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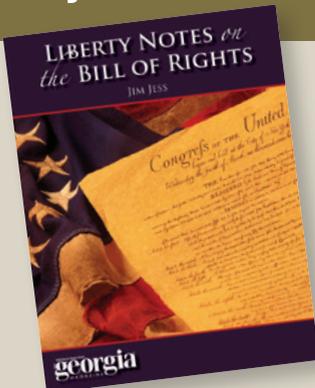


Amicalola Electric
Membership Corporation

“Owned By Those We Serve”

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Independence Day in July



The Fourth of July and the observance of Independence Day is a good time for all of us to reflect on the freedoms we have in the United States. *GEORGIA Magazine* has published “Liberty Notes on the Bill of Rights,” an impressive collection of articles about the first ten amendments to the Constitution, written by Jim Jess, Assistant Editor of *GEORGIA Magazine*. Visit www.georgiamagazine.org to download a free copy.

IN THIS ISSUE:

CEO's message	22A
Legislative conference in Washington.....	22B
Summer savings	22C
BRIGHT IDEAS	22D

Comments from the CEO



Charles Gibson
President/CEO
Amicalola EMC

Keeping you safe during and after summer storms

No one knows electrical safety better than the experts who practice it every single day. At Amicalola EMC, we encourage you to practice safety with the following reminders—during **and** after a summer storm.

Avoid wires and water—When lightning strikes a home during a storm, the electrical charge can surge through pipes and utility wires. That means you can get zapped if you're touching water or any device that's plugged in, whether it's a landline phone or toaster.

Skip the makeshift shelter—During a storm, it's tempting to take cover under a picnic gazebo or outside pavilion, but in open-sided structures with no conductors to channel strikes, a bolt's path of least resistance to the ground could be you. On top of that, these structures raise your risk of a lightning strike because of their height. Keep moving toward suitable shelter.

Portable generators—Take special care with portable generators, which can provide a good source of power, but if improperly installed or operated, can become deadly. **Do not connect generators directly to household wiring. Power from generators can backfeed along power lines and electrocute anyone coming**

in contact with them, including co-op lineworkers making repairs.

It's best to hire a qualified, licensed electrician to install your generator and ensure that it meets local electrical codes.

Flooded areas—Stay away from downed power lines and avoid walking through flooded areas. Power lines could be submerged and still energized. Report any downed lines you see to 911 first, then call one of our outage hotlines at 706-253-0359, 706-276-0359 or 706-864-0359.

Electrical equipment—Never use electrical equipment that is wet—especially outdoor electrical equipment—which could be a potential danger after a summer storm. Water can damage electrical equipment and parts, posing a shock or fire hazard.

Amicalola EMC has served our local communities since 1940 and safety for our employees and our members is very important to us. To learn more about promoting electrical safety at home and in the workplace, visit www.esfi.org. The Electrical Safety Foundation International (ESFI) is the premier nonprofit organization dedicated exclusively to promoting electrical safety at home and in the workplace.

EMC leaders rally in Washington to shine a light on co-op issues

In May, leaders and key staff from electric cooperatives across the nation met in Washington, D.C., for the annual National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) Legislative Conference. More than 2,000 directors, managers and staff members, including more than 80 from Georgia, spent time on Capitol Hill talking about legislative issues affecting electric cooperatives and their member-owners.



From left, Penelope Marshall, Charles Gibson, David Pierce and Todd Payne attended the 2015 Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C.

Director David J. Pierce (Post 2—Gilmer/Fannin), President/CEO Charles Gibson, Chief Operating Officer Todd Payne, and Chief Financial Officer Penelope Marshall attended this year's conference.

"It's important for members of Congress to hear from constituents back home," says Charles Gibson, President/CEO of Amicalola EMC. "The Legislative Conference gives

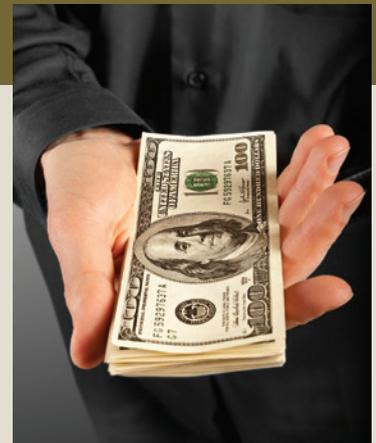
us the chance to inform lawmakers of our major legislative priorities and the importance of supporting policies that promote affordable and reliable electricity."

NRECA is the national service organization for more than 900 not-for-profit rural electric cooperatives providing retail electric service to more than 42 million consumers in 47 states.

Are we holding your money?

Amicolola EMC is attempting to locate former members whose capital credit refunds were issued in 2009 (for electric service received in 1988), but have remained unclaimed. A list of unclaimed capital credit refunds is now available for review. You may access it at www.amicalolaemc.com, by clicking on the Capital Credits tab on the home page, or at any local Amicalola EMC office.

The last day to claim these funds is Sept. 1, 2015. After a mandatory waiting period, any unclaimed capital credit refunds are distributed in accordance with Georgia's unclaimed property laws O.C.G.A. §44-12-236.



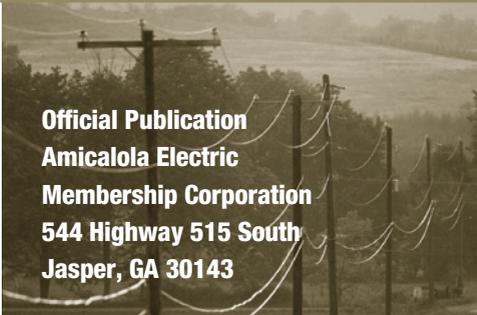
Stay cool and save money this summer

Here are a few smart-money, summer-cooling tips:

- Install a programmable thermostat, which you can set higher for hours when the house is empty, but lower during your at-home hours. Program it to lower the inside temperature about an hour before you're due home, so that your place will feel comfortable when you walk through the door.
- Set the thermostat at 78 degrees. You'll save about 15 percent on your cooling bill over a 72-degree setting, while remaining comfortable.



- Move lamps, TVs and appliances away from the thermostat. The heat they produce can trick your air conditioning system into "thinking" the air is warmer than it really is, and it will keep running even when the rest of the house is cool enough.
- Open shades and blinds on cloudy days, but close them when the sun is shining. This will keep the sun from overheating your house and forcing your A/C to work overtime.
- Check the seal around your room air conditioners for air leaks. If they don't fit snugly enough into window frames, they can let hot air into the house—undoing the cooling benefits of the unit.



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Holiday office closings

Our offices will be closed on Friday, July 4, in observance of Independence Day.



Teachers, send us your BRIGHT IDEAS!

Amicalola EMC will soon be accepting BRIGHT IDEAS applications from area teachers. This grant competition is for teachers who provide a creative learning experience for students, above and beyond a typical classroom experience. Georgia certified teachers at public elementary, middle, high schools and private schools in the Amicalola EMC service area are eligible to enter.



Aug. 3 – Begin accepting applications

Aug. 31 – Early bird deadline

Sept. 11 – Final deadline to enter

BRIGHT IDEAS is funded using unclaimed property in accordance with O.C.G.A. 44-12-236. Online applications will be available Aug. 3, 2015, at www.amicalolaemc.com.

For more information on Bright Ideas, scan this QR code with your smartphone.



Lumpkin County Middle School winning teachers Mariam Brunner, left, and Tina Wood.



Gilmer Middle School Principal Larry Walker, holding donation, along with, from left, Director David Pierce, President/CEO Charles Gibson, Director of Public Relations Stacey Fields, Chief Financial Officer Penelope Marshall and Amicalola EMC Board Treasurer Randall Ponder.



Amicalola EMC Director James Bryan, left, congratulates winning teacher Stacia Walker, holding check, and Principal Lydia Wallace of Harmony Elementary, along with Amicalola EMC Chief Operating Officer Todd Payne.



Assistant Principal Bobby Mayfield of Lumpkin County High School accepts winning check on behalf of teacher Kenneth Reese, with Reggie Stowers, left, and Leon Davis, of the Amicalola EMC Board of Directors.