

Washington EMC—much more than electricity.

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



# LAMPLIGHTER®

Official Member Newsletter of Washington EMC

July 2018

## Learning from the best in the trade

Power Line Technician—benchmark of safety and training

PASSION

INTEGRITY

EXCELLENCE



Bill Durden

Washington EMC Power Line Technician Caleb Sanders, center, was recently recognized for completing the GEMC/Northwest Lineman College Certification Program. Joining Caleb for the occasion are, from left, Kevin Morris, vice president of Engineering and Operations; Wendy Sellers, president/CEO; Mike Logue, line superintendent; and Keith Dixon, Operations and Safety supervisor.

Caleb Sanders recently completed the Georgia EMC/Northwest Lineman College Certification Program. The program is composed of four modules to be completed by the apprentice that are graded by Northwest Lineman College and four training exercises conducted at the Electric Cooperative Training Center at Smarr.

The module curriculum is continually updated by the staff of Northwest Lineman College. The four training

exercises include instruction in climbing, construction, operations and leadership. In addition, the course teaches math, basic electricity and the fundamentals of alternating current.

Advanced lineworker skills include substation operation, right-of-way clearing, system operations, phasing and measuring voltage and current. The curriculum was developed by the staff of the Training, Education and Safety Department of Georgia EMC to meet the needs

of Georgia's electric cooperatives.

Washington EMC has been dedicated to providing reliable, low-cost electricity to its members since 1937.

"Having well-trained personnel is the key to making sure Washington EMC employees are safe on the job and their job performance is at its best," says Wendy Sellers, president/CEO. "This is the most certain way to meet our goal of providing our members with the highest level of service."



An electric membership corporation

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

e-mail: [wemc@washingtonemc.com](mailto:wemc@washingtonemc.com)

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

Wendy Sellers, *President/CEO*

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mildred W. Jackson,  
*Chair, Tennille*

Joe Taylor,  
*Vice Chair, Sparta*

Mike McDonald,  
*Secretary-Treasurer, Warrenton*

Mike Beckworth, *Harrison*

Billy Helton, *Warthen*

Jeff Lacksen, *Sparta*

Ken Vickers, *Wrightsville*

#### OFFICE HOURS:

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

Monday through Friday

Phones:

**Local (478) 552-2577**

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

#### 24-Hour Call Center

To report a power interruption  
please call:

**Local (478) 552-2577**

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

#### Branch Locations at

500 E. Hancock St.  
Milledgeville, GA 31061

12860 Broad St.  
Sparta, GA 31087

100 W. College St.  
Wrightsville, GA 31096

Convenient bill pay options include:

Night Depository available after hours

Drive-thru kiosk payment window at

319 N. Smith St. • Sandersville

M-F 8:00 am - 4:30 p.m.

On line bill pay at [www.washingtonemc.com](http://www.washingtonemc.com)

Washington EMC Mobile App it's Free,  
simply look for WEMC in the App Store  
or the Android Market

Pay-by-Phone by calling

(478) 552-2577 or (800) 552-2577

# We are your co-op

Wendy Sellers  
*President/CEO*



## What better way to do business?

At Washington EMC, we work hard every day to provide you with the best member experience possible. The surest way to accomplish this is with personnel trained to do the job right. Caleb Sanders recently completed one of the nation's best lineman training programs to become a journeyman power line technician for Washington EMC. Read more about Caleb's accomplishment on page 22A.

A very important feature of being a Washington EMC member is ownership. Each year, members gather at the Annual Meeting to conduct the business of their EMC. At the Annual Meeting, held each October, they elect fellow members to their board of directors.

What better way to do business? After all, no one is going to treat you better than friends and neighbors who are owners of Washington EMC, just like you. Learn more about this

democratic process on page 22C.

Capital credits represent each member's investment in the cooperative. Because cooperatives do not earn profits in the sense that other businesses do, any margins, or revenues remaining after expenses have been paid, are assigned to the members in the form of a capital credit and returned to you in future years. Your share is determined by your electricity usage.

What happens to unclaimed capital credits? Any unclaimed capital credit checks are held for five years. After this, if the checks remain unclaimed, the funds are donated to charitable causes. More about unclaimed capital credit checks appears on page 22D.

We understand the inconvenience when storms knock out electricity. With Generlilnk™, backup power can be safely provided using your home generator. More information about this safe and easy-to-use device can be found on page 22D.

Washington EMC is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



# Democratic member control

Cooperative principle

# 2

Cooperatives are democratic organizations controlled by their members, who actively participate in setting policies and making decisions. The elected representatives are accountable to the membership. In cooperatives, members have equal voting rights (one member, one vote).

## Nominating Committee meets August 7, 2018

### We are member-owned and member-operated

The following members will serve as the Nominating Committee, to meet at the Washington EMC office at 258 N. Harris St., Sandersville, Georgia, at 2 p.m., Tuesday, August 7, 2018:

Deborah Bassaloff  
106 Veal Road  
Sandersville, GA 31082

David Claxton  
210 McCoy Road  
Wrightsville, GA 31096

Bruce Morgan  
196 W. J. Archer Road  
Sparta, GA 31087

Emory Neely  
809 Dixon Grove Road  
Tennille, GA 31089

Mike Sheppard  
167 Mills Street  
Harrison, GA 31035

Sammy Toulson  
219 Toulson Road, SW  
Mitchell, GA 30820

William Zielinski  
151 Old Grits Mill Road, NE  
Sparta, GA 31087

The committee will meet for the purpose of nominating two directors, to be considered for election at the next Annual Meeting of Members of Washington EMC.



## Voting and elections



One distinction of the cooperative difference is that Washington EMC is democratically controlled by its members. We embrace democracy through our annual board of directors election, in which members elect fellow members to serve as directors.

Director candidates are nominated by members through a nominating committee process or by petition.

Members vote at the Annual Meeting, where voting results are announced.

On the 2018 ballot, members will elect two directors to serve a three-year term, one each from District 5 and District 7. Members from all seven representative districts may vote in the election for all director positions.

# Do you have money to claim?

Please help Washington EMC locate members and former members who have unclaimed refunds

In compliance with the Disposition of Unclaimed Property Act, O.C.G.A. § 44-12-236, Washington EMC is attempting to locate former members whose capital credit check was issued August 31, 2012, but which have been returned by the U.S. Post Office as “undeliverable,” or have otherwise been unclaimed.

A current list of the names of these members and instructions for claiming these funds is posted on our website at [www.washingtonemc.com](http://www.washingtonemc.com). This list is also available at all Washington EMC locations for reviewing during regular business hours.

The last date to claim these funds is September 30, 2018. If these funds

are not claimed by this date, they will be donated for charitable uses, as permitted by O.C.G.A. § 44-12-236.

To claim a refund or submit any question about this notice or the list, contact the Washington EMC office by calling (478) 552-2577.

## Generating power when the power goes off



The switch is a 5-inch device installed behind your electric meter by utility personnel.

GenerLink eliminates the hassle of running multiple extension cords or the limited use of appliances.

### Connecting a portable generator is now safe and easy

Connecting a portable generator is now safe and easy with GenerLink™, available at Washington EMC. Plugging your generator into GenerLink gives you a safe and easy way to connect a generator to your home during those unexpected power outages.

During a power outage, more

inconvenience is the last thing you want. With GenerLink, using your portable generator is quick, easy and safe. It's easy to operate; turn off your appliances on your breaker panel, plug your generator into GenerLink, start your generator and turn on your appliances from your breaker panel.

GenerLink, plus your generator, equals your path to power. No more hazardous extension cords. No need for expensive installation of a transfer switch and sub panel. No more dangerous backfeed.

GenerLink is designed with you, the homeowner, in mind. This device is installed by a Washington EMC technician in fewer than 30 minutes.

There is no need to rewire your home. With GenerLink, you plug in your portable generator and turn on the appliances you need. It's that easy, safe and convenient.

To learn more about GenerLink, contact Tony Orr at Washington EMC by calling (478) 552-2577 or (800) 552-2577.