



THE 2011 ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE YOUTH TOUR

you can win a week long trip to
WASHINGTON DC
June 2011



Applications are now being accepted to participate in the 2011 Washington Youth Tour. Two lucky winners will be selected to represent Colquitt EMC on the trip to be held June 9-16, 2011. The competition is open to all high school juniors who are at least 16 years old and reside in a household served by Colquitt EMC.

While on the Youth Tour, Colquitt EMC's representative will tour the nation's Capitol, visit historic monuments and museums, meet U.S. Senators and Representatives and mingle with more than 1500 young people representing cooperatives from all across the United States.

Applications are available at any of our Colquitt EMC offices or online at www.colquitemc.com. Completed applications for the Washington Youth Tour are due by mail or hand delivery by 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 1, 2011 to any Colquitt EMC office.



Colquitt EMC Offers Aid to Fellow Co-ops

As harsh winter weather swept across the state in January, many EMCs prepared for outages and damages that could potentially occur. Electric cooperatives that were hit hardest called upon other EMCs to provide help and support.

Colquitt EMC geared up to assist fellow electric cooperatives by mobilizing employees and contract crews.

Colquitt EMC sent three district crews to Walton EMC in Monroe, three contract crews to Jackson EMC in Jefferson, and lent a total of 18 equipped trucks.

The statewide EMC disaster plan has laid the groundwork for quickly getting help from related EMCs when needed. The mutual cooperative objective is to restore power as fast as possible when outages occur.

Residential Energy Tax Credits Extended

The federal tax incentives that were due to expire on December 31, 2010, have been extended through 2011, but with some significant changes. The new tax credit has been reduced from 30% to 10% of cost, with a maximum credit of \$500. Included are also provisions limiting window incentives to \$200, oil and gas furnace and boiler incentives

to \$150-\$200, and water heater and wood heating system incentives to \$300.



The \$2,000 federal tax credit for builders who build energy efficient homes that are at least 50% more efficient than code minimums has also been extended.

Learn about ENERGY STAR and how to make your home more energy efficient.



Visit Colquitt EMC's booth at the 2011 Home & Garden Show.



Saturday, March 19th: 9 AM – 5 PM
Sunday, March 20th: 11 AM – 4 PM
James H. Rainwater Conference Center Valdosta

Visit www.hbasg.org to print a ticket for free admission to the show.

Colquitt EMC Contributes to Statewide Day of Service

Colquitt EMC, along with other EMC's in Georgia, participated in Governor Nathan Deal's call for a Day of Service "With a Servant's Heart" volunteer project on Saturday, January 8th. Colquitt EMC partnered with Second Harvest of South Georgia to put together Valdosta-Lowndes County's "With a Servant's Heart" Food Drive.

In addition to Colquitt EMC, other businesses in Lowndes County supported the food drive by collecting non-perishable food items in December and January. On January 8th, volunteers worked together to sort and package the food at Second Harvest of South Georgia. Though the food drive was held in Lowndes County,

the food collected will benefit those in need all across South Georgia.

"It is truly rewarding to know we have been able to make a difference in our community. We greatly appreciate the generosity of our employees, local businesses, and volunteers who came together to make this project a success," said Dixie Lightfoot, Colquitt EMC's Valdosta District Manager.

The volunteers joined approximately 900 others across Georgia to work on a variety of projects such as collecting and sorting canned food, providing a day of health care services, making repairs on a disabled veteran's home and sorting clothes and toys at a child rescue and recovery shelter.



Community CONNECTIONS



▲ Sonya Aldridge reads to students at R.B. Wright Elementary School's Safety Day.

▶ Rebecca Huff presents a bicycle to a Pine Grove Elementary School student for perfect attendance.



Colquitt High School Student Places Second in State EMC/FFA Wiring Contest

Colquitt County High School student, Will Burt, won second place in the State EMC/FFA Agricultural Electrification Career Development Event (CDE) held at the State FFA-FHA Camp near Covington.

Great job, Will!



Local. Dependable. Serving YOU.

Winter Right-of-Way Maintenance



Trees and overgrown vegetation are the number one cause of power interruptions. As with high winds and thunderstorms in the summer, icing of trees in the winter can cause limbs to fall on power lines. Colquitt EMC takes this into consideration as we continuously maintain and clear the right-of-way near power lines and poles.

A major part of right-of-way maintenance includes removing any hazardous or overgrown vegetation around lines. When you see Colquitt EMC crews and contractors cutting trees and limbs in your area, keep in mind they are working diligently to keep a safe, clear right-of-way. Your cooperation and support is greatly appreciated in allowing us to achieve our goal of serving our members with safe, reliable electricity.

Please Burn With Care

ATTENTION: Use firebreaks around any utility poles on land that will be burned under controlled conditions. By using a firebreak to protect utility poles, you can help Colquitt EMC save thousands of dollars in repair costs. Also, you can avoid potential safety problems resulting from burned poles.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.



It's hard to imagine that 75 years ago electricity was still just a vision for many in rural South Georgia...



THE MOULTRIE OBSERVER: FEBRUARY 5, 1936

ELECTRIFICATION PROJECT TO GO ON Funds Appropriated for Continuance of Work by Commissioners

Funds with which to proceed with plans for rural electrification in Colquitt County were voted Tuesday afternoon by the Board of County Commissioners and Reed Bingham, who has been making a survey on the project was authorized to continue his preparations for the next two months.

With backing of the county commissioners, the electrification of rural districts in Colquitt County took another step toward realization.

Bingham said he would continue home to home canvas of the rural areas proposed to be electrified, and would sign those desiring their homes and buildings wired for electrical current.

Berlin was eliminated from another project for rural electrification which included counties south of Colquitt, Bingham stated, but was included in the project now proposed.

Expressed approval of the rural electrification project in this area by the Washington administration is expected now that definite plans have been completed and a large number of prospective customers signed to have their premises electrified.

The commissioners also agreed to allot the millage collected in the various districts for relief purposes to welfare work in that district. The Moultrie area's millage will be turned over to city welfare board for use.



Recipes of the Month



Chicken Noodle Soup

- 2 teaspoons butter
- 1 cup sliced celery
- 1 cup chopped carrot
- 1/2 cup chopped onion
- 1 small potato, diced
- 1 teaspoon thyme
- 1 teaspoon poultry seasoning
- 4 (14 ounce) cans chicken broth
- 2 teaspoons chicken bouillon
- 4 ounces egg noodles
- 2 cups cooked chicken
- parsley

Melt butter in large pot. Sauté the celery, carrot and onion for 2 minutes. Add potato, thyme, poultry seasoning, chicken broth and bouillon. Bring to a boil. Add noodles and chicken and cook on low for 20 minutes. Sprinkle with parsley.

Yield: 6 Servings.

Per Serving: 245.1 Calories, 6.9g Fat, 976.9mg Sodium, 54.3mg Cholesterol, 23.3g Carbohydrate.



The Ultimate Strawberry Shortcake

- 1 quart fresh strawberries (or more if you like)
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 8 ounces cream cheese, softened
- 1 cup powdered sugar
- 1 (8 ounce) container frozen whipped topping
- 1 (14 ounce) angel food cake, cut into cubes

Wash, stem, and cut strawberries in half. Add sugar; toss to mix well. Chill. Beat cream cheese and powdered sugar well. Fold in whipped topping and cake cubes. Spread cake into an ungreased 13x9 dish. Cover and chill for at least 2 hours. Cut cake into squares; top with strawberries.

Yield: 12 Servings.

Per Serving: 298.0 Calories, 11.6g Fat, 229.6mg Sodium, 20.7mg Cholesterol,