

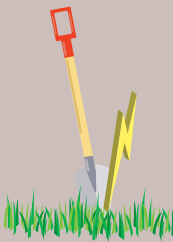


August 2009

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.



Member's Annual Meeting Set for Sept. 19

The Annual Meeting of Albemarle EMC members is set for Saturday, Sept. 19 at Perquimans High School, in Hertford.

Member registration will begin at 12:30 p.m. The business meeting is scheduled to start at 2 p.m.

For the past several years, your annual report has been attached to the September issue of *Carolina Country* magazine. We ask that you detach the annual report, which includes your registration and proxy card, and bring the registration card to the Annual Meeting. The card will save you time during registration.

In the event you will not be able to attend, we suggest that you execute your proxy card to allow another person to vote for you at the meeting. Follow the instructions on the proxy card and mail the card to P.O. Box 69, Hertford, N.C. 27944.

We encourage you, as a cooperative member, to attend your meeting. According to Albemarle EMC bylaws, members are to meet once a year to conduct co-op business. During the business session, you will elect three directors. Directors up for re-election this year are: Glenn Carey (Camden), John Spence (Pasquotank) and Virgie Whitehurst (All Counties).

Members who register before 2 p.m. will each receive a \$2 bill. In addition, cash prizes will be awarded. To be eligible for prizes, a member must be present during the drawing.



Members check out energy efficiency displays at the 2008 Annual Meeting.

Albemarle Sounds

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

For outages, call
1-800-274-2072

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 
The power of human connections®

Capital Credits Allocated

Capital credits for 2008 have been allocated. All members who purchased power from Albemarle EMC last year have now been allocated a portion of the 2008 margins. Your capital credits continue to accrue until such time that we refund that year.

Closed for Labor Day

We will be closed
Monday, Sept. 7th
for the Labor Day
Weekend.

Be Prepared for Hurricane Season

The months of August and September have historically been bad ones for North Carolina regarding hurricane season.

It's been a while since Hurricane Isabel tore through eastern North Carolina, but we all know that it can and will happen again. Here are some tips to help you prepare in the event we are visited by another large storm:



- Make sure you have flashlights, battery-powered lanterns and other sources of light. Check batteries in flashlights and radios and keep medicine, first-aid supplies and baby items on hand.
- Be sure to gas up all of your cars, withdraw some cash and stock up on ice.
- Draw an emergency water supply. Also, stock up on bottled water, non-perishable food items and extra batteries. It's also a good idea to have an alternate location you can go to if you have special needs.
- Important family documents should also be secured.
- If you are using a generator, be sure to follow these precautions. Always follow the manufacturer's instructions. Never run an electric generator inside a building or home. Generators must have proper ventilation and airflow around them. Keep children away from generators. Never plug a generator into a household outlet or other home wiring. Instead, use an extension cord to plug in lights and appliances directly into the generator. Be sure the extension cord is the proper size wire to carry the electric load. Make sure to never overload a generator, using it only when necessary and only for essential equipment.

AEMC Offers CFL Bulb Recycling

If you have an unbroken compact fluorescent light (CFL) bulb that is no longer functioning, now you can bring it to Albemarle EMC's office, where it will be safely stored for future recycling.

The co-op recently contracted the services of Air Cycle Corporation, which specializes in recycling CFL bulbs. Air Cycle Corporation supplies a sealable 10-gallon bucket to the co-op which is used to store the bulbs. Once the bucket is full, it is shipped to the recycling company. The bulbs are then removed from the bucket and placed into a machine that automatically separates the parts of the bulb. The machine is brought to subpressure to prevent the mercury vapor from being released. The mercury vapor, glass, aluminum end caps and phosphorous are all separated for later reuse.

The glass is used for sand blasting and is used in reflective paint. The mercury goes back into new bulbs. The aluminum is used for non-food containers, said Joe Day, a senior account executive with Air Cycle Corporation.

Once the materials have been processed by the facility, and official certificate of recycling will be sent to the co-op for record-keeping.

Albemarle EMC will only accept unbroken CFL bulbs for recycling. Members can bring the bulbs to the co-op's office at 159 Creek Drive, Hertford and leave them with a member service representative. According to state and federal regulations, fluorescent bulbs can be disposed of by double-wrapping them in a plastic bag and placing them in the garbage.



This container will be used to store and transport CFL bulbs to the recycling center.



Albemarle EMC will only accept bulbs like the one shown above.

Please Bring Toys to Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting in September kicks off Albemarle EMC's Light Up Christmas toy drive.

Please remember to bring a gift when attending the meeting on Sept. 19.

Initiated in 2004, Light Up Christmas has provided toys to more than 2,000 children who otherwise may not have had any gifts to unwrap. Toys have been donated by Albemarle EMC members, employees, board of directors and vendors. Please join us to make this year's toy drive a success.



Co-op Holds Rescue Competitions

Matt Byrum turned in the fastest time at the Albemarle EMC pole-top-rescue competition.

Byrum was able to complete the timed event in two minutes, 32 seconds.

The pole-top-rescue competition involves a series of steps linemen must perform. It begins with radioing in a Mayday call to the office, then putting on all climbing and safety gear. The linemen must then climb the pole and attach a rope to a training dummy, which is lowered to the ground. The event ends after linemen have simulated performing CPR.

The co-op also held a bucket-rescue competition. Kevin Bailey recorded the fastest time of one minute, 32 seconds.





At Your Service

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

Plan to Attend Annual Meeting

by Brad Furr, general manager of Albemarle EMC

As a member of an electric cooperative, you have a voice in the way your business is operated. Each year Albemarle EMC holds its annual meeting. At those meetings, the business of the electric cooperative is conducted. One important aspect of your annual business meeting is the election of board members. Albemarle EMC board members serve three-year terms. Cooperative bylaws ensure that each of the cooperative's districts is represented on the board of directors. The board meets at least one time per month to review policy, evaluate the financial condition of the business, and take action on necessary items.

Our motivation is not to provide profit for shareholders; yet to provide service to our members. Consider that as a consumer of electricity from Albemarle EMC, you are an owner of the corporation. When revenues exceed expenses in a given year, those margins are booked as patronage capital. The margins are assimilated to profits in a for-profit business. Your board of directors, along with the management team, review the financial condition of the company and determine how much of the patronage capital to return to the members in a given period. Then, a refund is made based on each member's contribution to the margin for the return year.

With our cooperative, each member has one vote. This gives a retired individual on a fixed income the same voting power as a thriving business owner. This manner of governance is a result of the following cooperative principles that Albemarle EMC operates under.

1. Voluntary and Open Membership -- Cooperatives are voluntary organizations, open to all persons able to use their services and willing to accept the responsibilities of membership, without gender, social, racial, political, or religious discrimination.

2. Democratic Member Control -- Cooperatives are democratic organizations controlled by their members, who actively participate in setting policies and making decisions. The elected representatives are accountable to the membership. In primary cooperatives, members have equal voting rights (one member, one vote) and cooperatives at other levels are organized in a democratic manner.

3. Members' Economic Participation -- Members contribute equitably to, and democratically control, the capital of their cooperative. At least part of that capital is usually the common

property of the cooperative. Members usually receive limited compensation, if any, on capital subscribed as a condition of membership. Members allocate surpluses for any or all of the following purposes: developing the cooperative, possibly by setting up reserves, part of which at least would be indivisible; benefiting members in proportion to their transactions with the cooperative; and supporting other activities approved by the membership.

4. Autonomy and Independence -- Cooperatives are autonomous, self-help organizations controlled by their members. If they enter into agreements with other organizations, including governments, or raise capital from external sources, they do so on terms that ensure democratic control by their members and maintain their cooperative autonomy.

5. Education, Training, and Information -- Cooperatives provide education and training for their members, elected representatives, managers, and employees so they can contribute effectively to the development of their cooperatives. They inform the general public, particularly young people and opinion leaders, about the nature and benefits of cooperation.

6. Cooperation Among Cooperatives -- Cooperatives serve their members most effectively and strengthen the cooperative movement by working together through local, national, regional, and international structures.

7. Concern for Community -- While focusing on member needs, cooperatives work for the sustainable development of their communities through policies accepted by their members.

As you can see, these guiding principles provide an outline for conducting business that will be good for our members and the communities where they live. Now that you know how the business is structured, it is important that you do your part and make plans to attend your annual meeting. The Albemarle EMC annual business meeting is scheduled for September 19, 2009 at 2:00 p.m. Registration will begin at 12:30 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Perquimans County High School auditorium. At the meeting, you will learn about the state of our industry, your cooperative's financial condition, and what to expect with future electric bills. You will also have a chance to win door prizes. I hope that you will come out to support your company and talk about what is on your mind. I look forward to seeing you there.