



Singing River Electric is an equal opportunity employer and provider.

**Mike Smith, General Manager & CEO**  
**Lorri Freeman, APR,**  
**Manager of Public Relations**  
**Amanda Parker,**  
**Public Relations Specialist**

For more information, call  
 601-947-4211/228-497-1313 x 2251 or visit  
 our website at [www.singingriver.com](http://www.singingriver.com)



## CEO's Message



**Mike Smith**  
**General Manager and CEO**  
**Singing River Electric**

## Membership Passes Two Bylaw Changes at Annual Membership Meeting



the name of the organization from Singing River Electric Power Association to Singing River Electric Cooperative. The name change was needed as it more clearly defines who we are, which is an electric cooperative. Similarly, Singing River Electric's power supplier and statewide organization also changed their names this year to incorporate the word "Cooperative" into the name. South Mississippi Electric Power Association became Cooperative Energy and The Electric Power Associations of Mississippi became the Electric Cooperatives of Mississippi.

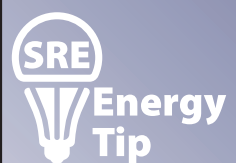
The second amendment voted on by Singing River Electric's membership created an additional director position for District 3 (Jackson and Harrison counties), due to member growth in this area. The District 3 – Post 4 Director position will be elected at the 2018 Annual Meeting and every three years after that.

Singing River Electric is an electric cooperative and therefore created by and for the very members it serves. These same members, who are your neighbors, hold positions on our board of directors and the election and credentials committee. Voting on these bylaw amendments and electing board members are just two of the many benefits of cooperative membership.

## Ceiling Fans Help You Use Less Energy



**Josh Havard**  
**Member Services Representative**  
[joshhavard@singingriver.com](mailto:joshhavard@singingriver.com)



Nearly everyone has one or more ceiling fans in their home today, and they can help you use less energy when used correctly. You may think ceiling fans create cool air, but they actually just move air across your skin making you feel cooler. For this reason, only run ceiling fans in the rooms you are in. Turn ceiling fans off when you leave the room.



Energy savings are based on air conditioning run times. When operating the ceiling fan with your air conditioner, you can turn up your thermostat setting by one degree or more and still feel comfortable. Doing this can mean about a 5 percent savings on running your air conditioning, which is the largest energy user in your home.

You can also adjust the air direction for added comfort. In the summer, operate the ceiling fan with the air flowing toward the floor on any speed. In the winter, set the fan to operate in the reverse direction on low speed. This pushes air to the ceiling and forces warm air down for added comfort.

For additional tips and free energy tools, visit our website at [singingriver.com](http://singingriver.com), or follow our social media conversations on Facebook and Instagram (Singing River Electric) or Twitter (SRECooperative).



## WE RELY ON OUR ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE FOR INFORMATION ABOUT ENERGY EFFICIENCY.

In our community, power is more than electricity. It's the expert information we receive to help us use less energy and save money. Learn more at [www.singingriver.com](http://www.singingriver.com).

**YOUR SOURCE OF POWER. AND INFORMATION.**



# POWER in MEMBERSHIP

## 2017 Annual Meeting held June 29

Singing River Electric held the 2017 Annual Membership Meeting on Thursday, June 29.

During the meeting, General Manager and CEO Mike Smith reviewed highlights from 2016 and shared some of the cooperative's plans for 2017.

Three Singing River Electric members were elected to serve on the cooperative's board for a three-year term: Robert Steele representing Greene, Perry and Wayne counties in Mississippi as well as Washington County in Alabama; Roy Grafe representing George and Stone counties in Mississippi and Mobile County in Alabama; and Kristal Sisson representing Jackson and Harrison counties in Mississippi. Singing River Electric members Milton Driskell, Marvin Blankinchip, Linda Eckford, Phillip Busby, Obie Wells, Richard Fleming and Daniel Seymour served on the Credentials and Election Committee. This committee reviews the election process and applicants each year.

Members who participated in SRE board

elections online, by SmartHub app, by proxy or in person at the membership meeting also voted for and passed two bylaw amendments.

The first amendment was to change the name of the organization from Singing River Electric Power Association to Singing River Electric Cooperative. The name change was needed as it more clearly defines what the organization is, which is an electric cooperative. Singing River Electric's power supplier and statewide organization also changed their names this year to incorporate the word "Cooperative" into the name. South Mississippi Electric Power Association became Cooperative Energy, and The Electric Power Associations of Mississippi became the Electric Cooperatives of Mississippi.

The second amendment voted on by Singing River Electric's membership created an additional director position for District 3 (Jackson and Harrison counties), due to member growth in this area. The District 3 – Post 4 Director position will be elected at the 2018 Annual Meeting and every three years after that.



*Top Left: Member Services Representative Jeff Gray explains why LED bulbs are the most efficient option during the Lucedale Energy Fair.*

*Top Right: A young meeting attendee helps Manager of Human Resources Annette Riley draw for door prizes.*



*Left: Co-op student Clark Rounsaville brings a door prize to the winning member's seat.*

## 2016 highlights discussed at the membership meeting:

- ◆ The retirement of more than \$7M in capital credits to members. This was a return of member investments in the cooperative. The credits were for the years 1982-1985.
- ◆ The retirement for more than \$1.5M of additional capital credits to SRE members in 2016 from South Mississippi Electric, now Cooperative Electric, for the years 1982-1983.
- ◆ The distribution of more than \$19,000 in Neighbors Helping Neighbors Community Grants to local schools and non-profits in Jackson and George counties.
- ◆ Increased emphasis on cybersecurity to protect member information.
- ◆ Construction of a new substation in the Hintonville community of Perry County and Helena Industrial Park in Jackson County. SRE is also planning new substations in the Hurley and Cumest Bluff communities of Jackson County, as well as replacing more than 32 miles of aging copper power lines throughout the service territory and maintaining an annual right-of-way program to ensure reliable service for all members.
- ◆ Boosting area economic development by providing a low-interest loan to George Regional Health System to assist with construction of a new labor and delivery wing at the hospital. A low-interest loan is also being finalized with Greene County and Jones County Junior College to expand facilities.
- ◆ Conducting a member satisfaction survey with NRECA and receiving an 88/100 overall satisfaction score.
- ◆ Working with South Mississippi Electric, now Cooperative Energy, to install a community solar site near our office in Lucedale. This facility, along with four others in the state, is providing solar power into the system.

### 2017 Annual Meeting Proxy/Online Ballot

Prize Winners included:

Richard Baudry, Marshall Faurot, Wynell Helton, Maxwell Peacock, Paul Rogers and E.N. Scott. Roxanna L. Crane was the grand prize winner.





Austin, Noah, Kenley and Morgan visit with Rep. Steven Palazzo in his Washington, D.C., office.



# 2017 Youth Tour

## SINGING RIVER ELECTRIC'S FUTURE LEADERS

Each year, Singing River Electric sponsors high school juniors on a tour of Washington, D.C., in June. They join other students representing hundreds of cooperatives from Mississippi and across the United States. The delegates are all like-minded students who are motivated to succeed and become leaders in their communities. This tour is memorable, not only because these young people are able to visit their nation's capital, but they also make life-long friendships that benefit them well into their adult years.

The Youth Tour is supported locally by Singing River Electric, organized statewide by the Electric Cooperatives of Mississippi and nationally by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA). Over 1,800 students from 44 states participate annually.

This year, Austin Baldwin, Kenley Cochran, Noah Moran and Morgan Rich joined 66 of Mississippi's brightest young people while representing Singing River Electric. They were chosen through an application and interview process. Austin is the son of Christopher and Gayra Baldwin of Ocean Springs and will be a senior at St. Martin High School. Kenley will be a senior at Perry Central High School and is the daughter of Trent and Amy Cochran of Beaumont. Noah Moran is the son of Louis and Amanda Moran of Ocean Springs and will be a senior at Ocean Springs High School. Morgan will be a senior at East Central High School and is the daughter of Steve Rich and Rita Bailey of Moss Point.

The week-long trip featured visits to the major monuments and memorials, including the World War II Memorial, FDR Memorial, Lincoln Memorial, Jefferson Memorial and the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

"This was a lifechange experience that gives you an inside look at our country's beauty and history — truly a trip to remember," said Kenley.

A trip to the Marine Corps War Memorial was one of the first stops on the tour, followed by a trip to the Air Force Memorial.

After a drive down Massachusetts Avenue,

informally known as Embassy Row, the students were taken on a guided tour of the Washington National Cathedral, the second largest cathedral in the U.S.

Later in the week, the students attended the popular Sunset Parade at the Marine Corps War Memorial and enjoyed a performance by the U.S. Marine Forces Reserve Band. While visiting Arlington National Cemetery, the students respectfully watched the changing of the guard and visited the gravesite of President John F. Kennedy.

The students spent a day touring the Smithsonian Museums, including the museums of Air and Space, American History, Natural History and the National Gallery of Art. Other popular events of the tour were a stop by the Newseum, Madame Tussauds Wax Museum and an evening cruise down the Potomac River. The students were also able to watch the Washington Nationals play the Texas Rangers in Nationals Park.

In addition to sightseeing, the students also spent a day on Capitol Hill, which began with a special tour of the U.S. House Floor graciously hosted by Rep. Gregg Harper. While in the Capitol building, the students enjoyed a panoramic view of Washington, D.C., from the speaker's balcony. After the tour, Austin, Kenley, Noah and Morgan joined a smaller group to visit with Rep. Steven Palazzo in his D.C. office. During the visit to Capitol Hill, students also met with Sen. Roger Wicker.

"Touring our nation's capital with my friends was an amazing and motivating experience I could do about a million and a half times," said Noah.

"Singing River Electric is proud to take part in the Youth Leadership Program," General Manager and CEO Mike Smith said. "The program also instills leadership in the students and impresses upon them the importance of participating in their government."



*"This tour has been the time of my life! The friendships and relationships I have made have become so important to me. The doors that have been opened from this program have helped change my life for the better!"*

*-Morgan Rich  
Moss Point, MS*



*The Jefferson Memorial (above) and The National Cathedral (right) were two of the many stops on the Youth Tour of Washington, D.C.*



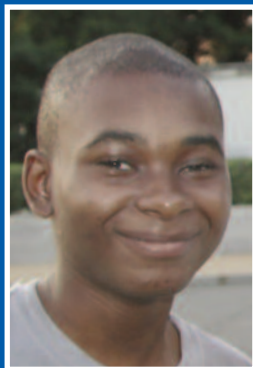
*Morgan, Kenley, Austin and Noah visited the White House on Pennsylvania Avenue.*

*The Youth Tour students visited the Marine Corps War Memorial, also known as the Iwo Jima Memorial. They were able to see the U.S. Marine Forces Reserve Band perform in front of the massive monument.*



*"Youth Tour opened my eyes to a new environment to truly become a better leader and to develop new experiences. It allowed me to discover a new part of myself and gain new lifelong friends."*

*-Austin Baldwin  
Ocean Springs, Miss.*





# Hurricane Prep

## What To Do During The Storm



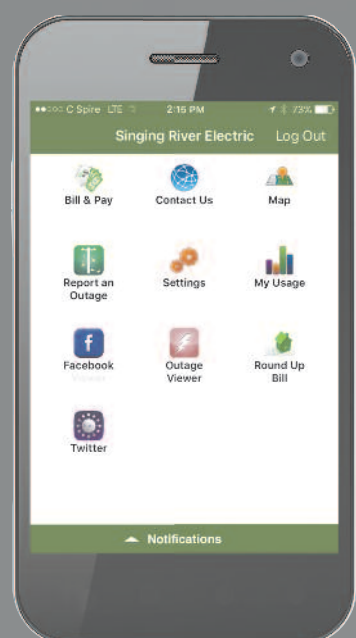
*Safety is the utmost concern before, during and after a storm. Here are some tips when it comes to generator safety.*

### **Generator Safety Tips:**

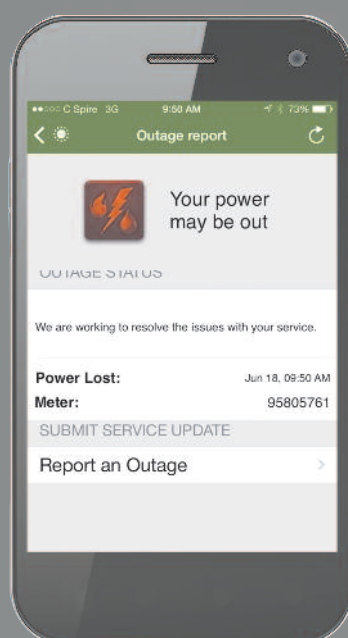
- Connect appliances directly to the generator. Never connect a generator directly to your home's wiring. (This can energize power lines and endanger the lives of SRE linemen as well as visiting crews.)
- Ensure the generator you choose has ample capacity for the load.
- Consult a licensed electrician to help with installation.
- Always read the manufacturer's instructions carefully before use.
- Be careful to use generators outdoors in well-ventilated areas.

## Report a power outage WITH THE TOUCH OF A SCREEN

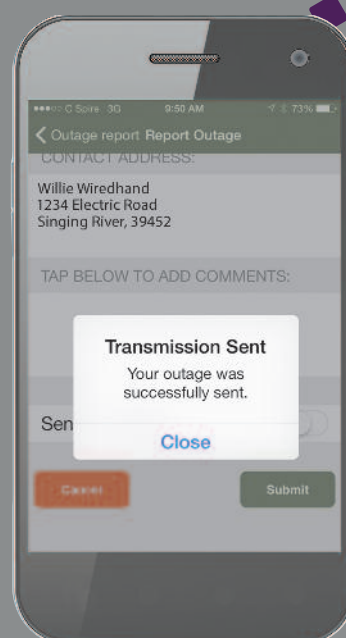
**Step One:** Download SmartHub app.



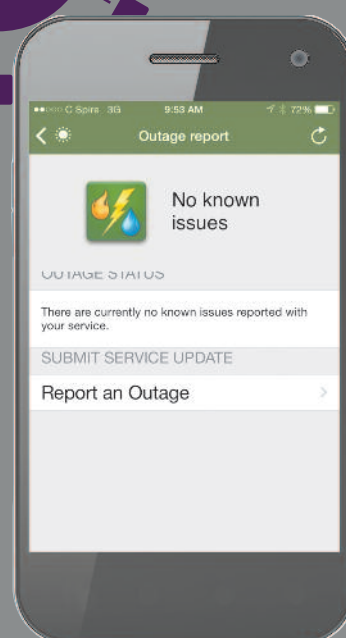
**Step Two:**  
Select "Report an Outage" icon.



**Step Three:**  
Select "Report an Outage."



**Step Four:**  
Type in comments and  
Select "Submit."



**Step Five:**  
Recheck app later to  
verify power has been  
restored.

*Also view a live outage map.*

# We can't recognize you... without your phone number.



**The quickest way to report a power outage is to use the SmartHub app on any mobile device, but did you know there is something you can do to make it even faster?**

Simply call, email or use the SmartHub app to update your phone number and email address on your account. Having this information updated in our Outage Management System shortens the time it takes to assign your outage to our service-men and helps get your power back on faster!

### **How to update your phone number:**

- Use SmartHub app.
- Call any SRE office (601-947-4211, 228-497-1313) and press "8" to change the number associated with your account.
- Email your contact information to [contactus@singingriver.com](mailto:contactus@singingriver.com) with "Verify Contact Info" in subject line of email.
- Visit any SRE office (Lucedale, Gautier or Sand Hill).

**Singing River  
Electric Cooperative**  
A Touchstone Energy Cooperative



**The quickest way to report a power outage is with the SmartHub app. Download the app at [www.singingriver.com](http://www.singingriver.com).**