



KEFENOKE
RURAL ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION
"OWNED BY THOSE WE SERVE"

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and mailed to members of
Okefenoke Rural Electric
Membership Corporation
Nahunta, Georgia 31553

Michele Hutchins, Editor

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"OWNED BY THOSE WE SERVE"

Annual Meeting Scheduled for September 10

In accordance with Bylaw Article III, Meetings of the Members, Section 3.01, the Annual Meeting of Okefenoke Rural Electric Membership Corporation, will be held Saturday, September 10, 2022, at the Brantley County High School in Nahunta, Georgia.

Prior Notice Required to Gain Floor for more than Five Minutes at Annual Meeting

In accordance with Bylaw Article III, Section 3.08, the deadline is August 26, 2022 at 5 p.m. to submit requests to gain the floor at the Co-op's annual meeting. Requests may be made by contacting Kimi Harris at OREMC's headquarters office in Nahunta, Georgia, (800) 262-5131, extension 1111.

OREMC Nominating Committee Report

In accordance with Bylaw Article IV, Section 4.05, a Nominating Committee was appointed by the Board of Directors to prepare a list of nominations for directors to serve the districts that are due for re-election at the September 10 annual meeting of the cooperative. A meeting of the Nominating Committee was held at the headquarters office of the co-op on April 13, 2022. Nominations made by the nominating committee at that time are as follows:

- **District 2 – Nassau County (Florida)**
- **District 6 – Northwest Camden County (Georgia)**
- **District 8 – Glynn County (Georgia)**

Clyde Mizell

Steve E. Rawl, Sr.

Joe Loomis

Credentials and Elections Committee Appointed

In accordance with Bylaw Article III, Section 3.06, Okefenoke REMC's Board of Directors has appointed a Credentials and Elections Committee to establish the validity of petition of nomination and to verify qualifications of the candidates. Members of the appointed Committee are:

Bobby Griffin
5612 Lauramore Rd.
Macclenny, FL 32063

Eugene L. Drawdy
15901 HWY 32E
Hortense, GA 31543-3731

Jimmy Crews
1401 Lee Rd.
Waycross, GA 31503-2953

Patricia Bryant
172 Jim Bryant Road
Folkston, GA 31537-7324

Walter E. Josselyn, III
P.O. Box 5793
St. Marys, GA 31558-5793

R. Neil Hampton
P.O. Box 455
Callahan, FL 32011-0455

Jack Wilson
242 Monsie Rd.
Nahunta, GA 31553

Craig C. Brack
863 Hickory Bluff Drive
Waverly, GA 31565-2600

Michael Fairman
821 Pennick Rd.
Brunswick, GA 31525

In addition to establishing the validity and qualification of nominees, the committee will establish and oversee voting procedures.

OREMC Credentials and Elections Committee Report

In accordance with the bylaws of Article III, Section 3.06, Okefenoke REMC's Board of Directors has appointed a Credentials and Elections Committee to establish the validity of petition of nominations and to verify qualifications of the candidates. A meeting of the Committee was held at the headquarters office of the co-op on May 16, 2022 to validate all nominations. Nominations made by the nominating committee are as follows:

- **District 2 – Nassau County (Florida)**
- **District 6 – Northwest Camden County (Georgia)**
- **District 8 – Glynn County (Georgia)**

Clyde Mizell

Steve E. Rawl, Sr.

Joe Loomis

The validity of all nominees has been determined by the Credentials and Election Committee.

Elections of Directors

In accordance with bylaws adopted by Okefenoke REMC members, any contested election held to fill the positions of directors with expiring terms will be made through mail-in balloting. The procedure of mail voting is described in Article IV, Section 4.03 Manner of Voting and Election of Directors, Section 4.06 Ballots, Section 4.07 Distribution of Ballots, and Section 4.08 Conduct of Election.

(For complete copy of OREMC Corporate Bylaws go to our website: oremc.com.)



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KEFENOKE
REMC

Getting Weather Ready

While the official start of hurricane season is June 1, the first tropical wave of the season was making headlines mid-May. Now is the time to prepare for a weather emergency so that you can review the plan with family and friends, both those living with you and those that will provide support should the need arise.

OREMC has been making its own preparations for storm season, as supply chain issues, employees in new positions and applying lessons learned from previous storm response help refine our outage response plan.

"We are at our best when the weather is at its worst," says OREMC Operations Manager Travis Page. "Our lineman and our operations support team are all committed to getting the lights back on after a storm just as quick as we can. Safety and efficiency are critical in reducing outage times for everyone, and dependent on an accurate damage assessment across the system, clearing debris so restoration can begin and knowing which crews and resources will be deployed where within our system. We are continually updating and reviewing our storm/natural disaster plan based on lessons learned and industry best practices."

A written plan is the first step. Developing your family communications plan will help you think through all the details and collect the necessary information you will need to have should you need to evacuate. It will also help you develop alternate plans as not all emergencies happen when all the family is together at home. Don't forget to plan for your pets as well.

Sign up alerts and warnings. Make sure your phone is setup to automatically receive emergency and wireless alerts. You'll also want to find and follow notifications from your local emergency management agency and identify your preferred, trusted weather source.

Having them set up before there is a need for them will insure you get notifications that pertain to your area in a timely fashion.

Shelter locally or evacuate. As part of your planning make sure it includes sheltering in place (home), at a local/regional shelter and evacuation contingencies. Know your evacuation zone and what route(s) will be available to take you inland.

An emergency preparedness kit is critical. This kit will include nonperishable food, water, medications, hygiene products and other supplies you will need to survive for several days either at home or away. Your family's kit should have no less than a three-day supply of necessities for each member of the family (including pets), but seven days is ideal. Other items include extra clothing, flashlights, radios, phone chargers, masks, first aid kits extra batteries. Assemble in advance, and refresh as needed, so your kit is ready to go.

Practice your plan! It is important that everyone in your family knows the plan, where it is kept—along with the emergency preparedness kit—and how to proceed depending on the situation. Practice is the best prevention.

For a complete list of resources to help you develop your plan and build your emergency preparedness kit, please visit ready.gov. You can also visit oremc.com/storm-preparedness for additional links and information about power restoration after a storm.



2 Peter 3:18

King James Version

¹⁸ But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever. Amen.

**"If there is hope in the future,
there is literally power in the present."**

—Zig Ziglar

OREMC Announces 2022 Youth Award Winners

Okefenokee REMC is pleased to announce its 2022 OREMC Scholarship winners. This is the 29th year OREMC has awarded 10 scholarships of \$2,000 each to students residing in one of the eight counties it serves—Brantley, Camden, Charlton, Glynn, Ware and Wayne counties in Georgia, and Baker and Nassau counties in Florida.

Harrison "Fisher" Crews is a senior at Pierce County and the son of Taite & Kimberly Crews. Harrison is a member of Georgia State Superintendent's Student Advisory Council, varsity golf team, past president of his freshman, sophomore and junior class and currently serves as senior class president. He also is a member of BETA, Student Council, FFA, math team, junior class usher and Principal Advisory Board. Harrison is very active in his youth group at church and volunteers in the community. Among his many honors are: winner region AAA boys golf, top 10 AAA Georgia State Championship, STAR student, Most Intellectual Senior Superlative and recognized as a College Board National Rural and Small Town Student. Harrison plans to attend either Georgia Tech or Southern Methodist University and study economics and finance.

Chloe Crosby is a senior at Camden County High School and is the daughter of Pamela and Brad Crosby. Chloe is a member of DECA, Student Council, FCA, Senior BETA, National Honors Society, National Technical Honors Society and Kingsland First Baptist Service & Leadership team. She has been awarded Georgia DECA Statesman Award, Superintendent's Honor Roll and is a Georgia Association of Student Councils Certified Student Leader. Chloe plans to attend Georgia College & State University, study accounting and become a CPA.

Kathleen Good is a senior at Ware County High School and the daughter of Dan and Wendy Good. Kathleen is a member of BETA, National Honors Society, Georgia Youth Assembly Delegate, Model UN, Waycross Bank & Trust Junior Board, Platinum Senior Member student Council, math team,

HOSA, varsity soccer, swim & cheer teams. Kathleen is ranked top 10 in her class and has several other honors including: Satilla REMC WYT Counselor Nominee, National Society of High School Scholar recipient, National Youth Leadership Forum of Medicine nominee, Zell Miller Scholarship, Georgia Certificate of Merit and Walter Harrison Scholarship winner. She will be attending UGA pursue a degree in biology with goals of becoming a dentist and opening her own practice in a rural area.

Annabelle Howard senior at Charlton County High School and is the daughter of Stacy Harris and Josh Howard. She is class president, member of FFA, Walter Harrison Scholarship Nominee, Georgia Secretary of State Student Ambassador, State School Superintendent's Student Advisory Council, BETA, archery, golf team and marching band. Annabelle is an active volunteer at Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge. She will attend the University of Georgia where she will pursue a degree in poultry science.

Sydney Johnson is a senior at Baker County High School in Macclenny, Florida, and the daughter of Craig and Julie Johnson. Sydney is a member of the sideline & competition cheer teams, MU Alpha Theta, BETA Club, FCA, Interact Club, & Journalism. Her honors include being a scholar athlete the last three years and

being recognized in the top 10 of her senior class. Sydney is also an active volunteer in her community. Her goals are to attend either the University of Florida or University of North Florida, become a dentist and open a dental practice in her hometown.

Madeline McLean is a senior at Glynn Academy and the daughter of Kevin and Lara McLean. Madeline is a member of the swim team, National Honor Society, Ethnology Club, Girl Scouts, Camden PSA Swim Team, BETA, math team, student leadership program, Youth Leadership Glynn, a Science Olympian and a Walter Harrison Scholarship winner. Madeline's honors include Riemann Award for top calculus student, AP Scholar with Distinction, Georgia Certificate of Merit and George & Helen Hartzog Award for volunteerism. She plans to attend Mercer University.

Dylan Olive is graduate of West Nassau High School and currently enrolled at Florida Southern College where he is a double major in theatre performance and communication multimedia journalism. Dylan is part of the Student Government Association (SGA), *The Southern* newspaper, FSCTV, Vagabonds & the Film Club. Dylan's honors include being elected a SGA Senator and being the editor of *The Southern* and anchor for FSCTV.

Katelyn Pittman is a senior at Brunswick High and the daughter of Corey and Karen Pittman. Katelyn is a member of jazz band, wind ensemble, marching band, piano, Pirate Buddies, tennis team, National Honors Society, Student Council, BETA club, Youth Leadership Glynn and United

Community Bank Junior Board of Directions. Katelyn has held many offices in the clubs she participates in. A few of her honors include Presidential Award and Rotary Club Speech Contest winner. Katelyn's goals are to attend Brigham Young University, major in finance and become a financial advisor. She also plans to minor in piano and organ performance.

Victoria Williamson is a senior at Glynn Academy and the daughter of Angela Williamson. She is editor-in-chief of the yearbook, member of Ethnology Club, Student Council, Interact Club, BETA, National Honors society, Youth Group & HOSA. A few of Victoria's honors include Brewton Parker Future Baron Scholars Program, Georgia Certificate of Merit, Wofford College Scholar, George & Helen Hartzog Volunteer Youth Award. While she has not decided which college she will be attending, she will be majoring in biology with a premed track.

Joshua Youmans is a senior at Brantley County High School and the son of Leslie & Nell Youmans. Joshua is a member of FFA and Audio & Visual Club, as well as being a STAR Student and an AP Scholar. He is the number one singles player for the Brantley County High School regional championship tennis team. Joshua is also an active volunteer in his community. His goals are to attend Georgia Southern University, become a financial manager or accountant, and live near his hometown so that he will be able to give back to the community that has given him so much.

Youth Tour Delegates

OREMC has selected four students as 2022 Youth Tour delegates. They will join delegates from Georgia's 38 other electric membership cooperatives for an all-expenses paid trip to Washington, D.C., in June for the Youth Tour Leadership Experience.

Emma Dyal is a junior at Pierce County High and the daughter of Eric and Morgan Dyal. Emma is an Honor Student, member of the swim team, chorus, Pierce County Singers and the marching band flag line—Blue Tide Invitation Grand Champions—where she will serve as a captain for her senior year. Emma plans to attend college but is currently undecided on her career.

Lizann Hughes is a junior at Pierce County High School where she is a honor roll student, and the daughter of Keith and Elizabeth Hughes. Lizann is a member of FCA, FFA, FBLA, BETA, FSCLA and HOSA. She is also a member of the Lady Bears Softball Team and The Cage travel softball organization., as well as an active member of her church. Her goals are to continue her education in the medical field at Georgia Southern

University.

Julianna Pittman is junior at Brantley County High school and the daughter of Rodney & Jeannie Pittman. She is ranked top two in her class and is a member of FCA, varsity soccer & basketball and BETA Club. Julianna also teaches children's church. Julianna plans to attend college and become a teacher and coach.

Joash Wollitz is a junior at West Nassau High in Callahan, Florida and the son of Gerald and LeeAnne Wollitz. He is a member of 4H, Master Mind, theater, speech, debate, National Honors Society, Key Club, Chick fil a Leadership and an honor roll student. Joash plans to attend college major in history or economics, then attend law school.



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Church of the Month

New Life Church of God

Sunday Service 10 a.m.
Wednesday Service 7 p.m.

14271 N. State Rd. 121 • Macclenny, FL 32063
Pastor Jack Pope 904-259-6363

To nominate your church, contact Dewayne Johns at 1-800-262-5131
Ext. 1143 or email dewayne.johns@oremc.com

A Mission to Serve: Pam Curtis celebrates 30 years of employee advocacy

For Pam Curtis it is not just a job, it is personal. "My favorite thing to do is serve the employees," Pam says with a hint of emotion in her voice. "As my job evolved and I was able to put myself into my work, I learned what I was best at—being an employee advocate. I like serving other people."

Since joining OREMC nearly 30 years ago, Pam has had the opportunity to work with just about every employee. She started out as a personnel assistant filing insurance claims. Then she moved on to payroll, assisted employees with savings withdrawals, car loans, insurance questions/claims/bills and ran interference regarding long term, short term and workers' compensation claims. In short, she

became the "go to girl" for questions and information as the employees trusted her and knew she would work to resolve their issues. And, as she puts it, "the go to girl liked it."

"Most every aspect of my job is personal, confidential information," Pam insists. "It gives me pleasure to know I'm helping someone else and that they know they can depend on me to get it done."

That determination didn't go unnoticed. In 2015 when OREMC restructured operations, Pam became the Benefits and Compliance Administrator.

Read more of Pam's story online at oremc.com.

