

# Wake ElectriConnection

For members of Wake Electric Membership Corporation



"The power to make a difference"

FEBRUARY 2010

## Members—be sure to join us for the Wake Electric Annual Meeting!

**J**oin us for Wake Electric's Annual Meeting! We invite you to take a pause in your busy lives to join this exciting gathering of Wake Electric members. During this meeting we celebrate our strength and unity and conduct the important business of our cooperative.

This year, our meeting will focus on how renewable energy & energy efficiency legislation in North Carolina affects Wake Electric and its members. The complexity and the fast pace of issues confronting co-ops—particularly new federal and state legislations on energy that could mean higher electric rates for consumers—means we have critical choices to make each day that have long-term implications. We have to get it right.

But challenges are also opportunities. That's why your participation at this Annual Meeting is so important as we join together to make decisions reflecting our traditional cooperative priorities and responsibilities.

You will have the opportunity to hear reports on the plans and progress of Wake Electric and have the chance to ask questions about your co-op. There will be special activities for school-aged children during the meeting.

### ATTENTION MEMBERS

Wake Electric's Annual Meeting is scheduled for Friday, March 26, at the Louisburg College Auditorium. Registration begins at 6 p.m. and the business meeting begins at 7 p.m.

Members in attendance will be entered into a drawing for a number of prizes, including \$5,000 in cash prizes. The Grand Prize will be \$1,000 and two second-place prize of \$500 each. There will be four third-place prizes of \$250 each and 20 fourth-place cash prizes of \$100 each.

We look forward to seeing you at this year's meeting.



Jim Mangum  
General Manager/Chief Executive Officer

## Members to See *Decrease in WPCA Charge*

**E**ffective January 2010, Wake Electric decreased the wholesale power cost adjustment (WPCA) from 2.5 cents per kWh to 2.0 cents per kWh. The WPCA is an adjustment to the kWh charge reflecting changes in the Cooperative's wholesale power costs. The decrease is due to the reduction in cost of the coal used to generate electricity.

The average household (which uses 1,000 kWh per month) can expect to see a \$5 per month decrease on its

electric bill. This charge applies to all published rates and will be effective January 1, 2010 billing.

The 100 watt high pressure sodium lighting rate will decrease from \$9.40 per monthly to \$9.17 monthly, though the cost differences will vary by lighting type.

Wake Electric last changed retail electric rates in June 1997. Wake Electric has decided to use the WPCA to adjust for changes in wholesale power costs until there is

more stability in wholesale costs. The primary advantages to this approach are to avoid base rate changes until **1)** there is stability in coal and other generating fuel prices, and **2)** federal energy legislation is approved giving the industry a better sense of the direction and structure of potentially significant changes such as renewable energy mandates, carbon dioxide constraints and/or taxes.

To learn more, visit our Web site at [www.wemc.com](http://www.wemc.com).

 Wake Electric  
Membership Corporation

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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## Wake Electric Awards Classroom Technology Grants



**T**eachers in the Triangle region and surrounding counties are thinking ahead, and in classrooms across Wake Electric's service territory teachers are using technology to better communicate with their students in new and innovative ways. Helping to promote this progress are \$20,000 in grants from Wake Electric for Classroom Technology Awards.

Wake Electric annually offers grants to area teachers for one piece of technology that will enhance classroom teaching/learning. From laptop computers to interactive tutoring software, teachers will be able to guide their students in new and creative ways that suit today's wired generation.

### Winners for the 2009/2010 School Year are:

Bell, Melissa Monique	Franklinton High School	\$250
Cheatham, Tracy	Wake Tech	\$600
Conti, Angela	Bunn Middle School	\$650
Creech, Barnanne	Zebulon Middle School	\$1,500
Davis, Kim	Sanford Creek Elementary	\$816
Dixit, Ajit	Wake Tech	\$1,433
Fowler, Pat	Bunn Middle School	\$1,199
Gaul, Deborah	South Granville High	\$495
Hart, Sharon	Forestville Road Elem/	\$2,249
Heuser, Darryl	Johnston Comm. College	\$450
Hinson, Diane	Wake Tech	\$935
Isham, Richard	River Bend Elementary	\$2,343
Kemp, Tommy	Franklinton High School	\$1,459
Lequire, Bobbie	Stovall-Shaw Elementary	\$1,655
Midkiff, Katherine	Voyager Acadmey	\$600
Penington-Best, Charlene	W.G. Pearson Middle	\$1,899
Tucker, Laurie	Knightdale High School	\$700
Wooten, Tracey	Panther Creek High	\$449

Public school teachers in Durham, Franklin, Granville, Johnston, Nash, Vance and Wake counties are eligible to apply. Funding for community projects are made possible by Wake Electric member-consumers and Wake Electric employees through the Operation Round-Up® Program.

## Wash Clothes Efficiently

**E**nergy-efficient washing machines, easily identified by the Energy Star label, are a priority for any cost-conscious consumer's list. Approximately 93 percent of all American households have a clothes washer, adding up to 102 million clothes washers across America. About 9 million washing machines are sold each year—efficient models account for slightly more than one-third of sales.

Energy Star-rated washing machines cost slightly more than their less-efficient counterparts, anywhere from \$400–1,500, depending on other features selected. To get a handle on how much electricity a particular unit will draw, pay close attention to the yellow energy guide before making a purchase.

An energy-efficient washing machine can save the typical homeowner around \$50 a year, or \$540–\$600 over the life of the appliance. Efficient machines also save more than 5,000 gallons of water annually. The energy and water efficiencies of clothes washers are measured according to their modified energy factor (MEF) and water factor (WF). These criteria generally limit Energy Star qualification to front-loading and advanced top-loading models.

Front-loading clothes washers use a horizontal or tumble-axis basket to lift and drop clothing into the water, instead of rubbing clothes around a central agitator in a full tub. These units use less energy than conventional clothes washers by reducing the amount of hot water needed to clean clothes. Front-loading models also squeeze more water out of clothes by using spin speeds that are two to three times faster than conventional washers, reducing both drying time and energy use.

Energy Star-qualified top-loading models typically use spray valves to rinse clothes, rather than a new tub of water. This method not only reduces the energy required for water heating, but typically saves an average of 15 gallons of water per wash, compared with conventional clothes washers.

Qualified top-loading models also boast sensors to monitor and adjust incoming water temperature. This keeps water hot enough to dissolve the detergent and provide high-performance cleaning, but cool enough to save energy and minimize hot water damage to fabrics. One limitation of efficient top-loading washers is that many models do not offer a high-temperature standard wash option.

By looking for the Energy Star logo and shopping at a store with knowledgeable staff, you should be able to leave with a new washing machine that will, over time, pay for itself.

Source: NRECA's Cooperative Research Network

# Wake Electric Offers Scholarships to College Students



Wake Electric is offering two scholarships for college students: the Fred M. Alford Scholarship for \$2,000 and eight Touchstone Energy Scholarships of \$1,000–\$1,500.

The Fred M. Alford \$2,000 scholarship will be awarded to the top candidate selected by an independent judging panel. Requirements for this scholarship include the following criteria:

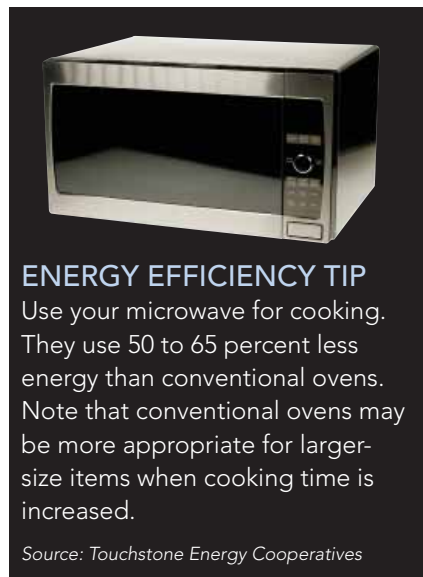
- ★ Must be a child of a Wake Electric member or live in a home served by Wake Electric
- ★ Must be a high school graduating senior
- ★ Must pursue a regular four-year undergraduate course leading to a baccalaureate degree
- ★ Must plan to attend an accredited four-year institution in North Carolina

Eight Touchstone Energy Scholarships of \$1,000–\$1,500 will also be awarded. These scholarships are not limited to recent high school graduates, and may be used at one of the state's community colleges, vocational or technical schools, as well as at a four-year college.

The requirements for these scholarships are:

- ★ Must be a child of a Wake Electric member or live in a home served by Wake Electric
- ★ Must use these funds at a N.C. college or university, community college, vocational or technical school.

To apply for any of the scholarships, go to [www.wemc.com](http://www.wemc.com) to download an application. The deadline is Friday, March 12. The scholarships are funded through voluntary contributions to Operation RoundUp.



## ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP

Use your microwave for cooking. They use 50 to 65 percent less energy than conventional ovens. Note that conventional ovens may be more appropriate for larger-size items when cooking time is increased.

Source: Touchstone Energy Cooperatives

## Wake ElectriConnection

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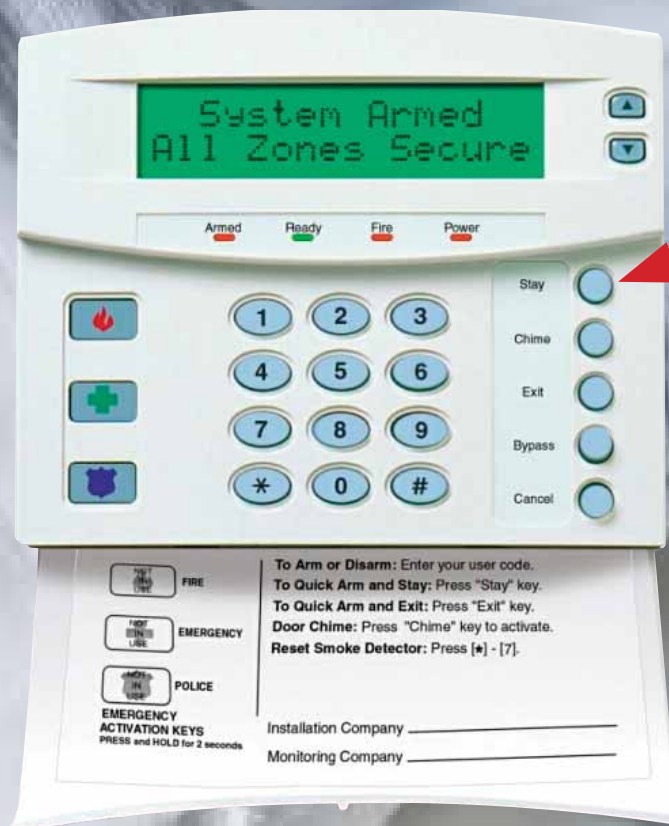
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## NOTICE

The deadline to apply for Touchstone Energy Sports Camps, which include the Kellie Harper basketball camp for girls at NCSU and the Roy Williams basketball camp for boys at UNC-Chapel Hill, has been **extended from March 12 to March 31**. For more information or to download an application, go to [www.ncelectriccooperatives.com](http://www.ncelectriccooperatives.com).





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