

DEADLINE JANUARY 31

Walton Electric Trust Scholarship

BASIC QUALIFICATIONS:

- High school senior or incoming college freshman
- 21 years old or younger
- Your home served by Walton EMC (electricity)
- Scholarship used at accredited college, university or vo-tech school
- Complete criteria, rules and instructions on the application

WE'RE LOOKING FOR:

- Community involvement
- Strong work ethic
- Success in extracurricular activities
- Triumph over obstacles and hardships



Get the application at waltonemc.com

Up to 32
\$4,000
scholarships will
be given!

Q: Where does the money for these scholarships come from?

A: From unclaimed capital credit refunds. After all attempts to find the owners are exhausted, the money goes into a fund provided for by Georgia law. No Operation Round Up donations are used for scholarships.

WHERE ARE YOU?

Take a look at these Walton EMC customer-owners who discontinued service. We mailed refunds of deposits and/or membership fees, but the Post Office returned them.

If you know someone on this list, please have them contact us at 770-266-2507.

A Plus, LLC; Adams, Bryan S.; Allen, Eugene; Arku, Quicio L.; Barbells 2 Bikinis, LLC; Barefoot Possum Tattoo; **Barham, Bridgette; Bernadel, Rene; Board, Michael E; Bowen, Julius; Caillot, Samantha; Cerberus** SRF Holdings 2; **Cerda, William O.; Cherizol, Shirley D.; Chuka, Jude; Cihla, Ruth; Cubukcuoglu, Mehmet F.; D&D Photography, Inc.; Davis, Cynthia; Eni, Kalu; Fenwick** Thompson & Assoc., LLC; **Flores, Avila M.; Fly Jane Enterprises; Genesis Custom Homes; Grace Braiding & Weave Salon; Grant, Dwayne; Guevara, Joaquin; Holwerda, Stephen; Hooper, Kathi S.; Howell, William V.; Jones, Frank E.; Joy Investment Group, LLC; K&H Stone Mountain, LLC; Keller, Brad C.; Keystone Custom Homes, LLC; Langston, Novice; Lunsford House Properties, LLC; Maysonet, Jose E.; Meiburg, Justin; Mercado, Jose G.; Munnigh, Yuteska; Nfor, Ahidjo; Patriot Fiber, Inc.; Professional Counseling Ctr.; Quint, Patricia M.; Rimavision Eye Center; Rivermoore Partners, LLC; Royston, Michael A.; Sanchez, Ana E.; Simon, Ian; Stern, Megan; Street, Dana; Studio Bo Hair Salon; Tompkins, Jetty; Vassar, Elizabeth; Walgren, Carie J.; Wang, Wejun; Woodard, Jr., Gene M.**



NOTIFY WALTON EMC OF YOUR

Georgia Agriculture Tax Exemption

The Georgia Agriculture Tax Exemption (GATE) card is issued to farmers and producers who are exempt from state sales tax on the inputs used in the production of their commodity.

To continue receiving this sales tax exemption from Walton EMC, producers must submit renewed cards to us no later than Dec. 31.

Copies of the renewed GATE card can be mailed, faxed or emailed to the following:

MAIL Walton EMC Attn: Connie Bentley P.O. Box 260 Monroe, GA 30655	FAX 770-267-6479 Attn: Connie Bentley EMAIL cbentley@waltonemc.com
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Walton EMC
Customer-Owned Electric Power

realite

\$9 MILLION REFUND!

MOST CUSTOMER-OWNERS GETTING A REFUND THIS MONTH

DEC '20

- > giving is good for you
- > safe holidays
- > walton emc electric trust scholarship

BECAUSE YOUR
CO-OP OPERATES
AT COST, WHAT'S
LEFT OVER IS
RETURNED.

Walton EMC tracks the
amount of money you
spend with us each year.

At the end of each
year, we determine
if there are excess revenues
(co-ops call these margins).

You receive
a capital
credit refund.

HOW CAPITAL CREDITS WORK

Walton EMC assigns
these margins to your
capital credit account
based on the amount
of money you spent
with us.

We hold this money to retire
debt, prepare for emergencies
and keep the cooperative
financially sound.

When Walton EMC's
financial condition permits, your
board of directors decides to
retire, or pay, some of
your capital credits.

TOTAL RETURNED THIS YEAR
\$9 MILLION

YOU'LL GET MONEY IF YOU HAD
AN ACCOUNT IN YEARS
1996, 1998, 2018, 2019

WHEN: **EARLY DECEMBER**
THROUGH **EARLY JANUARY**

HOW: **BILL CREDIT** LESS THAN \$500
OR **CHECK** \$500 OR MORE

ALL-TIME TOTAL REFUNDED
\$108 MILLION

Walton EMC
waltonemc.com

REALITE **DEC 2020** VOLUME 70, NO. 12

quick guide

IF YOUR POWER IS OUT

770.267.2505
waltonemc.com > Report an Outage

WHEN WE'RE AVAILABLE

Power Outages and Emergencies > 24/7
Contact Center > M-F, 7A-7P
Business Offices > M-F, 8A-5P

find us

Monroe 842 US Hwy. 78
Snellville 3645 Lenora Church Rd.
Watkinsville 2061-D Hog Mountain Rd.

Web waltonemc.com
Facebook facebook.com/waltonemc
Twitter twitter.com/waltonemc
Youtube youtube.com/emctv

our leaders

CEO Ronnie Lee
COO Ron Marshall
Senior VP Corporate Services Russell DeLong
Senior VP Power Supply Robert Rentfrow
CFO/Senior VP Finance Marsha Shumate
VP Walton Energy and External Affairs Jim Bottone
VP of Engineering and Operations Tim Morris
Board Chair Dawn Taylor
Board Vice Chair Michael Lowder
Board Secretary/Treasurer Dan Chelko
Board Members Tommy Adcock, Billy Ray Allen, Johnny Allgood, Jason Sidwell, Sam Simonton, Jim Whitley
Community and Public Relations Director Greg Brooks, MCC
Communications Coordinator Savannah Chandler, MCC
Design mPrint Design Studio

walton gas

NEED NATURAL GAS SERVICE?
770.GAS.HEAT or waltongas.com

emc security

NEED SECURITY SERVICE?
770.963.0305 or emcsecurity.com

©2020. Walton EMC is a customer-owned power company. That means our cooperative focuses on service, not profit. We serve more than 132,000 accounts in Athens-Clarke, Barrow, DeKalb, Greene, Gwinnett, Morgan, Newton, Oconee, Rockdale and Walton Counties.

Our subsidiaries supply natural gas and security services.

GIVING IS GOOD FOR YOU

Donations to Operation Round Up benefit donors as well as recipients

It's not a miracle vaccine or the latest fitness routine, but researchers agree that helping others can improve your mental and physical health.

The act of giving is found to lower blood pressure, reduce stress and lessen depression, studies show.

"You don't need a doctor to tell you giving feels good," said Glenn George, chairman of the Walton Electric Trust Board. "Anyone who has ever agreed to round up their electric bill and donate to Operation Round Up knows this."

NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS

Walton EMC customer-owners who participate in Operation Round Up (ORU) agree to have their monthly electric bill "rounded up" to the next dollar. For example, if your bill is \$52.51, you pay \$53. The extra 49 cents goes to a special fund that is combined with donations from other co-op members and then distributed to local organizations and groups needing financial assistance.

"The concept is to extend the principle on which electric cooperatives were built over 80 years ago – neighbor helping neighbor – and as a cooperative to follow one of our core principles, which is commitment to community," said George, a Dacula resident and 35-year member of the co-op.

The Walton Electric Trust Board reviews grant applications and determines how donations are distributed in the community. Grants totaling \$556,467 were awarded last year. Customer-owners' donated pennies have amounted to more than \$6.7 million since the ORU program began.

operation round up

The average ORU participant gives about 50 cents a month, or \$6 a year. Any administrative costs are absorbed by Walton EMC, so 100 percent of the donations are used to make life better. Donations are also tax deductible.

SMALL CHANGE, BIG IMPACT

Where does your small change end up? ORU donations impact people and places throughout the co-op's service area. Here are the most recent donations:

Angel House of Georgia – \$3,000 for their program that serves women in transition from addiction. *Entire territory.*

Helping Mamas – \$5,000 for car seats and safe sleep education classes for families who can't afford them. *Clarke, DeKalb, Gwinnett, Rockdale, Walton.*

Kate's Club – \$10,000 for support services to children and young adults who experience the loss of a parent or sibling. *Barrow, DeKalb, Gwinnett, Newton, Rockdale, Walton.*

Lawrenceville First Baptist Book Club – \$5,000 to provide books for children in low-income families. *Gwinnett.*

Operation Appreciation – \$5,000 for emergency COVID-19 food, shelter and medical assistance for military families. *Entire territory.*

Ser Familia – \$5,000 for COVID-19 emergency funds to help Latino families. *DeKalb, Gwinnett, Rockdale, Walton.*

FISH Medical, Atlanta Food Bank – \$25,000 for these organizations that provide emergency food, shelter and medical needs.

START A HEALTHY HABIT

Help others and yourself by signing up to participate in Walton EMC's Operation Round Up program. Visit waltonemc.com and click on Community-Operation Round Up to complete a simple participation form. You can cancel your monthly contribution at any time.

Electric Gift Certificates Available Now

Want to do a good deed? Need something for the person who has everything?

Come by any of our offices to purchase an electric gift certificate in any amount. We'll credit the recipient's account and give you an attractive card with envelope to announce your gift. Stay anonymous if you like.



Our Snellville, Monroe and Watkinsville offices are open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Check waltonemc.com for directions.

Happy (and Safe) Holidays

TIPS TO PROTECT YOU, YOUR HOME AND LOVED ONES

COOKING

- Use turkey fryers outdoors. Don't overfill fryer pots with cooking oil – the oil will splash out onto the burner and blaze.
- Keep kids out of the kitchen away from hot appliances and dangerous utensils.
- Make sure flammable items, like potholders and dish towels, stay away from stove burners.
- Don't leave stoves and ovens unattended.
- Use good food safety practices to prevent foodborne sickness.

DECORATING

- Don't overload electrical circuits. Modern LED decorations use much less power and allow the connection of many more strings to the same outlet.
- Try not to use extension cords. If you do, don't run them under rugs or across walkways.
- If you use a live tree, check the water level every day.
- Keep dangerous or fragile ornaments and decorations out of the reach of kids.

SECURITY

- Have a neighbor accept package deliveries if you're not home. Have them sent to your workplace if that's allowed.
- Be wary of unknown or unexpected people coming to your door. They could be checking to see if anyone's home for burglary purposes.
- Think before you post travel plans, Christmas vacation photos or expensive gifts on social media.
- Don't leave empty boxes from expensive electronics on the curb.
- Contact EMC Security for a free home evaluation. Have them install an alarm system and security cameras.

SHOPPING

- Don't leave gifts in plain sight. Lock them in your car's trunk.
- Park in well-lit areas.
- Don't carry large amounts of cash, just the credit cards you'll use.
- Shop with groups of friends, not alone.
- Be aware of your surroundings. Don't be distracted or enthralled by your cell phone.

Season's Greetings

The directors and employees of Walton EMC wish you a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah and Happy New Year. Our offices will be closed Dec. 24, 25 and Jan. 1. As always, call us 24/365 for outages.