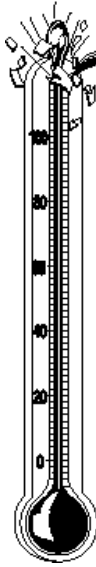


# SAVE ENERGY WHILE HEATING AND COOLING YOUR HOME

Heating and cooling your home uses more energy and drains more energy dollars than any other system in the home. Typically 40-45 percent of a utility bill goes for heating and cooling.

No matter what kind of heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning system you have, you can save money and increase comfort by properly maintaining and upgrading your equipment. But remember, an energy-efficient heating & cooling system alone will not have as great an impact on your energy bills as using the whole-house approach. By combining proper equipment maintenance and upgrades with appropriate insulation, weatherization, and thermostat settings, you can cut your energy bills.

One of the most important systems in your home, though it's hidden beneath your feet and over your head, may be wasting a lot of your energy dollars. Your home's duct system, a branching network of tubes in the walls, floors, and ceilings, carries the air from your home's central heating and air conditioning to each room.



Ducts are made of sheet metal, fiber glass, or other materials.

Unfortunately, many duct systems are poorly insulated or not insulated properly. Ducts that leak heated air into unheated spaces can add hundreds of dollars a year to your heating and cooling bills. Insulating ducts that are in unconditioned spaces is usually very cost effective. If you are buying a new duct system, consider one that comes with insulation already installed.

Sealing your ducts to prevent leaks is even more important if the ducts are located in an unconditioned area such as an attic or vented crawl space. If the supply ducts are leaking, heated or cooled air can be forced out unsealed joints and lost. In addition, unconditioned air can be drawn in, increasing the load on the air conditioner. In the winter, your furnace will have to work longer to keep your house comfortable. Either way, your energy losses cost you money. Using a product called mastic is the preferred method for sealing duct systems. ■

## 2004 - Right-of-Way Program - 2004

As the year 2003 comes to an end, Grady EMC would like to thank those members for their understanding and cooperation in their involvement with the right-of-way program that was conducted in 2003. Members served by the Boydville and Recovery substations were the ones who had their rights-of-way cleared and cleaned in 2003.

In 2004, those members that are served by the ATTAPULGUS and RENO substations will have their rights-of-way cleared and cleaned. This will involve Decatur and Grady counties again as it did in 2003. As you probably already know, the right-of-way policy requires up to a thirty (30) feet right of way. Various methods are used in this program such as tree removal, tree trimming, and spraying of vegetation in order to maintain this right-of-way to help reduce the number and duration of power outages brought on by falling trees, limbs, etc.

This notification is a reminder so that anyone having a concern or doubt can contact your cooperative prior to the work being started on your property. It is difficult to say exactly when this will be done on a specific piece

property due to the miles of distribution lines involved, varying work schedules, and weather conditions affecting work plans, etc. If you are not sure which substation provides energy to your home, and you would like to know, please call the office and we will verify that information for you.

Grady EMC realizes the sensitive nature of this program for our members, but we are tasked with the responsibility of keeping your lights on with the least amount of interruptions. As we all know, trees, limbs and electricity just don't mix; therefore, the right-of-way program is in place to help keep our lights on as much as possible.

In order to keep potential problems down in the future, we would like to remind and ask everyone that consideration be given to planting trees, bushes, shrubs, etc. at least thirty (30) feet away from an overhead power line.

We hope that providing this information, in conjunction with your understanding and cooperation, will help reduce and eliminate future problems. ■



### GRADY EMC ACCEPTING WALTER HARRISON SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

Grady EMC is currently accepting applications for the 2004 Georgia EMC Walter Harrison Scholarships.

The scholarships are open to anyone who has not yet completed a bachelor's degree and is attending or planning to attend a two- or four-year accredited university, college or technical school in Georgia within the next two years. There will be a total of seven \$1,000 scholarships awarded to individuals living within the service areas of the 36 participating EMC's, including Grady EMC.

Scholarships will be based on financial need and academic ability. The scholarships honor the late Walter Harrison, who was known in Georgia and across the nation as "Mr. Rural Electrification" for his pioneering efforts in the electric cooperative industry. More than \$79,000 in scholarships have been awarded since the program began in 1985.

Those interested in applying for the scholarship should contact their guidance department counselors at their respective schools to receive an application packet. In addition to the application form, applicants will need to submit an autobiography, school transcripts, letters of recommendation and proof of enrollment or an acceptance letter. Application packets may also be picked up at Grady EMC's office by contacting Donnie Prince.

The applications must be submitted to Grady EMC no later than Monday, February 2, 2004. Winners will be announced by Georgia Electric Membership Corporation on or before April 1, 2004. ■

# GRADY E.M.C. NEWS

VOLUME 53

DECEMBER 2003

NUMBER 4



*Seasons Greetings*

*and a very Happy New Year*

From the Directors, Staff and Employees of  
the Grady Electric Membership Corporation

Holiday Hours: Our office will be closed for Christmas, Thursday, December 25,  
and Friday December 26, and for New Year's Day, January 1, 2004.  
In case of emergency, assistance may be reached 24 hours a day, 7 days a week,  
at (229) 377-4182.

DOING BUSINESS WITH PEOPLE WHOM YOU KNOW AND TRUST. **GRADY EMC** GRADY EMC... PROVIDING SERVICE THAT SHINES

"Your local cooperative with access to the world's power."

GRADY ELECTRIC  
MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION  
P.O. BOX 270  
CAIRO, GEORGIA 39828

T.A. ROSSER  
General Manager

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

DONALD COOPER  
Chairman  
Dist. 2

DEWEY BROCK, Jr.  
Dist. 1

LAMAR CARLTON  
Vice Chairman  
Dist. 3

ROBERT E. LEE  
Secretary - Treasurer  
Dist. 6

JAMES FREEMAN  
Dist. 4

L. O. MAXWELL, III  
Dist. 5

G. WILLIS SMITH  
Dist. 7

ATTORNEY  
KEVIN CHASON

#### OFFICE HOURS

8:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.  
Drive Thru – 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.  
MONDAY thru FRIDAY  
CLOSED HOLIDAYS,  
SATURDAY & SUNDAY

BUSINESS and SERVICE CALLS  
DURING and AFTER  
OFFICE HOURS  
377-4182  
TOLL FREE  
SERVICE NUMBER  
1-800-942-4362

Published Quarterly,  
Mailed to All Members of  
Grady Electric Membership  
Corporation

## 65TH ANNUAL MEETING HELD

Grady Electric Membership Corporation conducted its 65th Annual Meeting of the membership on Friday, October 17th, 2003. The meeting was held at Grady EMC's office complex located on Highway 84 West in Cairo. A total of 560 members came out and registered to vote for Directors in Districts 1, 4, and 7. Mr. Dewey Brock, Jr. representing the members in District 1 was reelected to another three year term with Mr. James F. Freeman representing District 4, and Mr. G. Willis Smith representing District 7 also being reelected. With the weather cooperating giving us another beautiful day, a crowd of approximately 1,000 was in attendance with members from all service areas of Grady EMC being represented. It was another meeting in which old friendships and acquaintances were renewed and just plain good fellowship was enjoyed.

Adding to the enjoyment of this meeting was the Harmony Boys from Camilla, Ga. The group, composed of Rev. Alton Harper, Jimmy Thomas, Chuck Berry, Ken Davis, and Ms. Ruby Merritt on keyboard, delighted the crowd with their sweet, smooth sound of Southern Gospel music. At the conclusion of their program, they asked the crowd in attendance to stand with them as they led them in the Pledge of Allegiance and then they closed with the crowd still standing and singing God Bless America. It was a very moving and uplifting experience as was evidenced by several individuals seen wiping tears from their eyes. We would like to thank The Harmony Boys for their contribution to this meeting and wish them much continued success in their endeavors to uplift and glorify the name of Jesus.

Mr. Donald Cooper, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Grady EMC, then opened the business portion of the meeting by calling upon Reverend Emory Virgil, pastor of the Providence Missionary Baptist Church in Thomasville, to offer the invocation. As Mr. Cooper called the meeting to order, he then asked Grady EMC's attorney, J. Kevin Chason to conduct the business portion of the meeting. Mr. Thomas A. Rosser, General Manager of Grady EMC, then addressed the crowd and recognized some guests in attendance. Mr. Rosser reported that recent blackouts in the Northeast, Midwest, and Canada are not likely to happen in Georgia because the transmission system is well maintained, but cau- *continues...*



James Freeman, Dewey Brock, and G. Willis Smith were re-elected to serve on the board of directors.

#### Annual Meeting...

tioned consumers that a growing "not in my backyard" attitude could adversely affect a reliable transmission system in Georgia. Mr. Rosser then asked the crowd to join him in a round of applause to show their appreciation for their Board of Directors and the employees that put together the annual meeting and for continually striving to provide the best service possible.

The remaining portion of the meeting was the awarding of gifts conducted by Mr. Wayne Windham. Gifts numbering into the eighties were drawn and given away to the lucky ticket holders. Winner of the grand prize this year was Mrs. Hilmon Cook of Calvary, Ga. Bobby Dollar Appliance's and Electronics of Thomasville donated the 27" JVC color TV.

Thanks to everyone in attendance and we look forward to seeing you at your 66th annual meeting. ■

## 2004 Rebate Schedule

Beginning January 1, 2004, Grady EMC will honor the following rebate schedule for our membership. Note: All rebates will be applied as "credits" to the respective member's account.

- |   |                           |
|---|---------------------------|
| 1. Conversion from gas heat to a minimum 12.0 S.E.E.R. rated energy efficient heat pump. Installation of the new heat pump must be done by a licensed Georgia HVAC contractor. A copy of the customer invoice along with the necessary paperwork must be submitted by the dealer to Grady EMC who will then verify installation for the member. | <b>\$200<sup>00</sup></b> |
| 2. Conversion from a gas water heater to an electric water heater - member must present a copy of the invoice for the new electric water heater and an EMC representative will verify installation of the unit.   | <b>\$100<sup>00</sup></b> |
| 3. Conversion from a gas stove/range to an electric stove/range - member must present a copy of the invoice for the new electric stove/range and an EMC representative will verify installation of the unit.  | <b>\$100<sup>00</sup></b> |

## WASHINGTON YOUTH TOUR 2004

Are you motivated? Are you committed? Do you consider yourself a leader among your peers? Do you like to challenge yourself and have fun while doing it? By answering yes to any of these questions will initially qualify you as a potential delegate for Washington Youth Tour 2004. Just ask Brian Dekle from Cairo High School, or Sam Elrod from Bainbridge High School or Lauryl Mallett from Thomasville High School and they can fill you in on the details. They were the delegates selected by Grady EMC that attended the 2003 Washington Youth Tour (WYT) and are seniors this year at their respective schools. These delegates will agree that this tour is a fastpaced, top-notch, week long all expenses paid, once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

The WYT goes well beyond being just a top-notch tour of our nations' capital. Students will be able to meet with state and national leaders and undergo leadership training, as well as visiting all the major sights. Students will also meet and discuss their views with students from other states while learning about history, government and careers in public service.

"I have for the first time, truly tasted the American spirit. I have a greater love for my nation than ever before," said one recent delegate.

Before departing for Washington, students spend a day in Atlanta. They tour the state Capitol, CNN Studios and learn about Georgia's 42 EMC's and the electric cooperative industry at the headquarters for Georgia Electric Membership Corporation and Oglethorpe Power Corporation in Tucker.

Washington highlights will include cruising down the Potomac River; laying a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns in Arlington Cemetery, as well as touring the U.S. Supreme Court, Mount Vernon, the National

Cathedral and Ford's Theater. The group will visit memorials honoring FDR, Jefferson, Lincoln, Washington, the Vietnam War and Korean War, and watch the United States Marine Drum and Bugle Corps and the Silent /Drill Platoon perform at the Iwo Jima Memorial. Museums to be explored include the Smithsonians, the Holocaust Museum and the International Spy Museum.

This year's tour will be held June 10-17 2004. In order to apply for this event, information packets can be picked up from each school's guidance department. Each school has a designated WYT coordinator to work with the students. Delegates selected will be enrolled in the Junior class and be at least sixteen years of age at the time of the contest. The contest involves writing a 500-100 essay which must be received at Grady office no later than March 10, 2004.

Students of Grady EMC employees are ineligible to enter the Grady EMC contest; however, these students are eligible to enter the WYT contest sponsored by Georgia Electric Membership Corporation, the statewide organization.

Again, Grady EMC will sponsor a total of three delegates, one from each of our prime services areas of Decatur, Grady, and Thomas counties.

The purpose of this tour is to promote and enhance leadership skills and to educate these delegates on all aspects of rural electrification in order to promote a better understanding of the value of rural electric cooperatives. GOOD LUCK to all participants. ■

# RURAL ELECTRIC YOUTH TOUR

