



COLQUITT EMC NewsLINE

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THIS MONTH IN 1936

- **Fred Perry** beats Gottfried von Cramm of Germany for his **third straight Wimbledon singles title**.
- **4th MLB All-Star Game, Braves Field, Boston:** After losing the first 3 AS Games, NL wins 4-3, 4 different Cubs players score the runs
- **American businessman Henry F. Phillips** receives patents for a new "cross-recessed" screw, and the new screwdriver needed to make it work
- **RCA broadcasts the first real TV program**, a variety show with dancing, a film on locomotives, a Bonwit Teller fashion show, and a monologue from Tobacco Road
- **Phillies' Chuck Klein** becomes fourth player to hit four home runs in a game



2026 BOARD CANDIDATES

The Nominating Committee of Colquitt Electric Membership Corporation met Tuesday, June 2, 2026, and nominated the following individuals whose names will be placed on the ballot and voted on by the Colquitt EMC membership prior to the November 3, 2026, 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, 2026. Members vote for directors via mail with election results presented at the Annual Meeting*.

**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.*

District 2 - Brooks County
Patti Price Niewoehner

District 3 - Berrien County
Ben Griner
Clay Davis

District 4 - Cook County
Derry Bennett
Tony Marshall

(See biographies inside.)

SAVE THE DATE - NOV. 3

November 3, 2026
Colquitt EMC's 90th Annual
Meeting of Members
SPENCE FIELD, MOULTRIE



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Drive Into the Future: Why Electric Vehicles Make Sense
- Church of the Month: River Hill Missionary Baptist Church
- Recipe: Frito Corn Salad



DRIVE INTO THE FUTURE: WHY ELECTRIC VEHICLES MAKE SENSE

If you have felt surprised by gas prices lately, you are not alone. In 2025, oil and gasoline prices moved up and down as fighting and tension in the Middle East raised worries about fuel supply, while changing trade conditions also added uncertainty. That kind of price swing can make it harder for families to plan their monthly budget. Electric vehicles, also called EVs, offer a smart way to avoid some of that stress.

One big benefit of an electric vehicle is lower day-to-day cost. Instead of buying gasoline every week, drivers can charge at home and typically pay less than half per mile than drivers of fossil fuel vehicles. Electricity prices can change too, but they are usually more stable than gas prices. That means EV owners may have fewer surprises when it is time to pay the bills.

Electric vehicles also have fewer moving parts than gas-powered cars and trucks. They do not need oil changes, and they usually have less wear and tear. That can mean fewer trips to the repair shop over time. Many EVs are also quiet, smooth, and quick to respond when you press the pedal, which makes driving feel easy and fun.

Another advantage is cleaner air. Fossil fuel vehicles burn gasoline or diesel and release tailpipe pollution. Electric vehicles do not have tailpipe emissions, which can help improve local air quality. For communities that care about health, energy savings, and a cleaner future, EVs are an exciting option.

Of course, drivers should think about how and where they will charge. But with more public charging stations available and the convenience of overnight home charging, electric vehicles are becoming a practical choice for more families every year. Many modern electric vehicles can also travel more than 300 miles on a full charge, which is enough for most daily driving and many longer trips.

When gas prices jump because of events happening far away, local families feel it fast. Choosing an electric vehicle can give drivers more control over their transportation costs, while also offering cleaner, quieter, and lower-maintenance travel. If you are thinking about your next vehicle, an EV may be worth a serious look.

STATEMENT OF NONDISCRIMINATION

Colquitt Electric Membership Corporation is the recipient of Federal financial assistance from the Rural Utilities Service, and agency of the U. S. Government Department of Agriculture, and is subject to the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, and the rules and regulations of the U.S. Department of Agriculture which provided that no person on the United States on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, gender, or disability shall be excluded from participation on, admission or access, denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subject to discrimination under any of this organization's programs or activities.

The person responsible for coordinating this organization's non-discrimination compliance efforts is Doug Loftis, Chief Corporate Officer. Any individual, or specific class of individuals, who feel that this organization has subjected them to discrimination may obtain further information about the statutes and regulations listed above from and/or file a written complaint with this organization; or the secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. 20250; or the Administrator, Rural Utilities Service, Washington, D. C. 20250. Complaint must be filed within 180 days after the alleged discrimination. Confidentiality will be maintained to the extent possible.

Danny Nichols, P. E.
President & CEO

ABOUT OUR 2026 BOARD CANDIDATES

DISTRICT 2 – BROOKS COUNTY

Patti Price Niewoehner

- Serving Brooks County on Colquitt EMC Board of Directors since 2017
- Former Chairman and Vice Chairman of Colquitt EMC Board of Directors
- Holds Credentialed Cooperative Director Certificate
- Graduate of Valdosta State University, Bachelor of Business Administration & Marketing
- 25+ years Professional Career in the Agricultural Chemical Industry
- Manages day-to-day operations of family farm
- Holds Operational Excellence Certification with Six Sigma
- Former President 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
- Current Secretary/Treasurer of Colquitt EMC Board of Directors
- Holds Credentialed Cooperative Director Certificate
- Owner/Operator of Griner Farms, LLC in West Berrien
- Maintenance Manager 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 since 1999
- Member, Councilman, and Building Committee Member of Tift Avenue Church of God



Clay Davis

- Graduate of Berrien County High School – Class of 2003
- Owner/Operator of 4D Farms since 2003
- Row-crop and cattle farmer
- Member of the Berrien County Farm Bureau
- Member of the Berrien County Young Farmers
- Fire Chief of the Nashville Fire Department since 2020
- Husband of Andrea Davis and father of two daughters, Sawyer and Jencey
- Member of Flat Creek Baptist Church



DISTRICT 4 – COOK COUNTY

Derry Bennett

- Graduate of Cook High School – Class of 1986
- President of Cook County Farm Bureau since 2013; active member for 30 years
- Cook County DFACS Board for over 21 years
- County Supervisor of Alapaha Soil & Water Conservation District
- Member of Cook County Board of Equalization since 2010
- Auctioneer/Real Estate Broker since 2000
- Owner of Grain Growers, LLC
- Farmer for 30 years farming row crops, pecans, hay and cattle
- Member of Cook County Young Farmers
- Member of Antioch Church in Cook County



Tony Marshall

- Graduate of Cook High School – Class of 1978
- Graduate of Valdosta State College: BBA, Accounting - 1983
- Attended Valdosta Technical College: Obtained Electrical Certification - 1985
- Obtained Georgia Unrestricted Master Electrical License - 1998
- Owner and Operator of A & M Electric, Inc. - 2002-Present
- 41 Years Experience in Electrical Industry
- Pastor, Primitive Baptist Churches



HONORING OUR HISTORY.

ENERGIZING OUR FUTURE.

CELEBRATING ALL YEAR LONG!

COLQUITT EMC'S TOUCH-A-TRUCK

On May 29, Colquitt EMC hosted its first Touch-a-Truck event at headquarters in Moultrie, drawing more than 140 attendees. Guests had the opportunity to explore a variety of equipment, including a material handler, derrick truck, traction machine, skid steer, and more. The Energy Advisors featured a remote-control car obstacle course to demonstrate the tools they use during home energy audits, while the safety coordinator presented a safety demonstration. Willie Wiredhand, the EMC mascot, also made a special appearance. Kona Ice provided snow cones for all attendees.



EMMI WARREN SELECTED FOR WALTER HARRISON SCHOLARSHIP

Berrien High School student Emmi Warren is a 2026 recipient of the Walter Harrison Scholarship awarded by electric membership cooperatives (EMCs) in Georgia, including Colquitt EMC.

Warren competed against 85 other students from across Georgia for the scholarship, which provides \$1,000 to help offset the rising costs associated with obtaining a college degree. 19 scholarships were awarded to students statewide and were chosen based on the students' academic achievements, extracurricular activities and their service to the community.

Warren is an active member of FCCLA (Family, Career and Community Leaders of America). She plays Varsity Tennis and is on the Cheerleading team. She has previously served on her school's Student Council. She also serves on the Georgia High School Sports Association Student Athlete Advisory Council and Farmers and Merchants Bank Junior Board of Directors. She volunteers her time with the Berrien County Chamber as a student ambassador and South Georgia Medical Center as a VolunTeen. Warren has received multiple honors and recognitions, including the Georgia Certificate of Merit, Highest Score on American Lit End Course Test, All-American Cheer, All-State Tennis and All-Region Tennis. She will attend the Georgia Institute of Technology this fall, where she will major in Biochemistry.

The scholarship is named in honor of Walter Harrison, a pioneer in the rural electricity movement and a leader at the local, state and national levels among EMCs. It is funded by Georgia's 41 electric cooperatives, including Colquitt EMC, the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association and the Georgia Rural Electric Supply Corp. Since 1987, more than \$290,000 has been awarded to approximately 309 students through the Walter Harrison Scholarship, created in 1985 by the board of directors of Georgia EMC.



Colquitt EMC is an equal opportunity provider.

Recipe OF THE MONTH



Frito Corn Salad

INGREDIENTS

2 cans yellow kernel corn, drained
1/2 red bell pepper, sliced and chopped
1/2 green bell pepper, sliced and chopped
1/2 purple onion, chopped
1 cup mayonnaise
1 cup shredded cheddar cheese
5 ounces of chili cheese flavor Frito corn chips

DIRECTIONS

Mix all the ingredients except chips. Add chips right before serving.

Church of the Month



River Hill

Missionary Baptist Church

2884 James Rd. • Valdosta, GA 31601

Pastor Dr. Joe Troupe

Services:

Sunday School	10 AM
Sunday Morning Worship	11 AM
Tuesday Nursing Home Fellowship	10:30 AM
Wednesday Prayer & Bible Student	6:30 PM
(in-person and virtual on Facebook)	

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

Bible Verse of the Month

"So let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive his mercy, and will find grace to help us when we need it most."

~ Hebrews 4:16