



Volume 48, Number 5

# NewsLine

May 2018

## Congratulations to Colquitt EMC's Washington Youth Tour Delegates

*Students to spend week experiencing nation's Capital*

John Henry Walker from Cook County and Kirk Beacham from Colquitt County were selected to participate in the 2018 Washington Youth Tour (WYT), an all-expense paid leadership experience sponsored by electric membership cooperatives in Georgia, including Colquitt EMC.

This year's tour, which takes place June 7-14, offers opportunities for students to meet policy makers, tour historic monuments and participate in leadership experiences—all while making new friends from across the state and the nation.

Walker and Beacham are among 112 teen-delegates who will gather in Atlanta to kick off the tour, spending time getting to know each other before departing for Washington, D.C.

The program was initially implemented at the request of President Lyndon Johnson to "send youngsters to the nation's Capital where they can actually see what the flag stands for and represents." When the group arrives in D.C., participants tour historic locations like Mount Vernon, explore museums and monuments and meet with their elected officials to discuss the issues that are important back home.

Georgia's delegation will convene with more than 1,800 youth representing cooperatives across the nation and have the opportunity to mingle with peers from other states and exchange views concerning local and national issues.

Since 1965, the Washington Youth Tour has given 3,000 students in Georgia and more than 50,000 students nationwide the opportunity to take part in this memorable experience. WYT has helped promising student leaders become exceptional young adults. Teens on the tour are challenged to consider the part they



John Henry Walker



Kirk Beacham

play in government and the cooperative movement, to become engaged citizens and to learn about careers in public service. EMC leaders and former student delegates agree the Youth Tour has grown into an invaluable program that gives young Americans an experience that will stay with them for the rest of their lives.



# Summary of Bylaw Provisions Pertaining to Membership, Annual Meetings, Board Representation, Nomination and Election Procedures for Election to the Board

## ARTICLE II: Meetings of Members

**Section 1. Annual Meeting.** The annual meeting of the members shall be held between October 1<sup>st</sup> and November 30<sup>th</sup> of each year at such place in the counties of Colquitt, Tift, Cook, Berrien, Lowndes, or Brooks as shall be designated in the notice of the meeting for the purpose of reporting results of the directors' election, passing upon reports covering the previous fiscal year, and transacting such other business as may come before the meeting. Failure to hold the annual meeting at the designated time shall not work a forfeiture or dissolution of the Cooperative.

**Section 2. Special Meeting.** Special meetings of the members may be called by resolution of the Board of Directors or upon written request signed by at least three (3) directors or at least ten percent (10%) of all the members, and it shall thereupon be the duty of the Secretary to cause notice of such meeting to be given as hereinafter provided. Special meetings of the members may be held at any place within the county of Colquitt in the state of Georgia specified in the notice of the special meeting.

**Section 3. Notice of Members' Meetings.** Written or printed notice stating the place, day, and hour of the meeting and, in case of a special meeting, the purpose or purposes for which the meeting is called, shall be delivered not less than seven (7) days nor more than thirty (30) days before the date of the meeting, either personally or by mail to each member, by or at the direction of the Secretary, or upon default in duty by the Secretary, by the persons calling the meeting, in the case of a special meeting, or by any other director in the case of any meeting whose time, place, and date have actually been fixed by the Board of Directors. In making such computation, the date of the meeting shall not be counted. If mailed, such notice shall be deemed to be delivered five (5) days from date when deposited in the United States mail, addressed to the member at his address as it appears on the records of the Cooperative, with postage thereon prepaid. The failure of any member to receive notice of an annual or special meeting of the members shall not invalidate any action which may be taken by the members at any such meeting, and the attendance in person of a member at any meeting of the members shall constitute a waiver of notice of such meeting unless such attendance shall be for the express purpose of objecting to the transaction of any business, or one or more items of business, on the grounds that the meeting shall not have been lawfully called or convened.

No matter which requires the affirmative vote of at least a clear majority of all the Cooperative's members shall be acted upon at any meeting of the members unless notice of such matter shall have been contained in the notice of the meeting.

**Section 4. Quorum.** At least one hundred fifty (150) of the members present in person shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at all meetings of the members. If less than a quorum is present at any meeting, a majority of those present in person may adjourn the meeting from time to time without further notice.

**Section 5. Voting.** Each member who is not in a status of suspension, as provided for in Section 6 of Article I shall be entitled to one (1) vote and no more upon each matter submitted to a vote. Voting by members other than members who are natural persons shall be allowed upon the presentation to the Cooperative prior to or upon registration at each member meeting of satisfactory evidence entitling the person presenting the same to vote. At all meetings of the members at which a quorum is present all questions shall be decided by a vote of a majority of the members voting thereon, except as otherwise provided by law, the Articles of Incorporation of the Cooperative, or these Bylaws.

**Section 6. Order of Business.** The order of business at the annual meeting of the members, and so far as possible at all other meetings of the members, shall be essentially as follows:

Report on the number of members present in person in order to determine the existence of a quorum, reading of the notice of the meeting and proof of the due publication of mailing thereof, or the waiver or waivers of notice of the meeting, as the case may be. The reading of unapproved minutes of previous meetings and the taking of necessary action thereon, the reading of unapproved minutes may be waived by a majority of the members present; and announcement of directors elected, presentation and consideration of, and action upon, reports of officers, directors, and committees, unfinished business, new business, adjournment.

## ARTICLE III: Directors

**Section 1. Number and General Powers.** The business and affairs of the Cooperative shall be managed by a Board of nine (9) directors which shall exercise all of the powers of the Cooperative except such as are by law, by the Articles of Incorporation of the Cooperative, or by these Bylaws conferred upon or reserved to the members.

The area served by Colquitt Electric Membership Corporation shall be divided into districts for the purpose of determining the district or area from which representatives shall be chosen to serve on the Board of Directors.

The directors shall be fixed as follows:

District 1	Colquitt County	2 Directors
District 2	Brooks County	1 Director
District 3	Berrien County	1 Director
District 4	Cook County	1 Director
District 5	Lowndes County	2 Directors
District 6	Tift County	1 Director
District 7	Worth-Tift Counties	1 Director

At the expiration of the term of any director his successor shall be elected for a period of three (3) years.

**Section 2. Qualification, Election, and Tenure.** No member shall be eligible to become or remain a director or to hold any position of trust in the Cooperative who is in any way employed by or financially interested in a competing enterprise or a business selling electric energy or supplies to the Cooperative. No person shall be eligible to become or remain a director of the Cooperative who is an employee, a close relative of an incumbent director or of an employee of the Cooperative, or is not a member of the Cooperative.

No members presently or formerly employed by the Cooperative shall be eligible to become or remain a director, Member of the Nominating Committee, or serve in any other capacity, either appointed or elected, or involving any Cooperative election for five (5) years after the termination of his/her employment from the Cooperative. This Bylaw change is effective on October 28, 2014, and only applies to those members who are separated from Colquitt EMC after October 28, 2014.

Upon the establishment of the fact that any person holding a directorship or any other position of trust in the Cooperative lacks eligibility under this Section, it shall be the duty of the Board of Directors to withhold such position from such person, or to cause him to be removed therefrom, as the case may be. Nothing in this Section contained shall, or shall be construed to, affect in any manner whatsoever, the validity of any action taken at any meeting of the Board of Directors, unless such action is taken with respect to a matter which is affected by the provisions of this Section and in which one or more of the Directors have an interest adverse to that of the Cooperative.

Nothing in this Section contained shall, or shall be construed to, affect in any manner whatsoever the validity of any action taken at any meeting of the Board of Directors.

**Section 3. Nominations.** It shall be the duty of the Board of Directors to appoint, not less than ninety (90) days nor more than one hundred fifty (150) days before the date of each annual meeting, a committee on nominations consisting of not less than five (5) nor more than eleven (11) members who shall be selected so as to give equitable representation on the Committee to the geographical areas served or to be served by the Cooperative. No employee of the Cooperative, member of the Board of Directors, known candidate for election, or any close relative or member of the same household of an employee, director, or a known candidate shall be appointed a member of such Committee. The Committee shall prepare and post at the principal office of the Cooperative at least sixty (60) days before the annual meeting a list of nominations for directors to be elected, listing separately the nominee or nominees with respect to each Directorate District from which a director must or may, pursuant to this Article, be elected. The Committee may include more nominees than there are to be elected, but it shall show clearly which nominees are opposed with respect to the same Directorate District.

Any fifty (50) or more members may make other nominations in writing over their signatures in like manner listing the nominees separately with respect to the Directorate Districts from which they are nominated, not less than eighty-five (85) days prior to the meeting, and the Secretary shall post the same at the same place the list of nominations made by the Committee is posted.

**Section 4. Voting for Directors.** The election of directors, or any bylaw amendment, change, or action directly relating to the election of directors, will be conducted by mail. To be eligible to vote for directors, a member must have been a member on August 31 of the year in which the election for directors is held. Not less than thirty (30) days prior to each annual meeting, one ballot shall be mailed by the Cooperative to each member entitled to vote. The ballots shall contain the names of all persons nominated by the Nominating Committee or by petition for each Directorate position to which a director is to be elected. Only members residing in each Directorate District may vote for, and elect, the director for that District. No member in any election may vote for more than one nominee from any Directorate District. Members shall mark their ballots indicating the director for whom they wish to vote and return said ballots to the Cooperative either by mail or by delivery to the main office or any district or branch office not less than fifteen (15) days prior to the date of the annual meeting. Any ballot received in the mail or by hand delivery less than fifteen (15) days prior to the date of the annual meeting shall not be counted for the purpose of election of directors. The notice to the members entitled to vote in which the ballots are enclosed shall contain instructions to the members as to how to mark their ballots for election of directors, and said instructions shall be explicitly followed in order for a ballot to be counted. The failure of any member to receive a ballot for any reason shall not invalidate the election of directors as provided for herein.

**Section 4-A. Uncontested Elections.** Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, in the event the nominating process set forth in Section 3 of this Article yields only one nominee with respect to the position of director of any Directorate District which must or may, pursuant to this Article, be elected, then no vote of the members shall be required with respect to such Directorate position; and the sole nominee shall be deemed elected in accordance with these Bylaws.

**Scam Alert:** If you are ever suspicious of someone claiming to represent Colquitt EMC, please call your local office. Always verify and speak to a customer service representative about anything that causes you to be concerned about the status of your electric bill.

**The following members were presented to the Colquitt EMC Board of Directors to serve on the 2018 Nominating Committee:**

<b>John H. Davis</b> 4907 Davidson Rd. Valdosta, Georgia 31605	<b>Glen Merritt</b> 4746 Ga. Hwy. 256 Sumner, Georgia 31789	<b>Donald Summers</b> 3237 Stallings Rd. Valdosta, Georgia 31605
<b>Darrell Griffin</b> 939 Kendallwood Church Rd. Moultrie, Georgia 31768	<b>Gene Sellars</b> 484 Walter Norman Rd. Hartsville, Georgia 31756	<b>Lenwood Sutton</b> 388 W. A. Patterson Rd. Ty Yy, Georgia 31795

**This Committee will be officially seated on June 4, 2018**

The Nominating Committee will meet at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, June 7, 2018 at the Colquitt EMC headquarters in Moultrie to make nominations for three board positions.\*

CEMC members elect directors by mail and the results will be announced at the Annual Meeting. The 2018 Annual Meeting of Members will be held on Tuesday, Oct. 30, 2018 at Spence Field in Moultrie.

\*In addition to nominations made by the Nominating Committee, any 50 or more members may make other nominations by petition not less than eighty-five days prior to the Annual Meeting.

**The following Directors' terms will expire on Oct. 30, 2018:**

- District 1 – **Bobby Griner**  
Colquitt County
- District 5 – **Bobby Exum**  
Lowndes County
- District 7 – **Gary Branch**  
Worth/Tift Counties

**To make paying your electric bill easier, Colquitt EMC offers a *variety of payment options.* . .**

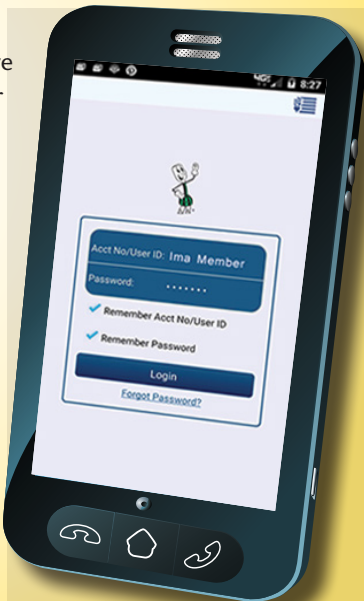
**Pay-By-Phone:** Using our free, automated telephone service, you can pay your bill using a credit/debit card, credit/debit card profile or e-check profile. Available 24 hours a day, the system is simple and easy to use. When you call our offices, press option 2 and follow the prompts. Remember to have your Colquitt EMC account number available. Note: Make the payment process easier by creating a credit/debit card profile or e-check profile.

**AutoPay:** Try the convenience of AUTOPAY recurring payments. Have your monthly bill automatically deducted from your checking account or credit/debit card on the due date.

**Bank draft** is also available for payments to be processed from your checking account or savings account each month on the due date.

**Online Bill Payment:** Use our free, fast and secure bill payment portal PAY MY BILL available on our website and mobile website at [www.colquitemc.com](http://www.colquitemc.com). Online payments can be made using your checking account (e-check) or your credit/debit card.

Download our free mobile app for your iPhone, iPad or Android smartphone. Make secure online payments anytime, anywhere.



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## Having Your **Hot Water** And Saving \$\$\$, Too!

When it comes to saving money on your energy bill, some sources advise cutting back or doing without, (*also known as the "You can't have your cake and eat it, too" school of thought*). However, with a few smart choices, you **can** have your hot water and save energy, too. Consider these smart choices to stay in hot water without breaking the bank.

- Lower the temperature on your water heater to 120°F; **that is more than hot enough for a piping hot shower and will reduce cost by 3%-5% or more.**
- Don't let the hot water run while shaving. **More hot water for you, less for the drain.**
- Wash laundry in cold water. **Use the hot water where it matters—while bathing.**
- **Fix leaks immediately.** A steady drip can waste hundreds of gallons per month.
- Purchase an ENERGY STAR® labeled dishwasher and clothes washer. **They give you maximum clean with minimal hot water use.**
- **Insulate** your hot-water storage tank and the first few feet of hot and cold water lines connected to the water heater. **"Waste not, want not."**
- Replace your old water heater with a new hybrid heat pump model. You can **expect savings of 60%** over a conventional electric water heater.



**All Colquitt EMC offices will be closed on  
Monday, May 28th in observance of Memorial Day.**



## **DON'T MISS OUT!** **Colquitt EMC is offering** **SCHOLARSHIPS!**

Colquitt EMC awards scholarships to students who are enrolled in colleges or universities located in Colquitt EMC's service area. To be eligible, applicants must reside in the household of a Colquitt EMC member. The application and additional details are available at **[www.colquitemc.com](http://www.colquitemc.com)**. *Deadline is June 15, 2018.*



# Recipes of the Month



## **Kickin' Chicken Salad**

### **INGREDIENTS**

3-1/2 cups chicken, cooked, chilled & diced  
2 stalks celery, chopped  
1 1/2 cups red grapes, halved  
1/2 cup dried cherries  
1 cup mayonnaise  
1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice  
2 teaspoons curry powder  
2 teaspoons Dijon mustard  
1 teaspoon sea salt  
1/2 teaspoon fresh coarse ground black pepper  
1/2 cup pecans, chopped (optional)

### **DIRECTIONS**

In a large bowl, thoroughly mix together all ingredients, reserving the chicken, grapes and pecans for last. Chill. Serve on traditional croissants, Hawaiian rolls, or a bed of lettuce.

(Cut Here)



## **Summer Fruit Dip**

### **INGREDIENTS**

1 (8 ounce) package cream cheese, *softened at room temperature*  
1 (7 ounce) jar marshmallow creme  
1 tablespoon lemon juice

### **DIRECTIONS**

Mix together all ingredients. Serve with any kind of fruit, such as strawberries and fresh pineapple.