

For immediate release:
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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:

- Deborah Duncan, *Leveling the Playing Field*, Beaufort-Jasper ACE
- Steve Shamblen, *Improving Peer Tutoring Using the Ceiling*, Beaufort-Jasper ACE
- Angela Mason, *Technology Isn't Just For Big Kids Anymore!*, Hardeeville Elementary School
- Maria Fernandez, *Read, Write & Type!*, Hardeeville Elementary School
- Joan Gary, *A Guided Walk Through Nature*, Hardeeville Middle/High School
- Euphemia Southall, *NewsAlive*, Ridgeland Middle School
- Jane Ryans, *Under the Knife*, Ridgeland Middle School
- Linda Stanley, *Let's Celebrate with Spanish*, Thomas Heyward Academy

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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