

BEACON



Amicalola Electric
Membership Corporation

“Owned By Those We Serve”

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Comments from the CEO

What is beneficial electrification?

If you're like most Americans, you're interested in saving money on energy costs and in doing your part to help the environment. But wouldn't it be great if you could do both? Well, you can! It's through a concept called “beneficial electrification.” This utility industry term means the innovations in energy technologies are creating new ways to use electricity instead of on-site fossil fuels, such as propane, natural gas and fuel oil, in a way that reduces overall emissions and energy costs.

In essence, by virtue of being plugged into the grid, the environmental performance of electric devices improves over time. As Amicalola EMC and other utilities shift to more options that include renewable energy sources to make existing generation technologies cleaner, electricity will require less fossil fuel per kilowatt-hour of energy produced.

So, here's how this concept impacts you. It means that *electric* appliances such as your water heater, clothes dryer, oven and even your lawn care equipment have the potential to become greener. When Amicalola EMC takes advantage of advances

in technology and the market at the generation point (how the electricity is produced), it means those efficiencies are inherently passed along to you, the consumer-member.

Electricity is getting cleaner

Because large appliances have a typical lifespan of about 10 years, it means that you are able to benefit from the flexibility of the grid in addition to the increased efficiency of the particular appliance. In other words, the high efficiency electric oven you have today could be powered by renewable sources in the near future. This would not be the case with gas appliances where you are essentially locked into the technology of that gas appliance for the 10-year lifespan.

As Amicalola EMC is able to tap into more renewable options in the future, your electric appliance has the potential to become greener and more energy-efficient. The only way you would be able to benefit from this trend is through an electric appliance.

Small steps to help the environment

For consumers and homeowners looking for more environmentally

friendly options, choosing electric appliances, tools and cars over those powered by fossil fuels is an easy solution. Whether through electric lawn mowers, blowers and weed wackers (plug-in or rechargeable) or through electric water heaters and other appliances, beneficial electrification is a means to reducing greenhouse gases and helping our environment. It can also translate into a better quality of life. For example, when you can trade the loud rumble of a gas-powered mower or blower for the quiet efficiency of electric versions, you eliminate the exhaust emissions and the unpleasant noise.

How we're doing our part to help the environment

As the overall energy sector continues to evolve, Amicalola EMC is striving to take advantage of the advances in technology and the opportunities of the market as they become available, as we continue to bring safe, reliable and affordable power to our community.

We also promote energy efficiency through tools like free energy audits and digital options like the calculators offered through the HomeEnergy Suite, an interactive tool you may access through our website at www.amicalolaemc.com.

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Todd Payne
President/CEO
Amicalola EMC



Amicalola EMC's lobby remains closed

In an effort to slow down the spread of the COVID-19 virus, our lobbies remain closed. The drive-through will remain open during normal business hours of 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Our night deposit will continue to operate as usual.

Other than the lobby closings, we will proceed with normal business operations.

Bill payment – Pay your bill using one of the following options

- credit card draft (call 706-253-5200 to set up)
- website customer portal at www.amicalolaemc.com

- automated telephone system at 706-253-5200
- mobile app (download on the app store or through Google Play).

New account activation –

Applications for service are available:

- online at www.amicalolaemc.com
- in person at the drive-through
- by email – Send request to memberservice@amicalolaemc.com or request by phone 706-253-5200.
- by regular mail – Send request to memberservice@amicalolaemc.com or request by phone 706-253-5200.



If you have questions or need information, we may be reached by phone at 706-253-5200 or by email memberservice@amicalolaemc.com.

Thank you for your patience as we work to maintain a healthy workforce to keep the lights on and provide you with excellent customer service.

Interconnection in a nutshell — Amicalola EMC's Net Metering Program

Thinking about alternative energy production? We've taken steps to encourage and accommodate you. Basically, if a member is connected to our system,

- Energy they generate reduces the usage on their electric bill, and
- Energy that is sent to Amicalola EMC is credited to their account at a rate equal to Amicalola EMC's avoided costs, which is 3.8 cents per kWh.

To connect to Amicalola EMC, complete and submit the application for interconnection, which is available on our website at www.amicalolaemc.com>My Co-Op>Renewable Energy. For more information, call 706-253-5200.

Beneficial electrification, *Continued from page 24A*

We care about our community because we live here too. I hope you'll reach out to us at Amicalola EMC, your trusted energy partner, to learn about more ways to reduce your energy use. Because when you participate in the energy efficiency programs we offer, you're doing your part to save energy and better our environment. While each member's reduction might be small, together, they can lead to significant savings of money and emissions. And that means a brighter future for *all* of us.

IN MEMORIAM



Larry Young
1949-2020

In memory of Larry Young,
who dedicated 38 years
of loyal service to the
members of Amicalola EMC.

2020-2021 Washington Youth Tour Scholarship Winners

The 2020 and the 2021 Washington Youth Tours were cancelled due to the pandemic. The winners were chosen in March 2020, and although they will not be able to experience the youth tour in person, Amicalola EMC is honored to award each delegate a \$2,000 college scholarship.

Brett Becker – Senior, Gilmer High School

Son of Barrett and Amy
Becker of Ellijay

- Varsity tennis 4 years, region champ
- Seal of Biliteracy Candidate
- Certificate of Merit from UGA
- Plans to attend the University of Georgia and major in business and trade



Jonah Wade – Senior, Lumpkin High School

Son of Garrett and Amy Wade
of Dahlonega

- Academic Team
- Mock Trial Team
- Beta Club
- Junior Class vice president
- Varsity Soccer
- Marching Band
- Bass Line Section Leader
- Student Council



Brooke Bell – Senior, Pickens High School

Daughter of Daniel and
Christy Bell of Talking Rock

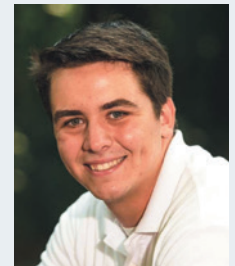
- Technology Student Association Chapter Secretary.
- State Leadership Conference finalist
- BETA Club
- PHS Mock Trial team, defense attorney
- Georgia Mountains Hospice volunteer
- Plans to attend the University of Georgia and major in law



Stephen Weatherby – Senior, Cherokee High School

Son of Greg and Susie
Weatherby of Canton

- CHS Wrestling Team, Captain
- Second academic letter
- National Honor Society member
- Relay For Life volunteer
- Volunteer youth wrestling coach
- Enjoys fishing in spare time
- Plans to attend Chattahoochee Technical College and major in automotive collision repair



Kid's Korner

For kids and adults! Kid's Korner creates a rich kid-friendly environment in which to facilitate energy education. Kids Korner is a children's educational site that teaches energy concepts through games and activities. In the Energy Fun Lab, kids can conduct fun experiments such as Charge Up Your Cheerios. Visit www.amicalolaemc.com and choose the HomeEnergySuite from our homepage. For more information, call 706-253-5200 or email memberservice@amicalolaemc.com.



Are we holding your money?

Local electric cooperatives operate at cost; any excess revenues are returned to member-owners in the form of capital credit refunds.

To find out if you have an unclaimed refund, visit www.amicalolaemc.com. Choose the Capital Credits tab on the homepage, and

then click on the Unclaimed Recipients link. You may also call 706-253-5200 or visit any Amicalola EMC office

After a mandatory five-year waiting period, any unclaimed capital credit refunds are distributed in accordance with Georgia's unclaimed property laws O.C.G.A. §44-12-236.



Powering up after an outage

When the power goes out, we expect it to be restored within a few hours. But when a major storm or natural disaster causes widespread damage, extended outages may result. Our line crews work long, hard hours to restore service safely to the greatest number of consumers in the shortest time possible. Here's what's going on if you find yourself in the dark:



1. High-Voltage Transmission Lines:

Transmission towers and cables that supply power to transmission substations (and thousands of members) rarely fail. But when damaged, these facilities must be repaired before other parts of the system can operate.

2. Distribution Substation:

A substation can serve hundreds or thousands of consumers. When a major outage occurs, line crews inspect substations to determine if problems stem from transmission lines feeding into the substation, the substation itself or if problems exist further down the line.

3. Main Distribution Lines:

If the problem cannot be isolated at a distribution substation, distribution lines are checked. These lines carry power to large groups of consumers in communities or housing developments.

4. Tap Lines:

If local outages persist, supply lines (also known as tap lines) are inspected. These lines deliver power to transformers, either mounted on poles or placed on pads for underground service, outside businesses, schools and homes.

5. Individual Homes:

If your home remains without power, the service line between a transformer and your residence may need to be repaired. Always call to report an outage to help line crews isolate local issues.

Process for electing directors

Members of Amicalola Electric Membership Corporation (AEMC) are reminded that nominations for the AEMC Board of Directors will be posted July 4, 2021. The Nominating Committee's recommendations for the board will be posted on the bulletin board at the main office in Jasper, Georgia, 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 4, 2021) 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. 3, 2021) 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."