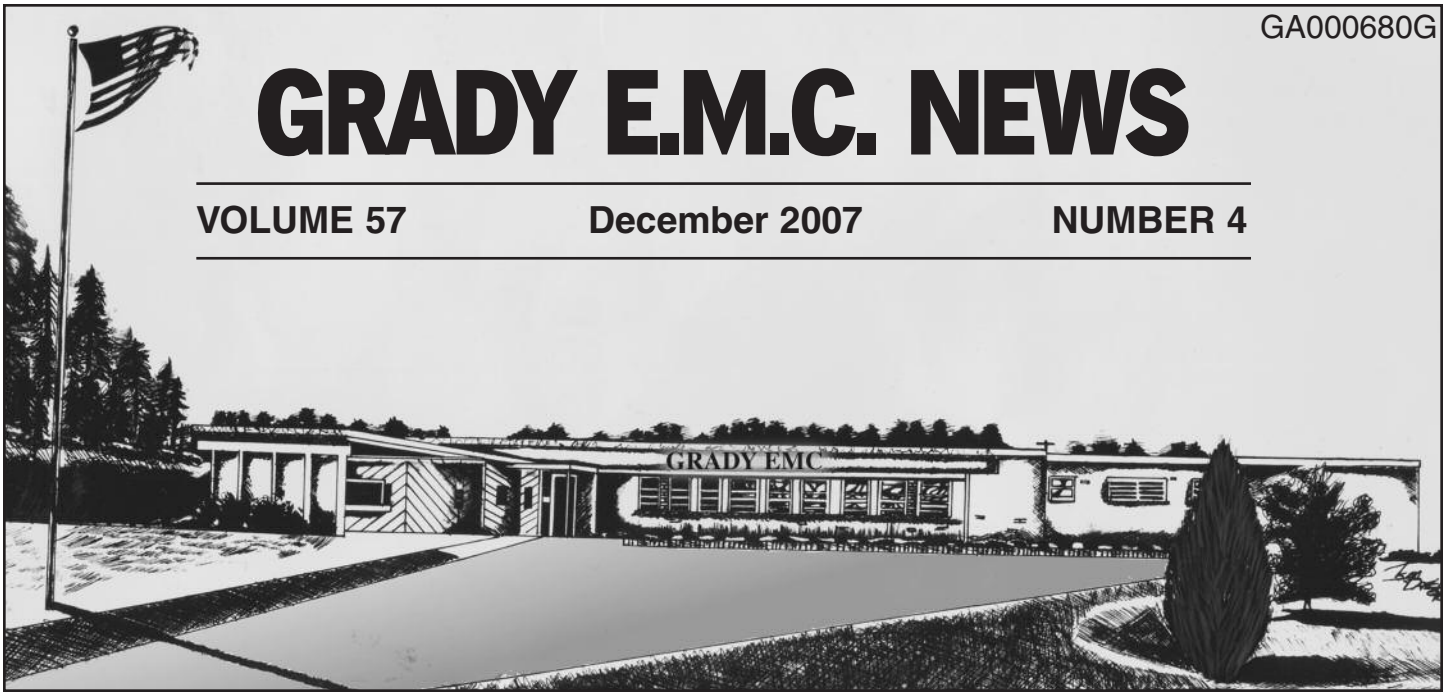


# GRADY E.M.C. NEWS

VOLUME 57

December 2007

NUMBER 4



## Every Drop Counts!

Georgia is facing one of the most severe droughts in the state's history. Our rivers and reservoirs are at record lows, and many of our communities face water shortages that could challenge their ability to meet water supply needs. Now is the time for all Georgians to take steps to conserve water in their homes, schools and places of business. Conserving water can help us all save time and money. It also helps ensure that we have a sufficient supply of safe drinking water now and in the future.

### Around the HOUSE

- **Turn off the lights when you are not in the room and cut the air conditioner back when you are not at home.** Energy is produced using large volumes of water. Reducing energy demands reduces the water needed to produce that energy.
- **Repair dripping faucets** by replacing washers. If your faucet is dripping at the rate of one drop per second, you can expect to waste 2,700 gallons per year.
- **Insulate your water pipes.** You'll get hot water faster and avoid wasting water.

### In the Kitchen

- **Refrigerate a bottle or glass of water** instead of letting a faucet flow until the water runs cold.
- **Defrost sensibly.** Plan ahead to defrost foods overnight in the refrigerator. Don't use running water. Use the microwave or put wrapped food in a bowl of cold water.

- **Reduce dish washing.** Use a rubber spatula to scrape dishes clean to to limit pre-rinse. Let really dirty pans or dishes soak to speed washing. Most newer dishwashers don't require pre-rinsing. Only run the dishwasher for full loads—they use the same amount of water no matter how many dishes are in them.
- **Reuse clean household water.** Collect all the water that is wasted while waiting for the hot water to reach your faucet or showerhead. Use this to water your houseplants or outdoor planters. Do the same with water that is used to boil eggs or steam vegetables.
- **Minimize the use of kitchen sink disposals**—they require a lot of water to operate. Start a compost pile as an alternate method to dispose of food waste.

### In the BATHROOM.

- **Don't use the toilet as a trash can.** Dispose of tissues, insects and other similar waste in the trash can. Every flush you eliminate saves between two and seven gallons of water.
- **Use a glass for rinse water** when brushing teeth instead of letting the faucet run. Shave the same way. An electric razor also saves water.
- **Fix leaking faucets and toilets.** Research has shown that an average of 8 percent (or more) of all home water use is wasted through leaks. Test for a leaking toilet by lifting the lid off the toilet tank and putting a few drops of food coloring into the bowl. Wait a few minutes, then look in the bowl. If the food coloring has made its way there, you have a leak.

- **Take a shower** instead of a bath and save 30 gallons of water. Filling the bathtub uses about 50 gallons. Cut back on your shower time and you will rack up big savings in water and energy. If you really want to save water, limit your shower time to five minutes or less. Also, install a water-saving showerhead.

### In the LAUNDRY

- **Wash only full loads of laundry.** You'll not only save water, but energy as well. Unlike your dishwasher, the amount of water your washing machine uses is adjustable; adjust according to the load size.
- **Consider purchasing a new water- and energy-efficient clothes washer.** Look for the ENERGY STAR-labeled products and save more water in one year than a person drinks in a lifetime. These units create less wear and tear on clothes, clean better and use less detergent.

### In the YARD.

- **Water lawns during early morning hours** to reduce losses from evaporation and position your sprinklers so that your water lands on the lawn and shrubs—not on paved areas.
- **Do not hose down your driveway or sidewalk;** use a broom instead, saving hundreds of gallons of water.
- **When washing your car, use a hose with a pressure nozzle to decrease rinsing time.** Park the car on the grass, use a bucket with soapy water and always turn off the water while soaping. Consider using a commercial car wash that recycles water.

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BUSINESS  
WITH PEOPLE  
WHOM YOU  
KNOW  
AND  
TRUST



## GRADY EMC



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President

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

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## 69th annual meeting held

A highly welcomed downpour of rain did not stop the faithful members from attending their 69th Annual Membership Meeting on Friday, October 19, 2007. Approximately 6 inches of rain fell as the meeting took place at Grady EMC's office complex on Highway 84W in Cairo, Georgia. Total attendance was estimated at approximately 900.

A total of 419 members cast their votes re-electing Mr. Donald C. Cooper, District 3, and Mr. Lee O. Maxwell, III, District 5 to the Grady EMC's Board of Directors for another three (3) year term.

Entertainment this year was provided by the *Willing Servants* from Colquitt, Georgia. Cory and Holly Thomas along with Rick and Judy Thursby did an outstanding job singing some great Southern Gospel music.

Mr. Donald Cooper, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Grady EMC, opened the business portion of the meeting by calling upon Brother Roger Brinkley, Pastor of Reno Baptist Church, Reno, Georgia, for the invocation. Mr. Cooper then called the meeting to order and asked Grady EMC's attorney, J. Kevin Chason, to conduct the business matters of the meeting. Proposed bylaw amendment changes were voted on and passed unanimously by the membership. Mr. Chason then introduced Mr. Thomas A. Rosser, General Manager of Grady EMC. Mr. Rosser welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced some special guests in attendance. Mr. Rosser then turned the program over to Mr. Wayne Windham for the drawing of the gifts. ■

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# 2008 Rebate Schedule

Beginning January 1, 2008, 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.

- |   |                           |
|---|---------------------------|
|   | <b>\$200<sup>00</sup></b> |
| 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>\$100<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.  |                           |

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## WASHINGTON YOUTH TOUR 2008

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 12-19, 2008.

"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 enjoy a private tour of the birthplace of rural electrification—the Little White House.

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 include 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 private, investor-owned utilities. The essay has to be received at Grady EMC's office no later than March 7, 2008.

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**

## 2008 - Right-of-Way Program - 2008

As the year 2007 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 2007.

Members served by the Elpino & Roddenbery substations were the ones who had their rights-of-way cleared and cleaned in 2007.

In 2008, those members that are served by the PUMMY ROAD and MERRILLVILLE and HALL ROAD substations will continue to have their rights-of-way cleared and cleaned. 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.

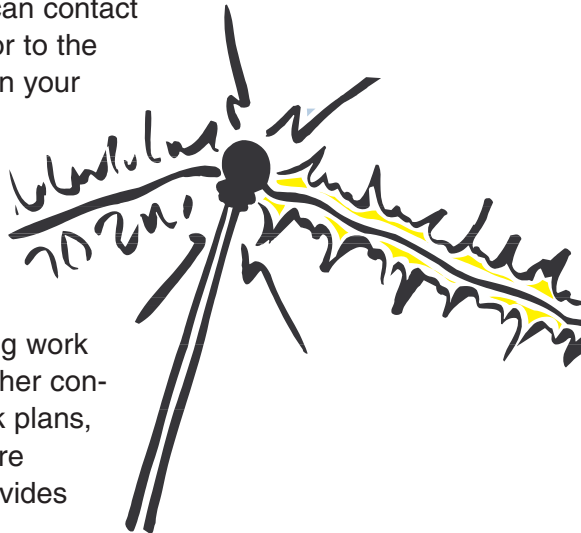
This notification is done as a reminder so that anyone having a concern or doubt can contact your cooperative prior to the work being started on your property. It is difficult to say exactly when this will be done on a specific piece of property due to the miles of distribution lines involved, varying 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 not planting trees, bushes, shrubs, etc. within thirty (30) feet of 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 2008 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 nine \$1,000 scholarships awarded to individuals living within the service areas of the 36 participating EMCs, 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. Approximately \$100,000 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.

The applications must be submitted to Grady EMC no later than Friday, February 1, 2008. Winners will be announced by Georgia Electric Membership Corporation on or before April 1, 2008. ■