



## Colquitt EMC Celebrates 75 Years!

### 2011 Annual Meeting Highlights

Approximately 2,410 members attended Colquitt EMC's 75th Annual Meeting of Members at Spence Field in Moultrie on November 1, 2011.

Members and their guests enjoyed a delicious meal served by Colquitt County FFA students and CEMC employees. Attendees had the opportunity to participate in a health fair and play "Electro Bingo". The CEMC Cinema featured "Bringing Power to the Countryside", a 75th Anniversary history video.

President Tommy Cothron presided over the Business Meeting. Reverend Benji Rowland, Pastor at Journey Church, provided the invocation. Cooperative Attorney James Thagard presented the election results. Incumbent directors Noel Childers, District 2, Brooks County, Jimmy Griner, District 3, Berrien County, and Simmie King, District 4, Cook County were re-elected for three year terms.

Among the guest speakers and entertainers were Sunbelt Ag Expo Director of Marketing, Gina McDonald, Tifton-Tift County Chamber of Commerce President/CEO, Brian Marlowe, Tift County High AFJROTC, and musical group "The Georgia Boys." Precious Melton from Tift County High School performed the National Anthem.

Colquitt EMC's General Manager, Danny Nichols, provided an update of the past year. Nichols noted that CEMC's members have the 4th lowest rates in the state and emphasized the financial stability of the Cooperative. He also explained the January 1, 2012 rate increase to the membership. Service recognition of employees included: Sonya Aldridge, Ricky Bailey, Craig Craven, Woody Fillyaw, Jon Garrett, Becky Sims (25 years); Jay Brown, Gerald Marshall (30 years); Rodney Allegood, Jimmy Jones, Wanda Moore (35 years).

The meeting ended with a crowd favorite – the drawing of prizes!

**SEE MORE ANNUAL MEETING PHOTOS ON NEXT PAGE!**



## Scenes From 2011 Annual Meeting



## Apply For Walter Harrison Scholarship

Colquitt EMC is currently accepting applications for the Walter Harrison Scholarship. The \$1,000 scholarship can be applied to academic expenses at any accredited two- or four-year university, college or vocational-technical institute in Georgia.

The Walter Harrison Scholarship was created in 1985 by Georgia Electric Membership Corporation, the trade association representing the 42 electric cooperatives of Georgia. The award pays tribute to the late Walter Harrison, a pioneer in the rural electricity movement and a leader at local, state and national levels in the electric cooperative program. Since its inception, the program has awarded more than \$140,000 in scholarships, in cooperation with Georgia EMC's, the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, and Georgia Rural Electric Supply Corporation.



The Walter Harrison Scholarship is awarded to students who demonstrate exceptional academic performance. Grade point average, SAT scores, academic standing, scholastic honors, and financial need are considered when determining eligibility.

Students applying for the scholarship must be accepted or enrolled in an accredited undergraduate degree program, complete an application, and write a two-page autobiographical sketch with a glimpse into his or her future plans. Entries are reviewed by a committee comprised of EMC directors and managers across Georgia.

To receive an application, contact Colquitt EMC at (229) 985-3620 or visit [www.colquitemc.com](http://www.colquitemc.com).

**Completed applications must be received by February 1, 2012.**



Left to right: Von G. Peavy (South Region Area Mechanics Teacher), Nick Hodges, Jesse Vick and Allen Rogers

▼ 1st place winner Nick Hodges and his advisor Stacey Beacham.



## FFA Wiring Workshop

On November 15th, Colquitt EMC hosted a wiring workshop for local vocational agriculture students and teachers. The workshop gives students an opportunity to sharpen their skills and practice electrical wiring before the regional and state competitions. The following students placed in the practice workshop: **1st place Nick Hodges**, Colquitt County High School; **2nd place Jesse Vick**, Brooks County High School; and **3rd place Allen Rogers**, Brooks County High School. **Great job guys!**

## Retail Rate Increase

*Scheduled for January 1, 2012*

On January 1, 2012, Colquitt EMC will implement a retail rate increase. While virtually all aspects of today's cost of living continue to rise, we pride ourselves on avoiding routine retail rate adjustments. Colquitt EMC and its members have enjoyed one of the longest periods of rate stability in recent history. We believe that reliable electric service at a reasonable price is something that you can count on and that we deliver on a daily basis.

We are committed to providing you with reliable, affordable and environmentally responsible electric service. If you have additional questions or concerns, please give us a call. We're here to help and deliver the reliable power you've come to know and expect.

## Q&A's

**Q) How do Colquitt EMC's rates compare with other utilities?**

**A)** Colquitt EMC's rates are very competitive with other utilities. In 2011, Colquitt EMC has the 4<sup>th</sup> lowest retail rate in Georgia. After the January 2012 rate increase, Colquitt EMC's retail rate will be approximately the 7<sup>th</sup> lowest in Georgia.

**Q) Why is a rate increase necessary at this time?**

**A)** Since 1993, Colquitt EMC has successfully avoided a retail rate increase. However; to continue to maintain the quality and reliability of the services you deserve and expect and to ensure the financial stability of our Cooperative, a rate increase is now necessary.

**Q) How will this rate adjustment affect my monthly electric bill?**

**A)** The new rate will result in approximately a 6% change in power cost for our residential members. Based on an average monthly residential power use of 1500 kWh, the new rate will result in an increase of approximately \$9.81 per month.

**Q) What can I do to reduce my electric bill?**

**A)** Call your local office and ask for Member Services; we're happy to share energy-savings ideas with you. Often, relatively simple things, like adjusting the thermostat a degree or two can add up to big savings. Be sure to visit our website at [www.colquitemc.com](http://www.colquitemc.com) for energy saving tips and The "Do It Yourself Home Energy Audit" video.

**May Peace, Joy, Hope and Happiness be with you throughout the Holiday Season.**

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

All Colquitt EMC offices will be closed on the following dates:

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23rd**

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 26th**

**MONDAY, JANUARY 2nd**

*We wish you a safe and happy holiday season.*



## December 2011 Capital Credit Refund

Colquitt EMC will refund \$4,382,288.70 to some of its members in December. The refund represents capital credits assigned to members who received electricity in **1990**. 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>
1991 .....	4.05% .....	\$1,576,442.29 .....	2012
1992 .....	5.18% .....	\$2,170,328.62 .....	2013
1993 .....	2.59% .....	\$1,193,342.62 .....	2014
1994 .....	3.65% .....	\$1,656,621.97 .....	2015
1995 .....	6.31% .....	\$3,150,208.57 .....	2016
1996 .....	8.64% .....	\$4,490,711.29 .....	2017
1997 .....	3.86% .....	\$2,119,080.07 .....	2018
1998 .....	6.47% .....	\$3,617,242.17 .....	2019
1999 .....	4.60% .....	\$2,687,241.38 .....	2020
2000 .....	4.13% .....	\$2,514,308.70 .....	2021
2001 .....	7.73% .....	\$4,831,702.51 .....	2022
2002 .....	9.52% .....	\$6,587,599.93 .....	2023
2003 .....	9.48% .....	\$6,699,469.25 .....	2024
2004 .....	10.51% .....	\$8,018,700.84 .....	2025
2005 .....	0.70% .....	\$587,508.51 .....	2026
2006 .....	5.12% .....	\$4,607,746.36 .....	2027
2007 .....	3.38% .....	\$3,221,210.88 .....	2028
2008 .....	0.00% .....	— — — .....	NO REFUND
2009 .....	1.31% .....	\$1,396,161.87 .....	2030
2010 .....	1.92% .....	\$2,220,068.78 .....	2031



## Recipes of the Month

### Holiday Chocolate Torte

#### CRUST

1 cup pecans, ground  
1½ cups flour or 1½ cups  
vanilla wafer crumbs  
¼ cup butter or ¼ cup  
margarine, melted



#### 1st LAYER

1 (8 ounce) package cream cheese  
1 cup Cool Whip, softened  
1 cup powdered sugar

#### 2nd LAYER

2½ cups milk  
2 (3½ ounce) packages instant  
chocolate pudding mix  
½ tablespoon powdered instant  
coffee (heaping)

#### 3rd LAYER

2 cups Cool Whip (remainder of 8 oz pkg)  
Sliced almonds or hazelnuts, to garnish  
Grated chocolate, to garnish

Preheat oven to 350°F and grease a 9x13x2-inch pan. In small bowl, mix crust ingredients, and press into pan. Bake until lightly browned (15 minutes). Cool completely. Beat ingredients for 1st layer until creamy, and spread over cooled crust. Combine ingredients for 2nd layer and mix thoroughly. Spread over cream cheese layer. Cover with remaining cool whip. Sprinkle with almonds and chocolate to garnish, and refrigerate until ready to serve. To serve, cut torte into bars. *Yield: 16 bars*

*Per Serving:* 360.6 Calories, 23.7g Fat,  
302.8mg Sodium, 43.8mg Cholesterol,  
33.6g Carbohydrate.

### Holiday Tortillas for Dipping



10 various flavored flour tortillas  
Salt

Preheat oven to 375. Cut out tortillas with small holiday themed cookie cutters. Place in a single layer on baking sheets and bake 10 minutes or until crisp. Sprinkle lightly with salt, if desired. Cool, store in an airtight container until ready to serve. *Yield: 20 chips*

*Per Serving:* 46.8 Calories, 1.1g Fat, 95.4mg  
Sodium, 0.0mg Cholesterol, 7.7g Carbohydrate.