

WASHINGTON YOUTH TOUR 2016

Once again, Grady EMC is proud to partner with our fellow EMCs around the State of Georgia to sponsor the 2016 Washington Youth Tour. The purpose of this week long tour of Atlanta and Washington D.C. is to recognize, promote and enhance leadership skills in students that have a desire to contribute to their communities and our country. Since its inception in the late 1950s, over 50,000 young people from rural areas and small towns across America have participated in this program.

In 2016, Grady EMC will be sponsoring three high school juniors (you must be at least 16 years of age at the time of the trip) to tour our capitol city from June 9-16, 2016. We will select one applicant from Decatur, Grady and Thomas County, each of the three

main counties in our service area. The delegates will start their week in Atlanta for a kick off banquet where they will meet delegates from around the state of Georgia. From Atlanta, they will fly to Washington D.C. where they will visit the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery, cruise the Potomac River on a dinner cruise, tour the National Cathedral, Mount Vernon and the U.S. Supreme Court. Throughout the week, delegates will meet with state and national leaders and be challenged by speakers to improve their leadership skills.

To apply for the WYT, contact your school's guidance department. Each school has a designated WYT coordinator to assist interested students. An interview process and a written resume will be utilized to determine the winners. The deadline for submitting your resume is March 2nd. All resumes must be submitted to your school's WYT coordinator.



2015 WYT winners from left to right

Katie Rathel (Grady), Bryce Howell (Decatur)
& Rebecca Jane White (Thomas)

Best Wishes to all participants!

2016 Rebate Schedule

Beginning January 1, 2016, Grady EMC will honor the following rebate schedule for our membership. All rebates will be applied as "credits" to the respective member's account.

1. Conversion from gas heat to a minimum 15.0 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. A credit of \$200.00 will be applied to member's account.
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. A credit of \$100.00 will be applied to member's account.
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. A credit of \$100.00 will be applied to member's account.

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Live Grady EMC power line on Mills Road in Grady County. The base of the pole was damaged during a controlled burn.



Like us on Facebook or follow us on Twitter @GradyEMC!

Farmers, land managers and property owners will soon begin to use controlled burns to help reduce fuel buildup and decrease the likelihood of serious, hotter fires. Controlled burning stimulates the germination of some desirable forest trees, thus renewing the forest. Each year, Grady EMC has to replace poles throughout our service system as a result of fire damage. Poles that have been damaged by fire must be replaced and that cost is absorbed by that member. Please do your part in helping hold down costs at your cooperative. Thanks for your cooperation, help, and understanding.

BO ROSSER
President

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CLOSED HOLIDAYS

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BUSINESS and SERVICE CALLS

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229-377-4182

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229-377-6060

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Mailed to All Members of

Grady Electric Membership Corporation

Grady EMC conducts 77th Annual Meeting!



Grady EMC conducted its 77th Annual Member Meeting on Friday, October 16, 2015 at the corporate office headquarters in Cairo, Georgia. The Rob Mills family once again provided entertainment to the crowd, estimated to be more than 1,100 attendees. Our guests this year enjoyed free gifts, free refreshments and the opportunity to win one of more than one hundred door prizes.

Our opening invocation was offered by Pastor Johnny Moore of Family Worship Center in Cairo.

Grady EMC President and General Manager Bo Rosser gave an overview of the past year at Grady EMC, detailing progress and accomplishments achieved during 2015. He also highlighted coming initiatives that will continue to improve reliability and keep rates low for our members. He addressed the headwinds our industry faces in increasing government regulation and mandates for “clean power” that drive up fuel costs. He assured members that the board and leadership of Grady EMC are actively monitoring and planning to insulate Grady EMC from these potential challenges. In closing, he praised the commitment of Grady EMC employees for “working whenever our members need them so that the lights stay on.”

Marlon Nichols, a CPA with Nichols, Cauley & Associates from Warner Robins, Ga, gave an overview of the financial report of Grady EMC. The summary is available on our website at gradyemc.com.

Steve Minor presided over the business session of the annual member meeting. During the discussion on new business, several members addressed the meeting. The issues raised included the nominating process for board members, overflow parking at the annual meeting, allowing for absentee/proxy voting for board elections and concerns over candidate campaigning during the annual meeting.

This year, there were 3 seats on the Board of Directors that were up for election. Directors James Freeman (District 4) & James Lewis (District 7) were re-elected without opposition. In District 1, Director Dewey Brock Jr. was challenged by John P. Bell Jr. Director Brock was re-elected by a vote of 386-320.

Operations Manager Wayne Windham and Member Services Manager Donnie Prince closed out the meeting by awarding over one hundred great prizes donated to Grady EMC by local vendors and businesses. This year, our grand prize winner was Mr. Eugene Herring who won a new 40” television. We are thankful for each local business who took part in making our annual meeting a success!

We appreciate everyone who participated in this year’s event and we look forward to seeing you again next year at our 78th annual meeting!



2016 Right of Way Program

Grady EMC’s right of way program is designed to maintain a thirty foot right of way around our distribution lines in our service area. This program helps us to reduce the number and duration of outages brought on by falling trees and limbs. Any bushes, shrubs or trees that are not maintained by the member and infringe on the thirty foot right of way will be maintained by our right of way program. We use various maintenance methods including tree and brush removal, tree and brush trimming and spraying of vegetation in order to maintain our right of way.

We recognize the sensitive nature of this program and would encourage members to help eliminate future problems by not planting trees and brush within thirty feet of an overhead power line.

This year, members served by Pummy Road, Hall Road and Merrillville substations will have their right of way maintained. Please be on the lookout for our crews and we appreciate your understanding and cooperation as we work to fulfill our responsibility to keep the lights on for you and fellow members.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding right of way work on your property, or if you don’t know which substation provides energy to your home, please contact your Grady EMC prior to work beginning on your property.

Thank you for your understanding!

IMPORTANT NOTICE — No payments or inquiries can be made on accounts beginning on December 30, 2015 at 11:30 p.m. until January 1, 2016 at 12:00 a.m. (This includes online payments and inquiries). As always, Grady EMC personnel will be on site for any emergencies during this time. We regret any inconvenience this may cause.

Grady EMC out and about!



Grady EMC crewmembers Willy Lurry and John Mark Bryant teach the art of climbing at the Sunbelt Ag Expo.

The board, management and employees of Grady EMC appreciate hearing your thoughts and concerns regarding your EMC. Input from our members plays a vital part in improving our service and helps us achieve our mission of providing safe, reliable and affordable electricity to Grady, Thomas and Decatur counties!

Grady EMC accepting Walter Harrison Scholarship Applications!

Grady EMC is currently accepting applications for the 2016 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 ten \$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 \$171,000 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, grade point average, SAT scores, academic standing, scholastic honors, letters of recommendations and proof of enrollment or an acceptance letter.

The applications must be submitted to Grady EMC no later than Friday, January 29, 2016. Winners will be announced by Georgia Electric Membership Corporation on or before April 1, 2016.

The management and staff of Grady EMC wishes you and your family a wonderful Holiday season. Have a Happy Thanksgiving and a Blessed Christmas!

Grady EMC will observe the following Holiday Hours:

THANKSGIVING—Closed November 26th and 27th

CHRISTMAS—Closed December 24th and 25th

New Year’s—Lobby closed December 31, 2015 & January 1st, 2016