

NewsLine

Volume 48, Number 12

December 2018



Colquitt EMC Celebrates 82 Years! 2018 Annual Meeting Highlights

Amid beautiful fall weather, 2,386 Colquitt EMC members attended the cooperative's Annual Meeting of Members held at Spence Field in Moultrie on October 30.

Prior to the business meeting, members and their guests enjoyed a delicious lunch prepared by the Colquitt County FFA and enjoyed entertainment by "Omega Quartet". Attendees also enjoyed participating in a health fair and playing "Electro Bingo" & "The Wheel of Energy"

Board President Don Copeland presided over the Business Meeting. As the meeting opened, Stephanie Spriggs Walker performed the National Anthem, and Rev. Randy Epps from The Bridge Church delivered the invocation. Mary Beth Watson, Vice President of Accounting and Administration, Sunbelt Expo, delivered greetings and Lisa Smart, Executive Director of the Berrien County Chamber of Commerce, welcomed attendees.

Cooperative Attorney James Thagard presented

the election results. Bobby Exum, Lowndes County and Gary Branch, Worth/Tift Counties were re-elected to serve three-year terms. Clay Underwood, Colquitt County, was newly elected to serve a three-year term on the board.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and Staff of Colquitt EMC, General Manager Danny Nichols presented a plaque in recognition of retiring director Bobby Griner's dedicated service and leadership to the Cooperative. Margaret Griner

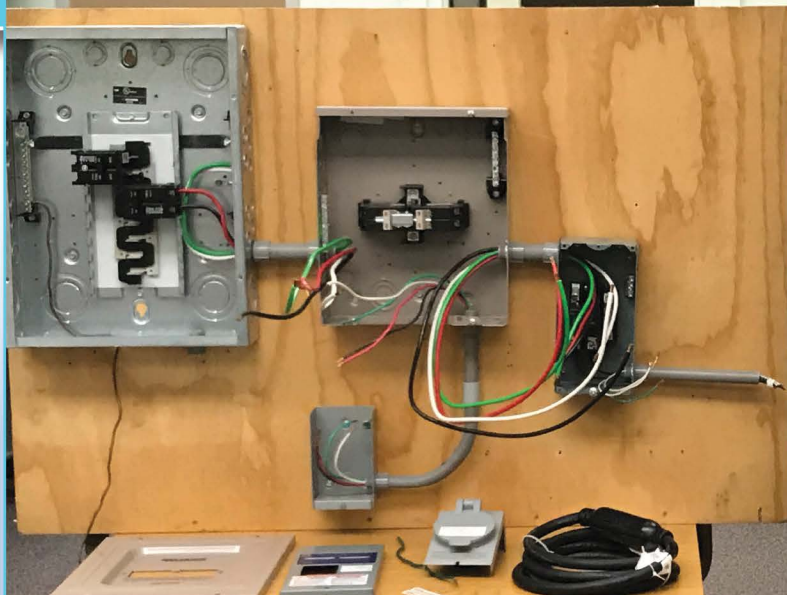
accepted the plaque for her husband who was unable to attend. Elected in October of 1976, Griner served District 1 (Colquitt County) for 42 years. During his time on the Board, he held the following offices: President (6 years), Vice President (4 years) and Secretary-Treasurer (16 years). "Bobby took a leadership role and he was an integral part of the decisions that Colquitt EMC has made to provide excellent service and lower power costs", Nichols commented.

President Copeland,



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Congratulations!



Robert Mitchell, a student from Colquitt County High School, placed first at the Area FFA Agricultural Electrification Career Development Event recently held at ABAC. The contest requires participants to demonstrate their mastery of electrical wiring by completing a wiring project, solving a battery of written problems and presenting a demonstration of proper wiring techniques. By winning the area event, Robert has advanced to compete at the state level for scholarship monies. Sponsored by the EMCs of Georgia and organized through the Georgia Department of Education's Agricultural Education division, the wiring competition is designed to promote electrification programs for agriculture students. Colquitt EMC is proud to provide support each year at the chapter, area, and state levels.

2018 Annual Meeting Highlights – Continued

asked the members in attendance to thank Colquitt EMC employees for their hard work in restoration and recovery efforts following Hurricane Michael. Tommy Cothron, Secretary-Treasurer, informed the membership that the Cooperative is financially sound.

Colquitt EMC's General Manager, Danny Nichols, announced that Colquitt EMC will be returning more than \$2 million in capital credits during the month of December. Nichols shared that in the late seventies, the Board of Directors approved a plan to convert Colquitt EMC's electric system voltage from 7,200 volts to 14,400 volts. Converting voltage requires changing out all of the electrical system except for the wire and the poles. The

system is converted in sections; Colquitt EMC was able to finish the final sections in the 2000's. Nichols reported that Colquitt EMC's total system has been operating at 14,400 for approximately 16 years. He also announced that Colquitt EMC's rates are 12% lower than the average in the State.

Service recognition of employees included: Jody Brown (25 years); Keith Beasley, Shirlene Cantrell, Scott Howard, Keith Luke, Henry Stephens and Charlie Tucker (30 years); Monty Cowart, Tony Green, Margaret Murphy and Karen Ragland (35 years) and Steve Griffin and James Phillips (45 years).

At the conclusion of the business meeting, a prize drawing was held for members in attendance which is always a crowd-pleaser!!

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.

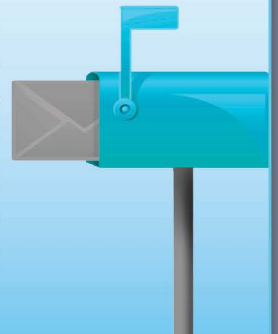
-Thank you in advance for your cooperation.



December 2018 Capital Credit Refund

Colquitt EMC will refund \$2,022,732.44 to some of its members in December. The refund represents capital credits assigned to members who received electricity in **1997**. 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>
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
2016	7.46%	\$9,731,198.96	2037
2017	3.14%	\$3,853,313.27	2038



Colquitt EMC is currently accepting applications for the Walter Harrison Scholarship

A program sponsored by Georgia's electric cooperatives



The \$1,000 scholarship can be applied to academic expenses at any accredited two- or four-year college or university in Georgia, including technical colleges. 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.colquitemc.com.

Completed applications are due by February 1, 2019.

Local. Dependable. Serving YOU.

Holiday Electronic Gift Guide

A hallmark of the holidays season is gifting with friends and family. But the joy of giving can become slightly diminished if one frets over selecting the gift. Submitted for your approval is a list of electronic gifts sure to bring a smile to the receiver. There is something for everyone, and it's good to remember that the happiest people are not those getting more, but those giving more.

Smart Lighting

Give the ability to control lighting remotely and with voice-activated devices like Alexa. You can start small with a "Philips Hue starter kit" (\$148) that comes with a normal white and a color ambiance bulb or go big with a "LIFX tile modular light surface" (\$235) that can create custom dimmable patterns, images, and waveforms in over 16 million colors.



Robot vacuum cleaner or mop

Everyone can use an extra hand keeping there home neat and clean. A robot vacuum like the "iRobot Roomba 690" (\$300) or a robot mop like the "iRobot Braava 380t" (\$299) can automatically keep your floors clean, and they even recharge themselves.



Virtual Robot Assistant

Think Alexa with wheels. "Anki Vector" (\$250) is a voice-activated mobile robot that can interact with its environment, for example, answer



simple questions by accessing the internet like what is the weather today, recognize faces, move around avoiding obstacles, respond to touch, speak and recharge himself.

Video doorbell and locks

Add security and convenience to any home with a "Ring Video Doorbell" (\$99 - \$249). Lets you see, hear and speak to visitors from your phone, tablet or PC. Couple with an "August Smart Lock" (\$255) and have remote access to locking and unlocking your door.



Smart plugs and light switches

Lighting switches and electrical outlets can become voice-activated, remotely controlled and set to operate on a schedule with a "Leviton DW15S-1BZ smart switch: (\$43) and a "TP-Link Kasa Mini Outlet Smart Plug" (\$27).



Key Finder

This gift will be appreciated every time keys are misplaced. The "Tile Sport - Key Finder" (\$45) makes an audible ring when activated via a smartphone. It can even be used in reverse to find a misplaced phone by pressing the button on the tile.



(NOTE: Prices are approximate and may vary by location.)

Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year
from all of us at
Colquitt EMC

All Colquitt EMC offices will be closed
on Monday & Tuesday, Dec. 24 & 25
& Tuesday, Jan. 1



Recipes of the Month



Bacon Wrapped Scallops

INGREDIENTS

Yields: 40

2 lbs bacon (regular sliced, not thick)
2 lbs sea scallops (if very large, cut in half)
3 tablespoons butter
1 tablespoon minced garlic
1/3 cup chicken broth

DIRECTIONS

Cut bacon strips in half. Wrap a piece of bacon around each scallop; secure with toothpick. Arrange the wrapped scallops on a baking sheet. Broil 5 inches from heat for 3 minutes per side, or until bacon is crisp. In small skillet, melt butter; add garlic and saute 1 minute. Add broth and bring to a boil. Cook 2 minutes. Place scallops in large bowl; pour broth over, Gently toss to coat.



Cranberry Appetizer

INGREDIENTS

Serves: 4

1 tablespoon butter
2 cups thinly sliced onions
1/4 cup balsamic vinegar
1/2 cup dried cranberries
1 tablespoon sugar
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon grated orange rind
16 crackers
8 ounces reduced-fat cream cheese

DIRECTIONS

Melt butter in a pan over medium heat. Add onions and sauté 15 to 18 minutes, or until golden and tender. Stir in vinegar, cranberries, sugar, salt, and orange rind; Cook, stirring occasionally, 2 to 4 minutes or until liquid is reduced to about 2 tablespoons. Spread cream cheese onto the crackers. Top each with cranberry compote.

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