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"OWNED BY THOSE WE SERVE"

*Micah 5:2*

*King James Version*

<sup>2</sup> But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah,  
though thou be little among the  
thousands of Judah, yet out of  
thee shall he come forth unto me  
that is to be ruler in Israel; whose  
goings forth have been from of  
old, from everlasting.

**“In seed time learn, in harvest time teach,  
in winter enjoy.”**  
—William Blake

# OREMC 32 Annual Golf Tournament

Benefitting the Southeast Cancer Unit, Inc.

**Thank you to our sponsors and players!**

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Heritage Oaks Golf Course  
Tallman Equipment Company  
The Lakes Course at Laura S. Walker State Park

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## OREMC Golf Tournament Sets Fundraising Record Plans in play for 2024 Tournament—April 27

During this season of thanks and giving, OREMC is beyond thrilled to announce the 32nd Annual Golf Tournament—presented by Oglethorpe Power/Georgia Transmission Corporation/Georgia System Operations—held on October 14 has been the biggest yet, resulting in \$25,000 to the Southeast Cancer Unit, Inc. These funds will directly benefit cancer patients undergoing treatment in Brantley, Pierce and Ware counties with medical and travel expenses related to their care.

“We are thrilled our golf tournament has set a new fundraising record,” exclaimed Michele Hutchins, OREMC communications/marketing. “Our team puts so much heart and soul into making the tournament a great experience for our golfers who are all very generous when it comes to buying into contests and raffles. And our sponsors and donors continue to step up and support the event, which helps offset costs in order to maximize the donation we are able to make. We simply can’t thank everyone enough!”

In a recent episode of OREMC’s *Plugged In* Podcast, Linda Henderson, coordinator of the Brantley Branch of the Southeast Cancer Unit, Inc., said, “Fundraising has been difficult since COVID. We have less volunteers and haven’t been able to do many of the activities we’ve done in the past. We appreciate OREMC so much and all the hard work that goes into the tournament to make the donations possible.”

Tournament sponsors and donors have played a key role in ramping up OREMC’s fundraising efforts. In addition to the presenting sponsor, major sponsors included: EnerVision, Links/Hospitality Sponsor; Balch & Bingham, LLP, Range Sponsor; Altec, Towel Sponsor; Southeastern Bank, Golf Ball Sponsor; Cart Sponsors Asplundh, Davison Farms, Inc., Mike’s Golf Carts, Greer Wealth Advisors, Irby Utilities and Pike Electric; and Fairway Sponsors Tri-State Utility Products, Helena Agri-Enterprises, Meridian Cooperative and Mountaineer Electric. A special thank you also goes to player Pat Shelton for his donation of potato salad to feed the golfers and volunteers.

In 2024 the tournament is being moved back to spring and the 33rd Annual Golf Tournament is Saturday, April 27 at The Lakes, Laura S. Walker State Park. Mark your calendars and prepare to chip in!





## OREMC Host Site for Glynn County Teacher Externship Program

For the second year in a row, OREMC participated in the Glynn County Teacher Externship program, hosting five Glynn County educators over two days, immersing them in the day-to-day operations and getting to know the people behind the power. From a ride in a bucket, feeling the weight of the lineworker's utility belt, being briefed on the "big screen" in the Control Center and seeing a demonstration of a self-healing electric system of the future, the educators quickly realized there was more to electricity than simply flipping a switch.

The strong sense of family and the communication between employees, often without saying a word to one another, were two things that stood out to Dr. Katie Beth Brooks, assistant professor of English at the College of Coastal Georgia; Porscha Morgan, second grade teacher at Burroughs-Molette Elementary School; Deborah Gilfillan, sixth grade English, language arts and writing at Risley Middle School; Cynthia Gonzalez, ACCESS teacher at Brunswick High School; and Eric Benson, assistant superintendent grades 6-12.

They began day one with an overview of OREMC history, electric membership cooperatives and the cooperative form of business. Following

that they met with the management team and human resources to better understand roles, cooperative culture, OREMC policies, procedures, training and educational requirements for various positions.

From there they got a bit more up close and personal look at the people behind the power at OREMC and learned about employees' individual jobs and journeys. They learned that there were many different paths to jobs at OREMC, as some employees started as high school students, others advanced through on-the-job training and some required college degrees.

The teachers also traveled to a job site where a line crew was building a new service location.

Rounding out day one was a power switching operation in the dispatch/communications center. This demonstrated the process and communications between dispatchers and the linemen in the substations routing/rerouting power across the OREMC system. It also highlighted the IT connectivity of OREMC's distribution system through Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition or SCADA.

*Continued on Page 3.*



## Your Member Benefit: Capital Credits

For the 63rd consecutive year, Okefenokee REMC will be issuing capital credits to our consumer-members. OREMC's Board of Directors have authorized to refund the balance of patronage capital from 1996 and 1997 and a portion from 1998 totaling \$1,448,687.93, as well as an estate allocation of \$250,000 for a total of \$1,698,687.93 Checks will be mailed to members in December.

**Note: not all current members will receive capital credit checks in December.**

- Refunds are only to consumer-members who received electric service from OREMC between 1996 and 1998.
- Refunds of \$50 or less will be made as an account credit instead of by check.
- Refunds of less than \$5 on inactive accounts will be held and refunded at such time the total refund is more than \$5.

Checks issued to deceased members should be forwarded to heirs or an estate administrator. They can work with our Member Services Department to determine eligibility for a lump-sum payment of all accrued capital credits based on OREMC's Estate Refund policy. Call 800-262-5131 for more information.

## Member Benefit

OREMC has returned \$30.6 million in patronage capital to members since 1960---\$1.6 million in 2023. Because electric co-ops operate at cost, any excess revenues are allocated and retired to our members in the form of capital credits.



## Externship Program Continued

Day two began bright and early meeting with the crew at the Kingsland district office. Chatting with the lineman, the teachers got a chance to try on some of the protective gear, including rubber gloves, sleeves, climbing and tool belts. Then they were given a pole climbing and pole-top rescue demonstration, followed by a boat ride out to the 3.5 miles of line running from the mainland under two rivers and across the marsh to serve consumer-members living on Cumberland and Little Cumberland islands. There were questions about regarding the 45 poles, how they were outfitted, how long it took to build and who climbed which poles. The fact that Cumberland Island didn't get electric service until the 1960s was eye-opening in itself.

The purpose of the externship experience is to connect educators with business and industry to better understand how workforce needs and classroom learning connect. Doing so helps educators provide context for students, helping them understand how reading, writing, face-to-face communication, math, science and organization skills can be used in the real world. It also helps teachers give students a broader perspective on the different types of jobs available and the skills/education necessary to do those jobs.



## Get Plugged In!

Stay up-to-date on the latest OREMC initiatives and community involvement by tuning into our *Plugged In* podcast. You can listen on Amazon, Apple, Google or Spotify or watch/listen on YouTube. Use the QR code to access our playlist and learn about your co-op, the community and our shared connections. Recent episodes include conversations with the Southeast Cancer Unit, Inc., Golden Isles Veterans Village in Brunswick and OREMC's Manager of Engineering Darren Crews about building out OREMC's distribution system.



## OREMC Is Mobile

Want quicker, easier access to your OREMC account when you are on the go? Then download the MyOREMC mobile app. Use the appropriate QR code below to install the app on your phone.

**MyOREMC for Apple – for Android**



## Church of the Month

**Everett City Baptist Church**

11519 New Jesup Hwy • Brunswick, GA 31523-5727  
Bill Mannin, Pastor

Sunday School	9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship	11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship	6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Evening	7:00 p.m.

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

MARK	JANUARY 29 <b>2024</b> OREMC SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE
	Apply online at <b>OREMC.COM</b>
CALENDAR	YOUR YOUTH TOUR DEADLINE FEBRUARY 12 <b>2024</b>

## Youth Tour/Scholarship Deadlines

Need money for college? Interested in a national youth leadership experience with students from across the county? Then get your applications ready for OREMC Scholarships—we award 10 every year—and the National Youth Tour Leadership Experience. Be sure to check our website for the application deadline dates in early 2024 at [oremc.com](http://oremc.com).