

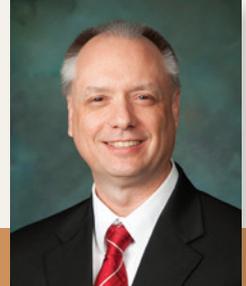


# CONNECT

A newsletter for the members of JEFFERSON ENERGY COOPERATIVE

## We're Thankful for Our Sister Cooperatives Collaborating to Make a Cooperative Difference

Chris Dillard, President and CEO



**W**hen you think about Jefferson Energy Cooperative (JEC), you probably associate us with the local community. And you would be right! Our leadership team, board of directors and employees all live and work right here in the community we serve. But you may not realize that Jefferson Energy is part of a much larger cooperative network that brings additional value, tools and knowledge that benefit you, the members of the co-op.

### Cooperation Among Cooperatives

When a severe weather event is predicted for our region, we call on our sister co-ops in areas unaffected by the approaching storm. Through this system of mutual aid, we coordinate with other co-ops to bring additional trucks, equipment and manpower to our area. We work together and share resources to restore power to our community. And Jefferson Energy reciprocates this by assisting other electric co-ops when they request help (10002907-001).

A defining characteristic of a cooperative is “cooperation among cooperatives.” This is a way that co-ops work together to meet bigger challenges like power restoration after a severe weather event.

Another area in which Jefferson Energy benefits from cooperation among cooperatives is cybersecurity. Through the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association

(NRECA) Rural Cooperative Cybersecurity Capabilities Program (RC3), we can access training, resources and tools to strengthen our efforts to combat cyber threats.

Jefferson Energy’s ability to tap into the larger electric cooperative network and access tools, products, resources and leading practices from across the nation ultimately makes our co-op and our community stronger.

### Global Impact

Communities around the globe have benefited from the lessons learned and experience of co-ops in electrification of rural areas in the U.S.

NRECA International has provided access to reliable and affordable electricity to 120 million people in 43 countries. This effort is made possible through the support of electric co-ops in this state and across the country.

Hundreds of lineworkers, engineers and other co-op employees have served as volunteers to bring first-time access to electricity and train local partners to help utilities be sustainable in their own communities (10027755-004).

November is a time of year for reflection and giving thanks. I am grateful for our sister co-ops who enable us to better serve you and our broader community. When electric co-ops collaborate, we strengthen each other and the communities we serve—and that is something in which to be truly thankful. Happy Thanksgiving, everyone!



# Employee of the Third Quarter

**S**am Marvicsin began his career in the Jeffery Energy Control Room four years ago, working his way up to Engineering Technician. The role was not his first choice, he admits, as Sam originally applied for a lineman job opening, offering nearly 10 years of line tech experience. But JEC saw the bigger picture and a role more fit for the former line technician.

"With his experience in line work and the Control Room, Sam has an outstanding understanding of his role as Engineering Technician and how it affects those around him," says Cameron Marchant, his manager.

Sam says he loves what he does despite the career change, and he finds joy in doing his job correctly so that others can do the same (10075723-001).

Aside from the joy he finds in his career, Sam also loves spending time with his wife and two children. He loves all genres of music, but confesses that his go-to song on a bad day is "Two Zigs-Zags."

His favorite teams are the University of Georgia Bulldogs and the Atlanta Braves, and the food he loves the most is macaroni and cheese, with the least favorite food being anchovies.

When asked who would play him in a movie, he says Ryan Gosling, because he looks the most like him.

Sam's favorite quote is by Babe Ruth: "It's hard to beat a person who never gives up."

There was never a doubt of who Cameron would nominate for Employee of the Third Quarter.

"Sam approaches tasks and problems with understanding, precision and great productivity," Cameron says. "His attitude is great; always willing to assist and tackle problems great and small."

Congratulations, Sam, on being recognized as JEC's Employee of the Third Quarter. The award is well-deserved!



Sam Marvicsin

## Thankful Thoughts

We have so much to be thankful for during this season—our life, our family, our members, our community, our staff. As you can see, the list goes on! In the spirit of Thanksgiving, we asked some of our JEC work family to tell us what they are thankful for this year.



**Montrel Ivey, Material Clerk**

"I'm thankful for life itself, and I'm thankful for my family. I'm also thankful for a job to be able to provide for my family."



**Suzanne Saunders, Energy Services Clerk**

"I am thankful for God's grace and mercy, and for his unconditional love. I am thankful for my family, including my beautiful granddaughters, and I am thankful that I have a job that I enjoy. I hope this Thanksgiving season, as well as every day, we remember that at the end of day our blessings are bigger than our problems."



**Stacy Wilmore, Accountant**

"I am thankful for my amazing son who makes me proud every day. I am thankful for my family and friends, and their neverending love and support. I am also thankful for my home, career and the countless blessings that God has bestowed upon me."



**Tim Lee, Fleet Supervisor**

"I am so thankful for the many blessings that God blesses me and my family with each and every day. It's a great blessing to have a job that I can come to, enjoy the work atmosphere and be able to provide for my family."

# Cooperative Spirit Award

Jefferson Energy and 31 other participating Georgia electric membership cooperatives (EMCs) would like to congratulate Harlem High School and Jefferson County High School on winning the Georgia High School Association (GHSA) Cooperative Spirit Sportsmanship Award.

This awards program honors schools that demonstrate exemplary sportsmanship during competitive events and is sponsored by Georgia's EMCs.

The Cooperative Spirit Sportsmanship Award program was introduced in 2006 to reinforce GHSA's philosophy: "Student-athletes, coaches, spectators and all others associated with high school activities should adhere to the fundamental values of respect, fairness, honesty and responsibility."

Only one school in each division and within each region is chosen to receive this annual award. The GHSA takes into consideration all aspects of sportsmanship



during events when considering who to choose for the award. This includes student-athletes' sportsmanship on the field, as well as fellow students, school staff, parents and game spectators (10051175-001).



## *Holiday Office Closing*

The Jefferson Energy offices will be closed Thursday, Nov. 24, and Friday, Nov. 25, in observance of Thanksgiving. We hope you enjoy a safe, happy and healthy holiday!



# CONNECT

## Jefferson Energy Cooperative

### Jefferson Energy Cooperative

P.O. Box 457  
3077 Highway 17 N  
Wrens, GA 30833-0457  
[www.jec.coop](http://www.jec.coop)

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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*Richmond County Region*

A member-owned Georgia cooperative since 1937

### OFFICE HOURS

All offices: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Monday through Friday

#### CHRIS DILLARD

*President/CEO*

#### TAMIKA LAMPKIN

*Director of Cooperative Communications*

For your convenience, bills can be paid anytime at the corporate headquarters, or in the Richmond, Louisville or Thomson offices.

### TOLL-FREE SERVICE NUMBER

**(877) 533-3377**

*24-hour Dispatching Daily*

*Published monthly and mailed to all members of Jefferson Energy Cooperative.*

### 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.*

## Coming up ...

Student scholarship and educational advancement opportunities for our Jefferson Energy Foundation Scholarship and Washington Youth Tour will begin in January 2023.



## Walter Harrison Scholarship: Apply Today

The cost of attending a public college is continually increasing. Private colleges take an even more significant chunk out of a student's or family's budget.

Keeping in mind those sobering statistics, and to provide a measure of relief for those seeking a college education, Jefferson Energy encourages students to submit applications for the Walter Harrison Scholarship, a program sponsored by Georgia's 41 electric cooperatives.

The \$1,000 scholarship can be applied toward academic expenses at any accredited two- or four-year university, college or vocational-technical institute in Georgia. Factors used for consideration include grade-point average, SAT scores, academic standing, scholastic honors and financial need.

A scholarship committee, composed of EMC directors and managers, selects students who excel in these areas and struggle with college expenses.

Fourteen scholarships were awarded statewide in 2022. To apply for the Walter Harrison Scholarship during the 2022-23 school year, students should call Jefferson Energy at (877) 533-3377, ext. 5055; email us at [ssaunders@jec.coop](mailto:ssaunders@jec.coop); or visit [www.jec.coop](http://www.jec.coop). Completed applications are due by Jan. 31, 2023.

Created in 1985 by the Board of Directors of Georgia EMC, the scholarship pays tribute to the late Walter Harrison, a pioneer in the rural electric movement, and a leader at local, state and national levels in the electric cooperative program.

Students who apply for the scholarship must be accepted or enrolled in an accredited undergraduate degree program in Georgia. They must also complete an application and write an autobiographical sketch with a preview of their future plans.

The scholarship is partially funded through a silent auction held each year at Georgia EMC's Annual Meeting. The 41 electric co-ops throughout Georgia donate unique items representative of every region of the state.

