

# Plans Now Underway for 2018 Annual Meeting

## Mark Your Calendar for Friday, March 23, and Learn More About Your Co-op

The event will take place at the American Legion Building at the Onslow County Fairgrounds, located at 146 Broadhurst Road, in Jacksonville. Registration, displays, and local entertainment will begin at 5:30 p.m. and the business meeting will get started at 7 p.m. JOEMC's Annual Meeting is an

event for the entire family. It provides the opportunity for members to learn firsthand about the cooperative, various programs and services offered, and JOEMC's role in making our community a better place to live, work, and raise a family. Special entertainment will be provided throughout the evening and, as has become a tradition, drawings will be

held during the event with hundreds of dollars worth of gifts to be given away. So make plans for you and your family to attend this year's Annual Meeting of Members, Friday, March 23, at the American Legion Building at the Onslow County Fairgrounds in Jacksonville. ▼



## Bright Ideas Grants to Bring Innovative Classroom Projects to Life

JOEMC recently awarded 75 grants totaling close to \$75,000 to local teachers to fund unique classroom learning projects that will benefit over 26,500 students at 58 schools in Jones and Onslow Counties, as well as the Topsail Area of Pender County. A banquet was held last month to honor the grant recipients.

"These Bright Ideas grants make a tremendous difference for the teachers who receive them," said Jeff Clark, Chief Executive Officer of JOEMC. "Our local educators have so many innovative and creative ideas and we're honored to support them, their students and our community through this program that makes learning fun and engaging."

Since the Bright Ideas Grant Program began in 1994, JOEMC has contributed more than \$1.2 million to local

educators and more than \$10.9 million has been awarded by North Carolina's 26 electric cooperatives to Tar Heel teachers statewide. The program has reached well over 2.1 million students across the state and sponsored more than 10,400 projects in all subjects including math, reading, science and technology, history, music and the arts.

Bright Ideas grant applications are submitted each year starting in August and winning proposals are selected by an independent panel of judges through a competitive evaluation process.

For a list of this year's JOEMC grant recipients or for more information about the Bright Ideas Grant Program, visit [joemc.com](http://joemc.com) and look under the Cooperative/Community tab. ▼



## 2018: A Year of Energy Efficiency

### JANUARY Tip of the Month

Request a free home energy audit to identify the areas in your home that could benefit most from energy efficiency improvements.

To download a month-by-month guide visit [joemc.com](http://joemc.com).

# KEEPING YOU SAFE

## We Need Your Number

Do we have your updated and correct contact information?

**J**OEMC offers several features through our automated phone system but for members to take full advantage we need your correct contact information.

The automated system has the ability to call your home or mobile number to make you aware of important information regarding your electric account...things like upcoming scheduled outages in your area or a reminder of a past due account (the reminder call will even provide you with the opportunity to pay your bill right then).

To assure you receive these important calls, please update your contact information. You can update it easily through our automated system or online at [joemc.com](http://joemc.com). To complete the process online members must have registered for online bill pay. ▶



## ENERGY EFFICIENCY

### 3 Quick Tips to Avoid High Winter Bills

- Replace incandescent bulbs with LEDs, which use at least 75% less energy.
- Wash clothes in cold water, and use cold-water detergent whenever possible.
- Open blinds and curtains during the day to allow sunlight in to warm your home. Close them at night to keep cold, drafty air out.

Find more easy ways to lower your energy bill this winter by visiting [joemc.com](http://joemc.com). ▼

### Space Heater Safety Tips

Space heaters are a great way to warm specific rooms in your home without having to crank up the thermostat, but using space heaters doesn't come without risk! Use the tips below to keep your home safe.

**DON'T:** Leave your space heater unattended. Always unplug it before you leave the house or go to bed.

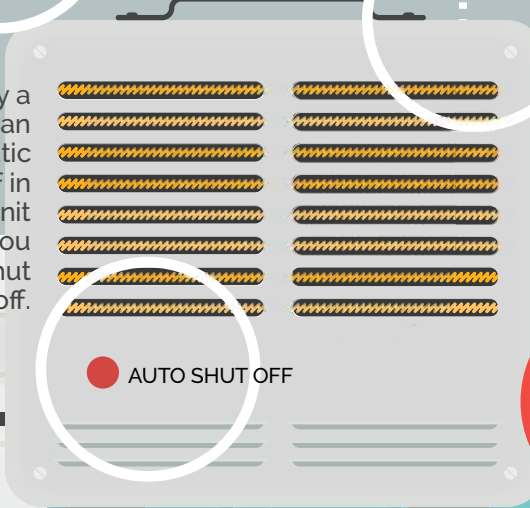


**DO:** Always follow the directions and take a broken space heater to a qualified appliance service center.

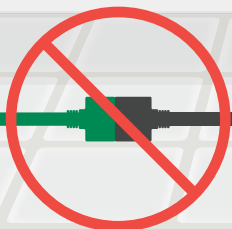
**DO:** Keep your space heater at a safe distance (at least 3 feet) from kids, pets and flammable items.



**DO:** Buy a unit with an automatic shutoff in case the unit tips over, or you forget to shut it off.



**DON'T:** Use an extension cord to plug in your space heater. It can cause the heater to overheat, and can be a tripping hazard.



**DON'T:** Put your space heater in your bathroom. The moisture can damage the unit, which could cause it to malfunction.



## 2018 Nominating Committee

A Nominating Committee has been selected for the purpose of nominating individuals for election to the position of Director in District One, District Two and District Three. This committee is scheduled to meet on February 15, 2018. The committee's names and addresses are as follows:

<b>DISTRICT ONE:</b>	Mr. Gary Johnson 231 Grandview Dr. Sneads Ferry, NC 28460	Mr. Charles Darden 148 Leslie Court Hubert, NC 28539	Mr. John Stanley 205 Madison Court Swansboro, N.C. 28584
<b>DISTRICT TWO:</b>	Mrs. Susan Thomas PO Box 222 Richlands, NC 28574	Mr. Ronald Pittman 1079 Gregory Fork Road Richlands, N.C. 28518	Mr. Thomas Humphrey 148 Briarneck Road Jacksonville, N.C. 28540
<b>DISTRICT THREE:</b>	Mrs. Carol Hood PO Box 246 Trenton, N.C. 28585	Mr. Franklin Andrews 437 Stroud Road Trenton, N.C. 28585	Mr. Myron Meadows 1798 10 Mile Fork Road Trenton, NC 28585

## Summary of bylaws pertaining to the Annual Meeting

Any natural person, firm, association, corporation, business trust, partnership or body politic shall be eligible to become a member of, and, at one or more premises owned or directly occupied or used by him, to receive service from Jones-Onslow Electric Membership Corporation. No person shall hold more than one membership in the cooperative.

An Annual Meeting of the members, for the purpose of electing directors, hearing and passing upon reports covering the previous fiscal year, and transacting such other business as may properly come before the meeting, shall be held on the last Friday of the month of March of each year. Provided, that for good cause, the Board of Directors may fix a different date for such Annual Meeting not more than thirty (30) days prior or subsequent to the date established for such meeting in this Section.

Attendance in person of at least two percent (2%) of the then total members of the cooperative shall be required for the transaction of business at any meeting of the members. If less than a quorum is present at a meeting, a majority of those present in person may adjourn the meeting to another time and date.

The election of directors shall be completed at each legal meeting by the members. The business and affairs of the cooperative shall be managed by a Board of ten (10) Directors, which shall exercise all the powers of the cooperative except such as are by law or by the cooperative's Articles of Incorporation, or Bylaws conferred upon or reserved to the members.

The Board of Directors shall consist of ten (10) Directors. One (1) of the cooperative's Directors shall be elected on an "At-Large" basis and may reside anywhere within the Cooperative service territory. The other nine (9) directors shall be nominated and elected so that at least three (3) but not more than four (4) shall be residents of each of the Cooperative's three (3) Directorate Districts, which are as follows: District Number One—those areas served by the Cooperative in Pender, Onslow, Carteret and Craven counties and which lie on the eastern side of U.S. Highway No. 17; District Number Two—those areas served by the Cooperative in Duplin County and in Pender and Onslow counties on the western side

of U.S. Highway No. 17; and District Number Three—those areas served by the Cooperative in Lenoir County and Jones County, and the western side of U.S. Highway No. 17 in Craven County. The one (1) "At-Large" Director shall be elected on an "At-Large" basis and may be a resident of any of the foregoing three geographic Directorate Districts, even if the result is to give one District more than four Directors.

It shall be the duty of the Board to appoint, not less than fifty (50) nor more than one hundred fifty (150) days prior to the date of a meeting of the members at which directors are to be elected, a Nominating Committee, consisting of three (3) members from each of the Cooperative's three (3) directorate districts, and who (a) are not existing Cooperative employees, agents, officers, directors or known candidates for directors; and (b) are not close relatives or members of the same household of any such person. The Nominating Committee shall serve three (3) year terms and shall not be permitted to serve consecutive terms. Members may be reappointed to the Nominating Committee so long as they do not serve two (2) consecutive terms. This Committee shall be appointed so that three (3) members are appointed and consist of one (1) member from each of the Cooperative's three (3) directorate districts and the following year three (3) members are appointed consisting of one (1) member per directorate district and so on. In the event that a member of the Nominating Committee is unable or unwilling to serve a full three (3) year term then the Board shall appoint a replacement to fulfill the unexpired term created by the vacancy. In such cases the new appointee shall be eligible for re-election at the conclusion of the unexpired term. The Committee shall prepare and post at the principal and all district offices of the Cooperative, at least twenty (20) days before the meeting, a list of nominations for directors to be elected, listing separately the nominee(s) for each directorate district from which a director must or may, pursuant to this article, be elected at the meeting. The committee may include more nominees than there are to be elected, but it shall show clearly which nominees are opposed with respect to the same directorate

district, or as between two or more districts; provided, it shall not make a nomination until it shall have first determined that the nominee is qualified to serve in accordance with the provisions of Section 4.02 and, if elected, will serve.

Any three percent (3%) or more members of the Cooperative, acting together, may make additional nominations in writing over their signature, listing their nominee(s) in like manner and filing the same with the Cooperative not less than thirty-five (35) days prior to the meeting of members. The Committee shall prepare and post at the principal office of the cooperative, at least twenty (20) days before the meeting, a list of nominations for directors to be elected. Should there be two or more candidates for the same Directorate seat then elections will be held by mail ballot. The ballots will be mailed in the Official Notice.

A Credentials and Election Committee of at least five (5), and no more than thirteen (13), shall be appointed by the Board at least ten (10) days before any meeting of members. It shall be the responsibility of the Committee to pass upon all questions that may arise with respect to the registration of members in person, to count all ballots cast in any election, unless delegated by the Board to an independent auditor, or in any other ballot vote taken, and to rule upon the effect of any ballots irregularly marked. The Committee's decisions on all such matters shall be final.

Each member who is not in a state of suspension, shall be entitled to one vote and no more upon each matter submitted to a vote at a meeting of the members. A member, which is an association, corporation, business trust or body politic may be present in person and vote at such meeting by and through a duly designated representative, qualified as such upon registering for the meeting. At all meetings of the members, at which a quorum is present, all questions shall be decided by a majority of the members voting thereon, in person, except as otherwise provided by law or by the cooperative's Certificate of Incorporation or Bylaws. ►

## Coal Ash Management and Compliance Update

Beginning this month, Jones-Onslow will see an increase in its wholesale power costs stemming from the costs Duke Energy must pay to comply with state law and federal regulations regarding the management of coal ash.



While JOEMC does not own any coal-fired plants, some of our electricity is purchased through contracts our power provider, the North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation (NCEMC) has with Duke Energy. A portion of that purchased power does come from coal-fired plants.

The expenses incurred by Duke Energy to comply with these new laws and regulations are being passed down to wholesale power customers such as NCEMC (our power provider) as well

as Duke's own retail customers. For 2018, JOEMC's wholesale power costs will be almost \$7 million higher than normal because of this issue.

When we learned about this additional expense earlier in 2017, we knew steps must be taken to NOT pass these extra costs on to our members. The decision was made to defer some credits from our power supplier (that were made available to us in 2017) into 2018, helping offset the increase. In addition, we will defer part of our operating revenue from 2017 into 2018. These two actions will allow us to absorb the \$7 million increase without raising electric rates to our members this year.

We also continue in our efforts, day in and day out, to work and implement operational efficiencies whenever possible. By doing this, we can provide you with the best value for your dollar while maintaining the level of safe, reliable, and affordable electricity that JOEMC members have come to expect.

We know that we must be diligent in our efforts and continue to look for these efficiencies and look at various system improvements that will help offset increased costs in the future. These include:

- Making existing equipment more efficient;
- Implementing safeguards to protect the electric system from cybersecurity threats;
- Better integrating resources that produce their own power, like solar panels and generators, into our system; and
- Providing services that give you better control and management of your home energy use.

We encourage you to visit [joemc.com](http://joemc.com) or call us at (910) 353-1940 or (800) 682-1515 to learn about programs and tools that can help you manage your energy use and save money.

We put you, our members, first and as a not-for-profit cooperative we work to keep expenses as low as possible. Our top priority is providing you safe, reliable, affordable and environmentally responsible power, while also supporting the communities we serve. That's the cooperative difference.

Jeffery T. Clark | CEO



## Easy Vegetable Pot Pie

### Ingredients:

- 1 (10.75 ounce) can condensed cream of potato soup
- 1 (15 ounce) can mixed vegetables, drained
- ½ cup milk
- ½ teaspoon dried thyme
- ½ teaspoon ground black pepper
- 1 egg, lightly beaten (optional)

### Directions:

Preheat oven to 375°. Bake bottom pie crust for 5 minutes. In a medium bowl, combine potato soup, mixed vegetables, milk, thyme, and black pepper. Spoon filling into bottom pie crust. Cover with top crust, and crimp edges to seal. Slit top crust, and brush with beaten egg if desired. Bake for 40 minutes. Remove from oven, and cool for 10 minutes before serving.

#### MAIN OFFICE

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#### DISTRICT OFFICE

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(800) 681-4146

[www.joemc.com](http://www.joemc.com)

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

District One: Cecil Hargett, Secretary/Treasurer  
Douglas Parker  
Dale Powell

District Two: Iris Horne  
Brandon Howard  
John Pierce, Chairman

District Three: Robert Daughety  
Michael Chad Meadows  
Thomas Waller, Vice Chairman

Member-at-Large: Nelson Burgess

Chief Executive Officer: Jeffery T. Clark

SPOTLIGHT is published monthly by Jones-Onslow EMC for its members. Direct correspondences to: Jones-Onslow EMC, ATTN: Newsletter Editor, 259 Western Boulevard, Jacksonville, N.C. 28546.

