

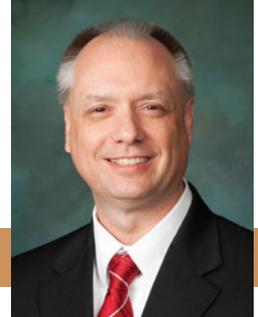


CONNECT

A newsletter for the members of JEFFERSON ENERGY COOPERATIVE

Pandemic Doesn't Change Jefferson Energy's Mission

Chris Dillard, President and CEO



Jefferson Energy's mission has always been to provide its members with safe, reliable and affordable electricity. The COVID-19 pandemic has not affected that and will not deter us from that mission.

Unfortunately, we have had to close our offices and drive-through windows. We have also changed work schedules and taken other measures to practice social distancing. As you may know, we have suspended disconnections for nonpayment for the immediate future and will work with those who need assistance when the

time comes. All late fees and other fees associated with electronic payments have been waived as well.

No matter how long this pandemic lasts, please know that Jefferson Energy will continue to operate and provide the highest quality of service to you, our valued members. We will also do our part to help flatten the curve with safe work practices and social distancing. The spread of COVID-19 may necessitate changes in how we interact, but it will not change what we do. Stay safe!

Jefferson Energy Selects Youth Tour Delegates

Emma Shirley and Cristina Mendez, of Harlem High School, and Briarwood Academy students Brady Ansley and Ella Johnson have been selected to represent Jefferson Energy Cooperative on the 55th annual Washington Youth Tour, a once-in-a-lifetime leadership experience made possible through the generosity of electric membership cooperatives.

These four students were carefully selected through an application process that included a written test with a short essay. This year, more than 50 students from 11 schools applied. In addition to the trip, the delegates selected will also



Emma Shirley



Cristina Mendez



Brady Ansley



Ella Johnson

receive a \$1,000 scholarship toward their college tuition.

According to Steve Chalker with Jefferson Energy, it is an (10024623-002) honor to be chosen for

the trip. Candidates competed against other teens who are community volunteers in a variety of youth service organizations, student-athletes and members of respected academic organizations such as Beta Club, National Honor Society, Student Council, Key Club, Debate Club, FBLA, Interact Club and Science Olympiad, among others.

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Stay Connected by Updating Your Contact Information

In the utility business, we know rough weather will occur, and sometimes power outages simply can't be avoided. But there are steps you can take to ensure your electricity is restored as quickly and safely as possible. By keeping your contact information up-to-date, you can take full advantage of the services Jefferson Energy offers.

It's important for us to have your most current contact information because if we don't have the correct phone number linked to your home address, it's much (102442-001) more difficult for you to report an outage.

Remember when you had to speak to a customer service representative to report a power outage? Waiting on hold could be frustrating and time-consuming. Today, with the press of a button, you can easily report an outage.

At Jefferson Energy, we use the phone number you

provide to link your service address to our outage management system. For example, if you call us to report an outage, our automated system instantly recognizes your phone number and can determine the particular service address from which you are reporting an outage. Once you give our system a response, your outage is reported. It's that simple! *But remember*—this only works if your current phone number is linked to your service address.

Updating your contact information also speeds up the power restoration process. With correct information, our outage management system can predict the location and the possible cause of an outage, making it easier for our crews to correct the problem.

To make sure your contact information is updated, please call a member services representative at (706) 547-2167, or toll-free at 1 (877) JEFFERSON.



Jefferson Energy Annual Meeting Date Set



Make plans to attend Jefferson Energy Cooperative's 83rd Annual Meeting on Tuesday, July 21, 2020, at Jefferson County High School. All registered members will receive a registration gift and be entered into a drawing for numerous door prizes.

Please come out and enjoy some great entertainment from the Chuck Wagon Gang and find out what's going on at your co-op. We look forward to seeing you there!

Freeman Named JEC Employee of the Quarter

Congratulations to John Freeman on being selected as Jefferson Energy Cooperative's Employee of the First Quarter. John started his career nearly six years ago as a meter reader and worked his way into his current position as Line Tech I.

"For me, this really means a lot," John says. "I take pride in my work so to get recognized for it feels pretty good."

He loves that he is able to work outside and enjoys the crew he works with. "We've got some good (10022136-001) guys that will keep you laughing, which makes work that much more enjoyable," he says.

Line Supervisor Jack Godowns,



John Freeman

who nominated John, says, "John is a hard worker with a positive attitude.

He works well with others and never complains. He takes care of the equipment, keeps it clean and is doing what he needs to ready himself for the next phase of his career. He's a great asset to our crew."

John and his son, Easton, are best buds, and he wants to be a good role model for Easton. He enjoys hunting, fishing and spending time with family and friends.

After a long career at Jefferson Energy, John says, he would like to retire and build a big house in Midville with a large pond so he can fish every day.

Congratulations once again to John Freeman, Jefferson Energy's Employee of the First Quarter.

Be Safe When Using Online Bill Pay



If you are paying your Jefferson Energy bill online, make sure you are on the **official JEC website** (www.jec.coop). External pay sites have been placing the Jefferson Energy logo and name on their sites, which misleads many members into thinking they are on the official JEC website.

These sites often appear when (115285-002) searching for Jefferson

Energy. While many of these sites are legitimate, most withhold payments until they clear the bank. This can, in turn, make your payments late and have adverse effects on your account.

If you have any questions about your account, please contact a member services representative at 1 (877) JEFFERSON, or (877) 533-3377.



Washington Youth Tour, *Continued from page 24A*

This year's tour, which takes place June 18-25, will expose students to the fast-paced world of politics and leadership.

Former delegates and participating EMCs agree the Youth Tour is an invaluable program that gives young adults an experience that will stay with them the rest of their lives. "I imagined what this trip was going to be like, but it exceeded my every expectation,"

recalls a recent delegate. "Don't be surprised when you come home saying it was the best trip of your entire life."

Student delegates will explore government on a local and national level, gathering in Atlanta before departing for Washington, D.C. While visiting our nation's capital, the delegates will have the opportunity to meet with their elected officials to

discuss and learn about issues that are important locally.

The Georgia delegation will be able to exchange ideas and views about local and national issues with more than 1,700 peers from other states.

Since 1965, the Washington Youth Tour has given more than 3,000 students from Georgia and more than 50,000 nationwide the opportunity to take part in this unique experience.



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For your convenience, bills can be paid anytime
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KEEP INFORMED AND WIN \$25

It pays to keep informed about JEC's business. Read and find your account number in "CONNECT." Call our Member Services Department to claim your award—a \$25 credit on your bill.

WITH YOUR CORRECT PHONE NUMBER, WE CAN GET THE LIGHTS ON FASTER

During large outages, Jefferson Energy Cooperative receives thousands of calls at once. Having your correct phone number helps our Outage Call Answering System retrieve your information faster.

Please check the phone number and service address listed on your electric bill. If they are incorrect, please call 877-JEFFERSON (877-533-3377) with the correct information so we can better serve you.

Jefferson Energy Cooperative is an equal
opportunity provider and employer.

McCain Earns Director Gold Credential

Congratulations to Jefferson Energy Board Member Ophelia McCain for obtaining her Director Gold Credential through NRECA's Director Education Program. This credential recognizes directors who have earned their Certified Cooperative Director and Board Leadership certifications and are committed to continuing their education (9548-001) throughout their service on the board.

McCain was recognized for this accomplishment by Jefferson Energy Board Chairman Joe Shurley at a recent board meeting.



Ophelia McCain



Memorial Day Closing

Please note that all Jefferson Energy offices will
be closed Monday, May 25, for Memorial Day.
Please have a safe and happy holiday.