

*People. Power. Progress.*  
Seventy-Five Years of JEMC

**Jackson EMC Wins National  
Communication Awards**

# JEMCOnews

A PUBLICATION FOR JACKSON EMC MEMBERS

July 2013



Find out how energy efficient  
improvements can help make for a

*Comfortable Life*



1938 - 2013  
**JACKSON EMC**  
PEOPLE. POWER. PROGRESS.



President/CEO  
Randall Pugh

## Identity Crisis

It seems this time of year not only brings high temperatures, but also an increase in imposter crimes and scams for utilities and home security companies.

The home security industry is dealing with what's commonly referred to as a door-to-door scam tactic where unsolicited salespeople make their rounds through neighborhoods posing as security company agents. These salespeople often present limited-time only deals, free equipment or pressure homeowners into making decisions and signing paperwork on the spot. Some go as far as posing as your current security company, offering to "upgrade" your equipment. Once it's over, consumers have often signed long-term, higher cost contracts or allowed the agents to replace their current equipment with a new security company's system.

Before doing business with these individuals, be sure to ask for the following information:

- Contractor's name
- Street address (no P.O. Box) and telephone number
- Contractor's license number
- State that issued the license and name under which the license is filed

If the salesperson is hesitant or avoids providing you this information, consider it an alert and ask them to come back another time or call your current security company, if you have one, to confirm.

Remember, EMC Security is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and they don't come to your home unless you've scheduled an appointment. Visit them online at [www.emcsecurity.com](http://www.emcsecurity.com).

The utility industry has seen an increase in telephone and door-to-door scams as well. Most recent is the telephone scam where someone posing as a Jackson EMC or other power utility employee threatens to disconnect power if the person doesn't provide a credit card number or prepaid cash card number.

Jackson EMC will make automated reminder calls to let members know that their bills are past due; however, a Jackson EMC employee will never call members and demand payment over the phone.

Jackson EMC sometimes uses contractors for services such as tree trimming or power line construction. Typically, this work doesn't require contractors to enter your home. Here are a few tips for verifying Jackson EMC employees and contractors:

- Look for the JEMC logo on vehicles or clothing
- Ask to see a JEMC photo identification badge
- Call your local JEMC office to verify if employees should be at your home
- The contractor's logo is on the doors or side of the vehicle
- Truck signage that reads, "Contractor for Jackson EMC"

If you haven't scheduled an appointment, call us or EMC Security (telephone numbers are on the back page of *Jemco News*) before you allow someone posing as a security representative or Jackson EMC employee into your home. If you suspect someone is falsely representing himself or herself, contact the police.

### JEMCO news

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## onlinef@cts

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# PEOPLE. POWER. PROGRESS.



John Wiley "J.W." Cato, an early director of Jackson EMC, plowed his Hall County farm with mules and did farm chores solely with manual labor before electricity was run to rural communities.



Wood-burning stoves kept country kitchens warm in winter but unbearably hot in summer. Mr. and Mrs. L.B. Parks of Commerce prepare to enjoy a cup of coffee warmed on their wood stove. The Parks were the twenty-fifth family to sign up for electric service from Jackson EMC.

Jackson EMC's historical perspective is documented in the book, *People. Power. Progress.* This coffee table book will take readers on a journey through 75 years. The imagery and backstory details the cooperative's start to where we are today. Be among the first to read an excerpt of *People. Power. Progress.*, written by Jackie Kennedy, a Georgia freelance writer whose work has appeared in *Georgia Magazine*. For more information on our history, visit us online at [www.jacksonemc.com/75](http://www.jacksonemc.com/75).

**T**he history of the American farmer's struggle to acquire electricity has been well documented. Those who grew up in the rural United States in the middle of the twentieth century are well-acquainted with the slow but steady shift from existence on the farm without electricity, and the drudgery of innumerable manual chores demanded by its absence, to a more manageable life and livelihood made possible with electric power, the silent helping hand. Our parents and their parents knew the story because they lived it.

They hauled water from streams or lugged it up in buckets from backyard wells. Our grandmothers labored over cauldrons filled with boiling water, struggling to stir the muck out of work clothes dirtied by their husbands and sons who plowed red clay fields or slopped muddy hogs to eke out a living. Those of our lineage whose backs were bent due to manual labor demanded in the country remember how their city neighbors gained the same results minus the strenuous labor because they had electric appliances that minimized the work.

Our grandparents well recall and often pronounce their praise for Franklin D. Roosevelt, the Depression-era president who witnessed the hardships faced by farm families while living in the west Georgia village of Warm Springs, only one hundred miles or so south from what would become Jackson EMC territory. Their president, the old-timers will say, brought the REA. This Rural Electrification Administration, they will exclaim, did more than supply electric light: It changed lives. ▲

*“If you’re not living, you’re just existing,” is how Jim Shevlin described his life before marrying his true love, Marie Shevlin, after 43 years. Together, they would build a cozy life and make a comfortable home that was also energy efficient.*



*Jim and Marie Shevlin share a laugh in their highly efficient home. The Shevlins put Jackson EMC's HomePlus Loan and online Analyzer tools to the test to make their home cozy and comfortable.*

# It's a Comfortable Life

“I went on [www.jacksonemc.com](http://www.jacksonemc.com) and completed a Do-It-Yourself (DIY) survey after our energy bill increased substantially last year,” recalls Marie. “We didn’t want to waste electricity or energy. Jim purchased an infrared thermometer to locate energy leaks and we put the DIY kit to the test throughout our home.” Jim suspected their efficiency woes could be traced back to their dated heating and cooling system, and he was right. The Shevlins quickly discovered that their cozy home lacked proper insulation, housed an inefficient water heater and needed appliance upgrades.

“We purchased three ENERGY STAR® appliances, a heat pump, a refrigerator, and a dishwasher. We also installed double-paned windows,” said Jim. An avid DIYer, Jim made many of the upgrades himself, including replacing and adding insulation throughout the home. For jobs that required professionals, the Shevlins relied on Jackson EMC.

“You don’t have to know everything; your electric cooperative is there to answer questions and provide a contractor list for you to choose from. Since we made our changes, our home is more comfortable and we know we’ll see a decrease in our bills” shared Jim. The Shevlins also joined the GEMC Federal credit union, the cooperative’s financial partner, and took advantage of JEMC’s HomePlus Loan and rebates for many of their qualifying energy efficient upgrades.

Amy Bryan, Jackson EMC’s Residential Marketing director, says homeowners like the Shevlins can save hundreds of dollars on their energy bills each year by doing a little research. “We provide tools such as the Home Analyzer, an online interactive analysis of your home’s efficiency, and the DIY In-Home Energy Audit kit featuring HGTV’s Pat Simpson,” says Bryan. Members can request the In-Home kit online or call JEMC to have the FREE kit mailed to their home.

Research took the Shevlins beyond their energy efficient plans and into security. Their home is protected by EMC Security, and a little research led them to purchase the Medical Alert pendant for Marie’s 91-year-old father, who also lives in the Shevlin home. “This was the perfect choice for my father. The two-way alert system provides another layer of protection for him, and peace of mind for us. Plus, it’s affordable and we have the convenience of one bill. My electric, EMC Security services and HomePlus Loan are all on one bill,” Marie explains.

Hear more about the Shevlin’s energy efficient plans and their amazing 43-year love story on our website at [www.jacksonemc.com/jemco](http://www.jacksonemc.com/jemco). ▲

*“...Since we made our changes, our home is more comfortable and we know we’ll see a decrease in our bills.”*



## HomePlus Loan Offers Low-Interest for Energy Efficient Improvements

If you’re not prepared to pay in full for costly energy efficient improvements or replacements, a low-interest loan gives you the flexibility of financing from \$500 - \$5,500 and paying

it back over 36 months. The application process is fast, and you’ll receive a response quickly. For convenience, your loan payment will be added to your monthly electric bill and no lien is placed

on your home. In addition to financing, some of your purchases may also qualify for federal tax credits, Jackson EMC rebates or incentives. Visit us at [www.jacksonemc.com/loans](http://www.jacksonemc.com/loans).



## Jackson EMC Wins National Communications Awards

Your publication, *Jemco News*, won first place in the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's (NRECA) Spotlight on Excellence Awards competition. *Jemco News* took first place in the Best External Newsletter category for electric cooperatives comparable in size. Your website, [www.jacksonemc.com](http://www.jacksonemc.com) also brought home a first place trophy in the national competition.

In another national competition among all cooperatives, Jackson EMC's 2012 Annual Report won first place in the Cooperative Communicators Association (CCA) annual contest. The judges commented, "The innovative format is very effective and ties perfectly to the stated objectives. Very nice photography, clean design and well organized." To see JEMC's online annual report, visit [www.jacksonemc.com/annualreport](http://www.jacksonemc.com/annualreport). ▲

## operationroundup

### The Jackson EMC Foundation Awards Nearly \$90,000 in Grants

The Jackson EMC Foundation Board of Directors awarded a total of \$89,960 in grants during their May meeting, including \$86,500 to organizations and \$3,460 to individuals.

#### Organizational Grant Recipients:

**\$15,000 to Gwinnett Children's Shelter** to help fund a medical services position that manages the medical and dental needs of the shelter's residents by providing health assessments, administering medications, completing medication audits, scheduling medical appointments, accompanying young people to medical appointments, and handling clinic duties.

**\$15,000 to Lindsay's Legacy Mentoring, Inc.**, in Jackson County to help fund the coordinator's position for a program which recruits and trains adult mentors to work with students kindergarten through 12th grade in all three school systems within the county, helping to ensure those young people become healthy, educated and employable.

**\$15,000 to the Tree House**, a children's advocacy center working to reduce child abuse in Barrow, Jackson and Banks counties, for the Family

Services Supervised Visitation Program, which provides a neutral, child-friendly environment for visits between children in foster care and their parents to enable them to maintain and enhance family bonds and provide a safe and nurturing environment for their children when reunited.

**\$10,000 to the Gainesville/Hall Co. Alliance for Literacy** to purchase materials and provide instructors for basic literacy classes for adults 16 and older and GED preparation classes for students who have not completed high school. The 2011 U.S. Census reports that about 22 percent of Hall County residents are not high school graduates and 9 percent have less than a 9th grade education.

**\$10,000 to the Georgia Mountain Food Bank** for its Summer Feeding Program which provides simple meals for at-risk children through the Boys & Girls Clubs of Hall County, Brenau University's "Rise" Social

Entrepreneurship Program, the Dahlonega Parks & Recreation Department and Dahlonega First United Methodist Church's Wellington Project to ensure they receive proper nutrition while schools are in recess for the summer.

**\$5,000 to Families of Children Under Stress (FOCUS)**, a nonprofit agency serving children, teens and adults with developmental disabilities and their families, to help provide Camp Hollywood in Lawrenceville, a unique summer day camp where children with developmental disabilities can build social skills, self-respect, character and community living skills.

**\$5,000 to Quinlan Arts, Inc.**, in Gainesville, to enable about 40 disadvantaged but exceptional students with exemplary artistic skills entering 1st-8th grades at Title I schools in Hall, Jackson, Gwinnett, and Lumpkin counties attend one-week Art Camp sessions.

**\$5,000 to The Ark United Ministry Outreach Center** in Athens to provide emergency rent assistance to lower income residents who are facing reduced work hours, and to senior citizens living on low, fixed incomes.

**\$4,000 to Nuci's Space** in Athens, a nonprofit organization working to prevent suicide, to enable young people from low-income families to participate in Camp Amped, a summer day camp for northeast Georgia youth ages 11-18 focusing on positive mental health and music education.

**\$2,500 to the Charity Baptist Church Food Bank** in Homer to purchase a year of basic staples for 16 families.

#### Individual Grant Recipients:

**\$2,990** to get dentures for a **disabled woman**.

**\$470** to purchase a new wheelchair for a **senior citizen**.

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE APPOINTED

Jackson Electric Membership Corporation (EMC), Corporate Offices, 850 Commerce Hwy., Jefferson, Ga. 30549, with district offices in Gainesville, Ga., Lawrenceville, Ga., Jefferson, Ga., and Hull, Ga., is a cooperative providing electric service to 10 Northeast Georgia Counties - Banks, Barrow, Clarke, Franklin, Gwinnett, Hall, Jackson, Lumpkin, Madison and Oglethorpe.

The cooperative is governed by a nine-member board of directors geographically representing the service area. Board members serve three-year staggered terms. Three will be elected at the Annual Meeting, Thursday, September 19, 2013, at the Corporate Offices in Jefferson.

Nominations are presented by a nominating committee or by a duly processed petition. Procedures detailing the nominations process are contained in the Jackson EMC bylaws available at any office. At each Annual Meeting of the member-customers, three (3) directors shall be elected, by and from the member-customers, to serve for a term of three years, or until their successors shall have been elected and shall have qualified, subject to the provisions of these bylaws with respect to the removal of directors, in the following rotation: one from Hall County or Lumpkin County, one from Barrow County, one from Gwinnett County; one from Clarke County, one from Jackson County, one from Gwinnett County; one from Banks County or Franklin County, one from Jackson County, one from Madison County or Oglethorpe County. ▲

The duly constituted nominating committee for 2013 consists of the following members:

**Mrs. Howard McClure**  
Maysville, GA • Banks County

**Mr. Clay McDaniel**  
Bethlehem, GA • Barrow County

**Mr. Sidney Bell**  
Athens, GA • Clarke County

**Mr. Quillon Butler**  
Auburn, GA • Gwinnett County

**Ms. Alicia Williams**  
Braselton, GA • Gwinnett County

**Mr. Steve Blair**  
Gainesville, GA • Hall County

**Mr. Jonathan Loggins**  
Maysville, GA • Jackson County

**Mr. Dean Stringer**  
Athens, GA • Jackson County

**Mr. Steve Bates**  
Hull, GA • Madison County

## smartconnections



Jackson EMC has the following equipment for sale to members and employees. Sealed bids will be accepted at the Jackson EMC headquarters in Jefferson, Ga. until 3:00 p.m., August 16, 2013, after which time bids will no longer be accepted. Jackson EMC reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids.

These vehicles are being sold in "as is" condition with no written warranties. Vehicles may be viewed at the Jackson EMC office in Jefferson (located at 850 Commerce Highway) on August 6 and on August 8 between the hours of 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. Come by at these dates and times **ONLY** to view the equipment. The list below is the types and approximate quantities of the equipment and vehicles to be sold. All equipment and vehicles are retired from Jackson EMC's fleet, and are generally five years or older with odometer readings above 100,000 miles.

This list is subject to changes, additions and/or deletions. Standard bid sheets and a complete vehicle list will be provided in our main lobby on viewing dates. ▲

**4 Full-Size Pickups**

**9 Mid-Size Pickups**

**4 Mid-Size Sedans (2 Hybrid)**

**1 Bucket Truck (48')**

## Our Offices

### Gainesville

P.O. Box 5909  
Gainesville, GA 30504  
(770) 536-2415

### Bill Sanders

District Manager

### Gwinnett

461 Swanson Drive  
Lawrenceville, GA 30043  
(770) 963-6166

### Randy Dellinger

District Manager

### EMC Security

55 Satellite Blvd., NW  
Suwanee, GA 30024  
(770) 963-0305 or  
(706) 543-4009

### Jefferson

P.O. Box 38  
Jefferson, GA 30549  
(706) 367-5281

### Scott Martin

District Manager

### Neese

P.O. Box 85  
Hull, GA 30646  
(706) 548-5362

### Jean Mullis

District Manager

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# what's cookin'?

## Cooperative **Cooking**

Each month *Jemco News* features recipes which represent the people and products of Jackson EMC.

If you have a favorite recipe and would like to share it with other readers in the Jackson EMC area, send a copy, complete with name, address and daytime phone number to:

Cooperative Cooking  
Jackson EMC  
P.O. Box 38  
Jefferson, GA 30549

Due to limited space, not all recipes received will be featured. Recipes printed in *Jemco News* are not independently tested; therefore, we must depend on the accuracy of those members who send recipes to us.

## Garlic Butter Crab Legs

### Ingredients:

3½ pounds snow crab legs with shell	1 teaspoon onion powder
1½ cups butter	1 teaspoon Old Bay Seasoning™
3 teaspoons minced garlic	

### Instructions:

In a very large stock pot, bring a large amount of water to boil. Place crab legs in the pot of boiling water. Boil until the crab legs are opaque and flaky (about 15-20 minutes). When finished cooking, drain well. Cut a slit into each of the crab leg shells to make it easier for your guests to get to the meat. In a large saucepan, melt butter or margarine, garlic, onion powder and Old Bay™ seasoning. Pour the mixture over the crab legs and serve.