



Co-op Members: Mark Your Calendars for the 2020 JOEMC Annual Meeting

Plans are being made for the 2020 Jones-Onslow Annual Meeting of Members. This year's event will take place on Friday, March 27, 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 pm, and the business meeting will get started at 7 pm.

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 com-

JOEMC Annual Meeting of Members, Friday, March 27. An event for the entire family.


munity 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 27, at the American Legion Building at the Onslow County Fairgrounds in Jacksonville. ▼

Resolve to be Energy Efficient in 2020

 We're always trying to transform ourselves. Whether it's by eating healthier, exercising more or building up a savings account, many of us refocus on priorities and personal aspirations at the start of a new year.

As we begin 2020, consider adding a resolution to be more energy efficient. Making small changes can make a big difference in saving energy and money. And the good news is JOEMC is here to help you along the way, making this one resolution that's easy to keep.

HERE ARE A FEW IDEAS TO GET YOU STARTED:

◆ **Adjust your thermostat.** Keeping your thermostat at 68 degrees or the lowest comfortable setting during colder months saves energy and prevents your heating system from working too hard. Installing a smart thermostat can help you make adjustments automatically.

- ◆ **Change your HVAC system's filters regularly.** This improves system performance, saving both energy and money.
- ◆ **Switch to LED lights.** According to energy.gov, ENERGY STAR-qualified LEDs use 75 percent less energy and last up to 25 times longer than incandescent bulbs.
- ◆ **Understand more about your home energy use.** Learn more about your home energy use by taking advantage of the resources offered by JOEMC. If you have a few minutes and at least 10 months of billing history, you can analyze your energy use by inputting some information about your home. The calculator will provide bill-specific ways that you can save money. Go to joemc.com, click on ENERGY CENTER at the top of the page, and go to ONLINE ENERGY AUDIT.

For more energy saving tools and tips, [visit joemc.com](http://joemc.com). ►

Bright Ideas Grants to Bring Innovative Classroom Projects to Life



JOEMC recently awarded 84 Bright Ideas Grants totaling just over \$78,000 to local teachers. These grants fund unique classroom learning projects that will benefit close to 35,000 students at 51 schools in Jones and Onslow Counties, as well as the Topsail Area of Pender County.

“Every year, Bright Ideas grants help bring creative learning to life in classrooms throughout our community,” said Jeff Clark, Chief Executive Officer of JOEMC. “We’re pleased to provide funding for innovative projects that support the ingenuity of our educators and engage our students in new ways.”

Since the Bright Ideas Grant Program began in 1994, JOEMC has contributed more than \$1.4 million to over 5,600 local educators and some 1,800 projects in all subjects including math, reading, science and technology, history, music and the arts. Since its inception, the Grants have touched the lives of more than 550,000 local students.

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 and click on The Cooperative tab>Community Programs. ▶

Calling All High School Juniors

There’s a unique leadership opportunity waiting for you—a week this June in the nation’s capital with students from across North Carolina and the United States!

Each year, JOEMC sponsors four rising high school seniors on the Rural Electric Youth Tour. The program, which helps young people learn about cooperatives and the co-op way of doing business, allows the youth to grow in ways we hope will benefit our community. Many past participants have used their experiences to provide leadership when returning to their schools and communities.

Jones-Onslow’s Youth Tour representatives will be chosen through an essay contest with a pre-selected topic. A representative from Jones-Onslow will be visiting local high schools during the month of January to promote the contest. You may also call Paula Redick, JOEMC Youth Tour coordinator, at **(910) 353-1940** for more information. ▼



KEEPING YOU SAFE

5 Precautions to Take During Winter Weather

Keep these tips in mind to protect you and your family when winter weather comes your way:

1 Place space heaters on a solid surface at least three feet away from anything flammable. Always turn off space heaters before leaving the room or going to sleep.

2 Prevent your pipes from freezing by allowing faucets to drip during extreme cold.

3 Never leave a fireplace unless its ashes are completely extinguished, and use a fire screen to catch sparks and rolling logs.

4 Generators should only be used in open and ventilated areas and should never be operated inside a home,



including in a basement or garage, due to the risk of carbon monoxide fumes. Never connect generators directly to household wiring without first having a qualified electrician install a transfer switch to prevent back feeding, which poses a serious threat to line workers.

5 Stay away from downed or sagging power lines and don’t attempt to remove tree limbs from lines. Never drive over power lines and always assume they are electrified and dangerous. Alert your electric cooperative of any damaged lines immediately. ▶

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. ►

2020 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 20, 2020.

The committee's names and addresses are as follows:

DISTRICT ONE:	Mr. Gary Johnson 231 Grandview Dr. Sneads Ferry, NC 28460	Mr. Michael B. Davis 407 Nautical Court Sneads Ferry, NC 28460	Ms. Wendy Robinson 134 Leslie Dr. Hubert, NC 28539
DISTRICT TWO:	Mrs. Susan Thomas PO Box 222 Richlands, NC 28574	Mrs. Pansy Horne 1810 Haw Branch Rd. Beulaville, NC 28518	Mr. Ronald Pittman 1079 Gregory Fork Rd. Richlands, NC 28574
DISTRICT THREE:	Mrs. Carol Hood PO Box 246 Trenton, N.C. 28585	Mr. Don Phillips 4095 NC HWY 58N Trenton, N.C. 28585	Mr. Timmy Haddock 1955 Wyse Fork Rd. Trenton, NC 28585

We Want to Hear From You



We live in a device-driven world. Our smartphones, tablets, laptops and an assortment of other devices help us communicate and connect. Companies spend billions pushing out a steady drumbeat of messages and information and we are constantly bombarded with one-way communication. But is anyone listening on the other end?

At JOEMC, we are not only listening, we are eager to hear from you. Whether you text us, respond to a survey or social media post, send an email or simply stop by and chat in person, we thrive on your feedback. Connecting with you helps us keep pace with our community's priorities and needs.

Because we are a cooperative, we have a different way of operating. JOEMC exists to provide safe, reliable and affordable energy to you, the members of the co-op. Equally important is our mission to enrich the lives of the members we serve. We hope you will consider us more than just your energy provider, but also as a local business that supports this community and powers economic development and prosperity for the people.

Our annual meeting, coming up in March, is a great opportunity for you and other community members to attend a co-op event so we can see you and interact. It's always a great time and we hope you can attend this year.

We also conduct surveys throughout the year to gather feedback so that we can plan for new initiatives, technical upgrades and improvements on existing co-op programs and services. Our planning is led by local members just like you who understand the needs of the community and are looking out for the long-term interests of the larger community.

We are in the midst of significant changes in the energy sector, as technology and the drive for more renewables and a more balanced energy mix is impacting long-term planning. These are complex issues that we will be navigating in the coming months and years. This is why it's so important that we hear from you and other community members as we plot our course for the future.

JOEMC works to continually learn from our members about their priorities so that we can better serve you – because your electric co-op was built by the community, for the community. But we can only improve, adapt and effectively plan for the future if we have two-way communication.

For our co-op and community to thrive now and in the future, we depend on hearing from you. I hope you will connect with us and let us know your perspective. Remember, we are always ready to listen.

Jeffery T. Clark | CEO



Scratch-Made Fire & Ice Pickled Peppers

Ingredients:

- 4 cups white vinegar
- 4 cups water
- 4 cups sugar
- 8 cups assorted peppers* (or other vegetables)
- 2 cups garlic cloves
- Fresh dill sprigs
- 4 tablespoon dill seed, divided
- 4 tablespoons peppercorns, divided
- 4 teaspoons salt, divided
- 4 teaspoons crushed red pepper, divided

Directions:

- 1) Heat vinegar and water to low boil. Add sugar and stir to dissolve.
- 2) Poke holes in smaller peppers with toothpick. Pack peppers, garlic and dill sprigs into quart jars. Add 1 tablespoon dill seed and peppercorns, and 1 teaspoon of salt and crushed red pepper to each jar.
- 3) Ladle warm brine over peppers. Cover and shake well.
- 4) Refrigerate up to 2 months. Best if made several days before first use.

*Leave smaller peppers whole and slice others into strips.

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power outage: (910) 353-7117
(800) 681-4146

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.

JOEMC
Jones-Onslow Electric
Membership Corporation
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