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SANTÉE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE NEWS

Mary Grace McGee, Editor

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FIND US ON



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

SEC's 2020 Annual Meeting canceled



LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I never thought I would be writing a column such as this. However, it must be said.

Santee Electric Cooperative is postponing indefinitely its 2020 Annual Meeting of the Membership. The meeting was to take place on April 14. In

fact, I had already submitted another—very different—version of this column remarking how excited I was to have an opportunity to see all of you again this spring.

That, obviously, is not going to happen now. With all of the warnings and urging from the state Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the President, and the Governor regarding the new coronavirus, there is no way we could hold a gathering like our Annual Meeting. Putting over 4,000 people in one location in a single afternoon would be careless and dangerous.

The obvious question is—When WILL we have the meeting? The truth is that I do not know. I am hopeful that we may be able to reschedule something for this summer or the coming fall. However, until we—as a country—are able to get this virus under control, we do not know when we will be able to return to what we see as normal life.

As is the case with many of you, my children are having school at home and all of their ballgames have been canceled. While I cherish this extra time with them, the truth is that this virus is robbing them of valuable experiences. That's just one of a thousand examples in which our lives are being interrupted.

In this difficult time, I would like to ask for three things from you.

First, please heed the advice we have all been given. Practice the social distancing and extra hygiene that we hear so much about right now. Normally, things are better when we come together; but for now, the best thing for our country is for her people to separate until we can get a handle on this virus.

Second, as long as it is practicable and safe, please support your local businesses. Times like these are very tough on them and their employees. For example, although dine-in options are suspended, as I am writing this column, many restaurants still have take-out, drive-through, and delivery options. Please utilize them as much as you can. Our economy needs you.

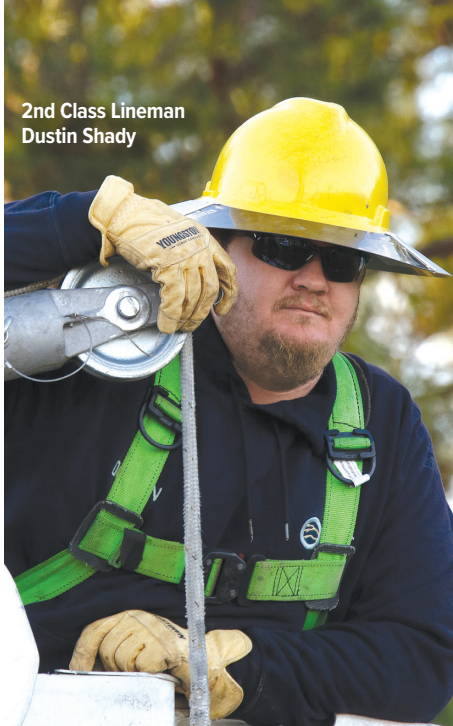
Finally—but most important—I ask you to pray. Pray for the government officials making critical decisions on a daily basis. Pray for the medical professionals that are putting themselves in harm's way to provide critical services. Pray for our people.

You have heard a great deal to the effect of, "What we do in the next 15 days will make a tremendous amount of difference." As I am writing this, that 15 days has just begun. When you read it, the 15 days will be past. You know more than I did when I wrote this. I pray today that you have good news tomorrow.

ROBERT G. ARDIS III

President and Chief Executive Officer

2nd Class Lineman
Dustin Shady



1st Class Lineman
Clarence Pressley



Remember to #ThankALineworker on April 13

LINEMEN SERVE ON the front lines of our nation's energy needs, and on April 13, Santee Electric Cooperative, along with other electric cooperatives across the country, will honor the brave men and women who work hard to keep the lights on.

Line crews work around the clock, sometimes in difficult and dangerous conditions, to keep power flowing to our local communities. Whether they're restoring power after a major storm or maintaining critical infrastructure, linemen are at the heart of our cooperative.

When a storm hits, they set aside their personal priorities because Mother Nature doesn't work around holidays, vacations or birthdays. A service-oriented mentality is one of the many admirable characteristics of an electric lineman.

Santee Electric is proud to honor the

44 linemen that maintain more than 5,000 miles of power lines in our service territory.

To show our appreciation, Santee Electric plans to host a breakfast for our crews, and the local chapter of WIRE (Women in Rural Electrification) will present each lineman with a gift.

Santee Electric invites all co-op members to take a moment and thank linemen for the important work they do. On April 13, you can use #ThankALineworker on social media to show your support for the brave men and women who power our lives.

1st Class Lineman Anthony McKnight



Serviceman Craig Bell

PHOTOS BY MICHAEL DUKE

THE SANTEE SCENE

April

2 Clarendon County Job Fair, F.E. DuBose Career Center, Manning, (803) 435-4405

4 Miss Striped Bass Pageant, Weldon Auditorium, Manning, (803) 435-4405

4 Miss Puddin Swamp Festival Pageant, East Clarendon Middle/High School, Turbeville, (803) 435-4405

9 Blood Drive, SEC Conference Center, Kingstree, (843) 355-6431

16-18 Puddin Swamp Festival, Turbeville, (803) 435-4405

16-19 Bassmaster Elite Tournament, John C. Land Facility, Summerton, (803) 435-4405

22 Professional Women's Luncheon, The Continuum, Lake City, (843) 374-8611

23 Lion's Club Fish Fry, Manning Restaurant, Manning, (803) 435-4405

24 Striped Bass Festival Opening

Ceremonies, Downtown Manning, (803) 435-4405

25 Striped Bass Festival Super Saturday, Downtown Manning, (803) 435-4405

25 Santee Cooper Open Team Tournament, John C. Land Facility, Summerton, (803) 435-4405

25 Striped Bass Festival Truck Pull, 2263 Loss Brook Road, Manning, (803) 435-4405