



# COLQUITT EMC NEWSLINE

VOLUME 52, NUMBER 7

JULY 2022

## A Message...

### FROM OUR PRESIDENT/CEO

My Fellow Members,

It is fair to say the past few years have been filled with uncertainty and unexpected changes. These have occurred in practically all areas of our daily lives, and we have tried to accept these challenges and plan our lives accordingly. Colquitt EMC is no different.

We carefully plan all aspects of our operations by spending untold hours every year budgeting for necessary purchases and expenses throughout the year. We plan for electric system growth and improvements. We forecast the amount of power we will need. We calculate the cost of the power and the revenue required to pay for the power. We place all of these numbers into an annual budget which serves as our guide throughout the year to insure Colquitt EMC can meet the financial requirements of its lenders.

In addition, we allow for fluctuations in these forecasted numbers. We look to the past to help us determine what those numbers may be. We also look to the future for assistance with forecasted changes to the commodity prices of coal, uranium, and natural gas.

While this all sounds very complicated, Colquitt EMC has been very accurate with its budgets and strives to collect only the revenue that is necessary to operate your EMC and meet its financial goals.

However, over the past two years, we have seen changes that have not occurred in our 86 years of existence. The cost for parts and equipment we need in construction of our electric system vary greatly and have increased substantially.

Our industry has witnessed extreme increases in the cost of fuel at our generation facilities. During the past two years, natural gas which fuels over 50% of these facilities has risen from \$2.50/dekatherm to over \$8/dekatherm. All increases in our cost of power are recovered through our Wholesale Power Cost Adjustment (WPCA) which appears on your bill. Last year, we forecasted we would need to add 0.6 cents/KWH for the bulk of 2022 to cover costs. However, in April our cost of power soared forcing us to raise the WPCA to 1.8 cents/KWH in order to pay for the power.

It is always our intention to be good stewards of the revenue we receive to operate our business. We normally have an opportunity to plan for these changes and to minimize the drastic impact to our rates each month. However, there are times, such as now, when extreme changes are necessary in order to maintain our financial health.

Colquitt EMC appreciates your patience and understanding during these difficult times. We are all experiencing these challenges including Colquitt EMC, and we pledge to continue to provide the best possible service at the lowest possible cost.

**Danny Nichols**  
President/CEO



### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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## DISTRICT 1 – COLQUITT COUNTY

### Huey Hiers

- Served on Colquitt EMC's Board since 1986.  
-Previously served as president, vice president and secretary-treasurer
- Retired from Valdosta State University
- Member of Colquitt County Farm Bureau
- Served four years in the United States Air Force
- Member of Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church



## DISTRICT 5 – LOWNDES COUNTY

### Elmer Bowen

- Retired from Roadway Freight Lines with 30 years of service
- Member of Francis Lake Baptist Church, Lake Park, Georgia

## 2022 BOARD CANDIDATES

The Nominating Committee of Colquitt Electric Membership Corporation met Wednesday, June 7, 2022, 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 1, 2022 Annual Meeting:

District 1 - Colquitt County  
**Huey Hiers**

District 5 - Lowndes County  
**Elmer Bowen**  
**William (Bill) Branham**  
**William S. (Bill) Bryan**  
**Mitch Cothron**  
**Thomas (Trey) Cothron, III**  
**Harold Davis**  
**Bill Kendall**  
**Tally Mark Wisenbaker**

District 6 - Tift County  
**B. Don Copeland**

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 5, 2022. Members vote for directors via mail with election results presented at the Annual Meeting.\*

*\*Note: The Colquitt EMC Bylaws allow for district director elections. This means that the 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 5 – LOWNDES COUNTY

### **William S. (Bill) Bryan**

- Retired Chief Engineer of Moody Air Force Base. Served as an Air Force Civil Engineer Officer for 6 years & as a government employee for 39 years
- Past President of the Moody Chapter of the Society of American Military Engineers
- Past President of the Valdosta/Lowndes County Humane Society
- Attends Park Avenue Methodist Church, Valdosta



## DISTRICT 5 – LOWNDES COUNTY

### **Mitch Cothron**

- Realtor with Southern Classic Realtors; started rental property portfolio and acquired Real Estate license in 2017
- Worked in the trucking industry, 1995-2002
- Co-founded Milo Sanitation, Inc. in 2002 and was owner-operator until 2011
- Member of Alapaha Masonic Lodge of Statenville, Georgia
- Member of Valdosta Board of Realtors, Georgia Assoc. of Realtors & National Assoc. of Realtors
- Attends Enoch Creek Church, Lake Park, GA



## DISTRICT 5 – LOWNDES COUNTY

### **William (Bill) Branham**

- Founder, Chairman & CEO 21st Century Telecommunications, Inc. DBA 21st Century Energy
- Served 4 years in the United States Navy
- Received a Bachelor's Degree from Alabama A&M University with 1 year of Graduate School in Urban Planning
- 36 years of advanced independent urban planning, telecommunications and renewable energy research
- Member of the Valdosta-Lowndes County Metropolitan Planning Organization Citizens Advisory Committee
- Member of the National Institute of Standards Energy SuperCluster "The Branham Project"
- Attends Oracles of Deliverance Church



## DISTRICT 5 – LOWNDES COUNTY

### **Thomas (Trey) Cothron, III**

- Fire Lieutenant with Valdosta Fire Department; assigned to operations division
- Farmer and cattleman with 82 head of cattle
- Attended Valdosta Technical College; Received Firefighter 1 & Firefighter 2 Certification
- Attends Redland Baptist Church



**DISTRICT 5 – LOWNDES COUNTY**

**Harold Davis**

- Retired pharmacist from South Georgia Medical Center with 35 years of service.
- 1981 Graduate of the University of Georgia College of Pharmacy
- Member of GA Society of Healthcare Pharmacists
- Member of Corinth Baptist Church

**DISTRICT 5 – LOWNDES COUNTY**

**Bill Kendall**

- Previously served on Colquitt EMC's Board, 1998-2004
- Land Surveyor
- He and his wife operate a horse business in Lowndes County
- Member of Redland Baptist Church



**DISTRICT 5 – LOWNDES COUNTY**

**Tally Mark Wisenbaker**

- Co-owner of Custom Relocation Specialists, 2010 to present, Valdosta, Ga.
- Lowndes County Commissioner District 3, 2014 to present
- United States Navy Reserve, 1971 - 1977
- Received Business Management Degree from Valdosta State University in 1986
- Member/Deacon First Baptist Church, Valdosta

**DISTRICT 6 – TIFT COUNTY**

**B. Don Copeland**

- Served on Colquitt EMC's Board since 1979
- Previously served as president & vice-president
- Credentialed Cooperative Director
- Former chairman & vice-chairman of Georgia Electric Membership Corporation's Board of Directors
- Retired from United Parcel Service
- Member of Tift County Farm Bureau

**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." Under "Bill Method", select "E-Bill" to enroll.





# Recipes OF THE MONTH



## **Ranch and Avocado Pasta Salad**

### **INGREDIENTS**

Serves: 4

- 1/2 (1 oz pkg) ranch dressing mix
- 1/2 cup milk
- 1/2 cup mayonnaise
- 3 cups dry pasta
- 1 avocado, cut into small cubes
- 10 cherry tomatoes, quartered
- 3/4 cup cooked chicken, cubed
- 1/2 cup cooked bacon, cut into pieces

### **DIRECTIONS**

Mix the dressing mix with milk and mayonnaise and leave in the fridge to thicken. *(If you have time, prepare the dressing a few hours before hand to allow the flavors to blend.)* Cook the pasta. Mix the pasta with the dressing, avocado, cherry tomatoes and meats. Enjoy!



## **Mozzarella, Tomato & Basil Salad**

### **INGREDIENTS**

Serves: 4

- 4 large tomatoes
- 2 cups mozzarella cheese
- 8 -10 leaves fresh basil
- 4 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
- salt and pepper
- balsamic vinegar (optional)

### **DIRECTIONS**

Slice tomatoes and mozzarella cheese same thickness. Arrange the tomatoes, mozzarella, and basil alternating in a circle around a decorative serving dish. Drizzle with olive oil *(and balsamic vinegar if desired)*. Serve with salt and pepper to individual taste.

(Cut Here) ✂