

# BEACON



Amicalola Electric  
Membership Corporation

*"Owned By Those We Serve"*

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## *Comments from the CEO*

### Electric cooperatives bring unique value to their communities

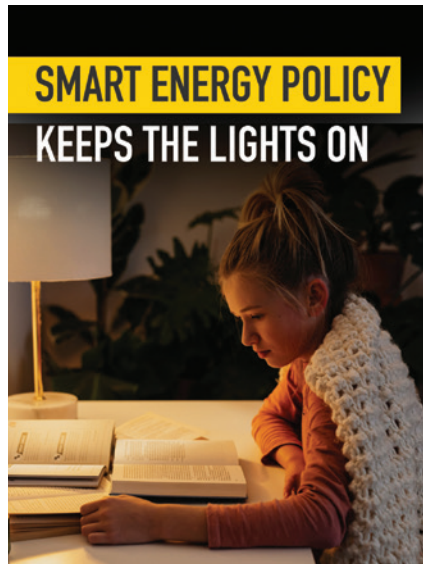
**E**lectric cooperatives stand out from other types of businesses because we are built and led by the communities we serve. As independent, not-for-profit electric utilities, we are owned and governed by our local members—not by outside shareholders or investors. That is a powerful differentiator.

Here are a few ways electric co-ops like Amicalola EMC bring unique value to the local communities they serve:

- **We put people before profits.**

Co-ops are not-for-profit and provide at-cost electric service. Any excess revenue is returned to our consumer-members in the form of capital credits, typically as a bill credit or check.

- **Community comes first.** We live and work here, too, and we care deeply about our local communities. That's why we engage in development and revitalization projects, sponsor local students for scholarships and youth programs and give back to local organizations like the local fire departments



or local food pantries to help our neighbors in need.

- **Affordable, reliable power is our priority.** Amicalola EMC purchases electricity from Oglethorpe Power and Georgia Energy Cooperative (GEC),

our wholesale energy partners. Oglethorpe Power and GEC are generation cooperatives formed by a group of electric co-ops in our state and region. This cooperative business structure allows us to pool local resources and provide electricity at a lower cost than if we purchased it from outside sources.

We're focused on our members' energy needs—not only for today but for the long haul. We're advocating for smarter energy policies that prioritize reliability and affordability for all. We recognize we must be inclusive of all energy sources, which is why we work closely with Oglethorpe Power and GEC to ensure the use of diverse energy sources.

Reliable, affordable electricity is more important than ever before, and our focus will continue to be the best interest of the local communities we serve.



Todd Payne  
President/CEO  
Amicalola EMC

## Holiday office closure

Our offices will be closed on Monday,  
May 26, in observance of Memorial Day.





# Amicalola EMC holds annual Youth Awards Banquet



High school students from across the Amicalola EMC service area were awarded \$142,000 in scholarships. They are pictured here with the Amicalola EMC Board of Directors.

**O**n March 20, approximately 400 people gathered at Chatahoochee Technical College in Jasper to honor students from across the service area. The event brought together students, parents, school representatives and members of the Amicalola EMC board and staff for a night of celebration. A total of \$142,000 in college scholarships was awarded, with 138 seniors and four Washington Youth Tour delegates each receiving a \$1,000 scholarship.

The 2025 Washington Youth Tour delegates include Jack Tatum from Pickens County, and Madelyn Davis, Gracie Gaitanoglou and Cash Williams from Gilmer County. The tour, scheduled for June 13-20, will offer a unique



From left: This year's Washington Youth Tour winners Madelyn Davis and Gracie Gaitanoglou, Gilmer High School; Jack Tatum, Pickens High School; and Cash Williams, Gilmer High School, are shown here with Amicalola EMC CEO/President Todd Payne.

opportunity for these delegates to network, gain leadership experience and explore the nation's capital.

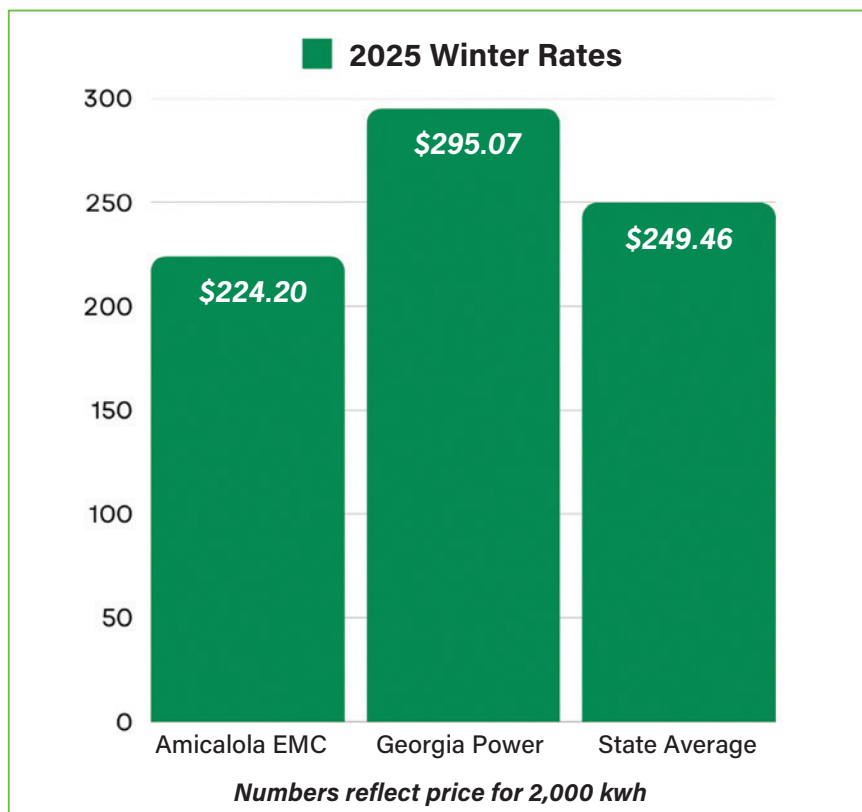
The event also featured a deli-

cious meal catered by Shade Tree BBQ, dessert from Kali's Kakes and beautiful flowers provided by Southern Belle Florist & Gifts.

# Amicalola EMC rates remain lower than state average

The 2025 Winter Rate Survey released by the Georgia Public Service Commission shows that Amicalola EMC members continue to pay less for their electricity. The survey shows

that Amicalola EMC is lower than the local investor-owned utility and is also lower than the state average. The graph depicts the price for 2,000 kilowatt-hours (kwh) of electricity.



## ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

Routine maintenance is important to keep your refrigerator running efficiently. Lint and dirt should be cleaned from the refrigerator coils every six months to a year—and more often if there are pets in the home.

When coils are coated with lint, dust or pet hair, your refrigerator works harder than it's designed to, which can prevent the appliance from cooling properly and efficiently. The additional work can increase the energy costs of the refrigerator by as much as 35% and shorten the life of the appliance.

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



HAPPY  
*Mother's Day*  
  
FROM AMICALOLA EMC!  
*Sunday, May 11*



## IN MEMORIAM

1963-2025



In memory of Richard Chastain,  
who came to work at  
Amicalola EMC in 1981.

## TIPS TO AVOID ENERGY SCAMS



If you suspect you're dealing with a utility scam, it's crucial to slow down and take your time before taking any action. Scammers will often pressure you to make quick decisions or immediate payments. Instead, take the time to verify the legitimacy of the communication by contacting your utility directly. Use a phone number from a reliable source, such as your bill or the utility's website. Taking this simple step can help protect you from falling victim to utility scams.

Source: Utilities United Against Scams



## You may have unclaimed capital credits

**A**s a member of Amicalola EMC, you own a slice of the co-op. That means when you invest in the co-op by paying your monthly electric bills, we give a portion of that investment back to you—as capital credits—when financial conditions allow. Capital credits are just one of many benefits of membership, so go ahead and enjoy your slice of the cooperative pie!

If you are a former member of the co-op and we do not have your current address, it's possible you have unclaimed capital credits. To inquire about unclaimed capital credits, please call 706-253-5200 during normal business hours or visit your local Amicalola EMC office.

*After a mandatory five-year waiting period, any unclaimed capital credits refunds are distributed in accordance with Georgia's unclaimed property laws O.C.G.A. §44-12-236.*

## Enjoy your slice of the cooperative pie.

