

# **Happy Independence Day!!!**



This year marks the 239<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. This visionary document introduced the concept that *"all men are created equal and are endowed by their Creator with unalienable rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness"* and gave birth to this wonderful nation that we enjoy today.

To allow our employees to spend the holiday with family and in honor of the Fourth of July, Grady EMC's office will be

closed on Friday, July 3, 2015.

As always, in case of emergencies or outages, you can contact the office at 229-377-4182 or you can report outages online at GradyEMC.com.

### We wish you all a happy and safe Fourth of July!

Grady EMC — Empowering Those We Serve!

T.A. (Bo) ROSSER, Jr.

President

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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#### **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 & SERVICE CALLS DURING & AFTER OFFICE HOURS 229-377-4182

TOLL FREE SERVICE NUMBER

1-800-942-4362

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

Grady EMC is an equal opportunity employer and provider.

### Reminder – ESTATE CAPITAL CREDIT REFUNDS – Reminder

Grady EMC refunds Capital Credits to qualified applicants of deceased members. If you would like more information on Estate Refunds, please contact Customer Service at 229-377-4182, who will gladly assist you with this process. Under the bylaws of your cooperative, each dollar of payment by a member in excess of the cost of providing electric services is an investment in the cooperative by the member. Capital credits are used by your cooperative for the expansion of the plant and facilities. It is, in effect, invested in poles, wire, transformers, substations and other property owned by the cooperative. The use of capital credits helps lower the cooperative's needs for borrowed funds and reduces the overall indebtedness of the cooperative.

### Congratulations to the Class of 2015



Graduation is an event that you have worked toward and looked forward to for a long time. Your hard work and efforts are finally being rewarded. You've watched friends and classmates that have graduated before you move on with their lives, either continuing their education, or

beginning their careers. Now you, the Graduating Seniors of 2015, will do the same. By getting to this point, you have shown that you are equipped to handle challenges, to overcome obstacles, and to become a productive and successful member of our community! Your families, friends, relatives, and educators have watched you grow and mature and are extremely happy for you and for your accomplishments. Grady EMC also takes pleasure in wishing you much happiness and success in whatever you set out to accomplish! **CongratulationsIII** 

We would like to offer a special congratulations to the graduating children of our Grady EMC family, **Kaylyn Brinson**, **Mitchell Brock**, **Amber Burgess** and **Lynlee Poppell**, all graduates of Cairo High School!





Kaylyn Brinson

Mitchell Brock



Amber Burgess



Lynlee Poppell

### **To Report an Outage:**

Call our Outage Line at 229-377-6060 or go online to www.GradyEMC.com

### **DID YOU KNOW?**

"Whereas linemen leave their families and put their lives on the line every day to keep the power on; Whereas linemen work 365 days a year under dangerous conditions to build, maintain and repair the electric infrastructure; Whereas linemen are the first responders of the electric cooperative family, getting power back on and making things safe for all after storms and accidents; and Whereas there would be no electric cooperatives without the brave men and women who comprise our corps of linemen; Therefore be it resolved that NRECA recognizes the Second Monday of April of each year as National Lineman Appreciation Day."

Every year during the month of April, EMCs across the country take a day to pause and recognize the hard work and dedication of a special group of men and women. Linemen have long been the first responders of the utility world. At the first hint of trouble, they gather their tools and head out to ensure that homes and businesses have the power they need to keep running. The hours are long and the conditions are often rough. They work in ice storms and thunderstorms. They hike through swamps and over mountains. They are often the first in after tornados and hurricanes. Whether noon or midnight, they answer the call for help.

Today's linemen are continuing a legacy of sacrifice and commitment that began with the birth of power delivery. Linemen in the late 1800s and early 1900s faced death on a daily basis, with over 25% suffering fatal, job related injuries. While the death rate has dropped, the job today is still just as hazardous and requires a special individual with unique skills to do it well.

Grady EMC is thankful for the group of men who have chosen to invest their lives and energies into keeping our power grid operational. Our organization's reputation in this community is built on their exceptional skill and professionalism. The next time you see one of our linemen out in the community, join us in recognizing them for vital work they do!



**GRADY EMC LINE CREWS & RIGHT OF WAY CREWS** 



## **2015 WASHINGTON YOUTH TOUR**

Every year, Grady EMC is proud to sponsor three outstanding young people from our service area for a week long trip to Washington D.C. as part of the EMC Youth Washington Tour Program. This life changing event allows students from Grady, Thomas and Decatur Counties to learn more about the role of government in our lives and the importance of community and public service. It also provides an opportunity for our young people to meet face-to-face with members

of Georgia's congressional delegation and to visit historical points of interest in both Georgia and Washington D.C.



Bryce Howell



Katie Rathel



Rebecca-Jane White

Representing Grady EMC for the 2015 Washington Youth Tour will be three rising seniors, one from each county in our service area.

**Bryce Howell** of Bainbridge High School, **Katie Rathel** of Cairo High School, and **Rebecca-Jane White**, Scholars Academy of Thomasville High School were selected from a group of nine well deserving finalists to travel to Atlanta and Washington D.C. from June 11-18, 2015. This fast-paced, fun filled week will begin in Atlanta, where they will attend a banquet to honor the Georgia students selected to represent Georgia's 38 EMCs in Washington.

The first day, the group will tour President Franklin Roosevelt's Little White House in Warm Springs, participate in leadership and educational sessions, and then fly to Washington that afternoon. The balance of the week will be spent touring our nation's capitol. Visits to the War Memorials, the Supreme Court, the Arlington National Cemetery, the Smithsonian & Holocaust Museums, Mount Vernon, Ford's Theatre, the Washington Monument, and the Washington National Cathedral are all on the very full agenda. The highlight of previous trips has been a day on Capitol Hill where delegates will have the opportunity to talk with policy makers from our state about issues that are important to them. This year, EMCs around the country will be sponsoring more than 1,500 teenagers for this life changing week of learning and fun.

The Washington Youth Tour is Georgia's oldest leadership program for teens and Grady EMC considers it an honor to invest in these three students this year. It is our hope that

it will spark in each of these talented young people a passion for public service that will serve both our local communities and each of them well in the years to come!

Congratulations Bryce, Katie and Rebecca-Jane! We look forward to seeing what the future holds for you!