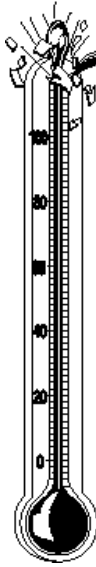


SAVE ENERGY WHILE HEATING AND COOLING YOUR HOME

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. ■

2005 - Right-of-Way Program - 2005

As the year 2004 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 2004. Members served by the Attapulcus and Reno substations were the ones who had their rights-of-way cleared and cleaned in 2004.

In 2005, those members that are served by the EASON CROSSING and RENO substations will have their rights-of-way cleared and cleaned. This will involve Thomas and Grady counties again as it did in 2004. 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 2005 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 \$90,000 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, 2005. Winners will be announced by Georgia Electric Membership Corporation on or before April 1, 2005. ■



GRADY E.M.C. NEWS

VOLUME 54

DECEMBER 2004

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, Friday, December 24,
 and Friday, December 31, for New Year's Day.

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."

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

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General Manager

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CLOSED HOLIDAYS,
SATURDAY & SUNDAY

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

66TH ANNUAL MEETING HELD

Grady Electric Membership Corporation conducted its 66th Annual Meeting of the membership on Friday, October 15th, 2004. The meeting was held at Grady EMC's office complex located on Highway 84 West in Cairo. A total of 533 members came out and registered to vote for Directors in Districts 2 and 5. Mr. Donald Cooper representing the members in District 2 was reelected to another three year term with Mr. Lee Maxwell representing District 5 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 beginning 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 Ed Harrison, pastor of the Salem Baptist Church at Open Pond in Decatur County, 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. The General Manager of Grady EMC, Mr. Thomas A. Rosser, then addressed the crowd and recognized both invited and uninvited guests to the meeting in his opening remarks. The uninvited guests turned out to be Hurricane/Tropical Storms Frances, Ivan and Jeanne. Mr. Rosser took this time to inform the membership in attendance that "All of your employees, men and women, went the distance, with their best effort, and that's all anyone can ask." His remarks were offered to let the members know that from the beginning of these storms till the end, all employees were involved in the restoration of power as quickly and safely as possible. He informed the crowd that "Three storms in a row was difficult enough in itself; let alone having to deal with some media and other agencies being critical and spreading untrue statements."

Mr. Rosser then discussed a safety issue that is becoming more and more prevalent, especially in times of storms like we experienced. He asked the crowd to remember that the use of generators, improperly connected, can kill someone on the line working to restore power. He asked that the members who are using or are going to use generators in the future, to please call your local building official or Grady EMC to make sure it is connected properly.

Mr. Rosser then commented "We apologize if we didn't get your power back on as fast as you thought we should, but don't accuse us of not being out there giving it our all." A standing ovation was provided

continues...

Annual Meeting...

Mr. Rosser upon his comments.

In closing, he thanked the employees of Three Notch EMC in Donalsonville, Ga., the crews from Mastec, and the efforts of the Volunteer Firemen who are always ready and willing to help. He then opened the floor for questions or comments and then asked the crowd to join him in a round of applause to thank the Board of Directors and especially the employees for the job they did and continue to do. Mr. Rosser expressed his appreciation for those in attendance and their participation in the annual meeting and closed by saying "May God Bless America."

The program was then turned over to Wayne Windham who conducted the awarding of gifts. ■

2005 Rebate Schedule

Beginning January 1, 2005, 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. | \$200⁰⁰ |
| 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. | \$100⁰⁰ |
| 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. | \$100⁰⁰ |

WASHINGTON YOUTH TOUR 2005

Once a year Grady EMC selects 3 high school juniors as delegates on the Washington Youth Tour. These students join with dozens of other students from Georgia to represent our state in Washington D.C. - all expenses paid. Once in D.C., the group connects with hundreds of students from across the country for one incredible week in our national capital. The Washington Youth Tour is a fastpaced once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see how America works. This summer's tour will be held June 16-23, 2005.

"It is not just a week of sightseeing. It is even more than a chance to meet other students from across the nation and shake hands with congressmen I gained a new sense of pride in my country and respect for those who fight to defend the freedoms it offers." These feelings, expressed by a recent delegate underscores the emphasis of the program - a topnotch tour of our nation's capital that includes meetings with state and national leaders and leadership training, as well as visiting all the major sights. Students also meet and discuss their views with students from other states while learning about history, government and careers in public service.

Before departing for Washington, students spend a day in Atlanta touring the Governor's Mansion and CNN Studios, and learn about Georgia's 42 EMCs and the electric cooperative industry at the headquarters for Georgia Electric Membership Corporation and Oglethorpe Power Corp. in Tucker.

Washington highlights will include cruising down the Potomac River, laying a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns in Arlington Cemetery, touring the U.S. Supreme Court, the Bureau of Printing and Engraving, Mount Vernon, the National Cathedral and Ford's Theater. The group will visit memorials honoring FDR, Jefferson, Lincoln, Washington, World War II, the Vietnam War and the 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 included the Smithsonian Institution and the Holocaust Museum.

Interested in a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to experience our government and our history up-close - while having fun, making new friends, and gaining leadership skills?

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 interested students. Delegates selected will be enrolled in the Junior class and be at least 16 years of age at the time of the tour. The contest involves writing an essay of 500-1000 words with the topic being a comparison of electric cooperatives to investor-owned utilities. The essay has to be received at Grady EMC's office no later than March 10, 2005.

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.

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

The purpose of this tour is to recognize, promote and enhance leadership skills in students that have a desire to contribute to their communities and country. All aspects of rural electrification are promoted to enhance a better understanding of the value of rural electric cooperatives. GOOD LUCK to all participants. ■

RURAL ELECTRIC YOUTH TOUR

