

Trustee meetings for 3 districts are this month

Members of the co-op will gather at three trustee district meetings this month for the purpose of selecting candidates for the co-op's board of trustees. Districts 3, 5 and 7 are up for election.

Susan Reeves is the trustee for District 3. The meeting will be held Jan. 12 at Windsor Baptist Church, 918 SE County Road 234, Gainesville, FL 32641.



Reeves

Dewitt Hersey is the trustee for District 5. The meeting will be held Jan. 14 at Belle Oakes Barn, 11800 SW 157th Lane, Brooker, FL 32622.



Hersey

John Henry Whitehead is the trustee for District 7. The meeting will be held Jan. 11 at the Lake Butler Community Center, 155 NW 3rd St., Lake Butler, FL 32054.



Whitehead

Registration of members begins at 5:30 p.m. The meetings begin at 6 p.m. Due to COVID-19, everyone will be required to wear masks during the meeting.

Each year, three positions on the co-op's nine-member board of trustees are up for election. Members within the respective districts select one or two members to be candidates for the board of trustees. These candidates are voted upon by all members during the Annual Meeting election period.

COZY

Continued from front

of comfortable wool socks or house slippers to stay toasty while reading or watching TV.

Let the sunshine in

On winter days when the sun is shining, take advantage and harness natural warmth from sunlight. Open all curtains, drapes and blinds in your home to let the sunshine in — you'll be able to feel the difference.

Counteract dry air

Another way to make your home cozier is to use a humidifier. Cold air doesn't hold water vapor like warm air, so by adding humidity inside your home, you can feel a little warmer. A favorable level of humidity inside your home can also help clear sinuses and soften skin.

Dress the floor

Beyond adding visual appeal to your home, area rugs can also provide extra insulation and a warm surface for your feet on cold winter days. Use large area rugs in rooms where you spend the most time. You'll enjoy the new colors and textures of the rug, and the additional warmth will help keep your home comfortable.

New app, bill, more coming soon

Clay Electric is upgrading most of its information systems this spring. Members will benefit from the changes when a new online customer service dashboard and mobile app — called MyClayElectric — launches in March.

The new dashboard and mobile app will give members more flexibility to manage their accounts, including paying their monthly bill, monitoring energy use, reporting outages and more. Along with the new platforms, members will see a revamped bill in April that makes it easier to quickly understand their recent energy usage and amount due.

More information on the changes will appear in upcoming publications.

3040-27200

The Clay Electric Cooperative, Inc. _____

Power Line

January 2021

Five ways to stay cozy this winter

The Sunshine State, and especially North Florida, are not immune to cold weather.

When you're feeling chilly at home, there are budget-friendly ways to stay comfortable without turning up the thermostat.

Here are five easy steps to stay cozy.

Buy an electric blanket

If you're experiencing cold winter temperatures or you simply "run cold," an electric blanket can deliver quick warmth like a regular throw or blanket cannot. The blankets can include a variety of features, like timers and dual temperature settings (if your cuddle buddy prefers less heat). This winter, consider an electric blanket instead of turning up the heat, and your electric bill will thank you.



Slide into socks or slippers

One of the easiest ways to stay cozy at home is to keep your feet warm. Our feet play a critical role in regulating body temperature, so when your feet are warm, your body automatically feels warmer. Try a pair

Continued on back panel

Operations continue as COVID-19 drifts into '21

The year 2020 brought all of us an event no one could have predicted: a global pandemic.

As COVID-19 began to spread in March, everyday household items like toilet paper, paper towels and hand sanitizer were out of stock, businesses transitioned employees from office cubicles to home offices and everyday human interaction changed completely.

Despite all of the challenges from the pandemic, one thing that has remained the same during this uncertain time has been Clay Electric's ability to continue to provide safe, reliable and affordable electricity to our members at the end of the line. The co-op's "business as usual" still looks a little different at the beginning of 2021, but day-to-day operations that allow us to serve our members have remained uninterrupted.

Similarly, our wholesale power provider, Seminole Electric Cooperative, has not only been able to continue "business as usual" operations during COVID-19, but has progressed on a number of important projects geared toward bringing Clay Electric's members affordable electricity in the future.

The new 1050 megawatt Seminole Combined Cycle Facility in Palatka is progressing on schedule and on budget, with commercial service expected to begin by 2023. Additionally, the United States Department of Agriculture recently approved a \$727 million loan that will be used to construct SCCF at below market interest rates. Receiving a below-market interest rate will save electric cooperative consumers, including Clay Electric members, millions of dollars collectively over the life of the facility.

Clay Electric and Seminole employees have also been focused on helping members and giving back to the community. The co-op has lowered the cost of power twice during the pandemic to ease financial burdens on families, retired Capital Credits early and made special donations to local food pantries. Employees have also put their own time



During COVID-19, Clay Electric and Seminole Electric employees have been focused on helping members and giving back to the community.

and money toward many important causes.

In July, Seminole employees organized a three-week giving campaign to benefit those affected by COVID-19 in their surrounding communities. The campaign gave employees the opportunity to come together to donate monetary gifts or in-kind materials. In all, Seminole raised more than \$30,000 from employees and other supporters.

While we have no way of knowing when things will get back to "normal," rest assured your co-op and Seminole will continue working together to meet our purpose of providing you the electricity you count on.

Power Line is an informational publication of Clay Electric Cooperative, Inc. It is distributed monthly with members' billing statements. If you have questions or comments about Power Line, write Justin Caudell at P.O. Box 308, Keystone Heights, FL 32656; or email: jcaudell@clayelectric.com. Clay Electric Cooperative's Board of Trustees will meet at noon on Thursday, Jan. 28 and Thursday, Feb. 25 in Keystone Heights.

HS students invited to apply for scholarships

Clay Electric will offer at least 25 \$1,500 college scholarships this year to high school seniors.

If you have a son or daughter who is a 12th-grade student and is planning to attend college this fall, he or she may want to apply for a Clay Electric Youth Scholarship.

The scholarship program is limited to any public, private or homeschooled high school senior whose home is served by Clay Electric and who will graduate at the end of the current school year (May/June 2021).

An application is available on the co-op's website (ClayElectric.com), at each of the co-op's six district offices and at area high schools. The deadline to have applications submitted is April 5.

Scholastic records, extracurricular activities, employment, community service and recommendations are the primary considerations.

We still need access to meters

The co-op's new advanced meters include technology allowing them to be read without access to the meter. These meters improve meter reading efficiencies and accuracy, but even with remote reading capabilities, the member is responsible for keeping the meter clear of obstructions and providing us with access to the meter.

The meter is the property of Clay Electric and we require access. Providing access to the meters allows staff to conduct routine maintenance and to access the meters on an as-needed basis to obtain a manual reading. Easy accessibility to the meter at your service location is required in order for our employees to do their job safely and efficiently.