

APRIL 2021

# Carolina country



BUILDING A BRIGHTER  
**FUTURE**

## INSIDE

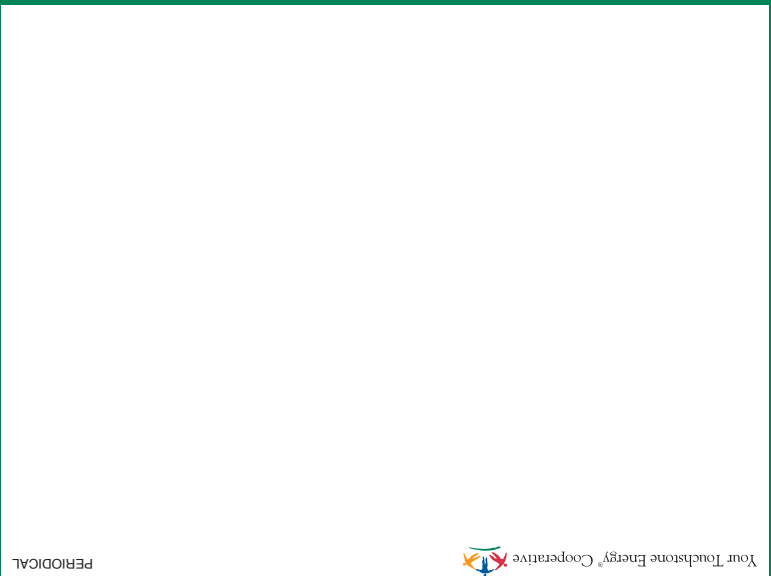
2021 BALLOT POSTCARD  
VOTING INSTRUCTIONS

CHANCE TO WIN  
\$100 BILL CREDITS

2020 ANNUAL REPORT

 Piedmont Electric  
Membership Corporation  
Your Touchstone Energy Cooperative

[www.pemc.coop](http://www.pemc.coop) | 800.222.3107





## JOIN OUR **LIVESTREAM**

You can see our annual meeting live by visiting **Facebook.com/PiedmontEMC** at the time listed below. After the meeting, the video will remain on our Facebook page and will also be posted to our website, **pemc.coop/annualmeeting**.

You can find the minutes of the 2020 Annual Meeting posted on the website. If you have any suggested changes to the minutes, please submit those to **pemc.coop/annualmeeting**.

## **Date & Time**

**April 16, 2021 at 10 a.m.**

Join us live at  
**Facebook.com/PiedmontEMC**  
or watch the entire presentation  
on our website anytime at  
**pemc.coop/annualmeeting**.

In 2019, Piedmont Electric began taking steps to provide more openness and access to our cooperative by providing online and mail-in voting for the first time.

Members appreciated the easier voting process and took full advantage. Participation in the election for our board of directors tripled from the previous year and then increased further in 2020.

Last year also marked another step forward in making it easier for Piedmont Electric members to participate with their cooperative as we streamed our annual meeting live on

**Facebook.com/PiedmontEMC** and provided a copy on our website for members to watch at any time. Members could participate in our annual meeting from anywhere in the world with an internet connection.

We decided to use Facebook for the live meeting because it is widely adopted among our membership and we already had a strong following. We know that some members do not use Facebook, but we wanted to provide the simplest access to our meeting without having to register for a newer service like Zoom. Posting the video to our website enabled everyone to watch the meeting once it was concluded.

Members can find our annual report, annual meeting materials and watch the meeting on our website at **pemc.coop/annualmeeting**. We hope that this information will help you better engage with your local cooperative.

### **Stephen B. Hamlin**

President and Chief Executive Officer

### **Have a question?**

Have a question about the annual meeting?  
Call us at **800.222.3107**.

# HOW TO VOTE

As a member-owned cooperative, you play a vital role in how Piedmont Electric operates including the election of our board of directors. Our board is made up of members like you who live in our communities and work to make the best decisions for our cooperative.

## Example vote by mail ballot

**Vote by mail ballot**

- You may vote for one candidate per district.
- Mark your selections by filling in the box next to the candidate of your choice.
- Detach ballot and return to the office. Do not mail to the Piedmont Electric office. Return postcard must be received no later than April 14, 2021. Please allow sufficient time for delivery.

District 3	District 7	District 8
<input type="checkbox"/> Cy Vernon	<input type="checkbox"/> Bill Barber	<input type="checkbox"/> Andy Oakley
		<input type="checkbox"/> John L. Greene
		<input type="checkbox"/> V. Kay Scurlock-Ferguson

Please sign on the line below. Ballot is not valid without a signature matching the name listed on the left side of this card.

I/we, the undersigned, by signing this card, do hereby certify that I/we am/are the Piedmont Electric member(s) whose name(s) appears below and on the left side of this card.

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

LET YOUR HI

As a member-owned Piedmont Electric member-owned cooperative, I/we am/are made up of and work to...

## Two ways to vote

Voting for our board of directors is easy! You can:

1 Visit [directvote.net/pemc](https://directvote.net/pemc) on your computer, tablet or phone and use the unique login information provided at the center of this magazine to cast your vote.

OR

2 Complete and mail in the prepaid ballot postcard included at the center of this magazine.

Your ballot can be found at the center of this magazine and includes all the information you need to vote.

Election pass code and member number needed to vote at [directvote.net/pemc](https://directvote.net/pemc).

Members who vote will be entered into a drawing for one of two, \$100 bill credits. All votes must be received by April 14 at 5 p.m.

## 2020 NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee met Dec. 5, 2020 to consider members for nomination to the cooperative's board of directors. Three seats on Piedmont Electric's board of directors are up for election at this year's annual meeting of the members. These seats are currently held by Cy Vernon (District 3), Bill Barber (District 7) and Andy Oakley (District 8).

The committee's list of nominees is posted at Piedmont Electric's three offices and is published in the official notice to the right. Members of the Nominating Committee include the following:

### V. KAY SCURLOCK-FERGUSON

Hillsborough, At Large

### JOE CURRIN

Chapel Hill, District 1

### GREG MARTIN

Mebane, District 2

### GREGORY RUDD

Yanceyville, District 3

### DIANNE MURPHY

Mebane, District 4

### ADAM SARVER

Roxboro, District 5

### CORY MELTON

Roxboro, District 6

### MARTIN A. DAVIS

Timberlake, District 7

### RON BRIGGS

Rougemont, District 8

### SUSAN GRAY

Timberlake, District 9

Piedmont Electric's annual meeting of the members will be conducted at Piedmont Electric's Hillsborough office on Friday, April 16, 2021 at 10 a.m. Members will not be able to attend this year's annual meeting in person as a result of COVID-19 safety protocols.

You can see our annual meeting live by visiting [facebook.com/PiedmontEMC](https://facebook.com/PiedmontEMC) at the time listed above. After the meeting, the video will remain on our Facebook page and will also be posted to our website, [pemc.coop/annualmeeting](https://pemc.coop/annualmeeting).

A presentation of the cooperative's past year's business and its future plans are on the agenda as well as the announcement of the election of three directors.

The following members have been nominated by the Nominating Committee to represent three directorate districts:

### DISTRICT 3

Cy Vernon

### DISTRICT 7

Bill Barber

### DISTRICT 8

Andy Oakley

John L. Greene

V. Kay Scurlock-Ferguson

Sam T. Woods  
Secretary, Board of Directors

Members who vote will be entered into a drawing for one of two, \$100 bill credits.  
Flip to the center of this issue of Carolina Country for voting instructions and your ballot.  
All votes must be received by April 14 at 5 p.m.

MEET THE

# CANDIDATES

The following candidates are running for a seat on the Piedmont Electric board of directors. Once elected, these individuals will each serve a three-year term helping govern the cooperative. A brief biography is included below for each candidate. Voting instructions can be found on the postcard at the center of this magazine.

## DISTRICT 3 UNOPPOSED

**CY VERNON (DISTRICT 3)** Cy has been a member of Piedmont Electric for the past 51 years. He has been a director for seven years and holds the certification of Director Gold. He resides with his wife, Janice, in the Milesville community of Caswell County. They have two sons who teach in Alamance County. Cy is an active member of Westside Fellowship in Elon and the Caswell County Historical Association serving as vice president. He is a retired teacher and FFA advisor working at Bartlett Yancey High School for 35 years. Cy currently works with his son to operate an apple tree business in the Camp Springs community.

## DISTRICT 7 UNOPPOSED

**BILL BARBER (DISTRICT 7)** Bill has been a member of Piedmont Electric for 35 years and has served on the board of directors for 15 years. He currently serves as board chair and has held the position for 10 years. Bill resides with his wife, Gwen, in the Timberlake community of Person County. Bill attended NC State University and is retired from the IBM Corporation. He has served on many local committees and also on the board of the Moriah Volunteer Fire Department in the past. He enjoys participation in activities and issues that affect his community. He is a member of Mt. Harmony Baptist Church.

## DISTRICT 8

**ANDY OAKLEY (DISTRICT 8)** Andy has been a director since 2019, a member of Piedmont Electric since 1996 and the Oakley family farm has been with the co-op four generations. Andy has utilized his professional civil engineering license through his employment with the City of Roxboro as the public services director. With skills ranging from strategic and capital planning to cost estimates, plan analysis and distribution system design, Andy brings a wealth of experience to the table. His commitment to his community is clear through his memberships with Mt. Harmony Baptist Church and The Gideons International.

**JOHN L. GREENE (DISTRICT 8)** Holds a BS in business administration (UMD 1970) and MSF and PhD degrees in forest economics and policy (WVU 1976, 78). As a Peace Corps volunteer (1970-72), advised a fishermen's association and cooperative in Jamaica. As a graduate student, studied farm and forest owner cooperatives, and his master's thesis examined forms of organization providing cooperative-like services to family forest owners in Texas and the Tennessee Valley. His career was in education and science. In retirement he is an active volunteer. He belongs to three cooperatives and firmly endorses the co-op form of business.

**V. KAY SCURLOCK-FERGUSON (DISTRICT 8)** Kay Ferguson is a member of the Saint Mary's Community in Hillsborough. She is the associate pastor of Lipscomb Grove Church. She graduated from Orange High School, NC A&T State University (with a degree in business) and a master's degree from North Carolina Central. Reverend Ferguson has been affiliated with Piedmont Electric for 30 years. Employment with Orange County, Durham City and Piedmont Community College provided 30 years of experience in budgeting, personnel management, oversight and policy enforcement. Kay serves on the nominating committee of Piedmont Electric. She is married to John Ferguson.