

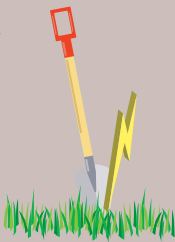


February 2010

Serving 12,000 members of Albemarle Electric Membership Corporation

Dial Before Digging

You never really know what's below the surface when you dig. You may chop right into underground power lines. In addition to causing outages, this is very dangerous. Before digging in your yard, have the underground electric lines located. Please give us three days notice before you dig. Call us at (252) 426-5735.



Glenn Parks Assumes Operations Manager Position

Glenn Parks will take over as manager of operations for Albemarle EMC, after serving a year as an assistant to former Operations Manager Jimmie Keeter.

Keeter retired in January after working more than four decades for the co-op.

As manager of operations, Parks will oversee 10 linemen, two servicemen, a warehouse supervisor and a maintenance technician. He will also be responsible for coordinating with electrical contracting companies, which are occasionally hired by the co-op.



Parks brings with him a wealth of experience to the position. He began working for Albemarle EMC in 1978 as an apprentice lineman. He later was promoted to first-class lineman in 1985. In 2003, he was promoted to crew leader. Then in 2009, Parks was promoted to assistant operations manager, where he worked under Jimmie Keeter, learning the position.

"I would like to thank Jimmie for all the support he has given me," Parks said. "Jimmie will be missed not only as a good operations manager, but also as a good friend. I wish him the very best in his years to come. The operations department is staffed with quality people. I'm going to do my best to continue the traditions of working safely and providing quality service to our consumers."

Albemarle Sounds

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Visit our Web site at:
www.albemarle-emc.com

For outages, call
1-800-274-2072

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Electricity Safety Demonstration Available for Teachers

Albemarle EMC offers an exciting electricity safety program for school children.

This 30 to 45-minute electrical safety program uses a Hazard Hamlet demonstration device to bring awareness to typical situations a child could encounter involving electricity. Unsafe situations are punctuated by figurines that light up as well as actual arcing electricity and simulated flame effects. Subjects include electrical safety around water, power lines, household appliances, substations and utility vehicles.

This free electrical safety program is available for kindergarten through 5th grade. For more information, call Chris Powell at 426-5735 Ext. 2298.



Youth Tour Competition Begins

Area 11th-grade students have the chance to compete for the opportunity of a lifetime.

Albemarle Electric Membership Corporation will sponsor a seven-day, all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C., June 12-18, for the student who wins an essay-writing competition. Students who enter will prepare a short essay on one of five topics related to electrical co-ops and electricity use.

In addition, the student chosen will also have the opportunity to compete for the \$2,500 Gwyn B. Price Youth Tour Scholarship and the \$2,000 Katie Bunch Memorial Scholarship. The third scholarship, worth \$2,000, will be awarded to the student selected for the Youth Leadership Council, which is a national advisory committee to the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

Eleventh-grade students attending any of the schools in Chowan, Currituck, Camden, Pasquotank and Perquimans counties can apply. Essay and application forms can be found by visiting www.albemarle-emc.com and clicking on the Washington Youth Tour link found on the home page. Completed essays are due by March 9 and should be mailed to Chris Powell, Albemarle Electric Membership Corporation, P.O. Box 69, Hertford, NC 27944-0069. For more information, call (252) 426-2586 and ask for Chris Powell, or e-mail Chris Powell at chris.powell@albemarle.ncemcs.com.

The Washington Youth Tour provides the winning 11th-grade student the opportunity to see Washington, D.C. in a way that most never will be able to. During their stay, students from across North Carolina will tour historic sites, visit with North Carolina representatives and have a chance to meet students representing other electric cooperatives.



Youth tourists from around the United States have an opportunity to meet each other and socialize.

Statement of Nondiscrimination

Albemarle Electric Membership Corporation (AEMC) is a recipient of federal financial assistance from the Rural Utilities Service (RUS), an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and is subject to the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended; and the rules and regulations of the U.S. Department of Agriculture which provide that no person in the United States on the basis of race, color, national origin, age or disability shall be excluded from participation in, admission or access to, denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any of this organization's programs or activities.

The person responsible for coordinating this organization's nondiscrimination compliance effort is Brad Furr, executive vice president and general manager of Albemarle Electric Membership Corporation. Any individual, or specific class of individuals, who feels that this organization has subjected them to discrimination may file a written complaint with this organization; or the Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250; or the Administrator, Rural Utilities Service, Washington, D.C. Complaints must be filed within 180 days after the alleged discrimination action, or by such later date to which the Secretary of Agriculture or the Administrator of the Rural Utilities Service extends the time for filing. Identity of complainants will be kept confidential except to the extent necessary to carry out the purpose of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Basketball Camp Applications Being Accepted

Albemarle EMC will send one girl to the women's basketball camp at N.C. State University and one boy to the camp at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

"This will be an unforgettable experience for the two scholarship winners, and we're proud to play a part," said Brad Furr, general manager of Albemarle EMC.

The scholarships are available to students in sixth through eighth grades. Applications for both camps will be accepted through March 26. Winners will be announced by May 3. Winners of the Touchstone Energy Roy Williams Basketball Camp scholarship will attend

the overnight camp from June 19-23. Winners of the Touchstone Energy Kellie Harper Basketball Camp scholarship will attend from June 20-23. Campers must have permission from a parent or guardian to attend camp and must provide their own transportation to and from the camp.

Sixth through eighth-grade students interested in the scholarships can contact Chris Powell, director of public relations for Albemarle EMC, at (252) 426-2586. Students will be judged on their academics, extracurricular activities and an essay that must accompany each application.

Both camps will be conducted by

players and coaches from each team. Attendees will be taught fundamentals that will help both on and off the court.



Participants at last year's Kellie Harper Basketball Camp, at N.C. State University, gather for a group photo.



At Your Service

How Albemarle EMC works to provide its members with the highest-quality service possible.

What Not to Do to Save Energy Dollars

When it comes to implementing energy saving methods in your home, sometimes it's what you don't do that ends up saving you money in the long run.

Take replacement windows for example. Albemarle EMC does not recommend ever replacing windows to save on your electric bill. The following is a typical scenario, courtesy of Advanced Energy, that explains why: Auntie Em wants to save money and cut down the drafts during those long, cold winter nights.

A nice young man from the Cure-All Window Company, which she has seen advertised on TV came by and told her that his low-e coated, argon filled, double-paned windows were 50 percent more efficient than the windows she currently has. They even have a sale going on. They will replace all 20 of the windows on her house for just \$200 a window, a total cost of \$4,000.

annually, so \$1,000 is used to heat and cool the house. Dorothy also knows that, on average, 10 percent of the heating and cooling energy use is attributed to heat lost or gained through the windows. So Dorothy can now estimate that Auntie Em's 20 inefficient windows cost her a total of about \$100 in lost energy per year. Dorothy also remembered that the Cure All Window Company's sales rep said the new replacement windows would be 50 percent more efficient, so Dorothy knows that the most the replacement windows can save her aunt is a total of \$50 per year. Dorothy then easily calculates that in order for her Aunt Em to get back her \$4,000 investment in replacement windows, she will have to live in the house an additional 80 years. Dorothy recommends to her Aunt that instead of buying the replacement windows, she hire a local handy man to caulk the existing windows, at a fraction of the cost.

water heaters only heat the water as it is being used, they are believed to be a wise investment. However, a closer look reveals that is not always the case.

One of the biggest drawbacks is that because tankless water heaters supply an unlimited amount of hot water, the use of hot water tends to become unlimited, which would negate any electricity savings. Also, there is a large up-front cost to having a tankless water heater installed. According to the Cooperative Research Network, a conventional tank water heater with 4,500-watt elements operates on No. 10 wire and a 30-amp circuit breaker. One whole-house tankless water heater has four 7,000-watt elements for a total electrical load of 28,000 watts. This load requires wire and a circuit breaker that will handle at least 120 amps, at a cost many times that of an electrical service to a conventional tank water heater. The load will also require a larger and more expensive meter loop and main panel for the house.

Electric tankless water heaters also can have trouble keeping up with the demand for hot water in a house. As hot water taps are opened in a house, the volume of water flowing through the tankless heater increases and the water temperature correspondingly decreases. Your shower may not be as warm if the dishwasher and washing machine are also running.

The bottom line is that homeowners are much better served by installing either a high efficiency conventional water heater, or applying insulation wraps to their existing hot water heater along with timers and low-flow shower heads.

Beware Replacement Windows

Total cost of windows 20 windows X \$200:	= \$4,000
Annual heating and cooling costs:	= \$1,000
Annual Energy lost through windows:	= \$100
Annual savings from new windows:	= \$50
Time needed before new windows start to save money:	= 80 Years

Auntie Em's niece Dorothy, a graduate of the Building and Science Department at Appalachian State University, doesn't think this is the best way for Auntie Em to save on her energy bill. Dorothy knows that, on average, half of a home's energy use is attributed to heating and cooling. Auntie Em's electric bills total \$2,000

Electric Tankless Water Heaters

Next to heating and cooling costs, hot water heaters are the biggest consumers of kilowatts in your house. Lately, some homeowners have been switching to tankless water heaters, believing they can save money. Because tankless