



## Co-op Members: Mark Your Calendars The 2023 JOEMC Annual Meeting is back IN PERSON!

After meeting virtually the past two years, plans are being made for the 2023 Jones-Onslow Annual Meeting of Members to be back in person this year! This year's event will occur on Friday, March 31, 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. The business meeting will start 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.

There will be entertainment throughout the evening. And as we have done at past annual meetings, drawings will be held during the event, with hundreds of dollars worth of gifts to be given away. One lucky member will even win a truck (a recently retired fleet vehicle)!



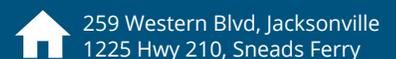
We are excited to connect with everyone in person this year! So make plans for you and your family to attend this year's Annual Meeting of Members Friday, March 31, at the American Legion Building located at the Onslow County Fairgrounds in Jacksonville.



### Bringing Creative and Innovative Classroom Projects to Life

JOEMC recently awarded 74 Bright Ideas Education Grants totaling \$77,000 to local educators. These grants fund unique classroom learning projects that will benefit close to 25,000 students at 53 schools in Jones and Onslow Counties and the Topsail schools of Pender County.

Bright Ideas grant applications are submitted each year starting in August, and an independent panel of judges select winning proposals through a competitive evaluation process. For a list of this year's grant recipients or more information about the Bright Ideas Grant Program, visit [joemc.com](http://joemc.com) and look under the COMMUNITY tab.



# 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 ad-

ditional 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. ♦

## 2023 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, District Three and At-Large. This committee is scheduled to meet on February 23, 2023. The committee's names and addresses are as follows:

### DISTRICT I

- Roger Eden, 109 Swan Point Road, Sneads Ferry, NC 28460
- Gary Johnson, 267 Grandview Drive, Sneads Ferry, NC 28460
- Galen Treble, 118 Leslie Drive, Hubert, NC 28539

### DISTRICT II

- Leland Brown, 731 Jim Blake Road, Jacksonville, NC 28540
- Pansy Horne, 1810 Haw Branch Road, Beulaville, NC 28518
- Susan Thomas, PO Box 222, Richlands, NC 28574

### DISTRICT III

- Tyler Griffin, 1102 Island Creek Road, Pollockville, NC 28573
- Timmy Haddock, 1955 Wyse Fork Road, Trenton, NC 28585
- Deanna MacIntosh, 2585 Oak Grove Road, Trenton, NC 28585



# High School Juniors

## Want to Broaden Your Horizons?

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!

JOEMC sponsors four rising high school seniors on the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour each year. 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.

Want to apply or have a student in your family that is interested? A representative from Jones-Onslow will be sending out information to local high schools this month to promote the contest. You may also call Paula Redick, Jones-Onslow EMC Youth Tour coordinator, at (910) 353-1940 for more information or visit, <https://www.joemc.com/your-cooperative/>.



## ROTISSERIE CHICKEN POT PIE SOUP

*This simple, kid-friendly soup is fast to throw together. It is also gluten-free if you use a flour-free cornbread and make sure your chicken doesn't use any gluten-based seasonings.*

### Ingredients

- 4 tbsp butter
- 1 large sweet potato, cut in ½" cubes
- 1 large onion, diced
- 2 stalks celery, diced
- 1 (16-ounce) bag frozen mixed vegetables, thawed
- 2 tbsp cornstarch
- 2 cups chicken broth
- 1 (12 oz.) can evaporated milk
- Meat from boned and skinned rotisserie chicken
- 2 tsp poultry seasoning
- 1 tsp dried thyme
- 1½ tsp each salt and pepper
- Pan of baked cornbread, cubed (use gluten-free, if desired)

### Directions

1. Melt butter in heavy skillet over medium-high heat. Add potato, onion and celery. Toss with butter and sauté about 5 minutes until tender.
2. Stir in mixed vegetables and cook 4 to 5 minutes until green beans are tender. Add cornstarch and toss to coat. Cook 2 minutes. Whisk in broth and milk. Heat until slightly thickened. Remove from heat and add chicken and seasonings. If too thick, add a bit more broth for desired consistency.
3. Ladle into bowls and top with cornbread "cROUTONS."

Recipe courtesy of  
[carolinacountry.com](http://carolinacountry.com)

## HELPING YOU STAY ON TRACK

Do you sometimes forget when your electric bill is due? Or have an elderly parent that needs help staying on track with their bills? Then notifications are for you!

If you have a cell phone associated with your electric account, you are automatically enrolled in our Outage Text Alerts program. But did you know that you can also receive other notifications from JOEMC? These notifications ensure that your account is up-to-date and you do not have surprises on your monthly electric bill.



### The notifications available include:

1. **Daily usage alerts:** Will help you understand your consumption and how the weather plays a part in your usage.
2. **Third-party notifications:** Do you have a family member that is deployed or an elderly parent that needs help staying on track with their monthly bills? This notification can be set-up so that you can receive an email/text with Daily Usage Alerts, Two-day Due Date Reminder, Cutoff Notification, Severe Weather Notification or Planned/Unplanned Outage.
3. **A two-day due date reminder:** If your day is filled with multi-tasking and your monthly bill tends to slip your mind, this reminder is for you! This gives you the benefit of making your payment on time. With our convenient payment options –FlexPay, online bill pay, mobile app, remote PaySite kiosks, or our Jacksonville and Sneads Ferry offices drive-thru lanes, you can always be sure not to miss a payment due date.
4. **Cutoff notification:** Alerts are sent the day the account is scheduled for disconnection for nonpayment.
5. **Payment receipt:** Paid your bill online or through the mobile app and would like a receipt? A receipt can be emailed to you.

If you'd like to receive notifications, log in to your account on JOEMC's online portal, and select "notifications" from the menu on the left to sign up. Once in this tab, you will add your email address and anyone else you would like to receive updates. Still have questions? Call 910-353-1940 and speak to one of our member services representatives.

# Innovation, Convenience, Cutting-edge Technology



Jeffery T. Clark, CEO

A bright future is energizing JOEMC's plans to enhance service for co-op members, like you. Members will see innovative developments in 2023 that will result in even more convenient and energy-efficient options.

Advances in the electric utility industry are making all kinds of beneficial products and services more affordable and economical. As an added benefit, they reduce greenhouse gas emissions which helps our environment. You can easily find electric vehicles (EV) and home EV chargers, portable induction cooktops and electric grills, battery-power lawn equipment, and uninterruptible power supply systems (that support those working from home), to name a few. There is a "go electric" solution for

most common household tools or equipment.

That's why we're preparing to launch a menu of innovative products and services designed to improve life—including more convenient ways to conduct business with us. We'll pursue new methods and work to improve existing ones, like our drive-through and online options. We're evaluating technologies designed to provide an easier-to-use, more member-friendly experience. We know you desire everything to be simple, fast and accurate, from changing your service to paying your bill at home or on the go.

You may be asked to evaluate changes and new options through our customer satisfaction research. If so, please take a few minutes to give your feedback and answer questions. This helps us to better serve you.

Our goal is to meet you where you are while

offering easy ways to do business with us. This lights the way for you to enjoy the best service experience possible. Of course, you can always depend on your not-for-profit electric cooperative for 24/7 safe, reliable, and affordable power.

And, in the ever-changing electric utility world, we'll continue to evaluate our retail rates to ensure fairness between the members we serve. Specialists will be reviewing our power cost and pricing to explore initiatives like encouraging members to use most of their power at certain times. We'll keep you informed as their findings emerge. That's because *when* you use electricity is becoming just as important as *how much* you use.

Innovation, convenience, cutting-edge technology, and a focus on the folks we serve — 2023 promises to be an excellent year for JOEMC members.

## Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Did you know insulating your electric water heater can reduce standby heat loss by 25% to 45%? This could save you 7% to 16% on annual water heating costs. Insulating your electric water heater is an easy, inexpensive project that can improve energy efficiency and save you money each month. The Dept. of Energy rates this project as medium difficulty, meaning most homeowners can tackle this project on their own. You can purchase pre-cut jackets or blankets for about \$20 at most home improvement stores. Visit [energy.gov](http://energy.gov) for project tips and additional considerations.

Source: [energy.gov](http://energy.gov)



*Our offices will be closed on January 16 to honor  
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*

