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Albemarle EMC members elect new directors

Two Albemarle EMC incumbent directors will not be returning to the EMC Board as of an October 12 election which was held during the Annual Mem-

bership Meeting.

Newly elected for three year terms are Willis J. Ferebee, Sr., of South Mills, and Ernest McCoy of South Mills. Ferebee will rep-

resent District 1 (Camden County) and McCoy will represent District 5 (all counties).

The third member elected to the board was incumbent Walter

R. Lowry, Jr., of Weeksville. Lowry will represent District 3 (Pasquotank County).

Albemarle EMC's president, L.A. Harris, Jr., welcomed some 269 registered members. In his opening remarks he reminded the members "We've come a long way in forty years. We can point with pride to the past, but we must look to the future. We can only look to history as a guide for the future, and we should do that today. We should be pioneering just as much today as did those early leaders of the Rural Electric Program, for we will have to face many problems. But, with your continued support and cooperation, 50 years from now the member-owners of Albemarle EMC can look back with the same pride that we have today."

Manager Dorris White said "1984 was one of the best years in your cooperative's history. All financial indicators were at an all time high."

In her report to the members, White stated that the EMC had a net increase of 161 in connected meters for 1984. She went on to say this is the EMC's largest annual increase since 1977. Along with the increase in meters, also an increase in KWHrs sales of which were over 5 percent.

Manager White noted that the EMC members paid slightly less for electricity in 1984 than in 1983. (1984, it was 6.91 cents and 1983 it was 6.94 cents) She said, "This was a first in the history of the Cooperative that purchased power cost for the year was less than it was the previous year."

The reason was due to two things—First, it was the first full year that our statewide power supply organization was our primary power supplier—our savings from the triggering of the Catawba contract with Duke Power Company amounted to over \$156,000. Second, the 1983 VEPCO rate increase was settled and we received a refund of \$49,000.

White warned that purchased power is going to continue to increase, but "Now, for the first time, there is a way that you, the member, can help control power cost.

By participating in our Load Management program, you can reduce wholesale power cost."

In her report she noted that there were 500 switches installed at the end of 1984, but today the EMC has just over 1,000 or roughly one-half of the number needed to receive the maximum benefit from the system. The

general Manager pointed out to the members that on their October 1 bill the wholesale power adjustment was a credit of 1.03 cents per KWHr. Without the load management, the savings would have been much less. The savings came as a result of the system being operational in August during the extremely hot weather, thus reducing the peak load which in turn resulted in a lower August wholesale power

bill. It was reported to the members that the EMC has grown from a 100 percent debt in 1945 to where the EMC members today have an ownership of 45 percent in their system. To put it in dollars, that 45 percent equals to over 3 million that the members own.

The EMC is refunding some \$123,000 in capital credits for the years 1972, 73, and 74.



Grammarfest Declared Success

The Hertford Grammar School Parent Teacher Association recently held their annual festival at the school. Helium-filled balloons were one of the many crowd pleasers available at the festival. The organization raised more than \$2,000.00 during the course of the day. (Photo courtesy Andrea Boone, Big Wednesday TMC.)

Judge Barefoot presides over Perquimans Superior Court

The Honorable Napoleon Barefoot presided over the October session of Perquimans County Superior Court last week.

The following indictments were handed down prior to the court's convening by a Perquimans County Grand Jury: Eddie Lee Rankins, assault with a deadly weapon; Carl Ray Yow, Desecrating cemetery and tombstones; Samuel Louis Cohen, breaking and entering, larceny and receiving; Scott Roger Herald, indecent liberties; Edward Junior Woodard (aka Buddy Woodard), murder.

The following cases were heard:

Phyllis Etheridge Wiggins re-

ceived 90 days suspended with two years unsupervised probation for driving while impaired.

Scott Grayson Tilley pled guilty to indecent liberties and solicitation for crimes against nature for which he was given a three-year sentence with the N.C. Department of Corrections. The sentence was suspended and Tilley was given two years of supervised probation and one year of unsupervised probation.

The cases against Link O'Neal, Jr. charging him with first degree burglary and first degree rape were dismissed.

Rodger Winslow was given a 90-day suspended sentence and two years unsupervised proba-

tion for tampering with a motor vehicle.

James Clifton White, Sr. pleaded guilty to the charge of injury to personal property and received a six-month sentence with the N.C. Department of Corrections. The charge of resisting arrest against him was dropped.

Peggy Hunter White received a 90 days suspended sentence with two years unsupervised probation for driving while impaired.

William Edward Skinner received a 60-day sentence with the N.C. Department of Corrections for misdemeanor shoplifting.

Lois Lane pled guilty to giving malt beverage to a person underage and was given an active 14-day sentence.

The charges against Samuel Lee Stevenson of assault on a female were dropped.

Ledell James, charged with no liability insurance, pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor and received a 90-day suspended sentence with three years unsupervised probation.

Jacqueline Denise Kee was charged with trespass, resisting arrest, disorderly conduct, assault with a deadly weapon and two counts of communicating threats. The case was remanded to the judge's decision resulting in a 60-day suspended sentence with two-year unsupervised probation.

Adam Flora pled guilty to trespass and received a 30-day suspended sentence and three-year unsupervised probation.

Tammy Jo White pleaded guilty to simple assault and was given 30 days.

Walter T. Overton pleaded guilty to assault on a female and was given a nine month sentence suspended for a period of two years.

George White pled guilty to assault with a deadly weapon and was remanded to sheriff's custody for 60 days. He was also given two years of unsupervised probation.

Pamela Moore pleaded guilty to assault with a deadly weapon and was given a one year suspended sentence, one year supervised probation, and two years of unsupervised probation.

Peoples Bank employees honored

On September 24, 1985 Peoples Bank and Trust Company held their annual Service Awards Banquet at the Carleton House in Rocky Mount. The banquet honored employees throughout the system that have worked at Peoples for ten, twenty, thirty and forty years. Following dinner,

Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Robert R. Mauldin, addressed the group and presented gold pins to each recipient. Honored employees from the area were: Frances R. Jordan who received her 10 year pin and Roy S. Chappell, Jr. who received his 30 year pin.



Pictured above from left to right: Chappell, Jordan, Mauldin and Hertford City Executive, R.L. Stevenson.



The newly appointed members of the Albemarle Electric Membership Corporation Board of Directors are: (left to right)

Walter R. Lowry, Jr., Willis J. Ferebee, Sr., and Ernest McCoy. (Photo courtesy Larry Johnson, Albemarle EMC.)

Commissioners enact solicitation ordinance

The Perquimans County Board of Commissioners enacted a new ordinance to regulate soliciting in the county during their October 7 meeting.

The ordinance will regulate solicitation in the county, and will prohibit door-to-door canvassing without an invitation.

Board members felt that the ordinance was necessary because complaints have been registered regarding certain door-to-door salesmen harrasing and intimidating elderly residents in some sections of the county.

The ordinance will require that all persons and organizations wishing to engage in door-to-door sales, solicitations, or on the street sales must apply to the Sheriff's department for a permit to perform such sales or solicitations. The permit fee will be \$1.00.

The penalty for soliciting without a permit is a misdemeanor, and a guilty person can be fined not more than \$50.00, or imprisoned for not more than 30 days.

This ordinance does not apply to the sale of one's own product as in the case of a farmer or other individual selling the products of his or her own labor.

The Board stressed that the ordinance is not intended to interfere with civic clubs, school groups, and fire departments that conduct door-to-door sales in the county, although they will be required to apply for a permit. The purpose of the ordinance is to provide the Sheriff with a record of who is conducting door-to-door sales in the case of a complaint.

A family tradition continues

By SUSAN HARRIS

Marion Swindell, long-time owner and operator of Swindell Juneral Home, recently turned over the reigns of the company he began to his son Larry. The business, now a corporation, will continue to trade as Swindell Funeral Home under Larry's direction.

A native of Oceana, Virginia, Marion's family relocated to Elizabeth City when he was a child. Marion came to Hertford in June of 1952 to operate a branch of Twiford's Funeral Home. In 1959, he purchased the company and began operation of Swindell Funeral Home.

The Swindell building has been expanded over the years to allow more room for the needs of the company. When Marion first opened, the space included a chapel, an embalming room, entrance hall, living room, viewing facility, and office. Through the years, renovations and expansion have created a casket selection room, two viewing rooms, a hallway, and two living rooms. The outside of the building has received a facelift and has been bricked.

Larry first worked with his father in 1965 at age 14. He

earned his mortician's license in 1973 from Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science, and was employed by a Newbern mortuary. In November 1975, he returned to the area and rejoined the family business, working for his father.

"I hope to keep things going pretty much as Daddy has," Larry said. He added, "I hope we continue to meet the needs of the people in the area."

The changes the Swindells have seen in the undertakers' industry over the years ind-

lude a move toward simpler services; foregoing chapel or church services, instead holding only graveside memorials; lower attendance; more cremations; and more state and federal regulations. On a limited scale, the industry has seen greater donation of organs and visitation held at the funeral home.

The firm has loaned its tents to numerous organizations over the years, and has been actively involved in community and civic projects such as co-sponsoring a Babe Ruth baseball team.

Staff will remain unchanged under the new management. Marion will serve as a consultant, and will be available upon request to meet with customers.

Swindell Funeral Home not only offers traditional burial needs, but also pre-need burial trusts which allow for the planning of funeral arrangements before the time of death; a full line of urns, markers, and mausoleums; and hospital equipment rental.

The Swindells are proud of the quality service they feel they have provided in the past, and Larry expects to continue that tradition.



LARRY SWINDELL