



Golf Tournament a Big Success for Halifax County 4-H Program

Halifax EMC, along with BB&T, Halifax County 4-H and Southern Bank, hosted the 19th Annual 4-H Superball Golf Tournament on June 6. Despite the heat, a sweltering 99 degrees, 24 teams participated in this year's tournament making it one of the most successful tournaments ever. Over \$7,800 was raised for the Halifax County 4-H Program!

Members of the first place team, Lee Electrical Construction, not only received \$100 each in Visa gift cards, but will also go on to play in the Touchstone Energy 4-H Clover Classic to be held at the Governor's Club in Chapel Hill in October.

Golfers ended their day with a delicious meal of roast beef, cooked by HEMC's very own Mike Butts, side items graciously donated by Reser's Fine Foods, and desserts prepared by HEMC's Volunteers In Action.

Members of the 4-H Superball Planning Committee have already begun gathering ideas and making plans for next year's 20th annual tournament in hopes of commemorating the remarkable anniversary. They are anticipating it to be the biggest and best tournament yet for the Halifax County 4-H Program.



Lee Electrical Construction's team took first place at 2008's 4-H Superball Golf Tournament.

Grants Available Online for Teachers with Bright Ideas

Attention, Halifax and Warren County Teachers!

The 2008-09 Bright Ideas Grant applications are available online at www.ncbrightideas.com for teachers in public or private schools in Halifax or Warren Counties. Teachers submitting their applications by August 28 may be eligible to win the early bird special of a \$500 VISA gift card.

Teachers may apply for grants from \$500 to \$2,000 for either individual or team grants. Grants are awarded for creative and innovative teaching programs that cannot be funded through the normal school budget.

Deadline for all applications is September 26.

Member Page

Recipe of the Month

Dill Cucumbers

1 cup mayonnaise ½ salt
¼ cup sugar 4 tsp vinegar
½ tsp dill weed Cucumbers, peeled &
 sliced

Mix all ingredients until well blended. Pour over peeled and sliced cucumbers.

Note: The dressing may be made ahead and poured just before serving.

Tell Us . . .

Halifax EMC is your electric cooperative, and your comments and questions are very important to us. Please tell us how we may improve our service to you.

Specific account questions will be answered personally.

Return your comments/questions along with your payment, or email them to bmartin@halifaxemc.com.

To: "Tell Us"

From: _____

Address: _____

Acct #: _____

COMMENTS/QUESTIONS: _____

22 August 2008 Hali-Facts

Swap Shop

FOR SALE: Tractor; 3 trailers; camper shell; hide-away sofa w/chair. **CALL:** 252-583-3662 (Littleton).



Hali-Facts

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

Charles H. Guerry
Executive Vice President & General Manager

Board of Directors

Beverly Carter, President, District 8 At-Large; Basil Williams, Vice President, District 2; Stan Brothers, Sec.-Treas., District 6; Robert Harris, Asst Sec.-Treas., District 5; Jerry Packer, District 3; Leon S. Williams, District 4; Richard H. Greene, District 7; Robert Edwards, District 8 At-Large;

Business Hours

8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Enfield Office: 252-445-5111 Macon Office: 252-257-3900

Cooperative Page



Electric Lines

by
Charles H. Guerry
Executive Vice President &
General Manager

Energy & The Environment: How Will This Issue Affect You?

Halifax EMC is constantly seeking ways to keep electricity affordable while at the same time comply with government regulations which seek to protect the environment. Trying to find the right balance is a tremendous challenge.

Changes in Security Lighting

Outdoor Lighting Has a New Glow!

The glow of your security light may soon be changing. According to the Department of Energy regulations, Halifax EMC will be switching from mercury vapor lights to high pressure sodium lights. These light will have a reddish yellow glow instead of the bluish tint we have been used to. The change is being made because high pressure sodium lamps are more energy efficient and are better for the enviroment. Each bulb lasts about 24,000 hours and produces a higher level of light while using less energy.

Switching to high pressure sodium lights does not mean we will be replacing everyone's lights immediately. However, we'll be putting in the new sodium bulbs during new security installations and when current bulbs need replacing.

Change in the Basic Facilities Charge

Effective July 1, 2008, the basic facilities charge for residential members increased from \$14 to \$17 a month; however, the per kilowatt-hour charge decreased. With rising fuel cost, this restructuring of the rates better reflects our fixed cost of providing service to our members. Summer is the time we typically have our highest demand for electricity; however, members with high usage will receive the most benefit from this new rate structure year-round.

Our Energy, Our Future

Members encouraged to query representatives

During their congressional recess this summer, elected officials from Washington, will be meeting with the folks back home. This will provide us a great opportunity to make personal contact with these lawmakers, as well as others, on some important energy issues.

Through an awareness campaign called, "Our Energy, Our Future: A Dialogue with America," we recently started a conversation with members of Congress urging them to help us tackle our nation's difficult energy challenges. Electricity needs are outstripping available supplies of power even with very successful energy efficiency programs.

We must continue to spread the message that American ingenuity is key to keeping the lights on and rates affordable while meeting environmental goals.

Developing and deploying the technology necessary to develop low emissions solutions will require huge political and financial commitments. Our government must be a part of the solution, or it will be part of the problem.

Now is the time to address this second question to our representatives. To do so, go to www.ourenergy.coop and send an email to your congressional leaders voicing your opinion. Remember, the power "of the people, by the people, and for the people" can do great things. Right choices now can mean a better tomorrow.

In the Midst of Hurricane Season

We are in the middle of hurricane season, which runs from June 1 to November 30. The 2008 Atlantic hurricane season is predicted to be more active than the average of the past 1950-2000 season. It is estimated that there will be 15 named storms which includes about eight hurricanes, four of which will be intense (Category 3, 4, or 5). Hurricanes tend to be more active during the August to October time period.

Because of our geography, North Carolina is a target for hurricanes. We are second only to Florida in hurricane hits. Most people think of hurricanes as only hitting our coastal region; however, North Carolina has experienced hurricanes from the mountains to the coast. If you are on vacation along North Carolina's coast or any areas where evacuations may be ordered, please monitor any storm watches or warnings and heed any official evacuation orders.

The Department of Transportation has an evacuation plan for the New Hanover County area to turn all lanes of Interstate 40 westbound, forcing traffic inland. Evacuation from the Outer Banks, Ocracoke, and Bald Head Island pose major concerns. Because of the vulnerable island chain along the Outer Banks, highways can easily get flooded and cut people off. Ocracoke and Bald Head have to rely on ferry service so evacuations from there can be a problem. Again, heed any evacuation orders and move inland as quickly as possible.

One of the best things we can do to deal with outages caused by severe storms is to be prepared. If you plan ahead you can get through outages with as little inconvenience as possible. Here are some things you can do:

- Prepare an emergency food kit with paper products (paper plates, disposable dinnerware, paper cups, paper towels, non-cook food, jugs of water, etc.)
- Prepare an emergency medical kit that includes a first-aid kit and prescription medications you require.
- To help keep frozen foods in your freezer frozen

when there is a power outage, replace the empty space with jugs of frozen water as food is used prior to the outage. This will also help to make your freezer more energy efficient.

- DO NOT OPEN your freezer once the power goes out. Frozen foods will keep at least 24 hours or longer if the freezer is not opened. Wrapping your freezer with blankets will also help to keep the food frozen during an extended power outage.
- Plan an evacuation route in case of possible flooding.



If you would like more information on being prepared for a hurricane(s) you can go to our website at www.halifaxemc.com and click on "Local Weather", then "Storm Center." Also we have available free hurricane tracking maps in both our Enfield and Macon offices that have tips for getting prepared.

Don't let this hurricane season catch you unaware. Be prepared.

Holiday Closing

Halifax EMC will be closed on
Monday, September 1,
for **Labor Day!**

We will re-open for business on
Tuesday, September 2.

Have a happy and safe holiday!