to save money!

A Word About Randolph Electric

From CEO Dale Lambert



PREPARING FOR THE STORM

Dear Members,

I want to thank the members who attended our 85th Annual Meeting. It was great seeing many of you again at our annual “cooperative family reunion,” and I also enjoyed meeting some first-time attendees. It’s one of the highlights of my year when member-owners come together to hear reports on the cooperative’s operations and to transact the important business of electing their representatives on the board of directors. If you were not able to attend this year’s meeting, I encourage you to plan on attending next year and become more involved in the operations of your electric cooperative.

It’s early July as this article is written, and we have been dealing with almost daily storm fronts tracking through our service area. Our region has routinely been placed into a heightened level of severe storm risk. We’ve had several storm fronts that have resulted in downed trees, broken poles and equipment damage due to lightning. Even though we’re glad to see the rain, we could do without the high wind, lightning and occasional hail associated with these storms.

This past weekend I was talking to a member about how important it is to be prepared for extended power outages. We were talking about past storms that resulted in multi-day power outages and how tough it was being without power that long.

Randolph EMC has a very strong track record of safely restoring power in record fashion. We have a seasoned team who have worked on numerous storm events in the past. But I must remind you: it takes time to restore electric service after a major storm.

Storm Ready

We continually update our processes and the technology within our storm dispatch center to better track and respond to outages. We have improved the resilience of the distribution system through self-healing grid installations and increased back-feed capabilities. We have a detailed storm response plan that is activated in advance of an approaching major storm so that all the pieces needed for an efficient response are in place prior to the storm’s arrival.

But the reality is, to get the power back flowing, our line personnel

must go to every spot on the co-op’s 4,450 miles of power lines where a tree has fallen on the wire or the wire is down. Even with all the advances in technology, there’s not a robot or computer system that can magically make the repairs. I say this because sometimes people do not understand how repairs are made and think the power should be back on in just a few hours after a major storm event.

We have been really blessed the last few years that no major tropical storm events have hit our area. But mark it down: we will have another major tropical type of storm at some point in the future.

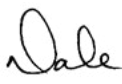
We’re prepared as best we can be, and we encourage you to take steps to be prepared to possibly endure several days without electric service. An example is the devastation from Hurricane Fran that hit our system in 1996, which left 83% of members without power. Some members were without power for almost a week. Our most recent, higher impact tropical events were back-to-back storms in 2018. Florence left 46% of members out of power, followed by Michael, when 52% of members lost power.



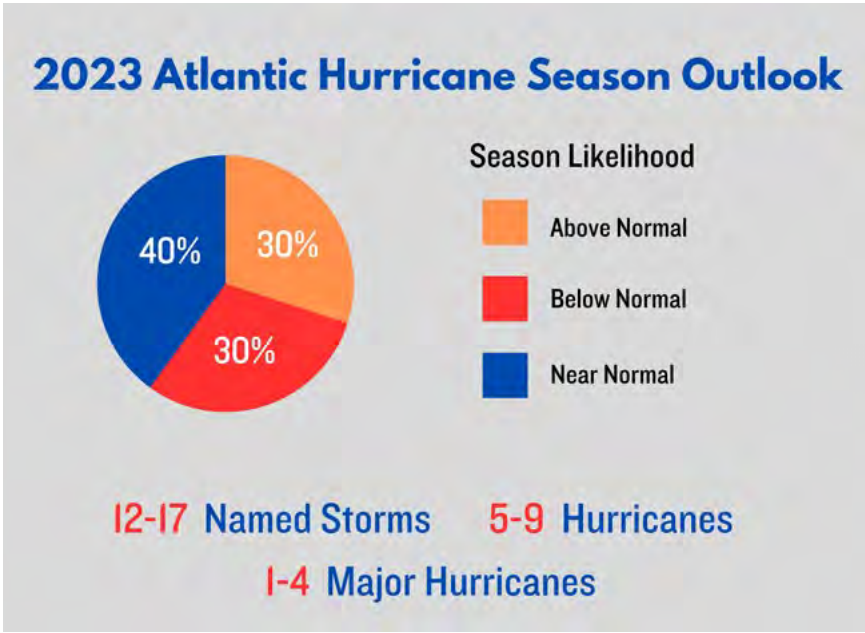
With that in mind, the official start of the Atlantic hurricane season began on June 1st. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Climate Prediction Center is forecasting a “near normal” hurricane season this year, with a range of 12 to 17 total named storms (having winds of 39 mph or higher). Of those, 5 to 9 events could become hurricanes (having winds of 74 mph or higher), including 1 to 4 major hurricanes (category 3, 4 or 5; with winds of 111 mph or higher). Being prepared is critical. We have a plan. You and your family need a plan. Please take the time to prepare before a storm hits. Information on putting together a

basic disaster kit can be obtained from your local emergency management office or Randolph EMC’s or FEMA’s websites. I commit to you that Randolph EMC will be as prepared as possible when storms come our way. I ask you to do your part to keep you and your family safe and as comfortable as possible if the power goes out. Always remember, never go near a downed power line and prevent others from doing so. It could still be energized. Stay safe!!

Cooperatively Yours,



Dale F. Lambert
Chief Executive Officer



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- Account Info
- & Bill Payments: (877) 534-2319
- Business Hours: 8 am – 5 pm, M-F

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- Billy Maness..... Vice President
- Lee IsleySecretary-Treasurer
- Scott Cole Assistant Secretary-Treasurer
- Jerry Bowman Larry Routh
- Delbert Cranford Jeff Sugg
- Steve Harris

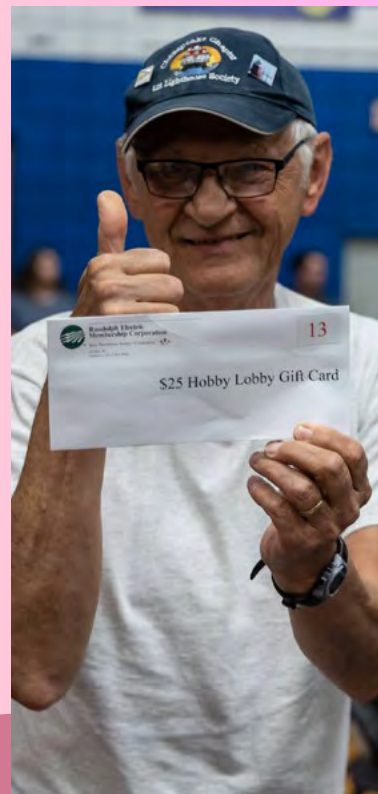
Senior Staff

- Dale F. LambertChief Executive Officer
- Jay Albright..... District Vice President
- Dennis Mabe Vice President of Engineering & Operations
- Fred Smith..... Vice President of Economic Development & Compliance
- Nicole Arnold Editor

Visit Randolph EMC Online
RandolphEMC.com

We appreciate our member-owners
for making our 85th Annual Meeting a success.

THANK YOU



Past and Future,
Always Present

Watts Working

2023 Youth Tour

Colton Freeman Goes to Washington

Approximately 1,800 high school students gathered in Washington, D.C., from June 18–23 as delegates to the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour.



Dozens of North Carolina students, including one representative sponsored by Randolph Electric (REMC), took part in the week-long opportunity.

North Moore High School student Colton Freeman was selected as a delegate to the Tour by REMC after completing an application and interview.

“The Youth Tour emphasizes the importance of civic engagement,” said Communications and Public Affairs Manager Nicole Arnold. “We hope the experiences and skills that delegates gained during the trip will benefit them on their journey to becoming our next great leaders.”

On the seven-day tour, students learned about United States history at the Washington Monument, Lincoln Memorial and many of the Smithsonian museums. The delegates paid their respects to soldiers who lost their lives in service to the nation at Arlington National Cemetery. They also visited the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall and the Korean War Veterans Memorial. Several



members of North Carolina’s congressional delegation answered policy questions in a meeting on Capitol Hill.

Applications for the Youth Tour are open to rising juniors and seniors and are due in January. To learn more about our tourist, listen to our latest podcast. Find out more about the Youth Tour at randolphemc.com/youthtour.



NC Electric Cooperatives Youth Tour

B Every Shot Counts

C Sharing Success Grant Winners

D Bright Ideas Grant Deadline Almost Here

F A Word About Randolph Electric

G Considering Home Solar?

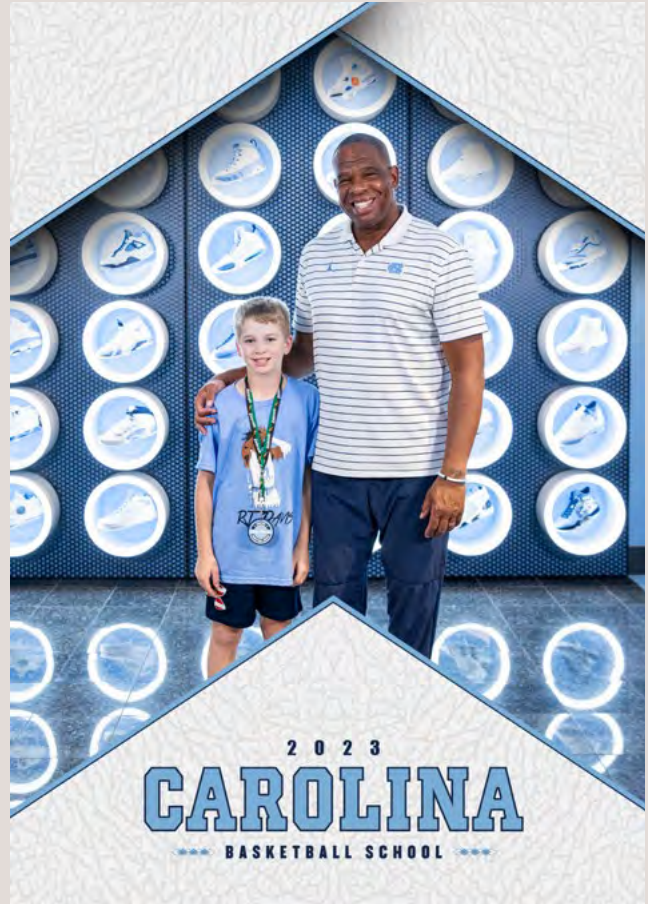


Every Shot Counts

Scholarship Winners Train with Top Basketball Programs



2023 WOLFPACK WOMEN'S BASKETBALL CAMP



Two local students practiced alongside athletes and coaches from top-ranked college basketball programs this summer, thanks to REMC's Touchstone Energy Sports Camp scholarships.

Jada Brower from Uwharrie Ridge 6-12 attended the Wolfpack Women's Basketball Camp at N.C. State University in Raleigh, led by head coach Wes Moore.

Ethan Thomas from Southeastern Randolph Middle School participated in the Carolina Basketball School, led by head coach Hubert Davis, at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill.

Touchstone Energy Sports Camp scholarships are available each year as part of REMC's commitment to supporting youth and education in our community. Congratulations to Jada and Ethan, this year's sports camp representatives.

"Jada and Ethan are outstanding students, athletes and community members," said REMC Communications and Public Affairs Manager Nicole Arnold. "We are proud to partner with two prestigious North Carolina universities to help provide such a unique leadership and learning experience for our local students and future leaders."

The campers joined more than 50 electric co-op scholarship winners statewide at the camps, where they stayed overnight in dorms and experienced life as college students. At both camps, coaches and student-athletes worked directly with campers to develop basketball fundamentals and practice skills such as teamwork that will help them excel on and off the court.

Randolph EMC's PHP Board Awards 2023 Community Grants

In August, the People Helping the People (PHP) Board of Directors announced awards totaling \$20,000 in community grants to benefit charitable nonprofits in Randolph Electric's five-county service area.

"For nine years, People Helping People has given back to communities in Randolph, Chatham, Moore, Montgomery and Alamance counties through the Sharing Success grant program," said REMC Communications and Public Affairs Manager Nicole Arnold.

"The board is excited to announce these awards, which represent a significant investment in the organizations that help our members."

The board of directors for PHP, a nonprofit program of Randolph EMC, awards grants that contribute to one or more of three focus areas: the **health** and well-being of individuals, **financial** support for income-challenged families or **educational** advancement through enriching learning opportunities. The 19 recipient organizations listed here demonstrate a mission aligning with these goals.

Randolph EMC partners with CoBank, a cooperative lender, to fund the Community Grants initiative. Through its Sharing Success program, CoBank awarded \$10,000 to People Helping People earlier this year. Randolph EMC then matched this donation to fund its Community Grants program. The PHP Board of Directors oversees the grant-awarding process annually. Since 2015, Randolph EMC's PHP program has invested \$126,700 in Community Grants.

Financial Focus

Habitat for Humanity of Randolph County
Union Taylors Community Action Center
Operation Red Sleigh

Educational Focus

Chatham Literacy Council
Arts Council of Moore County
Spirit Horse Ranch Education Center
Partners for Children and Families
Montgomery Community College Foundation

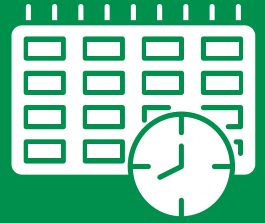
Health Focus

West Chatham Food Pantry
Jordan Memorial UMC
Sandhills Coalition
Randolph County Family Crisis Center
Communities in Schools of Montgomery County
Sandhills Student Assistance
Randolph Senior Adults Association
Mt. Gilead Food Pantry
Our Daily Bread Kitchen
Robbins Area Christian Ministries
Friend to Friend



National Drive Electric Event
9 a.m. to Noon
Friday, Sept. 29
North Carolina Zoo

DEADLINE ALMOST HERE



Bright Ideas applications
due Sept. 15

Teachers, you have until Friday, Sept. 15, to submit an application for the REMC-funded award. The education grants support local teachers with creative ideas to engage students and improve learning in K-12 classrooms. To find the application or learn more about the program, visit ncbrightideas.com.

Energy Tip

Did you know fall is the perfect time to schedule a tune-up for your heating system? Home heating accounts for a large portion of winter energy bills, and no matter what kind of system you have, you can save energy and money by regularly maintaining your equipment.



Combining proper equipment maintenance and upgrades with recommended insulation, air sealing and thermostat settings can save about 30% on your energy bills.

Source: energy.gov

Happy Labor Day!

Our offices will be closed
Monday, Sept. 4, for the
holiday.

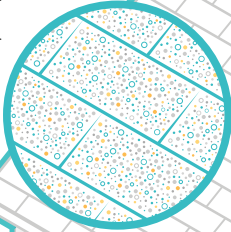


Envelope Advances

Improving a building's efficiency can usually be accomplished with simple methods like caulking, sealants and insulation. But the movement toward ultra-efficient homes and businesses has brought amazing innovations to the building envelope—walls, windows, roof and foundation—that minimize the energy it takes to keep the inside space conditioned and comfortable. Here are some of the latest advances in this growing field.

Cooling roof material

Highly reflective granules reduce solar heat entering the building



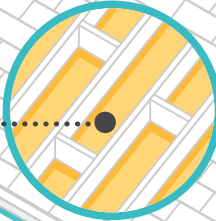
Metal roofing

Effective at reflecting heat away from the building



Radiant barrier

Foil-lined foam insulation board covering interior side of the roof



Conditioned attic space

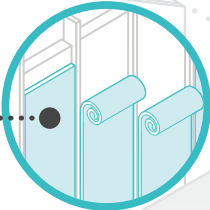
Attic insulation

High-R fiberglass batting reduces heat/cold loss



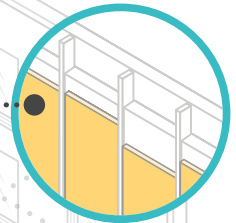
Aerogels

Thin, porous material; flexible and extremely efficient insulator



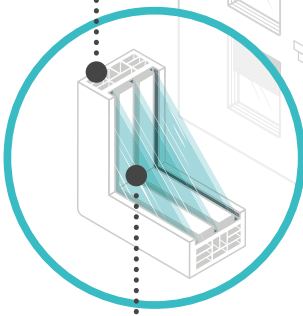
Vacuum insulation panels

Thin, porous sheet wrapped in aluminum to reduce heat transfer



High-performance window frames

Vinyl or fiberglass frames with multiple insulation-filled cavities



Automated window shades

Exterior or internal blinds that adjust automatically to block sunlight in summer and admit it in winter



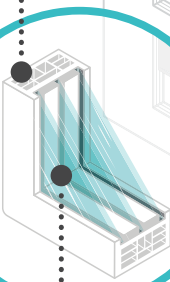
Insulated glass door

Durable fiberglass door with foam insulation and treated, multiple-paned window



Highly insulated glass

Multiple panes with transparent, insulative inserts like aerogels or inert gas



Reflective glass

Low-emissivity coatings to control heat transfer



Conditioned living space

A Word About Randolph Electric

From CEO Dale Lambert



WHEW, THAT WAS A HOT MONTH!

Dear Members,

I had a conversation with our Energy Efficiency Specialists, Brooke and Douglas, in late July and here's how the dialog went. Just so you know, I complain about my power bill, too. I have also been known to occasionally give them a hard time.

Me: "Wow, I can't believe how many High Usage Alerts I'm getting for my home for the month of July. That tells me I'm going to have a high power bill. Have you increased rates or something?"

Brooke: "No, the rates are the same as June. The co-op hasn't made any rate adjustments that would have impacted your bill."

Me: "Well, something's going on. I keep getting these text alerts and email alerts almost daily telling me I'm using a lot more energy than usual."

Douglas: "Well, have you considered the temperature setting of your thermostat or the above average temperatures we're having?"

Me: "No, we tend to like being cool at the Lambert home. I just want to complain to somebody."

Brooke: "If you'll give us 100%

control of your thermostat, we can assure you we will solve your issue of getting those daily high usage alerts."

Me: "That's OK, I like being married to a happy wife who likes it cool, so I will just pay the bill."

For the first six months of 2023, every month was milder than the historical average. January and February were warmer than normal. Temperatures for March and April were closer to average but still milder, and May and June were cooler than normal. That's good when it comes to paying the power bill.

But then came the month of July. I'm hoping by the time you read this, the temperatures and high humidity have subsided. But even though this July was not a record, it was a hot month by any standard.

Based on National Weather Service data from the Raleigh-Durham Airport, 26 of the 31 days for the month were 90 degrees or above. There were several days in the month when the heat index (the feel-like temperature) was well above 100 degrees. These are not the days you should volunteer to help a neighbor

gather 1,000 square bales of hay.

I mentioned earlier about how I receive high usage alerts. If you are not already utilizing this free offering, I strongly encourage you to enroll. We currently have 7,881 members using high usage alerts. These alerts are sent when the member's daily usage exceeds an established threshold.

We also have 3,136 members participating in Energy Usage Alerts. These members receive daily notifications of how much energy they used in the past 24 hours.

During winter several years ago, I started getting high usage alerts even though it was not extremely cold. That prompted me to investigate for a potential problem. I found my heat pump had stopped working and our home was being heated solely by heat strips. Because I had signed up for high usage alerts, we identified the problem in only a few days. This kept us from wasting power for weeks, and realizing there was an issue only when my high power bill arrived in the mailbox.

Our team goes the extra mile by attempting to identify problems that members may have before

they know it. We look for abnormal usage that may indicate a problem at a member's home. This type of problem may lead to wasted power, resulting in high power bills.

By using data analytics over the first six months of 2023, we identified 86 issues at members' homes from a combination of HVAC units, water heaters and well pumps operating improperly. These issues were identified before the members knew they had a problem. Our team's efforts saved those 86 members an estimated 231,450 kilowatt-hours that would have been wasted. This resulted in saving \$27,588 that otherwise would have been paid through their power bills. Instead, these members were able to keep this money in their pockets.

Since energy usage fluctuates due to temperature changes from month to month, Levelized Billing is a good option to consider if you are seeking power bill stability throughout the year. From our website, here is a description of how Levelized Billing works:

Want to smooth out most of the fluctuation in the amount you pay for your monthly electric bill and not worry about a settle-up month? If so, sign up for Levelized Billing. You qualify if you have been a Randolph EMC residential member for at least 12 months and have a good payment history.

No Surprises

Levelized billing prevents drastic changes in your bill, even during the coldest or hottest months of the year. A levelized bill averages the previous 11 monthly bills and the current month's bill.



No Settle-up

Because the levelized billing amount is recalculated each month based on a rolling average, the need to "settle up" balances annually is eliminated. Reconciliation of your account will be necessary only if you move or decide to stop participating in the program.

Join Anytime

If Randolph EMC has been providing electricity to your service address for at least one year and your account is current, you are eligible to participate in levelized billing. We will simply calculate your levelized payment based on the average billing for your home.

You can learn more about this service and sign up on our website. Just type in "Levelized Billing" in the search feature at the top of our site.

Our goal is to provide the tools you need to track your energy usage, be alerted to equipment problems as soon as possible and to provide monthly payment stability. By signing up for High Usage Alerts, Energy Usage Alerts and Levelized Billing, you can take control of your power bills during hot and cold months and all year long.

Cooperatively Yours,

Dale F. Lambert
Chief Executive Officer



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This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Electric Service

Asheboro (336) 625-5177
..... (800) 672-8212
Robbins: (910) 948-3401
..... (800) 868-7014
Report Outage (877) REMC-OFF
..... (877) 736-2633

Account Info
& Bill Payments: (877) 534-2319
Business Hours: 8 am - 5 pm, M-F

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Engineering & Operations
Fred Smith..... Vice President of
Economic Development & Compliance
Nicole Arnold Editor

Visit Randolph EMC Online
RandolphEMC.com

Considering Home Solar?

1

Contact Randolph EMC

To fully understand the process, contact your trusted Home Energy Advisors. This will help you get the best return on your investments.

2

Learn your home's energy use

Review kWh usage for the past 12 to 24 months on your electric bills and calculate the average monthly usage.

3

Location, Location, Location

Start considering panel location. Assess the age, size and condition of your roof as well as available ground space.

4

Get several quotes

There are costs other than equipment, such as permitting, installation and inspection. Make sure all costs are included in quotes.

5

Do your homework

Ensure the contractor has installers who are trained and certified to install solar. Be leery of big promises, such as eliminating your electric bill. In most scenarios, that's simply not true.

Watts Working

REMC Celebrates Members

October is National Co-op Month

Fall is a busy time, and October is a particularly eventful month with school, community and sports activities in full swing. It's also when all cooperatives celebrate National Co-op Month.

When Randolph EMC celebrates Co-op Month, we are really celebrating you! After all, our co-op wouldn't exist without you, our members.

Focused on You

During October, Randolph Electric local offices will have coffee, sweet treats and prizes for our members. Come see us in Asheboro or Robbins to enjoy this time of celebrating our members.

While you're here, register to win prizes and let us know of any energy-related services you need.

Concern for Community

Our core business purpose is to serve as your electricity provider, but the larger mission of the co-op is to help make our corner of the world a better place. "Concern for community" is one of seven guiding principles that all co-ops share.

Just as our wires run through our service territory, our concern for community flows through all our decisions—because being a co-op means being a responsible partner and good neighbor.

Continued on page B

*You are invited to
the Asheboro &
Robbins offices
in the month of
October for coffee
and prizes.*

*It's our way of
saying,
"Thanks for
being a valued
member-owner!"*

C Security Lights
Keep You Safe

D Members Give
REMC High Marks

E Youth Tour
Podcast Recap

F A Word About
Randolph Electric

H Leadership
Randolph Tour



Randolph Electric works to help our community thrive through initiatives led by our employees and a local board that's comprised of neighbors who live right here in our community. Because we're local, we understand our community's unique needs and strive to help meet them.

The word "cooperative" is close to "cooperation," meaning people working together towards a common goal—mutually benefiting one another and the larger community. That's the essence of the cooperative spirit. Our employees and member-elected board members are invested in the community in which they live and serve.

5-Star Member-Owner

Above all, we put our members' priorities first. As your trusted energy partner, we know that saving energy and money is important to you.

That's why we have numerous programs in place to help you conveniently monitor and

manage your energy use. We are here to help, so give us a call if you have questions about your energy bills.

Because we value the involvement of our members, REMC launched the 5-Star Member-Owner campaign. You can achieve this level of involvement in your cooperative by participating in at least 5 of the services that REMC provides:

- ▶ Follow us on Facebook and Twitter.
- ▶ Make a payment on the mobile app or member portal.
- ▶ Set up autopayment or bank draft for your account.
- ▶ Sign up for eBill and receive your bill electronically.
- ▶ Update your contact information on file, including a new cell phone number or email address.
- ▶ Attend an Annual Meeting.
- ▶ Set up a high usage alert.
- ▶ Participate in FlexPay prepaid billing to avoid late fees.
- ▶ Round up your bill to donate to People Helping People.
- ▶ Participate in SunPath, our community solar program.
- ▶ Enjoy the Plug N2 Savings rate if you are an electric vehicle owner in our REVUP program.
- ▶ Participate in our residential Time-Of-Use (TOU) rate.
- ▶ Receive SPOTT alerts by text when outages occur.

If you do not currently participate in any of the above programs, give us a call or tell us in person during Member Appreciation days, and we will be happy to help you get started.

Randolph EMC is continuously examining ways to operate more efficiently while providing the highest level of friendly, reliable service you expect and deserve. After all, we're your local co-op. We were built by the members we serve.

FOCUSED ON YOU.

Electric cooperatives were created to serve their members.

As a co-op, we're able to adapt to the community's unique needs.

That's the power of co-op membership.



Stay Safe this Winter with New Security Lighting

Each year, we change our clocks by “falling back” one hour to accommodate the end of Daylight Saving Time. As winter approaches, our days grow darker.

While we cannot control this seasonal transition, we can make the environment around our home and work a safer, more illuminated area. One way to push back the darkness is to install security lights on your property.

Effective security lighting enhances safety and reduces the risk of criminal trespassing. Randolph EMC provides security lighting that creates a brighter outdoor environment at night, helps protect your property and adds curb appeal for one low monthly price.

REMC's security lights automatically turn on at dusk and turn off at dawn. The monthly charge includes all electricity used to operate the light. REMC personnel will even replace bulbs and make any repairs when needed. Several options, including decorative fixtures, are available to best suit your preferences.

Through the end of the year, REMC will offer three months free for new security light connections. This offer is good for a limited time only.

New connections must be scheduled by Dec. 31, 2023.

Now is an excellent time to add outdoor lighting around your property. If you want added protection and convenience that's affordable

and maintenance-free, then get in touch with us.

Call your local office for more details and sign up today!



Providing the Highest Levels of Member Satisfaction

Randolph Electric participates in several surveys that give us insight into our members' perceptions of us and allow us to compare scores with other electric cooperatives and investor-owned utilities.

One important survey that REMC tracks quarterly is the American Customer Satisfaction Index (ACSI®). This survey is recognized by the U.S. federal government as the gold standard for customer satisfaction benchmarking.

Both the private and public sectors use the ACSI®, since it is the only cross-industry measure of customer satisfaction in the United States. REMC uses the survey to gauge our members' responses, based on a 100-point scale, on questions regarding these critical topics:

- ▶ Overall satisfaction of member service
- ▶ Ability to meet our members' expectations
- ▶ Evaluation of experience in comparison to an ideal energy provider

Responses from these questions are submitted to ACSI® for scoring, allowing participating businesses a standard against which to compare their scores.

Electric cooperatives, like REMC, outpace the utility industry with high levels of member satisfaction. Year after year, cooperatives achieve scores that are among the highest-scoring organizations in the electric utility sector.

Based on a recent study conducted by Cooperative Insights during the second quarter of 2023, REMC scored 92 out of 100 points on overall customer satisfaction. This level of performance is very impressive when compared to the scores published annually by the ACSI® for investor-owned energy companies (72), municipalities (71) and cooperatives (74).

In receiving a 92, REMC achieved the highest score of all participating utilities, tying with another cooperative for first place. But this is not the first time that members have scored Randolph Electric in the top. In the second quarter of 2022, members also gave REMC a score of 92, which again led the pack of Touchstone Energy® cooperatives participating in the survey.

You may wonder why REMC has scored so well. According to REMC's Innovative Energy Services Director Michael Trent, the reason is that REMC employs the power of the members' feedback to meet and, whenever possible, exceed the expectations of our member-owners.

"The survey provides a continuous measurement of our performance and what is most important to our members," said Trent. "This guides us on where to focus our efforts to provide the most value and enables us to stay ahead of increasing member expectations."

In receiving a 92, REMC achieved the highest score of all participating utilities...

Randolph Electric would like to say a big "thank you" to our members for entrusting us with your energy delivery and for providing valuable data that we can use to enhance our services to you.

Survey disclaimer: Data compared to publicly measured investor-owned utilities in the 2023 ACSI® survey of customers rating their satisfaction. Results based on data provided by Randolph Electric Membership Corporation collected during second quarter 2023. ACSI® did not regulate the survey administration or sample size. ACSI® is a registered trademark of the American Customer Satisfaction Index, LLC.



CheckOut by PayGo Now at Walmart Stores Near You

REMC strives to bring value to our members by providing numerous ways to pay your bill each month.

One convenient way is to pay your Randolph EMC bill in cash through the checkout lane at participating retailers near you.

Using a CheckOut by PayGo bar code, you can make cash payments at stores such as Dollar General,

Family Dollar, CVS Pharmacy, Walgreens, 7 Eleven, and more. There are more than 50,000 locations across the country that accept these payments. A convenience fee of \$1.50 is automatically added at checkout.

CheckOut by PayGo has now added Walmart to its family of retailers accepting cash payments. You can pay your bill with cash at Walmart by showing a bar code unique to your account.

Scan the QR code here to produce a bar code that you can print out or save as a picture on your smartphone. Each time you pay, you will use this bar code. This bar code is also included on the

back of your paper power bills.

Now the next time you are at Walmart, you can pay your bill in cash by scanning this bar code at the register. This CheckOut by PayGo option is fast, convenient and secure, and is just another way that REMC powers your life.



REMC

RE-Connect Podcast

Episode 9



Interview with
Colton Freeman
2023 Youth Tourist

*Listen
Now*



A Word About Randolph Electric

From CEO Dale Lambert

WHEN “POWER BLINKS” ARE A GOOD THING

Dear Members,

After a long, hot and dry stretch in July and early August, we transitioned into a pattern of afternoon thunderstorms. The wind, rain and lightning associated with these storms caused trees to topple onto power lines and damaged equipment, resulting in power outages for the members.

The most impactful was a storm front that tracked across the Randolph EMC service area on Monday evening, Aug. 7.

Our leadership and dispatch team tracked the storm as it progressed from the west into central North Carolina. Even without looking at the weather radar, it was easy to spot the front's progress as electric utilities' outage maps lit up with significant power outages.

Our first outage occurred around 5:45 p.m., and things went downhill from there. By 7:30, 8,582, or 26% of Randolph EMC members, were out of power. Some communities were hit harder than others, but the greatest concentration of outages were in southern Randolph County and northern Moore County. This storm left 22 broken poles in its wake because of trees. That's a rather significant amount for us from a storm like this.

The Randolph EMC team did an outstanding job responding to outages in a safe and efficient

manner. By 8 a.m. the next morning, Tuesday, Aug. 8, fewer than 500 members were still out of power and most of those were restored by noon.

As I look back on my 39-year career at Randolph EMC, we are better positioned than ever, not only to reduce the number and duration of outages that occur, but to restore outages faster when they do occur. This progressive improvement is not the result of one silver bullet, but due to long-term planning and focused, deliberate actions in a number of areas.

Storm clouds form over the Asheboro office on Aug. 7.



Your cooperative invests significantly in our transmission and distribution system, making upgrades on a planned and structured basis. These investments are needed not only to serve future load growth, but they are also targeted to improve reliability. There are two foundational areas in particular that contribute to improved reliability. The first is upgrading poles and wire to make them more storm resilient and moving power lines from back in the woods, to alongside highways.

In my early years at the co-op, I heard the story numerous times of how, in the formative days of the co-op when power lines were originally being installed, copper wire was hard to get, especially during World War II. To be as efficient as possible, power lines were constructed from one farm to the next over the shortest distance feasible. In most cases, this meant a straight line right through the woods. When power lines are back in the woods instead of along a road, this creates a number of issues.



For instance, there are a lot more trees that can fall on a line, and dead trees are hard to spot and cut before they fall. Many times, linemen have to walk the right-of-way to find the cause of the outage, and it's difficult to transport equipment where repairs are needed. This results in much of the work being done by hand and by climbing poles.

But we can't throw stones at those early power line pioneers. Reliability at that time was not as important as it is today. In those days, when a member's power went out, some would mail a postcard to the office to let the co-op know to send a crew out to make repairs. It's hard for us to even imagine a time like that.

The second area is a strong right-of-way maintenance program. For many years, Randolph EMC has invested heavily in our system's right-of-way maintenance rotation. By side trimming and maintaining the floor of the right-of-ways, we prevent many outages.

I want to finish up with a success story that occurred this week and that demonstrates how investments in Randolph EMC's distribution system are paying off in measurable and beneficial results for the members.

First, let me refresh your memory about self-healing grids. This technology essentially ties together sections of power lines from two different sources. If a fault occurs in a section of line within the feed, the reclosers can isolate the affected area and back-feed the unaffected portions from the alternate source. This "healed" portion of the distribution grid brings the lights back on for some members who would otherwise be out of power while waiting on repairs.

The impressive thing is, all this happens automatically within about a minute and can significantly reduce the number of members affected by an outage. Because we serve mainly rural areas, we

are limited by geographic and operational considerations. But we currently have four self-healing grid installations operational, with more planned for the future. You can learn more about this on our website at randolphemc.com/SHG

On Monday night, Aug. 28, storms were tracking across our service area. At 11:26 p.m., circuit 44 in the Liberty Hill area of Montgomery County west of Troy, locked out, resulting in 1,116 members being out of power.

Since this circuit is part of our first self-healing grid installation, an alternate source rerouted power at 11:27 p.m., and the lights came back on for 1,108 of the affected members. So within a minute, all but 8 of the 1,116 members served by this circuit experienced only a momentary "blink."

This outage was caused by a tree falling onto a power line that runs through the Uwharrie National Forest. Our crews responded, removed the tree and repaired the downed power lines. Power was restored to the remaining 8 members at 1:42 a.m.

This is a success story because without this self-healing grid installation, instead of 8 members being out of power, 1,108 members would have also been out for 2 hours, 16 minutes. Sometimes a power "blink" is a good thing.

I will keep you posted as your cooperative continues making investments that bring tremendous value to our member-owners. For your board of directors and employee team, the members are the only reason we exist. At the end of the day, we know who we work for.

Cooperatively Yours,

Dale F. Lambert
Chief Executive Officer



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Dennis Mabe Vice President of
Engineering & Operations
Fred Smith..... Vice President of
Economic Development & Compliance

Nicole Arnold Editor

Visit Randolph EMC Online
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Leadership Randolph Tours REMC

On Aug. 3, Randolph EMC hosted the Leadership Randolph class of 2023 for live-line demonstration and a facility tour.

Established in 1988 by the Asheboro/Randolph Chamber of Commerce, Leadership Randolph has now produced a network of more than 800 graduates who are local professionals. The intensive nine-month program explores a broad range of resources, topics and services within Randolph County. Participants meet with local business and community leaders, learn about local products and service delivery and take guided tours to gain a deeper understanding of local issues and decisions.

Journeyman Lineman and Foreman Rodney Haithcock, Lineman Chris Smith, and Apprentice Linemen Ryan Kivett, Dakota Smith and Kohlton Feagin presented the live-line demonstration in the Operation Support Facility at REMC. Safety and Environmental Coordinator Jeff McDuffie narrated the demonstration.

In addition to describing the hazards of electrical contact, the REMC crew outlined the functions

of the mobile substation and instructed the group about safety gear that lineworkers must wear.

The Leadership Randolph class also met with GIS Technicians and System Planning Engineer Aubin Reynolds in the Dispatch Center. There they learned about the cutting-edge technology REMC uses to track and repair outages.

REMC appreciates the Chamber of Commerce and class co-chairs Scott Harris of Technimark and Amanda Varner of the Randolph County Sheriff's Department for helping to make this a memorable day for these leaders.



Leadership Randolph Class of 2023

Tara Aker

Maria Alaniz

Jessie Benitez

Josh Britton

Jeremiah Callicutt

Margie DiDona

Angela Galvan-Cruz

Perla Gatling

Web Grubb

Randy Gunter

Brittany Jordan

Frankie Kelly

Jeri Ann Kelly

Holly Lucas

Harris Mason

Courtney McGowan

Tyler McLeod

Sandy Newlin

Steven Nunn

Kim Radcliffe

Catherine Reeder

Jeff Rice

Alexis Rowe

Luis Sanchez, Jr.

Christopher Tuft

Jake Wood



Watts Working

“It's Electric!” REMC Celebrates EVs at N.C. Zoo

Electric vehicle drivers and intrigued visitors of the North Carolina Zoo enjoyed a recent educational outreach event hosted by Randolph Electric on Sept. 29 during National Drive Electric Week.

Members of the public and Zoo visitors gathered at 10 a.m. to hear remarks from representatives of the Zoo, REMC and local organizations.

“It was exciting to be part of this celebration,” said Zoo Director and CEO Pat Simmons. “We always welcome the opportunity to introduce our green fleet to visitors and reinforce our commitment to sustainable practices that reduce our impact on the natural world.”

At the event, Randolph EMC representatives described how they work with EV owners to evaluate their vehicles' impact

on the electric grid. The REMC Electric Vehicle Utility Program (REVUP) offers members of the cooperative a \$500 rebate on a level 2 EV charger for their home. REMC also provides special time-of-use rates that encourage them to charge during off-peak hours when energy is less expensive.

“More of our members are asking about the benefits of EV ownership,” said REMC's Director of Innovative Energy

Solutions Michael Trent. “Randolph Electric is dedicated to educating our members about how to power your home, your life and your vehicle.”

Honorary guest Kevin Franklin, president of the Randolph County Economic Development Corporation, outlined the new jobs and opportunities in the local area made possible by EV manufacturing.

continued on page B



Ford Lightning on display

C Honoring our Veterans

D Bowman Honored at Board Meeting

E Outdoor Security Lights

F A Word About Randolph Electric

H Apply to Youth Tour





Representatives from the Triad Electric Vehicles Association (TEVA) answered practical questions about EV performance.

Dealerships including Ford, Chevrolet, Toyota and Subaru allowed visitors to test drive new vehicles, so they could understand the EV experience firsthand.



Families were able to see new electric trucks, like the Rivian.



Michael Trent of REMC, Mayor Pro Tempore Walker Moffitt, Zoo CEO Pat Simmons and Asheboro City Council members Eddie Burks and Kelly Heath cut the ribbon on the new eTractor.



Happy Veterans Day!

Randolph EMC
offices will be closed
Friday, Nov. 10,
in observance of
the holiday.

Randolph Electric Membership Corporation salutes all who currently serve and those who have served our country in the past. We thank you for protecting the freedoms we enjoy today.

REMC is a proud employer of veterans. This month, we honor our employees who are also veterans:

Jacob Barlow, U.S. Navy,
1998-2009

Mark Cox, U.S. Army,
1987-1991

Danny Lee, U.S. Marine
Corps, 1992-1996

Kelly Ritter, U.S. Army,
1995-2005



Jerry Bowman Honored for Service as President of Board

At a recent meeting of the Randolph Electric Board of Directors, the cooperative honored former President and district 4 Director Jerry Bowman for his leadership.

The REMC Board of Directors elected Bowman president in June 2017. He has served in this capacity for six years. Bowman has represented district 4 on the board since 1993. Although Bowman has stepped down as president, he will continue as the district 4 representative on the board.

Board President Tammie Phillips presented Bowman with a plaque commemorating his service to REMC members at the August board meeting.



Phillips said, “The REMC Board of Directors recognizes Mr. Bowman today for his outstanding leadership at the helm of our cooperative. Jerry, we are grateful for your consistent dedication to our members. You have been an inspiration to me and to this organization. Thank you for

helping us remember that our members are our top priority.”

Bowman is the former owner of Stuart-Bowman Auto Centre and has been involved in automobile sales and service since 1964. He and his wife, Wanda, reside in Asheboro.



Board Releases PURPA Findings

REMC Demand-Response and Electric Vehicle Programs Considered

In 2022, federal authorities directed all qualifying electric utilities to invite feedback regarding Demand-Response (DR) practices and Electric Vehicle (EV) charging programs and to determine appropriate standards for these programs.

This directive encompassed responsibilities of utilities found in the Public Utility Regulatory

Policy Act (PURPA) of 1978 and updated in the federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) of 2021.

In accordance with this directive, REMC solicited member and public comments through Dec. 31, 2022. As previously advertised, the board of directors considered these comments and all information during regularly

The board further stated that REMC's current DR and EV programs provide positive financial and environmental incentives to REMC members and the cooperative, since members can reduce or shift energy usage during times of high demand.

scheduled board meetings held in February through August 2023.

The Randolph EMC Board of Directors recently issued its determination. The board elected not to adopt new DR or EV standards contained in IIJA. The board recommended that REMC continue with the current programs, while assessing any new concepts, technology and vendors that can improve DR and EV programs and service delivery.

The board further stated that REMC's current DR and EV programs provide positive financial and environmental incentives to REMC members and the cooperative, since members can reduce or shift energy usage during times of high demand. For instance, electing to charge EVs during off-peak hours associated with time-of-use rates helps participants hold down costs and also benefits the cooperative.

Additionally, programs like Connect to Save provide a technological means for members to reduce their energy consumption.



**Extend Daylight Saving Time
with an Outdoor Security Light!**

Randolph EMC's outdoor security lights provide a safe environment around your home in a variety of options for an affordable fee added to your electric bill.

Call your local office or visit RandolphEMC.com for outdoor security light styles and pricing.

A Word About Randolph Electric

From CEO Dale Lambert



THE IMPACTS OF INFLATION

Dear Members,

We had an older camper with bunks in the back for our kids when they were much younger. My wife and I recently started looking for a camper with a different floor plan that is more accommodating for, let's say, more seasoned adults. The reality is, she's getting older.

We went to a camper show, and when seeing the price of new campers, we quickly determined to look for a used one. After a few weeks, we found one with the floor plan we were looking for and at a price that would meet our budget.

Since this camper had not been used for a while, the owner was upfront about several maintenance issues that needed addressing. The list included a broken closet door, a leaking faucet, an inoperable propane regulator switch due to a squirrel gnawing on it, the "pleather" peeling off a couple seats and a dead battery, along with numerous other smaller issues.

But the most visibly obvious repair issue was a bent roof access ladder. The owner had backed into something and bent the built-in ladder so significantly that accessing the roof is now

difficult. And it's the first thing that catches your eye with the thought, "Whoa! Someone backed that camper into something!"

I started working through the repair list of the more critical items that affected the usability of the camper and needed immediate attention. Once that list was completed, my attention turned to the ladder and the reason for the preceding information.

I called the dealership that services this brand of camper to see if a replacement ladder was available and at what cost. The ladder is what I would consider lightly made, out of small round pipes, and is about eight feet in length.

The parts manager from the dealership called back with these words, "Do you want the good news first, or the bad news first?"

I told him to give me the good news first. He stated an exact replacement ladder was available for \$152.62. I didn't think that was too bad.



But then I asked, "So what's the bad news?"

He said the shipping cost to get the \$150 ladder to the dealership was going to be \$200. That was a shocker, to say the least.

For the last couple of years, we all have experienced inflation at a level not seen in decades. Every sector of the economy has been affected, from manufacturing to services, from raw materials to groceries, and shipping, too.

A trip to the grocery store is a reminder of the elevated cost impact on our family budgets. But in talking to some of our local farmers, I have come to realize that even though we're paying more at the grocery store, the money is not making its way into their pockets.

Even with some recent relief in inflation in different sectors of the economy, higher costs still remain. In many cases, this increased cost appears to have become permanently imbedded.

Randolph EMC has not been immune to these higher inflationary cost pressures. To date, we have absorbed these cost increases that have impacted multiple facets of our operations and have not passed it on to the members. Our hopes were that it would subside in a relatively short period of time.

But as of the date of this writing, that has not happened in a number of critical components used in our operations. The numbers are pretty astonishing when comparing the same equipment pricing from 2020.

For a standard 25 kVA padmount transformer used to supply power

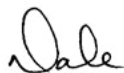
to a home with underground primary lines, the cost has increased by 63%. For a standard 25kVA transformer mounted on a pole, the cost has increased by 88%. For underground cable used for primary power line installations and replacements, that cost is up over 91% in just four years. This is a snapshot of the elevated cost of numerous materials used to build and maintain the Randolph EMC electrical system.

Your management team and Board of Directors are currently evaluating how to address the impact of these increased costs. As your electric cooperative, Randolph EMC operates on a not-for-profit basis, so we seek to provide your electrical service at the lowest cost possible. We have no incentive to do otherwise.

Your cooperative's employee team and Board of Directors work hard to operate your cooperative as efficiently as possible, while focusing on providing dependable, safe and exceptional service for our members. And we pledge to continue that focus during these challenging times. I will keep you informed as we evaluate any steps that need to be taken to address this issue.

By the way, back to the issue of my camper's bent ladder. My goal is to remove the ladder and try to straighten it as best I can. It may not look perfect, but at least it will save some money.

Cooperatively Yours,



Dale F. Lambert
Chief Executive Officer



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Michael Trent Director of
Innovative Energy Solutions

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Apply, right now.
You will meet
people from all
over the country.
It’s really fun.”

*Colton
Freeman*

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June 15-21, 2024



NC Electric Cooperatives
Youth Tour

Watts Working

Randolph EMC Invests in Innovative Education

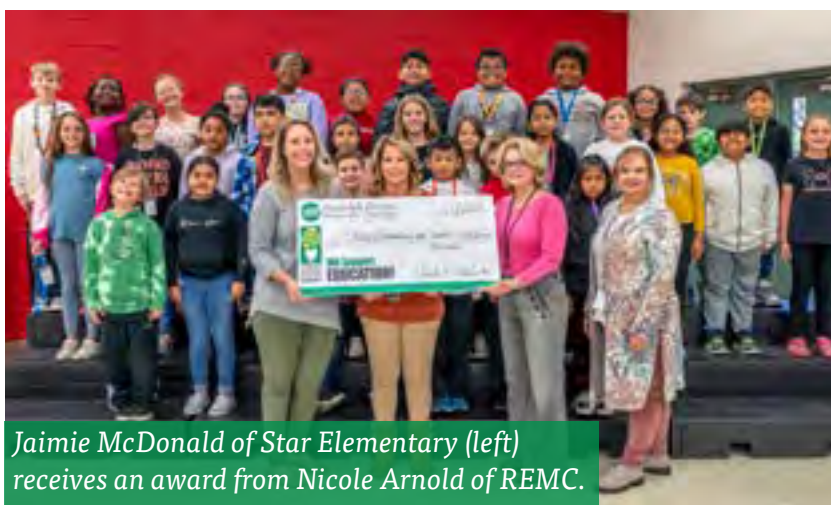


Awards \$14,000 to Local Schools for 'Bright Ideas'

Randolph Electric Membership Corporation recently honored educators by awarding \$14,000 in Bright Ideas grants to 14 educators. More than 3,300 students at schools in the REMC service territory will benefit from these grants. The funds will support classroom projects in the subjects of science, art, physical education and more.

“Randolph EMC is committed to our core value of caring for our communities. One way we accomplish that is by investing in education,” said Communications and Public Affairs Manager Nicole Arnold. “We commend these educators for striving to make learning fun and engaging for students.”

Randolph EMC is one of 26 electric cooperatives in North Carolina offering Bright Ideas grants



Jaimie McDonald of Star Elementary (left) receives an award from Nicole Arnold of REMC.

to local teachers. Grants are awarded for projects in all subject areas, such as music, art, history, reading, science, math and more. Bright Ideas grants support local teachers with creative ideas to increase innovation, expand learning opportunities and enhance student success in K-12 classrooms.

Since 1994, North Carolina’s electric cooperatives collectively have awarded more than

\$14 million in Bright Ideas funding for over 13,500 projects supporting teachers and benefitting more than 2.5 million students. Over the past 29 years, Randolph Electric has invested over \$330,000 in these grants.

The grant program is part of REMC’s ongoing commitment to building a brighter future through the support of education.

Continued on page B

A Bright Ideas Winners

D PHP Honors Chrissy Haynes

E A Letter from Mrs. Santa

F A Word About Randolph Electric

H RCC Empowered Scholar



Randolph County

Kelsey King of Farmer Elementary (pictured right) in Asheboro won \$1,700 for a STEM activity cart. This all-in-one mobile center is packed full of STEM materials for tons of hands-on projects. The cart will allow for both structured and unstructured activities where students can be creative and use their imagination.

David Necochea of Eastern Randolph High in Asheboro won \$1,200 to equip a JROTC Cadet for Life physical fitness program. This program will assemble enough fitness equipment to create a modular, customizable development program so cadets can focus on individual areas of improvement.

Moore County

Lauren Hussey of High Falls Elementary in Robbins won \$950 for her project, Uh-oh! Better Get Gizmo. Gizmos are virtual math and science labs and simulations that bring powerful new interactive learning experiences to classrooms. Gizmos provide hundreds of opportunities to bring math and science to real life.



Kelsey King of Farmer Elementary

Amanda Britt of Elise Middle in Robbins won \$1,800 for her project, Integrating Hydroponic Plants, Technology and Math for Enriched Science Education. Students will investigate plant needs to develop a deeper understanding of the conditions necessary for healthy growth and development.

Jennie Wray of Robbins Elementary won \$1,000 to equip a digital library. Kindles in the classroom give students more choices to read from trying to spark their interest in reading to growing students that have a love for reading.



Nora Beasley of West Middle with Principal Adam Matthews

Montgomery County

Nora Beasley of West Middle (pictured left) in Mount Gilead won \$1,000 for her project, Lego Spike Education Sets. This project will enhance the school's STEM lab and enable students to actively engage in robotics and programming.

Additionally, she aims to establish a STEM club that can utilize these tools, with the long-term goal of participating in a STEM competition.



Tera Pollard of Mt. Gilead Elementary (right) and Principal D. JaMese Black

How To Apply

If you know an exceptional educator who may benefit from a classroom grant, please encourage him or her to apply for the 2024 grant cycle. Applications will reopen in April 2024 and are collected through mid-September.

Montgomery County *continued*

Michelle Williams of Troy Elementary won \$900 for her project, Revitalizing Music Education. She will introduce technology for modern, blended and holistic learning experiences.

Kimberly Simpson of West Middle in Mount Gilead won \$900 for her project, Wind Turbines STEM Enrichment. Students will work in groups to build wind turbine models and learn about wind power.

Jaimie McDonald of Star Elementary (pictured on page A) won \$1,800 for her project, IXL Program for Students. The online program will be used to supplement instruction in the classroom for ELA, math, science and social studies.

Amy Reynolds of Montgomery Learning Academy in Troy won \$525 for her project, Serenity Soundscape. She will acquire white noise machines with soothing sounds, students with behavioral challenges can improve their emotional well-being and focus.

Jack Cagle of Montgomery County Schools won \$700 to enhance well-being through meditation and soothing sounds in elementary schools.

Tera Pollard of Mt. Gilead Elementary won \$500 for her project, Unleashing World Explorers with a Smart Globe. With the smart globe, students will explore global

geography, cultures and historical events to gain a deeper understanding of the world.

Elizabeth Divine of Montgomery Learning Academy in Troy won \$1,000 for her project, Motivating To Learn. She will use the funds to provide an incentive system for positive behavior.

Jon Lachance of Page Street Elementary (pictured below) in Troy won \$450 for his project, Tablets for Tots: Empowering STEM Education with Transformative Learning Experiences. Students will have hands-on access to cutting-edge technology, fostering their creativity, critical thinking and problem-solving skills.



Jon Lachance of Page Street Elementary

PHP Board Honors Chrissy Haynes

At the fourth quarter meeting of the People Helping People (PHP) Board of Directors, the cooperative honored chair Christina Haynes for her leadership.

The PHP Board of Directors elected Christina (Chrissy) Haynes as chairperson in Jan. 2022. Haynes is the N.C. Cooperative Montgomery County Extension Director and works in community and rural development. She has served six years on the board.

PHP liaison and Community and Public Affairs Manager Nicole Arnold presented Haynes with a plaque commemorating her service.

"Chrissy's deep insight into nonprofits, her compassion and her



Chrissy Haynes (left) accepts her plaque from Nicole Arnold.

empathy for members in distress made her leadership crucial to the mission of PHP," said Arnold.

The PHP Board of Directors consists of seven members. Each director serves a three-year term with the opportunity to renew a term based on the director's desire

to continue and the approval of fellow board members.

Congratulations, Chrissy, and thank you!



A Letter from Mrs. Santa

Dear Randolph Electric Member-Owners,

As I write this letter to you, Santa is getting ready to deliver presents to the homes of the many good boys and girls who live in the Randolph Electric service territory. I am so proud of them because they have been good all year.

There are so many children on Santa's Nice List that he will have his work cut out for him in the REMC area! Santa and his reindeer are planning numerous stops and will have to work quickly to complete all deliveries before Christmas morning dawns.

That's why I wanted to put a special word in the ears of all those who take care of the very good children of Randolph Electric.

I have learned that our friends at REMC are offering a **security light promotion now through the end of this year**. Outdoor security lights are very near and dear to my heart. With security lights, Santa and his precious reindeer have a much easier time finding rooftops and delivering gifts.

Now, Santa doesn't like me to share this information, so we will have to keep this just between us. But I need to tell you that in years past, after Santa has delivered all his gifts and returned to the North Pole, he and his reindeer are somewhat worse for the wear. I have noticed several sprains, strains and bruises, not to mention the beat-up condition of the sleigh.

How do these injuries occur? Well, Santa doesn't want you to know, but on occasion, he sprains his ankle because he can't see so well when he is walking on those rooftops. Last year, Rudolph led the whole team to a barn, and Comet slid down the metal roof!

What would help Santa and our sweet little reindeer so much is an outdoor security light. And my friends at Randolph Electric have told me that from now until the end of the year, members who have new connections installed can receive



the first three months of their security light bills free of charge! Now, that's a special Christmas bonus that benefits everyone.

Outdoor security lights are an excellent way to make your place a lot safer for your family, your friends and your annual visitors from the North Pole.

And you can get them in the standard streetlight model or a more old-timey model, the Traditionaire. Now I won't tell you how old I am, but I will tell you that I tend to like antiques, so we installed Traditionaire models all over the North Pole. This has allowed our elves to host reindeer games well into the night. I am so thankful that these lighting choices allow our hard-working teams to have fun after a long day of making toys and training for Christmas Eve.

Be sure to look at these models on the REMC website. Then go by the office or call REMC and schedule your security light installation as soon as possible. Remember you can still connect a new light in the new year, but the promotion for three months free ends Dec. 31.

Thank you for caring about Santa Claus and our fleet-footed little reindeer.

Merry Christmas!

Mrs. Santa Claus



A Word About Randolph Electric

From CEO Dale Lambert

GIVING BACK & THE REASON FOR THE SEASON

Dear Members,

The month of December is traditionally considered a month of giving. We show our love and appreciation to our family and friends by presenting them with gifts in remembrance of the greatest gift ever given, when Jesus Christ left heaven's glory, wrapped Himself in human flesh and was born into the world.

Giving back to our communities is in Randolph EMC's DNA.

Our goal is to strengthen and improve the quality of life in the communities we serve, and we do that in many ways throughout the year. Providing safe, reliable and affordable power with exceptional service is what we strive to deliver every day. But that's just one piece of a larger puzzle that makes up how your electric cooperative improves our local communities.

For decades, your cooperative has supported the Bright Ideas Program that provides schoolteachers with resources to implement creative programs that will improve our kids' classroom experience. To date, \$337,000 has been invested to grow our future generation of leaders.

We also assist local fire departments with USDA zero-interest loans so they can purchase needed equipment to effectively respond during emergencies and keep our communities safe.

Throughout the year, your employees hold several fundraising events to support local programs and organizations. Gift basket auctions, raffles and other fun and creative activities provide opportunities for employees to give of their personal funds to raise money for these agencies that are so important to our communities.

The U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program is an organization we have supported for several years. This organization collects new, unwrapped toys and distributes them as Christmas gifts to less fortunate children in our communities. This month, employees' monetary donations will be used to purchase sports equipment for children in Randolph, Moore and Montgomery counties. It warms my heart to know that we've played a part in making a child's Christmas a little brighter by providing him or her with a toy from his or her wish list.



We are a long-time supporter of Relay for Life, as well. This year, at the employee-managed Relay for Life Golf Tournament, an outstanding \$10,500 was raised for cancer research. This brings the total to \$206,500 raised since the inception of this fundraiser. In addition, for 2023, employees collectively donated almost \$23,000 to our local United Way.

People Helping People

You, our member-owners, also make a difference by supporting our People Helping People (PHP) program. Each month, members participating in PHP have their bills rounded up to the nearest dollar. Randolph EMC collects that "spare change" and deposits it into the PHP account. The primary purpose of PHP is to address charitable needs and provide financial assistance to members in Randolph, Moore, Montgomery, Chatham and Alamance counties. Since the program began in 2001, PHP has helped families in our communities by donating over \$190,000.

PHP is a tax-deductible, approved 501(c)(3) organization that is

governed by a volunteer board of directors who represent communities throughout Randolph EMC's service area. This is a very dedicated and capable group.

The current PHP Board members are the following: Dianne Brooks, Pauline Brower, Jared Byrd, Lisa Cox, James Upton, III and Amy Williams. Chrissy Haynes, the current Board Chair, is rotating off the PHP board and will be replaced by Paige Roberts. I would like to thank this group for all their hard work and for the care and concern shown to fellow members and the communities we serve. They are responsible for administering the funds for this worthy program. We appreciate their leadership and commend them for their willingness to serve.

Currently, 2,300 members are donating to our PHP program—about 6.9% of our 33,500 accounts. We are so grateful to you who have been a part of this program and are very proud of the work done with that “spare change” over the years. But I'll ask you to think for a moment about what PHP could do if more members participated.

The average donation is just 50 cents per month, so if every REMC account signed up for PHP, we could raise \$201,000 in just one year! Even if just 25% of members participated, we could raise more than \$50,000 in one year. That money would go back into our local communities by assisting members who need a hand up.

In addition, for the last several years, PHP has received funding from cooperative lender CoBank and their Sharing Success program. This program

requires the cooperative to match the dollars awarded.

To date, through this effort, \$126,700 has been administered through our Community Grants program to local nonprofits. Money for the Community Grants program does not come from the “spare change” collected from member accounts; they are kept completely separate.

The spirit of giving is demonstrated by Randolph Electric employees and members, making our communities a better place to call home. Working together, we all can make a difference. As 2023 comes to a close, signing up to support PHP is one of the simplest ways you can help make a difference in our local communities. Please call us at 1.800.672.8212, or enroll online by signing in to your account on REMC's Member Service Portal at RandolphEMC.com.

As we enter this Christmas season of giving, our hope is that your holidays will be filled with joyous and memorable times spent with family and friends.

We all seem to be pressed for time more than usual during the holidays. Please take time to remember the true reason for the season—the celebration of the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Merry Christmas to all!

Cooperatively Yours,



Dale F. Lambert
Chief Executive Officer



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Congratulations to First-ever RCC Empowered Scholar Sharon Flinn

Member Earns Collegiate Scholarship Endowed by Randolph EMC

Five years ago, Randolph EMC embarked on a journey to create an endowed scholarship at Randolph Community College (RCC) in Asheboro. The goal of the endowment was to aid a local college student and Randolph EMC member achieve his or her education.

Now that the endowment has matured, RCC and REMC are pleased to announce that Sharon Flinn has earned this outstanding achievement.

To qualify for the award, a student must have a grade point average of 3.0 or above and must be a member or REMC or a child of a member/owner of REMC. REMC also honors a student who exemplifies the qualities of integrity, accountability, innovation and community involvement. These characteristics are the values that REMC strives to demonstrate as a cooperative.

Flinn has focused her studies on Business Administration at RCC,

and she plans to graduate with her associate's degree in 2025. Her goal for her study is to acquire the management skills and professional growth necessary to foster successful entrepreneurship. When she completes her degree at RCC, she plans

to continue her studies by obtaining her bachelor's degree.

Flinn enjoys RCC's flexible class schedule, since it allows her to continue working. In her community, she is active at East Side Baptist Church, where she attends a women's Bible study group.

While Flinn is a remarkable example to her son, who also attends RCC, she points to her mother as her primary role model.



Sharon Flinn with Michael Trent of REMC

"My mother has been one of the most influential people in my life and has always inspired me to be my authentic self," said Flinn. "She has a positive and optimistic attitude that if you work hard for what you believe in, you can achieve anything you apply yourself to."

REMC congratulates Sharon Flinn for her achievement. We wish her all the best in her future endeavors.



Students, APPLY NOW!
The deadline to apply is
Friday, January 12, 2024.
The tour is June 15-21, 2024.
Call Nicole Arnold at
336.625.5177 or email her at
Nicole.Arnold@RandolphEMC.com
with any questions.

