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Georgia[®]

MAGAZINE


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www.georgiamagazine.org



Photo Credit: Robb Maag

MILLER'S MINUTE

CREATING SAFETY AWARENESS

At Greystone, we encourage employees to put safety first in everything they do, whether at home or at work.

We also want our members and their families to be safe, which is why our employees participate in community and school events to educate children about the dangers of electricity.

With our interactive Safety City display, our linemen demonstrate real-life, relatable scenarios involving electricity. It is a valuable teaching tool for educating children about hazardous situations.

Throughout the year, our linemen also participate in touch-a-truck events, where children are taught about the importance of wearing proper safety gear. These events give insight into career opportunities in the electric utility industry as well.

We encourage parents to have conversations with their children on being safe around electricity. Mark your calendar now for our Annual Meeting on Oct. 12, when we will have more opportunities for children and our members to learn about safety and linework.

We are invested in the lives of our future Greystone members and committed to working toward a safe future for all.

- Gary

Gary Miller,
President/CEO

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

Jim Johns, Chairman, District 8, Douglas County

Genevieve Cole, Vice Chairman, District 1, Paulding and Bartow counties

David Hagenow, Secretary-Treasurer, District 3, Douglas and Paulding counties

John Walton, District 2, Paulding County

Neal Dettmering, District 4, Carroll and Douglas counties

Billy Mayhew, District 5, Carroll and Douglas counties

Maribeth Wansley, District 6, Fulton, Fayette and Coweta counties

Milton Jones, District 7, Fulton County

Lucy Andres, District 9, Cobb County

LOCATIONS

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OTHER WAYS WE SERVE YOU

Co-op Connections® Card, 770-370-2436

EMC Security, 770-370-2030

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GEMC Credit Union, 770-949-3557, 770-445-2800

Operation Round Up®, 770-370-2080

SurgeMaster Plus, 770-370-2070

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DOWNLOAD OUR APPS

The Greystone Power app allows you to pay your bill, view billing history and electricity use, and verify payments. The Outage Helper app lets you report an outage, receive live restoration times and view an outage map. Download both apps from the App Store or Google Play on your mobile devices.

FIND THE BOLT AND ENTER TO WIN!

Find the hidden lightning bolt (⚡) in the following Greystone pages and send us an email to MemberMatters@greystonepower.com with the subject line: Find the Bolt!

Include the following information in the email: the page you found the lightning bolt on, your full name, your phone number and your member account number. You will be entered into a drawing for a \$50 Visa gift card.

Not available in the EU

COMMUNITY SUPPORT



Above, GreyStone Power employees Cathy Wedell and Trisha McBee sort 500 pounds of rice. Below, Gail Long and Shonder Miller sort clothes for the ministry.



In March, several GreyStone Power employees took the day to give of their time assisting a local organization, the Warehouse of Hope (WOH), which is supported by Operation Round Up through the GreyStone Power Foundation, Inc.

Located at 100 Hunter Road in Paulding County, the WOH is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit food and clothing ministry, which was founded in 1994. More than 600-800 families in need visit the facility during a typical week to help meet their needs.

During the summer, WOH also partners with MUST Ministries to provide around 300 lunches to children, while also assisting the Paulding County School System with their Backpack Program. Through the donations that are received, they have even been able to assist Paulding Pregnancy and a local homeless ministry.

While volunteering, the GreyStone Gives team sorted clothing, stocked food shelves and portioned out rice. The team prepared 500 pounds of rice in just two hours, which normally takes the WOH four days to complete.

Through our GreyStone Gives program, each employee is allowed eight hours a year to volunteer with an approved 501(c)(3) organization.

Retired board director passes away

Ed Garrard of Powder Springs, Ga., was a man of many hats and beloved stories. He served in the U.S. Army Air Forces from 1943 to 1946, and was recommended for the Bronze Star for Meritorious Performance of Duty. He was a graduate of Atlanta Law School and owned his own real estate company, Garrard Realty, for 60 years.

Garrard also served as a Georgia state senator from 1967 until 1976. But it is the 18 years he served District 9 (Cobb County) as a member of the Board of Directors for GreyStone Power for which we know him best. Garrard passed away on March 28, 2019, at the age of 95. Survivors include three children, six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.



the next generation & *electrical safety*

Director of Safety and Loss Control Jarred Stevens shares his gloves with a local student during a Safety City presentation.

One of the seven cooperative principles is education, training and information, and electric cooperatives like GreyStone Power can often be found in the community sharing knowledge that benefits their members.

GreyStone employees visit schools in the co-op's service area throughout the year to teach children about electricity, safety and career opportunities. GreyStone's Director of Safety and Loss Control Jarred Stevens visited North Douglas Elementary School in the spring, where he gave about 10 Safety City presentations to students alongside Lead Lineman Jared Childers.

Safety City is an interactive display that demonstrates the dangers of electricity using real-life scenarios.

"These scenarios are relatable to most kids, which initially grabs their attention. Next, we show them what can potentially happen inside each scenario. When they see and hear the electrical arcs and fires, their eyes really light up and the gears start spinning in their heads. It really gets them thinking, asking questions and learning about the real dangers of electricity," says Stevens.

One of the biggest dangers children face when it comes to electricity, Stevens says, is not understanding how dangerous it can be.

"Electricity is different than most other hazards in that many times you cannot see it or hear it. By the time you realize you have made a mistake, it is too late. Children are naturally curious. When it comes to electricity, this curiosity should be studied through questions with professionals, not through personal exploration," he adds.

GreyStone's company-wide safety program encourages employees to look for and report hazards, and Stevens says he hopes to create that same awareness with children who see the Safety City presentation. He encourages students to always be observant.

"Look around and try to think about potential hazards. If you see a hazard, speak up!" he tells them.

For anyone encountering a downed power line, Stevens says to assume it is energized and dangerous.

"Stay as far away as possible and call 911. Only an experienced lineman has the training necessary to determine if a downed line is safe to be around."



STORM SAFETY

tips



Stay away from downed power lines! Do not attempt to remove or trim foliage within 10 feet of a power line. All lines should be considered live and extremely dangerous.



Create an emergency kit in the event there is an outage. Be sure to include a flashlight, candles, extra batteries, a first-aid kit, battery-powered radio and clock.



Have a backup plan and an alternative power supply if someone in your home requires electricity for medical equipment. Storm restoration times vary depending on the damage.



Never run a generator in an enclosed area. It can cause carbon monoxide poisoning. Improperly installed generators can cause backfeeds, which can hurt lineworkers.

Stevens' background as a former lineman helped prepare him for his current role.

"I was fortunate enough to learn the trade from some of the best linemen. I was taught from day one that the right way to do the job is the safe way, and the only way, to do the job. I have seen firsthand the hazards that are associated with the work and understand how important safety truly is," he says.

During the visit to North Douglas, students also had the chance to participate in a touch-a-truck experience with GreyStone's linemen. This experience educates children on the importance of personal protective equipment (PPE) for lineworkers.

"The touch-a-truck allows children to get their hands on some of the tools and equipment that we use every day. It is almost like they are playing in the land of giants because everything we use is so big and heavy. It really gets them engaged. I love watching their faces when they try on our rubber

gloves and their arms just disappear inside them," says Stevens.

Another important aspect of the school visits is educating students about career opportunities in the electric utility industry.

"My favorite topic to discuss is how rewarding a career as a lineman can be," Stevens says.

"During storm restoration efforts, communities who have lost everything truly rally behind linemen. These communities come together and show an overwhelming amount of love and support to the men and women who are working to put their lives back together, pole by pole. It is so humbling and rewarding to see such love and support in these times of devastation," he adds.

Stevens says the industry is constantly growing, and the demand for linemen and related fields is high.

"GreyStone Power, as well as many other utility companies,

really encourage their employees to continue to grow and learn even after being hired. They offer tons of additional training and secondary education opportunities to their employees. This can add immeasurable value to your professional and personal life," he says.

RELAX IN THE SAVINGS

**Being a GreyStone Power member has its perks
Show your Co-op Connections® Card and save on hundreds of
travel-related products and services**

Summer means travel season for many. This year, why not let the Co-op Connections® Card (CCC) help you save on travel arrangements around the world? Yes, world! Did you know that the CCC offers discounts of up to 70 percent at over 800,000 hotels and resorts worldwide? In addition, take advantage of discounts or cash back savings on rental cars, airport parking, travel insurance and a variety of adventures and things to do. You can even gain peace of mind with a discount for roadside assistance when you travel.

The new and improved CCC can help you make memories that will last a lifetime! So, how do you get a card? Visit connections.coop/greystonepower to download a card, or call 770-370-2273 ⚡ to request one by mail. You can also stop by our Douglasville or Dallas office to pick one up in person.

**Find all the
ways to save**



connections.coop/greystonepower



BOARD ELECTIONS



Three seats on the GreyStone Board of Directors are up for election in 2019. The winners will be announced Saturday, Oct. 12, at the Annual Meeting of Members.

HOW TO BECOME A CANDIDATE

Eligible members may become a candidate by being selected by the GreyStone Nominating Committee, or by nomination by petition of members. While incumbents David Hagenow, District 3; Billy Mayhew, District 5; and Lucy Andres, District 9, have been nominated by the Nominating Committee, eligible members may still run by petition.

An eligible member may be nominated by submitting a petition signed by 50 or more GreyStone members of record (the name must appear on the electric bill). The petition, along with a Candidate Affidavit, must be submitted by Thursday, July 4. Petition and affidavit can be found at greystonepower.com/boardelections.

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 of *Georgia Magazine* must submit information in the format and manner required by the Credentials and Elections Committee by Thursday, July 4. 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.



DIRECTORS NOMINATED FOR RE-ELECTION THIS YEAR

David Hagenow, District 3, Douglas and Paulding counties; Billy Mayhew, District 5, Carroll and Douglas counties; and Lucy Andres, District 9, Cobb County.

MEMBERS OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Tony Wilson, District 1; Beatrice McClung, District 2; James S. Smith, District 3; Pat Skinner, District 4; Thesie Peacock, District 5; Laurie Searle, District 6; Harold Reid, District 7; Ed McCray, District 8; and Kathy Boehm, District 9.

EFFICIENCY 101

STEPS FOR SUMMER SAVINGS

For members looking to save money during the summer months, there are two areas of focus that can make a big impact on your electrical bill: your thermostat setting and your HVAC system.

A thermostat setting of 78 degrees Fahrenheit or higher is recommended in the summer. Each degree setting lower in summer can result in 3 to 5 percent more in energy costs.

The cost of heating and cooling your home likely represents the largest portion of your utility bill, which is why it is also very important to have a licensed heating and cooling contractor service your HVAC system annually.

Financing is available through the GreyStone HomePlus Loan program for energy-efficient improvements to an existing home starting at 2.90 percent interest Annual Percentage Rate (APR).

Energy efficiency home improvements include Energy Star heating and cooling systems, insulation and Energy Star windows and doors.

Checking your home's insulation value is important in determining the level of energy waste in your home.

Call GEMC Credit Union at 678-384-5552 to learn more about the HomePlus Loan program.



SOLAR BLOCKS STILL AVAILABLE

GreyStone members can participate in our Cooperative Solar program for just \$22 per block monthly, so it's easy to support green energy.

Cooperative Solar allows members to sign up for solar power without the obstacles of owning their own system. Every month, the energy output of your block is calculated and credited to your bill. Energy output varies based on the sun's angle, the time of the year and the number of cloudy days. Sign up at www.greystonepower.com/solar.



MOVE MOVE

for utility workers in Georgia. It's the



ER
ne law.

MOVE OVER, CHEER THEM ON

We love our linemen, and we need our members' help in keeping them safe when they are out working in the community, especially as they work along roadways.

Georgia's Move Over law requires drivers to move over one lane, if possible, when a utility vehicle is stopped on the shoulder of the highway. If traffic is too heavy to move over safely, the law requires drivers to slow down below the posted speed limit instead and be prepared to stop.

Along with utility vehicles, the law also applies to first responders (law enforcement, fire, EMS), DOT vehicles, HERO units and wreckers tending to an accident.

Reports show emergency vehicles of all types have been struck while parked beside Georgia highways, even while their emergency lights were flashing. The fine for not complying with Georgia's Move Over law can be up to \$500.

Another way to show your support for linemen is by purchasing a Thank a Lineman vehicle license plate when renewing your annual motor vehicle registration. Proceeds benefit the Burn Foundation of America, which provides assistance to burn patients and their families at the Joseph M. Still Burn Center at Doctor's Hospital in Augusta.

GreyStone members who would like to support our linemen in person can even cheer them on each year as they compete at the Georgia Lineman's Rodeo. In May, teams of linemen convene in Perry, Georgia, to show their skills and compete against other utilities in timed events. The rodeo helps to reinforce safe work practices in the electric utility industry while promoting relationships among companies and linemen in the Southeast.

Teams that excel at the Georgia rodeo may go on to compete at the International Lineman's Rodeo, held in October in Kansas. This rodeo attracts the best linemen from around the world to compete in events based on traditional lineman tasks and skills. A team of GreyStone linemen became world champions in 2012, after they earned first place overall in competition with 205 teams of linemen from around the world.

Also in October, members have the chance to thank a lineman in person at our Annual Meeting of Members, held the second Saturday in October every year. At this year's event on Oct. 12, children can see what it's like to wear a lineman's gloves while being in a stationary "bucket," such as the ones you would find on a bucket truck. Adults can also participate in this fun photo opportunity.

Whether you're cheering on our linemen at a rodeo competition or keeping an eye out for them during your daily commute, we hope members will support these dedicated professionals.

When you see signs like the one pictured at left, help keep our linemen working along roadways safe by slowing down or moving over.



YOUR Savings CONNECTION



GreyStone Power members have more cash in their wallets thanks to a \$12 million capital credits return.

That's in addition to having some of the lowest-priced electricity in the state — 21 percent lower than Georgia Power in the summer and nearly 12 percent lower in the winter!*

Energy savings matter, too. Qualifying members receive a \$100 rebate on a smart thermostat** that helps manage heating and cooling costs.

GreyStone Power
Your savings connection



Lisa Lonon helps GreyStone members with the Smart Thermostat rebate.



GREYSTONE
POWER CORPORATION

* According to the 2018 summer and 2019 winter rate surveys by the Georgia Public Service Commission. Based on the residential use of 1,000 kilowatt hours (kWh) per month.

** Must be ENERGY STAR-rated.

*GreyStone Power is an equal opportunity provider and employer.
Not available in the EU.*

