



Ocmulgee  
Electric Membership Corporation

# newsletter

*Serving the Members of Ocmulgee Electric Membership Corporation*

**It's Annual Meeting time ...**

*Mark your calendar!*

**Come and join us as  
Ocmulgee EMC celebrates  
its 74th Annual Meeting!**

**Oct. 10, 2012**

**Eastman-Dodge County Recreation Department  
Gymnasium, Eastman**



**A**t the 2011 Annual Meeting of Members of Ocmulgee EMC, a motion was made by a member from the floor, to present a bylaw amendment to the members to be voted on October 2012 to provide a Minority director.

**The ballot shall read:**

Amend the Bylaws of Ocmulgee Electric Membership Corporation to provide for a member, who is a Minority, an "AT LARGE" seat on the Board of Directors of the Corporation. If passed, the first election will be October 2013, and the present nomination process shall provide for the election.

**You are invited to be a part of the Annual Meeting of the members of Ocmulgee EMC. Entertainment will be provided by Ray & Wanelle and the Phoenix Band. Registration opens at 11 a.m., and the business meeting begins at 2 p.m.**



Official Publication  
Ocmulgee Electric  
Membership Corporation  
P.O. Box 669  
Eastman, Georgia 31023

## DIRECTORS

Barry H. Martin  
President

John T. Woodard Jr.  
Vice President

Charles M. Pittman  
Secretary-Treasurer

James W. Fordham Sr.  
Billy Hartley  
Billy L. Joiner  
Algie Jones Jr.  
Ray Lancaster  
Joel Blake Rowland

## OFFICE STAFF

W.H. Peacock  
GENERAL MANAGER

Chuck Lowery  
SUPERINTENDENT OF MAINTENANCE  
AND CONSTRUCTION

Jeffrey Underwood  
MANAGER OF OFFICE SERVICES

OFFICE HOURS:  
Monday Thru Friday  
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Drive-thru Hours  
8:00 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.

TELEPHONE:  
478-374-7001 or  
TOLL FREE  
1-800-342-5509  
Emergency Service  
24 Hrs. a Day  
Including Weekends & Holidays

## Capital credits assigned for 2011

PERCENTAGE: IF YOUR TOTAL BILLS WERE:		\$500	\$1,000
4.674622	Capital Credits assigned from Ocmulgee EMC margins were:	\$ 23.37	\$ 46.75
.836767	Capital Credits assigned from associated organizations were:	\$ 4.18	\$ 8.37



## Office closing for Labor Day

The office of Ocmulgee EMC will be closed on Monday, Sept. 3, 2012, for the Labor Day holiday. Our crews will be on standby in case of power outages or emergencies. In the event of a power outage or emergency, call (478) 374-7001 or (800) 342-5509. We will reopen for regular business hours at 8 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 4, 2012.

## 2012 Nominating Committee members named

In accordance with Article III, Section 3, of the Ocmulgee EMC Bylaws, the Board of Directors has appointed the following members to serve on the 2012 Nominating Committee: Kenneth Hardy, Joseph Dupree, Ralph Sanders, Kelvin Kirkley, Robert Kelly, Durwood Graham, T.R. Lancaster, W.T. Howell Jr. and Laurie Jones.

## Employee recognition

**James Smith**  
Operations – 19 Years

**Brad Dowdy**  
Engineering – 12 Years

**Dennis Douglas**  
Operations – 39 Years

**Richard Cravey**  
Engineering – 12 Years

**Thad Haley**  
Operations – 5 Years

*Thanks for your hard work and continued dedication!*

# Barry Martin receives Georgia Farmer of the Year award

Ocmulgee EMC Board President Barry H. Martin has been named the Georgia 2012 Swisher Sweets/Sunbelt Expo Southeastern Farmer of the Year. He will now compete against winners from nine other states to be the overall farmer of the year for the Southeast. This winner will be announced at the Sunbelt Expo on Oct. 16, 2012.

An independent farmer for 40 years, Martin has also served on the Ocmulgee EMC Board of Directors since 1972 and has been president since 1982. Martin's strong, conservative leadership has helped Ocmulgee EMC grow and prosper during the financially good times and survive during stormy, difficult times.

As a true Southern gentleman who grew up on his family's farm, Martin credits his mother for helping him get started farming by assisting in the purchase of equipment and credits his lovely wife, Alice, for helping provide income as a school-teacher during the lean years of his early farming career. Martin and his wife have three grown children and six beautiful grandchildren. Their son, Marc, is an assistant vice presi-



Barry Martin, the Georgia 2012 Swisher Sweets/Sunbelt Expo Southeastern Farmer of the Year, heads to the field.

dent at the Bank of Perry, and daughter Monica followed in her mother's footsteps by teaching at Pulaski Elementary. Daughter Mitzi is a registered nurse at a dialysis center in Hawkinsville.

Martin farms about 800 acres with the help of two friends who work part time, primarily during planting and harvesting time. He tends about 600 acres of his own land and rents another 200 acres, growing cotton, peanuts, corn, wheat and sorghum. Martin's farm is very near the Ocmulgee River, and the sandy soil led him, in 1996, to start implementing more effective soil conservation practices.

In the spirit of true cooperation, Martin and his friend, UGA Pulaski County Extension Agent Ronnie Barrentine, have been working together for 17 years to build the model of soil conservation-no till

farming that has gained Martin local, state and potentially national recognition. Martin uses equipment he has modified, and some he has designed and built, to be able to use cover crops like rye and crimson clover to protect and enrich the soil that has fed his family for three generations.

Ocmulgee EMC Manager W.H. Peacock says, "You can definitely see the parallels in Mr. Barry's leadership in the board room and what he does on his farm. He thinks progressively to stay modern, efficient and effective, while making sure every procedure and program improves the bottom line."

The team at Ocmulgee EMC offers their sincere congratulations to Martin for winning the Georgia award and best wishes in the Southeast contest.



Barry Martin shows the no-till cotton that was planted behind rye he had rolled down for ground cover and nutrients.

# On tour with tomorrow's leaders

## The 2012 Washington Youth Tour

The trip lasted a week, but its impact will endure a lifetime. When 105 high school students, representing 38 Georgia electric membership cooperatives (EMCs), embarked on the 2012 Washington Youth Tour (WYT) June 14-21, not only did they join 1,500 other young leaders from 44 states, but they also became part of a tradition spanning nearly 50 years.

Representing Ocmulgee EMC this year were Brandi Holland, daughter of Johnny and Carol Holland, from Dodge County High School; Sanna Gough, daughter of Stewart and Suzi Gough, from Bleckley County High School; and Mellisa McLeod, daughter of Terry and Robin McLeod, from Hawkinsville High School. Also this year, Zach Danforth, son of Bobby and Sophie Danforth, of Eastman, was a winner in the statewide contest held by Georgia EMC for a slot on the trip. Zack is the grandson of longtime OEMC Board Member Billy Joiner and his wife, Joan.

After kicking off the week with a tour of FDR's Little White House in Warm Springs, delegates flew to the nation's capital, where they visited sites such as the new Martin Luther King Jr. National Memorial, Mount Vernon, Smithsonian museums, Supreme Court and the Newseum. Other landmarks such as the Jefferson, Lincoln, FDR, World War II, Korean War and Vietnam Veterans memorials helped them connect with struggles from our country's past, as well as leaders who shaped history.

Delegates recount being moved by tours of the Holocaust Memorial Museum and Arlington National Cemetery. They enjoyed once-in-a-lifetime experiences—like participating in a wreath-laying at the Tomb of the Unknowns and a cruise on the Potomac River with delegates from around the country.

But the WYT isn't just an all-expenses-paid sightseeing tour. Delegates picked up leadership lessons along the way, and they had the opportunity to meet U.S. Sens. Saxby Chambliss and Johnny Isakson and six U.S. House members from Georgia. By all accounts, the experience expanded delegates' horizons. For some, this may be the first time they traveled out of state or flew on an airplane. If the testimony of past delegates is any indication, the students formed friendships that will endure for years to come.

Prospective participants can learn more about the Youth Tour program at [www.youthtour.coop](http://www.youthtour.coop). Videos are posted at [www.youtube.com/user/georgiaemcyouthtour](http://www.youtube.com/user/georgiaemcyouthtour).

The Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial was just one stop during the whirlwind week. The Jefferson Memorial is in the background.



The Ocmulgee EMC delegates had an opportunity to meet with U.S. Rep. Austin Scott.



LOUIS TONSNIERE / PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: STEVE JACOBS

**From left:** Sanna Gough, of Cochran (representing Ocmulgee EMC); Zack Danforth, of Eastman (representing Georgia EMC); Mellisa McLeod, of Hawkinsville, and Brandi Holland, of Cochran (both representing Ocmulgee EMC) participated in the 2012 Washington Youth Tour.

