

Watts Working

Randolph EMC Celebrates 80 Years at Annual Meeting

“Powering Tomorrow...Today” was the theme as an estimated 1,200 people crowded the Southwestern Randolph High School gymnasium for Randolph EMC’s 80th Annual Meeting, held on June 15. More than 500 REMC members registered at the meeting to hear about the current state of their cooperative and for their chance to win one of several door prizes.

Members enjoyed free homemade ice cream from Gilbert’s Old Fashioned Homemade Ice Cream, a children’s show performed by Jon Sundell, safety demonstrations and informational booths. The event also included live bluegrass entertainment by the New Southern Ground band.

During the business meeting, Board President Jerry Bowman updated members on the recent capital credit retirement.

Members also heard the financial report for the cooperative, learned about new services and programs available to members, and listened to an update of Randolph EMC’s community involvement over the past year.

In a special presentation, REMC’s 2017 Rural Electric Youth Tour Delegate, Macy Daniel, shared her experience in Washington, D.C., last summer.

In addition, all three incumbent directors were re-elected: Del Cranford to District 5; Steve Harris, District 8; and Billy Maness, District 9. Following the meeting, the board of directors elected the following slate of officers: Jerry Bowman, President; Tammie Phillips, Vice President; Billy Maness, Secretary-Treasurer; and Lee Isley, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer.



Did You Miss This Year’s Annual Meeting?

Read Dale Lambert’s AWARE Column on page F to learn some of the innovative ways we’re “Powering Tomorrow... Today.” View & download photos from the event at: bit.ly/REMC2018AnnMtg

INSIDE...

B Apply for Bright Ideas by August 15

C Pole Top Rescue Competition

D Energy Savings Tips for Summer

E Call Before You Dig

F Dale Lambert’s AWARE Column



Autumn Jones Attends NC State Basketball Camp on Scholarship from REMC

Autumn Jones, a rising 8th grader at Southwestern Randolph Middle School, expanded her knowledge of basketball at the Wolfpack Women's Basketball Camp June 10-13 at NC State University in Raleigh. Autumn is the daughter of Kristen Jones of Franklinville.

During the camp, Autumn stayed in a dorm and experienced life as a college student, and also developed fundamental skills that will help her excel on and off the court. NC State coaches and student-athletes worked directly with campers to improve their basketball skills and practice working as a team.

"Autumn is an outstanding student, athlete and community member," said Kathleen Duckworth, communication and outreach specialist at REMC. "We are proud to partner with the university to help provide such a unique leadership and learning experience for local students."

Touchstone Energy Sports Camp Scholarships are awarded to more than 50 middle-school students statewide each year. Scholarship winners are selected based on an application that includes academics, extracurricular activities and an essay.



What's Your Bright Idea? Apply Early for the Chance to Win Extra Cash!

Early Bird Deadline: August 15

Attention, teachers! Do you have an idea for a creative learning project geared toward giving your students a new way to learn? Apply for a Bright Ideas grant!

Educators who submit a grant application by the early bird deadline of August 15, are entered to win one of five \$100 gift cards! Randolph Electric is awarding \$12,000 this year to educators with creative ideas to bring hands-on learning to students in K-12



classrooms. The final deadline to apply is September 19, but it could pay to apply early.

For more information or to start your application, go to NCBrightIdeas.com.

Be a Co-op Voter in This Year's Midterm Election



Cooperative members made a tremendous impact on the 2016 election and we have seen our elected officials pay greater attention to our issues as a result. Reliable electricity, rural economic development and access to rural broadband are just a few of the issues we all care about. These issues will only become priorities if we continue to express our concerns to our elected officials. Let's maintain our high voter turnout during this year's midterm election so that our issues will continue to gain traction at the NC General Assembly and in Congress.

Visit VOTE.COOP for information about registering to vote, who your representatives are and issues that are important to your electric cooperative.

REMC Lineman to Participate in Statewide Pole Top Rescue Competition

Local Apprentice Lineman Austin Whitaker will represent Randolph EMC at the Statewide Pole Top Rescue Competition hosted by North Carolina's Electric Cooperatives on Tuesday, September 25, in Raleigh.

Whitaker will compete against the clock and competitors from other electric cooperatives across the state at this biennial event that showcases lifesaving skills, as well as the technique, agility and safety knowledge required to maintain the lines that power our daily lives. Each competitor won a local competition before advancing to the championship in Raleigh.

During the competition, each lineman must perform in a scenario that finds a fellow worker unconscious atop a utility pole. The competitor, dressed in full climbing gear, must radio for help, climb 20 feet up a utility pole, rig a rope, lower a 105-pound mannequin

and begin CPR. Previous winners have completed this rigorous series of tasks in less than two minutes. All North Carolina electric cooperative line workers must execute this scenario in less than five minutes to maintain their certification to work on co-op lines.

Whitaker joined Randolph Electric as an apprentice lineman in 2016. He achieved a time of 2:41 in the local competition held at the Asheboro office on April 19, 2018, which earned him the honor of competing in the statewide championship. In the event he cannot compete, Apprentice Lineman Ryan Kivett, with a runner-up time



of 3:11, will take his place to represent Randolph EMC.

To cheer on Austin Whitaker and receive competition updates in real time, follow @NCelectriccoop and @RandolphEMC on Twitter using #ncpoletop on Sept. 25. The event kicks off at 9 a.m. and will end by 1 p.m. Best of luck, Austin!

Summer Vacations Can Turn Into Energy Savings

Taking a summer vacation? Whether you're headed down the street or around the world, here are some easy adjustments to make before you leave so you can save energy and money while you're away.

- 1** Turn up the thermostat. Setting your thermostat to 85 degrees will prevent your air conditioning system from working overtime to cool your home while you're not there.
- 2** Turn down the water heater. Similarly, turning your water heater down to the lowest setting will ensure that you are not using energy to heat water when you don't need it.
- 3** Turn off the lights. Turn off all unnecessary lights and consider using a timer if you want to use a light for security at night.
- 4** Turn off AND unplug electronics. Electronic devices like computers, TVs and microwaves use energy even when they are turned off. Use a power strip so that you can fully shut down all of your unused devices with a single flip of a switch.
- 5** Turn to technology. Technology can be a huge help when it comes to saving energy while you're not at home. Smart and programmable thermostats can be set to automatically adjust the temperature setting when you are away from home. In addition, smart thermostats are Internet-connected and allow you to remotely control the temperature in your home from your phone, computer or tablet. Also, don't forget you can monitor your home's energy use on our online member service portal. If you notice a sudden spike, you'll know it's likely the sign of a bigger issue, like a leaking water heater.



Capital Credits Allocation for 2017

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 \$4,251,341 at the close of 2017. This amount has been disbursed among the capital credit accounts of members who had an active electric account during 2017. Each member's share is based on a percentage of the \$4,251,341, 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 2017 only represents a portion of 2017's total allocation.

Calculate Your Allocation

1

Add together all of the energy-related charges from each monthly electric bill you received in 2017.

2

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

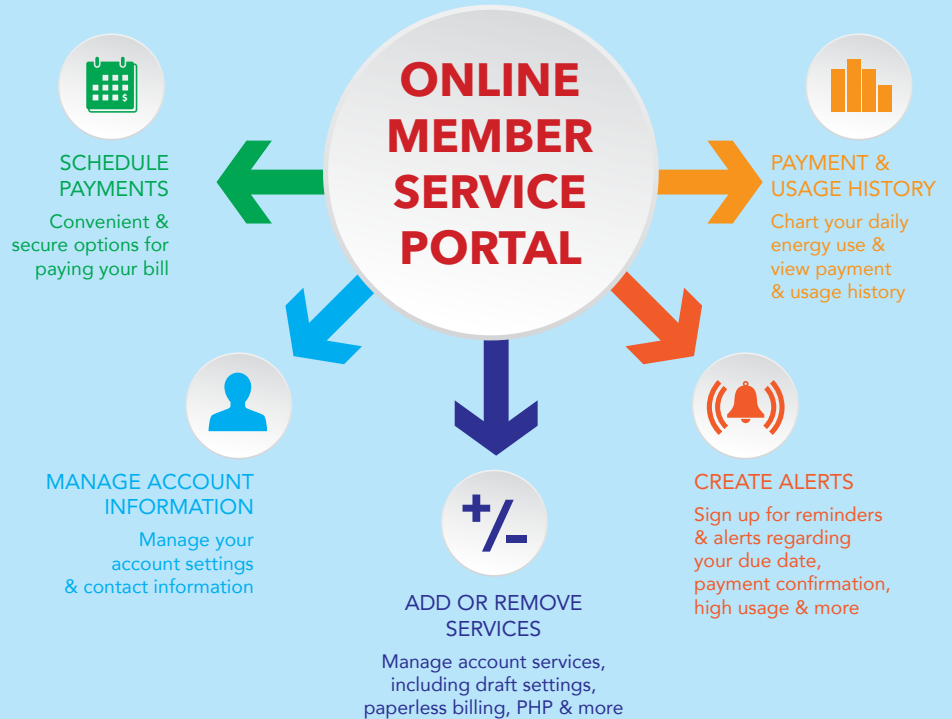
3

Multiply this total by 0.069355. This will give you the capital credits amount allocated to your account for 2017.

Stop By Our Virtual Office

Access your account at any time at RandolphEMC.com to check your electricity usage, make a payment, add or remove services, manage your contact information and more!

RandolphEMC.com Randolph EMC Mobile App



Join Randolph EMC in Recognizing 8/11 as a Reminder to Call 811 Before You Dig



On August 11 (8/11), Randolph EMC is reminding members to call 8-1-1 at least three working days before beginning a digging project. This free and simple step can save lives and reduce risk of injury, repair costs, fines and inconvenient outages.

“Every time you break ground, even for something simple like planting a shrub or installing a mailbox, you should call 811 first,” said Jeff McDuffie, safety & environmental coordinator for REMC. “No matter

your level of expertise, it’s important to know what’s below the ground to prevent the potentially serious consequences of hitting a utility line.”

The national 811 “Call Before You Dig” phone number links residents to a local call center, which then dispatches local utility companies to mark line locations with paint or flags. These marked lines show you where it is – and isn’t – safe to break ground. Once your lines have been marked, make sure to dig carefully around the marks, not on top of them. Because utility line locations can shift, it’s important to call each time you are planning to dig.

For more information about safe digging and the “Call Before You Dig” process, visit NC811.org.

A Word About Randolph Electric

From CEO Dale Lambert

POWERING TOMORROW, TODAY

Dear Members,

It's early July and it's hot. Today's predicted high temp is 95 degrees. But throw in that sultry North Carolina humidity and it feels like 103.

There are plenty of sayings to describe how hot it is. "It's so hot, you can fry an egg on the hood of the car." "It's so hot, I saw chickens picking up worms with pot holders." "It's so hot, I saw a fire hydrant chasing a dog." The pig said, "It's so hot outside, I'm bacon." Okay, I better stop right there.

But wouldn't it be nice to have just a trace of those single digit temps we had in early January float by on a breeze? Talk about refreshing. It makes me want another cup of that homemade ice cream we had at the REMC annual meeting a few weeks ago.

Even with the hot temperatures, we've got it pretty good today compared to life before electricity came to the rural areas of central North Carolina. Imagine getting up this morning and having to fire up the old wood cook stove in order to prepare breakfast, in an already hot house.

I have a hard time imagining living without air conditioning today. I vividly remember in my younger days, we didn't have air conditioning and I would lay on the floor at night in front of a fan to stay cool. Our first car with air conditioning was a used 1967 Ford Galaxie 500 — and it was an add-on mounted under the dash! But I can still remember thinking we had hit the big time. Ah, the good ol' days.

In those good ol' days, many futuristic concepts appeared that seemed so far-fetched, it was hard to imagine them ever becoming a reality. Let me give you a few.



Dick Tracy is a tough talking, crime-fighting comic character that debuted in 1931. In 1946, a new tool was added to his crime-fighting toolbox, a wristwatch that he could communicate through. It took a lot of years, but today, smartwatches are the norm.

What about the popular primetime TV show that originally aired in 1962, *The Jetsons*? Many of the wild concepts at that time that made their lives easier are the norm today. Take their robotic maid, Rosie. She followed George around constantly sweeping the floor behind him. Today, there are many compact, robotic vacuum cleaner options on the market that can even be activated from, you guessed it, your smartwatch.

Sidenote: Guys, don't believe the notion that your wife doesn't want you to buy her a vacuum cleaner for Christmas. Trust me, if she doesn't already have a robotic vacuum cleaner, you will gain some major brownie points by gifting her one. I found a really great deal around Christmas and bought my wife (and in full disclosure, me too) a Roomba iRobot. How did we survive without it? It's almost as good as having Rosie around.

Jane Jetson communicated with her mom by sitting in front of a screen. Today we call it FaceTime or Skype. This technology only became important to me a few months ago when our first grandchild was born and lives in another state. How would we live without it?

When Elroy Jetson wasn't feeling well, they didn't make a trip to the doctor's office. The doctor examination occurred through a screen. Today we have the capability for virtual doctor visits from the comfort of our homes.

Who could forget the Jetson's mode of transportation, their flying car? Just do an internet search on flying cars and you will be amazed what already exists.

Technology certainly has its pros and cons and its place. If we're not careful, we can become too dependent, and in some cases, develop an unhealthy addiction to it.

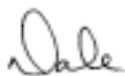
But as we shared at the annual meeting, at Randolph EMC, we are "Powering Tomorrow, Today" with services, offerings and technology platforms to make doing business with us more convenient for you, especially on the go:

- Our recently launched outage texting program called SPOTT Alerts (Status of Power Outages Through Text) is the latest in offerings to provide you the capability and information you need about power outages, when you need it.
- The Online Member Service Portal and Mobile App are your connections to our virtual office for members who want to manage their accounts remotely.
- Usage monitoring and high usage alerts put you in control of your power bill by letting you know exactly how much electricity you're using BEFORE you receive a potentially high bill in the mail. Take this one step further and opt to pre-pay for your electricity with our FlexPay program so that you'll never have to worry about paying a high monthly power bill again.
- And through the Randolph EMC Electric Vehicle Utility Program (REVUP), we are working with members to gather EV charging data in order to efficiently manage this new load while providing an innovative rate option so all members benefit.

We've not completely sold out to technology and haven't lost the personal touch, though. Whether in the office, over the phone or on the other end of a webform, we appreciate the opportunity to serve you in whatever way you choose.

Well, it's lunchtime and I'm ready for a big scoop of ice cream.

Cooperatively Yours,



Dale F. Lambert
Chief Executive Officer



Randolph Electric Membership Corporation provides safe and reliable power with exceptional value to more than 32,000 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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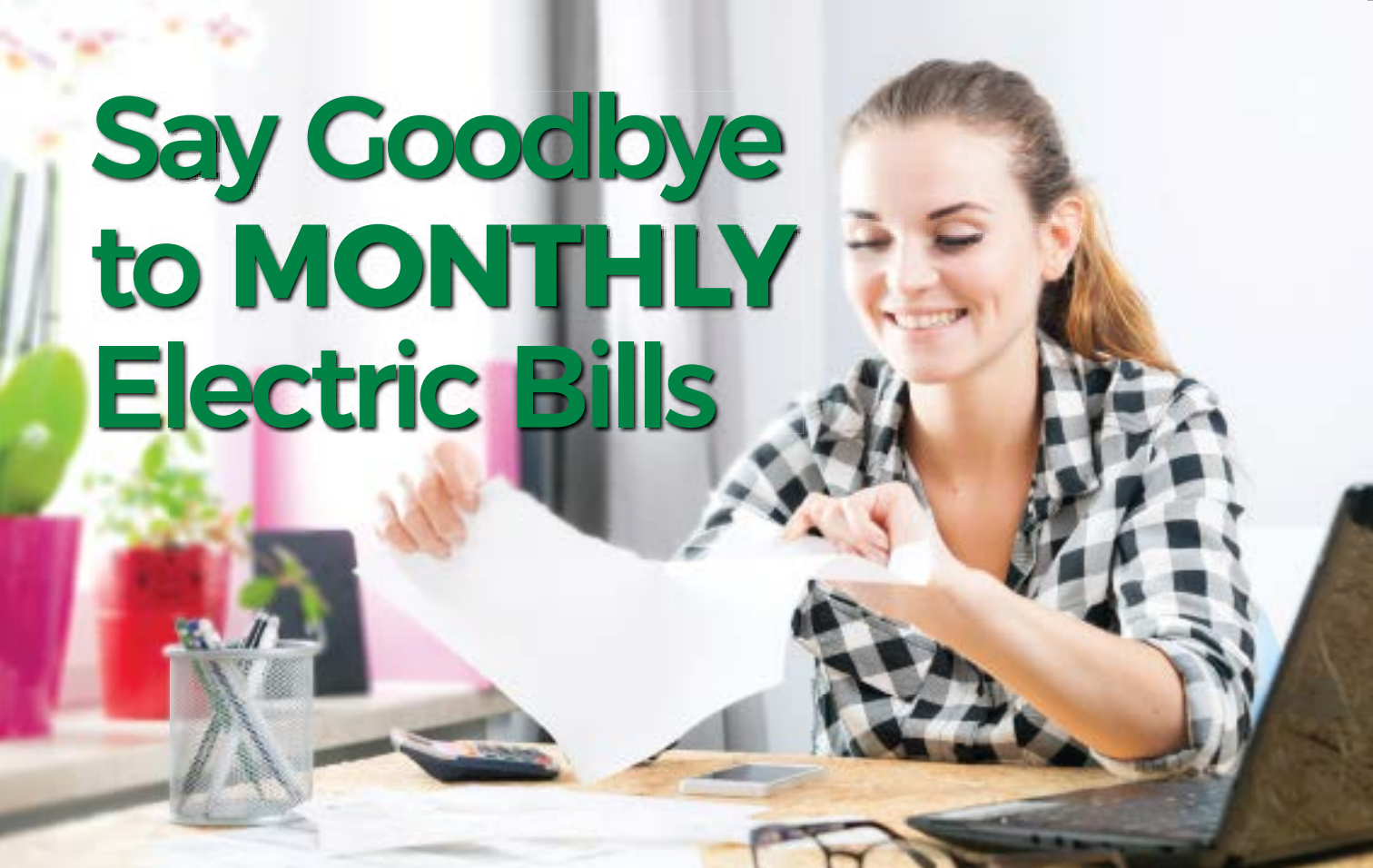
Kathleen Duckworth Associate Editor

Visit Randolph EMC Online

RandolphEMC.com



Say Goodbye to MONTHLY Electric Bills



FLEXPAY
A PREPAID ENERGY SOLUTION FROM  Randolph EMC

FlexPay is the prepaid energy service that lets you better plan around your lifestyle, schedule and budget.

With FlexPay's pay-as-you-go service, there are no due dates, no late or reconnect fees, and you decide how much or how little pay to maintain a positive balance in your account.

With daily alerts, it's easy to know your current account balance and how much electricity was used. And as an added bonus, you might even save money each month because you're more aware of your energy consumption!

FlexPay members can purchase electricity as needed and in the amount they choose using these convenient payment options:



RandolphEMC.com

Online Member Service Portal



1-855-4FLEXPAY

An account service phone line specifically for FlexPay members



Randolph EMC Mobile App*

Available in the App Store or Google Play

*Requires online member service portal username & password

Call your local office to give FlexPay a try today!

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