# Citizens of Georgia Power

# ENERGIZER

A statewide newsletter for Citizens of Georgia Power

# **NOVEMBER / 2021**

# 2021 State Board

**President**Mary Norris

**1st Vice President** Betsy Tillman

2nd Vice President

Secretary/Treasurer
Jennifer Simon

#### **Chapter Relationship**

Southeast - Jason Bennett Metro - Patrick Harris Northwest - Kimberly Allen Southwest - Kelli Newman Northeast - Lisa Santos

Charities Director
Tina Stevens

Marketing Director
Angie Brown

Social Media Director

Jarred Rankin

Community Investment Director

Walt Dukes II

Special Events Director Eric Swann

Club of Hearts Liaison Charlie Ross

**Ambassadors Liaison** Krista Pierce



# State President's Message

#### **Mary Norris**

Greetings Fellow Citizens:

Well, we've made it almost to the end of another year of blessings.

The first two weeks of November have been busy; for many of us, we've had the opportunity to attend at least seven related Citizen's meetings. The first two meetings were the State Board Meeting and our Annual Business Meeting which took care of making sure we are complying; yes, you can be assured, we are in good hands for years to come.

The next meetings were a first in the history of our 60 years. We had five virtual Citizens Celebratory meetings to recognize all 39 chapters and it was well worth it!! A special thanks to all our chapter presidents for doing an awesome job in pulling together the information, pictures, videos, music, etc. to allow everyone to see just what you've accomplished this year.

A special thanks to our five-chapter relationship chairs who worked with our chapter presidents to highlight their chapters and our VP's and Region Director who welcomed our members and gave some words of inspiration during these meetings:

Northeast-Lisa Santos---Jason Cuevas Southeast-Jason Bennett---Audrey King Metro-Patrick Harris---Latanza Adjei Southwest-Kelli Newman---Doug Jenkins Northwest-Kimberly Allen---John Cornelius

Some of the virtual meetings were held in the morning and some in the afternoon, however they were all uplifting and inspiring. A special congratulations again to our (Citizens of Excellence) Mamie K. Taylor recipients and (Chapter Presidents) Mary Elizabeth Smith winners. Highlights were done on service projects, legacy projects, membership drives and fundraisers. Some of the chapters noted they've had challenges; however I'm sure for anyone that was a part of any of the meetings, you would agree; those challenges were overcome because of the tenacity of the leaders and members who decided "we must not be defeated" and now you can look back over the year and know what you set out to do might not have been done the way you would have wanted it, but thankful it got done and maybe even better than what was anticipated. That's what I call faith; never giving up because there's always another way!

Having the opportunity to see what each chapter presented was a WOW moment; I was amazed and astonished at the many activities that chapters were able to do during a time of a pandemic. I saw project work from start to finish; unity amongst the chapters to do legacy projects; riverbanks cleaned up; kids' wishes being fulfilled; families being taken care of during the devastation of the Tornado; bicycles for the handicapped; meals served for our frontline workers; parks and schools being renovated and services to our needy and less fortunate. These were just a few of the things shown. As I listened, it occurred to me that this is just what was needed this year so that we could really see what other chapters have been doing and hopefully be inspired and motivated. I saw the love, commitment, and compassion in what has been accomplished. If you have not had the opportunity to watch a recording, please check with your chapter president. Through these presentations, you will really see the impact your generosity has made on so many people. Some of the presenters even mentioned seeing what another chapter had done gave them some ideas on what their chapter could do next year. Watch it and I guarantee it will open your eyes to how much the Citizens of Georgia Power have done this year!!!

Yes, this is the month we celebrate Thanksgiving, but each day we bring joy and sunshine to others by volunteering to serve, so to you, I say A Big Thanks to all of you for "Giving" of your time to serve others. I am so thankful to work for Georgia Power and even more so, to be a part of this group. It allows me to be able to do even more than I could imagine when it's comes to volunteering. I have been working with the Lutheran Towers Senior High-Rise family for over 15 years and I've seen the love that has occurred between these two families. Many of you, I know could say the same thing because you've worked with many organizations for several years and been able to make a difference in their lives. Our lives are enriched because we feel good in doing what we do, but it's so much more to the person who receives it. As we move towards the close of another year, lets' finish up strong by "Unmasking the Opportunities for Service, 365 days."

Mary Norris

### **Brunswick**

Citizens of Georgia Power (Brunswick and Waycross) and Farmers & Builders Ace Hardware worked together to build and install blessing boxes that were requested by the Okefenokee Chamber of Commerce. The boxes will hold donated non-perishable food items for those in need. Farmers & Builders donated the materials. Chapter members in Brunswick built the boxes and Chapter members in Waycross installed the boxes.







Signature Squares of Brunswick is a non-profit whose mission is to celebrate the history of Brunswick Georgia. There is a total of 14 of these historic squares and Signature Squares is raising funds and finding workers to help revitalize and restore these historic parks. Citizens of Georgia Power, Brunswick has been a long-time ally of SSoB and have helped restore 3 of the 14 parks so far. We had a total of 25 workers that included the local garden club, Leadership Glynn class of 2020, and even a passerby that wanted in on the fun. Special thanks to Troup Nightingale at Southeaterphotograpy. com for the great pictures!

# Carrollton, Plant Wansley, and Plant Yates

The Carrollton, Plant Wansley, & Plant Yates Citizens of Georgia Power members are proud to volunteer for the 'Keep Carroll Beautiful' E-Recycling event, which positively impacts our environment by safely disposing of electronics. These chapters were also able to partner with students from the University of West Georgia.









# **Carrollton and Plant Wansley**

On Saturday, October 30th, Carrollton and Wansley Citizens Chapters partnered to run a water station and turn around station for the Keep Carroll Beautiful – Green Run. The Green Run raises much-needed funds for the Carroll County Communities recycling events, beautification efforts, and litter prevention & cleanup. Volunteers were April Hale, Sabrina Grimsley, Hank Grimsley, and Geneva Powell. Carrollton also had two members that ran the 5K, Joanna Isbell and Patrick Harris





#### Carrollton

Carrollton Citizens partnered with Learning Power in celebration of Georgia PreK Week and assisted in reading in PreK classes during the month of October. We read Georgia Power's PreK Book, "Look Now, Wonder, Wow!". We had 6 volunteers read at 8 different PreK schools, with multiple classes at some schools. Pictured is April Hale at Bright Beginnings Sunrise Daycare. Other volunteers were Carrly Lovvorn, Aubree Van Winkle, Seth Benefield, Patrick Harris, and Shanna Newsome.





# Clayton

Clayton Citizens members participated in a Trunk or Treat in their community in Stephens County. It was a great time of fellowship and giving out candy!







Service is important to Clayton Citizens members. They chose to honor the service of veterans in their community by helping to greet, seat, and serve hundreds of veterans and their spouses at the Rabun County Civic Center. It was very humbling and rewarding to take part in such a great event! Chapter members said it was an honor to serve those who have given so much.

### **Metro West**

The Metro West Citizens of Georgia Power Chapter had the opportunity to support and thank the staff/faculty at Free Home ES in Canton, and Annette Winn ES in Douglasville with school supplies and a catered lunch delivered to the schools, for their continued work in the community. Schools are experiencing work and staffing challenges as a result of the pandemic, so what better way to make the staff/faculty feel appreciated for everything they do for the children in their community. THANK YOU to Lorrie Wallace and Debbie Pendergrass, Energy Efficiency Education Coordinators and chapter members, for organizing and delivering the school supplies and lunches.









#### **Metro East**

The Initiative for Affordable Housing was the beneficiary of Metro East Citizens Legacy project funds to enhance the beauty and functionality for their clients. The project was a huge success!! Chapter volunteers built three picnic tables, six park benches, planted over forty azaleas and knock out roses, along with painting and general clean up! Special thanks to the Initiative board members and the community residents for their help with this project. Incredible job Metro East!











### Plant Bowen and Cartersville

Plant Bowen Citizens have worked tirelessly at the Black Pioneer Cemetery in Euharlee. They started a few years back to restore the walking paths and help preserve the graves. Mother nature and a major storm threw them some additional challenges. The trees have been cleared and they are back to restoring the paths. This time was a little bit different and involved a lot less wheelbarrows! Thanks to plant management, they were able to utilize a walk behind skid steer loader to help get into the narrow trails and carry material. A total of 25 volunteers, with several coming from the Cartersville chapter pitched in. The trail system is now complete. The next step will be using ground penetrating radar to make sure all graves are accounted for and marked. After that will be permanent slate markers. Katie Gobbi with the City of Euharlee is keeping the chapter posted so they can jump in and assist as they progress forward.





#### **Customer Care Center**

Citizens of Georgia Power Customer Care Center Chapter partnered with Helping in His Name Ministries. They have an annual food drive to help Henry County, over 800 items were donated. This event helps the Henry County community have enough food each and every day!









### Gwinnett

In Honor of Veteran's day 2021 Citizens of Gwinnett donated 30 gift bags to VFW Post 5255 of Lawrenceville. The gift bags will be distributed to local veternas in the community and in the hospital.







### **General Office**

The General Office Chapter continued its support of the Midtown Assistance Center in October by delivering highneed items to the MAC Food Pantry and volunteering at the Midtown Race for MAC, its annual 5K fundraiser in Piedmont Park. The Midtown Assistance Center, located within walking distance of GPC's corporate headquarters, provides emergency assistance to the working poor to prevent homelessness and hunger in 10 zip codes of Atlanta.







# Savannah Generation

Savannah Generation chapter invited everyone on the plant site to join them for a hamburger and hotdog lunch to benefit the March of Dimes. The hotdogs and hamburgers must have been great because they were able to raise nearly \$1100 for this great charity!









The Savannah Generation Chapter supported GPC Coastal Generation with their Charity Golf Tournament. This tournament was held at the Crosswinds Golf Club and the support from vendors, plant personnel, and partners was extraordinary. The event raised \$20,000 that was split between Shriners Children's Hospital and the March of Dimes.



# Savannah

They say the third time's the charm. Well Savannah Citizens figured the fourth time had to be better than that!! Eight volunteers joined forces for the fourth time this year with the Tybee Clean Beach Volunteers organization to pick up garbage and debris on the beach. Savannah's Citizens Chapter managed to fill 7 five-gallon buckets with trash from around the pier in less than 2 hours!







# ENERGIZER

|                           | EVENT  EVENT  EVENT   |
|---------------------------|---|
| DATE                      | EVENT   |
| 20 Monthly                | Energizer Chapter Submissions DUE   |
| 06/15/2021                | Educational Loan Fund (ELF) Applications DUE  365  Days  301,1200   |
| 07/09/2021                | Summer State Board Meeting  |
| 08/12/2021                | State Officer Nomination forms due to the State Office  |
| 09/9/2021                 | Call to Annual Meeting TBA  |
| 09/23/2021                | Committee Chairs application due in State Office  |
| 10/6-7/2021               | State Officers will go through selection process for committee chairs to serve on State Board during 2021               |
| 10/7/2021                 | Annual Meeting reservations/delegate - TBA  |
| 10/7/2021                 | Chapter Information for Annual Meeting printed program DUE to State Office  |
| 11/02/2021                | Virtual State Board Meeting   |
| 11/09, 10,<br>16, 17/2021 | Citizens Virtual Celebrations   |
| 12/09/2021                | 2022-chapter officer information DUE  |
| 12/09/2021                | State Office will verify records in uBack for second incentive  |
| 12/16/2021                | Chapter Surveys to be returned to the State Office  |
| 12/16/2021                | All monies must be distributed to bring year-end balance down to \$100 and prepare books for audit and income tax forms |
| 12/31/2021                | All 2021 Service Hours entered into uBack   |