

Mitigating supply chain issues, supporting local economy, expanding broadband among topics of Annual Meeting

Coastal Electric Cooperative took members on a virtual tour of the community during this year's Virtual Annual Meeting of Members May 26. Co-op staff offered a glimpse into projects and progress from the past year, and what members can look forward to in the future.

Topic highlights included:

- The launch of Coastal Fiber and how its availability will impact local people.
- How Coastal Electric is using technology to improve the member experience.
- Economic development activities in Coastal Georgia and how Coastal Electric opens doors for opportunity.
- How Operation Round Up dollars were used in 2021.
- What Coastal Electric is doing to mitigate supply chain issues.

Following the virtual tour, members could watch the business portion of the Annual Meeting, which was held at the co-op's headquarters in Midway.

Approximately 1,598 members registered for the meeting during Member Appreciation Days from May 23-25, well exceeding the number needed to achieve a quorum.

Each registered member received



Coastal Electric CEO Chris Fettes presents the \$1,000 grand prize to Dorothy Blige, a lifelong resident of Richmond Hill (and Ways Station before that) and a Coastal Electric member since 1954.

a set of 4-gauge, 20-foot, heavy-duty Stanley booster cables and was entered into a drawing for \$1,000. Richmond Hill native Dorothy Blige won the \$1,000 grand prize, which was announced during the virtual Annual Meeting. Blige has been a Coastal

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Scan here with your smartphone camera to view the Coastal Electric Cooperative 2022 Annual Meeting of Members, which took place May 26.

Georgia's electric grid holding strong despite extreme summer temperatures

Georgia's electric grid is strong and delivering reliable electric service as designed, and that is expected to be the case moving forward. Electric cooperatives and their generation and transmission partners are confident in their preparedness for situations like the extreme temperatures of this summer.



The Georgia co-op network's collaborative planning and operations are focused on reliability, redundancy and resilience to mitigate any service disruptions.

Electric cooperatives, including Coastal Electric, use a diverse portfolio of resources that provides for a flexi-

ble, reliable and cost-effective supply of energy to their members. Additionally, energy in Georgia and across the Southeast is interconnected, meaning Georgia utilities benefit from strong relationships with utilities in neighboring states resulting in mutual support when needed.

Georgia's electric grid is stable, and strategies are in place to maintain uninterrupted electric service. However, members can reduce the impact on their electric bills during extreme conditions by using the following individual energy-conservation tips:

- Set thermostats to 78 degrees or higher.

- Replace air filters regularly.
- Use LED bulbs.
- Avoid the oven and, instead, grill outdoors.
- Use large appliances (washers, dryers, etc.) between 9 p.m. and 9 a.m., when the higher demand for electricity has subsided.
- Turn off unnecessary lights.
- Keep shades and curtains closed to keep the cool in and heat out.
- Seal cracks and openings to prevent warm air from leaking into the home.

For more info or ways to save, contact Coastal Electric Energy Adviser Jason Smith at (912) 880-2232 or jason.smith@coastalelectric.coop.



Electrical safety tips for hunters

We encourage all members to be aware of electrical equipment while hunting. Keep these safety tips in mind as you enjoy the great outdoors.

- Keep clear of electrical equipment.
- Do not shoot at or near power lines or insulators.
- Know where power lines and equipment are located where you hunt.
- Be vigilant in wooded areas where power lines may not be as visible.
- Never place deer stands on utility poles.
- Never place decoys on power lines or other utility equipment.

Join the team at Coastal Electric Cooperative!

Whether you are starting your career or are a seasoned professional, there is a place for you to work in an exciting environment with opportunities for personal and professional growth. We offer



diverse employment opportunities set in a family-friendly employee culture, all while serving our members in Bryan, Liberty, Long and McIntosh counties. To see current career opportunities, visit www.CoastalElectric.Coop/careers.



Annual Meeting highlights,

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Electric member since 1954 and has lived in the area since before the town's name was changed from Ways Station to Richmond Hill.

In addition, 1,242 members submitted their emails and were put into a drawing for \$250. The winner was Calvin Stewart of Townsend, who promptly asked to donate his winnings to Coastal Electric's Helping Hands Fund, which is used to aid

local people in crisis.

Members reelected incumbent directors Kyle Christiansen (Bryan County), Holly Fields (Liberty County) and Chuck Gaskin (McIntosh and Long counties) to new three-year terms on the board.

You can find the video from the virtual Annual Meeting on Coastal Electric's YouTube channel and Facebook page.



Congratulations to Calvin Stewart, who won a \$250 drawing for submitting his email address during Member Appreciation Days! He promptly asked to donate his winnings to our Helping Hands Fund, which is used to aid local people in crisis.



Teachers: You can earn up to \$2,000 for your classroom!

Apply for a Bright Ideas grant to help bring your innovative classroom project ideas to life. For more information and to apply, visit CoastalElectric.Coop/bright-ideas or scan the QR code below.

The deadline for applications is **Wednesday, Aug. 31.**

Bright Ideas grants are made possible by the generosity of Coastal Electric members who participate in Operation Round Up, and the Coastal Electric Cooperative Foundation.



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