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Powerful Beginnings

Man's awareness of electricity has been around for over 2,600 years. The ancient Greeks were among the first to notice evidence of electricity. The Greek philosopher Thales produced static electricity by rubbing amber with a piece of fur. The static electricity attracted light objects. Thales' experiment created the word 'electric' which comes from the Greek word 'elektron' meaning amber.

Many men have contributed to our knowledge of electricity. These include Alessandro Volta, Sir Humphrey Davy, Hans Christian Oersted, Michael Faraday, Benjamin Franklin, and Thomas Edison, just to name a few.

Five Forks Substation Comes On Line Before Holiday Load

The new Five Forks Substation became energized on Tuesday, June 16, at 8 p.m. It was just in time to help with the normally high July 4th load on the Lake. Members in the Five Forks and Eaton's Ferry area should have noticed an improvement in reliability. The Fourth of July passed with no incident.

This two million dollar project will be the first of Halifax EMC's substations to have automated meter reading capabilities, when all work is completed. Having automated meter reading cuts down on both cost and time spent on meter reading.

Another thing that makes this substation special is that the work was performed by Halifax EMC personnel instead of subcontractors.

Electricity has come a long way since Benjamin Franklin flew his kite in that Philadelphia thunderstorm to prove that lightning was electricity. As we all know, in 1879 Thomas Edison invented the incandescent light bulb. From then until now these bulbs have been lighting homes all over the world. Today, an even better version of the light bulb is on the



market--compact fluorescent light (CFLs). Each Thursday in July we gave out a six-pack of "bulb lights" to our members who did not attend this year's Annual Meeting. This giveaway is part of our energy efficiency promotion.

With the passage of the Rural Electrification Act of 1935, rural America has been electrified by electric cooperatives. In 1938 Halifax EMC began and in 1939, the Halifax EMC Board of Directors authorized a \$225,000 loan package to build the first 225 miles of line. In August of that year the first 63-mile section was energized. Today, we have 1,679 miles of energized lines serving an average of 11,673 consumers in parts of Halifax, Martin, Nash, and Warren Counties.

Charles H. Guerry

*Executive Vice President
& General Manager*

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Business Hours

8:30 a.m.–5 p.m.

Locations

Enfield: (252) 445-5111

Macon: (252) 257-3900

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@halifax-emc.com. Specific account questions will be answered personally. Remember to include your account number for these types of questions.



Electric Lines

As Executive Vice President of your cooperative, please accept my sincere thanks to those members who have participated in the Our Energy, Our Future Campaign thus far. This campaign is not only important for electric cooperatives, but also for the members who own and are served by their cooperative by providing a venue to have their voice heard in Washington. With your support, your cooperative staff has been heard by your elected officials. They now know that “Cost Does Matter!”

Last year, in response to climate change legislation introduced to Congress, electric cooperatives began the Our Energy, Our Future Campaign so that cooperative members, like you, could tell Members of Congress that “Cost Does Matter!” Halifax EMC encourages you to voice your concerns about the future costs of electricity by joining the Our Energy, Our Future Campaign; and if you have already participated in the campaign by filling out a postage paid card, encourage your friends, family and neighbors to join.

Congress is working on legislation that will significantly raise your energy costs by an estimated 40 percent or more than \$50 more per month. One such piece of legislation, a new tax referred to as Cap and Trade, proposes that the government will require energy providers to purchase carbon cred-

“Your voice and electric rates do matter.”

by Charles H. Guerry

Executive Vice President & General Manager

its. The question is, where will the money collected be spent? At this time there are no provisions to use the money to reduce carbon production or improve the environment. So where will the money go? Your support is needed to help answer this question. Contact your elected officials to remind them that “Cost Does Matter!” Together, we can protect both your energy future and the environment.

The rising cost of research and development, materials, land, fuel, replacing old generating plants and constructing new facilities to meet our growing population are factors that already influence and contribute to the increasing electric cost. Furthermore, pending Cap and Trade legislation added to these costs to maintain and meet electric system needs will increase cost to a point that will reduce the quality of life we have enjoyed.

You can make a difference! Visit www.findabalancedsolution.com to become familiar with the issues and contact your elected officials by calling toll free 1-877-40BALANCE (877-40-225-2623) or send an email at www.ourenergy.coop. Ask Members of Congress to find a balanced solution to energy legislation, one that helps the environment but does not drain your pocket. Tell Congress that electric rates matter.



Our Energy, Our Future
A Dialogue With America



Energy-Efficient *Ideas*

The windows in your home are probably the weakest part of your home's thermal barrier. They allow conditioned air to escape to the outside or hot or cold air to penetrate into your home. Here are a few tips to help alleviate this problem.

- Check your windows for air leaks.
 - Check the caulking and replace any cracked broken caulking in your windows.
 - In the summer, close the blinds/ drapes on the sunny side of the house and open them on the shaded side. In the winter,
- reverse the procedure.
 - Install storm windows. If you cannot avoid storm windows, seal your windows with plastic. Kits are very inexpensive and available at your local hardware store.
 - Replace your windows with Low-E replacement windows.

Daylight Saving Time and CFLs Save Energy

Spring Forward; Fall Back

“Spring forward; fall back” is a saying we have all come to know as it reminds us which way to turn our clocks when the time changes from standard time to daylight saving time (DST). A poll taken by the U.S. Department of Transportation showed that Americans like DST because there is more light in the evenings so they can do more things outdoors, especially after getting off work.

The main purpose of DST is to make better use of daylight. Energy conservation is one of the major reasons for DST. Due to the oil embargo in the 1970s, Congress extended DST from 6 months to 8 months and found that the equivalent energy of 10,000 barrels of oil per day was saved. Also people enjoy more outdoor activities during the longer spring and summer hours, thereby turning on less appliances and lights and using less electricity. There is less energy savings during November through February as the afternoon advantage is offset by the need for more lighting in the morning.

Along with DST, using compact fluorescent bulbs (CFL) will help save

even more energy. If you replace one 60-watt incandescent bulb with its equivalent CFL that uses around 13 watts, you would save 47 watts for every hour it is used. For example, if you used a bulb in standard time from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. you would use 300 watts with an incandescent bulb and 65 watts with CFLs. During DST you may not have to turn the light on until 8 p.m. and cut it off at 11 p.m., your usage would be 180 watts for an incandescent and 39 watts for a CFL. If every Halifax EMC member changed just one 60-watt incandescent bulb to its equivalent we could save approximately 1,410,000 watts per day or 1,410 KWH each day, 42,300 KWH per month, and 507,600 KWH per year.

There are 26 electric cooperatives in North Carolina, which serve over 900,000 members. If each member switched from a 60-watt incandescent bulb to a CFL, electric co-op members would save 126,900 KWH per day in a three-hour period. Imagine what a difference that would make.



RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Zucchini Patties

- 1 cup Bisquick or other baking mix
- ½ cup shredded mozzarella or cheddar cheese
- ½ tsp salt
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 2 cups zucchini, shredded
- 2 tbsp chopped onion (optional)
- 1 tbsp butter

Combine baking mix, cheese, salt, eggs, zucchini and onion in a mixing bowl. Blend well. Melt butter in a large skillet. Fry for 3–5 minutes per side, until golden brown. Place browned patties on a paper towel. Ad more butter to skillet when necessary for additional batches.

Source: “Carolina Country Kitchen” cookbook

Halifax EMC Youth Travel to D.C.; Meet Legislators, Learn History on Tour

Ebony Terry of Manson and Clay Rightmyer of Littleton attended the 2009 Rural Electric Youth Tour June 13–19 in Washington, D.C. Ebony and Clay were among more than 1,500 high school students nationwide who attended the Youth Tour to learn about electric cooperatives, American history and the U.S. government. Students also had the opportunity to visit historic sites of the nation's capital. Halifax Electric Membership Corporation sponsored Ebony and Clay.

This year, North Carolina students who attended the Youth Tour were able to meet 10 of North Carolina's 13 members of the U.S. House of Representatives. The representatives stressed the importance of contacting elected officials to the students. The Youth Tourists also met with Senator Richard Burr (R-NC), who talked to the students about our nation's energy policy.

The Youth Tour has brought students to Washington, D.C. since the late 1950s. To date, more than 40,000 students from small towns across

the nation have participated in this program. Past participants of the Youth Tour have gone on to design airplanes, work as congressional aides on Capitol Hill and serve in some of the highest ranks of our government, including the U.S. Senate.

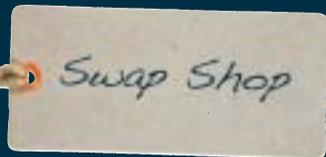
The Youth Tour aims to educate youth on all aspects of rural electrification in order to promote a better understanding of the value of rural electric cooperatives. The Youth Tour provides an opportunity for youth to visit monuments, government buildings and cooperative-related organizations in order to become familiar with the historical and the political environment of the nation's capital. The trip also gives participants an opportunity to meet elected officials and to better understand how the federal government operates.

The Rural Electric Youth Tour is a joint effort of local electric co-ops, such as Halifax EMC, state-wide co-op associations and the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association in Arlington, VA.



Senator Butterfield (second from left) with the 2009 youth tourists from his district.

Halifax EMC sponsored Clay Rightmyer and Ebony Terry for the Youth Tour.



For sale: 2007 100 Series Bosch washing machine, like new, high efficiency 16 gal. front load, \$400. Call: 252-586-4397 (Enfield).

For sale: 2001 Sunlite camper, sleeps 3, \$2,500. Call: 252-826-2766 or 252-903-3305 (Scotland Neck).

Lawn maintenance: Complete lawn maintenance for commercial/residential, fully insured, free estimates. For more details, CALL: 252-904-1598 or 252-826-3957 (Lawn Ranger, Sonny Padgett, Scotland Neck).

