



COLQUITT EMC NEWSLINE

VOLUME 53, NUMBER 9

SEPTEMBER 2023

POWER IN YOUR HANDS

Because we're a co-op, we operate a little differently than other utilities. Colquitt EMC's decisions are made locally, by directors who also live right here in our community. Everyone who pays to receive electricity from the co-op is a member. When you pay your electric bill each month, your money stays here – to pay for the electricity used, or to make improvements to our local system to strengthen service reliability. The money you pay the co-op doesn't line the pockets of shareholders five states away. We're a co-op, and we exist to provide a service to you, our local members.

You may notice that throughout the year, we schedule opportunities for you to attend co-op events, like our annual meeting so we can hear from you. Our success lies in your satisfaction, which is why we offer these opportunities to engage and listen to what you have to say.

Because you're part of an electric cooperative, you can count on our team to maintain local

jobs, affordable electricity and first-class service, no matter what the economy—and supply chain issues—throw at us.

Colquitt EMC is striving to keep our costs as low as possible so we can keep more money in your pocket. We want to help you maximize the value you can get from our services and offerings. For example, we can help you save on energy bills by offering free in-home energy audits.

Please know that you—the members of Colquitt EMC are at the heart of everything we do. Co-ops adhere to seven guiding cooperative principles that reflect core values of honesty, transparency, equity, inclusiveness and service.

We exist to serve you and provide the quality, reliable, friendly service you expect and deserve. While we've grown over the years, we're still driven by the same guiding principles to serve our community. We hope to see or hear from you soon. This co-op was created for you, the members. The power is in your hands.



Save the Date

OCTOBER 17-19, 2023

**SPENCE FIELD
MOULTRIE, GA**

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 2023 Board Candidates
- How to Choose Energy Saving Improvements
- Recipe: Blueberry French Toast Casserole



2023 BOARD CANDIDATES

DISTRICT 2 – BROOKS COUNTY

Patti Price Niewoehner

- Current Chairman of Colquitt EMC Board of Directors
- Serving Brooks County on Colquitt EMC Board of Directors since 2017
- Holds Credentialed Cooperative Director Certificate
- Graduate of Valdosta State University, Bachelor of Business Administration & Marketing
- 25+ yrs Professional Career in the Agricultural Chemical Industry
- Manages day-to-day operations of family farm
- Holds Operational Excellence Certification with Six Sigma
- Current Secretary of Wiregrass Camellia Society
- Former Treasurer of Georgia Citrus Association
- Member of Quitman United Methodist Church



DISTRICT 3 – BERRIEN COUNTY

Ben Griner

- Serving Berrien County on Colquitt EMC Board of Directors since 2020
- Owner/Operator of Griner Farms, LLC in West Berrien
- Maintenance Supervisor at Chaparral Boats, Inc.
- Graduate of Berrien High School and Wiregrass Technical College
- Holds Machine Tool Technology Degree and Electrical Training
- Certified Volunteer Fireman with the West Berrien Volunteer Fire Department
- Member, Councilman and Building Committee Member of Tift Avenue Church of God



DISTRICT 4 – COOK COUNTY

Simmie King

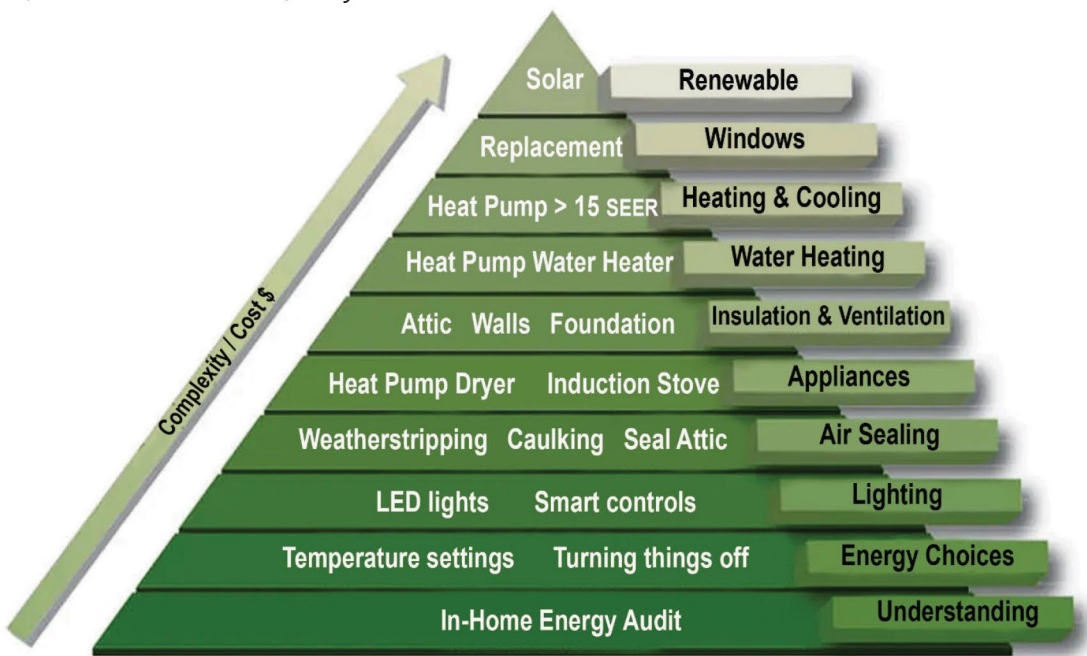
- Serving Cook County on Colquitt EMC Board of Directors since 1984
- Former President and Vice-President of Colquitt EMC Board of Directors
- Holds Credentialed Cooperative Director Certificate
- Serves on Georgia System Operations Corporation Board of Directors
- Farms in the Fellowship Community of Cook County
- Member of the Baptist faith



HOW TO CHOOSE ENERGY SAVING IMPROVEMENTS

Are you uncertain of the best way to lower your energy bill? Are you confused by the “information overload” that often happens when searching the internet for advice? Then the Energy Savings Pyramid may be just what you have been looking for. Like the food pyramid, you should read the Energy Savings Pyramid from the bottom up. Homeowners who are uncertain of the best way to lower their energy bills should start at the lowest level of the pyramid and work their way up. In general, one should not proceed to a higher level until completing the actions on the lower level.

Actions near the bottom of the pyramid are much more cost-effective than actions near the top of the pyramid. At current energy prices the actions listed on the top two layers, windows and solar, may not be cost-effective.



THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE OF COLQUITT ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION met Tuesday, June 6, 2023, and nominated the following individuals whose names will be placed on the ballot and voted on by the Colquitt EMC membership prior to the October 31, 2023 Annual Meeting.

In addition to nominations made by the Nominating Committee, any 50 or more members may make nominations by petition. The deadline to receive nominations by petition is August 7, 2023. Members vote for directors via mail with election results presented at the Annual Meeting*.

**Note: The Colquitt EMC Bylaws allow for district director elections. This means that only members who will be voting for director positions are those who have memberships in the districts (counties) of the directors who are up for election.*



2023 - AGRICULTURE IN ACTION

The Sunbelt Agricultural Exposition will celebrate its 45th Anniversary show October 17-19, 2023. Over 1,200 exhibitors will display and demonstrate products and welcome thousands of visitors to the 100-acre show site.

A highlight of the show is the naming of the Sunbelt Ag Expo Southeastern Farmer of the Year. After an intensive judging process, ten state winners attend the show to learn who will be selected as the overall winner.

Education is the key component of the show with over 300 seminars and demonstrations offered over the 3-day event. These seminars and demonstrations are taught in exhibit areas for beef, dairy, poultry, forestry, pond management, equine and cattle management. The Expo will feature Youth Educational Challenges sponsored by Country Financial for 6th-12th graders as a competitive and fun opportunity for students to demonstrate their knowledge in five different content areas.

There's never a dull moment during the 3-day show and attendees will find there is something for the entire family. There is a daily rolling Antique Tractor Parade, and this year we will feature an Antique Tractor Pull. Don't forget to make the Cow Milking Contest held every afternoon part of your plan. Add in rural lifestyle fun, truck, tractor and ATV test drives, and the venue is perfect for rural enthusiasts.

Chip Blalock, Show Director, says, "The Sunbelt Expo is an unbelievable showcase of rural living blanketed with agriculture's newest ideas and technologies. It's 3-days of fun, education and dreaming about agriculture's future as we team together to feed, clothe and house a growing population around the world."

The Sunbelt Ag Expo is open Tuesday through Thursday, October 17-19, from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM. The Show site is four miles southeast of Moultrie, GA on Hwy 133. Visit sunbeltexpo.com for more information.

CEMC'S 87TH ANNUAL MEETING • LUNCH RESERVATION FORM

OCTOBER 31, 2023 DRIVE-THRU: 9AM - 1PM SPENCE FIELD IN MOULTRIE

Name _____

Address _____

Account # _____

Member's Signature _____

Including myself, you may plan on _____ person(s) for lunch.

Deadline for drive-thru lunch reservations is October 17, 2023. (Limit 3 meals per member)

Recipe OF THE MONTH



Blueberry French Toast Casserole

INGREDIENTS

12 slices day-old white
bread, crust removed.
2 (8 oz) packages cream cheese
1 cup (or more) blueberries
12 eggs
2 cups of milk
½ cup maple syrup or honey
2 teaspoons cinnamon

Sauce

1 cup sugar
2 tablespoons
cornstarch
1 cup water
1 cup blueberries
1 tablespoon of
butter

DIRECTIONS

Cut bread into 1-inch cubes; place half in greased 9x13 inch baking dish. Cut cream cheese into 1-inch cubes and place over bread. Top with blueberries and remaining bread. In a large bowl, beat eggs, milk, and syrup- mix well. Pour over bread mixture, sprinkle with cinnamon. Cover and chill 8 hours or overnight. Remove from fridge 30 minutes before baking. Cover and bake at 350°F for 30 minutes. Uncover and bake for 30 more minutes or until golden brown and the center is set. In a saucepan, combine sugar, cornstarch, add water. Bring to boil over medium heat; boil for 3 minutes stirring constantly. Stir in blueberries; reduce heat. Simmer for 8-10 minutes or until berries have burst. Stir in butter until melted. Top the casserole with the sauce and enjoy!

Church of the Month



Bethel Holiness Baptist Church

2595 Hwy 135 N - Nashville, GA
Pastor Justin Willingham

Service Schedule

Sunday School	10:00 AM
Sunday Morning Worship	11:00 AM
Wednesday Night Bible Study	7:30 PM

To nominate your church for Church of the Month, please contact Shelby Cloud at 229-985-3620 ext. 1246 with your church's information. Please include service schedule, address and pastor's name.

Bible Verse of the Month

For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

~2 Corinthians 5:21