

# Watts Working

## Randolph EMC Celebrates 81 Years at Annual Meeting

“Power to...Provide a Brighter Energy Future” was the theme as Randolph EMC celebrated its 81st annual meeting of the membership Friday, June 21, 2019, at Southwestern Randolph High School in Asheboro.

Member-owners enjoyed free homemade ice cream from Gilbert’s Old-Fashioned Homemade Ice Cream, a children’s show performed by Fish the Magish, safety demonstrations and informational booths, and the chance to win one of more than 100 door prizes. The event also included live bluegrass entertainment by The Ingrams band. There were 439 registered members who attended the business meeting with an estimated 1,200 in attendance overall.

Board President Jerry Bowman opened the meeting with a recap of 2018’s active storm season and the co-op’s community involvement.

He also announced that Dennis Kidd and Tim Williamson, two linemen from the Robbins office, were part of a team of volunteers who built about five miles of power line to connect the agricultural community of Laphía in Bolivia, South America, to the power grid as part of the Brighter World Initiative. Members enjoyed a video summary of the trip, which can be viewed on REMC’s YouTube page ([YouTube.com/RandolphElectric](https://www.youtube.com/RandolphElectric)).

Secretary-Treasurer Billy Maness updated members on the recent capital credit retirement and financial report for the cooperative and Chief Executive Officer Dale Lambert shared examples of how technology has shaped the programs and services that are offered to the membership, including programs for members who own electric vehicles and smart devices that help manage energy in their homes.

The evening concluded with the



re-election of three incumbent directors: Lee Isley to represent District 1; Larry Routh, District 3; and Sue Spencer, District 6.

Photos from this year’s event can be viewed & downloaded at [bit.ly/REMC2019AnnMtg](https://bit.ly/REMC2019AnnMtg).

**B** Robbins Office Construction Notice

**C** Energy Audit Program for Farms

**D** Scholarship Winners Attend Camp

**F** Dale Lambert’s AWARE Column

**H** Special Savings for Driving Electric



# 811 Day Serves As Annual Reminder To Call 811 Before Digging



Aug. 11 (8/11) is 811 Day, an annual reminder to dial 8-1-1 at least three working days before beginning any digging project to have underground utility lines marked. This free and simple step can save lives and reduce risk of injury, repair costs, fines and inconvenient outages.

According to North Carolina 811, an underground utility line is damaged every nine minutes due to digging without taking proper precautions. Even small digging projects, like installing a mailbox or planting a tree, warrant an advance call to 811.

The national 811 "Call Before You Dig" phone number links residents to a local call center, which alerts utility companies of the intent to dig. Professional locators are then dispatched to mark underground line locations with paint or flags. These marked lines show you where it is – and isn't – safe to break ground. Once your lines have been marked, make sure to dig carefully around the marks, not on top of them.

## Capital Credits Allocation for 2018

Capital credits are one of the core differences between co-ops and investor-owned utilities. Because members enjoy ownership of the company, each year they receive a share of the co-op's net margins—the amount of money that is left over after paying all expenses for the year. The cooperative refers to these shares as capital credits.

Randolph EMC's net margins totaled \$5,176,342 at the close of 2018. This amount has been disbursed among the capital credit accounts of members who had an active electric account during 2018. Each member's share is based on a percentage of the \$5,176,342, determined by the total amount of energy purchased for the year.

Remember, the refund you may have received in June that included capital credits from 2018 only represents a portion of 2018's total allocation.

### Calculate Your Allocation

- 1 Add together all of the energy-related charges from each monthly electric bill you received in 2018.
- 2 Add together the totals from each month's bill obtained in Step 1 to find the total for the year.
- 3 Multiply this total by 0.077350. This will give you the capital credits amount allocated to your account for 2018.

You can help us find former members who may have an outstanding capital credits check by visiting [RandolphEMC.com/UCC](http://RandolphEMC.com/UCC).

If you recognize a name on the list, please ask that person to call the local Randolph EMC office to update their contact information.

### CONSTRUCTION ALERT!

Randolph EMC's Robbins office is getting a makeover! While renovations are taking place inside the office, member service specialists will be providing the same great service in a temporary structure that will be placed in the front parking lot. Visitors will need to park on the side of the main building and follow signs for accessing the temporary office.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause and appreciate our members' patience while we make improvements to better serve you!



## Interested in reducing your farm energy costs?

The North Carolina Energy Audit Program provides discounted energy audits to help your farm prioritize energy efficiency projects and access funding for equipment upgrades.

The program provides an unbiased third-party evaluation of energy efficiency and demand reduction opportunities on your farm and ranks each project by simple payback period. Each energy audit also includes a detailed inventory of your current equipment and an analysis of your energy usage by farm activity.

This program will cover 75% of the cost of your energy audit. Your energy audit can be used to access funding through USDA programs such as the Rural Energy for America Program (REAP),

which provides grants up to 25% of your project cost and loan guarantees up to 75% of your project cost. There is no obligation to move forward with projects once you receive your audit report.

This program is offered on a first-come, first-served basis and funding is limited. Call 1-800-672-8212 today to learn more!

*This program is funded by USDA Rural Development and operated by the North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation and EnSave, Inc.*



### Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Routinely replace or clean your air conditioner's filter. Replacing a dirty, clogged filter can reduce your air conditioner's energy consumption by 5% to 15%.

Source: energy.gov



Colton Freeman



Patience Keller

## Touchstone Energy Scholarship Winners Attend Basketball Camp

Two local middle-school students attended basketball camp on college campuses this summer, thanks to a Touchstone Energy Sports Camp Scholarship from Randolph EMC.

Patience Keller of Climax expanded her knowledge of basketball and fine-tuned her skills on the court at the Wolfpack Women's Basketball Camp under the direction of Coach Wes Moore. The camp took place June 9-12 at NC State University in Raleigh. Patience is the daughter of Misty and Adam Keller.

Colton Freeman of Eagle Springs worked on leadership and teamwork skills at the Roy Williams Carolina Basketball Camp under the direction of Coach Roy Williams. The camp took place June 22-26 at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Colton is the son of Meredith and Matthew Freeman.

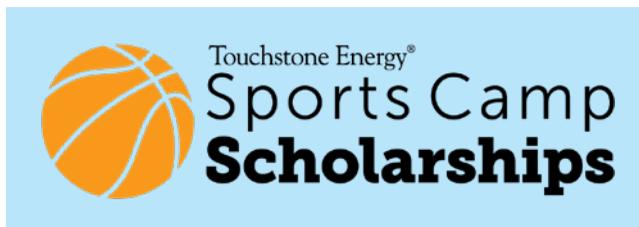
Campers stayed in dorms and experienced life as a college student, and also developed fundamental skills that will help them excel on and off the court. At both camps, coaches and student-athletes worked directly with campers to improve their basketball skills and practice working as a team.

"Patience and Colton were both very deserving students of this opportunity and we're happy to support programs that allow young athletes to

experience life on a college campus, learn from mentors at their favorite NCAA athletic programs and develop fundamental skills that will help them succeed on and off the court," said Kathleen

Duckworth, corporate communications specialist at Randolph EMC.

Touchstone Energy Sports Camp Scholarships are awarded to more than 50 rising sixth, seventh and eighth graders across North Carolina each year. The scholarships cover all expenses at the overnight camps, and winners are selected based on an application that includes academics, extracurricular activities and an essay.



# Educators, what's your Bright Idea?

Apply by **AUGUST 15** for the chance to win \$100!

Attention, K-12 teachers! Do you have an idea for an innovative, hands-on classroom project that will engage and excite your students? Apply for a Bright Ideas grant through Randolph EMC!

Educators who submit a Bright Ideas grant application by the early bird deadline of Aug. 15 will be entered to win one of five \$100 gift cards.

REMC is awarding \$10,000 in Bright Ideas grants this year to local educators to fund innovative projects. The final deadline to apply is Sept. 23, but it might pay to apply early.



**Bright Ideas**  
EDUCATION GRANTS

For more information or to start your application, visit [NCBrightIdeas.com](http://NCBrightIdeas.com).

## Going the Extra Mile

Electric cooperatives maintain more miles of power lines per consumer than other types of electric utilities. Even though they serve fewer consumers and acquire less revenue, electric co-ops always go the extra mile to power the communities they serve.



### Electric Co-ops



Consumers served per mile: **8**

Revenue: **\$19,000**

### Other Electric Utilities



Consumers served per mile: **32**

Revenue: **\$79,000**

Sources: EIA, 2017 data. Includes revenue and consumer averages per mile of line.



# A Word About Randolph Electric

From CEO Dale Lambert



## SURVEY SAYS... PART 1

Dear Members,

I want to thank the members that attended Randolph EMC's 81st Annual Meeting. I always enjoy talking with you directly and for some, since I see you only once a year, it's turned into our annual family reunion. Everyone seemed to have a good time as they carried out the duties of being an owner of the electric utility. If you were not able to attend this year, please plan on attending next year.

Prior to the annual meeting, we sent a survey to every member who had an email address listed on their account. We had 573 members who gave their input.

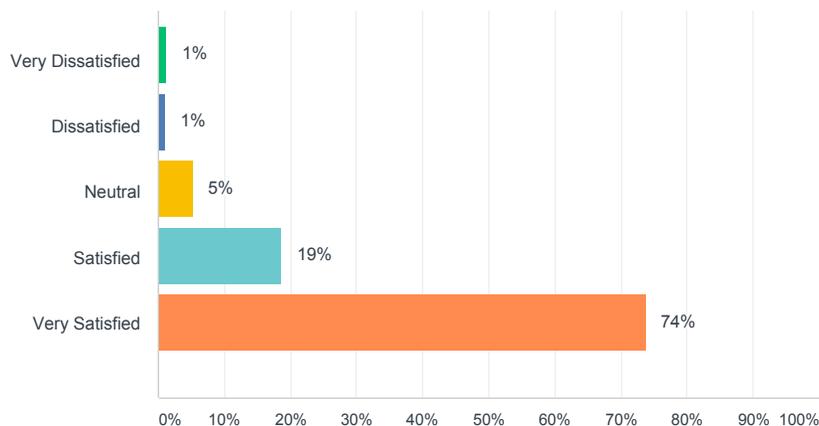
This is a shameless plug—if you have an email account, please share it with us so you can stay up-to-date on relevant programs and services, participate in surveys and provide your input. You'll also receive information about storm response efforts and other important topics that impact you as a member.

Over the next few AWARE columns, I want to work through the survey questions, how you responded and how the co-op stacks up. This month we'll tackle a couple of the questions.

Our first survey question is, "How would you rate the co-op's response to restoring outages during major weather events?"

The consensus among those who responded to the survey was you

How would you rate the co-op's response to restoring outages during major weather events



all are either satisfied or very satisfied with our storm and outage responses. Your feedback helps us know we're on the right track to providing exceptional service.

We certainly remember 2018 as being a year of major storm events. With back-to-back hurricanes and a winter storm, all within the span of a few short months, thousands of members experienced extended outages and crews worked long, hard hours to replace poles and repair damage to the electrical system. We want your power on 24/7, but when that can't be guaranteed, our goal is to restore it as safely and quickly as possible because we know you are counting on us.

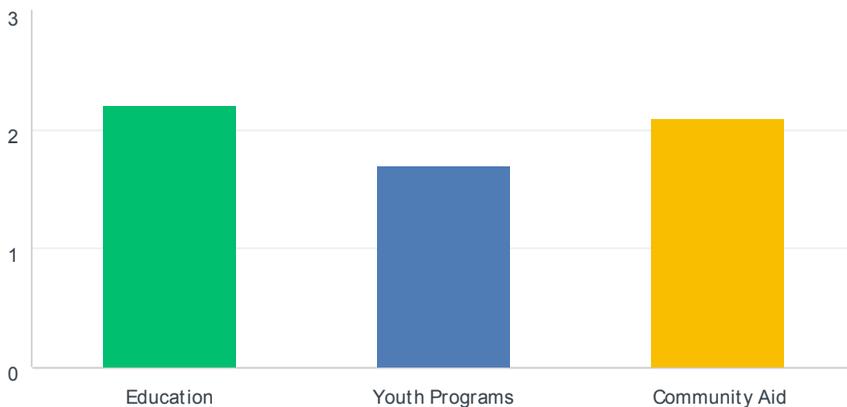
When you think about responding to disastrous situations within our communities, like major storms, we often also think about the equipment and people involved in emergency

services. Randolph EMC's business model allows us access to low- or no-interest funds through the USDA that can be used toward economic development to help support new and existing businesses in our areas.

Through this program, we provided support for our local fire departments in Bennett and Robbins. We secured \$720,000 to help these departments purchase expensive, much-needed equipment that can be used to serve families in their communities. We are currently working with other emergency response agencies to apply for these funds for this coming year.

Community involvement is one of REMC's seven adopted cooperative principles that we pride our business model on. We want to inspire those within our community to help out their fellow members through donations or acts of service, which brings us to question two.

**Please rank the following community outreach programs in order of importance as a service to the membership**



“Please rank the following community outreach programs in order of importance as a service to the membership.”

From the survey results, educational efforts were voted the most important outreach program that the cooperative should focus on, followed by community aid and youth programs.

Each year, REMC awards \$12,000 as part of the Bright Ideas Education Grant program to support local teachers and students within our communities. We also perform live-line safety demonstrations to schools and leadership groups, and participate in career days and other school events.

Community aid was a close runner up with the People Helping People (PHP) program. REMC members contribute their spare change to help fellow member families who are facing hardships in their lives, and the PHP board of directors receives matching grant funds from CoBank and Randolph EMC to earmark \$10,000 for community organizations as part of the Sharing Success Community Grants program. If you are not already contributing to PHP by rounding up your power bills to the next whole dollar, I encourage you to do so.

Last, but certainly not least, was youth programs such as Touchstone Energy Sports Camp Scholarships and Rural Electric Youth Tour Scholarships. You can read all about our sports camp attendees on page D and view a video about the wonderful educational opportunity the Youth Tour was from our 2018 delegate, Roman Ferrer-Diaz on at YouTube.com/RandolphElectric. Our 2019 Youth Tourist, Macy Henson, just returned from her trip to Washington D.C. and we’ll read all about her experience in an article in the September issue of Watts Working.

I can’t thank you all enough for being member-owners of this cooperative and I want to extend a special thank you to all of our survey respondents for being extra engaged in the direction of your co-op. Next time, we’ll dive deeper into more results from the survey and find out how you all feel about new technology advances and where you feel the cooperative should be placing our focus in relation to these advances.

Cooperatively Yours,



Dale F. Lambert  
Chief Executive Officer

Randolph Electric Membership Corporation provides safe and reliable power with exceptional value to more than 32,000 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

### Board of Directors

Jerry Bowman ..... President  
Tammie Phillips ..... Vice President  
Billy Maness ..... Secretary-Treasurer  
Lee Isley ..... Assistant Secretary-Treasurer  
Scott Cole                      Larry Routh  
Delbert Cranford              Sue Spencer  
Steve Harris

### Senior Staff

Dale F. Lambert .... Chief Executive Officer  
Jay Albright ..... District Vice President  
Adam Hargett .... Vice President of Finance  
Dennis Mabe ..... Vice President of Engineering & Operations  
Fred Smith ..... Vice President of Economic Development & Compliance

Jill Vanness ..... Editor  
Kathleen Duckworth ..... Associate Editor

Visit Randolph EMC Online

[RandolphEMC.com](http://RandolphEMC.com)



# SPECIAL SAVINGS FOR DRIVING ELECTRIC

Whether your priority is saving money, helping the environment or experiencing the latest and greatest technology, electric vehicles have something for everyone. As a Randolph EMC member, these benefits are just for you:



## Home Charger Rebate

Let us know about your Level 2 charger, and receive a rebate.



## Special Electric Rate

Maximize savings when charging at home. Sign up for a special EV rate.



## Federal Tax Credit

Take advantage of tax credits ranging from \$2,500 to \$7,500 for purchasing a qualifying new electric vehicle.



## Nissan LEAF Rebate

Get \$3,500 back when you purchase a Nissan LEAF, just for being a co-op member.



## Low-Interest EV Loan

Finance an EV at a low rate from ElecTel Cooperative Federal Credit Union.

# REVUP

Randolph EMC Electric Vehicle Utility Program

For more information about Randolph EMC's Electric Vehicle Utility program, please visit:

[RandolphEMC.com/REVUP](http://RandolphEMC.com/REVUP)