

# Snapping Shoals EMC Illuminator

A Monthly Newsletter for Snapping Shoals EMC Members

June 2023

## Members Will Get \$4.2 Million in July!

Capital credits are an advantage of electric cooperative membership

It's time for you to get the credit — capital credits, that is — for helping build, sustain, and grow your local electric cooperative. Snapping Shoals EMC is retiring \$4.2 million to our members across portions of the eight counties we serve. Members who received electric service from Snapping Shoals during the years 2002, 2003, 2019 and 2020 will receive capital credit retirements through either a bill credit or a check in the mail, reflecting their contribution of capital to the cooperative. Refunds less than \$250 will be issued as bill credits on members' July bills, and those over \$250 will be issued as checks. 2508166

### WHAT ARE CAPITAL CREDITS?

When you signed up to receive electric service from Snapping Shoals EMC, you became a member of an electric cooperative. While investor-owned utilities return a portion of any profits back to their shareholders, electric co-ops operate on an at-cost basis. So instead of returning leftover funds, known as margins, to folks who might not live in the same region or even the same state as you do, Snapping Shoals allocates and periodically retires capital credits

based on how much electricity you purchased during a year.

### WHERE DOES THE MONEY COME FROM?

Member-owned, not-for-profit electric co-ops set rates to generate enough money to pay operating costs, make payments on any loans, and provide an emergency reserve. At the end of each year, we subtract operating expenses from the operating revenue collected during the year. The balance is called an operating "margin."

### HOW ARE MARGINS ALLOCATED?

Margins are allocated to members as capital credits based on their purchases from the cooperative — how much power the member used. Member purchases may also be called patronage.

### ARE CAPITAL CREDITS RETIRED EVERY YEAR?

Each year, the Snapping Shoals Board of Directors makes a decision on whether to retire capital credits based on the financial health of the cooperative. During some years, the co-op may experience high growth in the number of new accounts, or severe storms may

result in the need to spend additional funds to repair lines. These and other events might increase costs and decrease member equity, causing the Board not to retire capital credits.

For this reason, your co-op's ability to retire capital credits reflects the cooperative's strength and financial stability.

### DO I LOSE MY CAPITAL CREDITS IN THE YEARS THE CO-OP DECIDES NOT TO MAKE RETIREMENTS?

No. All capital credits allocated for every year members have been served by Snapping Shoals are maintained until the Board retires them. 503292

### WHAT IF I AM MOVING?

If you move or no longer have electric service with Snapping Shoals, it is important that you inform the cooperative of your current address, so that future retirements can be properly mailed to you. If you purchased electricity during the years being retired, then you are entitled to a capital credit retirement, even if you move out of the Snapping Shoals service area. If the co-op has your current address, then we will send your retirement check by mail.

## SSEMC Welcomes Newest Board Member



Ernest Watkins

The Snapping Shoals EMC Board of Directors has appointed Ernest Watkins to fill the unexpired term in District 3, formerly held by Frank Lineberger. Mr. Lineberger, who passed away in January, had served on the SSEMC Board for 10 years.

Mr. Watkins grew up in Rome, Ga., and has worked as a senior logistics manager for the U.S. Army and a machine shop maintenance manager for Lucent Technologies. He retired from the U.S. Army in 2006 as Master Sergeant, after serving in the U.S. Army and U.S. Army Reserve.

Mr. Watkins has been married to his wife, Dorcas, for 52 years. They have three adult children and one grandson.

He stays busy serving at his church and volunteering as a tutor at Redan Elementary School. He also enjoys gardening, traveling and working on his 1968 mustang. Mr. Watkins prides himself on being dedicated to service opportunities, a hard worker and a life-long learner. He looks forward to learning more about SSEMC and serving the people of the community.

# Funding Futures

## SSEMC Finalists Chosen for State Scholarship

Walter Harrison Scholarship winners receive \$1,000 each

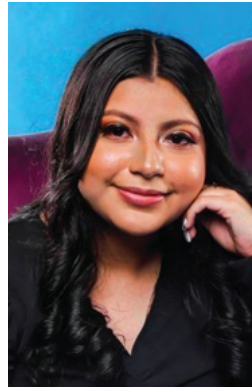
Itandehui Cruz of Conyers and Aliyah Johnson of Conyers have been named two of 15 recipients of the 2023 Walter Harrison Scholarship. The scholarship is sponsored by the electric cooperatives in Georgia, including Snapping Shoals EMC. Itandehui and Aliyah competed against 77 other students from across Georgia for the scholarship, which provides \$1,000 to help offset the costs associated with obtaining a two- or four-year college degree. 4674052

**Aliyah Johnson** is the daughter of Debbie and Garrett Johnson of Conyers. She is planning to attend Kennesaw State University this fall and pursue a degree in nursing. She has participated in numerous organizations such as her high school ambassador program, National Beta Club, youth leadership program, Courageous Conversations program, National Honor Society, FCCLA, and student council, among others. She earned a long list of honors including Governor's Honors Program State Level Nominee in Spanish, an award for Outstanding Instrumental Musician, College Board National African American Recognition Program Scholar, Georgia Certificate of Merit, and Heisman High School Scholarship Winner. 4594762

In addition to her academic pursuits, Johnson plays on the varsity tennis team, volunteers for Piedmont Rockdale Hospital, served as a tutor for a local elementary school, and volunteered for several community programs including a local women's shelter and a food drive.



**Aliyah Johnson**



**Itandehui Cruz**

**Itandehui Cruz** is the daughter of Maria Yanet Cruz and Juan Cruz of Conyers. She is planning to attend the Honors College at Georgia State University in the fall and study marketing or business administration. She is a member of Student Council, FBLA, Unidos Latino Association, DECA, Rockdale Youth Leadership, National Honor Society, Rockdale Youth Courageous Conversation and Latino Student Union.

She has earned honors such as Superintendent's Top 10, Honor Roll, Junior Marshall and has received ULA Unsung Hispanic Hero Award, Getty Photography Contest award, Marketing Rookie of the Year, and an award for her Metropolitan Water Conservation Video. Apart from school activities, she participates in Heritage High School Girls Soccer and Saint Pius X Youth Group. She also serves as a Saint Pius X Usher and a Saint Pius X Catechist.



P.O. Box 509  
Covington, GA 30015  
[www.ssemc.com](http://www.ssemc.com)

**24-Hour Phone Number**  
770-786-3484

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Use the mySSEMC app  
or call 678-814-4961

**Pay your bill or check your account balance:**  
Call 1-888-999-1416 or  
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**Report power theft:**  
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**Call before you dig:**  
Call Utilities Protection Center  
of Georgia at 811 or visit  
[www.georgia811.com](http://www.georgia811.com)

**OFFICE LOCATIONS**  
14750 Brown Bridge Road  
Covington, GA 30016

190 Fairview Road  
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*24-hour payment kiosks  
are located at each of our offices*

**OFFICE HOURS**  
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Monday - Friday

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**Find your number  
and win a \$50 credit!**

Your Snapping Shoals EMC  
account number is hidden in this  
issue of The Illuminator, call us at  
770-786-3484 within the next  
month and you could win a \$50  
credit on your bill.

The Illuminator is a monthly  
newsletter published for  
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bill and manage your account  
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## Don't Miss Annual Meeting

This year's Annual Meeting of the Members of Snapping Shoals EMC is set for Thursday, July 20, at the Georgia International Horse Park in Conyers. We will return to our traditional format with in-person registration only and no drive-thru. 4455261

**Registration will open at 8:30 a.m. and end promptly at 11:15 a.m.** The business session will begin at 11:30 a.m. and prize drawings will be held after the business session ends. Members must be present to win

prizes. The meeting will feature our traditional festivities, including live music, children's games and energy information booths.

Only Snapping Shoals EMC members (electric customers) are eligible to register, to participate in the election of directors and co-op business, and to win prizes. Members must be present to win prizes. For SSEMC's bylaws pertaining to the Annual Meeting and Election of Directors, please visit [www.ssemc.com](http://www.ssemc.com).