



A MESSAGE FROM YOUR CEO

Thank you for participating in our Annual Membership Meeting

Member participation at Singing River Electric's recent Annual Membership Meeting was outstanding. Thank you to all members who voted online or on the SmartHub app, by proxy, or in person at the annual meeting. Your participation is vital to the success of our cooperative. Four directors were elected to serve three-year terms. Along with the directors election, the meeting focused on system upgrades, costs associated with providing reliable electric service, how your cooperative is minimizing outage response times, a change in member bill structure allowing itemized viewing, and the continued focus on community involvement.

The success of our fiber internet subsidiary, Singing River Connect, was also noted. The offering of this unparalleled high-speed fiber-to-the-home service has members across our service territory excited. As the number of fiber internet subscribers continues to soar, our employees

and contractors place emphasis on providing the same level of service that members of the electric cooperative have come to expect.

A highlight of the Annual Membership Meeting was hearing from our three Cooperative Youth Leaders who were selected to represent Singing River Electric at a leadership workshop in Jackson and a week-long tour of Washington, D.C. These young people, now entering their senior year of high school, shared their experiences from the past six months and thanked Singing River Electric for providing this experience.

Again, thank you for being active participants in your electric cooperative. Voting and attending the annual meeting fulfills the 2nd Cooperative Principle: Democratic Member Control. Your input is always valued as Singing River Electric continues to provide safe, reliable, and affordable electricity to our membership.



by **Brian Hughey**

General Manager and CEO



Energy Tips



Gabe Robbins

Energy Services Representative
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Smart thermostats help manage energy use

Saving money without compromising comfort is key. Smart thermostats help optimize energy consumption from your HVAC system and reduce your electric bill. Through advanced technology, Wi-Fi, and algorithms, you can control your thermostat through apps on smartphones and tablets. Smart thermostats also learn your behavior and schedule to help reduce energy use.

- **Precision Temperature Control** – Smart thermostats can maintain a consistent temperature by learning your schedule. Traditional thermostats rely on manual control, often leading to wasted energy.
- **Personalized Scheduling** – Set specific temperatures based on daily routines, allowing your HVAC system to work more efficiently when you are at home and even when you are not.
- **Geofencing Technology** – Thanks to GPS, once your smart phone is within a certain distance of your home, the thermostat can adjust the temperature to ensure a comfortable environment when you arrive.
- **Energy Use Reports & Insights** – This data provides a clear breakdown of energy consumption patterns, peak energy use, and ways to improve these.
- **Adaptive Learning for Increased Efficiency** – The more data a smart thermostat accumulates, the better it becomes at predicting occupants' needs and proactively adjusting temperature settings to align with their habits.



2024 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING HELD JUNE 27

Singing River Electric held its 2024 Annual Membership Meeting on Thursday, June 27, at the Lucedale headquarters office.

During the meeting, General Manager and CEO Brian Hughey and Board President Kristal Sisson reviewed 2023 highlights, accomplishments, and challenges for both Singing River Electric and Singing River Connect and shared plans for 2024 and beyond. A highlight of the evening featured Makayla-Jade Mendez of Pascagoula High School, Riley Tingle of Perry Central High School, and Vicky Vo of St. Martin High School who shared their experiences from Washington, D.C. as SRE's Cooperative Youth Leadership students.

Singing River Electric members participated in the board of directors election online through the website and SmartHub app, by mailed-in proxies, and in person at the annual meeting. Four Singing River Electric members were elected to serve three-year terms on the cooperative's board in the three geographic districts.

- Cary E. Williams – District 1
- Travis Baxter – District 2
- Edward H. Thornton – District 3
- Mark W. LaSalle – District 3

There are traditionally three directors up for election each year, one from each district. However, every third year, two directors are elected for District 3; this district has the most members and is represented by two directors to ensure adequate representation.

For a full list of board members and to view the 2023 annual report, visit singingriver.com/my-coop.

Singing River Electric members Phillip Busby, Linda Eckford, Richard Fleming, and Obie Wells served on the Credentials and Election Committee. This committee reviews the board applicants prior to the election and monitors voting at the annual membership meeting.



SINGING RIVER ELECTRIC 2023 HIGHLIGHTS

- Commissioned first SRE substation for SCADA (supervisory control and data acquisition) which speeds outage restoration times
- Retired more than \$3.4 million in capital credits for the year 1997 - Cooperative Energy retired \$1.56 million for the year 1993 and a partial return for the year 2009
- Conducted cost of service study, adjusted the monthly customer and energy charges, and introduced a demand charge to cover increased electric system costs
- Introduced outage reporting texting and member service texting
- Replaced more than 21 miles of aging copper wire and 8.7 miles of aging underground lines
- Introduced itemized billing to be more transparent on member bills
- Awarded 207 heat pump rebates
- Participated in community events such as Renew Our Rivers, Pathways2Possibilities Career Fair, Arbor Day tree plantings, and Cooperative Days of Service
- Awarded \$16,730.21 in NHN Community Grants to local non-profits
- Assisted Suwannee Valley Electric in Florida after Hurricane Idalia and helped two Mississippi electric cooperatives after severe weather
- Completed 37 solar panel commissionings
- Marked Singing River Electric's 85th anniversary on August 31

SINGING RIVER CONNECT 2023 HIGHLIGHTS

- Maintained an overall 45% take-rate for eligible subscribers
- Recognized SRC's 5,000th subscriber in September
- Opened online sign-ups at singingriverconnect.com/sign-up
- Hosted four learning lab events to explain TV streaming, cybersecurity, and smart home devices

2024 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING PRIZE WINNERS

Thank you to all our members who either voted online or returned their proxy to participate in the board of directors election. Congratulations to these prize drawing winners!

\$500 WINNER
Sidney Reus of Moss Point

\$250 WINNERS

Roddy Hinton of Richton, Samuel McClure of Lucedale, David Stanford of Leakesville, Richard Thorp of Gautier, Bethany Willis of Ocean Springs, George Wilner of Hurley



You've been upgraded!

SR Connect adds value to fiber internet plans

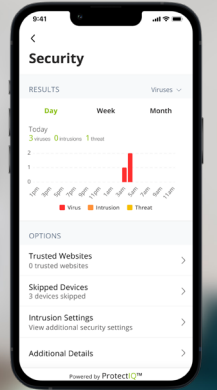
FREE speed upgrade to 300 Mbps for 100 Mbps plan subscribers

Our subscribers are connecting more devices and branching out into cameras and smart home devices. This upgrade to 300 Mbps gives our subscribers the speed to continue expanding their internet-based possibilities.



FREE ProtectIQ and ExperienceIQ enhanced mobile app features for all 1 Gig plan subscribers

As subscribers connect more devices, the need to protect and control their home network grows. ProtectIQ provides peace of mind protection from viruses, web threats, and intrusions across all devices on your network. ExperienceIQ allows you to manage screen time, ensure kid-friendly content, prioritize devices, and monitor internet use in your household.



Singing River Connect is owned by Singing River Electric, a cooperative, which means we focus more on people than profits. When we saw the opportunity to upgrade our subscribers, deciding to do it was easy.

Visit singingriverconnect.com/products-pricing-a for full package details.



Fiber Construction Timeline - August 2024

Step 1: Make-ready engineering

Examine. Design.

Fountainbleu, Singing River Mall, Gautier, and Hamill Farm substation areas



Step 4: Splicing

Connecting the dots.

Benndale substation area



Step 2: Make-ready construction

Planning the most efficient approach to fiber deployment.

Ocean Springs, Gulf Park Estates, and Sunplex substation areas



Step 5: Service drop & drop splicing

The last outdoor step. Almost there...

Rocky Creek, Leakesville, Lucedale North, Joe Batt, Vancleave, and all previously opened areas



Step 3: Construction

Building a network from the ground up.

St. Martin, Fort Bayou, Martin Bluff, Hickory Hills, Forts Lake, Helena, Helena Industrial, Escatawpa South, Wade, and Tucker Road substation areas



Step 6: Installation

The speed of light, right to your home.

Rocky Creek, Leakesville, Lucedale North, Joe Batt, Vancleave, and all previously opened areas



Blazing-fast fiber internet from local people you trust.

New areas are announced by electric substation and feeder; text a SRE member service rep. at 228-591-9166 to find out which one serves you. Visit singingriverconnect.com/signup to apply for service and to see all areas where SR Connect fiber internet is available.



Electric Cooperatives of Mississippi's 37th YOUTH TOUR



LEARN. GROW. EXPERIENCE.

EXPERIENCE is the third component in the Cooperative Youth Leaders program. Eighty-five rising high school seniors from across Mississippi traveled to Washington, D.C. in June along with nearly 1,700 student leaders from 44 states for the 2024 National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's Youth Tour.

The trip was the culmination of the students' participation in the Electric Cooperatives of Mississippi's leadership program, which instills leadership skills, inspires creative thinking, builds confidence in decision-making, and introduces students to lawmakers that represent their communities.

During a March workshop in Jackson, which is the GROW component of the program, the students had the opportunity to meet and hear from state legislators. During the trip to Washington, D.C., the students met and spoke with their U.S. senators — Roger Wicker and Cindy Hyde-Smith.

While in Washington, D.C., the students and adult chaperones visited historic sites, monuments, museums, and learned about the impact electric cooperatives have on their communities.

The students also toured the U.S. Capitol, sat on the floor of the House of Representatives, and visited the Library of Congress as guests of former U.S. Congressman Gregg Harper of Mississippi.

The students attended a Washington Nationals pro baseball game and had dinner during an evening cruise on the Potomac River.

The students were chosen in the fall of their junior year of high school through their local Cooperative University and interviews, where they LEARNed about their electric cooperative and the electric power industry.

The Cooperative Youth Leaders program is fully funded — including the trip to D.C. — by the local electric co-ops as a commitment to molding future leaders for Mississippi, so they can impact the state and local communities.



SUNDAY, JUNE 16
FDR MEMORIAL



TUESDAY, JUNE 18
THE WHITE HOUSE



FRIDAY, JUNE 21
NATIONAL CATHEDRAL

MAKAYLA-JADE MENDEZ - PASCAGOULA HIGH SCHOOL • RILEY TINGLE - PERRY CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL
VICKY VO - ST. MARTIN HIGH SCHOOL