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Watts Working



**Your Co-op, Your
Community, Your Month**

A newsletter for the member-owners of



Randolph Electric
Membership Corporation



Randolph Electric Membership Corporation provides safe and reliable power with exceptional value to more than 34,000 member accounts in Randolph, Moore, Montgomery, Chatham and Alamance counties.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Electric Service

Asheboro (336) 625-5177
..... (800) 672-8212

Robbins: (910) 948-3401
..... (800) 868-7014

Report Outage (877) REMC-OFF
..... (877) 736-2633

Account Info
& Bill Payments: (877) 534-2319

Business Hours: 8 am – 5 pm, M-F

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RandolphEMC.com

October is National Co-op Awareness Month!

In this issue of Watts Working, celebrate our 2025 Sports Camp Scholarship winners. We're also celebrating YOU, so stop by our offices for coffee, a snack and a chance to win a prize!

Happy Co-op Awareness Month!

Rooted in Community. Growing Together.



A Word About Randolph Electric

From CEO Dennis Mabe

The Cooperative Difference: Neighbors Serving Neighbors

Dear Members,

October is *National Co-op Awareness Month* and here at Randolph EMC, we also celebrate it as *Member Appreciation Month*. It's a perfect time to reflect on what makes electric cooperatives different and why the cooperative spirit is still alive and strong today.

In the book *The Next Greatest Thing*, which tells the story of rural electrification in America, there's a powerful image of neighbors working side by side to build something bigger than themselves. Farmers and businessmen became leaders for their communities to form what was known as "the REA" to help eliminate darkness and improve their way of life. That was the birth of the cooperative difference: neighbors serving neighbors.

There was a farmer in Tennessee in the early 1940s who was quoted as saying: "Brothers and sisters, I want to tell you this. The greatest thing on earth is to have the love of God in your heart, and the next greatest thing is to have electricity in your house." Another farmer, after being told he lived too far from the first line to receive power, returned a few days later and said he had paid his membership fee and was ready to be connected. Again, he was told, "You're too far from the line. We can't do it." His response was simple: "That's all right—I moved my house closer to the line." It's hard for us to imagine life today without electricity, but in those early days the impact was life-changing.

Picture the excitement of buying your very first refrigerator, then running to the kitchen to open the door and seeing that little light flicker on inside. It was proof that things had truly changed. Families often broke down in tears the moment the lights came on, knowing deep in their hearts that life was about to be better, safer, and full of new possibilities for their loved ones.

These stories may seem small, but they capture the very heart of the cooperative difference.

From the beginning, it was never just about poles, wires, and transformers; it was about determination, resilience, and community. Just as those farmers came together to bring light to their homes, today our members, employees, and communities continue that same spirit of working hand in hand to support one another.

That's what sets us apart from other utilities. We're not driven by stockholders across the country; we're guided by the members right here at home. Our purpose is rooted in service, not profit. When storms hit, when costs rise, when our community has needs, you can count on your cooperative to be there.

So, this October, as we celebrate Member Appreciation Month, I want to thank you for being part of the Randolph EMC family. Your trust and support allow us to continue carrying forward the same cooperative spirit that lit up the countryside generations ago. Together, we are stronger. Together, we are the cooperative difference.

Cooperatively yours,

Dennis Mabe,
CEO



Celebrating YOU This National Co-op Awareness Month

From powering homes to supporting neighbors, this month is all about you, our valued member-owners.

October is National Co-op Month, and Randolph Electric is celebrating what makes our cooperative strong: you, our member-owners.

This month, more than 30,000 cooperatives across the country are celebrating National Co-op Month. It is a time to reflect on all the ways cooperatives stand apart from other types of businesses. More importantly, it is a time to celebrate the power of co-op membership.

Our mission has always been to provide safe, reliable and affordable power while improving the quality of life in our five-county service area. Because we live and work here too, we are deeply invested in local economic growth, youth programs, scholarships and charitable giving initiatives like People Helping People.

Stop By and Celebrate

This month, we invite you to visit our Asheboro or Robbins offices for coffee, snacks, sweet treats and prizes. While you are here, fill out our 5-Star Member-Owner survey.

By signing up for at least five of our programs and services, you will be entered into weekly prize drawings held every Friday in October and a special drawing on Friday, Oct. 31.

How to become a 5-Star Member-Owner:

- Follow us on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram.
- Make a payment on the mobile app or member portal.
- Set up a high usage alert.
- Enroll in autopayment or bank draft.
- Sign up for eBill and receive your bill electronically.
- Update your contact information, including a new cell phone number or email address.
- Attend an Annual Meeting.
- Participate in FlexPay prepaid billing to avoid late fees.



Become a
5 5-STAR
MEMBER-OWNER
and WIN!

Each weekday in October, you can visit your local Asheboro or Robbins office to be entered into a weekly giveaway of prizes!

The graphic features a green background with a yellow border. At the top, the text 'Become a 5 5-STAR MEMBER-OWNER and WIN!' is displayed in a mix of gold and white fonts. Below the text, there is a collage of various household appliances and products, including a Mr. Coffee coffee maker, a Hamilton Beach slow cooker, a PowerXL contact grill, and a ST-ALTH pressure cooker. The background also features a stylized sunburst graphic in the top right corner.

- Participate in SunPath, our community solar program.
- Enjoy the Plug N2 Savings Rate if you are an electric vehicle owner in our REVUP program.
- Participate in our residential Time-Of-Use (TOU) rate.
- Receive SPOTT alerts by text when outages occur.
- Round up your bill to donate to People Helping People.

If you can't make it by our offices in person, you can fill out your 5-Star form online by scanning the QR code below.



The Power of Belonging

This Co-op Awareness Month, we're reflecting on what it truly means to belong, as a member-owner.



REMC linemen install a power pole, in 1950.

At Randolph Electric, we use the phrase member-owner often, but what does that title really mean?

When Randolph Electric was founded in 1938, nine determined individuals came together with one goal: to bring electricity to rural homes and farms that investor-owned utilities had left in the dark. What started as a shared dream in a small gas station in Asheboro has grown into a cooperative serving more than 27,000 members. And while much has changed, our core mission remains the same: to provide reliable, affordable electricity and to strengthen the communities we call home. That spirit of neighbors helping neighbors continues to guide us every day.

Being a member-owner means you're more than just a customer. You're part of a cooperative, a different

kind of business, built not for profit, but for service. We don't answer to shareholders. We answer to you. Because at Randolph Electric, the people who use our services are the ones who own and shape our co-op.

As a cooperative, Randolph Electric operates according to the Seven Cooperative Principles, a set of values that guide co-ops around the world:

- Voluntary and Open Membership
- Democratic Member Control
- Members' Economic Participation
- Autonomy and Independence
- Education, Training, and Information
- Cooperation among Cooperatives
- Concern for Community

These principles aren't just words on paper, they guide every decision we make, from improving reliability to supporting local schools and programs.

And the impact of those values is more than just historical, it is personal. In our recent "Where Were You When the Lights Came On?" video, members shared powerful stories about the first time electricity reached their homes. These moments weren't just about convenience; they were about opportunity, progress and connection. They remind us why this cooperative was created in the first place and why it still matters today.

Where Were You When The Lights Came On?

Watch as REMC Member-Owners share how life changed as they experienced electricity in their homes for the very first time.



Scan the QR code below to view now.



One Week. One Trip. A Lifetime of Memories

2025 Youth Tour Delegate McKenzie Collins shares her Youth Tour experience.

When McKenzie Collins boarded the bus for Washington, D.C., she expected a week of sightseeing, a few history lessons, and maybe some new friends. What she got was so much more.

Her favorite moment came during All-State Night, when students from across the country gathered together. The speaker's message reshaped the way she thought about self-worth and life. "It was incredible," McKenzie recalls. She also left with a heavier lanyard thanks to the many pins she traded.

Another highlight was visiting the 9/11 Memorial and meeting a veteran who had been in New York during the second plane crash. "It was one of those moments that stays with you forever," she says. McKenzie made three close friends during the trip, and they have talked every day since. She also connected with her advisors, who shared life advice she will always carry.

"It wasn't just about where we went," she explains. "It was about the people, the lessons, and stepping out of my shell." For McKenzie, Youth Tour was not just a free trip but a life-changing adventure that opened her eyes to new ambitions and new ways to connect with others.

Don't miss this chance to be part of a life-changing experience that will inspire and empower YOU!

Applications are now open.



McKenzie Collins (second from left) with other youth tour delegates.

Dribble, Dunk, Dream: Sports Camp Edition

Two local students hit the court with top college coaches thanks to REMC's Touchstone Energy Sports Camp Scholarships.

This summer, Ava Moore and Benjamin Mattingly had the opportunity of a lifetime. Thanks to Randolph EMC's Touchstone Energy Sports Camp Scholarships, they joined more than 50 other scholarship winners from electric cooperatives across North Carolina for a week of learning, growth, and fun.

The students didn't just work on basketball skills. They made new friends, stayed overnight in dorms, and got a real taste of what college life is like.

"Ava and Ben truly shine in their classrooms, on the court, and in our community," said Christian Morgan, Public Relations Manager at Randolph EMC. "We're proud to partner with two top North Carolina universities to give our students an unforgettable, life-changing experience."

Throughout the week, coaches and student-athletes worked closely with campers to strengthen fundamentals while also teaching

teamwork, leadership and communication. These lessons will serve them both on and off the court.

For Ava, a huge NC State fan, the highlight was meeting players and coaches she has admired for years. "She got to see them every day! I felt like I sent her to camp as a little girl and she came back as a teenager. She had a great time," said her mom, Megan Moore.

Ben's parents, Becca and Joshua Mattingly, shared similar excitement. "Since attending this camp, we've seen incredible growth in our son, not just in his basketball skills but in his confidence, teamwork and love for the game. The coaches didn't just teach him how to play. They inspired him to believe in himself."

We couldn't be prouder of Ava and Benjamin for the way they represented our cooperative and community.



Ava Moore with Coach Moore



Benjamin Mattingly with Coach Davis



Home Cooked Food, Hometown Heart: P&J's 30-Year Tradition

For more than 30 years, P&J's Diner has been more than a place to eat; it's been a tradition – a gathering spot for many in Asheboro. Many of today's regulars first came through the doors as children. Now, they bring their own families, proof of the loyalty and love that have shaped the diner since day one.

Food is just the avenue by which they've been bringing people together all of this time, but it's really about the people.

"We've got customers that come every day, we've got them that come twice a day, and they have been loyal," said Jane Mullins, who opened the restaurant with her daughter, Penny, back in 1991. Penny and Jane never set out to build a community landmark, but it's turned into one over the years. In 1991, Jane left behind a 20-year career as a chicken farmer while Penny was still studying at East Carolina University, in Greenville, NC.

Together, they took a leap of faith on a small diner along North Fayetteville Street. "We never dreamed we'd be here this long," Jane recalled. Penny added, "We just got our nerve up, and bought the place."

Over the years, P&J's has hosted countless chance encounters, family milestones and everyday conversations. As one longtime customer put it: "I've run into people here that I went to high school with and hadn't seen in 25, 30 years. It's pretty cool."

Favorites like BBQ chicken, hamburger steaks, chicken livers, and the famous chocolate delight dessert keep tables and bellies full. But the real flavor of P&J's comes from loyal customers and employees, some who have been part of the diner's story since the beginning. Through it all, Penny and Jane remain grateful. "We've been blessed with good customers and good employees," they said. "We've just been blessed."

A hidden gem in plain sight, P&J's isn't just serving food. It's serving tradition — one plate, and one memory, at a time. At REMC, every member is a part of a bigger story. P&J's restaurant is just one example of how our communities shine when we work together.

Together, we power more than electricity, we power community.



Randolph Electric
Membership Corporation