

# Satilla REMC Newsletter

## Satilla REMC Celebrates 85<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting

The 85<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of Members of Satilla REMC was held Tuesday, Oct. 11, at Memorial Stadium in Waycross. The event was attended by a large portion of the membership, who was accompanied by their families and guests. It is estimated that there were approximately 900 in attendance.

In addition to reporting on the finances and overall strong condition of the cooperative, President and CEO Romeo Reyes spoke about challenges. Not only those of recent years, but also of those challenges that are on the horizon. Although Reyes noted that these challenges could have significant impact on the cooperative, he also reassured the membership that the Satilla REMC Board of Directors, management and staff are committed to working diligently to meet these challenges head-on to ensure that our cooperative remains strong and financially stable today and into the future.

Reyes concluded his report on a high note as he spoke of opportunities. Specifically, he commented on Satilla REMC's partnership with Conexon Connect and how the associated fiber-optic project will provide an opportunity for every Satilla REMC member to have high-speed broadband service. Reyes also reported that, despite some logistical challenges, the project is moving along smoothly.



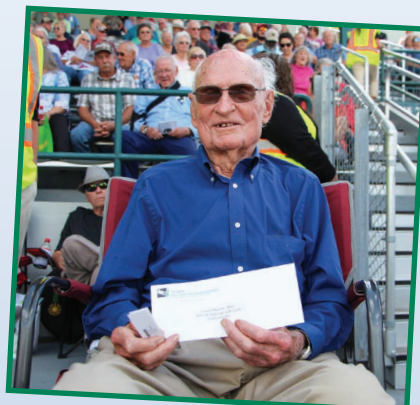
### Grand Cash Prize Winner of \$ 1,500

Paul Williams Jr. (right) and Romeo Reyes, Satilla REMC President/CEO



### Oldest Lady in Attendance

Gertrude Gamble, 99 years old



### Oldest Man in Attendance

Jacob Davis Jr., 101 years old



Matthew Todd (left) gives Brian Porter a hand drawing tickets.



Entertainment The Ball Brothers

### Smart Change Winners: \$300 Cash Awards

- Alma District: Dennis Aldridge
- Douglas District: Richard Lott
- Hazlehurst District: Laura Hann
- Jesup District: Kimila Flournoy

# 2022 Satilla REMC Christmas Card Winners

## *'It's the Most Wonderful Time of Year'*

**C**ontinuing the tradition of the annual Christmas Card Contest, Satilla REMC asked students in kindergarten through fifth grade throughout Satilla REMC's service area to share with us their imaginative artwork on the theme, "It's the Most Wonderful Time of Year."

Satilla REMC received approximately 2,000 entries from elementary and primary schools within its service area. We would like to congratulate Bella Tanner, this year's overall winner. She is the daughter of Logan and Brock Tanner and

attends Fourth District Elementary School. Bella will receive a \$25 gift certificate and class party for her effort and creativity. Her teacher is Kim Branch.

Satilla REMC Board of Directors and employees extend their appreciation to area teachers who aided in the coordination of this event. Although each student is truly a winner for participating, a grade-level winner was also chosen from the submissions and will receive a Walmart Inc. gift certificate.



### **KINDERGARTEN**

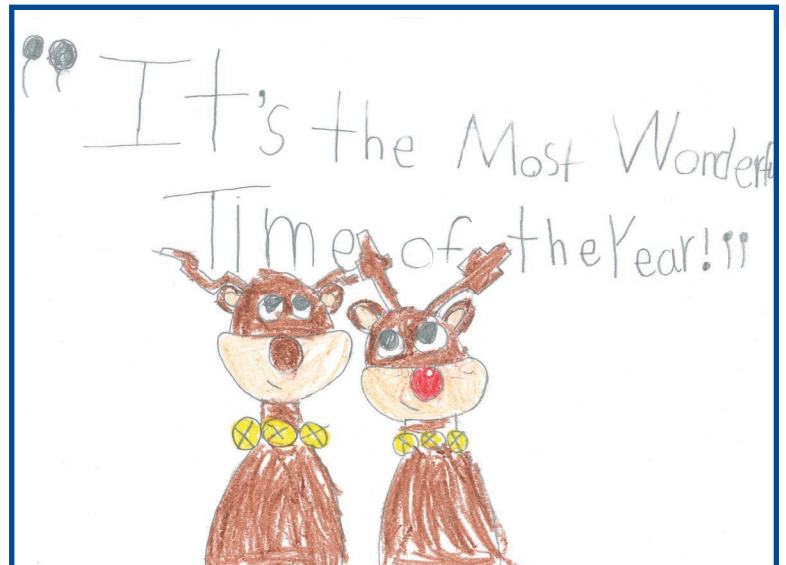
**Layla Stone**

Parents: Kayle Stone and Mathew Dillon Grover

Teacher: Brandi Tilman

School: Nicholls Elementary School

**FIRST GRADE**  
**Sabron Mosby Jr.**  
Parents: Infinity Ford  
Teacher: Wendy Roppe  
School: Bacon County Primary School







**SECOND GRADE**

**Ayla Carter**

Parents: McKayla Carter

Teacher: Keina Peacock

School: Patterson Elementary School



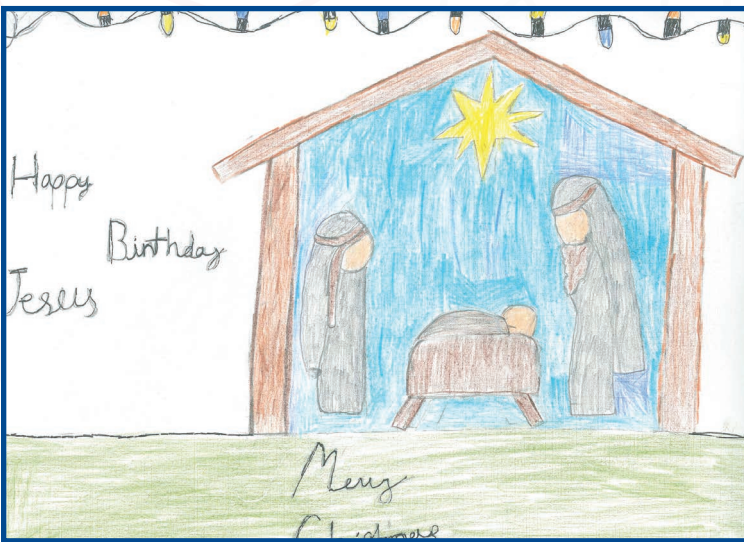
**FOURTH GRADE**

**Jerrika Lockey**

Parent: Stephanie Lockey

Teacher: Syria Frost

School: Center Elementary School



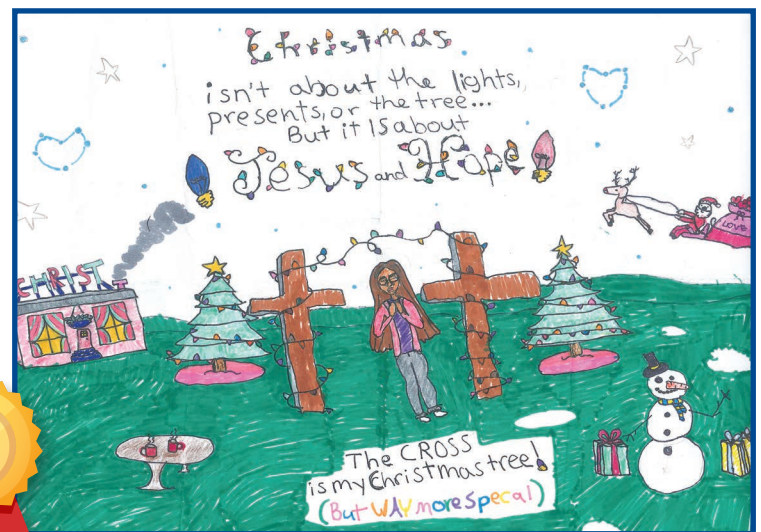
**THIRD GRADE**

**Avery Strickland**

Parents: Ashley and Emery Strickland

Teacher: Carrie Thompson

School: Patterson Elementary School



**FIFTH GRADE AND OVERALL WINNER**

**Bella Tanner**

Parents: Logan and Brock Tanner

Teacher: Kim Branch

School: Fourth District Elementary School



A Publication of  
the Satilla Rural Electric  
Membership Corporation  
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Alma, GA 31510

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*"A People/Power Partnership!"*

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# Rooftop Solar: Get the Facts Without the Fiction

**A**s a member-oriented company, it's important to us that our members know the facts before investing in rooftop solar. Unfortunately, electric utilities, including Satilla EMC, have received a significant increase in reports of consumers being misinformed by solar installers. Be wary of statements like:

### **"Rooftop solar will eliminate your electric bill."**

In most cases, that's simply not true. Rooftop solar systems will only produce power when the sun is shining. On rainy days, production will be very limited, and even on cloudy days can result in over a 60% reduction. The electric grid does not function as battery storage for any excess your system produces.

Satilla EMC is your backup power supplier at night, or when your system's energy production does not meet your demand for electricity. You will still incur a monthly service charge of \$30, plus the cost of any energy that is provided by us. In fact, when financing and maintenance costs are factored in, you might easily pay more for your energy with solar panels. We recommend that anyone interested in solar carefully consider the costs and get guidance from reputable sources.

### **"Your electric rate is projected to increase substantially in the coming years."**

Some solar installers substantially overstate increases in electric rates. In reality, the cost of electricity has been relatively stable. Based on data from the U.S. Energy Information Administration, retail electricity prices averaged an increase of only 1.16% a year from 2011-2020.

### **"You have 24-48 hours to sign a contract or the deal is no longer valid."**

Rooftop solar is a significant financial investment. Consider your options wisely, including how a solar system can meet your needs, goals and financial objectives. Be cautious of contractors who pressure you to sign a contract in a limited time frame.

### **"You'll make money selling power back to your electricity utility."**

This is unlikely. Some solar installers use inaccurate rates to project how you will be credited for any excess energy your rooftop solar system generates and sends back to the electric grid. Contact Satilla REMC and speak with a representative about how this works for members, and confirm if the rate matches the solar installer's estimate.

### **"Your power will never go out."**

In most cases, you will not have energy from your solar panels during an outage unless you have also installed a battery storage system. Solar panels alone will not serve as a backup generator. Solar panels produce direct current electricity. This must be converted to alternating current in order to be utilized in your home. The inverter on your system makes this conversion and requires an energy source to operate. Your batteries will also require energy to charge.

Installing solar is a substantial investment. That's why it's important to contact your local EMC before you sign a contract. Satilla REMC can explain the application process and help you understand your use and what to expect from solar. We also recommend researching your solar contractor on the Better Business Bureau website at <http://bbb.org>.

For more information, visit [www.satillaemc.com/residential-solar](http://www.satillaemc.com/residential-solar) or call 1-888-738-6926 to speak to a member services representative.