

# BEACON



Amicalola Electric  
Membership Corporation

“Owned By Those We Serve”

Vol 62 | Issue 2 | April 2012

## It's official!

The Public Service Commission recently released their Residential Rate Survey—Winter 2012. When compared with all electric cooperatives across the state, Amicalola EMC is at or below the state average in all four categories surveyed. In addition, we are less expensive than the local investor-owned utility in categories of 1,000 kwh or higher.

We will continue to do everything within our control to provide you with safe, reliable and affordable electricity.



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## Comments from the CEO

### Affordable power

The power you use today was in the planning stages decades ago. We stand ready with plans for new infrastructure, power plants and innovative technologies to provide electricity for the future. But there's a problem: We're waiting for direction from our nation's leaders.

We have told our elected officials that, now more than ever, we have to plan for a safe, reliable and affordable energy future. To get there, we need to know the rules for power generation—and we need to know now. Rolling blackouts in Texas last year reminded all of us that electricity must be used as quickly as it's produced; we don't have the technology yet to store large amounts of power to fall back on when other resources, such as renewables, aren't available.

For our children and grandchildren's sake, we need to make some tough decisions soon—and we need to get them right.

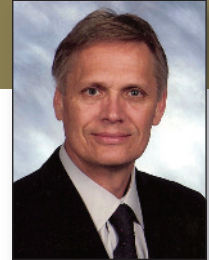
With a flurry of proposed regulations being discussed for power plants (and more to come), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has been following its own rules and deadlines set by the courts. What the final regulations will look like remains unclear. Co-ops need to know the rules for power generation. As the demand for electricity grows and threatens to outstrip our nation's

generation capacity, we need to build more power plants. But what type of facilities make the most sense financially?

Amicalola EMC's mission was set by you, our members, more than 70 years ago. You charged us to provide safe, reliable and affordable power. The wholesale price we have to pay for that power has a direct impact on your bill. Last year, 68 cents of each dollar you paid us went to buy wholesale power. Bucket trucks, poles and wire, right-of-way trimming, payroll and other operating expenses make up the rest.

Although expensive to build, power plants and expanded transmission systems are an investment in the future for all of us. We are keeping our mission of providing safe, reliable and affordable power at the forefront of our efforts as we work with Congress to determine our direction and keep the lights on.

What can you do? Visit [www.ourenergy.coop](http://www.ourenergy.coop) to join the more than 500,000 American consumers who have asked their elected officials to keep electric bills affordable. In the meantime, we will continue to make sound business decisions to best serve you, our members.



Charles Gibson  
President/CEO  
Amicalola EMC



## Community Spotlight

# Student wiring competition held at Amicalola EMC

**A**micalola EMC recently hosted the North Region Area I FFA/EMC Career Development Event. Sponsored by the EMCs of Georgia, this wiring contest is a program of the Agricultural Education program of the Georgia Department of Education.

Participants are provided the opportunity to demonstrate their skills in electrical wiring, critical

thinking and communications. Amicalola EMC is pleased to be a sponsor as a means of promoting education and the safe, efficient use of electrical energy.

Collan Sanford, a senior at Gilmer High, placed second in the area competition. Collan was awarded a \$300 scholarship for his efforts and went on to repre-

sent the North Region at the state contest held in January 2012.

Amicalola EMC congratulates Collan on his success!



Collan Sanford (standing left) with North Region Area I participants.



Collan is shown here at the state competition with Gilmer County FFA Advisor, Mr. Josh Hitt.

## Unclaimed capital credits

**M**embership in an electric co-op has many benefits. We are good stewards of your money and strive to give you good value for your dollar. When you pay your monthly electric bill, you can rest assured that every dollar you pay is being spent wisely to provide you with safe, reliable and affordable electricity.

As a not-for-profit electric co-op, Amicalola EMC does not seek to make a profit. Any revenue over and above the cost of doing business is returned to you, our members, in the form of capital credit refunds.

A list of unclaimed capital credit refunds is now available for review. You may access it on our website, [amicalolaemc.com](http://amicalolaemc.com), or in person at

any local Amicalola EMC office. The last day to claim these funds is Sept. 1, 2012. At that time, unclaimed funds will be distributed for charitable purposes in accordance with Georgia unclaimed property laws.





# Process for electing directors

Members of Amicalola Electric Membership Corporation are reminded that nominations for the Amicalola EMC (AEMC) Board of Directors will be posted July 7, 2012. The Nominating Committee's recommendations for the board will be posted on the bulletin board at the main office in Jasper and on the AEMC website.

The Amicalola EMC Bylaws state that "the committee on nominations shall make at least one nomination for each post for director to be voted on at the annual meeting. The committee shall prepare and post at the principal office of the Cooperative at least ninety (90) days (July 7, 2012) before the meeting, a list of nominations for directors, but any fifteen (15) or more



members may make other nominations in writing over their signatures no less than sixty (60) days (Aug. 6, 2012) prior to the meeting, and the Secretary shall post the same at the same place where the list of nominations made by the committee is posted."

## Just Released! Outage info is just a click away.

A storm blows through and leaves you in the dark. Ever wonder who else is out of power? Now the answer is just a click away.

We've added the outage map to our website. It gives you real-time outage information, including areas affected and when a service crew is dispatched. Access is quick and easy from a computer, laptop or smartphone.

Don't be left in the dark! Visit our website for details.

Scan this QR code with your smartphone to access our website.



To get a free QR reader app for your smartphone, visit the App Store or Android Market.

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**Amicalola Electric**  
**Membership Corporation**  
**544 Highway 515 South**  
**Jasper, GA 30143**

Charles L. Gibson, *President*

### Board of Directors

Charles R. Fendley, *Chairman* .....Post #3  
John H. Bennett, Jr., *Vice Chairman* ...Post #6  
Randall Ponder, *Sec.-Treas.* .....Post #1  
James H. Bryan .....Post #4  
Kathy Burt .....Post #7  
Travis D. Cline .....Post #5  
Wm. Leon Davis .....Post #9  
David J. Pierce .....Post #2  
Reggie Stowers .....Post #8

### TELEPHONE NUMBERS TO CALL IN CASE OF POWER INTERRUPTIONS:

#### Outage Hotlines

706-253-0359  
706-276-0359  
706-864-0359

#### Amicalola Electric Membership Corporation

544 Hwy. 515 South  
Jasper, GA 30143  
Telephone: 706-253-5200

[www.amicalolaemc.com](http://www.amicalolaemc.com)

#### Eastern District Office

1234 Dawsonville Hwy.  
Dahlonega, GA 30533  
706-864-7979

#### Northern District Office

150 Tabor Street  
Ellijay, GA 30540  
706-276-2362

**Office Hours:** Monday through Friday  
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
*Closed on Saturday, Sunday, and holidays*

#### Beacon Editor:

Stacey Godfrey Fields, CCC

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION CONCERNING YOUR ACCOUNT

## Your account number is changing

Effective April 30, 2012, upgrades will be made to our computer system, resulting in a new account number for every account. A zero will be added to your old account number in the third position from the right:


### Example:

- Old account number: 123456701
- New account number: 1234567001

## How does this affect you?

Make a note of your new account number. You will find it in the upper left corner of your power bill. You will need to have it handy if you call us.

- If you pay by phone or using the AEMC website, just enter the new account number when prompted. Your password will stay the same.
- If you pay using online banking with your personal banking institution, you will need to update your online banking profile with your new account number.
- If you pay by mail, pay in person at the office, or pay by credit card or bank draft, no additional action on your part is needed. As you normally would, just write the account number from your current bill stub on your check before mailing. Bring your current bill stub in when you pay at the office.



### Amicalola Electric Membership Corporation

544 Highway 515 South - Jasper, GA 30143  
 Phone (706) 253-5200 - Office Hours: 8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M., Monday - Friday  
 Visit us on the web at: [www.amicalolaemc.com](http://www.amicalolaemc.com)

ACCOUNT NUMBER	SAMPLE	JOHN Q	RATE	TELEPHONE	LOCATION NUMBER	METER NUMBER
1234567001			1	(706) 555-1234	1122334	9988776
FROM	TO	NO. DAYS	READING	PREVIOUS	PRESENT	M U L T
01/19/12	02/22/12	34	97057 98118			1
KWH USAGE						CHARGES
						1061
						112.83
						3.38
						4.52
						120.73
						118.26
						-118.26
						120.73

**ACCOUNT NUMBER**  
1234567001

**IF PAYMENT IS NOT RECEIVED BY DUE DATE, ACCOUNT IS SUBJECT TO DISCONNECTION THIS IS THE ONLY STATEMENT YOU WILL RECEIVE, YOU WILL NOT RECEIVE A 'LATE NOTICE'.**

COMPARISONS	DAYS SERVICE	TOTAL KWH	AVG. KWH/DAY	COST PER DAY	TOTAL DUE NOW
CURRENT BILLING PERIOD	34	1061	31	3.31	\$ 120.73
PREVIOUS BILLING PERIOD	30	1030	34	3.68	
SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR	33	1158	35	3.63	<b>AFTER DUE DATE PAY \$ 130.73</b>


**LOCATIONS**

<b>Headquarters</b> 544 Highway 515 S. Jasper, GA 30143 (706) 253-5200	<b>Northern District</b> 150 Tabor Street Ellijay, GA 30540 (706) 276-2362	<b>Eastern District</b> 1234 Dawsonville HWY Dawsonville, GA 30553 (706) 864-7979
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**TO REPORT POWER OUTAGE CALL**  
 (706) 253-0359 or  
 (706) 276-0359 or  
 (706) 864-0359

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RETAIN THIS COPY FOR YOUR RECORDS  
PLEASE DETACH AND RETURN THIS PORTION WITH PAYMENT



**Amicalola Electric Membership Corporation**  
 544 HIGHWAY 515 SOUTH - JASPER, GA 30143  
 (706) 253-5200

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED  
FAILURE TO RECEIVE BILL DOES NOT RELIEVE OBLIGATION TO PAY.

Returned check items as well as a returned check processing fee will be electronically presented against your bank account. Notifications or messages will be on checks or accompanying material will not secure your rights regarding collection of this returned check or the processing fee.

SNGLP  
 SAMPLE JOHN Q  
 111 MAIN STREET  
 ELLIJAY GA 30540

CASHIER'S RECEIPT 50

ACCOUNT NUMBER	DUE DATE	AMOUNT DUE
1234567001	03/22/12	120.73
LOCATION NUMBER		AMOUNT
1122334		130.73
SERVICE LOCATION		AFTER DUE DATE PAY
111 MAIN STREET		130.73

VISA ACCT. #:  
 MASTERCARD EXP. DATE:

AMICALOLA ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION  
 544 HIGHWAY 515 SOUTH  
 JASPER GA 30143-4881

As always, we appreciate your patience as we work through this transition. If you have questions or need assistance, please call

706-253-5200, or your local EMC office, 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.



## Energy Efficiency

### Tip of the Month

Don't get your electric bill caught in a spin cycle. When doing laundry, use cold water. If your dryer has a moisture meter, use it to prevent overdrying clothes—50 minutes often works best for a full load. And remember to check your lint filter before you run every load to help your dryer run more efficiently (and save energy). Find more ways to save at [TogetherWeSave.com](http://TogetherWeSave.com).

—Source: Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives

