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2014 Youth Tour: *The Advisor Experience*

Julia (Aycock) Allsbrook, Halifax EMC's Communications Specialist, wrote this story about her experience as an advisor on the recent 50th anniversary tour.

Wow, what a trip! In June I had the pleasure of serving as an advisor on the 2014 Youth Tour to Washington, D.C. This year marks the 50th anniversary of co-ops across the nation sending high school juniors and seniors to our nation's capital. Since I was lucky enough to participate as a Youth Tourist in 1998, I found it fitting to return on such a momentous occasion.

I wasn't quite sure what I was getting myself into as an advisor; I knew the week ahead would include long, hot days and lots of walking—that much I remembered from my trip 16 years ago. What I was not prepared for were the 37 amazing high school students I would meet from across our great state. I was impressed by their political awareness, their inclusiveness of others, their appreciation and acknowledgement of the opportunity which they had been given, and something that would make all mamas and papas proud—their manners.

The week was jam-packed with the usual D.C. must-sees: visits

to museums, tours of memorials and monuments, a tour of Arlington National Cemetery, a tour of the Capitol Visitors Center and a chance to meet and ask questions of United States senators and representatives. We also had time for an evening boat cruise down the Potomac, a Washington Nationals baseball game and a performance of *The Lion King* at the Kennedy Center.

By the end of the week, everyone was tired but excited after this life-changing experience. I concluded the trip feeling like a better person just for meeting these kids and hopeful for our future. After all, I just spent a week with tomorrow's leaders.



Pictured above: Julia (Aycock) Allsbrook during the 1998 Youth Tour. She represented Halifax EMC on the trip.

Pictured bottom right: Halifax EMC's 2014 Youth Tourist Brianna Barnes and Julia Allsbrook.



Charles H. Guerry

*Executive Vice President
& General Manager*

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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. Specific account questions will be answered personally. Remember to include your account number for these types of questions.



Electric Lines

“Halifax EMC steadfastly focuses on ways to slow the rising cost of electricity.”

by Charles H. Guerry

Executive Vice President & General Manager

Cooperatives, like most local businesses, work through the highs and lows of a cyclical economy. So when a potential economic hazard arises and we have an opportunity to affect the outcome, you better believe we do whatever we can to prevent or mitigate it. That’s why I am concerned about new rules coming out of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to limit greenhouse gases blamed for climate change.

Not-for-profit electric cooperatives work every day to provide affordable, reliable electricity to the more than 42 million Americans we serve. At Halifax EMC, we steadfastly focus on ways to slow the rising cost of electricity and to find ways to help you save on your electricity bill.

Environmental regulations are largely to blame for rising electricity costs. Electric co-ops have invested billions of dollars in equipment to reduce air pollution already, but greenhouse gases pose a far more difficult challenge to capture, and the new technology is just not ready for prime time.

Equally troubling to comprehend, the EPA readily admits that cutting these emissions would not have much global impact on overall greenhouse gas levels.

The bottom line is that these regulations unfairly and disproportionately affect members of electric cooperatives. They target regions

of the U.S. most dependent on coal for electricity. And increasing electricity prices could endanger efforts to attract new businesses, let alone retain current employers.

By harnessing America’s ingenuity, we can do better.

This debate should be about working together to develop a sustainable energy future. This debate should be about how the government supports utilities in a collective effort to develop technologies that can reduce greenhouse gases at a justifiable and reasonable pace.

That’s why electric cooperatives are pushing an XPRIZE initiative (www.xprize.org/prize/tri-state-carbon-xprize) to find technologies that actually can turn greenhouse gases into a useful resource with market value.

Creating a sustainable energy future requires us to make ambitious changes. Closing a power plant down won’t incubate a new technology, give a bright young engineer an opportunity or ensure that its community continues to receive reliable, affordable electricity.

To help our communities thrive, we need Washington to recognize the potential harm of these regulations and find a different path to a better energy future. Let your voice be heard by visiting action.coop.



25th Annual 4-H Superball Golf Tournament

The 25th Annual 4-H Superball Golf Tournament had another great year! Held on June 6 and sponsored by Halifax EMC, BB&T, First Citizens Bank, Southern Bank and the NC Cooperative Extension, this year's event raised over \$8,000!

Once again Texas Steakhouse & Saloon of Roanoke Rapids sponsored and served lunch to the golfers. The Hole-In-One on the course was sponsored by Collier Harley-Davidson.

Members of the Huckleberry Swamp 4-H Club and staff from the 4-H & Youth Day Camp volunteered throughout the day.

Thank you to all who helped make this year's event successful.



Top picture: Safelite Glass Corporation Team 2 placed 1st in the tournament.

Bottom picture: Carson Keeter of Huckleberry Swamp 4-H helps his mom Beth Twisdale, a HEMC employee, place golfer gift bags on the carts.



RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Strawberry Cheesecake Pudding Pops

- 1 3.4 oz box JELL-O instant pudding, cheesecake flavor
- 1½ cup of milk
- fresh strawberries, sliced

Fill popsicle molds with sliced strawberries (equal to about one whole strawberry per popsicle). In a medium-size bowl, stir together milk and instant pudding. Quickly fill popsicle molds with pudding mixture before it begins to set. Add popsicle sticks and freeze for 2-3 hours, or overnight.

Source: thirtyhandmadedays.com



Energy Efficiency

Tip of the Month

During summer months, our homes can be extremely hot, making living conditions uncomfortable. Before you fire up your air conditioner, try cooling off with a ceiling fan first. Using ceiling fans can actually raise your thermostat setting by 4 degrees and still feel just as comfortable.

Source: Department of Energy



American Red Cross

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

Holiday Closing

Halifax EMC
will be closed on
Monday, September 1,
in observance of
Labor Day



Join the conversation at www.facebook.com/halifaxemc

Linemen Join HEMC Crew



Halifax EMC would like to introduce the newest members of our line crew.

Fresh out of the Electrical Line Construction Program at Nash Community College, where he received the Scholarship for Excellence Award, James Thompson (pictured above) is from Scotland Neck. He is a graduate of Hobgood Academy in Hobgood and also holds an Associates of Arts Degree from Pitt Community College.

In his free time, James enjoys hunting and fishing. He attends First Baptist Church in Scotland Neck.



Also a graduate of the Electrical Line Construction Program at Nash Community College, Russell "Russ" Flythe (pictured above) completed the program in 2011 and was previously employed by Albemarle EMC in Hertford.

Russ is a graduate of Northeast Academy in Lasker, where he participated in baseball and football. In his free time he enjoys hunting, fishing and riding four wheelers.

We are very excited to welcome James and Russ to our Co-op Family!

Saunders Retires After 33 Years

The Co-op held a retirement reception in honor of Danny Saunders, HEMC Senior Lineman, on June 16.

Danny began his career at HEMC in 1981. During his 33 year tenure, Danny has served the Co-op and its members faithfully.

Danny is looking forward to spending more time with his family, fishing often and no longer being on-call after hours and weekends.

Happy retirement, Danny!

Pictured top: Danny enjoying his reception and bottom: Sandra Saunders, Danny's wife; Charles Guerry, HEMC EVP; and Danny.

