

Watts Working

Randolph EMC Awards \$10,000 to Local Schools



Randolph EMC awarded nine teachers with \$10,000 in Bright Ideas education grants in October to fund innovative classroom learning projects. Bright Ideas grant applications are collected each year through mid-September, and winning proposals are selected in a competitive evaluation process by a panel of retired educators.

“The Bright Ideas grant program helps teachers finance creative projects to benefit North Carolina’s youth,” said Lauren Ingold, Public Relations Coordinator for Randolph EMC. “Teachers have so many great ideas, and we’re pleased to help these grant winners bring their ideas to life in the classroom.”

“Randolph Electric is committed to bettering the communities we serve, and we believe there is no better way than through the education of our youth,” Ingold said.

Since the Bright Ideas grant program began in 1994, Randolph EMC has contributed \$200,000 to local teachers. North Carolina’s 26 electric cooperatives collectively have awarded more than \$9.1 million to teachers across the state. The Bright Ideas program has reached well over 1.6 million North Carolina students and sponsored more than 8,800 projects in all subjects including math, reading, science and technology, history, music and the arts.



See all of this year’s Bright Ideas grant winners on the following pages!

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DECEMBER 2014

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Congratulations, 2014 Grant Winners!



Mr. Barry Barber
South Asheboro Middle

\$1,200 for Historic Asheboro Walking App

Students will develop a walking tour app that brings to life the people, places, and events of downtown Asheboro. Following research of primary and secondary sources and interviews with local historians, students will combine audio narration, historic images, and digital video to create an enriched experience for residents and visitors to Asheboro.



Ms. Melissa Brown
Trinity High

\$1,425 for Kids in the Kitchen

Cooking incorporates reading, math, communication and self-help skills. With grant funding, Mrs. Brown's class will receive a new stove, refrigerator and microwave for the Occupational Course of Study program.



Mr. Joshua Causey
Donna Lee Loflin Elementary

\$1,085 for Mr. Causey's Opus

This grant will purchase 10 student-sized acoustical guitars to be used in a guitar class after school. In addition to the instruments, the grant funds will purchase replacement strings, tuners and a guitar method book for the students to use.



Mrs. Kristin Jones
Southwestern Randolph High

\$1,116 for Cougar's Pizza

Special Education students from the Occupational Course of Study and Functional Skills classes will work with students from the Pro-Start classes to prepare pizzas, salads and desserts for school faculty and staff once a month. In addition, students will run a restaurant to serve patrons.

Ms. Ella Kern
Donna Lee Loflin Elementary

\$1,091 for Tinkering with Character Traits

Students will combine littleBits® Open Hardware with arts and crafts materials to tell a story that brings some essential character trait of each character to life. This is wonderful STEAM enhancement to a language arts lesson based on archetypes from myth, fable, folk and fairy tales, or popular culture.



Mrs. Amy Leveille
Neighbor's Grove Christian Academy

\$870 for Indoor Grow Lab and Vegetable Garden

Students will start vegetable plants in an indoor classroom grow lab. They will discuss the benefits of good nutrition and planting your own food. Students will build a raised bed for transplanting their vegetables once the plants are ready to be moved outside.



Mrs. Chrissy Neelon
Southwestern Randolph High

\$1,980 for iPad Air to Art

Technology is an increasingly important tool for young artists. Working artists of all kinds use computer technology. With grant funding, Mrs. Neelon's art classes will utilize 3 iPad Air tablets to create original digital art using Sketchbook Pro software.



Ms. Cassandra Salabak
Charles W. McCrary Elementary

\$302 for Boys Only Book Club

This club, active for two years already, partners students with adult males to facilitate growth in reading with a role model. No girls are allowed to participate, which shows boys that reading is not just for girls!



Mrs. Jamie Staley
Coleridge Elementary

\$931 for Project Read

Kindergartners will use tablets and software to help with reading and mathematics. A storybook application will help them listen to books while they see the words as they go across the screen, tracking their progress and providing learning targets for them to reach. Math applications also help reinforce math concepts learned in the classroom.





 People Helping People

The Gift That Gives All Year Long

In the blink of an eye, an orderly life can turn to disarray. An accident or a devastating diagnosis can derail the ability to work, to pay bills, to put food on the table. In 2000, Randolph EMC developed the People Helping People (PHP) program to help ease the worry that comes with an unexpected crisis.

PHP gives Randolph EMC members the opportunity to help friends and neighbors who are struggling with finances by simply rounding up their electric bill to the nearest dollar each month. The average donation per year is just \$6 and is tax deductible.

“PHP is a great resource that’s available to members who need it most,” said Lauren Ingold, Public Relations Coordinator at REMC. “So many times, we hear from recipients that our donation came ‘at just the right time.’ I encourage each member to participate in this rewarding program. For less than \$1 per month, you really can help make a difference in someone’s life.”

So far in 2014, nearly \$11,825 has been distributed to help 88 families lessen their financial burden. Please call your local office to join the thousands of other members contributing to the People Helping People program and give the gift that gives all year long.

As a thanks for joining the PHP program, we’re entering all of our contributors into a drawing for this 2006 Chevrolet Colorado Truck that has been retired from the REMC fleet! The drawing will take place on December 19, 2014.

LAST CHANCE!



**Be merry & bright,
but don’t let your
holiday lights
shine all night!**

Save money on your electric bill by installing a light timer for your decked out home. It can help lower your electric bill and reduce energy consumption. Use a manual timer plugged into an electrical outlet to automatically turn lights on and off as scheduled.



**REMC Offices
will be closed
December 24-26
for Christmas &
January 1 for
New Year’s.**

Electric Service

Asheboro (336) 625-5177
 (800) 672-8212
 Robbins: (910) 948-3401
 (800) 868-7014
 Power Failures: (877) REMC-OFF
 (877) 736-2633
 Bill Payments: (877) 534-2319
 Office Hours: 8:00 am - 5:00 pm, M-F

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www.RandolphEMC.com  

REMC is an equal opportunity provider & employer.

Cost Savings from Advanced Metering Cuts Reconnection Fees

Since installing advanced digital meters system-wide, REMC has steadily improved service to members while managing rising operating expenses. This technology allows the cooperative to perform meter-related tasks remotely, saving time, gas and labor costs to our members.

Randolph Electric recently began utilizing remote disconnect collars to terminate and restore power to meters from the office. These connection collars are installed as employees make field visits to disconnect accounts. Once a collar is in place, reconnection is as simple as sending a signal from the office to the meter over the power line.

“As a result of limiting the need to send a REMC field crew to someone’s home, we’re able now to reduce the after-hours charges due to using remote disconnects,” notes Jay Albright, District Vice President. “The only fees that now apply will be \$40 (plus tax) for field visits, collar activation and reconnection for delinquent accounts.”

If you have any questions about this change, please contact your local REMC office and talk with one of our knowledgeable member service representatives. A complete, updated fee schedule is available in the online version of REMC’s Service Rules and Regulations at www.RandolphEMC.com.

2015 Appliance Saturation Survey for Residential Members Mailing Soon

Every five years, the Rural Utilities Service requires REMC to conduct an Appliance Saturation Survey of its residential members. The information collected in this mail survey is used to help support and improve load forecasting for the cooperative.

Randolph EMC appreciates your participation in this survey!

SWAP SHOP

2,000 square bales of wheat straw, 36 inches long, \$4 ea. 336-241-2405.

2012 Dutchmen Coleman Camper CT250 GS, EC, used two times. Includes wheel covers, gas covers & sewer hook up equipment. Queen bed, storage, gas stove, fridge, microwave, bathroom. Gas grill, water hose, one slide out, awning, self-contained, sleeps six. \$17,000. 336-684-0976.

Large wood burning stove w/ forced air. Handcrafted by local manufacturer. Constructed from 1/4" steel plate, 32" wide x 28" deep x 36" high. Accommodates logs up to 30 in. Star area. \$500 OBO. 910-428-4704.

Set of Flowmaster Mufflers for Mustang GT 5.0 2010-2012, like new, \$275. 336-498-7020.

Mobile home lot, well & septic, 20' x 24' workshop, fenced in corner lot, almost 1 acre, Pisgah area. \$29,995. 336-824-4669.

Nigerian dwarf goats \$50 - \$100. 336-672-3122 or 336-953-3776.

'01 Buick Regal \$3,000, 133,400 mi. 336-879-5252.

Vintage electric stove, white \$50. Vintage farmhouse sink, white, good condition, \$300. Electric hot water heater in cabinet, \$75. 336-409-5450.

Electric hospital bed \$350. Bed lift \$200. Rollaway bed \$60. Wheelchair \$200. 910-464-5313.

Recording King Banjo & Guitar, Kentucky Mandolin "F" Style, Fender Dobro, Morgan Monroe Banjo & other instruments. Snap on Tonneau Cover for full size pick up, short bed, GC. 1986 Pontoon Boat 16' x 8' 40hp Evinrude motor, runs good, \$2500. 336-633-8706.

Poppytrail-Sculptured Grape china, over 40 pieces including various serving pieces, \$175. 336-629-5019.

1950 BAllis-Chalmers-cultivator frame, drawbar, miscellaneous cultivator parts. \$1800. 910-673-2504.

1986 Honda 200 SX Four Wheeler, runs great! Fair to poor cosmetically, electric or pull start, Asheboro area. \$900. 252-943-8927.

1991 Ford Dump truck. 910-464-3459.

Electric wheelchair, \$100. Pioneer stereo, \$100. TV table w/ stereo shelf, \$50. Flower vases, \$1 ea. Color TVs, \$20 - \$30 ea. Steamer, \$20. New Sentry safe, \$20. Maytag Refrigerator, \$95. Kitchen table, \$30. Microwaves, \$25. Bose speaker, \$100. 55 gallon plastic drums, \$10 ea. Wall mount or free standing natural gas heater w/ remote, \$200. Cappuccino coffee machine, \$65. Christmas tree & stand in box, new, \$5. Walker w/ extra arm attachment, \$30. AB Circle w/ calorie counter, \$80. 336-879-3320.

Two buggies & wagon, antiques. 336-824-4308.

New handmade quilts, full, queen, & king, \$125 - \$150 neg. 336-625-4548.

Pictures, black & white, & color, 8" x 10" \$10 or 10"x13" \$25. All bridges & mills of the Uwharrie River including the Pisgah Covered Bridge. 336-629-2533.

3,000 Red Sex Sal Link pullets, chickens at laying age 16 weeks plus, vaccinated & debeaked, \$6.75 & up, Liberty area. 336-708-2998.

Members, email SwapShop items to General@RandolphEMC.com

High School Juniors & Seniors:

WIN A WEEK-LONG TRIP TO D.C.



In 2015, Randolph Electric will again award one deserving rising high school junior or senior an all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C. the week of June 13-19th. The trip brings together more than 1,500 highly talented, ambitious young people from across the country for an incredible week in the nation's capital to further develop their leadership skills.

From an educational standpoint, Youth Tour:

- Rewards students for academic achievement and community leadership;
- Educates students about the role of electric co-ops in the national economy;
- Fosters students' appreciation for the democratic form of government;
- Exposes students to the sights and sounds of our nation's heritage; and
- Builds students' leadership skills so that they may make a difference in their communities.

The bonus? This trip looks great on college applications, and students will become friends with people from all over North Carolina as well as the United States.

Check out YouthTour.coop to get highlights from the 2014 tour and learn more about what's in store for 2015. For more information or questions, please contact Lauren Ingold, Public Relations Coordinator at Lauren.Ingold@RandolphEMC.com or 336-625-5177. Download your application at www.RandolphEMC.com and send it in before **March 16, 2015!**



"I would highly recommend applying to become the 2015 Randolph Electric Youth Tour Delegate. The opportunity is once in a lifetime and one not to be forgotten."

– Tanner Henson, 2014 Youth Tour Delegate from Randolph EMC

Did You Know?

When you report an outage from a phone number listed on your account, the outage is **LOCATED INSTANTLY.**

That means REMC dispatchers can

SEND CREWS FASTER!

Update your phone numbers by sending in the form here or at any time at www.RandolphEMC.com or by calling your local REMC office.



Please Update My Phone Numbers!

Name (as it appears on your bill)

CIN #

Additional Phone Number

Additional Phone Number

Additional Phone Number

Additional Phone Number

Email Address





A CHRISTMAS CARD THAT SAVES YOU MONEY

The Co-op Connections card offers discounts from local and national retailers, which helps you save on everything from the tree, to the trimmings, to the gifts underneath this Christmas!

Randolph EMC provides the Co-op Connections card free to all of our members, so keep your card handy year-round for up to 85 percent savings on prescription drugs, discounts on vision, dental and hearing aid services, and much more!

Shop Local This Year!

Check out all of the great deals our local businesses have to offer in the Co-op Connections section of RandolphEMC.com.

5 Things to Do Before Winter Weather Causes a Power Outage

Are you ready for winter's cold grasp? Winter storms can bring dreaded snow and ice, and being prepared can make a world of difference, should you have to weather a power outage as a result. Be ready for whatever this winter's got with these five tips:



Make sure your account is updated with any phone numbers that might

be used to report an outage.

When REMC's outage management system recognizes your number, crews can be dispatched to your location up to 30% faster, reducing the amount of time you have to be without power.



Consider winterizing your living space by caulking and weather stripping around

doors and windows to keep warm air inside during extreme cold and hazardous conditions.



Prepare a winter survival kit ahead of time. It should

include:

- food that does not require cooking
- a large supply of water
- prescription medicines,

identification, and bank account and insurance information

- first aid kit, blankets, flashlights, battery-powered radio and extra batteries



Plan for an alternate heating source, such as a fireplace or propane space heater.

Fuel and wood-burning heating sources should always be vented, and make sure carbon monoxide and smoke detectors are working properly.



“Like” Randolph EMC's Facebook page or follow us on

Twitter. These are

both great ways to keep up with the co-op's outage restoration progress, weather developments, emergency services updates and safety reminders. You can also view and share photos related to the winter weather outside.

For more information on preparing for winter storms, visit www.RandolphEMC.com or www.ready.gov.

AWARE

a word about Randolph Electric

by Dale Lambert, CEO

Dear Members,

Where has the year gone? For me, 2014 has flown by. Through the years, more seasoned people than I would make the comment “the older I get, the quicker time flies by.” I’m a believer now. My mom told me many times, “Don’t wish your life away. It’s going to go by quick enough.” I can identify with that saying now.

The past year has certainly been a very busy and productive year at Randolph EMC. Let me give you a recap of the year.



The March ice storm was the most noteworthy winter weather event to hit Randolph EMC’s service area since 2002.

The year started out with a major cold snap referred to as the “polar vortex.” There were 25 days in January when the daily high temperature did not even reach 32 degrees. We also experienced the most single-digit-temperature days—three—since 1994. I remember heading to work one morning and the thermometer reported the temperature at two degrees. That’s cold by any standard, but especially in central North Carolina.

During January, your cooperative set an all-time peak demand of 159 megawatts, eclipsing the old record of 143 megawatts. Energy generation for the month also set a new record at 63,777,770 kilowatt-hours.

Even with record demand recorded on the system, we experienced very few issues in delivering power during those extreme conditions. It’s a testament to our commitment to meeting, and our desire to exceed, the expectations you have entrusted us with.

For 42% of our membership, March was a very eventful month. On March 7th, a significant ice storm hit the northern section of our service area in Randolph, Chatham and Alamance Counties. For Randolph County, 63% of our members and 100% of our members in Alamance

County, were out of power at some point during the storm. This was the most noteworthy ice storm to hit Randolph EMC’s service area since 2002.

I will never forget heading up Highway 42 before sunrise on the morning of the 7th. Just above the Grantville community, it was as if a “magic” line suddenly appeared of ice-laden trees and power lines. There was no gradual ice buildup like we normally experience. It went from nothing to heavy ice loading in a very short distance.

The employees at the Robbins office were assisting by taking outage calls, even though the district office was not affected. Members who came into the office to pay their bills could hear the phones continually ringing and asked what was going on. When members were told we were experiencing a substantial ice storm, they would turn around, look out the window, and with a puzzled look question the validity of the statement. I don’t think some members actually believed us until they saw it on the news.

I’m just glad the storm did not impact more of our members. As bad as this ice storm was, it could have been much, much worse. We brought in additional



line and tree crews from our sister cooperatives and contractors to assist your employee team with the outage restoration efforts.

I am so proud and appreciative of the efforts of our employees and assisting crews during this event. Those that live in the areas that were affected know how bad it was and the great job put forth in restoring power. Our members had their power restored days before their neighboring utilities did.

The year was also very productive in that we introduced new programs and options to help you take control of your energy use, such as MyUsage.com and FlexPay. We’re here as a resource to help you learn how you can best utilize these programs to save money on your bill each month.

As 2014 comes to a close, let me express how much your co-op employees and Board of Directors appreciate the support our members give us throughout the year. It is truly a pleasure to serve you each day.

And as we enter this Christmas season, 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. 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