# Senior Citizen

#### Dear Ambassadors Friends,

First of all, on behalf of the 2015 State Ambassadors Executive Committee, thank you all for a wonderful 2015. Your hard work and dedication throughout the year makes us very excited to see what 2016 has in store for the Ambassadors organization. I am honored to serve as this year's State President and I'd like to take a moment to share with you the four areas that will be our focus in 2016 for our wonderful organization as we continue to be "Citizens Wherever We Serve."

First-Communication. We have 19 chapters throughout the great state of Georgia with over 2,000 members. Our focus in 2016 will be to continuously improve our communications between our state office and our members. As members we need to do our part to make sure information that is important to our membership is shared in a timely manner. Board Member Gail Johnson has graciously agreed to lead this effort. If you have any suggestions on improving communications please let Gail know.

Second-Membership. Your Board has set a membership goal of 2,200 members for 2016. We ask all our members to please help us achieve this goal. Think of retirees you know that are not members of the Ambassadors and ask them to join. If each of us as members would get one new member this year our organization would double in size and clearly exceed our goal. Second Vice President Bob Davidson will lead this effort. If you have any suggestions on how to increase membership please let Bob know.

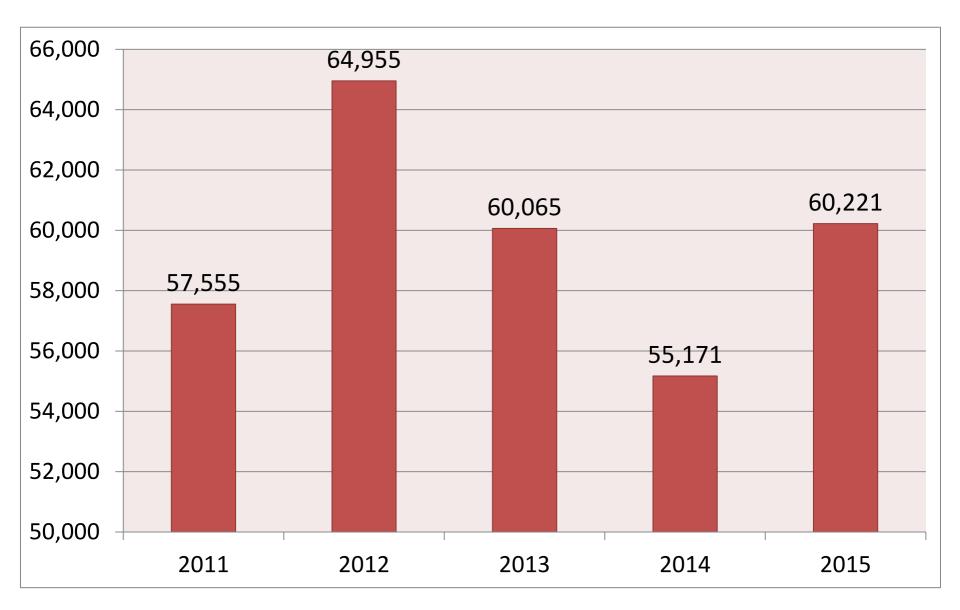
Third-Service is How We Win". This is the 2016 motto of the Citizens of Georgia Power. With the approval of the Citizens, this will also be the motto for Ambassadors in 2016. In 2015 you had 60,221 hours of service which is outstanding. The Board has set a goal of 65,000 hours. We encourage you to please report your service hours at your meetings. If you have a doubt whether your hours are reportable, please just report them and Krista Pierce of Volunteer Services will determine if they can be counted. Your board feels that we are still under reporting service hours. First Vice President Garnett Grubb will lead this effort. If you have any suggestions on service projects please let Garnett know.

Fourth-Partnership. Our focus for 2016 is improving our partnership between the Ambassadors and the Citizens of Georgia Power. We encourage you to become a member of your local Citizens of Georgia Power chapter and please seek out opportunities for partnering with your local Citizens of Georgia Power. If you have any suggestions on how we can improve this partnership, please let me know. Long term, we would love for members of the Citizens of Georgia Power to not only continue to belong to that wonderful organization, but also upon retirement join us in our wonderful organization, the Georgia Power Ambassadors.

In closing, Dianne and I wish you a Happy and Healthy New Year and are looking forward to a fantastic 2016!

**Gene Ussery, Ambassador State President** 

## **2015 Year End Service Hour Numbers**



What a great year in service for Ambassadors! This was the second highest number reported since 2011. If you combine the total for Ambassadors with the Citizens year end number of 110,200 hours, we were able to provide 170,421 hours of service to our local communities statewide.

Take that a step further. The value for a service hour in 2015 was estimated to be \$23.07. If you take that value and multiply it with our combined total, Citizens and Ambassadors provided over \$3.9 million in service. That's money the agencies was able to use to help more families in need. Those are families that would not have been helped had you all not volunteered your time.

THANK YOU AMBASSADORS!

### AND 2016 KICKS OFF

#### **Annual State Board Workshop**

In January, the Ambassador State Board met in Macon for the annual two day Workshop, preparing chapter officers for what is in store for 2016. Eighteen of the nineteen chapters were represented at the event. Ron Shipman, Central Region Vice President, joined the group one night and provided a company update for everyone present. John Cornelius, Cartersville Area Manager and 2016 State President for Citizens of Georgia Power, was also present for the event and stressed the desire for opportunities for Citizens and Ambassadors to partner throughout the year. Best practices were shared throughout the two day session on service hours, membership and program ideas. Awards were presented to the top three chapters for service hours, membership and meeting attendance as well. Thank you to all of the officers for each chapter for stepping up to lead in 2016. It's going to be another great year!











#### **Annual State Board Workshop Cont.**

And the winners are......



2015 John C. Hemby, Jr. Membership Award

Left to Right
Gene Ussery, State President
Second Place Golden Isles (Tean Jackson)
Third Place Southwest GA(Tommy Norman)
First Place Augusta (James Ford)

2015 John C. Hemby, Jr. Attendance Award

Left to Right
Gene Ussery, State President
Third Place Statesboro (Verna Bennett)
Second Place Metro Central (Peggy Grubb)
First Place Columbus (Suzanne Corley)





2015 Preston Arkwright Service Hour Award

Left to Right
Gene Ussery, State President
First Place Metro West (Joyce Burton)
Second Southwest GA(Tommy Norman)
Third Place Northeast GA (Jane Bingham)



# 2016 Chapter Leadership

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Chapter	President	Meeting Schedule
Altamaha	Jim Cherry	4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday
Athens	Ray Holton	1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday
Augusta	James Ford	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday
Columbus	Suzanne Corley	3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday
Golden Isles	Tean Jackson	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday
Heart of Georgia	Felix King	3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday
Metro Central	Peggy Grubb	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday
Metro East	Robert Purcell	4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday
Metro North	Tom Powell	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday
Metro South	Earl Spell	2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday
Metro West	Carol Paschal	2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday*
Northeast GA	Jane Bingham	4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday
Rome	Steve Nance	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday*
Savannah	Diana Hodges	4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday
Sinclair-Oconee	Sam McChesney	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday
South Georgia	Charles Smith	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday**
Southwest Georgia	Tommy Norman	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday
Statesboro	Verna Bennett	3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday
West Georgia	Russell Spence	1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday

- \*Meeting every other month beginning with even months
- \*\*Meeting every other month beginning with odd months

# **Community Impact**

#### **Altamaha**

Continuing the tradition of changing their community with one ramp at a time, the Altamaha chapter has already kicked it into high gear this year. Since January 1, the chapter has completed nine ramps for area residents who were in desperate need of a safe way to enter and exit their homes. Thank you Altamaha for what you do every day. You are making a difference in so many lives.











# **Community Impact Columbus**

In February, the Columbus Chapter rolls up their sleeves and cooks a spaghetti dinner for over 100 attendees for Girls, Inc. annual "Mother Daughter Sweetheart Ball." The event is the organization's annual talent showcase and the Columbus Ambassadors have assisted with the event for over thirty years. Members prepare, cook and serve the dinner for all attendees. It's a lot of hard work, but our Ambassadors enjoy helping Girls, Inc. with this very special event. Way to go Columbus!



# **Community Impact Through Partnerships**

As mentioned earlier in the State President's message, one area of focus this year is to increase partnerships with your local Citizens chapters. We've already seen two partnerships and it's only mid February.

The State Office will serve as a point of contact for Ambassadors and Citizens events. If you are looking for information on upcoming projects, please call our office at 404-506-7000.



#### **Athens**

Martin Luther King, "Day On, Not a Day Off" Day of Service

Ray Holton (far left), Athens Ambassador Chapter President, participated with the Athens Citizens chapter during the "Day On, Not a Day Off " project at Dudley Park for The "Dream to be Able to ML5K and Dream Dash" in support of Extra Special People, Inc. Ray and the Citizens cheered on all the participants as they completed the course.

Gene and Dianne Ussery (right), also members of the Athens chapter for Ambassadors, assisted the Gwinnett Citizens at Hi-Hope Center with some facility maintenance projects.





# Altamaha 2016 Hatch Outage Safety Expo

The Altamaha Ambassadors supported Hatch Outage Safety Expo prior to the Unit 1 Hatch refueling outage. Vendors, plant staff, and volunteer organizations promoted nuclear and personnel safety to plant employees and contract workers. The Volunteers worked alongside the Plant Hatch Citizens chapter officers during the event. Pictured to the left is (left to right) Altamaha Ambassadors Chapter President, Jim Cherry, Kareem Owens, Plant Hatch Chapter Citizens President and Alan Wolfe, 1st Vice President Altamaha Ambassadors.



# **Information Board**

**RETREAT 2016** 



Epworth by the Sea
Saint Simons Island, GA

Registration is now open for the 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Georgia Power Ambassador Retreat at Epworth by the Sea on beautiful Saint Simons Island. If you haven't already done so, fill out your registration packets and return them to the State Office. Lodging requests are filled on a first come, first serve basis. The earlier you get yours in, the better. Registration deadline is MARCH 31!

For registration packets, either see your chapter President or call the State Office at 404-506-7000.

#### We hope to see everyone there in April!

#### **2016 Important Dates**

April 18 Executive Committee Meeting-Epworth by the Sea
April 19-22 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Ambassador Retreat-Epworth by the Sea
June 19-28 State Trip-Canadian Rockies, Glacier National Park

Sept. 1-9 State Trip-Black Hills, Yellowstone, Tetons & More (sold out)

September 23 Executive Committee Meeting-Macon November 18 Annual State Board Meeting-Atlanta

December 6-9 State Trip-Cajun Christmas and More-New Orleans