



# Plugged in to Altamaha EMC

November 2021  
LYONS, GA

*Official Newsletter of Altamaha Electric Membership Corporation*

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



## 2021 Annual Meeting

Wednesday, Nov. 3, 2021

Southeastern Technical College in Vidalia, Ga.

### What You Need to Know

- Registration begins at noon and ends at 2:30 p.m.
- 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 2020 Annual Meeting on page 20B of this newsletter. You will be asked to cast your vote to approve these minutes at the 2021 Annual Meeting.
- The business meeting will be broadcast on 88.5 FM on your car radio.

The 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 Nov. 3.



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

**PLEASE REMAIN IN YOUR VEHICLE AT ALL TIMES.**

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

LYONS, GA • NOV. 4, 2020

**T**he 84<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of Members of the Altamaha Electric Membership Corporation was held at Southeastern Technical College in Vidalia, Ga., on Nov. 4, 2020, as a drive-thru format. Members were able to tune in on their vehicle radio or Facebook live.

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

Manager Romanous Dotson gave the invocation.

Assistant General Manager McLendon introduced directors and visitors attending the meeting.

President Robert E. Youmans served as business session moderator, and Billy Benton, Secretary and Treasurer of Altamaha EMC, served as secretary and kept the meeting minutes.

The secretary reported that he had filed an affidavit with the cooperative, certifying that on Oct. 21, 2020, 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 acted on the approval of last year's meeting minutes held Nov. 6, 2019, as they were printed in the November newsletter and Annual Meeting program. The minutes were approved by acclamation.

The assistant manager stated that based on registrations, we had a quorum. He reported that 775 members of the cooperative were registered, 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, "Member-Owned and Governed." This year, our cause to support was breast cancer awareness. Our employees wore pink shirts with a ribbon logo in support of breast cancer.

Bryan Isgett, CPA, with McNair, McLemore, Middlebrooks & Co., gave a financial report on the cooperative based on the June 30, 2020, 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:

**Billy Benton, District 1**  
**Brandon Braddy, District 3**  
**Robert E. Youmans, District 4**

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 a 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 a 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 grand prize will be drawn at the headquarters on Friday, Nov. 6, and the winner will be notified.

There being no further business to come before the Annual Meeting, upon a motion duly made, seconded and carried, the business meeting adjourned at 2:52 p.m.

## Report of the Nominating Committee Aug. 17, 2021

**T**he Nominating Committee composed of the following: Chris Hopkins, James Robert Jones, Gary J. Walden, Chris Braddy, 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 2021. They met at the cooperative office in Lyons, Ga., on Aug. 17, 2021, at 9:30 a.m.

By unanimous vote of the committee, Mr. 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 comprising of Toombs and Tattnall counties; District 2 comprising of Treutlen County; and District 4 comprising of Emanuel County; and in recommending to the membership the election of their nominees, took into consideration the availability, faithful and efficient service, and other characteristics of said nominees.

Following a thorough discussion, a motion was made, seconded and unanimously passed, nominating Brett Williams for District 1.

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously passed, nominating Danny Shepherd for District 2.

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously passed, nominating Dean Gowen for District 4.

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



# Fall Checklist



**T**he blistering summer heat isn't far behind us, but it won't be long before you're turning on the heater and your house will be full of family and friends for the holidays.

In preparation for the cooler months, you're encouraged to head off any potential problems by scheduling maintenance and safety checks for your home's heating and electrical devices now. Here's where to start:

**Furnace**—A qualified HVAC tech should do a biannual check of your system: once in the fall for your heating system and again in the spring for air conditioning. Before you turn on the heat, make sure your system is in good, working condition. The tech can spot problems before they ruin your system or shut down when your house is full of company.

**Thermostats**—If your home doesn't have a programmable thermostat, you could be paying more to heat and cool your home than you have to. Programmable thermostats automatically turn the heat up or down, depending on the times of day your family is home or away.

**Ground-fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs)**—A licensed electrician can install GFCIs in your bathroom, kitchen and laundry room, and near hot tubs, pools and under windows. All of those areas have the potential to get wet, and a GFCI will shut off the electricity to an appliance when it does get wet. In addition, it can interrupt a circuit if it's overcharged.

**Smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors**—If you don't have them near all bedrooms in your home, it's time to install them. Then, check them twice a year to make sure they're still working and that they have fresh batteries.

**Overloaded outlets**—You can overload an electrical circuit by plugging in an appliance that uses a heavy amount of electricity into a circuit that is designed for a smaller load. This may include a range, dishwasher, refrigerator or even some entertainment systems and exercise equipment. You can also overload a circuit by using a power strip to plug in too many appliances into a single outlet. Overloading an outlet could cause a fire. Be sure to ask a licensed electrician to inspect your home for potential circuit overloads.



## Member RECIPES

### Shrimp Ceviche

*Recipe courtesy of Chef Christian Perez and Georgia Grown*

- 1 pound Georgia white shrimp, peeled, deveined**
- 4 limes, juiced**
- 4 lemons, juiced**
- 1 grapefruit, juiced**
- 1 orange, juiced**
- 1 jalapeño, seeded, diced into ¼-inch pieces**
- 1 cucumber, diced into ¼-inch pieces**
- 1 red onion, diced small**
- 1 avocado, diced**
- Salt and pepper, to taste**
- Fresh chopped cilantro and tortilla chips, for serving**



Bring a small pot of salted water to a rolling boil. Prepare a bowl filled with ice water. Add shrimp, cover pot, and remove from the heat. Allow to stand about 3 minutes. Drain shrimp and shock in ice bath. Remove shrimp from ice bath and cut into small pieces.

In a medium bowl, place shrimp, citrus juices, jalapeño, cucumber, onion and avocado. Stir gently to coat with juices. Season with salt and pepper. Cover and place in refrigerator to marinate at least 2 hours before serving. Garnish with cilantro and serve with tortilla chips. *Serves 4-6.*

*For more recipes featuring Georgia Grown products, visit [georgiagrown.com](http://georgiagrown.com).*



GEORGIA GROWN

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 your name, address and daytime phone number to: Tammye Vaughn, Altamaha EMC, P.O. Box 346, Lyons, GA 30436. 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.

# Foundation Scholarship Applications Available

**F**our scholarships, worth \$500 each, will be awarded to local students in March 2022. The Altamaha EMC Foundation Scholarship Program was founded in an effort to help local students further their education. The scholarships are funded entirely by members' donations through Operation Round Up. Applicants must be a high school senior and live in the household of an Altamaha EMC member.

Applications are available on our website, [www.altamahaemc.com](http://www.altamahaemc.com). You can also request an application by contacting Tammye Vaughn at 912-526-2120 or [tammye.vaughn@altamahaemc.com](mailto:tammye.vaughn@altamahaemc.com).

Scholarships will be awarded based on academic ability and financial need. Winners will be announced in March 2022. Applications are due Feb. 28, 2022.



## Walter Harrison Scholarship Applications Now Available

**A**ltamaha EMC is currently 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 comprised of

EMC directors and managers selects students who exceed in these areas and struggle with college expenses.

Twelve scholarships will be awarded statewide in early spring 2022.

Students who apply for the scholarship must live in the household of an Altamaha EMC member. Applicants must be accepted or enrolled in an accredited undergraduate degree program. They must also 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 co-ops have awarded more than \$150,000 to students through the Walter Harrison Scholarship Program.

Applications are available for download on our website, [www.altamahaemc.com](http://www.altamahaemc.com). You may also request an application by contacting Tammye Vaughn at 912-526-2120 or [tammye.vaughn@altamahaemc.com](mailto:tammye.vaughn@altamahaemc.com). Applications are due Jan. 28, 2022.

## Thanksgiving Closing Notice



Altamaha EMC offices will be closed Thursday, Nov. 25, and Friday, Nov. 26, for the Thanksgiving holidays. The drive-in window at our Lyons office 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 800-822-4563.

Happy Thanksgiving to you and your family!