

GreyStone Power brings you

July 2014

GEMC

Georgia[®]

MAGAZINE

**Solar and energy
seminars lead to savings**

**Serenbe: showplace for
energy efficiency**



GREYSTONE
POWER CORPORATION
An Electric Membership Corporation

GreyStone Power news alert

GreyStone members have a voice

October will be here before you know it, and members will once again have the opportunity to cast their votes for three seats of the GreyStone Board of Directors.

On April 21, GreyStone's Nominating Committee met to select nominees for director seats from Districts 2, 6 and 7 for full three-year terms. The selected nominees are John Walton, District 2, Paulding County; Maribeth Wansley, District 6, Fulton, Fayette and Coweta Counties; and Milton Jones, District 7, Fulton County.

Any GreyStone member who would like to serve on the board, but was not nominated by the committee, may submit a petition to be placed on the ballot. The petition must be signed by 50 or more GreyStone members who are

the member of record (their name is on the bill). Petition forms may be requested by calling 770-370-2066, or are available to print at greystonepower.com. The deadline to submit the completed petition to GreyStone is Thursday, July 3, by 5 p.m.

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

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 Monday, July 7. 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.



**EVERY MEMBER HAS A VOICE.
TOGETHER THEY WORK IN HARMONY.**

Every electric co-op member has a say in what's best for the community. Power to the people, from the people. Doesn't that sound good? Learn more about the power of your co-op membership at TogetherWeSave.com. Mark your calendar for your Annual Meeting, Saturday, Oct. 11.



TOGETHERWESAVE.COM



The GreyStone Connection

THE POWER OF MEMBER CONNECTIONS



A LOOK INSIDE: p. 26B LEARN HOW YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

VOLUME 2 • NUMBER 3 • JULY 2014

Miller's Minute

Every summer, my electric bill goes up, and I'm sure yours does, too, just like millions of other Americans. When the mercury climbs, one family member or another just naturally lowers the thermostat to keep the home cool. Did you know that an average of 52 percent of your electric bill pays for air conditioning and heating? So a degree or two up or down on your thermostat can make a sizeable difference. Set it at 78 degrees in summer and save.

Summer rates run from June through October, and are higher because the high use of electricity in summer requires additional generating plants to be brought online to meet the demand.

The good news is that as a GreyStone member you spend much less in electricity than most electric utility customers.

GreyStone's electric rates are fifth lowest of 41 EMCs in Georgia and average 16th lowest of 94 Georgia electric providers (at 1,000 kWh use: see 2013 *psc.state.ga.us*).

- Gary

Gary Miller, President/CEO



International showplace for energy efficiency helps members save

On Saturday, Sept. 6, three champions of using energy wisely will join forces inside South Fulton's Serenbe community to spread the word: Cut your electricity use by learning how to be energy efficient and reduce your electric bill.

GreyStone Power, Serenbe and the Bosch Experience Center invite you to come and see the Serenbe-Bosch way of life as GreyStone Residential Energy Services Manager Rudy Echols shares his energy-saving know-how in a special seminar conducted at the Center for the first time: Energy Efficiency 101. For more information on the seminar, see page 26C.

"We're pleased to join forces with Bosch and Serenbe to help our members save money through often easy, low-cost measures that can make a big difference in the bottom line of your energy bill," says Echols. "Good citizens are friends to the environment, and through using energy wisely, we keep costs down for all of us," he says. Echols is the author of an energy efficiency book, "Plug in to ener-

gy savings," which will be available free of charge at the seminar.

Solar seminar also ahead

For members interested in learning specifically about solar energy, GreyStone will host its first Solar Energy 101 seminar on Tuesday, Aug. 26, from 6:30 until 8:30 p.m. For more information, see p. 26C.

Bosch and Serenbe began helping Serenbe residents and others live more energy-efficient lives in 2013 with the opening of the Bosch Experience Center. The first of its kind in North

continued on **page 26B**



Interested in solar energy? Attend the seminar on Aug. 26 to learn more.

Solar

continued from page 26A

America, the Center is a teaching and interactive demonstration facility for energy-efficient solutions. Bosch energy-efficient products include ENERGY STAR-rated kitchen appliances, tankless water heaters, heating boilers, solar thermal water heating systems and geothermal heat pumps.

Serenbe is a sustainable community development that partners with Bosch to promote green living. Its 1,000 acres offer a variety of residential living options with a build-out objective of no more than 30 percent of total acreage.

Each Serenbe building project is designed to flow with the terrain, disturbing the natural landscape as little as possible. The entire community is laid out with accessible pathways to encourage walking. Native plants and organized landscaping techniques are used exclusively. The philosophy is to enable growth while still enabling land preservation.

Serenbe's family-friendly events and rural, yet urban environment have



A technician installs solar panels at a Serenbe home. Solar panels are just one environmentally friendly method Serenbe residents use to power their homes.

led it to become a destination for day and weekend visits. The community's name, Serenbe, came about because it was such a serene place to be.

The Bosch Experience Center, both an education and interaction hub, offers consumers, trade professionals and influencers in sustainability the opportunity to learn about Bosch energy solutions while serving as a world-class gathering spot for discussions on sustainability research and education.

"Bosch has been an incredible partner," says Serenbe founder Steve Nygren. "With the industry's brightest minds and best products, Bosch is

helping us achieve our community's vision of providing cost-effective, sustainable home solutions. It's a major step in promoting more widespread adoption of the principles we embody here at Serenbe. We feel this partnership can set the bar for other sustainable communities nationwide."

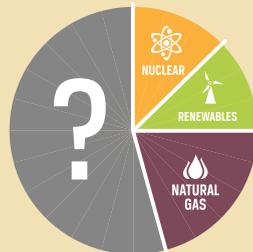
For more information on the Bosch Experience Center and the Serenbe community, visit BoschExperienceCenter.com and serenbecommunity.com. For more information on the Solar Energy 101 seminar or the Energy Efficiency 101 seminar, visit greystonepower.com.

EPA releases long-awaited rule on power plants

Last month, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposed a new plan targeting existing power plant emissions that could increase electricity costs for many Americans like you. GreyStone is also concerned that the EPA's plan could force power plant shutdowns, reduce the reliability of the power supply and harm the economy.

The impacts on any specific GreyStone co-owned power plants cannot be determined immediately because of the level of detail in the proposal, and because the states are charged with developing specific plans over the next few years for meeting carbon reduction goals.

The EPA's plan would reduce carbon dioxide emissions 30 percent



below 2005 levels by 2030.

GreyStone has already joined with other Georgia utilities in reducing carbon emissions and increasing renewable energy capacity. For example, GreyStone and other utilities are constructing two new zero carbon emission nuclear units at Plant Vogtle near Augusta, Ga. GreyStone is also a co-owner of two existing units at Plant Vogtle and two existing units at the Edwin I.

**WE CAN'T AFFORD AN
ALL BUT ONE
APPROACH**

LEARN MORE

TAKE ACTION

Hatch nuclear plant near Baxley, Ga.

The EPA will hold a 120-day comment period with public hearings the week of July 28 in four U.S. cities, including Atlanta. More than 500,000 co-op members have already sent emails to the EPA opposing proposed regulations that constrain generating fuels.

Your help is needed! Visit action.coop and voice your opinion.

Do It Yourself

Ask the Expert

GreyStone makes every effort to provide educational opportunities for member-owners by providing seminars in the area of energy efficiency, including new technologies that can result in lowering energy costs. In April, we hosted a very successful Energy Efficiency 101 (EE101) seminar at GreyStone with 97 members attending. Listed below are three additional seminars scheduled for 2014.

Solar Energy 101 (SE101) will be offered on Tuesday, Aug. 26. This seminar will be held at GreyStone's Douglasville office beginning at 6:30 p.m. and lasting no later than 8:30 p.m. Members interested in learning more about solar energy and its benefits, as well as getting helpful, up-to-date information on available solar options and related GreyStone rebates, low-interest financing information, and federal tax credits are invited to attend free of charge. Solar industry professionals will be available to answer all your questions and help you decide if a photovoltaic (PV) system, otherwise known as a solar energy system, is right for your home.

Energy Efficiency 101 will be offered two more times this year. This free seminar is held for no other purpose than to educate our members on ways to better manage their energy use. A couple hours of your time have the potential to help save your household significant energy dollars, simply by understanding better where the energy hogs are in your home and how you can better manage them. The first seminar will be offered on Saturday, Sept. 6 (9:30 a.m. to noon), at the



Mark your calendar for our upcoming seminars! To register or for more info, call 770-370-2070.

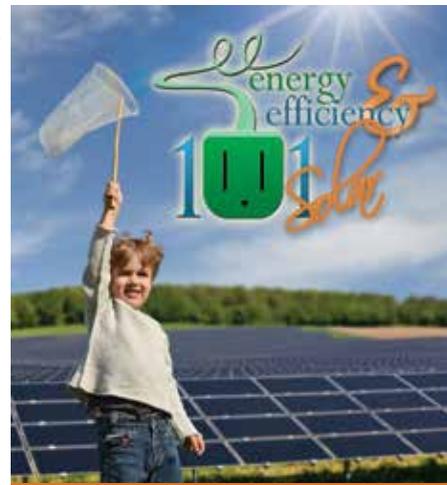


Rudy Echols
Energy Services Manager

Bosch Experience Center, located at 10640 Serenbe Lane, in the beautiful Chattahoochee Hills Serenbe community. Serenbe is a community that has merged ecologically sound sustainability principles with the design philosophies of walkable neighborhoods made up of both homes and shops. The second seminar will be held in the GreyStone Power auditorium on Tuesday evening, Nov. 11, and will begin at 6:30 p.m. and conclude by 8:30 p.m.

DIY top three

- 1.** Do your research. Conduct a home energy audit to best determine your energy-saving needs. If interested, investigate both short-term and long-term costs of setting up a solar system to determine the benefit of adding solar.
- 2.** Attend one of the GreyStone sponsored seminars and put into practice the energy-saving steps that can make your home more energy efficient.
- 3.** Update features around your home that could make your home more energy efficient by taking advantage of available rebates and low-rate financing for qualifying members through GreyStone and GEMC Federal Credit Union.



**GET EQUIPPED WITH
DO-IT-YOURSELF
SKILLS AND LOWER
YOUR ENERGY BILL**

UPCOMING SEMINARS

SE101:

Tuesday, Aug. 26, 2014
6:30-8:30 p.m.

GreyStone Power Auditorium
4040 Bankhead Hwy.
Douglasville

EE101:

Saturday, Sept. 6, 2014
9:30 a.m. - noon

Bosch Experience Center at Serenbe
Chattahoochee Hills

Tuesday, Nov. 11, 2014
6:30-8:30 p.m.

GreyStone Power Auditorium
4040 Bankhead Hwy.
Douglasville

Seats are limited, so reserve yours now! Seminar is for adults only. No children, please, as they may disturb someone else trying to learn.

For more information call 770-370-2070 or visit greystonepower.com.



A day in history

Rural electrification has come a long way since the 1930s. Though 417 rural electric cooperatives had been established with the help of the Rural Electrification Administration (REA) by 1939, only 25 percent of rural homes had received power.

In 1940, the United States Film Service produced the film, "Power and the Land," for the REA as a documentary chronicling two full days on the Parkinsons' dairy farm: a day without power, and the day the lights came on.

Its purpose was to show the struggle to bring electricity to the rural parts of the United States, while also

showing farmers how electricity could improve their lives.

"Power and the Land," directed by Jorvis Ivens, premiered in St. Clairsville, Ohio, on Aug. 31, 1940. It was then distributed to 5,000 movie theaters across the country after RKO Radio Pictures picked it up a few months after the premier.

In 2008, the documentary "Power for the Parkinsons," narrated by the late Walter Cronkite, was released allowing viewers a closer look at the making of "Power and the Land." The sequel, "The Parkinsons," also narrated by Cronkite, continues the story of the family after



The Parkinson family with film crew: from left, Bill Parkinson, Joris Ivens, Edwin Locke, Hazel Parkinson, Douglas Moore, Frank "Bip" Parkinson, Ruth Parkinson, Tom Parkinson, Jake Parkinson.

August 1940. "This is the family and this is the film that helped electrify the American farm," declared Cronkite.

—Source: newdeal.feri.org, powerforparkinsons.com, strattonhouse.com

Pinterest Pick

WATERMELON LIME SORBET

Ingredients:

- 1 cup water
- 1/2 to 1 cup sugar (depending on personal preference and watermelon sweetness)
- 8 cups cubed fresh watermelon
- 1/3 cup lime juice

Step 1: Place water and sugar in a saucepan over medium heat. Bring to a boil and cook until sugar is completely dissolved to create a syrup. Remove from heat and allow to cool.

Step 2: In a food processor or blender, mix watermelon cubes, syrup and lime juice. Blend until smooth. Place the liquid in the refrigerator for a few hours until completely cooled.

Step 3: Add cooled liquid to an ice cream machine and freeze according to manufacturer's directions.

Step 4: Serve immediately as soft serve sorbet or freeze in an airtight container and remove a few minutes prior to serving to let soften for scooping.

Additional way to serve: To serve your sorbet in the rind, cut a watermelon (smaller is better) in half and scoop the watermelon flesh out. Place the hollowed-out rind in the freezer to get cold while you make your sorbet.

Once the sorbet is ready to eat, remove rind from the freezer and fill it with sorbet, perhaps throwing in a few mini chocolate chip "seeds" as you go.



foodformfamily.com

Place the filled rind in the freezer for about 4 to 5 hours. Cut watermelon slices 2 to 3 inches thick for best results. Over-freezing would require it to soften before serving. Enjoy!

For more fabulous recipes, visit us at pinterest.com/greystonepower.



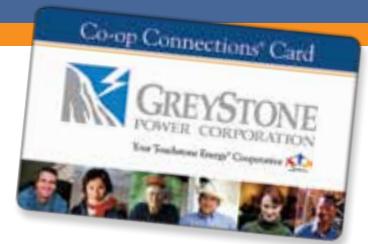
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TOGETHERWESAVE.COM

Welcome new local businesses to your Co-op Connections® Card offers!



Haven't heard of the little card with big savings yet? If you don't have the Co-op Connections® Card, you've been missing out! This one little card from GreyStone Power can save you money at more than 325 local businesses on goods or services in your area! Not only that, but there are many health benefits that come with the card. You can use it at your local pharmacy to receive discounts on hundreds of different prescriptions, in addition to discounts on vision, hearing, chiropractic care and lab and imaging services. Visit www.connections.coop/greystonepower and start taking advantage of the savings today!

CTO Bridal

Powder Springs 678-324-7842
12% off any gown purchase.

Debra W. Johnson, CPA, PC

Douglasville 770-944-2969
\$45 off any service (\$100 minimum). New clients only.

Douglasville Heating and Air and Appliance Repair, Inc.

Douglasville 770-489-4786
15% off repair bill.

Mountainview Pharmacy

Marietta 770-272-9612
15% off on transfer of three or more prescriptions; \$20 off any purchase of \$100 or more. Special pricing on selected generic and brand prescriptions. Call for list of selected drugs.

Top Notch Impressions, LLC

Douglasville 678-860-9989
10% off total purchase.

Casteel Heating, Cooling and Plumbing

Marietta 770-565-5884
10% discount off repairs and supplies. Not to be combined with other offers.

The Ladies Room

Douglasville 770-485-9665
10% off membership fee for new members for monthly classes.

Planet Chiropractic

Douglasville 770-783-1799
\$50 off first visit.

Mitchell Appliance Company

Douglasville 770-942-2337
10% discount on appliance parts.

Harry Norman, REALTORS

Marietta 404-558-0943
Free one-year home warranty (upon closing).

Mary Kay Cosmetics: Dana Weeks

Dallas 404-863-2267
25% discount on first purchase. Cannot be combined with additional offers. Must mention card to receive discount.

DeNyse Companies

Douglasville 770-942-0688
10% discount for banner purchase, up to \$50 maximum savings.

Print Design Promote, LLC

Douglasville/Emerson 678-520-2501
10% off services.

Six Flags Over Georgia

Austell 770-739-3400
Special online pricing for individual tickets, including Hurricane Harbor for just \$38.15 (\$63.59 at gate). Get individual combo season pass to Six Flags Over Georgia/Hurricane Harbor and White Water for just \$63.59. Visit www.sixflags.com/overgeorgia and enter promo code: **gspower14** to receive your discounted rate.

O'Charley's

Douglasville 770-920-4646
20% off purchase. Not valid on alcoholic beverages, whole pies, Free Pie Wednesday, Prime Rib Lovers weekend or in conjunction with other offers. Valid only at Douglasville location.

Dickerson Heating

Powder Springs 404-835-2546
\$250 off complete system replacement. Not to be combined with other discounts. One discount per system.

For a complete listing of participating businesses, visit greystonepower.com. If you don't see your favorite business listed, refer them to the program! For additional questions about participation, call 770-370-2436.

To join, businesses simply complete the participation contract and return to our office via fax or email.

Ready to get your card? Call us today at 770-370-2273 to request yours.

Save Every Day



on the everyday things and get more out of life.

Find out what your FREE Co-op Connections® Member Benefits Card can do for you!

Before you switch on the lights, we've already put up the poles, connected miles of wire and flipped more than a few switches of our own. All to make sure your life is always "on." Learn more about the power of your co-op membership at TogetherWeSave.com.



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