

# Snapping Shoals EMC illuminator

A Monthly Newsletter for Our Members

June 2024

**MEMBERS WILL RECEIVE \$4.2 MILLION IN JULY!**

*Capital credits are an advantage of electric cooperative membership*

**I**t'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 2003 and 2023 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.

#### 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. 4684674

#### 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?

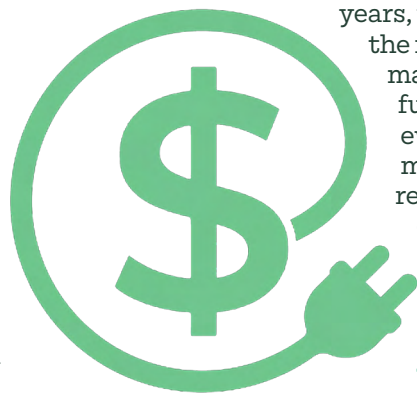
Each year, the Snapping Shoals Board of Directors makes a decision on whether to retire capital credits based on the financial health of the cooperative. During some years, the co-op may experience high growth in the number of new accounts, or severe storms may result in the need to spend additional 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. 4520535

#### 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.



## Annual Meeting: July 18 *Your Registration Cards Will Be Mailed in Envelope*

**T**his year's Annual Meeting of the Members of Snapping Shoals EMC is set for Thursday, July 18, at the Georgia International Horse Park in Conyers. Instead of our traditional Annual Report, members will receive a letter in early July that contains their registration cards. Please bring the cards with you to the Annual Meeting.

**Information usually found in the Annual Report will be available online at [ssemc.com](http://ssemc.com) in July.**

Registration will be in-person only and 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 all of our traditional Annual Meeting festivities, including live music from The Purple Hulls, children's games and energy information booths. 4523966

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 SSEM's bylaws pertaining to the Annual Meeting and Election of Directors, please visit [ssemc.com](http://ssemc.com).*



**C H E C K   Y O U R   M A I L B O X   I N   J U L Y !**



# LINEAGE OF LINEMEN

## Grandfather's Legacy Lives On

**J**ust eight years separate the end of a grandfather's lineman journey and the beginning of his grandson's own.

Kyle McDonald, a former Snapping Shoals EMC (SSEM) lineman who retired in 2015, joined other SSEMC retirees, family, friends and staff in welcoming a new generation of linemen by watching them participate in SSEMC's 7th Annual Apprentice Lineman's Rodeo.

The event is a fantastic opportunity for office staff to connect with linemen who are often out of the office and on-duty, retirees have a chance to see some familiar faces, and everyone gathers after the competitive events for a meal prepared by Line Services personnel.

One of the linemen competing in the event was McDonald's grandson, Jackson Allen.

"This is the first one I've been to and he's the reason right there!" McDonald said, pointing to his grandson. 4548083

Allen, who joined SSEMC as a student intern shortly after graduating from Eastside High School in 2023, spoke about the influence his grandfather has had over his decision to become a lineman.

"If it weren't for him, I wouldn't have known anything about it, but this is what I want to do," Allen said.

Having recently graduated from the Electrical Lineworker program at South Georgia Technical College and being promoted to Apprentice Lineworker I, this was Allen's first opportunity to participate in the EMC's annual rodeo.

**"I'm very proud of him, he knows what he wants to do, and I'm glad I got to see him out there today."**

When asked about the pressures of competing in front of a crowd, Allen suggested it wasn't the office staff or retirees he was worried about.

"Shoot, I get more nervous about the people I'm used to, cause they'll actually say something! They

actually know what you're doing and what you're doing wrong, but I feel like I did alright. I didn't run the events as clean as I'd like, but I had a good time!"

McDonald, who also joined the EMC shortly after graduating high school, recalled his time with Snapping Shoals EMC. 2929016

"I was here for 41 years. I graduated high school and a week later I came to work for Snapping Shoals. I was real fortunate to get a job here, cause they were real good to me and my family ... and they have been blessed with good management and good people," McDonald said.

"I'm very proud of Jackson. He knows what he wants to do, and I'm glad I got to see him out there today."



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

If 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 Snapping Shoals EMC members.

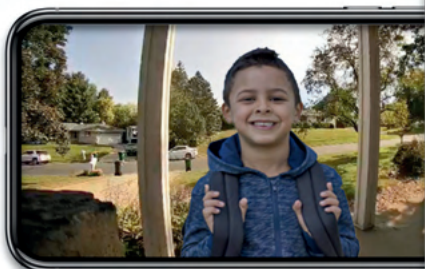
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