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SANTEE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE NEWS

Mary Grace McGee, *Editor*
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FIND US ON



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Thirty years of dedication



I HOPE EVERYONE enjoyed a Merry Christmas and 2020 is starting off well for all of you.

Back by popular demand is the employee interview! This month, I have the pleasure of featuring our Distribution Engineering Project Manager, Ken Mason.

Ken grew up in Greeleyville and graduated from Manning Christian School. He has been married to Anna (formerly Anna Drose) for 28 years, and the two of them have two children. Their son, Jay, is 26 and works at Nan Ya. Their daughter, Mary Anna, is 24 and works in the Take One/Make One program with the SCDNR. Ken loves to hunt (mostly deer and wild hogs). He also loves striper fishing and has recently been turned on to catching redbfish.

Shortly after graduating from high school and enrolling at Williamsburg Tech, Ken expressed interest in going to work at SEC. However, Ken has an August birthday and the manager told him he could not start until he turned 18. Therefore, in 1984—on his 18th birthday!—Ken started working for SEC.

He started off in Data Processing—using some of SEC’s first computers ever—to produce our monthly bills. After a few short years, we convinced Ken to feature his skills in the Engineering Department.

Ken began with field mapping. His

responsibilities have grown to cover all of the major engineering projects that SEC needs—major line conversions, subdivision design, etc. Ken directs a great deal of the work of SEC’s contract construction crews. If there is a non-standard project that requires a high level of “thinking outside of the box,” Ken is on it!

When I asked what Ken likes best about his job, he was quick to point out that he has had the opportunity to watch our system grow *a lot* over the years. He particularly enjoys his relationship with the Sumter Utilities crews that build under his guidance.

GETTING TO KNOW US



Ken Mason
 Distribution Engineering
 Project Manager

“I really enjoy working with the contractors,” he says. “It’s hard to believe a crew can rebuild miles of power lines in a single job without having to have anyone’s power off.”

I asked him what the toughest part of his job was. “Joint use is very frustrating,” he replied, referring to cable and telephone companies attaching to SEC poles. “It’s

difficult dealing with a company that can cause code violations on your poles when you don’t have control over their installers.”

What would he want everyone reading this column to know? “I work with the staking engineers and I help them. We all operate from the same policies. I cannot help you lower the contribution-in-aid costs they quoted you.”

There you have it, folks! Ken has been a big part of SEC’s growth over 30+ years—but don’t ask him to cut you a deal on that line you need built to your hunting club!

Have a great month everyone.

ROBERT G. ARDIS III
 President and Chief Executive Officer

THE SANTEE SCENE

January

20 All SEC offices closed for MLK Day.

February

6 Blood Drive, 1–6 p.m. SEC Conference Center, Kingstree, (843) 355-0599.

7 Youth Tour applications due.

Notice

Annual meeting to be held April 14 at Kingstree High School gym

SANTEE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE will hold its 2020 Annual Meeting of Members April 14, 2020, at Kingstree High School.

Nominating Committee to meet

In accordance with Article IV, Section 3 of the co-op's bylaws, excerpted below, the member-owners listed at the right have been duly appointed to the Nominating Committee. The committee will meet at 11 a.m., February 6, 2020, at the co-op's Kingstree headquarters for the purpose of nominating trustees for Districts 6, 8 and 9.

Nominations by petition

Article IV, Section 3 also gives member-owners the right to nominate board candidates by petition. At least one percent of the co-op's membership, acting together, can nominate a fellow member. Petitions must be filed with the cooperative at least 60 days prior to the annual meeting.

Applicable bylaws

Article III: Meeting of Members

SECTION 1. ANNUAL MEETING. The annual meeting of members shall be held on such day in each year, beginning with the year 1952, and at such place within a county served by the Cooperative as shall be fixed and determined by the Board of Trustees, and as shall be designated in the notice of the meeting for the purpose of electing trustees, passing upon reports for the previous fiscal year and transacting such other business as may come before the meeting. Failure to hold the annual meeting at the designated time shall not work a forfeiture and dissolution of the Cooperative.

SECTION 3. NOTICE OF MEMBERS MEETINGS. Written or printed notice stating the place, day and hour of the meeting and, in case of a special meeting or an annual meeting at which business other than that listed in Section 6 of this Article is to be transacted, the purpose or purposes for which the meeting is called, shall be delivered not less than ten days nor more than twenty-five days before the date of the meeting, either personally or by mail, by or at the direction of the Secretary, or upon a default in duty by the Secretary, by the persons calling the meeting, to each member. If mailed, such notice shall be deemed to be delivered when deposited in the United States mail, addressed to the member at his address as it appears on the records of the Cooperative, with postage thereon prepaid. The failure of any member to receive notice of an annual or special meeting of the members shall not invalidate any action which may be taken by the members at such meeting.

Article IV: Trustees

SECTION 3. NOMINATIONS. It shall be the duty of the Board of Trustees to appoint, not less than ninety days or more than one hundred and twenty days before the date of a meeting of the members at which Trustees are to be elected, a committee on nominations consisting of not less than five nor more than eleven members who shall be selected from different sections of the project area so as to insure equitable representation. No member of the Board of Trustees may serve on such committee. The committee shall prepare and post at the principal office of the Cooperative at least sixty days before the meeting a list of nominations for Trustees, but 1% or more of the members of the Cooperative, acting together, may make additional nominations in writing over their signatures, listing their nominee(s) in like manner and filing the same with the Cooperative, not less than sixty days prior to the meeting and the Secretary shall post such nominations at the same place where the list of nominations made by the committee is posted. The Secretary shall mail with the notice of the meeting or separately, but at least seven days before the date of the meeting, a list of the number of Trustees, shown by district, to be elected and the names and addresses of the candidates nominated for each district, specifying separately the nominations made by petition, if any.

Nominating Committee appointments for 2020 Annual Meeting

James Gilliard

P.O. Box 732
Hemingway, SC 29554

Donald M. Floyd

300 Lancelot Way
Lake City, SC 29560

Gwenevere Moody

2256 White Oak Road
Kingstree, SC 29556

Olin Dukes

365 McCollough Loop
Kingstree, SC 29556

Kasey Feagin

4803 Pine Oak Road
Effingham, SC 29541

Wanda J. Johnson

1438 Lake Shore Drive
Manning, SC 29102

Clifford Gamble

1389 Edwin Road
Salters, SC 29590

Frankie M. Davis

296 Walnut Ave
Georgetown, SC 29440

Penny S. Gamble

2212 Santee Road
Andrews, SC 29510