

Communiqué

The **AMEA Communiqué** is a monthly publication of the Alabama Municipal Electric Authority
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MISSION STATEMENT

AMEA's mission is to provide for our Member communities a reliable and economical source of electric power, enabling them to preserve and enhance the benefits of municipal utility ownership for their citizens and the electric customers they serve. We strive to offer services that our Members need and can adapt to provide the best value for their communities and customers.

Gregory honored with 2018 President's Award

W. Stanley Gregory, a partner in the Montgomery office of the Southeast regional law firm of Bradley Arant, was the recipient of the 2018 AMEA President's Award on April 19 during the AMEA President's Awards Dinner in Point Clear. The event was held in conjunction with the 2018 AMEA Power Supply Conference, April 19 and 20.



Shown are (L to R): Don McClellan of Alexander City, chairman, AMEA Board of Directors; President's Award recipient Stan Gregory and his wife, Vicki; and Fred Clark, AMEA President & CEO. (Photo by photographer Robert Fouts)

The award honors individuals who played a key role in the formation of AMEA and is presented in recognition of their continued leadership and dedication to the organization.

"Due to Stan's commitment to public power, AMEA has become a valued partner in Alabama's electric utility community," said Fred Clark, AMEA President & CEO.

Gregory was instrumental in the establishment of AMEA in 1981. He serves as AMEA's chief legal counsel. Gregory's practice emphasizes state and local finance, legislation, taxation, probate, economic development and small business organization. Prior to 2001, he was a principal and managing partner of Thorington & Gregory in Montgomery.

Past recipients of the AMEA President's Award include the late Robert D. Thorington, Clifford A. Lanier, Jr., Robert W. Claussen, H. Sewell St. John, Jr., Robert H. Young, Jr., Steven Stein, Bilee Cauley, Joe Rex Sport, Johnny Ford, James P. Nix and Don Clements.

AMEA hosts 11th Power Supply Conference in April

The 2018 AMEA Power Supply Conference was held this month at the Marriott Grand Hotel in Point Clear. Some 100 people from AMEA Member cities as well as partners were on hand for the annual event. This marks the 11th year for the conference.

This year's speakers and topics included: *Economic Trends, Workforce and Partnerships*, Zeke Smith, Executive Vice President of External Affairs, Alabama Power Company; *AMEA Rebranding*, Lisa Miller, Manager of Communications and Marketing, AMEA; *Communicating the Value of Public Power*, Meena Dayak, Vice President, Integrated Media & Communications, American Public Power Association (APPA); *AMEA Power Supply Update*, Fred Clark, President & CEO, AMEA; *Introduction of The Energy Authority*, Joanie Teofilo, President & CEO, The Energy Authority; *Economic Overview*, Jo Bonner, Vice Chancellor for Economic Development, University of Alabama System; *Washington Legislative Update*, U.S. Congressman Bradley Byrne; *Mutual Aid: The Power of Networking*, Mike Hyland, Senior Vice President, Engineering Services, APPA; *What is Smart Grid? Innovation in Electric Utilities*, Steve Collier, Smart Grid Strategies, Milsoft Utility Solutions; and, *Filling the Gaps: How to Respond to the Aging Workforce*, Carl Mycoff, Managing Director, Mycoff, Fry & Prouse, LLC.

Speaker presentations can be found on the AMEA web site, www.amea.com, Members Only, 2018 AMEA Power Supply Conference. As this is a password protected area of the site, you will need your username and password.

For more information, please contact Lisa Miller, Manager of Communications and Marketing, (800) 239-2632, Ext. 118, or lmiller@amea.com.



Jo Bonner provides an economic overview to the Power Supply Conference attendees on April 19. (Photo by photographer Robert Fouts)

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Highlights from 2018 AMEA Power Supply Conference



(Clockwise) Jon Hand of Electric Cities of Alabama, Tom DeBell of Riviera Utilities, AMEA President & CEO Fred Clark, Brad Pitt of Riviera Utilities, Albert Kirkland of Dothan, and Ralph Hellmich of Riviera Utilities pose with Jo Bonner during the conference; APPA's Meena Dayak talks about *Communicating the Value of Public Power*; Joanie Teofilo of The Energy Authority introduces her organization to conference attendees; U.S. Congressman Bradley Byrne jump starts the conference on Friday morning; and Mike Hyland, APPA, discusses *Mutual Aid: The Power of Networking*. (Photos by photographer Robert Fouts)

AMEA hosts first Pre-Conference Workshop on Cost of Service in conjunction with 2018 Power Supply Conference

AMEA hosted a Pre-Conference Workshop on the *Fundamentals of Cost of Service and Retail Rate Design* on April 18, in conjunction with the 2018 AMEA Power Supply Conference, which was held April 19 and 20 at the Marriott Grand Hotel in Point Clear.

Mark Ennis, AMEA Manager of Compliance and Distribution Services, said the workshop was intended for city/utility staff and city council/board members who wanted to learn more about the process used to develop rates and charges for utility service.



Derek Lee, Gerald Long and James Wallace participate in the panel discussion during the Pre-Conference Workshop.

The workshop was led by Jim Marshall and Sarah Chandler of Jackson Thornton. During the workshop, there was discussion on rate design trends and options for distributed energy resources (i.e., solar), as well as a panel discussion, which included three AMEA Member electric managers/superintendents. The panel consisted of Derek Lee, Director, Opelika Power Services; Gerald Long, General Manager, Utilities Board of Tuskegee; and James Wallace, Electric Superintendent, Riviera Utilities.

AMEA and Members announce Scholarship Program winners

Forty-four (44) high school seniors will enroll in a four-year college/university, community college, and/or vocational school in Alabama this year with help from the Alabama Municipal Electric Authority (AMEA) and its 11 Members through the 2018 AMEA Scholarship Program. Each of the 44 scholarship recipients will receive a \$2,500 scholarship for a total of \$110,000 awarded in this year's program. AMEA received 169 scholarship applications in the 2018 program.



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Scholarship

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Since 1992, AMEA and its Members have provided over \$2 million in scholarships to the graduating high school seniors who receive their electric service from AMEA Members, including Alexander City, Dothan, Fairhope, LaFayette, Lanett, Luverne, Opelika, Piedmont, Riviera Utilities (Foley), Sylacauga and Tuskegee.

To be eligible for the AMEA scholarships, a student's family must receive electric service from an AMEA Member city electric utility and the student must attend an Alabama college/university or vocational school.

This year's AMEA Academic Scholarship recipients are: Jacob Michael Booker, Benjamin Russell High School, Alexander City; Jackson Rhys Knight, Benjamin Russell High School, Alexander City; Ashaunti Faith Price, Benjamin Russell High School, Alexander City; Sara Beth Wendling, Benjamin Russell High School, Alexander City; Charles Dean Hoekenga, Dothan High School, Dothan; Lilla Angelina Stjernstrom, Houston Academy, Dothan; Virginia Caroline Davis, Fairhope High School, Fairhope; Colin Stephen Millar, Fairhope High School, Fairhope; Katherine McCoy Nobles, Fairhope High School, Fairhope; Miriam Worthington Willis, Fairhope High School, Fairhope; Christopher Thomas DeRocher, Alabama School of Mathematics & Science, Riviera Utilities; Jessica Leigh Gosa, Foley High School, Riviera Utilities; William Brinson Sheffield, Chambers Academy, LaFayette; Holli Elizabeth Traffanstedt, Chambers Academy, LaFayette; Camryn Denise Goss, Lanett High School, Lanett; Peter Aaron Kambeitz, Opelika High School, Lanett; Karilyn Kelly Sims, Springwood School, Lanett; Harrison Hurst Spivey, Springwood School, Lanett; Joshua Christian Hermeling, Luverne High School, Luverne; Brianna Danielle Jones, Luverne High School, Luverne; Yeojin Joo, Luverne High School, Luverne; Mary Kendall Motes, Pike Liberal Arts School, Luverne; Austin Blake Crowley, Opelika High School, Opelika; Brighton Lynn Gregory, Opelika High School, Opelika; Aesha Ajay Patel, Opelika High School, Opelika; Sara Hollis SmithT, Opelika High School, Opelika; Angelica Rose Luna, Piedmont High School, Piedmont; Rachel Christine Lusk, Piedmont High School, Piedmont; Brady Nell Johnson, Sylacauga High School, Sylacauga Utilities Board; Natalie Grace Kirkland, Sylacauga High School, Sylacauga Utilities Board; Frances Elizabeth Proctor, Sylacauga High School, Sylacauga Utilities Board; Haley Nicole Smith, Sylacauga High School, Sylacauga Utilities Board; Tykaijah Diamond Dowdell, Booker T. Washington High School, Utilities Board of Tuskegee; Kevin Cisco Jamal Hughes, Booker T. Washington High School, Utilities Board of Tuskegee; Crystal Cierra Love, Booker T. Washington High School, Utilities Board of Tuskegee; and, Jonathan Jacob Strange, Brewbaker Technology Magnet High School, Utilities Board of Tuskegee

This year's AMEA Vocational School Scholarship recipients include: Bailey O'Neal Davis, Northview High School, Dothan; Grace Elizabeth Holliman, Northside Methodist Academy, Dothan; Kaya Ashanti Clanton, Foley High School, Riviera Utilities; Lorna Michelle Seay, Fairhope High School, Riviera Utilities; Jasmine Sharday Pitts, LaFayette High School, LaFayette; Ronald Mack Waldrop, Chambers Academy, LaFayette; Braylon Malik Cole, Piedmont High School, Piedmont; and, Ansley Michelle Stephens, Piedmont High School, Piedmont.

AMEA Members receive Certificates of Reliability Excellence

Fairhope Public Utilities, the City of Lanett Electric Department and the Utilities Board of Tuskegee have received national recognition for achieving exceptional electric reliability in 2017. The recognition comes from the American Public Power Association (APPA), a trade group that represents more than 2,000 not-for-profit, community-owned electric utilities.

Each Member city/utility was presented an APPA Certificate of Excellence in Reliability at the Alabama Municipal Electric Authority (AMEA) Power Supply Conference President's Awards Dinner on April 19 in Point Clear.

APPA helps members track outage and restoration data through its subscription-based eReliability Tracker service and then compares the data to national statistics tracked by the U.S. Energy Information Administration for all types of electric utilities. AMEA began providing each Member utility free access to this software application several years ago.

Public power has a strong track record of reliability, said Hyland. Nationwide, the average public power customer has their lights out for less than half the time, compared to other types of utilities.



(Clockwise, shown L to R): (Fairhope Public Utilities) Fred Clark, AMEA President & CEO, Fairhope Mayor Karin Wilson, Fairhope Public Utilities Operations Director Richard Peterson, and Mike Hyland, APPA; (Lanett Electric Department) Clark, Lanett City Council members Charles Looser and Angelia Thomas, Lanett Mayor Kyle McCoy and Hyland; (Utilities Board of Tuskegee, UBT) Clark, UBT General Manager Gerald Long, UBT Chairman of the Board Harold Washington and Hyland. The three Members were presented APPA Certificates of Excellence in Reliability during the AMEA President's Awards Dinner on April 19. *(Photos by photographer Robert Fouts)*

AMEA to host second Safety Symposium in May in Prattville

AMEA will host its second Safety Symposium on May 23 and 24 at the Marriott Legends Conference Center in Prattville.

The Symposium will focus on lineworker safety. Identical programs will be presented each day to allow as many lineworkers as possible to attend, said Mark Ennis, Manager of Compliance and Distribution Services.

The event will also include a vendor expo, which will provide attendees a wide range of products and services to help them in their everyday operations.

Speakers will include Fred Clark, AMEA President & CEO; Mark Ennis, AMEA Manager of Compliance and Distribution Services; and motivational speaker Lee Shelby, who will talk about *Work Place Safety*. During the Symposium, Pike Electric will provide safety demonstrations.

Register for ECA's Annual Meeting and Governmental Affairs Conference

Registration for Electric Cities of Alabama's (ECA) 18th Annual Meeting and Governmental Affairs Conference is now open. ECA's most widely-attended event will be held July 8-10 at the Hilton Sandestin in Sandestin, FL.

To reserve your spot and to download a tentative conference agenda, go to ECA's web site, www.electriccities.org, Get Connected, Events. You will have the opportunity to register and pay online. Hotel information is also available on the web site.

For more information about the conference, contact ECA at (334) 954-3221.

The AMEA Communique' is intended for internal use only.



Linemen and line personnel visit with vendors during the Safety Symposium Vendor Expo at the AMEA headquarters in Montgomery last year.

Register now for Webinars

An internet connection and a computer are all you need to educate your staff. Individual webinars are \$99 or sign up for a series at a discounted rate. Register today at www.PublicPower.org under Education & Events. Non-members can enter coupon code **AMEA** to view the webinars at no cost to your utility.

- Electric Utility 101 Series: Keeping Pace with Utility Trends and Technologies **May 4**
- Rating Agency Webinar Series: Maintaining or Improving Your Utility's Bond Rating **May 22**
- Use Public Power Insurance Data to Improve Your Risk Profile **June 5**

Recorded webinars are also available for purchase. Visit www.PublicPower.org under Shop.





FREE! 2018 WEBINAR SERIES

Alabama Municipal Electric Authority (AMEA)
is partnering with **Hi-Line Engineering** to provide the following
2018 Webinar Series FREE to our AMEA Member Organizations.

Webinar Dates and Subjects		\$	✓
1.	May 8 – Trends in Fuse Savings - The goal of "fuse saving" is to avoid expensive fuse replacement and to avoid lengthy consumer outages. Fuse saving schemes are not practical for all distribution lines. The distribution system must be evaluated to determine the sections of line where implementation of a fuse saving scheme will be beneficial, and to determine the coordination for a fuse saving scheme.	Free	
2.	June 19 – Application and Use of Fault Indicators - Locating faults on underground distribution systems is often frustrating and challenging. Installation of fault indicators can provide a means to quickly locate the source of the outage, thereby drastically reducing the outage time. The challenges to using fault indicators include when and where to install fault indicators to be most beneficial and cost effective. In addition, fault indicators need to be selected based on the continuous current and available fault current.	Free	
3.	July 10 – Understanding and Mitigating Uplift - Uplift is a common problem in the electric utility industry. Understanding the causes for uplift is the beginning of solving and preventing uplift on the distribution system. Recognizing instances where uplift typically occurs will lead to design practices that eliminate the problem before construction. Understanding the causes of uplift, will help designers re-design existing structures to correct existing problems.	Free	
4.	August 14 – Understanding Construction Specifications - The purpose of construction specifications, whether RUS specifications or individual utility specifications, is to create a uniform construction criteria for the electric distribution system. Engineers, designers, superintendents, and linemen need a working knowledge of the utility specifications to ensure the power lines are designed and built to be safe, reliable and efficient. The discussion of construction specifications will include materials, design parameters, maximum line angles, and design guides.	Free	
5.	September 11 – Design and Framing of Riser Poles - The design of a riser pole must consider the underground cable attachment to the pole, the placement of arresters to reduce lead lengths, different types of terminators, and switches. The webinar will discuss different framing methods for riser poles that meet NESC requirements as well as operational goals. Common errors in framing risers will be presented and analyzed.	Free	
6.	October 9 – Professional Ethics for Utility Personnel - Ethics is not always black and white or good and evil. Often simple situations such as going to lunch with someone can be considered a breach of ethics. Using realistic examples, the presentation will discuss possible pitfalls when working with vendors, government officials, consumers, etc. and offer methods to avoid such situations.	Free	
7.	November 13 – Primer on Current Demand Side Management Practices - Demand side management is employed with various goals and methods which can include sustainability, improving load factor, reducing generation requirements, reduction in transmission congestion, and reducing wholesale power costs. This webinar will address the tools used in the industry to manage the system demand. The advances in communication such as RF mesh radio systems and smart thermostats have increased the number and types of tools available for deployment.	Free	

Please check all or the individual webinars you are interested in, complete the information below, and email to: jennifer@amea.com - 334-387-3502 - 80 TechnaCenter Drive, Montgomery, AL 36117

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