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

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"OWNED BY THOSE WE SERVE"

A recipe from our newsletter vault - February 1976

## Coconut Cream Pie

### Ingredients:

**Custard**  
2/3 cup sugar  
5 Tbsp. flour  
1/4 tsp. salt  
2 cups milk  
1 baked 9 inch pie shell

**Meringue**  
3 egg whites  
1/2 cup flake coconut  
4 Tbsp. sugar

**Directions**  
Combine sugar, flour and salt in a saucepan. Add the milk and egg yolks, mix thoroughly. Cook for 10 minutes, stirring constantly. Add coconut and vanilla, remove from heat and cool. Pour into pie shell. *Meringue:* Beat egg whites until soft peaks form, then slowly adding sugar, beat until stiff. Spread on pie and sprinkle with coconut. Bake at 425° until brown.

### Have a favorite recipe?

Send us your favorite recipes! Email to Jen Shuman at [recipes@oremc.com](mailto:recipes@oremc.com). If yours is selected as the featured recipe for our Nov./Dec. issue, you'll receive a \$25.00 account credit.



### 1 Samuel 16:7 (KJV)

"But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart."



## Church of the Month

### Shining Light

### Church of God by Faith

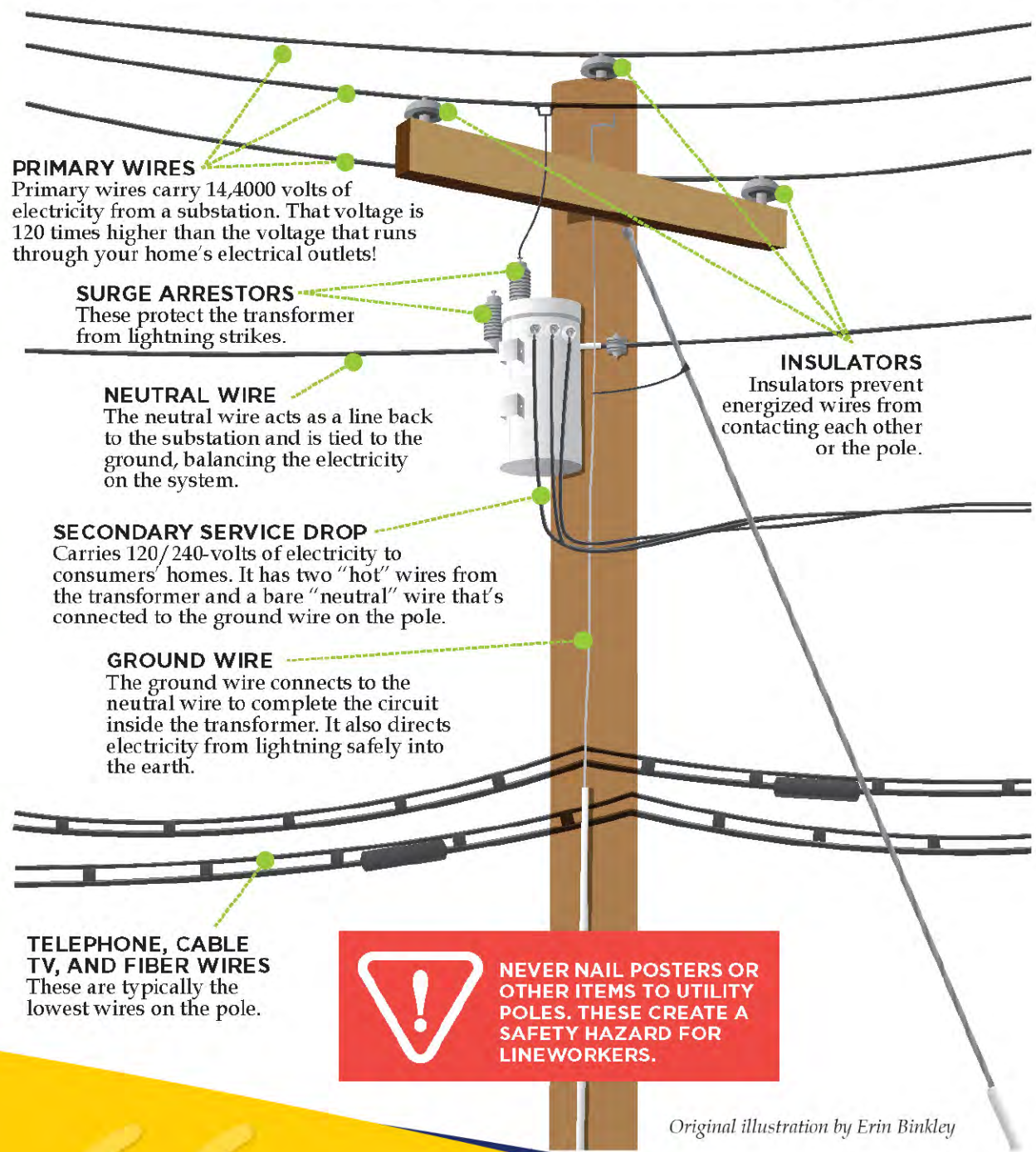
Sunday School	9:30 A.M.
Morning Worship	11 A.M.
Youth Service	(4th Sunday) 11 A.M.
Tuesday Prayer / Bible Studies	7:30 P.M.
Second Sunday Home Mission	11 A.M.

Pastor: Elder Fredrick L. Henry  
153091 County Rd. 108  
Yulee, Florida 32097-2292

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).

# WHAT'S ON THAT POLE?

This illustration shows the basic equipment found on electric utility poles. The equipment varies according to the location and the service they provide.



**NEVER NAIL POSTERS OR OTHER ITEMS TO UTILITY POLES. THESE CREATE A SAFETY HAZARD FOR LINEWORKERS.**

Original illustration by Erin Binkley

Beauty is not in the face;  
beauty is a light in the heart."

-Kahlil Gibran

### 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](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](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).



VOLUME 71, NUMBER 5 • SEPT/OCT 2019

# OKEFENOKE REMC

## OREMC Holds 80<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting

"Eighty years ago, five determined, forward-thinking and persuasive residents came together to incorporate Okefenokee Rural Electric Membership Corporation. They were going to do for themselves and their neighbors what no investor-owned utility would do—bring electricity to their homes and farms."

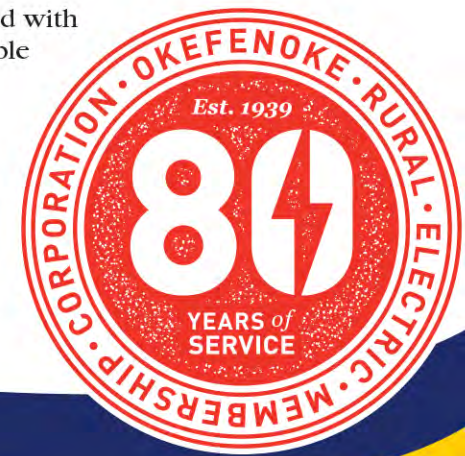
That is how Wayne Combs, president, Okefenokee REMC Board of Directors, set the stage for the opening of OREMC's 2019 Annual Meeting. He reflected on the power of community to come together for a common good, invest in a brighter tomorrow and significantly impact everyday life. While much has changed since September 5, 1939 when the petition for incorporation was officially signed creating OREMC, the co-op is still owned by the very people it serves, powering the lives of 29,000 consumer-members in eight counties in Southeast Georgia and Northeast Florida.



General Manager John Middleton followed up with a report on the financial health of OREMC. Overall OREMC ended the year on June 30 with an increase in owner's equity, operating revenue and patronage capital over the previous year, and a decrease in operating expenses, largely due to a decrease in the cost of purchased power and maintenance expenses related to storm restoration in 2018. For the 12 months ending June 30, 2019 the cooperative's net margins were \$4,782,000, up \$2,106,000 from the prior year.

Mr. Middleton added, "One of the primary benefits of being a cooperative consumer-member is that service is provided at cost. Although we are required to have positive operating margins to maintain financial stability, excess margins are returned to our members in the form of capital credits. I am proud to report that in the last year we returned \$1,419,000 to our members. Okefenokee REMC has refunded capital credits for 58 consecutive years. Total refunds now stand at \$24,259,000."

Following the official business of the meeting, members waited with excitement to hear their name called for one of 90 prizes available in a random drawing, including two grand prizes of \$500 each. Winners were Debbie McKinnon of Hoboken, Georgia and Marion Cribbs of Hilliard, Florida. The most senior lady and gentleman in attendance were also given prizes: Barbara Johns, 93, of Nahunta, Georgia and Jonathan Carter, 98, Woodbine, Georgia. Every registered member attending the annual meeting received a cast iron skillet customized with OREMC's 80th anniversary graphic.





October is National Co-op Month.

## By the Community, For the Community

When you think of October, pumpkins, Halloween and beautiful fall foliage naturally come to mind. But October is notable for another reason – it's National Co-op Month! This is the time of year when cooperatives across the country, including Okefenoke REMC celebrate who we are and more importantly, the consumer-members we serve.

Cooperatives are different than other types of businesses. OREMC was built by members who came together to bring electricity to our community—cooperatives are unifiers for the common good. Your electric co-op exists to provide safe, reliable and affordable energy to you, the members of the co-op. Equally important is our mission to enrich the lives of the members we serve.

Our close connection to the community ensures we get a first-hand perspective on local priorities, thereby enabling us to make more informed decisions on long-term investments, such

as community solar programs, equipment and technology upgrades and electric vehicle programs.

Another feature that sets our co-op apart from a traditional utility is one of our core principles, "Concern for Community." We think of OREMC not just as your energy provider, but as a local partner that supports our communities and powers economic development and prosperity for the people.

We partner with local organizations like local economic development authorities and education boards, as well as support youth groups, little leagues, community service organizations and other worthy programs. We participate in the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour, where we take our community's brightest young people to Washington, D.C. for a week-long immersion to experience democracy in action.

We are today just as we were 80 years ago—*by* the community, *for* the community.

## Scenes From the Annual Meeting

Member Services Representative Dewayne Johns presents prizes to the most senior lady and gentleman in attendance. Youth tour Delegates Sydney Starling and Black McIlwain register children for their safety IDs. Meter Technician Aldean Hodges serves members coffee while Engineer Kane Lee speaks to a member about Cooperative Solar.



OREMC Board Director Craig Morgan presents Dr. Brett McDaniel, principal, Wayne County High School, the GHS Cooperative Spirit Sportsmanship Award. Also pictured (l-r) Nicole Landon, athletic secretary; Dr. Jay Brinson, superintendent, Wayne County Schools; Carson Anderson; Hannah Landon; Julya Thomas and Snapper Daniels.

## OREMC Presents Wayne County High School GHS Sportsmanship Award

From figuring out their next steps in life to juggling extracurricular activities and schoolwork, high school students have much to accomplish all while they develop their character and habits that will shape the rest of their lives. For those who engage in athletic activities, this is amplified by the spotlight often put on student-athletes in many communities. Georgia high schools work to equip these young adults with the ability to compete with exemplary sportsmanship and class.

Electric cooperatives also strive to improve the lives of young people and understand the importance of shaping and recognizing the leaders of tomorrow. That is why Okefenoke REMC is proud to announce Wayne County High School in Jesup, Georgia as a winner of a 2018-2019 Georgia High School Association (GHS) Cooperative Spirit Sportsmanship Award.

"Every choice a person makes effects what happens down the road," says Dewayne Johns, OREMC member services representative and GHS coordinator. "Teaching student-athletes about character, about treating others with respect, even when it's hard or if the other person may not deserve it, instills a better attitude in these future leaders that won't go unnoticed. We are so proud to be able to recognize those who demonstrate these great qualities and encourage them to continue in the future."

Read more online at [oremc.com/news](http://oremc.com/news).

## Annual Report Available Online

A digital version of the 2019 Annual Report is available online at [oremc.com/news](http://oremc.com/news). You can also request a copy by emailing your name and address to [michele.hutchins@oremc.com](mailto:michele.hutchins@oremc.com).



## Winter Rates Go in Effect October 1

Winter billing rates will go into effect on October 1, equalizing the cost per kilowatt hour regardless of usage. This is an offset to the two-tier rates in effect during the summer months, which saw an increase in per kWh cost to 11.77 when monthly usage was over 1,000 kWh. The two-tier rates were established to encourage energy conservation during peak demand times. A higher demand for electricity during the summer months can result in higher wholesale power costs year-round.

In addition to the cost per kilowatt hour, all bills carry a flat, monthly basic facilities charge of \$30 the cost for maintaining our distribution system and service facilities—plus applicable power cost adjustments and sales tax.

### Winter Rates

Effective October 1, 2019 - May 31, 2020

0-1,000 kWh	9.58 cents per kWh
Over 1,000 kWh	9.58 cents per kWh

## 2018 Capital Credits Assigned

One of the benefits of being a consumer-member of a not-for-profit electric cooperative is you are an owner who has a stake in the financial success of Okefenoke REMC through capital credits. Capital credits are calculated by taking OREMC's previous year's annual margins (revenue minus expenses) and are allocated to each member of record based on their total billing that year.

Capital credits are retained by OREMC for operating capital before being retired and paid back to our consumer-members. The money is used instead of borrowing capital, which reduces the co-op's interest expense, ultimately saving you money.

Margins are also assigned to OREMC by other cooperatives we are a member of, such as our power suppliers. These margins are also assigned as capital credits to members based on their total annual billing.

OREMC's margins for 2018 totaled \$2,464,963.12, plus an additional \$1,750,857.20 in margins from our power suppliers resulting in a total annual margin of \$4,215,820.32. To calculate your capital credit assignment for 2018, multiply the total amount you were billed in 2018, minus taxes, by .05977 percent.

For example:

<b>Total 2018 billing (less taxes)</b>	<b>Multiplied by percentage</b>	<b>Equals your capital credit assignment</b>
<b>\$750</b>	<b>.05977</b>	<b>\$44.83</b>