



# COLQUITT EMC NEWSLINE

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## CELEBRATING OUR LEGACY: STORIES FROM OUR LEGACY MEMBERS

Colquitt EMC's Marketing Team recently sat down with Legacy Members Marshall Bennett, 85, of Adel, and Ovida Evans, 93, of Moultrie, to hear their stories of when electricity was brought to their community.

According to Marshall Bennett, he grew up "back in the woods." Around the age of 7 or 8 years old, Mr. Bennett remembered the crews coming to set up the poles and power lines. In order for the house to receive power, Colquitt EMC had to cut through the trees to create a lane for the poles. With the new lane that was created through the woods, the school bus was able to pick him up from their house and take him to school. "Before that, I had to walk out to the road," he recalled. The house was originally powered with 110 volts and one light, and a few years later, it was upgraded to 220 volts. Mr. Bennett said they slowly



*Marshall Bennett of Adel*

added different electric equipment and appliances to their home. "Of course, the lights were the priority, and then the next thing might have been a coffee pot." Prior to having electricity, Mr. Bennett described how they would use the Aladdin lamps for light and a wood burning stove for cooking. As time went on, his family installed an electric stove and refrigerator. "We were in high cotton then!"

Ovida Evans is the daughter of a sharecropper. Her memories are marked in time with the birth of each of her 10 siblings and the beginning of World War II. Between the birth of a sister in 1941 and a brother born in 1943, power poles and lines were installed near their home in Brooks County. Ms. Evans remembers how exciting it was to receive power. "We had one little cord that came down," she



*Ovida Evans of Moultrie*

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## CELEBRATING OUR LEGACY *Continued from Front*

motioned to the ceiling while describing the first light they had in their home. "It might have had a place where you could plug in something, but back then, we didn't have anything to plug in." A few years later, she recalls her family purchasing a refrigerator as one of their first electric appliances. Having the single light "helped a lot." Like many families during this time, they had the kerosene lamps to see by at night. "I wonder now how we could even see to write our lessons," Ms. Evans laughed. She still has her old kerosene lamps just in case. In the 93 years Ms. Evans has been alive, there have been many advancements made with electricity that have improved our lives. When we asked Ms. Evans what her favorite was, she said, "the stove and washing machine!"

Colquitt EMC thanks Marshall Bennett and Ovida Evans for meeting with us and sharing their stories! If you or someone you know would like to share their stories of when electricity was brought to their community, please contact Sonya Aldridge or Shelby Cloud at 229-985-3620.



## HVAC SYSTEM PURCHASE & INSTALLATION GUIDANCE

### Proper Sizing:

Installing the right size equipment is essential to getting the best performance and comfort. Bigger is not always better when buying heating and cooling equipment. Make sure your contractor verifies the proper size for your home.

### The Right Contractor Should:

- Perform an on-site inspection of the work you want done and then provide a bid in a timely manner.
- Evaluate and ensure that you have a well-sealed duct system that is able to provide sufficient air flow throughout the space.
- Verify that the company is licensed and insured to repair/install heating and cooling equipment.
- Have several years of experience as a business in your community.
- Clearly explain the benefits of regular maintenance and help you set up a schedule to keep your system operating at its best.



# CONGRATULATIONS!



**Daniel Durrence** from Colquitt County High School (left) won 1st place and **Jeffery Hunter** from C.A. Gray Junior High (right) won 2nd place in the Area 5 EMC CDE Electrification Contest held at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College. 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 in the area event, Daniel and Jeffery advance to compete in the state contest held in April at the FFA/FCCLA Center in Covington. 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.

## UNCLAIMED CAPITAL CREDITS

In compliance with O.C.G.A. Section 44-12-236 of "The Disposition of Unclaimed Property Act" of Georgia, Colquitt Electric Membership Corporation is attempting to locate former members and heirs whose capital credit checks were issued December 1, 2015 for electrical service received in 1994, but which have been returned by the U.S. Post Office as "undeliverable" or have been otherwise unclaimed.

A current database of these members, with their last known address, is available at our offices. The last possible date to claim these funds is June 30, 2021. All funds not claimed by this date will be donated for charitable uses, as permitted by O.C.G.A. section 44-12-236 of "The Disposition of Unclaimed Capital Property Act" of Georgia.

# CELEBRATING OUR LEGACY

## Colquitt EMC Scholarship Applications Available April 1

Colquitt EMC is proud to be able to provide this scholarship opportunity to students. Students must live with a CEMC member and be enrolled in a college or technical college with campus locations/degree offerings in CEMC's service territory. For more information and to apply, please visit our website.

**Applications will be available April 1 at [colquittemc.com](http://colquittemc.com)**



## Colquitt EMC's Bright Idea Grant Application Available April 1

Bright Ideas awards teachers money for their innovative lessons and projects for their students. The program will award grants of up to **\$1,000** to winning teachers. Public and private school teachers, teaching grades K-12, in any subject are eligible to apply.

**Applications will be available April 1 at [colquittemc.com](http://colquittemc.com)**







## Recipes of the Month



### Strawberry Coffee Cake

#### INGREDIENTS

Serves: 8

1 cup all-purpose flour  
 1/2 cup sugar  
 2 teaspoons baking powder  
 1/2 teaspoon salt  
 1 egg, beaten  
 1/2 cup milk  
 1 teaspoon vanilla (optional)  
 2 tablespoons butter, melted  
 1 1/2 - 2 cups sliced fresh strawberries

#### TOPPING

1/2 cup all-purpose flour  
 1/2 cup sugar  
 1/4 cup cold butter  
 1/4 cup chopped pecans

#### DIRECTIONS

In a mixing bowl, add the flour, sugar, baking powder and salt; stir to mix. In a second bowl, add the egg, milk and butter; stir to mix; add to dry ingredients and stir just until moistened. Pour mixture into a greased 8-inch square baking dish. Place strawberries evenly over the top of batter. To make the topping: Combine the flour and sugar in a bowl. With a pastry blender, cut in the butter until consistency of coarse crumbs. Stir in pecans. Sprinkle mixture evenly over the strawberries. Bake at 375° for 30-35 minutes or until wooden pick comes out clean.

(Cut Here)



### Cinnamon Glazed Strawberries

#### INGREDIENTS

Serves: 4

2 tablespoons sugar  
 1 tablespoon butter  
 2 teaspoons lemon juice  
 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon  
 1 lb fresh strawberries, rinsed and hulled  
 OPTIONAL  
 2 tablespoons coconut, toasted shredded (optional)  
 2 tablespoons chocolate sprinkles (optional) or 2  
 tablespoons semisweet chocolate, finely chopped  
 (optional)

#### DIRECTIONS

In a medium saucepan combine sugar, butter, lemon juice and cinnamon. Cook and stir over medium heat until syrupy and thick. Remove from heat and add berries, tossing gently to coat each berry. Serve immediately. Or: add coconut along with berries, toss to coat. Or: cool glazed berries on a plate or cookie sheet, then roll in coconut, or chocolate, or both.