April 2017 GreyStone Member News



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A Look at GreyStone's Power Network



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#### **MILLER'S MINUTE** YOUR COMMUNITY PARTNER

Thank you for allowing GreyStone Power to bring your homes and businesses to life every day. While electricity is the main product we deliver to you, we realize that real power comes from making life better for the people we serve.

That's why we work hard to attract new businesses with their associated jobs, and retain existing businesses, through our economic development team. It's why we offer prescription savings and other shopping discounts. It's why we award scholarships to promising local student leaders and partner with area schools. It's also why together we help our neighbors through money you donate to Operation Round Up.

Community service reflects our values and is how we give back to others, states one of GreyStone's guiding principles. We support our community because it's the right thing to do.

In coming months, you will hear about some of the efforts we make in the community to make life better for us all. We believe powering our community goes beyond providing safe, reliable electricity. It means partnering with the community we serve.

Garv Miller President/CEO



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The GreyStone Connection, which wraps GEORGIA Magazine, is a quarterly newsletter published by GreyStone Power to keep you informed about the cooperative you own.

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Milton Jones, Chair, District 7, Fulton County Maribeth Wansley, Vice Chair, District 6, Fulton, Favette, Coweta counties Jim Johns, Secretary-Treasurer, District 8, Douglas County Genevieve Cole, District 1, Paulding, Bartow counties John Walton, District 2, Paulding County David Hagenow, District 3, Douglas, Paulding counties Neal Dettmering, District 4, Carroll, Douglas counties Jennifer DeNyse, District 5, Carroll, Douglas counties Lucy Andres, District 9, Cobb County

#### EXECUTIVE STAFF

Gary A. Miller, President/CEO Michael Moore, Vice President, Power Supply Kara Pearson, Vice President, Financial Services Bill Sharpton, Vice President, Operations & Engineering Tim Williams, Vice President, Marketing & External Affairs James Wright, Vice President, Corporate Services

#### COMMUNICATIONS STAFF

Amanda Busby Adam Elrod Vicki Harshbarger Ashley Kinnard, Editor, The GreyStone Connection Trisha McBee

#### LOCATIONS

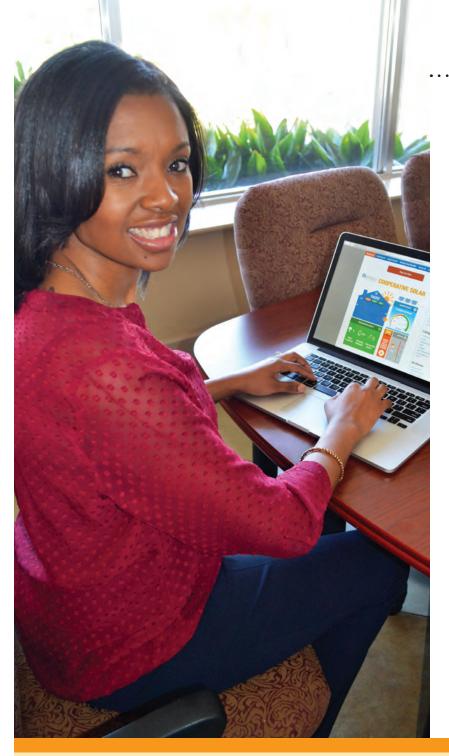
4040 Bankhead Highway	120 GreyStone Power Boulevard
Douglasville, GA 30134	Dallas, GA 30157

#### CONTACT US

Main 770-942-6576 Outage 1-866-GREYSTONE (473-9786)

#### OTHER WAYS WE SERVE YOU

Co-op Connections® Card, 770-370-2436 EMC Security, 770-370-2030 Gas South, 1-866-563-8129 GEMC Federal Credit Union, 770-949-3557, 770-445-2800 Operation Round Up®, 770-370-2066 SurgeMaster Plus, 770-370-2070



In its first month of soaking up the sun, our solar farm generated more than 126,000 kilowatt-hours (kWh). The positive environmental impact equals more than 720 trees planted, 3 million phones charged and more than 140,000 pounds of pollution averted.

With sunnier months ahead, members can expect the generation to be even higher in coming months. This will help

participating members offset the \$25 per month charge for GreyStone's Cooperative Solar program, since these members receive a credit for their solar-powered generation. Learn more about the program at greystonepower.com/solar. Electric membership cooperatives

throughout Georgia are seeing the benefits of Cooperative Solar and are launching similar programs for their members.

# AROUND GREYSTONE DASHBOARD

Solar power is a hot item for GreyStone members. The co-op's Cooperative Solar program sold out the 750 blocks available in just over a month, and in January, those inaugural 750 purchasers began to be billed for their solar block(s). Participating members receive a credit for their solar-powered generation, which should cover most of the cost by year's end.

The latest exciting Cooperative Solar development is the online dashboard, which offers data on how much power the GreyStone solar farm is generating. Members can view the dashboard at greystonepower.com/solar.

Members can toggle among data for the day, month and year to view the amount of kilowatthours produced during those time periods.

With live data from the solar field and a weather widget, members can see the correlation between weather and solar energy generation.

Another feature of the dashboard is a widget that shows the positive environmental impact of the solar farm. Members can see the number of trees planted and pollution avoided through generating power at the "green" energy source in Paulding County.



# Providing Reliable Power

#### A LOOK AT **GREYSTONE'S** POWER **NETWORK**

#### Over GreyStone's 80-year history, a modern, reliable distribution system has been built

to provide power to you, our residential and business memberowners. Advancements include automated devices, which:

- · Limit the number of members impacted when outages occur
- · Enable the system to self-heal to the extent possible
- · Allow GreyStone to read meters remotely

#### Your 250 dedicated employees

Are available

to respond

24/7

365 days/year

Live locally to provide rapid response

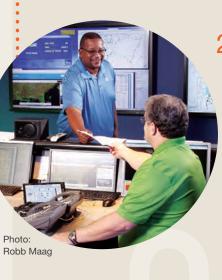
**Continually** StriVe to improve the system which delivers your service



"Reliability is key to providing the type of service you, our members desire and deserve," says President/CEO Gary Miller. "It is something we work on every day. When you flip the switch, you want the lights to come on! We do everything possible to make sure that happens. Sometimes Mother Nature interferes with your service. When it does, we are at the ready to respond. We appreciate your patience during those times."

#### What happens when your power does go out?

Operators become aware of outages through calls or monitoring systems.



Linemen check and repair transmission towers and lines and repair damage to restore power to the most people as quickly as possible.

- power to large numbers of people.
- 5 Tap lines which carry power to power poles or underground transformers are checked and repairs made. Locations needing assistance are prioritized based on restoring service to the greatest number of members.

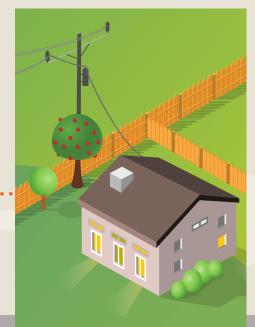
6 Service lines between home or business and the transformer are repaired. ....

- By this time, most power is restored. Remaining individual outages are checked and repairs made.
- Restoration times vary based on damage and amount of time needed to make repairs.



3 Substation damage is checked and damages repaired to restore

A Main distribution supply lines are checked and repaired.



### Celebrating





Three seats on the GreyStone Board of Directors are up for election in 2017. The winners will be announced Saturday, Oct. 14, at the Annual Meeting of Members.

#### HOW TO BECOME A CANDIDATE

Eligible members may become a candidate by being nominated by the Nominating Committee, or by nomination by petition of members. To be considered by the Nominating Committee, call 770-370-2080 for the application forms and instructions. The deadline to submit the completed forms to the Nominating Committee is Friday, April 21, at 5 p.m.

An eligible member may also be nominated by submitting a petition signed by 50 or more GreyStone members of record (the name must appear on the electric bill). Call 770-370-2080 to request a petition or print the online petition at greystonepower.com. The deadline to submit the completed petition and required candidate affidavit, also available on the website, is Thursday, July 6.

#### NOMINEE REQUIREMENTS

All nominees are subject to a criminal background check, must live within the geographic boundary of the district they seek to represent and must meet all other conditions of eligibility.

Candidates desiring to have their name and biographical information included in the Annual Meeting ballot edition must submit information in the format and manner required by the Credentials and Elections Committee by Wednesday, July 12. If you are unable to determine the district in which you reside, or need additional information, call GreyStone's independent legal counsel, Steve Minor, at 770-214-5108.

#### Find local businesses and save

Let the Co-op Connections<sup>®</sup> Card (CCC) mobile app help you find businesses near you that offer special discounts just for GreyStone Power members! The GPS feature can even help with directions!



#### Healthy Savings helps your wallet

Let the CCC help you get healthy and save money this year! Members have saved over \$2.2 million in prescriptions alone! Discounts are also available for vision, hearing, dental, chiropractic and lab and imaging services.

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#### Celebrate and win

Make plans to celebrate 10 years with us! Stay tuned to Facebook to see what CCC business we are going to each month. Be one of the first 10 to come and show your CCC and win a special treat on us!

(C) 770-370-2273

@ ccc@greystonepower.com

connections.coop/greystonepower

**JOIN US** 

IN SAVING

## AROUND GREYSTONE BOARD ELECTIONS



**DIRECTORS SEEKING RE-ELECTION THIS YEAR** John Walton, District 2, Paulding County; Maribeth Wansley, District 6, Fulton, Fayette and Coweta counties; and Milton Jones, District 7, Fulton County.

MEMBERS OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE Tony Wilson, District 1; Beatrice McClung, District 2; James S. Smith, District 3; Pat Skinner, District 4; David Boatright, District 5; Laurie Searle, District 6; Harold Reid, District 7; Ed McCray, District 8; and Kathy Boehm, District 9.

## EFFICIENCY 101 FILTER **Bas**

Hassles. Seems like we all want to simplify our lives, but the hassles just keep coming. Well, GreyStone Power is offering a simple way for you to keep the air in your home cleaner, replace those pesky filters that need replacing when they get dirty and have them delivered—in just the right sizes and types—right to your door! And you'll receive the first ones FREE, compliments of GreyStone Power, as well as a 20 percent discount on following deliveries, also compliments of GreyStone, on the schedule you determine!

Welcome FilterEasy, a program to help residential members replace air filters periodically, which will also help keep your heating and air equipment running at peak efficiency.

"Replacing your filters is the most important low-cost investment you can make to save energy dollars, protect the air quality and comfort level of your home and protect your heating and cooling equipment," says Rudy Echols, department manager of Residential Energy Services for GreyStone. "The U.S. Department of Energy says you can reduce heating and cooling costs by 5 to 15 percent annually by changing your furnace filter properly and on a timely basis."

Visit FilterEasy.com/greystone to learn more and to set up your first order.



#### FREE EE101 HELPS MEMBERS SAVE!

GreyStone's free Energy Efficiency 101 (EE101) seminars have helped many members find simple ways to save energy at home and lower their energy costs.

Our next EE101 will be Tuesday, April 11, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., in GreyStone's Auditorium, located at our main office at 4040 Bankhead Highway, Douglasville.

Visit greystonepower.com and check out our Save Money/ Energy section to register for the event and learn more.

### leaving a legacy **ED CAHILL**

There are some pillars of our community who do so much, in so many ways, that it's hard to know where to begin to list the contributions they have made. Ed Cahill, GreyStone director of economic development, is one of those people.

Cahill was honored by the Paulding County Chamber of Commerce in January with an award created in his honor called the Leaving a Legacy Award. Paulding Chamber President Stacy Hamby said, "This individual has been a shining light in our community for economic and community progress. I can truly say that Paulding County would not be the county it is today without his leadership and passion for this community."



Cahill has served as vice chairman and

Equal

Opportunity

Employer

board member on the Paulding County Economic Development Board of Directors, helping to bring quality business and industry to Paulding and representing Paulding's most successful businesses in the health care, utility, finance, real estate and small business sectors. He supported the school system by serving on the Paulding County Education Foundation, as well as serving on the West Georgia STEM Board.

He served the Paulding County Chamber as board member, chairman and interim president multiple times. As a spokesperson for the chamber, he has helped enhance Paulding's quality of life.

> "This individual has been a shining



If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\_filling\_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form.

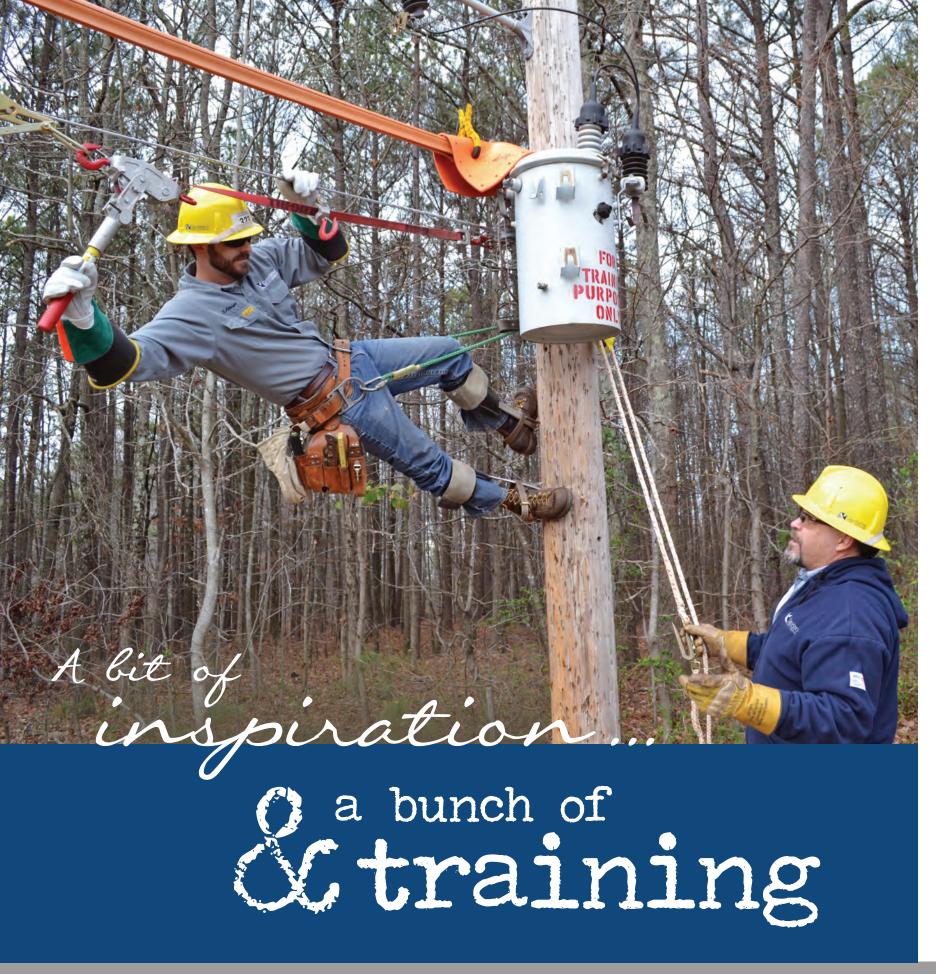
You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your complete complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.



Cahill became one of the charter members of the Board of Directors of the Paulding County Economic Development Team and still serves on the board today.

He has been integral in helping move the Richland Creek Reservoir forward, as well as the WellStar Paulding Hospital and the Paulding Northwest Atlanta Airport. He has been instrumental in garnering business financial support and new membership for the chamber.

#### GreyStone Power is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



#### **BECOMING A LINEMAN**

GreyStone Power Apprentice Lineman IV Sam Albright remembers when his father, Pat, set a pole in their yard, so Sam could practice climbing before he headed off to "lineman school." Sam was inspired by Pat, a lineman at neighboring electric co-op Carroll EMC. He grew up dreaming of following in his father's footsteps, and he relished the thrill of linework and doing a job that is known to be dangerous.

After completing a 15-week training program at the Southeast Lineman Training Center (SLTC) in North Georgia, Albright had the knowledge he needed to work for GreyStone. With years of experience and training at the co-op, he is on the verge of moving from an apprentice to a lineman.

Today, Operations Skills Development Coordinator Jack Rider works closely with GreyStone apprentices to help them learn skills they can use on a day-to-day basis. Formerly a lineman himself, Rider was promoted to the new training position last summer.

Albright says when he was starting out as an apprentice, much of his valuable training came from participation in Lineman's Rodeos. Every spring, linemen and apprentices from GreyStone participate in the Georgia Lineman's Rodeo, which reinforces safe work practices. GreyStone sends its top performing teams to the International Lineman's Rodeo in the fall each year to compete against teams from around the world.

At the rodeos, linemen compete in events such as the hurt-man rescue, which simulates an emergency situation. Linemen must safely climb a pole and lower a dummy to the ground while trying to do so in the fastest time. Every competition also has mystery events, where linemen perform a variety of tasks as safely and quickly as possible.

Last year, Albright led the team that won best overall at the Georgia Lineman's Rodeo. He was nominated by a co-worker and won GreyStone's Chairman's Award, which recognizes and honors employees who best reflect the spirit of GreyStone through exemplary service to cooperative members and the community.

Albright's community involvement goes beyond GreyStone's eight-county service area. Following damaging storms, he has helped out-of-state co-op members with power restoration efforts, including a trip to Tallahassee, Florida, last year. His Chairman's Award nominator says, "He is always willing and ready to go out of town to work storms when needed. Always having a positive attitude, he is a true asset to any crew he is assigned to."

Apprentice Lineman IV Sam Albright, left, listens to instruction from Operations Skills Development Coordinator Jack Rider.



## **P@WERING** Our Community



#### Your Community Partner

From attracting new jobs and retaining existing business, to prescription savings and other shopping discounts, from scholarships for local students, to helping neighbors through Operation Round Up<sup>®</sup> and partnering with area schools, GreyStone Power is <u>your</u> Community Partner.

Because real power comes from making life better for the people we serve.

