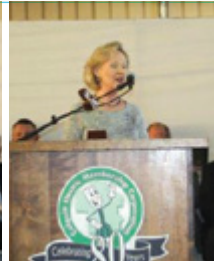




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NewsLine



Colquitt EMC Celebrates 80 Years! 2016 Annual Meeting Highlights

On Tuesday, November 1st, 2,426 of Colquitt EMC's members attended the cooperative's Annual Meeting held at Spence Field in Moultrie.

The annual event included a mix of fun and business as members and their guests enjoyed a delicious lunch prepared by the Colquitt County FFA and enjoyed entertainment by "Omega Quartet". In the exhibit area, "Journey Through The Pages of Time" featured historical highlights and memorabilia from the co-op's 80 year history. Attendees also enjoyed participating in a health fair and playing "Electro Bingo".

President Gary Branch presided over the Business Meeting. Rev. Jay Watkins, Pastor at Redland Baptist Church provided the invocation. In addition, Chip Blalock, Sunbelt Expo Director, delivered greetings and Myrna Ballard, President of the Valdosta-Lowndes County Chamber of Commerce welcomed attendees.

Cooperative Attorney James Thagard presented the election results. Incumbent directors B. Don Copeland, Tift County, Tommy Cothron, Lowndes County and Huey Hiers, Colquitt County were re-elected for three year terms.

Colquitt EMC's General Manager, Danny Nichols informed the membership that the Cooperative is financially sound and that the Board, Management

and Staff are focused on affordable rates, customer service and reliability. He also announced that Colquitt EMC will be returning more than \$3 million in capital credits during the month of December.

In his remarks, Nichols reported that Colquitt EMC has grown from humble beginnings of the first 13 miles of line and 100 members to over 65,000

meters and almost 9,000 miles of line. Colquitt EMC is now the 10th largest EMC in the state with regard to meters and the 4th largest in miles of line.

"Eighty years ago your EMC was born. Its mission was to provide service to the unserved rural areas in South Central Georgia," said Nichols.

"As time has passed, Colquitt EMC has grown in many different ways in order to provide the best possible service at the least possible cost. We are proud to serve our members and to retain a presence in all the communities we serve."

Service recognition of employees included: Pam Green and Dan Taylor (25 years); Sonya Aldridge, Craig Craven, Jon Garrett and Becky Sims (30 years); J. Brown and Gerald Marshall (35 years) and Wanda Moore (40 years).

Always a crowd favorite, a prize drawing was held at the close of the meeting.



Energy-Saving Holiday Gift Ideas

Christmas is almost here, and you may need to rush to the store for some last-minute gifts. Why not give an energy-saving gift that keeps giving (lower power bills) all year long?

Here are several energy-savings gift ideas:

1. Home Entertainment Electronics. If a television, DVD player, stereo, or cordless phone is on your list, look for the ENERGY STAR label. ENERGY STAR points you to the most energy efficient product models. Today's ENERGY STAR qualified TVs meet new, stricter requirements and offer up to 30% energy savings over standard models.

2. Pressure cooker. These pots – great for preparing rice, beans, soups, and some meats — use up to 70% less energy than regular pots and pans by sealing in hot air to quickly cook food. (besides saving energy you get to eat sooner, too.)

3. High-efficiency desk lights. LED desk lights put the light where you need it sipping minuscule amounts of electricity. Extremely long life and excellent color rendering are other benefits.

4. Home electricity monitor. Who doesn't want to reduce their power bill? One of the best ways to control energy use is by getting real-time feedback of energy usage and cost. A home-electricity monitor that tracks a home's electricity usage is a great way to give the gift of savings.

5. Solar-powered gadgets. The number of solar-powered gizmos has exploded in recent years. You can now find solar-powered lights, cell phone and battery chargers, and solar backpacks. There are even solar powered toys (no more dead battery headaches).

6. Energy-savings guidebooks. Do you have an avid reader or do-it-yourselfer on your gift list? You can find a treasure trove of good energy-savings ideas in books available online or at most book stores. Some good choices are:

- *Consumers Guide to Home Energy Savings 10th edition*
- *Home: 101 Ways to Improve Your Home's Comfort and Energy Efficiency*
- *Cut Your Energy Bills Now: 150 Smart Ways to Save Money* - by Bruce Harley

(Oh, and don't forget: Post-Christmas sales are the perfect time to buy energy-efficient LED holiday lights for next year at big discounts.)



BURN WITH CARE... AVOID TROUBLE.

ATTENTION: Use firebreaks around any utility poles on land that will be burned under controlled conditions. By using a firebreak to protect utility poles, you can help Colquitt EMC save thousands of dollars in repair costs. Also, you can avoid potential safety problems resulting from burned poles.

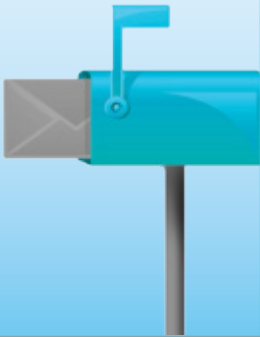
-Thank you in advance for your cooperation.



December 2016 Capital Credit Refund

Colquitt EMC will refund \$3,033,063.80 to some of its members in December. The refund represents capital credits assigned to members who received electricity in **1995**. The cooperative is currently retiring capital credits on a 20 year rotating plan adopted by the Board of Directors. The year, percentage of total billing, dollar amount and year of refund of capital credits for each succeeding year is as follows

<u>Year</u>	<u>Percentage</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Year Refund</u>
1996	8.64%	\$4,423,112.06	2017
1997	3.86%	\$2,090,665.02	2018
1998	6.47%	\$3,568,665.50	2019
1999	4.60%	\$2,652,945.09	2020
2000	4.13%	\$2,484,560.85	2021
2001	7.73%	\$4,778,177.29	2022
2002	9.52%	\$6,518,910.60	2023
2003	9.48%	\$6,633,721.56	2024
2004	10.51%	\$7,947,054.85	2025
2005	0.70%	\$582,547.86	2026
2006	5.12%	\$4,570,084.87	2027
2007	3.38%	\$3,196,647.69	2028
2008	0.00%		NO REFUND
2009	1.31%	\$1,387,809.46	2030
2010	1.92%	\$2,207,849.74	2031
2011	0.14%	\$166,375.80	2032
2012	4.33%	\$5,222,052.94	2033
2013	3.75%	\$4,613,688.83	2034
2014	3.73%	\$4,867,846.61	2035
2015	3.41%	\$4,472,889.40	2036



Colquitt EMC is currently accepting applications for the Walter Harrison Scholarship

A program sponsored by Georgia's 41 electric cooperatives



The \$1,000 scholarship can be applied to academic expenses at any accredited two- or four-year university, college or vocational-technical institute in Georgia. Factors for consideration include grade point average, SAT/ COMPASS scores, academic standing, scholastic honors and financial need. Students applying for the scholarship must be accepted or enrolled in an accredited undergraduate degree program, complete an application, and write a biographical sketch which provides a preview of his or her future plans. Applications are available at any Colquitt EMC office or visit www.colquittemc.com.

Completed applications are due by February 1, 2017.

Local. Dependable. Serving **YOU.**



Colquitt EMC's newest business customer Publix Grocery store located at 378 Veterans Pkwy N in Moultrie held their grand opening on November 9. The store is part of the Publix shopping center. The \$14 million facility will create 250 jobs and result in \$40 to \$50 million in retail sales. Colquitt EMC is proud to be the power provider.

**Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year**

from all of us at
Colquitt EMC

All Colquitt EMC offices will be closed
on Friday, Dec. 23, Monday, Dec. 26
& Monday, Jan. 2



Recipes of the Month



Eggnog Pound Cake

INGREDIENTS

Servings: 10-12

2 tablespoons softened butter or 2 tablespoons margarine, to grease pan
1/2 cup sliced almonds
1 (18 1/2 ounce) package yellow cake mix
1/8 teaspoon ground nutmeg
2 eggs
1 1/2 cups purchased eggnog
4 tablespoons butter or 4 tablespoons margarine, melted
2 tablespoons rum or 1/4 teaspoon rum flavoring

DIRECTIONS

Generously grease a 10-inch tube or bundt pan with the softened butter; press almonds on sides and bottom of pan; set aside. In a large bowl, combine cake mix, nutmeg, eggs, eggnog, the melted butter and the rum. Using an electric mixer, beat until smooth and creamy (about 4 minutes at medium speed) or beat about 450 strokes with a wooden spoon; pour batter into prepared pan. Bake in a 350° oven for 45 to 55 minutes or until a wooden pick inserted in center comes out clean. Let cool in pan for 10 minutes; then invert cake onto a rack to cool completely.



5 Cup Pecan Pie

INGREDIENTS

Servings: 8

5 1/2 cups pecan halves
3 tablespoons flour
12 tablespoons unsalted butter
1 cup packed light brown sugar
3/4 cup light corn syrup
2 tablespoons light corn syrup
4 large eggs, lightly beaten
2 teaspoons vanilla extract
1 pie shell

DIRECTIONS

Preheat oven to 350°F. Spread 1/2 cup of the pecans on a baking sheet and toast them in the oven for 8 to 10 minutes, until lightly browned and fragrant. Let cool completely. Place the roasted nuts in a food processor and process until smooth and buttery. Add the flour and pulse until incorporated. Scrape into a large bowl and set aside. Heat the butter in a small saucepan over medium-high heat until it starts to foam and turns a light brown. Remove from heat and set aside. Add the brown sugar, corn syrup, eggs, vanilla, and browned butter to the nut paste and stir until well blended. Fold in the remaining 5 cups pecans. Pour the filling into the pre-baked pie shell. Bake for 30 to 40 minutes, until the filling is slightly puffed and the crust is golden brown. Transfer to a rack to cool. Serve warm or at room temperature.

(Cut Here)