

Wake ElectriConnection

For members of Wake Electric Membership Corporation



"The power to make a difference"

OCTOBER 2011

Youth Tour is Life-Changing Experience for 2011 Winners

Elizabeth Hester of Oxford, N.C., and Zack Diamond of Cary, N.C., Wake Electric's 2011 Rural Electric Youth Tour winners, both discovered that learning can be fun during their all-expenses paid trip to Washington, D.C. this past June.

Hester and Diamond joined 1,500 high school students from across the U.S. to learn about electric cooperatives, American history and the United States government. The Youth Tour participants also visited the historic sites of the nation's capital, including the Lincoln Memorial, the Vietnam Memorial, Arlington National Cemetery and a newly added tour of the White House. This was truly a once in a lifetime opportunity for these students, now high school seniors.

"Not only did I become great friends with the people from my state, but I also met several people from around the country," said Diamond.

As part of their winnings, Hester and Diamond also each received a \$1,000 college scholarship.

When asked about what he learned on the trip, Diamond responded, "I learned that going into a situation where I don't know anyone with confidence is the best way to meet people and make friends. At the nation's capital, even though there are so many opposing viewpoints, ultimately everyone aims to improve our country. By accepting this, there can be a mutual respect between disagreeing parties." A great lesson learned, indeed.

Hester's favorite part of the trip was meeting all the other youth tourists from other states. Hester said, "It was really interesting to hear the different accents and see how different people from other states act. Each state had its own pin that youth tourists would trade for other states' pins, and it was a great way to break the ice and talk to others from all over the country."



For more information on the Rural Electric Youth Tour, visit www.wemc.com/youthtours.aspx.

The Youth Tour is funded through voluntary member and employee donations through the Operation RoundUp program at Wake Electric.

If you are going to be a high school junior this year (or know one), we encourage applying to the 2012 tour! Applications will be available at Wake Electric's website at www.wemc.com/youthtours.aspx on January 1, 2012.

Don't Forget to RSVP for October MAC Meetings

Do you want to discuss recent energy legislation and electric utility issues that matter to you? Then join Wake Electric at one of its Member Advisory Committee (MAC) meetings on **Monday, October 17, Tuesday, October 18, or Thursday, October 20**. All members are invited to meet and talk with members of the Wake Electric management team.

Dinner is included for all attendees, and there will be several drawings for a \$25 credit on attendees' next electric bill. All October MAC meetings will be held at Wake Electric's Youngsville office at 228 Park Avenue at 6:30 p.m.

For more information on the meetings or on how to RSVP, visit www.wemc.com/membermeetings.aspx. A RSVP is required to attend a meeting.



**Wake Electric
Membership Corporation**

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Call to report outages: 919.863.6499 or 800.743.3155
Regular office hours: M-F, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
Telephone hours: M-F, 7 a.m.-6 p.m., 863.6300 or 800.474.6300
Underground locating service: Call 811

Wake Electric's "Give Us an A" Program Rewards High-Achieving Students with \$50 Savings Bonds

Wake Electric recently awarded 40 U.S. Savings Bonds to area students who received at least one "A" (or its equivalent) on their report cards. The \$50 savings bond awards were part of a drawing held three times a year at the co-op.

"The 'Give Us an A' program is an excellent way for the co-op to demonstrate its commitment to education and reward students for their hard work," said Darnell Alford, Business Operations Specialist for Wake Electric. "It is our hope the savings bonds will encourage students to keep making good grades and strive to do their best at school."

Students in any grade in Durham, Franklin, Granville, Johnston, Nash, Vance and Wake counties are eligible to apply.

Funding for the "Give Us an A" program is made possible by Wake Electric members through the Operation RoundUp program. Members who sign up to participate in the Operation RoundUp program elect to have their monthly electric bill rounded up to the next whole dollar. These pennies collectively add up to major dollars for community programs.

The next "Give Us an A" drawing will be held this month on Thursday, October 20. **Because each school district may have a different time for issuing report cards, if a student's entry misses one deadline, the entry will automatically be included in the next drawing.**

For information on how to enter Wake Electric's next "Give Us an A" drawing, go to www.wemc.com/giveusana.aspx.



Congratulations to four of Wake Electric's "Give Us an A" winners from the most recent drawing: Hannah Bonini from Wilton Elementary, Mark Bishop from G.C. Hawley Middle School, Janelle Maffucci from Heritage Middle School and Addison Selna from Heritage Elementary School.

The most recent "Give Us an A" winners include:

Name	School
Yazmin Andrade-Garcia	Royal Elementary School
Nathanael Bateman	Charis Academy
Mark Bishop	G.C. Hawley Middle School
Savannah G. Blalock	Franklin Academy
Joshua P. Blalock	Franklin Academy
Dyvonne Body	Granville HS Health Science School
Hannah Bonini	Wilton Elementary
Sharecia Bullock	Northern Granville Middle School
Nicole Cannon	Knightdale High School
Jake Clement	Zebulon GT Magnet Middle School
Samantha DeBruhl	East Wake Academy
Emily Deem	Heritage Middle School
Kaitlyn Denton	Southern Nash High School
Hunter Dickerson	Heritage Middle School
Theresa M. Evangelista	Franklin Academy
Brianna Flamion	Creedmoor Elementary School
Alexander Good	Jones Dairy Elementary School
Matthew Higgs	Granville HS Health Science School
Cameron Hill	Cedar Creek Middle School
Matthew Hoffman	Cedar Creek Middle School
Taryn Hoffman	Cedar Creek Middle School
Nathaniel Horton	Forestville Road Elementary School
Louis Isabella III	Franklinton High School
Rachael Kistner	Wake Forest-Rolesville High School
Elizabeth Long	Crossroads Christian School
Jennifer Long	Crossroads Christian School
Janelle Maffucci	Heritage Middle School
Ryan Moss	Heritage Middle School
Alia Poppe	Wake Forest Elementary
Christen A. Rogers	Franklin Academy
Amber Sajecki	Heritage Middle School
Stephanie Sample	Cedar Creek Middle School
Andrew Sample	Cedar Creek Middle School
Addison Selna	Heritage Elementary School
Yarmisha Smith	Youngsville Elementary School
Melissa Stone	Youngsville Elementary School
Wyatt Stroud	East Millbrook Middle School
Carleigh Tingen	Royal Elementary School
Jovanhy Trejo	Butner-Stem Middle School
Claire Wilson	Cedar Creek Middle School

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ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP Check The EnergyGuide Labels

When buying a new appliance, check the black and yellow EnergyGuide label. This label provides an estimate of the product's energy consumption and efficiency. It also shows the highest and lowest energy efficiency estimates of similar models. Most major appliances—such as refrigerators, dishwashers, and clothes dryers—are required to have these labels.

Source: U.S. Department of Energy



It's National Co-op Month

Each October, cooperatives across the country celebrate their ongoing accomplishments and contributions as democratically controlled, member-owned businesses. More than 130 million Americans find solutions to many of their everyday needs through different cooperatives that provide common goods and services.

Electric cooperatives were established to provide electricity to rural America and now make up the largest electric utility network in the nation. North Carolina's electric cooperatives, including Wake Electric, are located in the communities they serve and have a special interest in seeing these communities succeed. One way to ensure success is by delivering safe, reliable and affordable power.

■ ■ ■ ELECTRICAL SAFETY TIPS ■ ■ ■

Safety is a big part of the electric cooperative business, and in recognition of Co-op Month, we'd like to share a few safety tips with you:

- ★ Check to make sure electrical cords are in good condition. Any cracked or frayed cords need to be replaced.
- ★ Outlets or switches that feel warm or hot to the touch may indicate an electrical problem. Have an electrician examine the problem to make sure you don't become the victim of an electrical fire.
- ★ Encountering an electrical shock when plugging in or unplugging an appliance means there is an electrical hazard. Such hazards should be checked by a qualified professional.
- ★ An appliance that repeatedly blows a fuse or trips a circuit breaker could indicate a defect that may cause a fire or electrical shock. Unplug the appliance immediately and contact an electrician.
- ★ Ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs) are products designed to prevent serious injury or death from electrical shock by detecting ground faults at very low levels. A GFCI will automatically disconnect the power when an electrocution hazard exists. GFCIs are a wise investment for your home because they are credited for reducing residential electrocutions by more than 50 percent over the last two decades, according to the Electrical Safety Foundation International.

Bought an Electric Car? Thinking About Buying One? Let Us Know About It!

Please contact Wake Electric if you are planning to buy an electric vehicle that will be charged at a home or business that is served by the co-op. We need to ensure we can continue to accommodate the extra load electric cars place on our system and that no safety issues exist.

Please contact Fred Keller, Manager of Member & Energy Services, at (919) 863-6316 or fred.keller@wemc.com to notify Wake Electric of your electric vehicle purchase. We appreciate your help with this matter.



Think lightning can't get into your house and ...

- ⚡ **Damage your computer?**
- ⚡ **Ruin your dimmer switches?**
- ⚡ **Harm your flat-screen TV?**

Think again.

**Protect Your Appliances—
Get Surge Protection Today!**

Today's homes have more appliances and electronics than ever before. Lightning is a dangerous source of raw electricity that can destroy those appliances and electrical equipment in a flash.

Triangle Services Group (TSG) offers Surge Protection that can save your investments by helping to prevent destructive lightning surges from entering your home.

Our surge protection for your whole house includes:

- ⚡ Leased equipment (1 point of entry PEMCO Meter Base Whole House Surge Arrestor)
- ⚡ Cost of only \$5.95 per month added to your electric bill
- ⚡ \$50 installation fee

Are you ready to sign up and start protecting your home now? Call 919.863.6306 or email info@wemc.com.



Triangle Services Group Inc.