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Proudly serving the members of Albemarle Electric Membership Corporation

Albemarle Sounds

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Albemarle Electric Membership Corporation

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 
The power of human connections®

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Albemarle EMC is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Director Recognized



Albemarle EMC Board President John Spence was recently recognized for his years of service as president of the Tarheel Electric Membership Association.

Chargers Installed at AEMC Office

Albemarle EMC is pleased to announce the addition of two electric vehicle chargers at the cooperative's office.

A slow charger and a fast charger are now both available to the public. The chargers were partially paid for through two grants from the N.C. Department of Environmental Quality. The co-op received an \$8,000 grant to help pay for the slow charger. Another \$48,000 grant was used to help pay for the DC fast charger.

The slow charger has the ability to charge a fully depleted vehicle in four to five hours. The fast charger can fully charge a vehicle in one and a half hours. For public safety, security cameras have been positioned to view the charging area.

"We would like to extend our appreciation to the N.C. Department of Environmental Quality for making these grants available to us," said Albemarle



Chatham Electric Service employees Kyle Pope (bottom) and Anthony Minter install a fast charger at the Albemarle EMC office.

EMC General Manager Gary Ray. "We are delighted to be a part of a network of cooperative-owned chargers that is growing across the state."

ACT Grants Awarded



The Bethel Community Fire Protection Association was recently awarded a \$5,000 Albemarle Community Trust grant to purchase a "BETHEL FIRE DEPT." wrap for their fire-rescue vessel.



The City of Elizabeth City was recently awarded a \$4,140 Albemarle Community Trust grant. The grant will be used to construct a storage shed to store sports equipment for youth athletics.

Nominating Committee Appointed

At their May meeting, the Albemarle EMC Board of Directors appointed a nominating committee for the purpose of nominating a slate of candidates for this year's board of directors election.

Anyone wishing to be nominated to run for a seat on the Albemarle EMC Board of Directors has until early July to inform the co-op of their intention. Qualifying members who wish to be considered for nomination should notify Public Relations Coordinator Chris Powell by email (chris.powell@aemc.coop) or by addressing a letter

to Chris Powell, Albemarle EMC, P.O. Box 69, Hertford, NC 27944. The prospective nominees will be given the names and addresses of the nominating committee members they will need to contact. The nominating committee will meet in mid to late July. Incumbent directors running for re-election are Thelma Finch-Copeland, Perquimans County; Robert Whitehead, Pasquotank County; and Josiah "Tony" Webb, Chowan County.

The co-op's Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday, Sept. 16 at the Perquimans County Recreation Department, 310 Granby St., Hertford.

Bylaws Relevant to Nomination of Directors

Section 4.03 Directorate Districts

Directors shall be nominated and elected in a manner such that the Board shall be comprised of two Directors from each of the four Directorate Districts, designated one (1) through four (4) inclusive and one Director from Directorate District Number five (5) as follows:

Section 4.04 Qualifications

To become or remain a Director, a Person must comply with or meet the following:

- (a.) Have the capacity to enter legally binding contracts;
- (b.) Be a Member of the Cooperative;
- (c.) Reside principally in the Directorate District from which a Director is to be chosen, and continuously and materially use, receive, or purchase electric energy from the Cooperative at the Member's primary residence;
- (d.) Possess a valid high school diploma or equivalent certification; and
- (e.) Must not have been convicted of a felony, a crime involving moral turpitude, or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property.

A Member shall be disqualified from being or remaining a Director, as a result of a conflict of interest, if:

- (a.) The Member is a current, former, or retired employee currently receiving any benefit from an electric supplier or is the spouse of a current, former, or retired employee currently receiving any benefit from an electric supplier; provided, however, a former employee who is not a retiree currently receiving any benefit from the Cooperative and has not worked for the Cooperative

within seven (7) years of the date of the relevant Director election or selection is not disqualified;

- (b.) The Member is a Close Relative of a current Director or of an employee of an electric supplier;
- (c.) The Member is employed by, materially affiliated with, or shares a material financial interest with any other Director;
- (d.) The Member is or has been employed by, materially affiliated with, or has a material financial interest in any individual or entity which regularly, directly or substantially competes with the Cooperative or its subsidiary or affiliates, including investor-owned utilities or municipalities providing similar services provided by the Cooperative, unless the person has not been so employed or affiliated with the individual or entity for a period of at least seven (7) years from the date of the Director election or selection;
- (e.) The Member is employed by, materially affiliated with, or has a material financial interest in any individual or entity which regularly sells goods or services to the Cooperative or any Cooperative subsidiary or affiliate; and
- (f.) The Member seeks or applies for employment with the Cooperative. Any Director seeking to be employed by the Cooperative must submit his or her Board resignation prior to such time as he or she submits an application for employment or otherwise solicits the Cooperative for such employment.

If it is determined that any person being considered for or currently holding a position on the Cooperative's Board of Directors lacks eligibility under this Section, it shall be the duty of the Board of Directors to withhold such position from such person, or to cause him/her to be removed therefrom, whichever be the case. Nothing in this Section contained

shall, or shall be construed to, affect in any manner whatsoever the validity of any action taken at any meeting of the Board of Directors, unless such action is taken with respect to a matter which is affected by the provisions of this Section and in which one or more of the disqualified Directors has an interest adverse to that of the Cooperative.

Section 4.05 Nominating Committee

The Board of Directors shall appoint, not less than sixty (60) nor more than one hundred and thirty (130) days before the date of the meeting of the Members at which Directors are to be elected, a Nominating Committee consisting of an uneven number of Members of the Cooperative, not less than five (5) nor more than eleven (11), who are not current Directors and who are not Close Relatives or Members of the same household of current Directors or known candidates. In selecting the Committee, the Board shall have regard for equitable representation of the five (5) Directorate Districts of the Cooperative.

At least thirty (30) days before the annual Member meeting, the Committee shall meet and prepare and post at the principal office of the Cooperative, a list of nominees for Directorate Districts to be elected, listing separately the nominee or nominees with respect to each Directorate District for which a Director must, pursuant to this Article, be elected at the meeting. The Committee shall include at least one (1) nominee for each Directorate District for which a Director is to be elected, including their name, address, and Directorate District of residency. The Committee's posted list shall also clearly show which nominees are opposed with respect to the same Directorate District.



Albemarle EMC is at Your Service

Power to Do Good

by Chris Powell, coordinator of public relations

A senior lineman once described to me how it felt to restore a large outage at night and see all of those lights come on at once. He said knowing those folks were no longer in the dark gave him a sense of accomplishment that few other activities in life could.

For any young person starting a career at Albemarle EMC, the co-op affords an opportunity for a positive impact on our community that most entry-level jobs can't match. Whether a person is an employee, board director or member, all of us are privileged to be part of an enterprise that is a force for good in this world.

As a person who conducts energy audits for members, there are few things more satisfying than finding the cause of excessive power usage. Often when performing energy audits, I will encounter members who are rightfully frustrated at a surprise high bill. It is one of the best feelings when I can find the cause of the excess usage, and the member shifts from frustration to relief and then appreciation. It never gets old!

As I write this, several co-op personnel are immersed in preparing for our annual Light Up Christmas charity golf tournament. This fundraiser was born 18 years ago, when a teacher mentioned to one of our employees that some of her students received no Christmas toys due to family hardships. Every year since that conversation took place, Albemarle EMC has raised enough money to provide toys for more than 500 children in our service area.

This month, your co-op will send Perquimans County High School students Blair Russell and Joliegh Connor to the Washington Youth Tour, as delegates for Albemarle EMC. I have attended

the Youth Tour, as a chaperone, and can tell you that this experience has the ability to change lives. One of the highlights is a day spent on Capitol Hill. Youth Tour delegates meet with their local representatives and discuss issues of importance to themselves and their families. I am always impressed how these teens can stand up in a room full of their peers and discuss an issue with their member of Congress. Former Youth Tour delegates have gone on to careers of service at some of the highest levels of government and industry.

Your co-op also will sponsor basketball summer camps, in June, for two middle school students. We are pleased to announce that Zaden O'Keefe, a student at Currituck County Middle School, has been selected to attend the Carolina Basketball School, at the University of North Carolina. Emily Russell, a student at Perquimans County Middle School, will attend the Wolfpack Women's Basketball Camp at

North Carolina State University. This is an incredible opportunity for these two student-athletes to learn from some of the top players and coaches in college basketball. Moreover, they receive a sneak peak into what life is like on major college campuses. These experiences can leave a lasting impression on a young person, and we are so grateful to be able to provide these experiences.

I have really just scratched the surface of all the positive ways Albemarle EMC contributes to our community. I also could mention our Albemarle Community Trust Grant program, our Bright Ideas education grants for teachers, our two electricity safety programs and so on. Our hope is that co-op members feel the same sense of pride and ownership in these efforts. None of what we do is possible without our members. You are not just part of the co-op team, you are the most valuable player.



Emily Russell, who will be entering Perquimans Middle School, was selected to attend the WolfPack Women's Basketball Camp. She is congratulated by Hertford Grammar School Assistant Principal Trisha Brickhouse.



Currituck Middle School student Zaden O'Keefe was selected to attend the Carolina Basketball School, at the University of North Carolina. He is congratulated by Principal John Parkman.