



COLQUITT EMC NEWSLINE

VOLUME 52, NUMBER 5

MAY 2022

TEACHERS, LET COLQUITT EMC FUND YOUR BRIGHT IDEAS!

Bright Ideas Grants award local teachers money for innovative lessons and projects to energize students' learning abilities. The Bright



Ideas Program awards grants of up to \$1,000 to winning teachers. Public and private school teachers, teaching grades K-12, in any subject area are eligible to apply. Schools in the areas

that Colquitt EMC serves may submit more than one application. However, teachers are eligible to submit only one application per school year. The grants are not for professional development. 2022 Bright Ideas Grant

applications are open, and teachers can apply online at colquittemc.com through June 1.

For more information, please contact Sonya Aldridge or Shelby Cloud at 229-985-3620.



2021 Bright Ideas grant winner, Leigh Johnson, pictured with Berrien County High School administrators and students.

CEMC SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE



Since 2006, Colquitt EMC has awarded scholarships to students to help fund their education. This is made possible by Colquitt EMC's unclaimed capital credit fund. Applicants must reside in the household of a Colquitt EMC member and must be enrolled in a college or technical college with campus locations/degree offerings within Colquitt EMC's service area. Undergraduate and graduate students may apply. Previous scholarship recipients are not eligible. Applications are due June 15, 2022. Visit colquittemc.com for more information.

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The following
Directors' terms will expire
on Nov. 1, 2022:

District 1 –
Huey Hiers (Colquitt County)

District 5 –
Vacant (Lowndes County)

District 6 –
B. Don Copeland (Tift County)

THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS WERE PRESENTED TO THE COLQUITT EMC BOARD OF DIRECTORS TO SERVE ON THE 2022 NOMINATING COMMITTEE:

Gilbert Brantley
5139 Phillips Road
Valdosta, Georgia 31601-7839

Gina McDonald
4931 Tallokas Road
Moultrie, Georgia 31788-2069

Zach Stone
98 Cooper Stone Road, North
Tifton, Georgia 31794-8910

Thomas A. Marshall
5555 Tallokas Road
Moultrie, Georgia 31788-2025

Albert L. Stokes, Sr.
6571 Clyattville-Nankin Road
Valdosta, Georgia 31601-1059

Lee Whittle
15 Horseshoe Circle
Tifton, Georgia 31794-8922

THIS COMMITTEE WILL BE OFFICIALLY SEATED ON JUNE 7, 2022

The Nominating Committee will meet at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, June 7, 2022 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 2022 Annual Meeting of Members will be held on Tuesday, November 1 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.*

SERVICE TERRITORY INSPECTIONS

McLean Engineering, contracted by Colquitt EMC, is performing inspections on pad mounted transformers and poles in our service territory. The pad mounted transformer inspections are taking place in North Brooks, South Berrien, South Cook, North Lowndes and South Worth counties, and will conclude in June. Pole inspections are taking place throughout our service territory and will conclude by the end of July.

All contractor's vehicles are identified by a placard stating "Contractor for Colquitt EMC" along with the contractor's logo, ME (McLean Engineering). All work is performed outside at the pole(s) or pad mounted transformer(s), and no one from McLean will request to enter your home or business.



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 1st and November 30th 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.

Local. Dependable. Serving YOU!



SPLASH INTO SWIMMING POOL

Savings

Few things add excitement and value to a home like a swimming pool, but many first-time pool owners are disappointed to discover that a swimming pool can pack a wallop on their power bill. Left unchecked, a swimming pool pump can quickly become a home's second-largest energy user costing over \$500 a year.

Fortunately, that cost can be reduced by up to 65%, saving hundreds of dollars annually by following these tips.

- **Install a variable speed ENERGY STAR certified pool pump.**

In addition to saving energy, variable speed pump motors are quieter, require less maintenance, last longer, and allow for better filtration.

- **Use a timer to set the pool pump to optimal time.**

- **Use a Robotic Pool Cleaner.**

Robotic cleaners use low-voltage electricity rather than a booster pump and consume less than 10% of the power of booster pump cleaners.

- **Use a pool cover.**

Pool covers extend the swimming season, cut chemical use by up to 60%, conserve water by up to 50%, and helps keep dirt and trash out of the pool, reducing cleaning times.

- **Perform regular preventive maintenance.**

Follow the manufacturer's recommendation for backwashing and cleaning the filter.

Need more information? Visit colquitemc.com or contact your local office to schedule a free energy audit from Colquitt EMC.

Ditch the paper.

E-Billing is now Available!



To enroll, log into your Colquitt EMC Account. Under the "My Account" menu tab, select "Bill Notification" and under "Bill Method", select "E-Bill" to enroll.

Recipes OF THE MONTH



Easy Vidalia Onion Casserole

INGREDIENTS

Serves: 3-4

5-6 Vidalia onions, sliced
1/4 cup butter
1 teaspoon sugar (to caramelize the onions)
1/4 cup sour cream
3/4 cup Parmesan cheese
salt and black pepper
20 crackers, crushed

DIRECTIONS

Set oven at 350° F. Butter a shallow baking dish large enough to hold the onions. In a medium frypan, saute the onions in butter and sugar over medium heat until soft, not browned; remove from heat and stir in the sour cream. Season with salt and pepper to taste. Spoon half of the onion mixture into the prepared greased baking dish. Sprinkle with the Parmesan cheese. Top with remaining onion mixture and crushed crackers. Bake uncovered for 20-25 minutes.



Green Beans & Vidalia Onion Salad

INGREDIENTS

Serves: 6

2 (10 ounce) pkgs. frozen cut green beans
1/2 cup sliced Vidalia onion
1 tablespoon sugar
3 tablespoons white wine vinegar
1/4 teaspoon dried mustard
1/4 teaspoon salt
4 slices cooked bacon, crumbled
1 cup Swiss cheese, shredded
ground cayenne pepper

DIRECTIONS

Cook beans according to package directions. Drain well and chill in refrigerator. Put onions in a small bowl and sprinkle with sugar. Cover and place in refrigerator to chill. In a small jar combine oil, vinegar, mustard, salt and pepper. Seal jar and shake vigorously to mix all ingredients. Place beans and onions in a large bowl. Add crumbled bacon and cheese. Shake salad dressing again and pour over bean and onion mixture. Toss well and serve.

(Cut Here)