



Plugged in to Altamaha EMC

November 2020

LYONS, GA

The Official Newsletter of Altamaha Electric Membership Corporation

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



2020 Annual Meeting

What You Need to Know

- Registration begins at Noon and ends at 2:30 PM
- The meeting will be conducted in a drive-thru format.
- Members will remain in their vehicles at all times.
- Enter the access route using Pete Phillips Drive (between Walmart and Southeastern Technical College). Employees will direct traffic to the registration area.
- PLEASE BRING THE COVER FROM THIS MAGAZINE WITH YOU TO THE MEETING. THE COVER CONTAINS YOUR REGISTRATION INFORMATION AND VOTING BALLOT.
- Please read the minutes from our 2019 Annual Meeting on page 2 of this newsletter. You will be asked to cast your vote to approve these minutes at the 2020 Annual Meeting.
- The business meeting will be broadcast on 88.5 FM on your car radio.

While the drive-thru format annual meeting will be a first for all of us, concern for the health and safety of our members and employees is our utmost priority. We look forward to seeing you—at a distance—on November 4.

Wednesday, November 4, 2020
Southeastern Technical College in Vidalia



To comply with social distancing guidelines, the meeting will be a drive-in format.

PLEASE REMAIN IN YOUR VEHICLE AT ALL TIMES.

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Members Altamaha Electric Membership Corporation

LYONS, GA • NOVEMBER 6, 2019

The 83rd Annual Meeting of the Members of the Altamaha Electric Membership Corporation was held in the Toombs and Tattnall Auditoriums of the Southeastern Technical College in Vidalia, Georgia, on November 6, 2019.

At 2:30 p.m., Assistant General Manager George McLendon called the meeting to order and thanked the members for their attendance.

Mr. Myron Sweat gave the invocation.

The Assistant Manager introduced the directors and special guests attending the meeting.

President Youmans served as Business Session Moderator, and Mr. Billy Benton, Secretary and Treasurer of the Cooperative, served as Secretary and kept the minutes of the meeting.

The Secretary reported that he had filed an affidavit with the cooperative certifying that on October 24, 2019 each member of the cooperative was mailed a notice of the annual meeting. Said affidavit is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

President Youmans asked the membership to waive the reading of the minutes of the annual meeting held November 7, 2018, as they were printed in the meeting program, and on motion duly made, seconded and carried, the reading was waived, and the minutes were adopted as presented.

The Manager called on Tammye Vaughn, Office Manager, and asked her if there was a quorum. Tammye reported that 886 members of the Cooperative were present, which constituted a quorum, and advised that a list of those present would be filed in the office.

The Manager addressed the membership to expand on the theme of this year's annual

meeting, "Service to the Next Level." This year our cause to support was The Burn Foundation of America in Augusta, GA. Our employees are wearing white shirts with Burn Center logos in support of The Burn Center.

Bryan Isgett, CPA, with McNair, McLemore, Middlebrooks & Co. gave a financial report on the cooperative based on the June 30, 2019 audit. Mr. Isgett, in reporting on the operations of the cooperative, stated that the co-op continues to be financially and fiscally sound.

Chris Hopkins, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, presented the Report of the Nominating Committee. Nominated by the Committee for the three Director positions expiring at this meeting were:

Drexel Braddy, District No. 2
Randall Morris, District No. 3
Myron Sweat, District No. 5

Attorney Steve Minor conducted the election of the directors and reported that nominations for the directorships could be made either by the nominating committee or by written petition. He further reported that no nominations by written petition had been filed and called for a motion to elect the nominees by acclamation. On motion duly made, seconded, and unanimously carried, those nominated were elected.

President Youmans opened the floor for new business. There was no new business.

The awarding of attendance prizes was then conducted by Bill Kennedy and Josh Thigpen.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, upon motion duly made, seconded, and carried, the business meeting adjourned at 3:03 p.m.

Report of the Nominating Committee August 28, 2020

The Nominating Committee composed of the following: Melvin McBride, Chris Hopkins, Barry McDonald, Dustin J. Carter, Billy G. Holder and Harold Ricks, who were duly appointed by the Board of Directors to serve as members of the Nominating Committee for the year 2020, met at the Cooperative office in Lyons, Georgia, on August 28, 2020, at 2:00 p.m.

By unanimous vote of the committee Mr. Chris Hopkins was elected as Chairman and the Cooperative's General Manager, Romanous Dotson, was requested to serve as Secretary.

The committee in making its nominations for directors to serve from District 1, composed of Toombs and Tattnall Counties; District 3, composed of Montgomery County; and District 4, composed of Emanuel County, and in recommending to the membership the election of their nominees took into consideration the availability, the faithful and efficient service and other characteristics of said nominees.

Following a thorough discussion, a motion was made, seconded, and unanimously passed nominating Mr. Billy Benton, from District No. 1.

Motion was made, seconded, and unanimously passed nominating Mr. Brandon L. Braddy, from District No. 3.

Motion was made, seconded, and unanimously passed nominating Mr. Robert E. Youmans, from District No. 4.

After a thorough discussion of the Cooperative's past year's operating statistics and there being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Is Your Refrigerator Ready for Thanksgiving?

If the Thanksgiving celebration is at your house this year, your family members aren't the only ones who will be stuffed. So will your refrigerator. Is it up to the task?



An estimated 190 million refrigerators are currently in use in the United States. More than 68 million refrigerators are over 10 years old, costing consumers \$5.5 billion a year in energy costs. By replacing your old refrigerator with a new, ENERGY STAR-certified refrigerator, you

can save more than \$200 over the 12-year lifetime of the product.

Whether you're buying a new fridge this year or not, follow these tips for more efficient use:

- When shopping for a new refrigerator or freezer, read the EnergyGuide label. It tells you how many kilowatt-hours of electricity the unit will consume in one year of operation.
- Look for a refrigerator with the freezer on the bottom or the top; side-by-side designs consume more energy. Chest freezers are typically better insulated than upright models.
- Brush or vacuum your refrigerator's coils regularly to improve efficiency.
- Keeping your refrigerator full will help your unit retain cold better. If you have trouble keeping it stocked, fill the extra space with bottles or containers of water.
- If your milk is frosty, reduce the refrigerator's temperature. Refrigerators should be set between 36 and 40 degrees Fahrenheit. Freezers should stay between 0 and 5 degrees.
- Put a dollar bill in the door's seal to see if it is airtight. If the dollar slips out easily, so will cold air. If the door does not seal properly, it may need to be realigned or the seal replaced. Also, the door seal should be periodically cleaned to help prevent odors and to maintain the seal's flexibility.



Member RECIPES

Autumn Wild Rice Soup

1 cup dry wild rice or wild rice blend (wild rice and brown rice)
½ Vidalia sweet onion, diced
6 carrots, chopped
5 cups low-sodium veggie or chicken broth
1 cup dry white wine
1 tablespoon chopped fresh thyme and 3 thyme sprigs
2 bay leaves
1 teaspoon paprika
½ teaspoon crushed red pepper flakes
1 parmesan rind and 1/2 cup grated parmesan, plus more for serving
1 cup whole milk or heavy cream
Kosher salt and pepper
2 pounds mixed mushrooms, roughly torn
4 cloves garlic, smashed
1 stick butter
Zest from 1 lemon



In the bowl of your slow cooker, combine the rice, onion, carrots, broth, wine, thyme, bay leaves, paprika, crushed red pepper, parmesan rind and a pinch each of salt and pepper. Cover and cook on low for 6-8 hours. During the last 30 minutes of cooking, stir in the 1/2 cup grated parmesan and milk. Cook until warmed through. Remove the bay leaves and discard.

About an hour before serving, preheat the oven to 425 degrees F. In a 9-by-13-inch baking dish, combine the mushrooms, garlic, butter, thyme sprigs, lemon zest and a pinch each of salt and pepper. Transfer to the oven and roast for 40-45 minutes, stirring halfway through cooking, until the mushrooms are golden and caramelized. Mash the garlic with a fork, and then stir the mushrooms, mashed garlic, and any butter left into the soup. Divide the soup among bowls and top with fresh thyme and parmesan. Eat!

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, please 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.

Scholarship Applications Now Available



Altamaha EMC is accepting applications for the Walter Harrison Scholarship, a program sponsored by Georgia's electric cooperatives.

The \$1,000 scholarship can be applied to academic expenses at any accredited two- or four-year university, college or vocational-technical institute in Georgia. Factors for consideration include grade-point average, SAT scores, academic standing, scholastic honors and financial need. A scholarship committee composed of EMC directors and managers selects students who excel in these areas and who struggle with college expenses. Twelve scholarships will be awarded statewide in 2021.

Students who apply for the scholarship must be accepted or enrolled in an accredited undergraduate degree program. They also must complete an

application and write an autobiographical sketch that provides a preview of their future plans.

Created in 1985 by the Board of Directors of Georgia EMC, the scholarship pays tribute to the late Walter Harrison, a pioneer in the rural electricity movement and a leader at local, state and national levels in the electric cooperative program. Since 1985, Georgia's electric cooperatives have awarded more than \$140,000 to students via the Walter Harrison Scholarship program.

Applications are available for download on our website, altamahemc.com. You can also request an application by contacting Tammye Vaughn at (912) 526-2120 or via email at tammye.v Vaughn@altamahaemc.com. Completed applications are due by January 29, 2021.

Thanksgiving Closing Notice

Altamaha EMC offices will be closed Thursday and Friday, November 26 and 27, for the Thanksgiving holidays. The drive-in window at our Lyons office only will remain open for the convenience of our members.

In the event of a power outage or other related problems, standby personnel will be on duty. You can report power outages by calling us at (912) 526-8181, or toll-free at (800) 822-4563.

Happy Thanksgiving to you and your family!



Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Keep cold air out to save energy. Seal air leaks around pipes and any gaps around chimneys and unfinished spaces behind cupboards and closets.

—Source: energy.gov

