Your voice is always heard

AS I AM writing this, Santee Electric’s 79th Annual Meeting of the Membership is just around the corner.

I hope to see you there. My job this year will be working the registration lines helping folks get their registration and identification paperwork out and doing all we can to streamline the registration process. After all, it’s no small task to register over 4,000 members in one afternoon. My favorite part of this job, though, is getting a chance to speak to members. Where else do I have such a golden opportunity to say “good afternoon” and “thank you” for your time and membership?

Since Annual Meeting is upon us, I thought this month’s column would be a great opportunity to tell you about all of the ways your voice is heard here at SEC.

The most direct way, of course, is to come and talk to us. We still—even when most in the industry do not—offer in-person member service at each of our office locations 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday (minus holidays, of course). If you do not feel like coming out to the office, give us a call. We would be glad to hear from you. Annual Meeting, since I already brought up the subject, is another great chance to speak to us in person. We look forward to the opportunity.

There are also numerous indirect ways to make your voice heard at your Cooperative.

The first, of course, is your Board of Trustees. Their names are right here to the left of my column, and these trusted and dedicated individuals are available there in your communities—ready to share information about SEC and bring any information, comments, or concerns from you to us. I feel very fortunate to work for such a dedicated Board, and you should be very proud of your elected representatives.

One group, however, that you may not know as much about is our SEMAC committee. SEMAC stands for Santee Electric Member Advisory Committee. This group is made up of an additional two individuals from each of our nine districts, and they meet at least once every year to further improve that critical two-way flow of information on which we rely here at SEC. Whether the subject is energy efficiency, extreme temperatures, the cost of wholesale power, or numerous other topics, this committee is a great resource for feedback for us. So important is their role that we wanted to recognize the members of the SEMAC, listed above.

Let’s pray for good weather and safe travels. Finally, please know that—whether you can make it in person or not—SEC has many avenues in place for you to make sure your voice is heard.

ROBERT G. ARDIS III
President and Chief Executive Officer