



# LAMPLIGHTER

The Official Member Newsletter of Washington EMC

October 2010

Serving members in Baldwin, Emanuel, Glascock, Hancock, Jefferson, Johnson, Laurens, Warren, Washington and Wilkinson counties.

## Annual Meeting time is just around the corner ...



**Mark your calendar now  
and plan to attend**



## Washington EMC

## Annual Meeting of Members

## Saturday, Oct. 2, 2010

Registration starts at 8 a.m. • Meeting begins at 10 a.m.

Voting from 8 a.m. - 10 a.m.

Elder Middle School • 902 Linton Rd. • Sandersville, GA 31082

**Grand Prize!**  
**37-inch LG®**  
**LCD TV**

*Must be present to win.*



We look forward to seeing  
you at the Annual Meeting.

Register to receive instant  
prizes and more!



An electric membership corporation

258 N. Harris St. • P.O. Box 598  
Sandersville, GA 31082

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[www.washingtonemc.com](http://www.washingtonemc.com)

Frank Askew, *President/CEO*

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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#### OFFICE HOURS:

8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Monday through Friday

Night Depository available for  
payments made after office hours

#### 24-Hour Emergency Call Center

To report a power interruption  
please call:

**Local (478) 552-2577**

**Long Distance (800) 552-2577**

#### Milledgeville Local Office

500 E. Hancock St.

Milledgeville, GA 31061

Phone (478) 452-1574

#### Sparta Local Office

12860 Broad St.

Sparta, GA 31087

Phone (706) 444-6650

#### Wrightsville Local Office

100 W. College St.

Wrightsville, GA 31096

Phone (478) 864-2593

#### APPLIANCE SALES & SERVICE CENTER

319 N. Smith St.

Sandersville, GA 31082

Open Monday through Friday

8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

# Right-of-way maintenance



Frank Askew,  
*President/CEO*

## Clear rights of way key to service reliability

Lifestyles today have become ever dependent on a steady supply of electricity. So much so, that if the power goes off it seems to disrupt about everything that we do.

We at Washington EMC understand the inconvenience that a power outage creates. This is why we maintain an electric distribution line right-of-way zone to help ensure the safe and dependable delivery of electricity.

Right-of-way maintenance helps prevent outages. Washington EMC employs a two-level right-of-way maintenance program that consists of ground-level vegetation management and side-trimming of trees and brush that can interfere with the normal operation of the distribution system.

Our goal is to maintain 15 feet clearance on each side of a single-phase distribution line and 20 feet on each side of a three-phase circuit. This is the recognized industry minimum standard for right-of-way clearances.

Washington EMC has 2,875 miles of distribution lines in its 10-county service area. Maintaining such an extensive system of power delivery is a continuous job. It requires 5 to 7 years to complete a right-of-way clearing cycle.

Your understanding is appreciated when crews are performing right-of-way maintenance in your area. We thank you for your cooperation as we endeavor to keep the lights on for everyone.



## Tip of the month

### Sealing air leaks

Warm air leaking out of your home during winter can waste a lot of your energy dollars. One of the quickest dollar-saving tasks you can do is caulk and seal all seams, cracks and openings to the outside. You can save as much as 10 percent on your heating and cooling bill by reducing the air leaks in your home. Caulk and seal air leaks where plumbing, ducting or electrical wiring penetrates exterior walls, floors, ceilings and soffits over cabinets. Install gaskets behind outlet and switch plates on exterior walls. Caulk and weatherstrip doors and windows that leak air.

# Stay clear of downed power lines

## Contact could cause serious injury, or worse prove deadly

Storms often leave power lines laying on the ground or dangling dangerously close overhead. Stay away from downed power lines and broken utility poles.

The power lines may still be energized with 14,400 volts of electricity. They are more deadly than a rattlesnake; contact with energized power lines can kill or seriously injure those nearby without warning.

Always assume all power lines are energized and dangerous. Even lines that are de-energized could become energized at any time. A live wire touching the ground can cause electricity to travel through the ground, radiating outward from the contact point. Stay clear!

Never touch a downed power line. Never touch a person or object that is touching a power line. If someone is injured as a result of electric contact, do not try to assist him or her. You

should call 911.

If a power line falls across your vehicle while you are in it, stay inside until help arrives. Warn others to stay away from the vehicle. If your vehicle is on fire and you must exit, jump clear so no part of your body is touching the vehicle when you touch the ground. Keep both feet together;

shuffle or hop until you are at least 30 feet away.

Call 911 immediately to report a downed power line, then call the proper utility. To contact Washington EMC, call (478) 552-2577 or (800) 552-2577. *Please, do not call 911 to report a power outage that does not involve a downed power line.*



Bill Durden Photo

**Dangerous and deadly, downed power lines can be covered by debris—stay clear.**

## Green Power EMC

### Georgia's premier renewable energy program

Washington EMC, as a member of Green Power EMC, provides you the power to help the environment!

Since 2003, Green Power EMC, a nonprofit corporation, has offered members of participating Georgia electric cooperatives the opportunity to support cleaner, renewable energy to supply a portion of their electric needs.

Green Power EMC utilizes "green" resources such as biomass, solar, wind and water to generate electricity.

Green Power EMC is the first in Georgia to invite members to choose how some of their electricity is produced. Since its beginning, Green Power EMC has generated more than 180 million kilowatt-hours of green energy, providing the same environmental benefits as taking 159,839 cars off Georgia's roads or planting 227,771 acres with trees.

To calculate your Green Power EMC environmental benefits, visit [www.washingtonemc.com](http://www.washingtonemc.com) and click on Green Power.

*Join the green generation*



*Live the green life*

# Comfortable country living

## A home for all seasons—energy efficient and relaxing

**E**nergy efficiency makes living in the comfort of a relaxing country home comfortable and affordable. Homes built with energy efficiency in mind can be 20 to 30 percent more energy efficient than standard homes.

Homes achieve this higher level of performance with a combination of energy-efficient construction elements, including effective insulation systems, high-performance windows, tight construction and ducts, energy-efficient heating and cooling equipment and appliances.

“We considered a number of energy-efficient measures when Marilyn and I decided to build our home,” says Chad Forehand. “We used 2 by 6-inch stud construction rather than the standard 2 by 4-inch construction. This allowed us to place more insulation in the walls for added comfort,” says Chad Forehand.

The Forehands recently built a new home with energy efficiency and comfort in mind. “The choices we made have really paid off. We have been very pleased with our utility bills,” says Forehand. Energy-efficient homes can include a variety of proven features that contribute to improved home quality and owner comfort, and to lower energy use.

Properly installed and inspected insulation in floors, walls and attics ensures even temperatures throughout the house. Effective insulation reduces energy use and increases comfort.

Energy-efficient windows employ advanced technologies, such as pro-



Bill Durden Photo

**Surrounded by a grove of pecan trees, the home of Chad and Marilyn (Davis) Forehand complements the country landscape in Warthen. The home's energy-efficient construction provides an added measure of comfort for the family.**

TECTIVE coating and improved frames, to help keep heat in during winter and out during summer. These windows also block damaging ultraviolet sunlight that can discolor carpets and furnishings.

Sealing holes and cracks in the home's envelope and in heating and cooling systems helps reduce drafts, moisture, dust, pollen and noise. A tightly sealed home improves comfort and indoor air quality while reducing utility and maintenance costs.

In addition to using less energy to operate, energy-efficient heating and cooling systems can be quieter,

reduce indoor humidity and improve the overall comfort of the home. When properly installed into a tightly sealed home, efficient heating and cooling equipment systems won't have to work so hard to heat and cool the home.

Energy-efficient homes equipped with Energy Star®-qualified products and appliances can add extra energy savings. Energy Star®-qualified appliances make it easy for consumers to identify and purchase energy-efficient products that offer savings on energy bills without sacrificing performance, features and comfort.



## Southern Security Systems®

**Protection you can rely on. People you can count on. A low monthly monitoring fee of just \$18.95 helps keep you safe, sound and secure. Call Washington EMC at (478) 552-2577 or (800) 552-2577 for a free home security analysis.**