

GEMC

GreyStone Power brings you

# Georgia<sup>®</sup>

MAGAZINE

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JANUARY 2024



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for heroic  
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[www.georgiamagazine.org](http://www.georgiamagazine.org)



Photo Credit: Matt Odum

### MILLER'S MINUTE

## SUPPORTING VETERANS

Over the past decade, Greystone Power has increased efforts to support those who have served our country. We do this in partnership with our national organization, the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA).

Through NRECA's Vets Power Us initiative, cooperatives support veterans, active military and their spouses by helping them explore meaningful career opportunities within America's electric co-ops. Greystone is a proud advocate of this program, which also aims to help co-ops recruit, hire and honor veterans.

In this issue, you can learn more about how we celebrated and recognized our veterans in 2023, including one veteran who was honored with a Lifesaving Award. This award offers an example of how a veteran, such as our Director of Safety and Training Jarred Stevens, can use skills developed in the military to help others in the community.

We believe that veterans are a great fit for the co-op world. Their values, such as concern for community, align well with ours, and they have extensive technical, leadership and safety skills. When vets power us, they make us a stronger co-op.

- 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.*

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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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Operation Round Up®, 770-370-2080

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#### DOWNLOAD OUR APP

The Greystone Power app allows you to pay your bill, view billing history and electricity use, and verify payments. This secure app also allows members to view an outage map and report outages. Download the app from the App Store or Google Play on your mobile devices.

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#### 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](mailto: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.

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



*Retired Command Sgt. Maj. Jason York, JROTC Army Instructor at Paulding County High School, gave special remarks at the GreyStone Power annual Military Service Recognition breakfast in November.*

## GREYSTONE NEWS

# HONORING VETERANS

GreyStone Power honored its veterans with an annual military service recognition breakfast for GreyStone employees, retirees and board members who are veterans or are actively serving in the military, as well as spouses of veterans, on Thursday, Nov. 9.

The event featured the presentation of colors by the Paulding County High School JROTC, and guests enjoyed special remarks from retired Command Sgt. Maj. Jason York, JROTC Army Instructor at Paulding County High School.

"I believe veterans, apart from the grace of Jesus Christ, are the only reason Americans still enjoy life, liberty and peace," York said. "Veterans have sacrificed so much and given their best for all of us, and they will continue to answer the call and give their best. It's past time to say thank you and take care of our veterans."

The breakfast also featured a special check presentation to the Paulding County High School JROTC. The school was awarded \$1,000 for their JROTC program. York says they hope to use the funds for new rifles for the armed exhibition drill team and/or the completion of the Raider Team obstacle course.

GreyStone Power has been honoring veterans in the local community via financial and in-kind support, from service programs such as Habitat for Humanity, scholarships and donations to causes and organizations dedicated to honoring military service, employment opportunities, and recognizing and showing appreciation for its own veteran-employees.

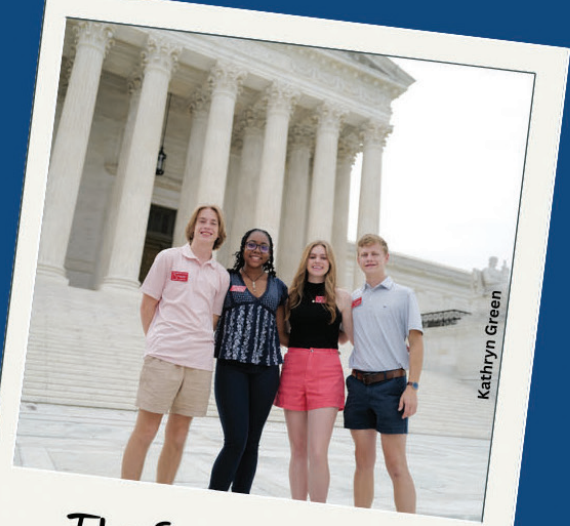
### Foundation scholarships

Attention, students! GreyStone Power is awarding five \$3,000 scholarships to GreyStone Power members or their children who are either seniors in high school or enrolling in college annually. The scholarships, provided by the GreyStone Power Foundation, Inc./Operation Round Up, are awarded based on need and academic achievement. All ages are eligible.

The scholarships are given based on academic performance as well as school and community activities and are made possible by GreyStone members who agree to round up their electric bills to the next dollar. The application deadline is Friday, Jan. 12, 2024. Applications are available at [greystonepower.com/scholarships](http://greystonepower.com/scholarships).



# A LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITY



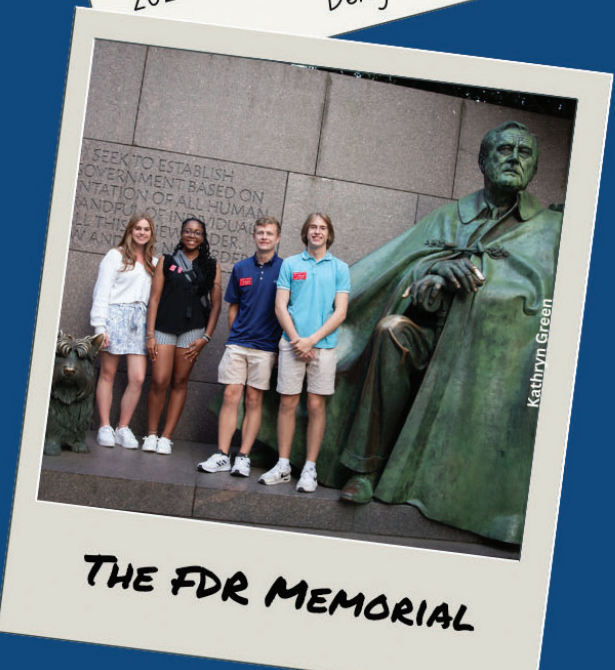
Kathryn Green

The Supreme Court



Louis Tomasette

2023 GreyStone Washington Youth Tour Delegates



Kathryn Green

THE FDR MEMORIAL

GreyStone Power is accepting applications from area high school and home-schooled juniors to compete for an all-expenses-paid spot on the 2024 Washington Youth Tour. This inspiring, weeklong leadership trip offers participants the opportunity to experience U.S. government and U.S. history firsthand while having fun, making new friends and developing leadership skills.

If chosen, a student will become one of five delegates sponsored by GreyStone and will join more than 100 teens from other electric membership cooperatives (EMCs) across Georgia to represent the state during the 2024 Washington Youth Tour to be held June 14-21, 2024.

Candidates who compete to win the weeklong experience are student leaders chosen by counselors or staff from participating high schools in GreyStone's service area. Candidates will receive information about GreyStone Power and will submit a short video incorporating the information they learned. The students who earn the top five scores on their video win the trip!

# FOR HIGH SCHOOL JUNIORS

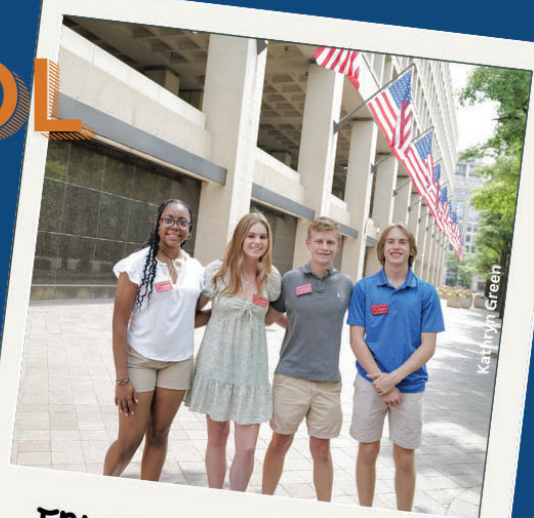
GreyStone delegates who are selected for the Youth Tour have the opportunity to visit historical sites and monuments, as well as make connections with other high-achieving peers while participating in an unforgettable weeklong journey in the nation's capital. The Youth Tour includes face-to-face meetings with state and national leaders, leadership training and discussions on important issues with students from other states.

Students will also have the chance to interact with delegates from other states, as the tour brings more than 1,800 students from across the country to D.C.

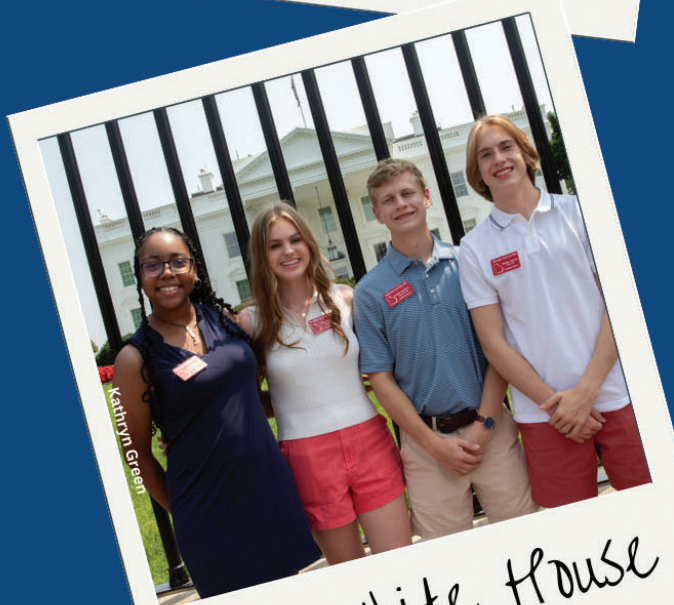
The Washington Youth Tour is Georgia's oldest leadership program for teens, and there are more than 50,000 alumni from the program. For more information on the program, contact your school counselor or call GreyStone's Youth Tour coordinator at 770-370-2059.

“Seeing our nation’s capital has really opened my eyes to our democratic process and brought federal government closer to home.”

2023 GREYSTONE DELEGATE CHLOE PERGEM



FBI Headquarters



The White House



John F. Kennedy Center



# Residential & Business Packages



## RESIDENTIAL SERVICE OFFERINGS

- ✓ Fiber Internet
- ✓ No Contracts
- ✓ No Buffering or Delay
- ✓ Reliable Connections
- ✓ Unlimited Data
- ✓ Local Customer Service

## BUSINESS SERVICE OFFERINGS

- ✓ Fiber Internet
- ✓ Dedicated Bandwidth
- ✓ Cost Effective
- ✓ Scalable Solutions
- ✓ Network Security
- ✓ Local Customer Service

## RESIDENTIAL FIBER INTERNET PACKAGES

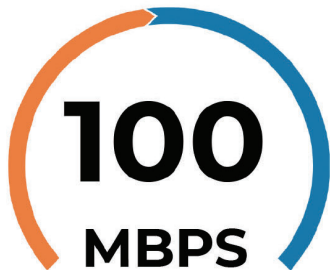
GreyStone Connect's residential fiber internet redefines your online world. Lightning-fast speeds, unmatched reliability, and buffer-free streaming set us apart. We provide top-tier support and transparent pricing, ensuring a seamless online experience. Whether you're checking email, browsing the internet, or watching your favorite show, we will offer the high-speed connection you need.

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Elevate your business with GreyStone Connect's high-performance internet packages. GreyStone Connect offers ultra-fast and dependable internet to help fit the needs of your company, bringing world-class service to suit every business and budget. Our service aligns with the flexibility and reliability that both your team and customers demand in today's dynamic business landscape.

## OUR SPEEDS

GreyStone Basic



GreyStone Deluxe



GreyStone Ultimate



Visit [www.GreyStoneConnect.com](http://www.GreyStoneConnect.com) to show your interest and learn more!

AROUND GREYSTONE .....

# MEETING OF MEMBERS



GREYSTONE POWER  
2023

## ANNUAL MEETING

During the business portion of GreyStone Power's 86th Annual Meeting of Members, President/CEO Gary Miller spoke to members about the various ways GreyStone empowers the local community, as well as its members.

One of these ways is through the fiber subsidiary, GreyStone Connect. GreyStone looks forward to serving customers in areas of southern Fulton County, southern Douglas County, portions of eastern Carroll County and a small section of southern Paulding County.

"Construction has already begun, and GreyStone Connect will deliver high-speed fiber internet access in 2024, empowering our unserved and underserved members with a service that can be life-changing," Miller says.

The co-op has worked hard to ensure that members are also empowered financially by keeping costs low and returning money when possible. In 2023, GreyStone members received \$12 million in capital credits. Members also benefited from low rates.

"I'm pleased to report that GreyStone Power's electric rates continue to be lower than many of our neighbors, and our summer rates are nearly 25% less than Georgia Power's," Miller says.

The Public Service Commission releases a summer and winter rate survey each year, and according

to their summer rate survey, for those using 500 kilowatt-hours a month, GreyStone had the lowest summer rates out of all 41 electric membership corporations in Georgia.

"I'm proud of the work our employees are doing to serve unserved communities and the work they do every day to serve our members," Miller says. "Driven by our mission of making life better in the communities we serve, we will continue to look for new and innovative ways to serve our members."



## EFFICIENCY 101

# Don't waste – **INSULATE**

Properly insulating your home reduces heating and cooling costs and improves comfort. R-values measure a material's resistance to conductive heat flow. The higher the R-value rating, the greater the effectiveness of the insulation.

### DUCTWORK

Whether it's made of metal or plastic (PVC), insulated ductwork protects your investment in conditioned air year-round. Minimal R-values of 4.3 are recommended for blanket-style wraps secured with tape. Insulated ductwork rated at R-6 is also available.

### EXTERIOR WALLS

There are multiple options for insulating exterior walls. Rock wool or fiberglass batts of R-13 to R-20 value are preferred behind drywall, but each inch of blown-in polyurethane foam insulation provides an R-value of 3.9.

### BENEATH LIVING SPACE

Whether your home has a full basement, a crawl space or an attached garage, having an insulation value of R-19 under the living space floor will help increase comfort year-round.

### SLAB FOUNDATION

Properly installed foam boards around the exterior edge of the slab of an existing home can reduce heating bills by 10% or more.



## SURGEMASTER PLUS

During a storm, lightning may strike at any moment, causing a power surge that could damage or destroy your TV, personal computer and other everyday electrical appliances in your ⚡ home. This can be avoided by investing in GreyStone Power's SurgeMaster Plus program. This program is not insurance, but it is proven to reduce your risk of loss should a power surge come your way. Surge protection can extend the lifetime of sensitive electronic equipment by protecting it against harmful power surges. To learn more about the SurgeMaster Plus program and how to sign up, visit [greystonepower.com/surge-protection](http://greystonepower.com/surge-protection).

# Surge MasterPlus



# improving service

## FOR GREYSTONE MEMBERS

When you're on the go ...

take the GreyStone Power app with you!

- Manage your account
- Pay bill from anywhere
- View energy use
- Report outages
- View outage map

Download today



The GreyStone Power app is a convenient way for you to access and manage your account no matter where you are. We've even made it easier to report and view power outages with the touch of a finger. So, when you're on the go, don't forget to take us with you! Download the free app at [greystonepower.com/mobileapp](http://greystonepower.com/mobileapp) today.

# Dust off the suitcase.

Time to put your traveling shoes on for business or pleasure. Oh, and save money in the process!



## TRAVEL AND SAVE

[connections.coop](http://connections.coop)





# *GreyStone employees for heroic efforts*



# honored

## SAVING LIVES, GOING THE EXTRA MILE

Serving members and the community goes beyond electricity. In 2023, 18 GreyStone employees received Gatekeeper awards. This award is given to employees who recognize situations where assistance is needed and go the extra mile to render aid.

Jason Amaya, Cal Bentley, Ben Bice, Tina Born, Chris Brown, Chris Dilbeck, Matt Frame, Teresa Green, Josh Jones, Dylan Miller, Kyle Newberry, Danny North, Leroy Perryman, Loren Reynolds, Jennifer Saint Jean, Steven Thompson, Lanette Toler and Paul Wood were among this year's recipients of the Gatekeeper Award. In addition, Dilbeck and Frame were each awarded twice for separate incidents.

Jennifer Crowe and Jarred Stevens were honored with Lifesaving awards by Georgia EMC, the statewide trade association for Georgia's 41 electric membership cooperatives, and GreyStone Power.

While Crowe was out eating dinner, she heard a small child choking. She quickly went to the mother, who was panicking and trying to open her son's mouth. After confirming that the mother was OK for her to help, Crowe gave the boy four to five back blows, which dislodged the hot dog he was choking on.

Stevens was driving when he noticed another driver in the distance lose control of their vehicle. Soon after, the vehicle struck a tree and the driver was ejected. Stevens parked his truck to block the road and turned on his hazard lights. Stevens ran up to the man, who was unresponsive after suffering a traumatic head injury. Because of how violent the crash was, the extent of the damage to the vehicle and the severity of the man's injuries, Stevens did not think the driver was alive. Stevens then ran over to the vehicle to ensure there were no passengers. After confirming that the driver was the only occupant of the vehicle, Stevens began administering CPR while another passerby called 911.

The victim became responsive, but was very confused. Stevens assumed that the severe head injury had made him extremely disoriented, as he had no concept of time or location. Every time he moved, there was significant blood loss, so Stevens had to physically restrain the man, while constantly reassuring the driver that he was there to help and to remain calm. Soon, EMS arrived and Stevens was able to turn aid over to the medical team. When Stevens left, the man was alive and being rushed off in the ambulance.

GreyStone also honors an annual GEM Award winner. The GEM program awards those employees who have gone the extra mile for their coworkers, demonstrating exceptional teamwork and collaboration. This year's GEM recipient was Patrick Ehui.

*GreyStone employees were honored for going above and beyond in an award ceremony held in November 2023.*



# You're Why

**You're why** GreyStone Power safely delivers reliable, affordable electricity with some of the lowest rates in the state.

**You're why** GreyStone Power is finding new ways to resolve issues and prevent outages.

**You're why** the co-op has committed additional resources for adding line crews when needed and improving its outage texting service to keep you better informed.

**You're why** GreyStone Power works to make life better.

