



JOEMC

A Touchstone Energy® Partner 

SP  OT
LIGHT



JOEMC Member Newsletter March 2017

Fun, Food, Door Prizes and Entertainment

JOEMC members, bring the family out for an evening of free fun, food, door prizes and entertainment. On Friday, March 31, Jones-Onslow EMC will hold its Annual Meeting of Members at the Onslow County Fairgrounds/American Legion Building located at 146 Broadhurst Road in Jacksonville.

Highlighting this year's meeting will be special entertainment from North Carolina's very own The Gravy Boys. Hailing from the Raleigh/Durham area, the group's music draws deep from the well of our country's diverse musical heritage. Performing Acoustic Americana music, The Gravy Boys add a cup of country, a pinch of roots rock, a handful of honky-tonk, a splash of bluegrass, a dash of hobo folk, stirring vigorously, and then left to simmer until the pot bubbles over. Their high energy shows feature heartfelt vocal harmonies, boot-

One lucky JOEMC member will win this recently retired fleet vehicle ("as is" condition).



2012 Chevy Silverado

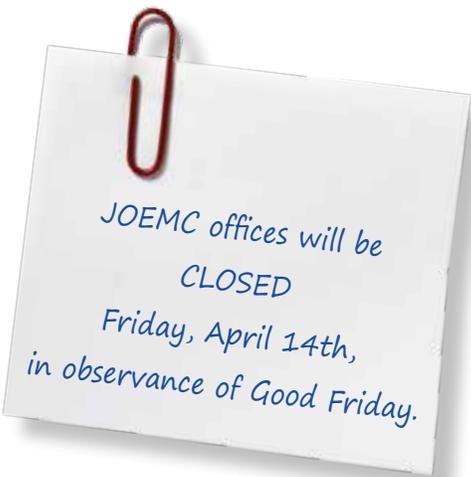
stomping rhythms, lively stage banter and honest musicianship.

In addition to The Gravy Boys, local musical groups will also be performing.

There will be hot dogs and soda, a clown for the kids, games and give-aways, and informative displays. And don't forget...as has become an annual meeting tradition, one lucky JOEMC member will win a recently retired fleet vehicle ("as is" condition).

Registration and displays open at 5:30pm, local musical entertainment takes the stage at 5:45pm, and the business meeting will start at 7:00pm. At 8:00pm, The Gravy Boys take the stage. ▼

The 3rd Cooperative Principle of 7



3 MEMBERS' ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION



Members contribute equitably to, and democratically control, the capital of their cooperative. At least part of that capital is usually the common property of the cooperative. Members usually receive limited compensation, if any, on capital subscribed as a condition of membership. Members allocate surpluses for any or all of the following purposes: developing the cooperative, possibly by setting up reserves, part of which at least would be indivisible; benefitting members in proportion to their transactions with the cooperative; and supporting other activities approved by the membership. ►

Watch Energy Savings Grow

Winter is coming to a close and spring is just around the corner! As you welcome the new growth of spring outside, it's a great time to grow energy savings too.

According to the Department of Energy, a "typical American family" spends nearly \$2,000 per year on their home energy bills. Much of that money, however, is wasted through leaky windows or ducts, old appliances or inefficient heating and cooling systems.

Luckily, there are several relatively easy ways to save energy without a substantial commitment of time and money. These efforts will help you save whether you own or rent an older or newly constructed home.

Improving the "envelope" of your home is a good place to start. Sunlight, seasonal temperature changes and wind vibrations can loosen up even a tight home, increasing air leakage. Doors and windows may not close tightly, and duct work can spring leaks, wasting cooled and heated air. By placing weather stripping and caulk around windows and doors, you can keep cool air inside during warm months and prevent chilly air from penetrating the indoors during colder months. Sealing gaps around piping, dryer vents, fans and outlets also helps to seal the envelope and creates greater efficiency. Apply weather

stripping around overlooked spaces like your attic hatch or pull-down stairs.



Installing a blanket around your water heater could reduce standby heat losses by 25 to 45 percent and save you about 7 to 16 percent in water heating costs. For a small investment you can purchase a blanket and install it in less than an hour. On a safety note, it's recommended that you not set the thermostat above 130 degrees Fahrenheit on an electric water heater with an insulating jacket or blan-

ket; the higher temperature setting could cause the wiring to overheat.

Given that a large portion of your monthly energy bill goes toward heating and cooling your home, it makes sense to ensure your home's heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) system is performing at an optimal level. Checking, changing or cleaning your filter monthly can extend the life of your HVAC system and saves you money.

Take a look at your programmable thermostat. When was the last time you checked to make sure it was programmed for the current season and family schedule? This is one of the best energy-saving tools at your finger-tips. It enables you to fine tune the temperature during particular hours of the day. Many models allow you to differentiate between weekday and weekend schedules, and internet-connected thermostats can learn your schedule and make adjustments automatically.

Remember, there are easy steps you can take now to improve the energy efficiency of your home. To learn about additional ways to save, contact JOEMC or visit joemc.com.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month



Warmer weather is on the way! Use energy efficient window treatments or coverings, like blinds, shades and films, to reduce heat gain in your home. These devices not only improve the look of your home but also reduce energy costs.

Source: U.S. Dept. of Energy

HVAC \$35-\$350 credit/rebate

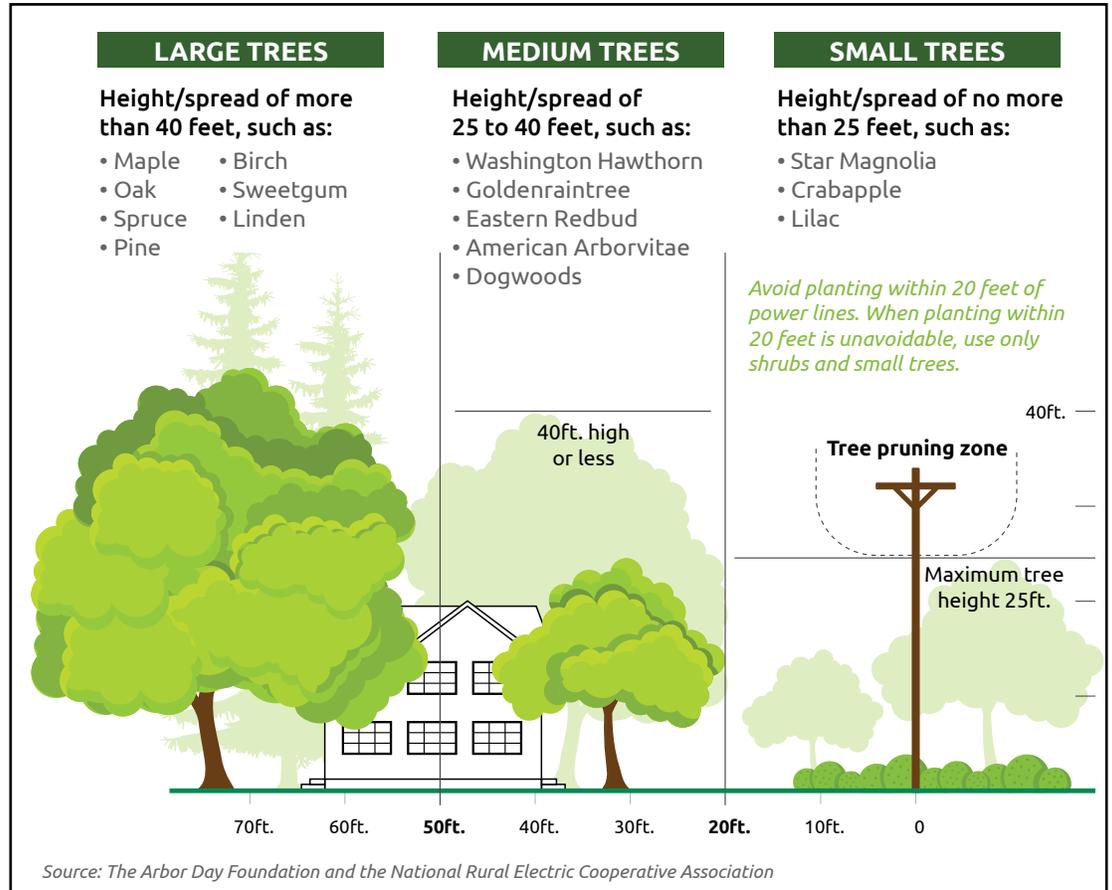
JOEMC members who have installed an Energy Star rated electric central air conditioning unit, air-source heat pump, or geothermal heat pump may be eligible to receive a credit/rebate from the cooperative ranging from \$35 to \$350. To download the credit/rebate form and for more information go to joemc.com and click on "ENERGY CENTER" and "SERVICES & PROGRAMS" tab or call our office at (910) 353-1940. ►

Eligible HVAC Systems/Rebate

- High Efficiency Central AC (15 SEER) / \$35
- High Efficiency Central AC (16 SEER or greater) / \$50
- High Efficiency Heat Pump (15 SEER or greater) / \$250
- Geothermal Heat Pump (19 EER or greater) / \$350

Plant the Right Tree in the Right Place

Trees beautify our neighborhoods and when planted in the right spot can even help lower energy bills. But the wrong tree in the wrong place can be a hazard... especially to power lines. Visit ArborDay.org or joemc.com for more tips on smart tree planting. ▼



COMMUNITY IMPACT

JOEMC Seeking Veteran for Expedition

An opportunity for veterans with disabilities to challenge themselves, overcome barriers and learn that “what’s within them is stronger than what’s in their way.”

Jones-Onslow EMC, in conjunction with one of its financial partners, is searching for a veteran from its service territory to nominate for the No Barriers Program. This program, sponsored by CoBank, provides expeditions that mentally and physically challenge veterans on outdoor expeditions through mountaineering, rafting and rock climbing. CoBank covers the full cost for veterans, including travel expenses. Veterans must have VA disability ratings to qualify.

JOEMC is searching for a veteran from its service territory to nominate for this program. For consideration, veterans with VA disability ratings should submit a letter summarizing their military background, length of service and why they wish to attend the No Barriers expedition. These letters may be sent electronically to predick@joemc.com or mailed to Paula Redick, Jones-Onslow EMC, 259 Western Boulevard, Jacksonville, NC 28546.

The application deadline for the September No Barriers expedition is April 15, 2017. For more information, visit joemc.com and look under “THE COOPERATIVE” and “COMMUNITY” tab or visit nobarriersusa.org. ►



It Pays to be a Member



Returning money back to our members is an important cooperative value and we hope you agree that it's also a nice benefit of being a cooperative member.

During the last week of February, your cooperative mailed a "green" letter to you, our members, concerning the authorization by your Board of Directors of a capital credits refund. There is a space provided for your signature and a return envelope so you can mail it back to our office.

The name "capital credits" may sound complex but it's a simple concept. Capital credits are the annual margins—revenues minus expenses of the cooperative—which are allocated to each member based on their individual purchase and use of electricity. Until they're returned to members, capital credits are funds used as operating capital to invest in power lines, substations, and other electric system assets that provide all of the JOEMC members with reliable electricity. After using the money for a period of years to finance investments in electric facilities, it is returned to our members.

To assure your return of capital credits and the fiscal health of your cooperative, your Board of Directors has approved and put into place an equity management plan. The plan uses an industry best standard that looks at the percent of member equity to total assets. It includes a schedule for the regular return of member equity in the form of capital credits.

The equity plan also determines how much of the cooperative's investment in electric system assets will be covered through member capital and how much will be covered by long-term debt. Our goal is to balance member capital (equity) and debt in order to give members the lowest possible rates.

This year, the capital credit refund authorization (almost \$2.2 million) will be for members who received electric service from JOEMC during the years 1994 and 2016. These refunds will consist of 100% of the remaining allocated capital credits from 1994 and 25% of the allocated capital credits from 2016.

All active members who received service during the years mentioned above will receive their refund in the form of a "capital credit refund" on their electric bill. All inactive members who received service from the cooperative during those years will receive a capital credit check in the mail.

Since 1998, JOEMC has returned in excess of \$30 million in capital credits to our members including this current retirement. It pays to be a member of a cooperative and we're pleased to provide good value in addition to good service to our members.

Jeffery T. Clark | CEO



Salmon Patties with Turmeric & Dill

Ingredients:

- 2 (5 to 6 ounce) cans wild salmon
- 2 eggs
- ½ cup panko breadcrumbs
- 1 teaspoon turmeric
- Sea salt and freshly ground pepper, to taste
- 2 tablespoons coconut oil
- ¼ cup plain Greek yogurt
- ¼ cup roughly chopped fresh dill

Directions:

In a large mixing bowl, combine the salmon, eggs, breadcrumbs, turmeric, salt and pepper. Mix and combine thoroughly and form into 4 equal patties. In a large sauté pan, melt the coconut oil over medium heat, about 1 minute. Add the salmon patties and cook on each side for about 4 minutes or until both sides are golden brown. Top each with a tablespoon of yogurt and fresh dill.

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