



# Plugged in to Altamaha EMC

APRIL 2018

*The Official Newsletter of Altamaha Electric Membership Corporation*

**Serving: Toombs, Montgomery, Emanuel, Treutlen, Laurens, Johnson and Tattnall**



## The Power Behind Your Power

As April arrives, it brings with it the showers that produce spring flowers. It also heralds the beginning of a potentially stormy season that can inherently include power outages. While Altamaha EMC strives to provide reliable electricity to our members, there are times when Mother Nature has other plans. Most of us can ride out a storm from the comfort and convenience of our homes. However, there is a group of professionals that spring into action when the weather takes a turn for the worst – our linemen.

Braving stormy weather and other challenging conditions, linemen often must climb 40 or more feet in the air, carrying heavy equipment to restore power. Listed as one of the 10 most dangerous jobs in the U.S., linemen must perform detailed tasks next to high voltage power lines. To help keep them safe, linemen wear specialized protective clothing and equipment at all times when on the job. This includes special fire-resistant clothing that will self-extinguish, limiting potential injuries from burns and sparks. Insulated and rubber gloves are worn in tandem to protect them from electrical shock. While the gear performs a critical function, it also adds additional weight and bulk, making the job more complex.

In addition to the highly visible tasks linemen perform, their job today goes far beyond climbing to the top of a pole to repair a wire. They are also information experts that can pinpoint an outage from miles away and restore power remotely. Line crews use their laptops and cell phones to map outages, take pictures of the work they have done and

troubleshoot problems. In our community, Altamaha EMC linemen are responsible for keeping almost 3,500 miles of lines across seven counties working, in order to bring power to your home and our local community 24/7, regardless of the weather, holidays or personal considerations.

While some of the tools that linemen use have changed over the years, namely the use of technology, the dedication to the job has not. Being a lineman is not a glamorous profession. At its essence, it is inherently dangerous, requiring them to work near high voltage lines in the worst of conditions, at any times of the day or night. During hurricanes, wildfires or storms, crews often work around the clock to restore power. While April is known for spring showers, it is also the month to “thank a lineman.” So during the month of April, if you see a lineman, please pause to say thank you to the power behind your power. Let them know you appreciate the hard work they do to keep the lights on, regardless of the conditions.

# Trucks for Sale

## ***Altamaha EMC is accepting sealed bids for the following vehicles:***

2007 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 with regular cab. 167,534 miles. Minimum bid of \$5,000.00

2010 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 with regular cab. 198,601 miles. Minimum bid of \$5,000.00

Bids will be accepted until 5:00 PM Friday, May 18, 2018. **Only Altamaha EMC members are allowed to submit a bid.**

The trucks are available for your inspection at our office on Hwy 280 in Lyons. Viewing hours are Tuesday – Friday, 8:00 am – 5:30 pm. The trucks will be sold on an as-is basis.

All bids must include name, address and telephone number. Bids can be dropped off at our Lyons office or mailed to PO Box 346, Lyons, GA 30436 (Attn: Joe Waters).

***For more information, contact Joe Waters at 912-526-2168 or [joe.waters@altamahaemc.com](mailto:joe.waters@altamahaemc.com).***



## **Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month**

In spring and summer months, set your ceiling fans to turn in the counterclockwise direction. This will create a cool breeze. Remember, ceiling fans cool people, not rooms. Turn them off when you leave the room.

*Source: [energystar.gov](http://energystar.gov)*





## Earth Day to be celebrated April 22

**E**arth Day is an annual event celebrated on April 22 each year to demonstrate support for environmental protection. The theme for Earth Day 2018 is “END PLASTIC POLLUTION”. Plastic pollution is killing our planet! It’s choking our oceans, poisoning our food and water supply, and wreaking havoc on the health and well-being of humans and wildlife worldwide. The facts below show the magnitude of plastic pollution:

- 8.3 BILLION Metric Tons (9.1 BILLION US Tons) of plastic has been produced since plastic was introduced in the 1950s. The amount of plastic produced in a year is roughly the same as the entire weight of humanity.
- Virtually every piece of plastic that was ever made still exists in some shape or form (with the exception of the small amount that has been incinerated).
- 91% of plastic isn’t recycled. *And since most plastics don’t biodegrade in any meaningful sense, all that plastic waste could exist for hundreds or even thousands of years.*
- 500 MILLION plastic straws are used EVERY DAY in America. *That’s enough to circle the Earth twice.*
- Nearly TWO MILLION single-use plastic bags are distributed worldwide every minute.
- 100 BILLION plastic bags are used by Americans every year. *Tied together, they would reach around the Earth’s equator 773 times!*
- ONE MILLION plastic bottles are bought EVERY MINUTE around the world — and that number will top half a TRILLION by 2021. *Less than half of those bottles end up getting recycled.*
- 8 MILLION TONS of plastic winds up in our oceans each year. That’s enough trash to cover every *foot* of coastline around the world with five full trash bags of plastic ...compounding *every* year.
- There is more microplastic in the ocean than there are stars in the Milky Way.
- If plastic production isn’t curbed, plastic pollution will outweigh fish pound for pound by 2050.

**All Altamaha EMC members who visit our office on Friday, April 20th will receive a free reusable shopping bag. This shopping bag can be used in the place of disposable plastic bags to help fight the plastic pollution battle.**



**Vidalia Onion Festival • April 26-29, 2018**  
*cooking events, arts & crafts, 5k & 10k runs, 2 concert nights, fireworks*  
 vidaliaonionfestival.com • 912-538-8687

An award winning folk-life play

**Buy Tickets Online NOW!**

**TALES FROM THE ALTAMAHA**

**"I Saw the Light"**  
 (The Story of Georgia's First REA)  
 playwright Laurie Jo Upchurch

**APRIL 2018**

- 19, 7 pm\*
- 20, 7 pm
- 21, 2 pm
- 21, 7 pm
- 24, 7 pm\*
- 26, 7 pm
- 27, 7 pm
- 28, 2 pm
- 28, 7 pm

\*family nights

Tickets \$10 \$15 & \$20, group rates available  
[www.talesfromthealtamaha.com](http://www.talesfromthealtamaha.com)  
 912-526-6445 "Like" us on

**27th Annual Southeast Georgia Soap Box Derby**  
**Partin Park in Lyons**  
**Saturday, May 5th**

For more information, contact Michael Williamson  
 at 912-245-5685 or visit their website at  
<http://www.soapboxderby.org/southeast-georgia>





# Member RECIPES



## Breakfast Bundt Casserole

1 cup ham, cubed, shredded or diced  
1 cup cooked sausage, crumbled  
2 cups frozen tater tots  
8 eggs, whisked  
1 can (8 biscuits), cut each biscuit into  
four sections  
2 cups shredded cheese\*  
¼ cup milk

Mixed all ingredients together. Pour into greased bundt pan. Bake at 400 degrees for 40 minutes. Serve warm.

\*TIP: Use your favorite cheese for this recipe. I used Cheddar/Mozzarella mixed (one cup each). Also good with pepper jack or cream cheese.

Optional: Add ½ chopped onion.

*-From the kitchen of Anita Shepherd*

Each month, our newsletter features recipes submitted by our members. If you have a favorite recipe and would like to share it with other readers in the Altamaha EMC service area, send a copy, complete with name, address and daytime phone number to: Tammye Vaughn, Altamaha EMC, P.O. Box 346, Lyons, GA 30436. Each month, a recipe will be selected for publication. The member who submitted the featured recipe will be given a \$10 credit on their next Altamaha EMC bill. Due to limited space, not all recipes received will be featured. Recipes printed in *Plugged In* are not independently tested; therefore, we must depend on the accuracy of those members who send recipes to us.