

JUNE 2024

Coweta-Fayette EMC

POWERLINES

Congratulations, 2024 scholarship winners!

A NEWSLETTER FROM COWETA-FAYETTE EMC

30 local students received a total of **\$60,000** in scholarships from Coweta-Fayette EMC (CFEMC) this year. 15 students received Melissa Segars Memorial Scholarships, worth \$3,000 each; and 15 received Coweta-Fayette Trust Technical Scholarships, worth \$1,000 each.



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Congratulations to **Whitney Benz**, 2024 Georgia EMC Walter Harrison Scholarship recipient (pictured left). *This scholarship award amounts to \$1,000.00 and is named in tribute to Mr. Walter Harrison, a pioneer in the rural electricity movement and leader at the local, state, and national levels in the electric cooperative program.*

2024 MELISSA SEGARS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



Grace Adams
Wilson Hill Academy



Ryleigh Akers
Newnan High School



Kourtney Brown
Sandy Creek High School



Cora Butler
Northgate High School



Noah Hite
Newnan High School



John Keller
Whitewater High School



Lauren Luker
Newnan High School



Sarabeth Odom
Trinity Christian School



Helen Rhymer
Mt. Herman Academy



Clare Richards
Whitewater High School



Campbell Richey
Whitewater High School



Lindy Scarborough
Newnan High School



Daphne Thomas
East Coweta High School



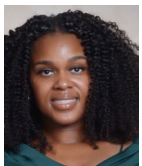
Taylor Williams
Fayette County High School



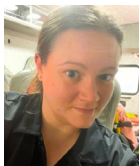
Marie Wright
Coram Deo Classical School



2024 COWETA-FAYETTE TRUST TECHNICAL SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



Ashley James Aghaji
West Georgia Technical College



Jennifer Andrei
West Georgia Technical College



Chifon Battle
West Georgia Technical College



Jackie Belcher
West Georgia Technical College



Demetrius Dudley
East Coweta High School



Taryn Harris
West Georgia Technical College



Jamie Hyman
West Georgia Technical College



Victoria James
West Georgia Technical College



Vo Le
West Georgia Technical College



Jossie Velez Maldonado
Newnan High School



Dezmand Pleasant
West Georgia Technical College



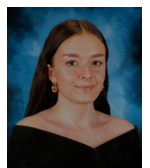
Audrey Pugh
West Georgia Technical College



Summer Walters
Northgate High School



Tucker Weir
Newnan High School



Emma Wright
Starr's Mill High School



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Follow Us

Upcoming Board Elections Announced

From the Bylaws of Coweta-Fayette Electric Membership Corporation

Article III Directors

3.05 Nominations by Nominating Committee.

It shall be the duty of the Board to appoint, not less than forty-five (45) days before the date of the meeting of the members at which board members are to be elected, a committee on nominations consisting of not less than five (5) nor more than eleven (11) members who shall be selected so as to give equitable representation to the geographical areas served by the Cooperative. No member of the Board may serve on such committee. Written notice of the names of the members of the committee and meeting date for the committee shall be provided to the members prior to such meeting. It shall be the duty of the nominating committee to meet not less than forty-five (45) days prior to such meeting and to nominate one or more candidates for each seat on the Board of Directors that is to be filled at such meeting.

3.06 Nominations by Petition.

Other nominations for such elections may be made by written petition signed by not less than fifteen (15) members, which shall be submitted to the Secretary of the Cooperative or his/her designee not less than forty-five (45) days prior to such meeting.

3.07 Notice of Nominees.

The Secretary shall be responsible for posting at headquarters of the Cooperative the nominees for each seat made by the nominating committee and by petition and shall provide written notice thereof to the members by separate written notice according to the rules and procedures promulgated by the Board of Directors.

The following Nominating Committee was appointed by the Board of Directors at their regular meeting held May 28, 2024. This committee will meet August 7, 2024, and prepare a list of nominations that will be posted at the EMC office at least 45 days before the annual meeting on October 15, 2024.

2024 NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Louis Donanich
Moreland, GA

Ralph Todd Rainwater
Senoia, GA

Eddie Wayne Banks
Senoia, GA

Arthur Davenport, Jr.
Newnan, GA

Darrell Fowler
Newnan, GA

Roxanne Ledesma
Sharpsburg, GA

Sara Moon
Fayetteville, GA

Gayel Tillman
Fayetteville, GA

Denver Davis
Fayetteville, GA

The three directors who intend to seek re-election are:

Mildred A. Winkles
Seat 3
Coweta County

Donald E. Harris
Seat 4
Coweta County

Alice J. Mallory
Seat 4
Fayette County

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

J. Neal Shepard, Jr., Chairman • Ross Henry, Vice Chairman • Daniel C. Langford, Jr., Secretary-Treasurer
Therol Brown • James W. Fulton, III • Donald Harris • James Lee Hunter • Alice J. Mallory • Mildred A. Winkles

Coweta -Fayette EMC is an equal opportunity provider and employer /M/E/Y/D

The President's Message



Chris Stephens, CEO

While you will find a lot of news worth celebrating in Powerlines this month, I wanted to take the opportunity to talk with you about a decision CFEMC, along with other electric cooperatives and energy companies, is not celebrating. Why? The decision made in April by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will have a major impact on your energy supply in the future. The EPA released four major new regulations for the electric industry, including a rule to cut emissions from power plants, a sweeping move that will aggravate reliability concerns for electric cooperatives and other utilities nationwide. These rules will not only impact electric generation, but they will also impact natural gas as well.

Jim Matheson, CEO of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, said, "The path outlined by the EPA is unlawful, unrealistic, and unachievable. It undermines electric reliability and poses grave consequences for an already stressed electric grid. The new EPA rules ignore our nation's ongoing electric reliability challenges and are the wrong approach at a critical time for our nation's energy future."

The power plant rule constrains existing coal and new natural gas plants by requiring them to install carbon capture and storage (CCS) technology that is not yet reliable or commercially available. It will force the early closure of electricity generation sources that are available 24/7 and will impede the construction of new natural gas plants. The timing of these sweeping new rules is particularly troubling as electric utilities face a surge in demand for electricity from factors like transportation electrification – electric vehicles and electric vehicle charging – and the rapid expansion of data centers.

Under the new rule, existing coal-fired power plants that plan to operate past the start of 2039 must install CCS to capture 90% of emissions by 2032. The rule also requires new natural gas plants that operate more than 40% of the time to install CCS and capture 90% of their carbon emissions by 2032. These standards, and their reliance on unproven CCS technology, will undermine electric reliability and increase costs.

From our survey results, reliability is the number one concern of our members, as it is for your board of directors and management. That is why we rely on a mix of generation types to provide you with power. We cannot depend on one fuel type to supply all the power you need or want at any given time.

Today, with the addition of Plant Vogtle Units 3 and 4, our fuel mix is 55% carbon-free. The sources of generation are 47% nuclear, 8% renewable, 41% natural gas and 4% coal. We are not anti-renewable. In fact, every CFEMC member has had a portion of their energy coming from renewable resources for over 20 years. And we continue to make great strides in lowering our carbon footprint which has already been reduced by over 50% since 2005.

Electric cooperatives understand the need to keep the lights on at a cost local families and businesses can afford. Clean energy technologies must be balanced with generation sources that are always available to ensure a reliable electric grid. At CFEMC, our top priority is to meet our members' energy needs, and we must have reliable, 24/7 electricity available to do that.