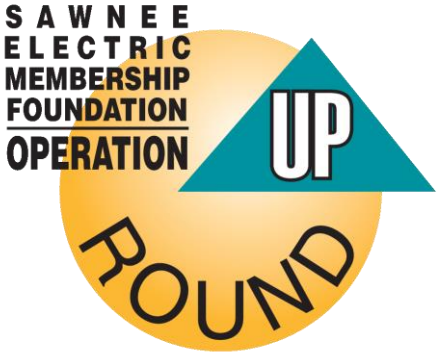
Sawnee Electric Membership Foundation

2016 Annual Report



Sawnee Electric Membership Foundation

2016 Annual Report

Message from the Chairman

On behalf of the Foundation Board of Directors, I hope you enjoy reviewing this Sawnee Electric Membership Foundation 2016 Annual Report. As you will find, it contains information about the operations of the Foundation, a summary of the 2016 contributions received, as well as the grants that were distributed to various organizations.

Sawnee EMC members, who participate in Operation Round Up, generously donated **$107,528** to the Foundation during 2016. The Foundation also received a donation totaling **$151,966.67**, which came from abandoned patronage capital funds. This donation was allocated to three (3) areas within the Foundation; **$100,000** was designated specifically for the Youth Scholarship program, **$20,000** was earmarked for our "Bright Ideas" classroom grants, and the remaining **$31,966.67** was specified for General Grants.

The Foundation Board is very proud that the Foundation was able to distribute **$226,982.38** back into our local communities during 2016. Gifting to local charitable organizations in 2016 totaled **$108,428.95**. Additionally, **$23,053.43** was contributed into local area classrooms through our Bright Ideas program, which allows local teachers the opportunity to implement innovative projects within their classrooms. Many of these projects would have gone unfunded without this very successful program. In April of 2016, the Foundation awarded sixteen (16) scholarships, totaling **$64,000**, to exceptional high school seniors who reside in Sawnee EMC's service territory. Finally, an additional **$31,500** was awarded collectively to three (3) colleges and universities that Sawnee EMC serves. The Foundation celebrates the ability to help outstanding individuals further their education.

Please continue reading about the good work that the Sawnee EMC Foundation was able to accomplish in 2016, and remember, small change can change lives. Thank you all for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Dennis Anderson
Chairman
Sawnee Electric Membership Foundation

2016 Youth Scholarship Recipients

Sawnee Electric Membership Foundation

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Overview of the Sawnee Electric Membership Foundation

The Sawnee Electric Membership Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization, which exists to support charitable endeavors within the communities served by Sawnee EMC. Participating members make their donation by voluntarily allowing Sawnee EMC to "round up" their monthly electric bill to the next highest dollar, and donate those "extra pennies" to the Foundation. The average donation is approximately $6.00 per year.

Below are just a few of the activities supported by the Foundation during 2016.

General Grants

Through the Foundation's "Operation Round Up" program, local 501 (c) (3) and 501 (c) (4) charitable organizations are able to apply for grants, which are distributed on a quarterly basis. The Foundation Board evaluates these grant requests based on several factors, which includes the organization's need, their ability to access local funding from alternative sources, other individual or corporate financial support, availability of funds, as well as other factors.

Bright Ideas

Through the "Bright Ideas" program, funds are granted to assist local teachers in their classrooms. Teachers can apply for a grant, up to $1,500 per classroom, per year. Grants are awarded to teachers instructing students in grades K-12 within Sawnee EMC's service territory, and are used by educators to implement innovative projects to further their students' education and learning opportunities.

Youth Scholarship Program

Each year, the Sawnee EMC Foundation accepts applications from local high school seniors for its "Youth Scholarship Program". The Foundation is proud to have supported youth education for the past eleven (11) years. In 2016, the Foundation awarded sixteen (16) local high school seniors, each with a $4,000 scholarship to go towards their college education.

Brian Johnson Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship was established by the Foundation in May 2015. It was established to honor the legacy of one of Sawnee EMC's employees, Mr. Brian Johnson, who lost his life in the line of duty. This scholarship sponsors up to two (2) students annually, with a grant of $1,500 each, to help fund students enrolling in the Technical College System of Georgia's Electrical Lineworker Program, of which Mr. Johnson was a proud graduate.

2016 Bright ideas recipients

Sawnee Electric Membership Foundation

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Abbreviated Financial Statement

Assets	2016	2015
Assets		
Cash	**$397,845**	$364,997
Contributions Receivable	**$ 10,993**	$10,005
Total assets	**$408,838**	375,002
Net Assets		
Unrestricted Net Assets	**$253,295**	$223,959
Temporary Restricted Net Assets	**$155,543**	$151,043
Total net assets	**$408,838**	375,002

To view the full 2016 financial statements, contained in the Foundation's 2016 financial audit, please visit our Web site at http://www.sawnee.com/roundup/document-library.

If you wish to receive a printed copy of the Foundation's 2016 financial audit, please contact Ms. Ginny Ellis, Chief Financial Officer, at 770-887-2363, extension 7578, or via email at ginny.ellis@sawnee.com, or via U.S. Mail at Sawnee Electric Membership Corporation, , Cumming, GA 30028.

Sawnee Electric Membership Foundation

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Board of Directors

DENNIS ANDERSON
CHAIRMAN
DISTRICT #7

JERRY BURUM
VICE CHAIRMAN
DISTRICT #8

MECHELLE NEEDHAM
SECRETARY
DISTRICT #9

LACELLE DOSS
DISTRICT #1

EVONDA MATHIS
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DEBORAH PELFREY
DISTRICT #4

RUBY COLEMAN
DISTRICT #5

HENRY ZUCKERMAN
DISTRICT #6

Sawnee Electric Membership Foundation

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Mission Statement

The mission of the Sawnee Electric Membership Foundation is to assist in strengthening the communities served by Sawnee EMC. The Foundation will accomplish this mission by providing financial assistance to charitable organizations through the Foundation's Operation Round Up program and other Board approved endeavors. This program affords Sawnee EMC members the opportunity to "Round-Up" their monthly energy bills to the next highest dollar. These donated funds, along with monies from other sources, allow donations to be made to students, schools and various 501 (c) (3) and 501 (c) (4) organizations located generally in Sawnee EMC's service territory, which includes parts of Cherokee, Dawson, Forsyth, Fulton, Gwinnett, Hall and Lumpkin counties.

How to Give

The Sawnee EMC Foundation provides charitable donations, back into the communities that Sawnee EMC serves, through voluntary donations from SEMC members. The Foundation encourages those that currently are not participating in Operation Round-Up, to please consider doing so. The "power of the pennies" provides the Foundation with donations to assist many needy organizations.

- **Sign up online at www.sawnee.com/round_up/SignUp.aspx. With this sign up method, Sawnee EMC will automatically "Round-Up" your Sawnee bill each month.**
- **Contact Sawnee EMC's Customer Call Center at 770-887-2363, customerservice@sawnee.com or "chat" online at www.sawnee.com**
- **"Round Up" at your leisure. You do not have to be enrolled in Operation Round Up to participate. Anytime you "Round-Up" your Sawnee EMC electric bill to the next highest dollar, the "extra pennies" will automatically go to the Foundation.**

Learn more:

Sawnee Electric Membership Foundation
P.O. Box 1174
Cumming, GA 30028
http://www.sawnee.com/roundup/about