

Graduates, check out the scholarship deadlines on page 36.



## this issue

Electric Lines 34

Recipe 35

Annual Meeting 35

2016 Airshow 36

## Teachers: Apply now for Bright Ideas education grants!

Here at Halifax EMC, April means the beginning of a new season of Bright Ideas education grants! The Bright Ideas grant program is offered by all 26 of North Carolina's electric cooperatives and supports educators in need of funding to implement creative, hands-on learning projects in their classrooms.

Since 1994, North Carolina's electric co-ops have awarded more than \$10.2 million in Bright Ideas grants to teachers statewide. More than 9,800 classroom projects benefiting well over 2 million North Carolina students have been made possible because of these grants.

Halifax EMC is accepting applications for Bright Ideas grants for the 2016–17 school year beginning Friday, April 1, through Sept. 23. Teachers in K–12 classrooms with innovative ideas for hands-on learning projects are encouraged to apply for a grant up to \$2,000. Last year, Halifax EMC awarded over \$7,500 for 11 projects supporting local teachers and students.

It could pay to apply early: All teachers who submit their applications by the early bird deadline of Aug. 15 will be entered into a drawing for a Visa gift card.

Teachers at qualifying schools can apply individually or as a team, and grants are available for all subjects. To apply, or for more information about the Bright Ideas grant program, visit [www.NCBrightIdeas.com](http://www.NCBrightIdeas.com).



## Hali-facts

Published monthly by Halifax Electric Membership Corporation, Enfield, NC. Comments, articles, and photographs are welcomed.

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*Executive Vice President  
& General Manager*

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### **Business Hours**

8:30 a.m.–5 p.m.

### **Locations**

Enfield/Macon: (252) 445-5111

[www.halifaxemc.com](http://www.halifaxemc.com)

## Tell Us...

Halifax EMC is your electric cooperative. Your comments and questions are very important to us. Please tell us how we may improve our service. Return your comments/questions along with your payment, or e-mail them to [bamartin@halifaxemc.com](mailto:bamartin@halifaxemc.com). Specific account questions will be answered personally. Remember to include your account number for these types of questions.



## Electric Lines

“The annual meeting is a special time for co-op members to gather.”

by Charles H. Guerry

*Executive Vice President & General Manager*

It's that time of year again; Halifax EMC is gearing up for the 2016 annual meeting, which will be held Saturday, May 21 at Inborden Elementary/Enfield Middle School starting at 9:30 a.m.

The annual meeting is a special time for co-op members to gather, share experiences, hear from co-op leadership and, perhaps most importantly, find out who you elected as your new board members through the mail-in ballot process.

Halifax EMC employees work hard to host this fun event, and we encourage you to attend and exercise some of the many rights you have as a member of an electric cooperative. We know the food, games and prizes are the best parts of the meeting, but there is so much more to the event.

Did you know the annual meeting is an occasion to discuss and learn more about the issues affecting our community? This is an opportunity to learn more about the topics that impact you and talk about what we as a community can do to address our most pressing challenges and take advantage of available opportunities.

Your electric cooperative is not owned by far-away investors, and

it is not run by an appointed board of directors. Your electric cooperative is run by a democratically elected board that is given the privilege to serve because of your vote.

So, at this year's annual meeting, not only will you have a blast (and maybe win a prize!), but you will feel good knowing that you had a voice in a very important decision that impacts one of our most vital resources, electricity.

Your mail-in ballot and registration card will be included with the next month's issue of Carolina Country. Mail your ballot in by May 18 and be entered in a drawing for an electric service credit. Be on the lookout!

From all of your friends at Halifax EMC, we hope to see you May 21 at the annual meeting.



# Annual Meeting 2016

Remember to mark your calendar for the Co-op's 77th Annual Meeting of the Membership to be held Saturday, May 21, at Inborden Elementary/Enfield Middle School on Highway 481 in Enfield. Register between 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. so that

your name will be included in the drawing for door prizes, enjoy a continental breakfast served by the Volunteers In Action, check out the booths and guest vendors, let the kids play outside and have a BBQ and fried chicken plate provided by Abram's of Scotland Neck.



## Important Dates

- April 25 . . . . . Notice of Annual Meeting & Ballots Mailed
- May 18 . . . . . Deadline for Ballots\*
- May 19 . . . . . Validation & Counting Ballots
- May 21 . . . . . Annual Meeting  
(Inborden/Enfield Middle School)

\* Return your ballot by May 18 in order to be entered in a drawing for an electric service credit.

## Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month



Earth Day is April 22. Give back to the environment by planting a deciduous tree near your home. Deciduous trees lose their leaves during the fall, allowing sunlight to warm your home. The extra shade during summer months will keep your home cooler and give your AC a much needed break.



## RECIPE OF THE MONTH

### Spring Slaw

- 3 Tbs low-fat sour cream
- 3 Tbs cider vinegar
- 2 Tbs sugar
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 3 drops Tabasco sauce
- 1 pound cabbage, sliced thin
- 1 small red onion, chopped
- 1 green pepper, chopped
- 1 carrot, chopped

Stir together first five ingredients and chill. Combine vegetables, and chill until ready to serve (can be made up to two days ahead). Just before serving, combine the dressing and vegetables, and toss well.

Source: [almanac.com](http://almanac.com)



2016 **MCAS**  
**CHERRY POINT**  
**AIRSHOW**  
*celebrating 75 years*

Fri, Apr 29 | Sat, Apr 30 | Sun, May 1

**FREE** ADMISSION + PARKING

FEATURING THE **BLUE ANGELS**  
F-35B LIGHTNING II | F-22 DEMO + MORE!

*learn more!* [CherryPointAirshow.com](http://CherryPointAirshow.com)

**PREMIUM SEATING AVAILABLE**



Join the conversation at [www.facebook.com/halifaxemc](http://www.facebook.com/halifaxemc)

### Scholarship Deadlines

Retired Manager's . . . **April 1**  
Scholarships

Volunteers In . . . . . **July 1**  
Action Educational  
Opportunity  
Scholarship

For more information on these scholarship opportunities, visit [www.halifaxemc.com](http://www.halifaxemc.com) or call 252-445-5113, ext. 2034.

### Community Event

Co-op To Host  
Enfield  
Blood Drive  
**Thursday, April 14**  
12:30 pm–4:30 pm



**American  
Red Cross**