

# Historical Events Of Mecklenburg Electric Cooperative

## The First Year

1937 -- N. H. Williams Jr., County Agent of Mecklenburg County, assigned J. E. Smith, then in charge of terracing farm land, to be in charge of the details of mapping, signing up membership, etc. needed for a feasibility study of the County to show need for funds from the Rural Electrification Administration (REA) to provide central station service.

February 1938 -- N. H. Williams Jr., and Jack Smith went to Washington, D.C., to secure a loan from the Rural Electrification Administration. They were so well prepared to state their case that a loan for \$129,000 was approved almost immediately at 2.88 percent for 20 years.

March 11, 1938 -- State Corporation Commission approved Charter to serve Mecklenburg, Brunswick, Charlotte, and Lunenburg counties.

March 22, 1938 -- First Board of Directors meeting at Boydton in old Town Office Building. Directors were L. M. Crews, President; W. T. Bracey, Vice President; W. H. Copley, Secretary-Treasurer; H. C. Bobbitt; W. F. Lawson; J. D. Brankley; and B. J. Montgomery.

J. E. (Jack) Smith was appointed Project Superintendent (first employee of the Cooperative)

First office in Boydton in old Town Office Building.

April 7, 1938 -- H. J. Baer employed as Engineer and Douglas Gregory employed as Surveyor at \$5 per day and 40 cents an hour for help on recommendation of REA Field Representative.

Irby Turnbull of Boydton appointed Legal Counselor.

May -- Gladys McKinney employed as Stenographer.

July 7, 1938 -- Francis Allgood became an employee of the Cooperative at \$2 per day.

Summer, 1938 -- First substation built near South Hill on the Jessup farm; 75 KVA connected to 2,300 volt circuit off of Virginia Public Service's South Hill Substation.

Second substation built at Skipwith on Dallas Gregory farm. Forty-five (45) KVA connected to 13,200 volt circuit that fed Clarksville and Boydton Substations.

August, 1938 -- First serviceman hired--Norman L. Brame.

September 8, 1938 -- Charter amended to include Appomattox, Bedford, Campbell, Franklin, Halifax, Henry, Prince Edward, and Pittsylvania Counties.

October, 1938 -- First lines of the Cooperative were energized when the South Hill Substation was put into operation. A celebration of this event was held in Watkins Warehouse at South Hill with REA Administrator, John Carmody, as guest speaker.

Co-op office moved to old Goode Bank Building, Boydton.

November, 1938 -- Bob Kimmer employed as Serviceman, replacing Norman L. Brame who became ill.

Average use per consumer - 27 KWH per month.