

Rayle Lines

Member Newsletter



September 2023

The Official Newsletter of Rayle Electric Membership Corporation

Rayle EMC adds six new employees

Rayle EMC General Manager Tony Griffin announces the addition of six new employees: Tyler Wright, who works out of the Rayle EMC office in Lexington; Aaron Land, Lyndon Webb and Hunter Schell, who work out of the Rayle EMC office in Washington; and Aiden Greer and Tarsha Champion, who work in the Greensboro office.



Tyler Wright

Tyler Wright of Comer began his career with Rayle EMC March 14, 2023, as an Apprentice Lineman in the Lexington District. Wright grew up in Colbert and is a 2022 graduate of Madison County High School in Danielsville. He is the son of Lee and Sadie Brown of Comer. Wright has one brother, Drew Brown of Comer, and two sisters, Audrey Brown and Kadence Wright of Comer. Wright got his CDL certification from Athens Tech in February of 2023. Before joining Rayle EMC, he did a summer internship with Georgia Power. Wright enjoys hunting, fishing and playing golf in his spare time.

Aaron Land of Thomson began his career with Rayle EMC March 28, 2023, as an Apprentice Lineman in the Washington District. Land grew up in Thomson and is a 2020 graduate of Briarwood Academy in Warrenton. He is the son of Parker and Susan Land of Thomson, and he has a brother, Connor Land of Woodstock. Land attends Clark Station Baptist Church in Tignall. Before joining Rayle EMC, he worked at Smith Farm Supply in Washington. Land enjoys hunting and fishing in his spare time.



Aaron Land

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Rayle EMC adds new employees, *Continued from page 22A*



Lyndon Webb

Lyndon Webb of Bowman began his career with Rayle EMC May 1, 2023, as an Apprentice Lineman in the Washington District. Webb grew up in Bowman and is a 2022 graduate of Elberton County Comprehensive High School. He is the son of Robin Webb and the late Scott Webb of Bowman and has three brothers and five sisters; Griffin Webb, Butler Webb, Ethan Webb, Grace Freeman and Elisa Webb of Bowman; Anslee Webb of Watkinsville; Meredith Webb of Moultrie; and Jamie Wolf of Carey, Ohio. Webb attends Liberty Baptist Church with his family. Before joining Rayle EMC, he worked in lawn care with Moss Lawn Care in Elberton. Webb received his Electrical Lineworker certification from Southeast Lineman Training Center in Trenton on April 20, 2023. He enjoys hunting and fishing in his spare time.

Aiden Greer of Milledgeville began his career with Rayle EMC May 5, 2023, as an Apprentice Lineman in the Greensboro District. Greer grew up in Milledgeville and is a 2019 graduate of Georgia Military College Preparatory School. He is the son of Steve and Jennifer Greer of Milledgeville and has a sister Abby Greer of Milledgeville. He is married to the former Savannah Kent of Milledgeville. Before joining Rayle EMC, he served in the U.S. Army as an Infantry Soldier. Greer received his Electrical Lineworker certification from Southeast Lineman Training Center in Trenton on April 20, 2023. He enjoys hunting, fishing, spending time with family and friends at the lake and watching the Atlanta Braves or the Georgia Bulldogs.



Aiden Greer



Hunter Schell

Hunter Schell of Harlem began his career with Rayle EMC May 15, 2023, as a Staking Technician Trainee in the Greensboro District. Schell grew up in Harlem and is a 2020 graduate of Thomson High School. He is the son of Steve and Lisa Schell of Dearing. Schell received his Electrical Lineworker Certification from North Georgia Technical College on Dec. 9, 2020. Schell is a member of Fort Creek Baptist Church in Dearing. Before joining Rayle EMC, he worked for Columbia County as a Traffic Signal Technician. He enjoys golfing, hunting and fishing in his spare time.

Tarsha Champion of White Plains began her career with Rayle EMC June 5, 2023, as a Customer Service Representative in the Greensboro District. Champion grew up in Greene County. She is a 1993 graduate of Greene-Taliaferro Comprehensive High School. She is the daughter of Benjamin and Doretha Peek of Greensboro. Champion is married to Minister Eric Champion, and they have a son, Laquan Champion of Athens. Champion is a minister at Rockhill Baptist Church in White Plains and the author of a children's book called, "Help Jay I'm Scared of the Dark" which is available on Amazon. Before joining Rayle EMC, she worked as a loan officer at Pinnacle Credit Union in Eatonton. She enjoys reading, writing, fishing and spending time with family.



Tarsha Champion

Operation Round Up awards \$38,835 in grants to local organizations at the latest quarterly meeting

The Rayle EMC Foundation has allocated \$38,835 to support 10 community initiatives, as part of its Operation Round Up program. At its recent quarterly meeting, the co-op's Foundation Board designated charitable grants to the following local organizations:



- **Angel House of Georgia, Gainesville:** \$3,400 to cover the expenses of two women from Rayle EMC's service area entering the substance abuse facility.
- **Georgia Association of Conservation, all of Georgia:** \$1,000 to assist in the cost of the regional training for the board members of the 15 Soil and Water Conservation Districts in the northeast Georgia area.
- **Lincoln County Food Pantry, Lincolnton:** \$5,000 to cover the purchase of two freezers, a desktop computer and a refrigerator for the food pantry.
- **Washington-Wilkes Pop Warner Football, Washington:** \$5,000 to replace or recertify helmets to ensure that each football player has a helmet that will keep the players' heads safe during practices and competitions for the football program.
- **Greene County Extension/4-H, Greensboro:** \$5,000 to cover the cost of transportation, registration fees, food and supplies for club projects and summer programs.
- **Nathanael Greene Academy, Siloam:** \$5,000 to replace old textbooks.
- **Freedom Fireworks, Washington:** \$2,500 to defray the cost of a freedom fireworks celebration for Wilkes County and its neighboring counties.
- **Georgia Transplant Foundation, all of Georgia:** \$2,000 to help provide immediate support to transplant patients and their families in crisis.
- **Washington-Wilkes Animal Shelter, Washington:** \$5,000 to help with the spay and neuter program for the shelter.



On behalf of the Rayle EMC Foundation, Richard Heard, left, presents a \$5,000 check to Washington-Wilkes Pop Warner Football program financial coordinators Lori Tucker, center, and Rodney Welborn. Also pictured with them are some of the football players, cheerleaders and their coaches.



Richard Heard, left, presents a grant check for \$5,000 to Greene County Extension 4-H.

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Operation Round Up,

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- **Vesta Volunteer Fire Department, Carlton:** \$4,935 to purchase a thermal imager to help locate fires as quickly as possible and a k12 rotary saw to be used in forcible entry and/or ventilation.

Operation Round Up is a charitable program supporting nonprofit organizations that serve to meet the health, safety, educational or recreational needs of the community. To date, Rayle EMC Foundation Board has awarded \$238,954.83. Funding is made possible when members voluntarily “round up” their monthly electric bill to the next whole dollar. Individual members contribute, on the average, about 50 cents a month.

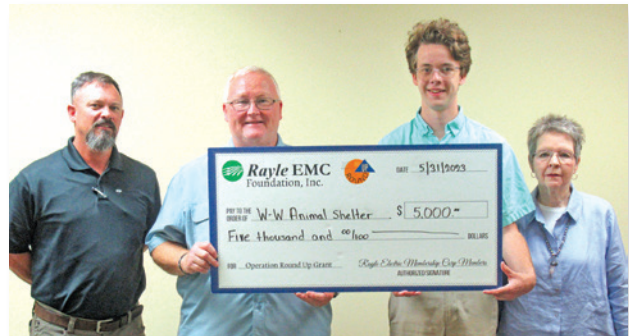
If you are a Rayle EMC member and participate in Operation Round Up, we thank you for your generosity. Donations to Operation Round Up are tax-deductible. Other contributions can be made by calling or visiting your local Rayle EMC office. Operation Round Up’s sole purpose is to improve the quality of life for those in our community.



From left, Michael Moravek with the Vesta Volunteer Fire Department, Richard Heard and Fire Department Chief Wayne King.



Regional Program Manager Dana Tripp of Northeast Georgia Association of Conservation Districts, left, receives a \$1,000 check from Rayle EMC Director of Member Services Richard Heard.



Richard Heard, left, presents a \$5,000 check to Frank Fulbright, Animal Shelter Board Member; Garston Townsend, Animal Shelter Director; and Kathy Agan, Animal Shelter Board Member.



Melissa Demaray, left, accepts a \$5,000 check on behalf of Nathanael Greene Academy from Richard Heard.



Robert Vick, left, and John Keen, right, both with the Washington-Wilkes Chamber of Commerce, receive a check from Rayle EMC’s Richard Heard.