

## OPERATION ROUND UP FULL SPEED AHEAD DURING COVID

You'll be relieved to know that COVID hasn't slowed Walton EMC's Operation Round Up.

Our dedicated customer-owners who allow us to round up their bill to the next dollar continue to be generous. The board members of Walton Electric Trust continue to award grants to deserving organizations. And those deserving organizations continue to serve our neighbors who need help.

The latest round of grants total \$77,430, gathered 50 cents at a time – the average monthly donation of those participating. But that small change continues to make a huge difference to those in need.

Here's what you've done lately:

**Three families – \$6,500** for emergency assistance.

**Boys and Girls Clubs of Metro Atlanta – \$5,000** for their youth development programming and COVID-related reopening costs. *DeKalb, Gwinnett, Rockdale.*

**Home of Hope at Gwinnett Children's Shelter – \$15,000** for housing families that would otherwise be homeless. *DeKalb, Gwinnett.*

**MedLink Georgia – \$8,000** to fund healthcare and support for vulnerable COVID patients with financial needs. *All counties.*

**Rotary Club of Oconee County – \$10,000** to build handicapped-accessible ramps for needy individuals. *Clarke, Greene, Morgan, Oconee, Walton.*

**St. Mary's Independent Living Extensions – \$10,000** to house and provide day programs for adults with disabilities who have limited financial resources. *DeKalb, Gwinnett.*

operation round up

**Set Free After-Care Ministry – \$5,930** to upgrade their residential facility for released prisoners transitioning back into society. *Walton.*

**Southwest Christian Care – \$5,000** to support their hospice, children's respite and DayBreak programs. *All counties.*

**Special Olympics Georgia – \$2,000** for their state horse show. *All counties.*

**Area Churches Together Serving – \$10,000** for their Neighbors in Need program that provides for emergency food, shelter and medical needs. *Oconee.*

Go to the "Community" tab at [waltonemc.com](http://waltonemc.com) and click on the Operation Round Up link. Every customer-owner's donation helps those in need. Walton EMC covers all administrative costs of the program.

## WANT TO HELP?

Protecting your home has never been more important.

**GET EMC SECURITY AND REST EASY.**

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**Walton EMC**  
Customer-Owned Electric Power

# realite

**OCT '20**

- > plan for loved ones
- > holiday programs 2020
- > operation round up

**Walton EMC**  
waltonemc.com

REALITE OCT 2020 VOLUME 70, NO. 10

### 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  
**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  
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770.963.0305 or emcsecurity.com

## OCTOBER IS COOPERATIVE MONTH Why Does It Matter?

Your electric company, Walton EMC, operates as a cooperative business. Why does that matter to you?

### 1 WE WORK FOR THE PEOPLE WE SERVE.

Cooperatives are owned by the same people who purchase their goods or services. You have the opportunity to elect fellow customer-owners to our board of directors. That board sets policies and makes decisions concerning Walton EMC's operations.

### 2 WE OPERATE AT COST.

Being owned by the same people we serve with electricity means it doesn't make sense to show a profit. The excess revenue we collect (co-ops call this margins) is returned to those it belongs to. Since our creation, we've returned \$108 million to our customer-owners.

### 3 WE SERVE EVERYONE.

Walton EMC is a voluntary organization, open to all who are able to use our services and willing to accept the responsibilities of being a member.



Since our creation,  
we've returned \$108  
million to our  
customer-owners

### 4 WE CARE ABOUT OUR COMMUNITY.

After providing reliable service, our second biggest concern is the welfare of the communities we operate in. We support and encourage our employees who work in a host of organizations that serve local needs. We also put our money where our mouth is – last year alone, we contributed more than \$24 million in donations and taxes to strengthen our communities.

### 5 WE STRIVE TO KEEP YOU INFORMED.

Through our many communication vehicles – like this newsletter, our website, social media and working with local newspapers and radio – we work to keep you informed and educated about your co-op.

### 6 WE COOPERATE.

Whether it's helping another EMC restore power after a storm, establishing a business with other co-ops to meet customer-owners' needs, like EMC Security, or sharing our knowledge and experience, we work together with other cooperatives when we can.

©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.

## Plan for Loved Ones Now

With now being the middle of tropical storm season and ice storm season lurking just around the corner, you should have a plan in place if you care for a loved one who is medically dependent on electricity.

This planning is even more important while COVID-19 is still causing issues for some. If you don't have a plan, it's not too late if you start now.

A severe tropical or ice storm could leave you without power for several days. Rest assured, we plan and prepare for significant outage-causing events, but catastrophic damage takes time to repair.

A typical patient plan may include:

- Having extra medical supplies.
- Securing extra prescription drugs.
- Providing an alternate heating source.
- Properly installing and maintaining a backup generator.
- Arrangements for transportation and an alternate place to stay, both nearby and a little farther away.



Don't know where to start? You can download a free planning guide at [bit.ly/wemc\\_medplan](https://bit.ly/wemc_medplan)

# Show and Tell With Pannell

### BOGART FLORIST SHARES HOLIDAY DECORATING IDEAS ON FACEBOOK LIVE PROGRAM

Back by popular demand, Dean Pannell, owner of Pannell Designs & Events, is again anchoring Walton EMC's holiday programs. It's his sixth year.

Learning his tips and tricks for creating beautiful wreaths, centerpieces and trees has become a holiday tradition for many. But, as most program regulars will admit, the Bogart florist's suggestions for decking the halls are only part of the attraction.

Dean's boundless energy and a quick wit sweetened with classic Southernisms are pure entertainment. People come for the show, and he never disappoints.

He's a homegrown talent who began designing flower arrangements at a Monroe shop when he was only 9. By age 21, he owned a local floral business where he earned a reputation for creativity.

One day, showbiz came calling and Dean moved to New York City where he worked as a set decorator for NBC and CBS soap operas. A nearly five-year stint at "Guiding Light" included a Daytime Emmy nomination.

Eventually, home and family beckoned and Dean returned to his Walton County roots. He opened Pannell Designs & Events in Monroe in 2014. The business relocated to Main Street in downtown Bogart last year.

Among the ideas the designer plans to share are techniques for making the perfect bow and decorating a Christmas tree. He also promises something "spectacular and unusual" to bring the audience out of the COVID doldrums.

Denise Beacham is also returning to the program and will show new holiday food ideas. Past audiences have delighted in her simple and delicious dishes and snacks prepared with ingredients that are easily found at the local grocery store. Her ideas relieve some of the stress in preparing for and entertaining holiday guests.

This year's program is set for 7 p.m. on Nov. 17 in a live presentation on Walton EMC's Facebook page, [facebook.com/waltonemc](https://facebook.com/waltonemc).

Although things are a bit different, you can still donate books to Project Bookworm, receive an attendance prize and be entered in the drawing for door prizes, including two of Dean's fabulous Christmas wreaths.

During the week of Nov. 9 - 13, every Walton EMC member who brings a new or lightly used children's book to our Monroe, Snellville or Watkinsville office will receive an attendance prize and can enter one of the door prize drawings to be held during the Facebook Live presentation. Besides drawing for prizes from those who came by our offices, we will also draw from those who post a comment online during the event.



*We look forward to seeing you – virtually – on Nov. 17!*

Walton EMC Holiday Program  
Tuesday, Nov. 17, 7 PM  
[facebook.com/waltonemc](https://facebook.com/waltonemc)

*Donate a new or lightly used children's book*

Monroe, Snellville or Watkinsville office  
Nov. 9-13

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### WHERE ARE YOU?

# Unclaimed Refunds

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.

**Brown**, Bonnie C.; **Crown Management**; **Garrett**, Jacob; **Gonzales**, McKelan S.; **HP Georgia 1, LLC**; **Huynh**, Camie; **Johnson**, James H.; **Johnson**, Jr., Ferllis; **Nguyen**, Hoa T.; **Nyseth**, Elizabeth G.; **Patel**, Jiten K.; **Peters**, Chavont A.; **Scott**, Nicole; **TAH 2018-1 Borrower, LLC**; **Yes Companies Exp, LLC**; **Southern Styles Salon, Inc.**; **Victoral**, Garn; **Vining**, David; **Webb Gin Property, LLC**; **West, Jr.**, James; **Woodall**, Anna; **Yes Companies Exp, LLC**