

For immediate release:
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Contact: Jimmy Baker: (843) 208-5550
Cell: (843) 384-7158
Fax: (843) 208-5553
e-mail: jbaker@palmetto.coop
Missy Santorum: (843) 384-2419
e-mail: msantorum@palmetto.coop

Area Teachers Win Bright Ideas Grants

Palmetto Electric Trust and Palmetto Electric Cooperative awarded \$34,275 in the eighth annual Bright Ideas grant program Thursday, October 27 and Friday, October 28 to winning teachers and their team members. This year, a total of 43 grants will benefit more than 7,500 students in southern Beaufort, Hampton and Jasper counties.

The Cooperative's Bright Ideas Patrol presented the money where it will be spent – the teachers' classrooms. Representatives from the Cooperative and the Trust greeted teachers with balloons, gift bags and their checks at each school. Next month, the cooperative will host a luncheon at Palmetto Electric's New River facility to honor the teachers and their administrators.

The Cooperative invited teachers earlier this year to submit proposals for innovative classroom projects. Last month, 102 grant applications, totaling over \$89,117 were received from teachers in the three counties.

Area winners are:

- Anita Padgett, *There's An App for That!*, Fennell Elementary School
- Dawn Smith, *Sink into Science*, Varnville Elementary School
- Donna Griner, *Each One Share One – Share the love of Reading with Others*, North District Middle School
- Sharon Robertson, *ESP – Endangered Species Pursuit*, North District Middle School
- Melonee Ginn, *K.I.N.D.L.E. (Kindles Increase Knowledge Desire, Literacy and Excitement)*, Wade Hampton High School
- Chinon Conder, *Literary Lounge*, Hampton Elementary School
- Jessica Ginn, *Math Master*, Ben Hazel Primary School
- Julie Huber, *S.C.E.N.C.E.*, Ben Hazel Primary School
- Brandy Peeples, *Multiple Methods to Math Magic (M4)*, Ben Hazel Primary School
- Rachael Phillips, *Where did all the grammar go?*, Ben Hazel Primary School

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- Peggy Smith, *Weather Wizards*, Brunson Elementary School
- Susan Mikell, *Read Every Day (RED)*, Patrick Henry Academy
- Kendra Thacker, *Know It and Show It*, Estill Middle School

The Bright Ideas grants are for local school teachers in grades K-12. The grants give teachers money to put innovative classroom projects into action.

Palmetto Electric Trust is supported by funds from Operation Round Up®, a program in which the Cooperative's members round their electric bill up to the nearest whole dollar. The program is a true example of how small change...changes lives. Additional funding was provided by Palmetto Electric's Million Dollar Hole-In-One Shootout and WIRE (Women Involved in Rural Electrification) Chapters.

Palmetto Electric Cooperative, a member of Touchstone Energy®, is a not-for-profit, consumer-owned power cooperative providing electricity to over 66,000 consumers in southern Beaufort, Jasper and Hampton counties.

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