

April 2023 • Vol. 44, No. 2

Employee Spotlight: EXCELSIOR EMC CREWS LEND A HELPING HAND TO COOPERATIVES IN NEED.



Pictured: (from left to right) Hagan Henry, Evan Johnson, Derek Lindsey, Jamey Donaldson, and Dakota Berry assisted in the power restoration effort at Cumberland Valley Electric Cooperative in March.



Pictured: (from left to right) Jamey Donaldson, Roy Roberts, Carson McLamb, and Justin Powell assisted in the power restoration effort at Snapping Shoals EMC in January.



Pictured: (from left to right) Evan Durden, Jonathan Hansen, Matt Smith, Evan Johnson, and Tucker Attebery assisted in the power restoration effort at Central Georgia EMC in January.

Excelsior EMC Linemen work hard to keep the lights on for our members, even if doing so means working late hours in less-than-ideal weather conditions. In addition to working hard for our own members, our crews are also willing to step up and offer assistance to our fellow coops in their times of extreme need when major outages overwhelm their own capabilities. This type of work is hazardous and exhausting and takes these men away from their families for days to weeks at a time, but they do it without so much as a second thought to help those in need.

This year, we have already seen three crews answer the call for help from cooperatives across the country. In January, Excelsior sent crews to Central Georgia EMC and Snapping Shoals EMC to help restore power in response to severe storms in the middle of our state. Then most recently in March, an Excelsior EMC crew headed to Cumberland Valley Electric Cooperative in Gray, Kentucky to help their power restoration effort.

Excelsior EMC is very proud of our crews that have stepped in to provide service to these communities. They have provided professional, timely aid to these communities and we are grateful for their willingness to go above the normal demands of the job to help others in their time of need. Join us in thanking these men for their service to our community as well as going above and beyond to serve others!



Bronson Bragdon Editor

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When your power goes off, don't stay in the dark longer than you have to. To restore your power as quickly as possible, we need your correct phone number. Your phone number is the quickest way for us to locate your home or business when you call to report an outage.

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Between the Lines



An Important Responsibility

The Board of Directors of any corporation has an awesome responsibility to see that a business is operated according to the wishes and desires of the owners. Since the owners of an electric cooperative are the member-consumers, the Excelsior EMC Board functions as a committee of owners and as a committee of consumers. This dual responsibility of the Board requires a delicate balancing of priorities.

As a committee of owners, the Board must work closely with employed management to develop policies and make decisions that assure that the Cooperative is operated on a sound financial basis. This means good business practices must be followed and electric rates set at a level to assure that the Cooperative will stay in business.

As a committee of consumers, the Board must assure that dependable electric service is provided and that rates are set at the lowest level possible consistent with that service. While working hard to curb expenditures, they must be careful not to reduce expenditures to levels that would lower the quality of future service. You can be sure that your Board of Directors, employed management and employees of Excelsior EMC are committed to attaining the member-consumer objective of the best service at the lowest possible cost.

Lineworker Appreciation Day

April 10th is Lineworker Appreciation Day. It is a day when we recognize the commitment and dedication that our lineworkers and their families demonstrate. Lineworkers leave their families and put their lives on the line every day to keep the power on. They work 365 days a year under dangerous conditions to build, maintain, and repair the electric system. They are the first responders of the electric cooperative family, getting power back on and making things safe after storms and accidents.

The next time you see a lineworker, let them know that you appreciate what they do to keep the lights on.

ANNUAL MEETING INFORMATION...

The Cooperative is required by the bylaws to hold an annual meeting of the members. Each year we hold this meeting in May where many of our members gather to enjoy fellowship and conduct the business of their Cooperative. Given the success of the hybrid drivethrough / in-person approach implemented last year, we have decided that this year's annual meeting will be conducted in a similar manner. This will allow our members the option to leave the meeting after they have registered and received a registration gift or park and attend the in-person meeting after driving through and completing the registration process.

In keeping with the standard provisions of the bylaws, a quorum will be established by the participation of 100 members. Key functions of the annual meeting are the reporting of the Cooperative's financial condition, the election of directors, and conducting any other business that must be acted on by the members. Our goal is to ensure that the members of Excelsior EMC are informed and retain their voice in the governance of their Cooperative. A full report of the financial condition of the Cooperative for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2022, will be included in the May edition of the Cooperative's newsletter, Line Items. We will convey additional information to you through our website (www.excelsioremc.com), Facebook page or direct mailings. A summary of the bylaw provisions that address the election of directors is as follows:

ARTICLE FOUR - DIRECTORS

SECTION 1. - The business affairs of the Cooperative shall be managed by a board of directors, exercising all powers of the Cooperative except such as by law, the articles of incorporation or bylaws are conferred upon or reserved to the members.

- **SECTION 2.** The areas served by the Cooperative shall be divided into geographical districts. One director shall be elected from each of said districts and one director-at-large representing the entire area served by the Cooperative.
- **SECTION 3.** Qualifications to become or remain a nominee or a director of the Cooperative: Must be eighteen (18) years old or older on the date of election; Must be a member and bona fide resident of the district represented and receive service from the Cooperative at his or her primary residence; May not, within five (5) years prior to the election, have been an employee of the Cooperative; May not be a close relative of any person who is an employee or director of the Cooperative; May not be employed by or hold a financial interest in a competing enterprise or a business selling electric energy or supplies to the Cooperative; May not be the incumbent of or candidate for a salaried elective public office.
- **SECTION 4.** Establishes election procedures and three-year, staggered terms of office for Directors.
- **SECTION 5.** The Board of Directors must appoint a nominating committee whose duty is to nominate candidates for each director district term expiring this year. The nominating committee must post its list of nominations on or before April 22, 2023. Qualified candidates can also be nominated by a written petition signed by 100 or more members. Nominating petitions must be received at the Cooperative's Metter office no later than 5:00 pm on Wednesday, April 12, 2023. The nominating petition shall list on each page the following: the member's signature, the member's printed name, the member's mailing address, and the member's phone number.

The members of the Nominating Committee for 2023 are:

District 1 Ryne Brannen District 2 Speer Brannen District 3 Ricky Nevil District 4 Clark Dixon District 5 Jay McCranie District 6 Bubba Longgrear District 7 Matt Wood District 8 Preston Brinson At-Large Gary Mosley



David Cromley Recognized as Young Farmer of the Year



David Cromley with his wife Jamie, daughter Libby, and son Luke.

Congratulations to David Cromley, one of our very own directors, on being recognized as the 2023 Bulloch County Young Farmer of the Year. This annual award is presented by the Statesboro-Bulloch County Chamber of Commerce and recognizes Bulloch County farmers making significant impacts in our community.

David is a 6th generation farmer from Bulloch County who works hard to serve his community and share his love for agriculture. In addition to farming, David represents his community by serving as an Excelsior EMC Director, County President for the Bulloch County Farm Bureau, he serves on the College of Ag and Environmental Sciences Alumni Board at the University of Georgia, he is a graduate of Leadership Georgia, and he is very active at the Brooklet United Methodist Church.

David is a huge advocate and supporter of the agricultural industry, a strong leader in the community, a husband and father to his family, and a man of faith.

Please help us to congratulate David on his achievement!



NOTICE: NEW HOURS FOR STATESBORO OFFICE

Beginning April 3rd, the Statesboro office will be closing for lunch between 1:00pm and 2:15pm in order for us to staff our Statesboro office more efficiently.

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