



OKEFENOKE

RURAL ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION

"OWNED BY THOSE WE SERVE"

OKEFENOKE REMC • VOLUME 70, NUMBER 4 • JULY/AUGUST 2018

Plan to Attend the 79th Annual Meeting

The Okefenokee Rural Electric Membership Corporation Annual Meeting is just around the corner. The meeting will be held on Saturday, September 8, 2018, at the Brantley County High School, Highway 82 West, Nahunta, Georgia.

Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m., and the official business meeting will start at 10 a.m. Musical entertainment will be provided 8:30 -10 a.m. Refreshments will be served and activities will be available for the kids throughout the morning.

During the business meeting, members will hear reports from OREMC's Board President and General Manager. Elections will be finalized for three members of OREMC's Board of Directors to serve for three-year terms representing: District 1 — Baker County, Florida; District 4 — Middle Brantley County, Georgia; and District 5 — West Brantley County, Georgia and Ware County, Georgia.

Door prizes will be presented to members at registration. Please bring the preprinted registration cards you receive with your official annual meeting notification letter in order to proceed through the express registration line and pick up your door prize. Special prizes will be awarded to the "Most Senior Lady" and "Most Senior Gentleman" in attendance at the meeting, and drawings will be held for many attractive gifts, including a grand prize — you must be present to win.

Please contact us about any special needs or requirements for your participation in the Annual Meeting by calling our office at (800) 262-5131 or emailing us at customer.service@oremc.com prior to September 8, or by contacting one of our employees at the meeting. Don't forget to mark your calendars. Plan to bring your family, meet and greet your neighbors -and friends, and make the 79th Annual Meeting of your cooperative one of the most successful ever.



**All OREMC offices will be closed
on Monday, September 3,
in observance of Labor Day.**

Automated account information and outage reporting systems are available 24 hours a day seven days a week at 800-262-5131.

We wish you a safe and happy holiday.



Youth Tour Snapshot

Okefenokee REMC's Youth Tour delegates pause for a photo in front of the White House. It was just one stop during their week-long visit to our nation's capital, June 7-14, as part of the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour. In addition to meeting with our congressional delegation, they joined more than 1,500 students from other co-ops across the country experiencing Washington, D.C. from A to Z, visiting monuments, museums, memorials and more. Pictured (l-r): Kaden Grantham, Jesup, Georgia; Jameson Gordon, Jesup, Georgia; Grant Bennett, Nahunta, Georgia; and Kade Chapman, Hoboken, Georgia.

upgrade projects over time. "This is a project our team has been passionate about," notes Crews. "While it has taken time to put all the pieces in place, it was very important that we had the necessary hardware and software, with the right options, not only to implement SCADA, but to be ready for the next phase of distribution automation."

SCADA provides the fundamental basis for future system improvements and distribution automation including remote access to field installed equipment. Crews describes the next phase of implementation as the system being able to "automatically diagnose the outage area and self-heal by reconfiguring the distribution system via operation of strategically positioned field equipment." OREMC continues to explore technologies in effort to become best in class for reliability and member satisfaction.



Did You Know?

July is National Grilling Month?

Fire up the grill, keep the heat out of the kitchen and save energy!

Golf Tournament Fundraises for Cancer Care

Okefenoke REMC's 27th Annual Golf Tournament was held on Saturday, May 19 at The Lakes Golf Course at Laura S. Walker State Park. Twelve teams-53 players-participated in this year's tournament with proceeds benefitting the Southeast Cancer Unit, Inc.

"OREMC's tournament has been supporting the Southeast Cancer Unit for many years as the money stays local to help cancer patients with expenses related to their medical care," noted tournament organizer Michael Hickox, coordinator, Purchasing.

Raffle prizes were awarded along with "Closest to the Pin" winners on each par three hole and the winning foursome in each of three flights. Winners of the first flight were Jeff Corning, Tim Corning, Dan Utley and Jim Smith. Second flight winners included Floyd Russell, Steven Wynn, Jeff Whitley and Brandon Russell. Third flight winners were John Frankovich, Kimo Kailimai, Larry Cribb and Don Heinecke.

In addition to all the participants, OREMC thanks area businesses who contributed to the tournament:

Laura Walker Golf Course
Ace Pole Co.
Altec Industries
Anixter, Inc.
Asplundh Tree Expert
Coca-Cola, Waycross
Cox Industries
Farmers & Builders, Nahunta
Golden Isles Office Equipment
GRESKO
Hasty's Communications
Honey Bun's Restaurant
Irby Electric Dist.
Kroger/Waycross
Piggly Wiggly of Nahunta
Pike Electric
Stewart Distribution
Tri-State Utility Products
WESCO of Fairburn
WESCO of Savannah

GOLF FLIGHT 1



GOLF FLIGHT 2



GOLF FLIGHT 3



Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

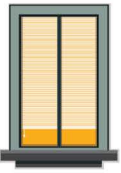
Look for LED products and fixtures for outdoor use, such as pathway, step and porch lights. Many include features like automatic daylight shut-off and motion sensors. You can also find solar-powered lighting for outdoor spaces.

Source: energy.gov



Summer Energy-Saving Tips

Costs associated with cooling your home can make up a large portion of your summer electric bills. Stay cool and save money with these energy efficiency tips!



NO-COST TIPS

Close blinds and drapes during the day to keep heat out.



Set your thermostat to 78 degrees when you are home. Set it to a higher temperature when you're away.



Turn off lights and ceiling fans when you leave a room.



LOW-COST TIPS

Plant trees and shrubs to shade the exterior of your home.



Replace disposable air filters (or clean permanent filters) once a month to maximize efficiency.



Use solar lighting to brighten up your outdoor space. Solar lights are easy to install, low maintenance and provide free electricity.



AMERICA'S ELECTRIC
COOPERATIVES

Avoiding the Energy Rush Hour

Understanding peak demand

It's hot outside! To keep cool you turn your thermostat down, only to find your electric bill has gone up. Instead of getting hot under the collar, think about reducing your demand for electricity, not only in terms of how much you use, but when.

Electricity use changes throughout the day based on consumer demand. Okefenokee REMC must be able to provide enough electricity to meet the energy demand of our consumer-members during the times of highest energy use, also known as "peak hours." Based on historical system-wide usage by our consumer-members, OREMC's peak time is typically between 3 - 6 p.m., when people are returning to their homes after work.

To reduce peak energy demand and save money collectively, OREMC encourages electricity use during off-peak hours when energy is less expensive. Just as you can attend a matinee and see the same movie for less, using electricity during an off-peak time means lower power costs for OREMC, and ultimately lower rates for members.

Examples of how you can shift and lower your demand for electricity include:

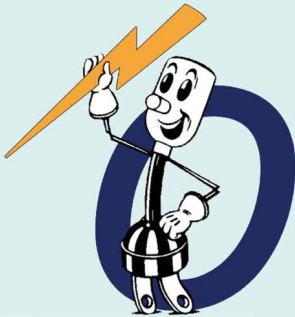
- Run the dishwasher and do laundry during off-peak hours.
- Use automatic timers to run hot tubs, pool pumps and water heaters at off-peak times.
- Use a programmable thermostat to adjust your cooling system.
- Set your thermostat a couple of degrees higher. The closer your air conditioner setting is to the outdoor temperature, the less your unit will run.
- Using ceiling and table fans to circulate air and promote evaporative cooling in the areas of your home you are most active. The "wind chill" effect will make you feel just a bit cooler.
- Grill and chill! The heat released into the air from your stove while cooking dinner can put your air conditioner—and electric meter—into overdrive. Consider counter-top appliances which use half as much power as your regular oven, or outdoor grilling options, for food preparation to keep your kitchen, and home, cooler.

You can also cut energy costs using our recommended *Summer Energy-Savings Tips*.

Contributors Derrill Holly and Anne Price write on cooperative issues for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the Arlington, Virginia based service arm of the nation's 900-plus consumer-owned, not-for-profit electric cooperatives.

Statement of Nondiscrimination

Okefenokee Rural Electric Membership Corporation is an equal opportunity provider and employer. If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U. S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S. W., Washington, D. C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.



KEFENOKE

RURAL ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION

"OWNED BY THOSE WE SERVE"

FAMILY FEATURES

"Sometimes you will never know the value of a moment until it becomes a memory."

-Dr. Seuss

(Cut Here) ✂

This month's featured recipe was submitted by Ms. Carol Spear of Hilliard, Florida. She has been given a \$25 credit on her electric energy account.

Favorite Italian Sausage Casserole

- Makes 10 servings Heat oven to 350°
- 2 pounds sweet Italian Sausage, cut into one-inch slices
- 1 cup chopped onion
- 1/2 cup chopped carrot
- 1/2 cup chopped green pepper
- 1/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 2 cups milk
- 3 Tbsp. Worcestershire sauce
- 1/4 tsp. sage
- 2 (16 oz. cans) light kidney beans, drained and rinsed
- Crackers, any variety (serve with casserole)

In large skillet, over medium-high heat, brown sausage. Drain. Return sausage to skillet and add: onions and green peppers. Cook until tender. Stir in flour, coating mixture well. Gradually add milk, stirring constantly until mixture thickens and begins to boil. Stir in Worcestershire sauce and sage. In 3-quart baking dish, combine beans and sausage mixture. Bake uncovered at 350° for 30 minutes or until hot and bubbly. Serve with crackers. Enjoy!

Submit your favorite recipe to Jen Shuman. jennifer.shuman@oremc.com. Each month one recipe will be selected for publication and the person who submitted the recipe will receive a \$25.00 credit on their next month's bill.



* * * * *

2 Corinthians 3:17

Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.

* * * * *

Published bi-monthly and mailed to members of Okefenokee Rural Electric Membership Corporation Nabunta, Georgia 31553

Darren Crews, Editor

OFFICE HOURS

8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

Monday through Friday

Speak to a Customer Service Representative by phone Monday - Friday, 8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

CO-OP BUSINESS NUMBER

Toll Free 1-800-262-5131

<https://oremc.com>

E-MAIL

customer.service@oremc.com

John Middleton
General Manager

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

R. Wayne Combs
President

Steve E. Rawl
1st Vice President

Bobby S. Sports
2nd Vice President

Tony Ham
Secretary/Treasurer

Jamie Giddens
Jimmy Woodard

Clyde Mizell
Cristi Koncz
Rocky Smith

"OWNED BY THOSE WE SERVE"

To nominate your church, contact Darren Crews at 1-800-262-5131 Ext.1177 or email darren.crews@oremc.com.

Church of the Month



Carnegie Chapel Church

- Sunday School 10:30 A.M.
- 1st Sunday Morning Worship Service 9:00 A.M.
- 2nd Sunday Morning Worship Service 11:30 A.M.
- Tuesday Bible Study & Prayer Meeting 6:30 P.M.
- Pastor: Derry L. Mainor

987 Kinlaw Road • Kingsland, GA 31548